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VOICE OF THE NORTHWEST SINCE 1850 ★★ NORTHWEST FINAL

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Newport

Stroke victim to speak about ordeal, recovery

One day in 2003, Megan Timothy awoke unable to speak any word except "chicken."

As she slept, a long-quiet malformation in her brain's blood vessels had broken, causing a massive stroke. Doctors told Timothy she would never read, write or speak properly again.

The 64-year-old has just written a book about her ordeal, and will speak today in Newport about her dramatic recovery from what she calls "a brain explosion."

The Southern California resident is traveling the country by bicycle, hoping to inspire people with brain injuries to work hard on their therapy and recovery. Timothy said she decided to bike "to prove to myself that I was whole again."

Her free talk is scheduled for 12:30 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church of Newport, 227 N.E. 12th St.

— Andy Dworkin