

PHOTO BY ARLA SHEPHARD

Natalia Kinder shares her story of domestic abuse with fundraisers at Turning Pointe Domestic Violence Services' second annual Power of the Purse fundraiser, Oct. 16, at Little Creek Casino. Event-goers helped raise money for the shelter nonprofit, which helps hundreds of families find the footing they need to escape from domestic violence.

"As bad as it was, I still wanted him back because it was the only way I knew how to live. The only thing keeping me from going back to him was that he was in prison."

In April 2013, Child Protective Services took Kinder's children away from her and, hitting rock bottom, she found Turning Pointe and an advocate in staff member Sherri Donley.

ley. "Turning Pointe was a place where I felt safe, with a warm shower and a warm clean bed, but it was so much more than that," Kinder said. "It's not easy, but at the end of the day, Turning Pointe was my safe haven."

Eventually, Kinder's children came to live with her at Turning Pointe's shelter and in March 2014, they moved into a home of their own.

Kinder now works at a treatment center in Shelton.

"I'll be forever thankful to Sherri for helping me and putting my future back together," she said. "She saw me as another human being, no matter what. We need places like Turning Pointe to help people." Turning Pointe's annual operating budget is \$300,000, and without fundraisers and donations, the nonprofit could not function, Cathcart said.

"The sad fact is that we cannot provide even minimal services to our domestic and sexual violence clients without the money that come from our two big annual fundraisers," she wrote in the nonprofit's newsletter. "The state and local funding is simply not enough."

Any amount can help a domestic violence victim, whether it's \$1 to help pay for an emergency phone call in the middle of the night, \$40 for a tank of gas, or \$2,500 to pay for one month's salary and benefits for a legal advocate who serves more than 50 clients each month.

"The dollars you give make a huge difference," Cathcart said.

Power of the Purse event sponsors included Little Creek Casino, the Druzianich Foundation, Better on You and Whitehouse & Nichols, LLP.

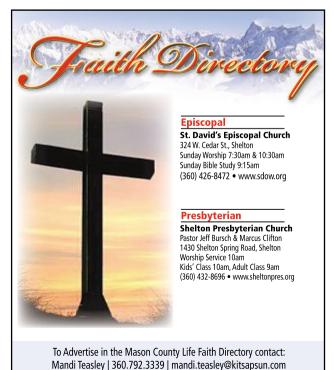
To contribute to Turning Pointe Domestic Violence Services, mail a donation to PO Box 2014, Shelton, WA 98584. ■





Above: Personal trainer Pete Lyons demonstrates a push up on TRX suspension straps at a North Mason Chamber of Commerce event hosted at his business, Get Fit Personal Training in Belfair. Lyons' TRX suspension classes offer a total body workout.





Deadline: By the 18th each month

## CHAMBER MEMBERS GET FIT |

**Right: Financial plan**ner Peter Taafe tries his hand at TRX suspension training, while personal trainer Pete Lyons and other North Mason Chamber of Commerce members look on, at a chamber After Hours event, Thursday, Oct. 9, at Get Fit Personal Training. Lyons owns Get Fit, which offers metabolic circuit, ab blast and TRX suspension classes and more.