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Marge Thorne Receives the 2011 C. Keith Birkenfeld Humanitarian Award from the Bainbridge Community Foundation

The Bainbridge Community Foundation is pleased to announce Marge Thorne of Bremerton, WA as the recipient of the 2011 C. Keith Birkenfeld Humanitarian Award.

The C. Keith Birkenfeld Humanitarian Award is given to a resident of Kitsap County who exemplifies the best in volunteer service, leadership, and commitment to the community. Marge Thorne, this year's award recipient, is an extraordinary example of a lifetime of humanitarianism. Her service to the community spans six decades and includes a wide range of non-profit organizations in Kitsap County.

From Kitsap County's youngest citizens to its oldest, Marge's community involvement has touched thousands of people and multiple generations. The YMCA, Big Brothers/Sisters, Chief Kitsap Boy Scouts of America and Camp Fire Girls have recognized Marge's outstanding accomplishments as a dedicated volunteer over the years. She is a charter member of the League of Women Voters and a former president and board member. Marge was the co-organizing chairperson for Hospice of Kitsap County (formed in 1979), and has continued to volunteer for the organization for the past 32 years. Marge also continues to volunteer for the Crisis Clinic, which is associated with Kitsap Mental Health Services, and has served in various roles since 1965, including as chairperson for the Crisis Clinic. There is a long list of other organizations that have been fortunate to have Marge's involvement and leadership including the American Cancer Society, American Red Cross, Kitsap County Juvenile Court Diversion Program, the State's Parent Teacher Association and subsequent Parent Teacher Student Association, and United Way of Kitsap County.

The award comes with a \$25,000 grant-making opportunity, which Marge will announce at the Bainbridge Community Foundation's annual Philanthropy Celebration & Awards Ceremony on September 10th.

This is the third year that the Bainbridge Community Foundation has awarded the C. Keith Birkenfeld Humanitarian Award. Previous recipients of the award include Ed Kushner (2009) and Sally Santana (2010). For more information about the award, visit the Foundation's website at www.bainbridgecommunityfoundation.org.

Bainbridge Community Foundation

Building the future of our community through encouraging philanthropy today.

The Bainbridge Community Foundation was established in 2001 to encourage philanthropy in our community. BCF currently has nearly \$7 million in assets and 36 donor funds and scholarships. The Foundation's donors support non-profit organizations that are vital to the health of Bainbridge Island. For more information about Bainbridge Community Foundation, please visit www.bainbridgecommunityfoundation.org or call 206-842-0433.