

Date: Apr 7, 2013; Section: Community; Page: D5

SCRAPBOOK

Compiled from staff reports

Land Trust honors area residents

Skagit Land Trust recognized and honored several volunteers and an organization at the group's annual meeting, held March 29 at the Shelter Bay Yacht Club in La Conner.

The Outstanding Partnership Award was presented to the staff of Ducks Unlimited for their commitment to preserving and restoring critical wetland habitat in the county. The DU group secured funding through the North American Wetland Conservation Act to help with the acquisition of 250 acres at Barney Lake, which they have committed to help restore.

Rick Machin received the Outstanding Stewardship Volunteer Award in recognition of his volunteer work and performance on the Stewardship Committee.

The Outstanding Development Volunteer Award was presented to Liz McNett-Crowl for her commitment as a member of the SLT Development Committee and Barney Lake Campaign Committee.

John Tursi was honored with the Blue Heron Award, which is awarded to board members, staffers or volunteers who have shown "an extraordinary dedication to the lands of Skagit County," as described in a Trust news release. Tursi was presented his award the day prior.

Prior to the awards ceremony, investigator Jon Reidel of the North Cascades Glacier Monitoring Program delivered a presentation on glaciers, climate change and water in the Skagit watershed.

The Trust also re-elected board members John Hunt, Janice Martin, Curt Miller, Keith Wiggers and Sara Young, and thanked outgoing President Bob Boudinot for his leadership.

SMART Table donated to program

Skagit Valley College's Skagit/Islands Head Start program recently received a SMART Table 230i from SMART Technologies of Alberta, Canada, to help enhance educational programs. The SMART Table can be used by up to six children simultaneously and comes with a range of multi-touch learning applications, interactive lesson activities and educational games for young students.

The contribution was made through the Skagit Valley College Foundation. The SMART company also provided a half day of training to Head Start staff.

Head Start is a free child development program for pregnant moms and children up to age 5 from low-income families. Skagit/ Islands Head Start serves some 450 children and families in Skagit, Island and San Juan counties.

Burlington man lands biggest catch

Scott Fowler of Burlington walked away from the Great Anacortes Fishing Film Festival on Sunday, March 31, with an extra \$15,000, the festival's top prize for hauling in a 21.52-pound fish, the heaviest caught during the weekend festivities.

Fowler was one of around 1,100 registered anglers who took to local water during Easter weekend in hopes of catching a piece of the \$25,000 in cash prizes.

Besides the fishing competition, the festival also featured numerous fishing films and other activities.

Jim Ramos of Sedro-Woolley won best feature video in the Amateur Division.

Proceeds from the event fund scholarships to benefit young adults pursuing a career in fishery management and related fields.



Submitted photo

John Tursi was honored March 28 by Skagit Land Trust with the Blue Heron Award for his extraordinary dedication to the lands of Skagit County.



McNett-Crowl



Machin