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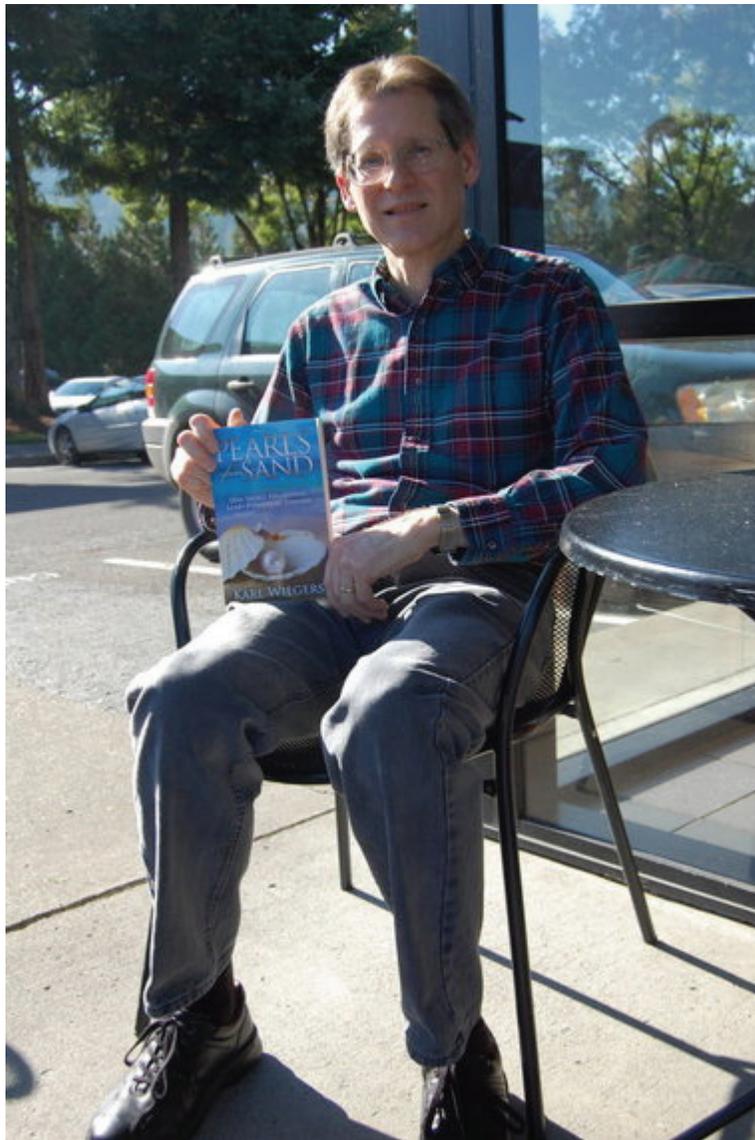
Happy Valley man writes book about pearls of wisdom

Published: Thursday, November 24, 2011, 6:01 AM



Special to The Oregonian

By



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Kristine Thomas

Karl Wiegiers not only wrote the book "Pearls from Sand: How Small Encounters Lead to Powerful Lessons" but also blogs about "pearls of wisdom" at pearlsfromsand.com.

By paying attention to ordinary conversations with friends, family and colleagues, Happy Valley resident Karl Wiegiers discovered pearls of wisdom.

"We all have moments that teach us something out of the ordinary," he said.

In his new book "**Pearls from Sand: How Small Encounters Lead to Powerful Lessons**,"

Wiegiers, 58, shares 37 "pearls" he has learned, such as this one: "Everyone deserves a second chance to make a first impression."

That pearl came from his dating experience with his wife, Chris. Their first date was "dreadful." After a couple of months, he asked her out again and she said yes. "Later, though, she told me that between then and the time I picked her up a few hours later, she had been horrified at what she had to face: another dreadful date with Karl," he wrote.

Because Chris gave him a second chance, he said, they have been having a good time for 25 years of marriage.

When Wiegiers was writing "Pearls from Sand" in 2010, he contacted some of the people he mentions in the book to ask permission to use their names and share their lessons.

"No one I contacted remembered the discussions we had," Wiegiers said. "They imparted valuable knowledge without even knowing it."

Because of that, Wieggers hopes his book makes people realize how their words can have a positive or negative impact on someone's life.

"Often a single sentence that I heard from someone really opened my eyes and changed my behavior or thinking in a constructive way," he said. "I hope the book influences others in a small, positive way."

He encourages people to scour their memories for pearls of wisdom they can share with their families, friends or colleagues.

"Everyone can benefit from people who teach those around them powerful life lessons," he wrote in his book. "The pearls are all around us, if we only notice, listen and think about them."

- **Kristine Thomas**

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