

Getting Married and Raising Money for MAKE WAVES!

Organizations are going to great lengths these days to raise money, but the MAKE WAVES! group might get the record.

David Hero and Nancy Speser, two of the primary organizers and backers of the effort to build a community swimming pool and indoor recreation center, got married on Oct. 17 – and turned their wedding party into a fundraiser. Hero and Speser asked all guests attending and many others who didn't, via mailed wedding invitations, to contribute to MAKE WAVES! in lieu of gifts.

The newlyweds are members of the founding steering committee of MAKE WAVES!, which acquired 501(c)(3) nonprofit status last year. On their wedding invitations, they explained that that they did not need any more stuff and instead would appreciate gifts to Make Waves. Friends and family came through like champs: A few weeks ago, the couple passed along more than \$11,000 in contributions to Make Waves President Karen Nelson.

There have been other unique donors. On Aug. 22, 10-year old **Corinne Pierson's** family rented the Mountain View public swimming pool for her 10th birthday party. She asked her friends to make donations to MAKE WAVES! instead of giving her gifts. She's done the same on her last three birthdays. Pierson has been passionate about getting a new swimming pool before the City of Port Townsend shuts down Mountain View because she spends a lot of time practicing her figures and routines with her synchronized swimming team, Olympic Tsunami Synchro. She has contributed \$1,000 to date.

MAKE WAVES! is devoted to building a multi-use aquatic and recreation facility. Its preferred site is next to Kah Tai Lagoon, adjacent to the existing Jefferson Transit park-and-ride lot near Safeway.