

Who wants to go fly a kite?

Written by KRISTYN HALBIG ZIEHM
Wednesday, 08 May 2013 17:30

Airborne family fun will highlight Saturday festival in Port's Upper Lake Park

Kites will fly above Upper Lake Park in Port Washington Saturday afternoon during a kite festival organized by enthusiast Tom Hudson.

"It's a nice way to spend a spring day," said Hudson. "There's something about just going out and flying a kite. It's just fun."

The event will run from noon until about 4 p.m., weather permitting. It'll be a casual event, Hudson said, with people of all ages invited to fly a kite.

He'll be flying a few of his own, and will have a few extras on hand available for participants to purchase at cost.

He'll probably also have a few kites for a giveaway, Hudson said.

Hudson said he started flying kites as a child, initially simple paper ones.

"They were cheap. They'd usually end up in a tree or torn," Hudson said, adding that one of his favorite childhood memories is of flying kites with his father.

Years later, he got a little more serious about the hobby and used his sister's sewing machine to fashion a large box kite.

That kite survived for many years, although it was damaged after he and his wife Elizabeth O'Connell moved to Port.

In 2005, he remade the kite, which stands 5 feet tall, Hudson said.

That same year, he took part in a kite festival organized by former Mayor Scott Huebner.

While the festival fell to the wayside after a year or two, Hudson's interest never waned. He said he's thought about

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