

2008 Spelling Bee Declared A Success!



Our 17th Annual Corporate Spelling Bee for Literacy and Silent Auction on May 13, 2008 brought in donations of **\$12,682** to support literacy programs in our community.

First place went to **"Off The Shelf", Kitsap Regional Library Foundation's team**, when they correctly spelled the word "grok" after a record 25 rounds. **Lockheed Martin's "Rocket Scientists"** was our second place team, with **Rotary Club of East Bremerton's "The BEEtniks"** coming in third.

Another notable team, **"The KiwannaBEEs"**, joined the swarm after 11-year old Oliver Price solicited the sponsorship from Kiwanis Club of Greater Kingston and Wetter Family LLC, who earned the prize for Best Banner. Rotary Club of Silverdale's **"We BEE Ducks"** was awarded Best Cheering Squad, and Kitsap Credit Union **"CU@TheBEE"** won Best Theme. Rounding out the 12-team slate of competitors was Altrusa Club of Kitsap's **"Queen BEEs"**, Debbie Macomber's **"DebBEE and Her Books"**, Kitsap Sun's **"Ink Spots"**, Rotary Club of Bremerton's **"Word BEElders"**, Rotary Club of Port Orchard's **"Rotary BEEsters"**, and Soroptimist International of Port Orchard's **"Miss Spellers"**.

The Bee is the Council's largest annual fundraiser. Teams of three adults obtain sponsorship from local service groups, businesses, and organizations and spell against each other during a night of utter hilarity. These teams come up with a theme, create a banner, and wear costumes that add to everyone's enjoyment. Teams become very competitive, studying months in advance, and fiercely vie for first place. **Mr. Bee**, played by Pat Cooper, revs up the crowd with the Wave and acts as co-emcee. The silent auction also broke records, with more than 70 individuals and businesses donating over 130 items.

This year's Bee was generously sponsored by:

Suquamish Clearwater Casino Resort, Suquamish Tribe, Kitsap Sun, Silverdale Beach Hotel, Safeway, Ann and Dan Bopp, Ann Vogel, and Flamingo Audio

Many hands are needed to put on such a large event, thus special thanks goes to the Council's board of directors, staff, volunteers, Ambassadors for Literacy, and the event's officials: Marshall Miranda and Carl Olson (pronouncers), Flint Walpole and Jennifer Yale (judges), and Tamra Ingwaldson (time keeper).

We also appreciate all those who donated items to the silent auction, and while the list is long, it is necessary to thank each of them here:

A&W Restaurant; Alderbrook Resort & Spa; Alice Trainer; Ambrosia Catering Company; Amy's Decadent Chocolates; Arby's in Silverdale; Barnes & Noble; Bay Hay & Feed; Bethel Avenue Book Company; Bremerton Tennis & Athletic Club; Carol Maley; Claywerks Ceramics Studio; Cornerstone Coffee; Cosmo's Deli; Cruise-N Car Wash; Dancing Paint; Dave Rubens; Jason Evans at Defining Moments Hair Salon; Diana Cripe; Eagle Harbor Book Company; El Sombrero Restaurant in Port Orchard; Ellen Middents; Elsa Watson; Garlic Jim's; Harry & Kathleen Guay; Heart; Historic Orchard Theater; Howard & Betty Ballah; Island Creations Tropical Day Spa; Island Fitness; Jeannie Buesch; Jo Clark; Jodi Ashley; Joe & Mary Abo; John & Sandy Rust; Judy Reynolds; Judy York; Kathy Ramsay; Kitsap Family YMCA; Kitsap Golf & Country Club; Leann Riegelhuth; Legendary Portraits of Manette; Literacy Council of Kitsap's Poulsbo office volunteers; Majestic Image; Maradel Gale; Marti Green; Mike Dougherty; Monica Sorensen; MoonDogs Too; Nancy Creager; Nancy Manheimer; Northwest Boat Rentals; Olga Fedorovski; Oxford Suites; Port Orchard Nursery; Rebecca Cooper; Rings & Things; Rose Baker; Shari Adrig; SK8Town; Staples in Port Orchard; Starbucks in East Bremerton, Bremerton Harborside, and Port Orchard; Sun Prairie Trading Company; Talk's Cheap Wireless; Terry Schroeder; The Comics Keep; The Traveler; Tim Todd; Trish Tierney; United Way of Kitsap County; Urban Zen Salon; Western Washington Center for the Arts; and Xavier Lopez, Jr.