

ARTS & LEISURE

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PATRIOT

ASL artist gives 'mad, mad' performance

By ERIN STUBER
Editor

Patricia (Trix) Bruce is known nationwide as both a workshop presenter and an American Sign Language (ASL) performer. A teacher of ASL storytelling and interpretation, Bruce entertains audiences of all levels of ASL skill, from toe-dipping novices to fluent experts, including both deaf and hearing spectators.

She brings her talents to Bremerton next Saturday with "Tales of a Mad, Mad, Mad ASL World." The one-woman show emphasizes Bruce's creative storytelling in which she uses various handshapes, classifiers, 3-D representations, personification, role shifts, international sign and more. A voice interpreter and video projection will accompany Bruce's ASL poetry, storytelling and folk tales.

Bruce was invited to perform by Sue Downs, director of the deaf church ministry Signs of Love at Abundant Life Foursquare Church in Bremerton.

Downs was taken by Bruce after meeting the performer at a workshop and seeing her in another performance.

"It's extremely educational for anyone," Downs said, adding that she has high hopes this event will be especially positive for the local deaf community.

"We're hoping this will be the beginning of trying to get them out of the woods," Downs said.

The performance should also save ASL students at Olympic College a trip to Seattle.

"One of the class requirements is to attend a deaf event in order to experience the atmosphere of a deaf world and its culture," Downs said. "Each quarter, the



Courtesy Photo
Trix Bruce presents 'Tales of a Mad, Mad, Mad ASL World' in Bremerton next Saturday.

students are being forced to go to Seattle for an activity because there are only a few opportunities locally."

The show begins at 7 p.m. March 8 at the Cornerstone Building at 5610 Kitsap Way. Tickets are \$10 in advance (until 5 p.m. that day) and \$15 at the door.

For more information, contact Sue Downs at 373-2078 (voice) or SueD@KitsapTransit.com.

On the Web:
www.trixbruce.com