



Key Peninsula Recreation Guide



- Kayaking
- Hiking
- Camping
- Swimming
- Arts & Crafts
- Family Excursions
- Beaches
- Fishing
- Simple Pleasures
and more ...

SUMMER 2003



**Summer Recreation
Guide is a special
supplement to
Key Peninsula News.**

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**Peninsula
KEY NEWS**

To our neighbors and visitors,

As the summer sun smiles on us and the road winks, coaxing us to go on an adventure somewhere....anywhere.... we yearn for some respite from the daily grind and look around for something different to do, something to slow down the pace or refresh our energy. Whether you need a break after work, a place to keep the kids occupied, entertainment for visiting family—or whether you’ve stumbled onto this small piece of paradise for a short visit—you will find many pleasures while exploring around.

If you are a visitor, you will not find any big tourist attractions at this end of the road—but you won’t find traffic jams, noisy parties and long lines either. What you will find is a variety of enjoyable activities in a peaceful, scenic surrounding and a friendly and tight community. Next thing you know, you’ll be falling in love with Key Peninsula’s rich historic background, friendly residents and beautiful scenery and you’ll be looking for a retirement home out here or a place to settle your family.

And if you’re already calling the peninsula home, or have lived here all your life, summer is a good time to be a “tourist” in your own back yard, so get out and about and have some fun!

The Key Peninsula News is excited to offer this Summer Recreation Guide. It has just a sampling of many activities you can find here—you just need to know where to look.

Rodika Tollefson,
Executive editor

Key Peninsula

RECREATION DIRECTORY

*For detailed information about these
activities, see pages 3-8.*

Contact phone numbers:

Civic Center and Museum:

884-3456

Longbranch Improvement Club:

884-6022

KP Outdoor Club: 884-3347

Camp Seymour: 884-3392

KP Community Services: 884-4440

KP Community Fair: 884-4326

Two Waters Arts: 884-2955

Key Center Library: 884-4222

Minter Creek Hatchery: 857-5077

Event details:

PC Parks Kidmobile at Evergreen

Elementary: 9:30 a.m. to noon;
Mondays, June 30, July 7, 14, 21, 28,
Aug. 4; free. 798-4753.

KP Family Resource Center camps

for 2-5 year-olds: 9 a.m. to noon;
Civic Center: Thursdays, July 3-31;
Evergreen Elementary: Tuesdays, July 1-
29. \$15; scholarships available. 884-
5433.

KP Family Resource Center camps

for 1-5 graders: 9 a.m. to noon; Civic
Center: Wednesdays and Thursdays, July
2-31; Evergreen Elementary, Mondays
and Tuesdays, June 30-July 29. \$35;
scholarships available. 884-5433.

YMCA Camp Seymour Community

Open Swim: 1-2 p.m. Monday- Friday,
July 7-Aug. 22. \$1 per person per day.
884-3392.

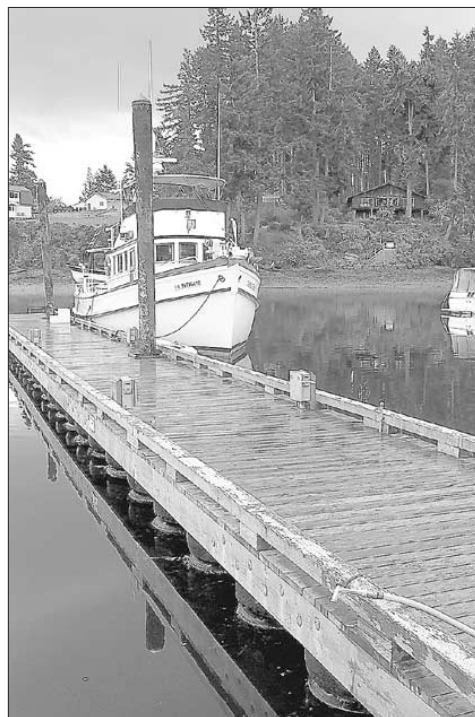


Photo by Hugh McMillan

Parks and the Point Defiance Zoo, ages 6 and up; July 17, 10:30 a.m., **Puppet Theatre** presents “Three Little Pigs” and “Three Billy Goats Gruff,” ages 5 and up; Aug. 7, 10:30 a.m., **Puppet Theatre** presents “Gingerbread Boy” and “Little Red Riding Hood,” ages 5 and up. All events free. 884-2242.

Sewing classes for kids: 9 a.m. to noon or 1-4 p.m., Aug. 4-8, ages 8-14, Civic Center. Free. For materials list and to register, call 884-3703.

Great Kingdom Caper vacation Bible camp: 9 a.m. to noon, July 14-17, Civic Center, ages K-6. Free. 853-6761.

Paintball: Join in with law enforcement personnel in a free game or schedule your own party. Paintball gear available for sale. 857-4820.

KPCS Community Breakfast: 8-11 a.m., 2nd and 4th Saturdays, Community House. \$3. 884-4440.

Karaoke Nights: Huckleberry Inn, starting at 9 p.m., Wednesday, Friday, Saturday; ages 21 and up. 884-3707.

Clogging classes: times and levels vary; for cost and details call 360-792-0631.

Gym at MVP: Monday-Thursday, times vary; bikes, treadmill, free weights; \$25 per month. 884-0841.

K.C. (Kids Care) Club: service group for grades 1-5 (younger kids may participate with a parent/guardian); sponsored by YMCA Camp Colman and KP Lutheran Church; monthly projects. June 7: ride a float at Gig Harbor’s Maritime Gig Parade; June 22: beach cookout and track cleanup. 884-5754.

KPCS Youth Woodworking Workshop:

3:30-5:30 p.m. Wednesdays, ongoing. Free; supplies provided. 884-4440.

Art workshops: times, dates and cost vary for each program. Call Two Waters Arts at 884-2955 or pick up a summer program guide at the Civic Center or library. **Scarecrow Show** on July 12, 10 a.m. to noon, Sunnycrest Nursery. \$10 per person; \$25 per family.

Drumming circle: 7-9 p.m. June 3, July 1, Aug. 5; Civic Center. \$10 per person per session, \$20 family. 884-2955.

Library events: 2 p.m., July 9, **Raptors:** the winged hunters with Metro

Explore the variety of local parks

By Nancy Lind

My husband and I have spent many days and nights in parks over the years and the good experiences in public parks and our less than happy experiences in private parks have convinced us that public parks are the best. We believe that they are as important as good schools, good fire and police protection and good community services. We have devoted our last years to seeing more areas become dedicated to park and open space uses on the Key Peninsula. We recognize, along with many others, the need and importance of setting aside land for the future, especially as the population grows. We hope that we are able to encourage others to think "parks."

KP Sports Center and Fairgrounds

The Key Peninsula Sports Center and Fairgrounds (formerly Volunteer Park) is 20 acres with three ball fields, a potential fourth field, a tennis court, basketball hoops, horseshoe pits, trails, picnic area, concession stand (Lisa's Dugout Diner), shop, office/storage/meeting

room building, restrooms, parking and play toys. It is home to Little League, Adult Softball, soccer players, Key Peninsula Community Fair, tournaments, and various special events.

Rocky Creek Conservation Area

RCCA contains 224 acres of woodlands, streams, trails, picnic area benches and quiet. It is located in back of the gravel pit on State Route 302 and 150th Street. You can park across from the entrance house at Lake Holiday at the reader board and hike the entire loop or go to the trailhead area where the picnic bench is and hike the trails from there.

Home Park

Home Park is a 2-acre new park, just being developed for a historic/cultural/contemplative park in Home at Eighth Ave. and Key Peninsula Highway N. It has potential for garden groups, school groups, neighbors and friends to add touches of beauty and park amenities to highlight the entrance to historic Home. Visit the historic marker at the

site and walk in to sit a spell before going on to your other activities.

Penrose Point State Park

Penrose Point State Park is a 146-acre park with 10,075 feet of shoreline. It has 85 overnight campsites in the summer, bathroom facilities, picnic shelters, float, eight mooring buoys, beachcombing, nature trails, clamming, swimming and fishing. To reach the park, go one mile south of Home on the Key Peninsula Highway, turn left at Cornwall Road, right on Delano Lorenz Rd. and drive 1 mile to 158th Avenue. \$5 parking fee at the park.

Joemma Beach State Park

Joemma Beach State Park is a 122-acre park, 1,100 feet of shoreline, formerly known as the RFK Recreation Area. It has overnight camping in the summer, bathrooms, beachcombing, nature trails, picnic areas, boat launching and a great dock with floats and limited slips. Follow KP Hwy southwest from Purdy to intersection 1 1/4 mile south of Home. Go down Whitman Rd. to Bay Rd. \$5 parking fee.



Photo by Rodika Tollefson

Volunteers are creating new trails at the Rocky Creek Conservation Area.

Horseshoe Lake Park

Horseshoe Lake Park is located near the line between Pierce and Kitsap counties at the edge of the Key Peninsula. The 39-acre park has a softball field, playground, fishing pier, boat launch, picnic areas, swimming, a sand volleyball court and a trail. From the Purdy Spit, follow State Route 302 and turn left on 94th Avenue, which becomes Sidney Road.

Nancy Lind is a Key Peninsula Parks and Recreation District commissioner.



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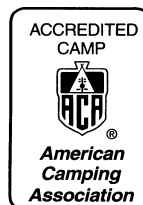
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Visit YMCA Camp Seymour online at www.campseymour.org
or call (253) 884-3392 for more information.

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SUMMER 2003

Summer brings out fun events

By Rodika Tollefson

Summer would not be the same without the variety of local events that show a glimpse of community spirit and offer fun entertainment for all ages. There are several of them to choose from this year, and you don't have to drive far to indulge.

The Key Peninsula Community Fair at Sports Center & Fairgrounds Aug. 15-17 offers 20 acres of carnival rides, shopping, and food, along with all sorts of entertainment, workshops and contests. From the Valentine Performing Pigs (of Dave Letterman Show fame) and the Amazing Pop 'O illusionist, to several bands and singers—and local talent—the fair has it all covered. Toss in photo and pie contests, a climbing wall, petting zoo, face painting, displays, a beer garden and lots of food—and what are you waiting for? Advance tickets for the fair and rides offer big discounts. See www.keyfair.com or call 253-884-4FUN.

Washington Renaissance Fantasy Faire at Minter Creek Ranch off State Route 302, on Aug. 2-3, 9-10 and 16-17, is a trip back to the 16th century—armored knights, royalty and sword fighting included. Celtic dancing, storytelling, bag pipe music, wandering minstrels and puppet shows are mixed in with kids' games, craft demonstrations, merchant booths, and of course food. Even fantasy writer Mercedes Lackey will stop by the first day to sign books. Come as you are—or rent one of the period costumes at the faire, and you can compete in chess, try your hand at sword fighting, or just enjoy the lineup of entertaining acts. Find out more at www.washingtonren-faire.com or call 1-800-359-5948.

If you're not into crowded events and reminisce for old-fashioned community get-togethers, don't miss **Old Timers' Day** on Aug. 16 organized by the Key Peninsula Community Services at the Longbranch Improvement Club. In its 18th year, the family oriented

KP locals' ideas for summer fun

★ Play hide-and-seek with baby crabs on the beach and see what you can find. You can even have a contest (and we don't mean with the crabs).

★ Drive to the top of the Vaughn Cemetery and enjoy the beautiful view of Vaughn Bay and sand spit—one of the best views around.



Photos courtesy of Scott Turner and Ann Waldo



event includes a logging show and competition, music and bands, free food, hay rides, a "country store" contest and raffle prizes. A breakfast (\$3) kicks off the celebration at 8 a.m., with the show starting at 10. Call 884-4440 for details.

There is nothing like meeting new friends over good food, and Key Peninsula residents know how to put on fiestas all year round. This summer, two salmon bakes promise to deliver good food while you visit with friends and neighbors. June 21, head to the **Key Peninsula Community House** for its 21st anniversary celebration. The salmon bake will include kids' games, storytelling and possibly even a street dance! (Call 884-4440)

On July 26, local Chef Oliver Coldeen returns for another round of delicious cuisine at **Longbranch Community Church Annual Salmon Bake**. The fundraising event offers family fun, complete with deluxe salmon dinner, raffle, music, silent and live auctions,

★ Gardening, gardening, gardening: It just grows on you, whether you're a beginner or a pro. If you're not sure where to start, try the local nursery for ideas.

★ Go back in time with the help of the Key Peninsula Museum. Lots of antiques and thingamajigs to see, history trivia and much more.

★ Try something new: Horseshoe Lake Golf Course is just a few minutes away; the lakes and tidelands

on the Key Peninsula

face painting and games. Dinner starts at 2 p.m. Advance tickets are available at various local businesses. (Call 857-6474 or 884-3502)

The sports-minded get a chance to exercise July 12-13 during the Key Peninsula Lions' Volkssport Club-sponsored **Volksmarch**. Walk your way through the peninsula on a 10K (6.2-mile) trek that begins at the Key Peninsula Middle School. History enthusiasts get a double treat, as historic sites located on the walk will be identified. Walking starts at 8 a.m. and participation is free to anyone except AVA and IVV credit walkers, who must pay the standard fees. Call 884-3319 or 884-3485.

Immerse yourself into jazz and blues music at the **Prohibition Jazz Band's "Jazz in June"** concert at the Civic Center on June 14. Returning for its fifth performance, the band features a new but familiar face this year, as local resident Mike Ernesti joins in on the drums and vocals. From big band swing to '50s rock, they do it all and do it well. The concert begins at 8 p.m. but if you show up an hour early, you can get warmed up by taking free dance lessons from Doug Henry of InStep Dance. Advance tickets offer discount. Call 884-3456 for information. (Please note this event is not open to minors)

Honky tonk moon or not, Grammy Award-winning country and Christian music star **Randy Travis** is coming to Miracle Ranch. The outdoor concert on Aug. 6 is the singer's only Washington state appearance and will feature his new "Inspirational Journey" CD release. Travis has more than two dozen awards, including Country Album of the Year 2003 from Dove Awards. The \$30 tickets can be purchased at Ticketmaster outlets or online at www.ticketmaster.com (festival seating; doors open at 6 p.m., concert at 8). For information, call 360-697-1212.

Round up your summer time off with the **Labor Day Dance at Longbranch Improvement Club** on Aug. 30. The blues-funk-folk-rockabilly sounds of the local favorite Junkyard Jane are becoming a summertime tradition—as are the dances, dating back to the 1920s or 30s. Come by foot, car or boat—but bring your dancing shoes 'cause these guys are full of energy, and they have plenty to go around. Tickets are available in advance at local businesses or at the door. Call 884-6022.

have plenty of good fishing spots; local outdoor club offers kayaking and other workshops; the Longbranch Improvement Club is auditioning for community theater; Camp Seymour has outdoor programs including intro to kayaking or backpacking; and a new tennis program is launched this summer.

Thank you to everyone who shared their tips.

Keep the kids busy with activities

By Rodika Tollefson

Like most parents, I feel a slight sense of panic when school closes doors for the summer. Suddenly, the summer days feel really long when having to entertain two very active boys (mine are ages 6 and 8). But with a little creative thinking and research, there are fun things to do indoors and outdoors on the Key Peninsula. Here are some additional ideas not already included in the other sections (check page 2 for phone numbers, times and prices):

- * Play games, make crafts and enjoy cooperative activities during Pierce County Parks' Kidmobile Days at Evergreen Elementary. Parents can drop off their kids any time during the program, and are encouraged to join in the fun.

- * Summer camp comes to your backyard—well, almost. Key Peninsula Family Resource Center has two "camps" for kids going into first through fifth grade and two for tots 2-5 years old. Play, music, crafts, reading and fun await at the Civic Center and Evergreen Elementary.

- * Go for a swim—choose any of the public beaches or lakes like Horseshoe Lake Park, Carney Lake or Purdy Spit, or head over to YMCA Camp Seymour for the one-hour Community Open Swim.

- * Learn to build things out of wood by coming to Key Peninsula Community Services' Woodworking Youth Workshop. You may even surprise mom or dad with a handmade present!

- * Take a felt-making, story writing or acting workshop—or grab mom and dad to make a scarecrow for the Scarecrow Show or to build artwork from things you find on the beach—offered as part of Two Waters Arts Alliance's Summer Program.

- * Come meet some raptors or watch puppet plays at the Key Center Library, or take off on a reading adventure with this summer's "Take Flight Read" program. Get an activity guide from the library and find out how you can collect stickers and enter contests just by reading fun books!

- * Run off some energy at one of the local parks, beaches or playgrounds. Civic Center, Sports Center & Fairgrounds have

play equipment; many of the parks have open or beach space for playing Frisbee, digging for sand treasures, flying a kite and other activities.

- * If you're looking for something different to do, try your hand at sewing in a weeklong, free session at the Civic Center. Boys and girls will learn to sew simple kids' clothes.

- * The Great Kingdom Caper adventure will take the Bible-minded youngsters on a journey to Cracking the Character Code. The free vacation Bible school at the Civic Center is hosted by the Key Peninsula Baptist Church.

- * Play tag with friends at a round of paintball on Lackey Road. Come and watch law enforcement personnel play and join them—or get your own party together.

- * If you like to be helpful and want to feel useful, join the K.C. (Kids Care) Club and help the community with various service activities, from serving meals and visiting seniors to cleaning parks and even riding a float.

Top Key Pen picks for a relaxing (or energizing) summer day

By Rodika Tollefson

So you've weeded your garden, visited all your neighbors, got all fished out with angler's cramps, and overheated in the sun while napping on the beach.

See page 2 for phone numbers and details.

Is there anything else you can do around here without crossing the Purdy bridge? Chances are you already love the remoteness of the Key Peninsula, or you wouldn't live here. So here are some suggestions for those sweet summer days when the road is calling but you don't want to drive far.

- * Take a tour of the Minter Creek Hatchery. Even if you don't care about salmon—there are wildlife and bird watching opportunities, a nature walk trail, and even friendly staff ready to answer questions.

- * Wake up your dormant artistic talents by taking one of many workshops offered locally by Two Waters Arts Alliance.

Maybe you're not artist material, or maybe you're the next Picasso—but how will you know if you don't try?

- * Unleash some energy at the monthly drumming sessions at the Civic Center. Bring your own drum or use one provided and learn some new rhythms.

- * Go on a treasure hunt at some of the many flea markets and garage sales and

create some new garden art or rustic home décor item. It's never too early to think Christmas, and handmade gifts are always in fashion! (Watch the monthly Community Page for sales organized by local groups.)

- * Meet new friends or visit with neighbors at "Red's Joint"—the Key Peninsula Community Services' inexpensive breakfast every second and fourth Saturday, with Cristi "Red" Watson cooking up a storm.

- * Sing your heart out at Huckleberry Inn on Wednesday, Friday and Saturday nights' karaoke.

- * Clog your way to fitness with clogging classes at the Civic Center—or if you prefer more traditional exercise, try MPV Physical Therapy's gym in Key Center.

- * Stroll around the Peninsula and make stopovers at the local farms, produce stands or farmers market, then surprise your "sweetie" (or your in-laws and anyone

else) with a healthy meal. Seafood lovers need not go further than Minter Oyster, then turn the corner to Bea's produce stand.

- * Romance that someone special with a sunset picnic at one of the local parks or beaches: Show off your culinary skills with that fresh produce you found during the day, or forget all that and go for your favorite takeout from one of the local diners.

- * Try your hand at acting for the Longbranch Players' dinner-theatre production of "Sylvia" by A.R.Gurney. The play will show in September at the Improvement Club, with June auditions for a variety of roles.

- * Do some good and get busy with one of the dozens of local groups searching for volunteers. Lots of programs are there to be offered, but not enough people to make them happen—why not boost your self-esteem by making someone's day?



Dale Loy (second from left) is the master of rhythm at the drumming circle that meets every month at the Civic Center.

Photo by Rodika Tollefson

Water sports enthusiasts paddle to KP for symposium

By Caril Ridley

Water sports enthusiasts will be converging on Key Peninsula with paddle craft from all over the Pacific Northwest on July 26-27. They will have the opportunity to experience the beauty of our coastline and share their interests and skills by offering kayaking and canoeing demonstrations, instruction, classes and games.

The weekend-long event will include a tidal run through Pit Passage to Filuci Bay with a shuttle back and an opportunity to meet new friends, enjoy family and share food.

Bring a potluck offering and a boat if you have one, if not share your interest and find opportunity to try out an assortment of paddle craft, kayaks and canoes of all sorts, take instruction by experienced boaters in the warm shallow waters of Penrose Park, play boating games, see an Inuit, Qajaq demonstration including harpoon technique, and learn some of the marine traditions of Puget Sound.

Penrose State Park parking requires a \$5 permit. Camp sites are available for overnight stay on first come, first served basis.

The potluck and tidal run is sponsored by the Key Peninsula Trails Association (KPTA) and the Key Peninsula Outdoor Club. KPTC will present its newest publication, "The Key Peninsula Marine Trails Guidebook," which inaugurates the Key Peninsula as an attraction to residents and visitors alike, a beautiful marine park trail. For information call 884-9240.

Diving Key Peninsula

By Karl Anderson

For SCUBA divers, Key Peninsula has some sites that are worth exploring. Purdy Spit, just east of the highway across the bridge south of Purdy, is a popular site. Maximum depth is 25 feet, with visibility from 15 to 40 feet. This is a very good area for Dungeness Crab and Flounder. Lewis' Moon Snails are also a frequent sight. For those into "macro creatures" the Sea Gooseberry, a small gooseberry-sized coelenterate, harmless to humans and related to jellyfish, can be found in abundance. Park on the east side of the highway and enter the water straight down from your vehicle for convenience.

Another good area is at the end of Herron Island Road. From Purdy, drive 14 miles down the Peninsula to Lakebay. Just past the post office make a right onto Herron Drive and follow it to the end, approximately 5 miles. There is plenty of parking just north of the traffic lane for the Herron Island Ferry. Entry can be made either to the south or north of the ferry landing. Again, Dungeness Crab and flounder are in abundance, and at a depth of 35-45 feet the giant White and Orange

Plumose Anemones can be found. You will also see a variety of sea stars, including the Sunflower Star, Leather Star, and Giant Pink Star. Guerne's Sea Pens dwell in this area around 60 feet all along the Peninsula. Their bio-luminescence, most easily seen on night dives when touched, is quite remarkable.

To the north from the ferry landing at a depth of 50 feet is an underwater outcropping of rocks that is home to a Giant Pacific Octopus. Look for the tell-tale signs of discarded crab shells around the den entrance.

As with all dives in Puget Sound, plan to enter the water about 30 minutes before high slack tide for the best visibility and watch out for the current. A float with a "diver down flag" is highly recommended, as boat traffic can present a potential hazard. You will not find masses of divers anywhere on Key Peninsula, which is what makes it a great place to explore without following another diver's silt "clouds." Watch your time and depth limits. The nearest decompression chamber is at St. Joseph's Hospital in Tacoma.

Karl Anderson is a NAUI certified diving instructor.

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Fun For All Ages In The Peninsula Sun

Key Peninsula Community Services offers programs and events to while away your summer hours with traditional family fun.

Look at these:

- Senior Lunches: Wed & Fri
- Senior Bingo: Thurs 7:00 pm
- Senior Shopping: 1st & 3rd Thurs. ea month
- Senior Trips: As posted

- Breakfast: 2nd Sat ea month 8:00 - 11:00
- Yard Sale: 2nd Sat ea month 9:00 - 3:00



SPECIAL EVENTS

June 21st: 21st Anniversary - Salmon Bake: Come see how far we've come and where we're going to go.



August 16 - Old Timers Day - Traditional family fun with a logging show, auction, various entertainments and lots of food, and community enjoyment. Revisiting family and community values.

For more information call 253-884-4440

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Explore the Key Peninsula by car

Tour book shows you how

By Rodika Tollefson

For the scenic-minded, summer is a spectacular time to explore the Key Peninsula by car. Starting with the Purdy Spit, where you may catch a glimpse of windsurfers, kitesurfers or just people basking in the sun, you can drive your way through the heart of the Peninsula and on to its far corners—stopping for lunch or coffee along the way and enjoying the vista of farms and forestlands.

Thanks to a newly published historic guide, you can drive the peninsula with a purpose: explore the rich history and marvel at some of its landmarks. The guide, "An Automobile Tour through Key Peninsula History," takes you on a 50-mile journey beginning in Vaughn, at the Key Peninsula Civic Center. One hundred points of historic significance are included, taking you in a circuit from Vaughn to Home, Taylor Bay, Longbranch, Lakebay, Herron, Key Center, Glen Cove, Minter Bay, Victor, and back to Vaughn. Maps and photos complete the book, written by local

Key Peninsula book

The tour guidebook costs \$15 and is available at the Key Peninsula Museum at the Civic Center, some local businesses or online at www.tarrak.com/BOOKS/ah.htm. Proceeds from the book benefit the museum and the development of future trails on the Key Peninsula.

author Simon Priest, who interviewed several local historians.

If you are a visitor, you can spend just a few hours or a few days driving around and enjoying the quiet countryside and the pristine beauty. But if you are not in a rush, combine the tour with stopovers at local parks, beaches, shops and other spots, choose one of several beautiful bed & breakfasts, and you'll find the Key Pen the perfect getaway from the fast pace of daily life.

And if you are a local resident—why not take a mini-vacation and explore your own community?

Got GPS?

Go on treasure hunt

By Irene Torres

Geocaching (say Geo-caching, like cashing a check) is a new sport, described as being "an entertaining adventure game for GPS users," who participate in a cache hunt. Other names are GPS Stash Hunt or Global Positioning Stash hunt. This game was made possible when the GPS (Global Positioning Satellite) signal degradation called Select Availability (SA) was removed in 2000 by the Clinton administration.

Individuals and organizations set up caches and share their locations on the Internet. The location coordinates are used to find the caches, which contain a logbook and often various "treasures"—even money, jewelry, CDs or videogames.

There is even a "Key Peninsula Cache" as well as several others in the Gig Harbor/Key Peninsula area. To play geocaching, you must own a GPS, an electronic device used to determine any location (within 6-20 feet) on Earth. Enter a "waypoint" of the hidden geo-

cache, and follow any "tips" left on the Web site by the cache owner. The rules of the game are simple: take something from the cache; leave something in the cache; write about it in the logbook.

The game is "deceptively easy." While a cache's coordinates are known, it may be difficult to reach it, since the placement of a cache is limited only by the imagination of the founder, from the side of a rocky cliff to underwater locations. Others may be found only after a difficult hike, orienteering, or the use of special equipment, but the find can be worth the effort. Some logbooks contain maps to another treasure or clues and riddles leading to other caches.

The Key Peninsula Cache

GPS location: N 47° 17.892 W 122° 47.290 (WGS84)

UTM: 10T E 516015 N 5238325

.75 miles off Jackson Lake Road as the crow flies. Trail leads to the cache. The site is remote but beautiful, perfect for a picnic lunch.

Learn more at www.geocaching.com.

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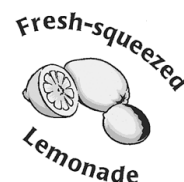
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Exploring the Key by kayak

By Caril Ridley

Puget Sound waters are a national treasure, and few locations in the world compare in scenery and marine life. Key Peninsula is ideal for marine recreation. Sculpted by glaciers, its sheltered inland waterway, bays and tidelands are washed by tidal flows feeding an abundance of sea life. Inlets and bays are plentiful for paddling, from Purdy Spit to Devil's Head and onward to Vaughn. Enjoy the morning sunrise or listen through the silent fog for salmon jumping and the occasional harbor seal.

When you cast off into the South Sound, you're stepping into a different reality, a rich aquatic environment of tides and sea life. As you glide through waterways watching seals, stopping to dig clams or trolling with a fishing line,

you're viewing a marine legacy that harkens back to Indian tribes in canoes and the Mosquito Fleet of merchant boats that plied the waters from markets to communities in every bay.

Our waters are here to be explored safely, so be certain that you know your ability and the characteristics of your equipment. Seek out training and learn safety prior to casting off. Plan for the abilities of every member in your party and always use approved Personal Flotation Devices and appropriate clothing for the ever-changing weather.

Boats and training are available to get you started or polish your skills. The opportunity to explore the sea is always within a few miles when you live on or visit Key Peninsula!

Caril Ridley competed and trained with the US Olympic Team.

Top 10 trails

by Simon Priest

1. Fern Lake/Lake Koeneman
2. Rocky Creek Conservation Area
3. Horseshoe Lake DNR Property
4. Purdy Spit County Park
5. Key Center DNR Property

6. Dutcher Cove State Park
7. Maple Hollow DNR Property
8. Penrose State Park
9. The Lind's Property
10. Joemma Beach State Park

For details on these trails, read the next three issues of the Key Peninsula News.

Fish on...



Mike Dickey of Lakebay, seen here, won the first prize for the small mouth bass in the first Bass Derby sponsored by the Key Peninsula Sportsman's Club in April.

Key Peninsula offers several choices for fishing, including:

Rainbow trout: try Jackson Lake, Bay Lake, Wye Lake, Carney Lake.

Saltwater fishing: Joemma Beach and Penrose Point state parks, Purdy Spit.

Regulations, week-end reports and other information is available at www.wa.gov/wdfw.

Photo by Hugh McMillan

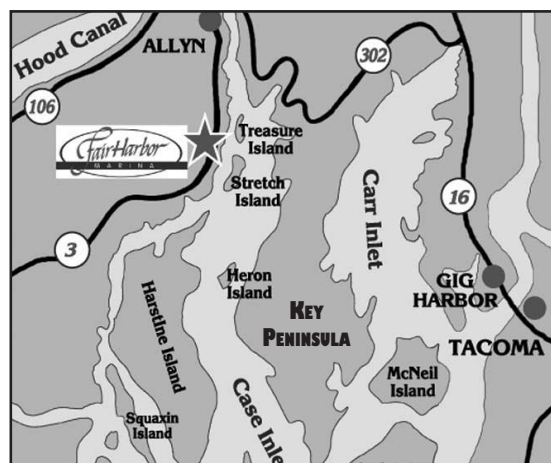
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