

Key Peninsula Community Fair Guide is a special supplement to Key Peninsula News.

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For information:
Key Peninsula News
17010 S. Vaughn Rd.
P.O. Box 3, Vaughn, WA 98394
Phone: (253) 884-4699
Fax: (253) 884-4053
Email: news@keypennews.com

KP Fair Guide editor:

Colleen Slater

Executive editor: Rodika Tollefson

Advertising: Karen Hale Production & design:

September Hyde

Contributors: Irene Torres,

Kristen Pierce, Colleen Slater,

Mary Graves

Distribution supervisor:

Phil Bauer

EY EWS

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What's new in 2006?





By Colleen Slater KP News

Some new and special events for 2006 include:

Youth Night Out for teens. Thursday night showcases this special feature. See page 3 for details.

Pizza will be added to the pie-eating contest. This year, there will be four age groups, with the youngest ones eating cream pies, and the older ones pizza. Instead of whole pies, it will be a timed contest on consumption of a slice. Space is limited to 50 in each age group, so participants need to sign up early.

DAK, Dogs And Kids, will be on Saturday, with special events. See page 9 for more information.

A second flight simulator for younger kids will be available this year. Limited to children of 40 pounds or less, it should be less scary than the large one.

Horse demonstrations, including obedience training of horses and how they are taught to cut cattle will be held in a corral in the northwest area of the fairgrounds.

Chuck Kraft will demonstrate how to give difficult horses ground manners. These are horses Kraft hasn't worked with before. If you have a difficult horse, and would like to participate, call Kraft at 884-4408 or Jerry Davis at 884-4386.

Weavers and spinners will set up looms and wheels to show folks how they do their work. See page 10 for more details. Local quilters will display some of their masterpieces, two scrapbooking events will be held, and photography entries will be judged.

Besides the usual canned fruits, jellies, jams, apple pies and drop cookies, Hershey's® is sponsoring a Chocolate Baking

contest. For children 8 to 18, it's cookies, brownies and bars. For adults, a baked chocolate dessert. All entries must use at least ¼ cup of Hershey's® cocoa. First, second and third money prizes will be awarded, and first prize also receives a Hershey's® gift basket. Janice McMillan is overseeing these competitions, and says there are a lot of rules which must be followed. For specific information, call her at 884-3319.

Cages have been cleaned and set up to show animals brought by fair participants. Small dogs, cats, rabbits, pigs, pigeons, turkeys, llamas, Pygmy goats and whatever people raise on the Key.

The carnival brings new excitement. Davis Amusement Cascadia, from Oregon, will bring more and different rides, and cover a larger midway this year. One of the larger carnivals in the Northwest, they boast an outstanding safety record, and have rides and games for all ages.

A raffle, with seven days in Ocean Shores the big prize, camping and fishing packages, bicycles, and more will be held. Raffle tickets will be sold in advance at the various Peninsula Markets and Sunnycrest Nursery.

Renaissance Faire representatives will demonstrate their skills, and will wander around the grounds greeting folks, to tell them about their own event in August.

Country singer Michael ONeill is the entertainment headliner this year, with some other new acts, as well as popular regulars, including local groups. See page 5 for more on ONeill, and page 4 for other performer bios.

BINGO will be an added attraction for afternoons in the beer garden.

For more information, or to sign up for the various competitions, call 884-4386, email info@keyfair.com, or visit the fair website at www.keyfair.com.

Tips for fair goers

Parking: \$2 for close-in, observed parking; free behind KPMS

Costs: Entrance tickets - \$1 (children under 5 free)

Fair, carnival & raffle presale tickets: at all Peninsula Markets and Sunnycrest Nursery Hours: Friday & Saturday, 11 a.m. to midnight. Sunday 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Take map and schedule (pages 6 & 7) with you to help you find what you want easily.

Tips for families with kids:

- Plan ahead on what to do and see, and schedule tentative time frames. Allow some sit-down spaces, to watch a show or demonstration, enjoy food, or just take time out on a bench or bale of hay.
- ☼ Set up a meeting place in case people get separated. Cellphones are good.
- ☆ Locate the restrooms ahead of time.
- ☆ Take bag or backpack (unless you have a stroller) with water, sunscreen, BAND-AIDS®, sun hats, waterless hand cleaner, or baby wipes.
- ☆ If rain is a possibility, include umbrella, rain covers, towel.
- ☆ Bring tide-you-over snacks, or cash to buy from food vendors.
- A Remember your camera (and if you get some really good shots, consider sharing them with KPNews for next year's Fair tab!)
- Bring a fabric or plastic bag for carrying all those neat things you and your children might pick up from vendors. Include a bag for garbage, in case you don't spy a can nearby.
- → Be a good citizen. Toss your garbage in the proper receptacles instead of on the ground. Containers for recyclables will be available.
- Say thanks to the security people patrolling the area, to the Boy Scouts who collect garbage and run errands, to all of those wearing volunteer tags, for contributing their time and effort to make the KP Fair a great place to spend a day.

Teen talent wanted for fair

By Kristen Pierce KP News

ttention all teen singers, musicians, and entertainers! Make your debut at the K.P. Community Fair. On Thursday, July 20, from 4 p.m. to 11 p.m. is a special program for teens that fair Director Mary Graves calls Thursday Youth Night Out. Bring your instruments and your "Garage Band" or just play along with the other musicians. Guitar soloists are also welcome.

David Gates, student and musician from Peninsula High School, was excited to hear about the new venue. "Sure, I'd like to sign up, 'cus I really enjoy playing music," he said. David has been playing the guitar for about two years. He and his friends are in a band named "Burn These Broken Wings." They have played at a local teen

hangout called Club Adrian and also came in second place at the Peninsula High School Talent Show recently.

Each band will get 15-20 minutes to play and vocalists will have an opportunity to sing karaoke in between. The best of each category will win a space on stage Friday afternoon, July 22.

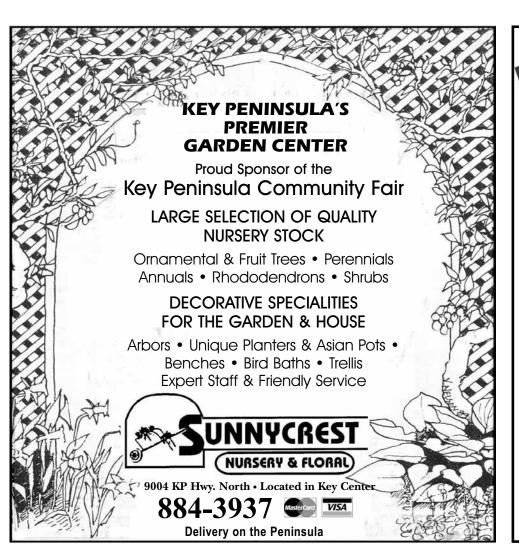
The carnival will have some rides running and a few concession stands will also be open that evening.

Students who participated in the recent Talent Show at Peninsula High School are encouraged to enter the competition. To enter, applicants must sign up and entries must be in by Wednesday, July 19 no later than 5 p.m. (the sooner the better as space is limited). Log onto www.keyfair.com or call 884-4386.

No entrance fees for students K-12. Adults pay \$1. Parking will be in the usual secured paid parking area at no charge.



Photo courtesy David Gates
Talented teens like David Gates, PHS
student, are encouraged to sign up.





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Who is the Key Peninsula Fair Association?

By Mary Graves KP Fair Director

This community event brings a new dimension to the Key Peninsula. While looking for ways to continually improve the way of life for many of the diverse people here on the peninsula, key organizations joined forces with a cooperative spirit to create a fun, high quality event that serves as a fund-raiser. The Key Peninsula Fair Association is constructed of three groups:

The Key Peninsula Civic Center Association, The Key Peninsula Business Association, and the Longbranch Improvement Club. (See related story, page 8)

Your support directly benefits individuals, families, neighborhoods, organizations and schools on the Key Peninsula.

Special thanks!

In addition to the 300+ volunteers who work at the fair, a big thank-you goes to our Board of Directors. Individuals from our three partner groups meet year long to create this event. Please be sure and tell them thank-you next time you see them!

2006 Key Peninsula Community Fair Board members:

Phil Bauer, Ed Taylor, Pam Libstaff, Barbara Heard, Ruth Bramhall, Bek Ashby, Claudia Loy, Chet Young, Mike Hays, Terry Kaas, Jerry Davis, Kevin Larsen, Denise Hays, Joe Barrow.

Committee chairs:

Brad Boquist, Kip Bonds, Mike Pope, Bob Jewett, Randy Viers, Dave Stratford, Larry Nelson, Sharon Miller, Janice McMillan, Kari Hollander, Sandy Elken, Carol Green, Kris Sherman, Christine Dagget, Orrie Moore, Lisa Bryant, Rick Lingle and Victoria Hawkins.

KP Fair entertainers

VFW District # 4 Color & Honor Guard

In 1999, VFW Post #4990, Vaughn, under command of Gary Helmick, organized a full Military Color and Honor Guard team, to perform military funerals at Tahoma National Cemetery, and various military and related functions throughout the region. The team performed at flag raising at Pioneer Day, Old Timers' Day, and other local events. The Color Guards were the Key Peninsula representatives when the South Korean Consul General presented medals to veterans of the Korean wars.

The Filucies

A local band the whole family will enjoy, The Fabulous Filucies, formerly the Filucy Hootchie Kootchie Band, has two albums, "Longbranch," and "Not Far From Home." Both are now available on one CD. They are included in two compilation albums, one from Hypertonia World Enterprises out of Bergen, Norway, and "A Victory for Kids" from Victory Music of Tacoma.



Katharyn Shriner

A Home native, and an accomplished local harpist, Katharyn has played harp since age 14. A PHS Student of Distinction, she did a Historical Irish Music project at Tacoma Community College, and received her bachelor's degree in music at The Masters College in California. Her musical program will be works of contemporary composers, with an emphasis on ethnic music.



Katie Webster

A country singer from Poulsbo who began singing at 4 and now travels the circuit of fairs, rodeos, and tractor shows throughout the Northwest. A recent graduate of North Kitsap High, she's sung at Poulsbo's Viking Fest and The Puyallup Fair.



Key Singers

A community chorus formed in 1998, the Singers' two dozen members perform at various events around the peninsula and beyond during the year. Director Marianne McColley says it's a group for people who like to sing and have fun doing it. Their repertoire includes patriotic music, spirituals, show tunes, and



fun ditties. CDs and DVDs of their '06 spring concert are available through the group.

Professor Bamboozle

Professor Bamboozle, Brian Wood from Sumner, presents illusionary tricks on stage and while strolling through the fairgrounds. He's been performing illusions since 3rd grade, and takes his road shows across the country to entertain at schools, fairs, nightclubs, cruise ships, birthdays and special events.



Valentine's Performing Pigs

Nellie, World Pig Trick Champion, The Duchess of Pork, and Wilbur, The Dancing Pig, have graced national television programs such as Donahue, The Today Show, Animal Planet and NBC Nightly News. These three pigs give a lighthearted performance enjoyed by all.



Won-Physical Comedian

A show for all ages, Won's mime routines use considerable audience involvement and seemingly impossible physical illusions. His show is nonstop action — full of costume changes, precise movements and sound effects. He disappears down staircases, elevators and escalators without warning. His Gunslinger, Motorcycle Daredevil and Karate character sketches bring crowds to fits of laughter.





Gig Harbor's ONeill headlines fair

By Irene Torres KP News

ig Harbor's Michael ONeill looks like a music legend. He has the right style, a look of seasoned wisdom, an air of confidence. He told KP News, "I am very excited to be the headliner for the Key Peninsula Fair 2006." He performs on Saturday, July 22, at 8 p.m.

His CD, "From the Beginning," released in January 2005,

sailed onto the Roots-Rock charts in Europe and America last year. ONeill's own beginning was in a family of 13 children, where he began his lifelong love for music. At the age of 24, he opened his first tour with U2, then an unknown band, and soon signed with manager Don Arden, the father of Sharon Osbourne. Over the years, famous names and famous people crossed paths with ONeill - legends like John Shanks, Kenny Gradney, and Boney James. He wrote songs with The Grateful Dead's Bob Weir, Booker T., The MGs' Steve



ONeill

Cropper, and Jason Scheff of the band Chicago.

Escaping the pace of Southern California for reasons only he knows, ONeill returned to the Northwest in the late '80s. He said, "I retreated to gain some perspective and try to keep my family together... I did pretty good on the perspective part." For nearly 10 years, ONeill worked on his music, writing and perfecting his lyrical style. He released "Dream On," which received nationwide airplay and critical acclaim, in 1999.

Evan Brubaker, on ONeill's Website, describes "From the Beginning" this way, "an uncommon album that documents an artist in his prime, a man who knows himself, his strengths and weaknesses alike. Part country crooner, part haggard storyteller, ONeill makes a noise that is refreshingly classic. Drawing on heroes like Roy Orbison and Bob Dylan for inspiration, 'From the Beginning' plays like old-time rock and roll, deceptively simple yet focused on craft and execution."

Performance time

- 8 p.m. Saturday, July 22
- For more information on ONeill, visit www.michaeloneill.com or www.myspace.com/whosbadnow

Some reviews of ONeill's music:

"Michael ONeill's Soul-Folk brand of Rock wins over the heartland and the city slickers alike with his rich melodies and storylike lyrics." Cindy Paine, *The Los Angeles Music Connection*

"...He's lived the dream and survived the nightmare. His once brown hair has grayed...' From the Beginning' is a testament to fresh starts and a wisdom that comes with age." Mark Wehner, Americana Tonight

"Not so much songs of innocence as experience, conveyed warmly and passionately... Well above the usual singer/song-writer standard." Chris Nickerson, *The Seattle Rocket*

Singer and Songwriter ONeill just released his latest work, "Who's Bad Now," in May. Early reviews read like this one from Keith Howerton, founder and editor-in-chief of the *Texas Music Times*:

"The 10 songs on his just-released record showcase Michael ONeill not only as a songwriter, but also as a performer. Released on Michael's own label, Sleeping Trout Records, Who's Bad Now and the single of the same name are going to hit the red dirt circuit by storm... here are other great quality songs on the record as well. 'Cowboy Ride,' 'Austin,' and a cover of Little Feat's 'Dixie Chicken' are three of note. Michael is a grizzled veteran of the music business and has toured and recorded with just about everyone, including Stevie Ray Vaughan. On his Website Michael describes his own music as 'coming at you like a freight train full of candy...Look for dates and don't miss him live. We won't."

ONeill's bookings are made through Sleeping Trout Music in Gig Harbor. Scheduled Northwest performances include July 3 fireworks in Poulsbo, and Western Washington Fair in Puyallup in September, before returning to Tennessee for the Americana Music Festival. He said he is "looking forward to inviting my family, friends and fans to the Key Peninsula Fair." He has "watched the Key Peninsula fair from the onset, I have attended each year and enjoyed seeing the growth."

Volunteers make the fair

By Irene Torres KP News

When a group of volunteers come together with an idea, there's no end to their creative energy. A group like that worked hard to bring a community fair to the Key Peninsula back in 2000, the first year it was held. The next year, more volunteers joined them. Each year since, the fair has attracted more volunteers, and now more than 300 gather to make the event bigger, better and more fun.

For every volunteer fairgoers see staffing booths, demonstrating arts and crafts, carrying ice, giving away prizes, selling tickets, parking cars, collecting money, providing security, reuniting lost children with their families, raising money, visiting friends, finding new members, sharing hobbies, sometimes tasting the food or testing the rides; there are another half dozen working behind the scenes, making the fair into the wonderful event it has become.

"Volunteers go a long way in what they do for our community by not just giving of their time, but of giving their expertise to put on the community fair," said Scott Gallacher, executive director of the Key Peninsula Metropolitan Park District.

Volunteer hours keep the fair's admission prices reasonable so families can afford to attend and enjoy this event. Fair organizers are always looking for a few good volunteers, and this year is no exception. Call Mary Graves at 884-4386 and offer a little of your time to the KP Fair.







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Key Peninsula Community Fair

Schedule of events

Live entertainment schedule:

HEADLINERS

Friday: Children's Stage; Ronald McDonald "Get Moving" (yes, it is the mascot "Ronald")

Saturday: Main Stage; Michael ONeill, Classic Country Rock

Sunday: Main Stage; Valentine Dancing Pigs

Friday:

Main Stage:

11:00 am

Welcome Ceremony VFW District #4 Color and Honor Guards

Medieval Strolling performers 11:10

12:00 The Filucies Band

Bamboozle Strolling Act

2:00 The Filucies Band

4:00 Winning Youth Night "Garage Band" and Karaoke Singer

6:00 **Opening Fair Ceremony**

Whitney Moore; VFW District #4 Color and Honor Guards

Katie Webster

6:15 7:30 "High Plains Drifters" Donn Allard

Children's Stage:

Bamboozle Illusions 11:10

HEADLINER: Ronald McDonald - "Get Moving" 1:00

3:15 **Bamboozle Illusions**

Beer Garden:

Noon-6:00pm

8:30 pm "Wickerman" band with Bruce Partridge

Saturday:

Main Stage:

11:00 am Harpist Katharyn Shriner

Stilt walker & Medieval Strolling performers

Cloggers "Rhythm N Shoes" 12:00

Won Israel Roaming performance

1:30 pm Dr. Roes' Down Home Band

Stilt Walker Roaming performances

3:15 **Rick Gonzales**

5:00 "Forever More" band with Ron Harris

Children's Stage:

11:30 am **Bamboozle** 1:00 pm **Bamboozle** 2:30 **Bamboozle**

Stilt Walker & Won roaming performances

4:00

Stilt Walker & Bamboozle roaming performances

5:00 Bamboozle roaming performance

Beer Garden:

5:00 pm Navy Band "Cascade" (rock n roll)

8:30 pm HEADLINER: "Michael ONeill," Classic Country Rock.

Sunday:

Main Stage:

11:00 am Kindermusik Won Israel roaming

HEADLINER: Valentine Dancing Pigs 1:00 pm

2:00 Jeff Evans Magic

Won Israel, Bamboozle, Stilt Walker roaming

3:30 **Headliner: Valentine Dancing Pigs**

4:30 **Key Singers**

Children's Stage:

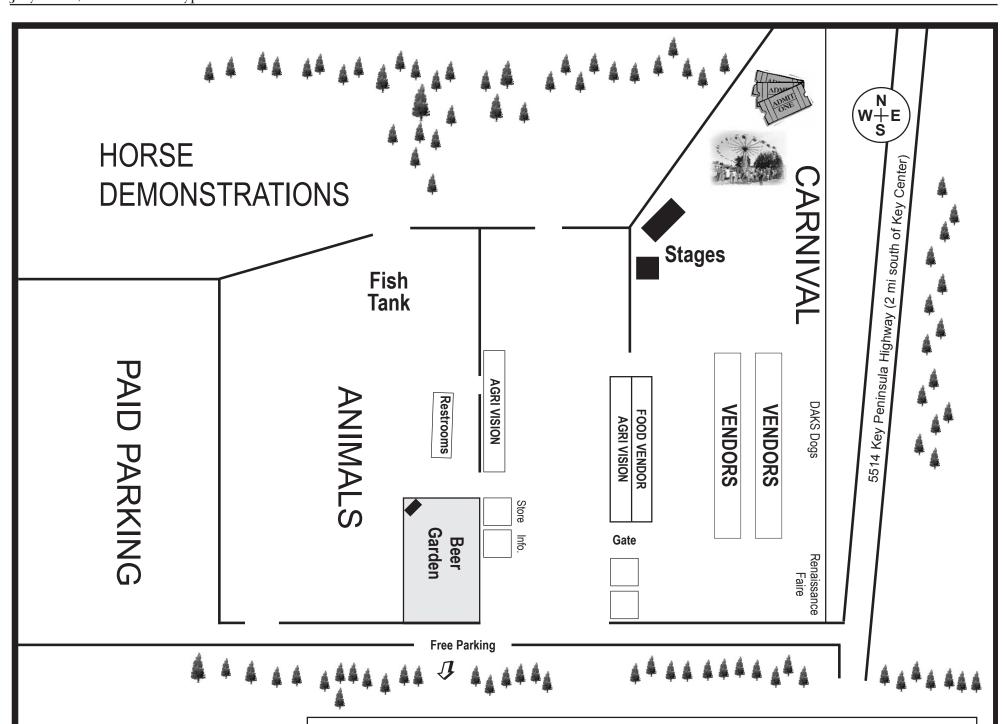
12:00 **Bamboozle**

Stilt Walker roaming

5:15 Won Israel

Bamboozle roaming





DIRECTIONS

Hwy 16 to Purdy-Key Center Exit. Turn South onto SR 302 S. (Purdy Spit); go 10 miles thru Key Center; on right hand side of Peninsula Hwy sits Sport Center & Fair Grounds - 5514 Key Peninsula Hwy N.

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Get to know us

Key Peninsula organizations: Striving for a better community

By Mary Graves **KP** Fair Director

Key Peninsula Business Association

One of the four founding organizations of the Key Peninsula Community Fair Association, the Key Peninsula Community Business Association has always been active in community enrichment.

The association was incorporated in 1989 as a Washington non-profit corporation to act as a business league. By-Laws state the purpose of the organization is to: 1) Promote networking 2) Advertise as a geographic area and 3) Serve as a positive presence in the community.

As a group, the KPBA is able to be a collective voice when dealing with political representative and governing agencies that can affect business operations. Monthly luncheons often provide personal opportunity for members to meet and speak with local politicians and agencies directly.

As issues arise, the KPBA becomes involved to the extent the membership dictates. Often, the KPBA provides an easy environment to discuss issues at meetings. This promotes for a better understanding and allows a plan of action if necessary.

Over the years the KPBA has supported education in the community by participating in the Adopt a School Program.

The association has also sponsored students through the Washington Business Week Program. Additionally, the KPBA gave away a scholarship from funds generated at the fair. Other community activities include the Adopt a Road Program; the Key Center Christmas Tree Program; Little League team sponsorship; community bulletin boards and various donations. Please contact Bek Ashby for additional information about the KPBA at 851-4176.

Key Peninsula Civic Center

Years ago the Key Peninsula Civic Center was the Vaughn School. In 1954 a school bond was passed that allowed the construction of a new Vaughn school. In 1955 the value was established at \$9,325 but if cash purchase, there would be another 10 percent discount. The money to purchase was raised by the community, the date of purchase was April 18, 1956, and the Vaughn School became the Key Peninsula Civic Center.

Repainting and cleaning began immediately and by June 30, 1956, the Civic Center was ready for the formal dedication dinner dance. This was a huge event — 700 chickens were barbecued! State and county officials as well as 700 community members attended.

The fund-raising began. Money was needed for repair throughout the



Photo courtesy of Mary Graves

Volunteers cleaned cages for displaying birds and small animals. Left to right: Ruth Bramhall, Sharon Miller, Ronda Anderson, Barb Heard; Back row: Orrie Moore and Terry Kaas.

building and the grounds. Donations, volunteers, free use of equipment, and fund-raising kept the Civic Center open and allowed for the renovation of the buildings and tennis courts.

Many of the original workers and officers are gone; however, these workers and officers have been replaced over and over again through the ensuing years. The Civic Center still depends on donations, volunteers, free use of equipment, and money from fund-raising to keep the doors open and available to the community. Recent grants have allowed a new roof and a new paint job.

The Civic Center offers meeting space, a gymnasium, stage, kitchen, and a skate program for the youth of the Peninsula. The Civic Center houses Children's Home Society, offices for Comprehensive Mental Health, the WIC Program, Two Waters Arts Alliance, KP News and the Key Peninsula Historical Society. Several Clubs and churches meet at the center on a regular basis and many classes are offered there. For additional information about the Key Peninsula Civic Center, call the KPCCA office at 884-3456.

Longbranch **Improvement Club**

On Dec. 10, 1921, the Longbranch Improvement Club (LIC) incorporated to buy real estate for recreation and a consolidated school and to provide activities for betterment of the community. In 1933, the LIC purchased 10 acres of land and donated the south 3 acres to Pierce County to build the

Longbranch school. On the north 7 acres, members club created a baseball diamond and constructed a grandstand for use by the community.

In 1939, the WPA constructed a gymnasium for the school. In the 1940s when the school was closed, the LIC took over the management of the former gymnasium and scheduled numerous community events in the facility. In 1950, the members of the LIC installed an oak floor in the building so it could be used for dances.

In 1987, the building was placed on the National Register of Historical Places because of its unique structure. In 1959, members of the LIC constructed floats and attached them to the county pier that was abandoned when the ferry service to Longbranch was discontinued after the construction of the second Tacoma Narrows Bridge. Over the years, LIC has upgraded the marina and continues to manage and maintain it for local use and visiting

The LIC services the community in the spirit of the founders by managing and maintaining the building. In addition to being a meeting place for the LIC, the building is used by many community organizations and is the site of many private and public gatherings. In recent years the LIC has produced several well-attended cultural events, including dinner theater.

Highlights of the summer are the traditional community dances on Memorial and Labor Day weekends. For additional question, contact Joe Barrow, president of the LIC, at 884-5585.



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Dogs and kids days at the fair

By Colleen Slater KP News

Does your dog look like you? Can you dress your canine as a prince? A clown? A cartoon character? Can you explain why your dog is the most magnificent pet?

Bring your dog to the fair, enter the contests, and have a great time with your pet.

If you think your dog looks something like you, enter the Master-Look-Alike contest.

Be at the DAK (Dogs and Kids) stage by the scheduled time on each day. Contests will be judged by attending audience. "People's Choice" will be by show of hand. First, 2nd and 3rd place ribbons will be awarded in each class.

On Friday, July 21, the Most Magnificent Mutt contest requires that you get on stage with a microphone to tell the audience, in 50 words or less, what's so special about your dog. That begins at 1 p.m.

Can you put a costume on your dog? Dress your dog in the latest garb or create your own design. All dogs will model on stage. Have your pet dressed and ready to parade on Saturday, July 22, for the Canine Costume Contest. This starts at 1 p.m.

The Fattest Dog Contest begins at noon on Sunday, July 23.

The Master-Look-Alike Contest follows at 1 p.m. on Sunday. Show your similarities on stage.



Photo courtesy of Carolyn Bezona
Dress up your dog for the Canine Costume
Contest.

There will be a \$1 registration fee for each class, just prior to each event. Preregistration is not necessary. No unattended children or dogs. All dogs must be on a short leash, no more than 6 feet long, no extended leashes.

All DAK events will be held at the DAK stage. (See map page 7).

Demonstrations on obedience and agility training will be held in the area. Veterinarians and vendors of dog products will also be available to answer questions and give advice on pet treatment and care.



'Spin-In' new feature

By Irene Torres **KP News**

A new addition to the KP Fair this year is a "spin-in." Sandy Elken has organized this demonstration display in honor of his late wife, Nancy, a blue-ribbon awardwinning spinner.

The Evergreen State Fair in Monroe has established a "Nancy Elken Award" to honor her outstanding talents spinning and weaving, and Elken wants to continue her legacy on the Key Peninsula. He

plans to display two special pieces of his wife's work — a man's sweater and a hand-knit suit that won Best of Show. The best work of other spinning artists will also be displayed.

In preparation for this year's KP Fair display, Elken is seeking donations of compact discs (CDs) such as advertisers send. With those donations, he will add a

dowel and hook to make drop spindles to give to youth with an interest in spinning. They can use their drop spindles to make a bracelet at the fair.

At press time, Elken had not completed all the arrangements, but is in contact with several spinners and weavers from the NW Regional Spinners Association, Tacoma and Kitsap spinners, and other groups, to find volunteers. Some local spinners, knitters, and weavers will join the spinin to show their skills. Several will demonstrate at a time, so fair-goers can talk with them about the craft.

He is especially interested in getting youth involved in spinning, and plans a minor competition for those 16 and under to enter their knitted or woven items for a ribbon and/or small monetarv award.

Elken hopes local people will carry the "spin-in" forward to future fairs, "so I can return to full-time RVing," he said.

Any interested spinners, knitters or weavers who would like to participate, please call Elken at 851-0271.

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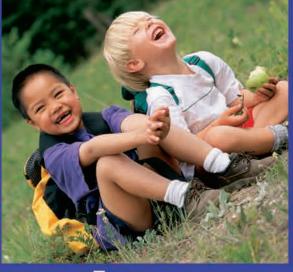
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