

Peninsula **KEY NEWS**

Summer Guide '05

Key Peninsula & surrounding communities



INSIDE: Find something to do all summer long
Cruise the Key Peninsula by car
Keep the kids busy with fun activities

PLUS KEY PENINSULA COMMUNITY FAIR ♦ OLD TIMERS' DAY ♦ WASHINGTON RENAISSANCE FANTASY FAIRE
LODGING ♦ HIKING ♦ KAYAKING ♦ NIGHTLIFE ♦ VISIT A FARM ♦ CAMPS ♦ AND MORE ...

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

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Peninsula KEY NEWS

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To Our Key Peninsula Neighbors and Visitors

The Key Peninsula is a finger of land reaching south into Puget Sound between Case and Carr Inlets. Although few people lived in the area before 150 years ago, it was well known to the local Native Americans, who fished, dug clams, and hunted here.

It is a collection of communities of varying size, each with a unique history, and particular sites, events and traditions. In this guide we also include nearby communities of Grapeview, Allyn, and Purdy.

Whether you are a first-time visitor, a native of the area, or a more recent newcomer, we hope this guide will be of use to you, as you explore new areas, shop, attend events, and recreate on our beautiful, people-friendly Key Peninsula.

Colleen Slater
Summer Guide editor

RECREATION DIRECTORY

For detailed information about these activities, see pages 4 and 9.

Kids, teens and family events:

PC Parks Kidmobile: 9:30 a.m. to noon, Evergreen Elementary; 1-3:30 p.m. at Vaughn Elementary; Mon., June 27, July 11, 18, 25, Aug. 1, 8; free, ages 5-12; 798-4739.

KP Family Resource Center camps: 9 a.m. to noon, June 27-July 28; Civic Center: Wed.-Thurs. Evergreen Elementary: Mon.-Tues. \$35 suggested donation per child per site; scholarships readily available. Adventure theme: dinosaurs, ocean life, etc; separate camps held for 2- to 5-year olds and for 1-5th graders; snacks provided; 884-5433.

YMCA Camp Seymour Community Open Swim: 1-2 p.m. Mon.- Fri., July 12-Aug. 24. \$1 per person per session; 884-3392.

PHS pool and swimming lessons: Sign up for classes during Open Enrollment on June 11, 10a.m. -2 p.m.; after that first-come, first-served; classes for adults and kids; for pool lap and open swim hours, see www.pools.peninsula.wednet.edu or call 857-3533.

Camps: Various age groups and themes, dates vary; YMCA Camp Seymour - 884-3392 (www.campseymour.org).

YMCA Camp Colman - 884-3844 (www.campcolman.org).
Crista Ministries' Miracle Ranch - 851-4410 (www.cristacamps.com).

Soundview Presbyterian Camp & Retreat Center - 884-9202 (www.soundviewcamp.com).

Camp Woodworth (Northwest Bible Ministries)- 884-2365 (www.campwoodworth.org).

TWAA art camp at Civic Center: Aug. 1-5, 10 a.m. -2 p.m., \$50 per child or \$75 per family of 2; children under 8 must have adult present; bring sack lunch. 884-2029.

WSU Co-op's 4H sewing camp at KP Lutheran Church: June 27-30, 9:30 a.m.-noon; ages 8-12; materials provided; sign up by June 10; fashion show for the public June 30 at noon; 798-7180.

Library events: Puppet show, July 14 at 10:30 a.m.; magician, June 18 at 11 a.m. Knights' Tour, July 23 at 11 a.m.; all free; Key Center Library. 884-2242.


Teen coffee house: Every Friday, 7 p.m. - 1 a.m., KP Lutheran Church; high school age only; free; crafts, music, poetry, snacks, debates or forums, and more; 884-3312.


Teen trips w/KPMPD: Enchanted Village and Wild Waves, July 21, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., \$35 includes transportation, admission, staff supervision and parking. Milltown Commons tour, July 27, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m, \$29 includes transportation and supervision. Both trips for ages 12-15; call 884-9240.

Family Movie Night at Volunteer Park: July 8 at dusk; movie TBA, \$1 per person suggested donation; 884-9240.


LODGING


on the Key Peninsula

 **A Bed on the Bay,** Vaughn
253-884-9664 or email
abedonthebay@msn.com


 **Aloha Beachside,** Wauna
1-888-ALOHA-BB or email:
AlohaBBB@comcast.net

 **Bear's Lair,** Wauna 253-857-8877, 1-877-855-9768,
www.bearslairbb.com

 **Frog Creek Lodge,** Lakebay
253-884-3188 or e-mail:
info@frogcreeklodge.com

 **The Olde Glencove Hotel,**
253-884-2835
www.glencovehotel.com

 **The Selah Inn,** 360-275-0916,
1-877-232-7941, or email
innkeeper@selahinn.com

 **Westwynd Motel,** Purdy 253-857-4047 Fax 253-853-4511
Reservations 1-800-468-9963.
www.westwyndmotel.com/reservations.html

See full story in KP News June issue.

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www.deanmenard.com



Super 5 Br, 5 BA WFT home, 5122 SF on 2.5 acres. Views of Mt. Rainier & Sound. Stairs to private beach. 1200 SF game room over 3 car garage. Currently divided into 3 rentals. Has disabled access. Commercial heat pump.

Lakebay \$775,000



One of the nicest listings!! 4 BR, 3.5 BA custom home with 3052 SF living area on 2.3 acres of wooded land. Master BR on main floor, hardwood floors, large bonus room, den/office. Propane fireplace, hardi-plank siding, large storage and more!!

South Kitsap \$419,000



Chance of a lifetime to own a working ranch complete with the works to operate it!! 3 BR, 2.75 BA Lindal Cedar home with 3800 SF living area on over 66 fenced & cross fenced pasture land. Hay storage, feed buildings, shop & more!!

South Kitsap \$1,490,000



Own a well built rambler on a desirable cul-de-sac in Lakeland Village for under \$200,000! 3 BR, 1 BA home with 1152 SF living area, attached garage, new roof, sewer and good sized front & back yard.

Lakeland Village \$199,000



Beautiful Hood Canal WFT lot with 50 feet canal frontage & 1/2 acre back lot above North Shore Rd. Approved for 2 BR septic system and has obtained a positive geotech report. Possible shard water system.

North Shore \$64,950



39 gorgeous rolling acres just off Sandhill Road. Super site for new home development. Property is mostly cleared and has a well and 5 BR septic system. Owners will carry a note with \$200,000 down.

Belfair \$650,000

Hello! My name is Dean Menard. I work at RE/MAX Town and Country and I live in the Key Peninsula area. I am a full time real estate agent who loves his job. If you're looking to buy or sell a home, or have any general real estate question, please give me a call. I will help you out in any way I can. *Dean Menard*

CALL FOR A FREE MARKET ANALYSIS!!



Fun for KIDS

By Rodika Tollefson

☛ For exact dates, costs and contact numbers, see the Recreation Directory on page 2.

Camps

1. The KP Family Resource Center has two camps for youngsters going into first through fifth grade, as well as one for 2- to 5-year-olds, at the Civic Center in Vaughn and Evergreen Elementary. Music, crafts, field trips and friendships included.

2. For day or overnight camps check out the many unique programs offered by Camp Seymour and Camp Colman... almost in your back yard. For a Christian-based experience filled with adventures, check into Key Pen's Camp Woodworth, Soundview Camp and Retreat Center, or Miracle Ranch. These offer camps for kids, teens and

entire families. The camps' adventure themes range from science and outdoors to Western.

3. 4H sewing camp (free) hosted by Key Pen Lutheran Church in June. Boys and girls ages 8-12 can sew a pair of shorts or a pillow case—or perhaps both. Come see them show off their work at a fashion show on June 30.

4. "A Week for Kids! With Various Artists" organized by the Two Waters Arts Alliance in August at the Civic Center, where kids can spend time with artists for a week.

5. Take a break at a "mini-camp." Pierce County's Kidmobile will visit Vaughn and Evergreen elementary schools June through August. Drop the kids off for a few hours so they can run off some energy—or join them. The free program is for ages 5-12.

Single day activities

1. Organize your own day camp at one of Key Pen's playgrounds: Pack a picnic, a Frisbee and other essentials, and leave the chores at home for a few hours. Or cruise over to one of the public beaches and hold a hermit-crab counting contest, a round rock contest... or ...

2. Build a fire in your back yard, make S'mores, and read around the "campfire." If a burn ban doesn't allow a fire, erect a tent and read inside with a lantern.

3. Participate in the Key Center Library's summer reading program, "Dragons, Dreams and Daring Deeds," to collect stickers, earn points toward a Subway gift certificate, and get the chance to enter drawings.

4. The Library will have special visits by a magician on June 18, as well as host a puppet show on July 14 and a Knights' Tour July 23.

Anti-boredom cures for teens

1. Cure the summer blues at a local camp, at least for one week at a time.

2. Volunteer as a mentor for younger kids, and have fun while there. The Key Peninsula Family Resource Center is

looking for middle school and high school mentors to help with a month-long camp at the Civic Center and Evergreen Elementary. Miracle Ranch, Camps Seymour and Colman also have a few limited opportunities

3. Meet new people and share ideas at the Teen Coffee House (free) on Fridays at the KP Lutheran Church. High school students get together for snacks, music, bands, crafts, poetry readings, karaoke and more.

4. Take a trip to the Enchanted Village and Wild Waves or a skateboard park. Driving done by the KP Metro Parks staff. KPMPD knows just what teens need, a few hours away from home with other teens. The trips, July 21 and July 27, are for those 12-15 years of age.

For the family

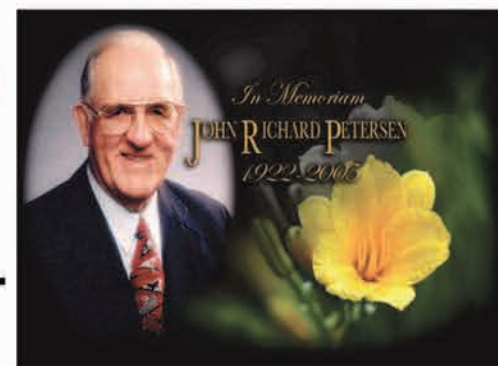
1. The Key Pen Metropolitan Park District invites the whole family for a Friday Night Movie Night on July 8. Grab a blanket, a lawn chair and your favorite movie munchies as you enjoy a movie on the big screen at Volunteer Park, for only \$1 a person.

2. Go for a free swim at the Purdy Spit

(See KIDS, Page 10)



John Petersen Memorial Salmon Bake



Event sponsored by the Longbranch Community Church

The event will be held at the Longbranch Improvement Club
4312 Key Peninsula Hwy S.; Longbranch, WA 98351

For tickets, call Ruth Bramhall at: (253) 857-5184 or visit:

Sunnycrest Nursery - Charboneau's - Coast Hardware - Longbranch Marina - Home Store
[Tickets are \$10 presale, \$12 day of for adults, \$5 for Children 12 & under]

This annual event offers great food and is a tremendous value! There will be Entertainment, Children's Games/Arts & Crafts, a Raffle, Auction Sale & More.

Visit www.LCCworship.org for additional information, directions or ticket needs.



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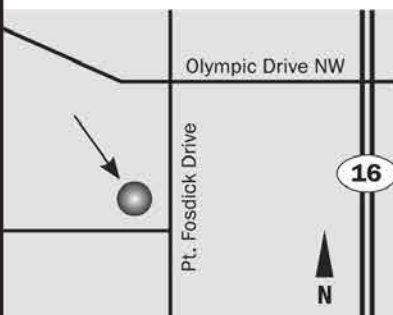
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Walk-ins welcome.

No appointment necessary.



Night

LIFE

by Danna Webster

Whether planning a night on the town or an impromptu pub crawl, here's what's going on in our neck of the woods.

Sit & Sip Tavern • 857-3774

On northwest corner of SR-302 and 94th Avenue

Live music every Saturday night. Beer garden opens at 6 p.m. and goes until 10 p.m. or so. Live music and barbecue. Dart boards always open. Call for information about pool shoot and horseshoe pitch tournaments. The Tavern is bike friendly with bike parking available.

Huckleberry Inn • 884-3707

Key Center

Breakfast, lunch and dinners are served. Family dining in restaurant area. Karaoke nights on Wednesday, Friday and Saturday during bar time, 9:15 p.m.-1:30 a.m.

Key Center Saloon • 884-9766

Key Center

Karaoke on Friday nights. Bands throughout the summer and an outdoor

beer garden. Sports bar activities include two pool tables and in-house dart tournaments with three dartboards. This summer customers may bring their dogs to the "Doggie Daycare" provided by the Saloon. Comfortable kennels will be provided until the customer goes home; then their dog goes home, too.

Blondie's • 884-1300

Key Center on the bluff

Music every Friday and Saturday night. Karaoke Thursday nights, DJ on Wednesday and Open Mic on Tuesday. Entertainment begins at 8:30 p.m. and continues until the owners get sleepy. Future comedy shows are planned and with the completion of the new deck, there will be "Soft Jazz and Sunsets," outside dining and entertainment.

Lu Lu's Homeport • 884-3743

Restaurant and lounge, five miles south of Key Center

Family dining serving breakfast, lunch and dinner. Nightlife features Barstool Bingo every Tuesday night from 7 p.m. until about 9 p.m. ☼

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CRUISING

the Key Peninsula



By Danna Webster

-STARTING FROM THE NORTH-

PURDY is a common gateway to the peninsula, across the infamous Purdy spit bridge. Shops and facilities, spread north and south of the intersection, include a range of restaurants from hamburgers and pizza to fine dining. Many coffee shops brew good espresso as well.

WAUNA Lake Kathryn Shopping Center, located at 92nd Avenue and SR-302. Facilities include Burger King, a grocery market, drug store, hardware store, veterinary hospital and post office. Just south, gas stations with convenience stores are accessible on both sides of the highway.

MINTER Terry's Country Garden general store, connected with local gardeners on the Key Peninsula, sells fresh produce, gifts, private stock salad dressing, gourmet salts and raw honey. The New Brookside Restaurant has family dining at a reasonable price. A beauty shop and espresso stand are just beyond on SR-302.

-CREVISTON ROAD SIDE TRIP-

Turn south on 118th Street, west on Creviston. This offers an alternative route to Key Center.

The **Minter Bay Commemorative Marker**, just before Minter Creek bridge, on the left, explains the historic Minter family's 1883 history, establishment of the 1931 oyster farm and the 1937 salmon research hatchery.

Minter Creek Hatchery, located at 124th Avenue Court, is the property of the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. Visitors are welcome to take self-guided tours year round every day. Building access is from 8 a.m.- 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. The lobby displays pictures and is an information facility. The incubation room is available by pre-arranged tour only. Contact 253-857-5077. John Lovrak is the hatchery supervisor.

Note. **The Coulter Creek Hatchery** is located across the Peninsula near Victor

on SR-302. Under the same jurisdiction but open only half the year, it was built in 1980 to supplement the Minter Creek program. In October, 5,000 chum salmon run Coulter Creek and can be viewed from hatchery grounds.

Minterbrook Oyster Co. Half a mile south off Creviston on 126th Avenue. This company has a long history on the Key Peninsula and has worked responsibly for the healthy recovery of the Minter Bay estuary. Oysters, clams and mussels are available in their retail salesroom, open to the public from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

-CONTINUE WEST TO KEY CENTER-

Stop and stroll through beautiful downtown **Key Center**. Park the car and browse the shops. **The Key Center Saloon** and **Sunnycrest Nursery** invite visitors to use their huge parking lot. Sunnycrest has copies of "An Automobile Tour through Key Peninsula History" by local author Dr. Simon Priest, with excellent maps of the Key Peninsula.

In **KEY CENTER**, there are beauty shops, one that can turn your toenails plaid; furniture, new, used and antique, the inventory always changing; a world-class thrift store, some items made in China; and a library with good quality used books for sale to take along for leisure time at the parks. The small neighborhood market will take you back in grocery history a few years but you can find gourmet foods on the top shelves. With two restaurants downtown and one on top of the bluff, all your breakfast, lunch and dinner needs can be satisfied. Shops post their store hours. Gaye Williams of **Shear Magic** described her working hours with a formula that fits many Key Center establishments: "We are open from when we start to when we stop."

Art Barn. Just south of Key Center, turn left on 84th Street. The Art Barn is one-tenth of a mile on the right. Follow signs up the lane. This is a working artist studio where award winning mixed-media artists create projects. Guests are welcome when

the "Open Studio" sign is displayed and on most summer Sunday afternoons. Also open for visiting guests by appointment. Contact Beverly Pedersen at 884-2149.

The Key Peninsula Sports Center entrance is at 56th Street. Built by volunteers, dedicated in 1977, it is known as Volunteer Park. Hours are from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. Facilities include tennis courts, ball fields, and picnic tables by the office. Watch Little League and local softball teams in action. This is the location of the KP Fair Aug. 19-21.

Key Peninsula Sportsmen's Club. Turn on Jackson Lake Road 0.7 mile to 35th Street clubhouse entrance. On Monday nights, the seniors enjoy a game of Bocci in the late afternoon. Visitors are welcome to come and watch. Jackson Lake is a spring-fed lake and is open for lowland lake fishing during the seasons. Turn south at 34th Street to the gate. There is public access to the lake when the gate is open. For details, call 253-884-9647.

HOME is about five miles south of Key Center on the KP Highway. It has a grocery store, restaurant and lounge, gas station with convenience store, post office, church and laundromat. Left on "A" Avenue is a scenic drive along Von Geldern Bay, a.k.a. Joe's Bay, to the public boat launch. A marker at the brick **Dadisman home** commemorates Home pioneers and history.

Home Historical Cemetery. West on 8th Street 0.3 mile. Only one gravestone and a sign remain. The cemetery is protected by the Greater Peninsula Conservancy, but current access is on the Lind private property. Visitors, please call ahead 884-3347 and know to enter the property at your own risk.

Home Park. Located at KP Highway and 8th Street. Park features a picnic table built by Boy Scouts, on a cement slab poured by volunteers. There is a commemorative Angel Guild bench, and a gazebo project is planned by KP Lions. The park was created by "Friends of Home Park," and is now the property of KP Metro Parks District.

Key Peninsula Community Services. Across Home bridge, the KPCS houses an active senior center and a busy food bank. Visitors are welcome. Lunch is served on Wednesday and Friday for seniors and their guests at noon. Prices are \$1.75 for seniors and \$2.50 for guests. For details, call 884-4440.

LAKEBAY is off KP Highway. At Hoff Road, turn east and curve south onto Lorenzo Road to the waterfront. Across the bay is Penrose Park. The

Lakebay Dock Road at the end of Mayo Cove is the access to the pier, dock, convenience store, boat fueling and boat launch. Mayo Cove is reminiscent of Mosquito Fleet times along the peninsula waterfront. The home of Mosquito Fleet Capt. "Bert" Berntson, Lorenz's partner, overlooks the cove and is still occupied by family.

LONGBRANCH is the last community on the KP Highway and includes the Longbranch Improvement Club (LIC), Longbranch Cemetery, Longbranch Community Church, Longbranch Mercantile remodeled, and the Longbranch Wharf and Marina on Filicy Bay.

-MORE TO SEE ON THE NORTHWEST PENINSULA-

VAUGHN. At the flashing light in Key Center, turn west on Olson Road to the four-way-stop Vaughn intersection. Near the stop signs is a new furniture shop called Log Tekniq, located in the former post office building. Past the intersection, on South Vaughn Road, is the KP Civic Center. Here are the offices of the Children's Home Society, KP News, and the KP Historic Museum. The museum is open Thursdays and Saturdays, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. It contains a wonderful collection of KP history memorabilia and reference books for the peninsula. At the Vaughn intersection, drive west on Hall Road to see the historic Vaughn Community Church, built 1897. The boat launch is at the end of Hall. Turn north on Van Slyke Road and west onto 100th Street to 186th Avenue, then south to the Vaughn Bay Cemetery. From the interior cemetery road, the view across Case Inlet is breathtaking. Mount Rainier is visible on clear days.

ALLYN is the KP neighbor to the west, with scenic views of the Olympic mountains (when visible) along the way. From cemetery, return to Bliss-Cochrane, turn left at SR-302. (Right turn connects with KP Highway.) Two beautiful parks embrace Allyn. At the north end is the Port of Allyn with pier and boat launch and at the south end is North Bay Kayak Park. There are many dining options in Allyn, stores to see, and a visit to the chain saw carving shop is a must.

South of Allyn are popular visitor destinations including the Old Cedar Forge blacksmith shop, Bill Somer's Museum of Puget Sound on Stretch Island, Fair Harbor Marina, and Stretch Island Fruit, Inc., makers of fruit leather. ☺



Left to right: Key Peninsula Community Fair, Longbranch Salmon Bake, Washington Renaissance Fantasy Faire and the KP Community Services' Old Timers' Day. *File photos*

Stay 'home' and

By Rodika Tollefson

PARTY

Looking for a summer party? There are plenty to choose from, and you don't need to drive very far. Here is a roundup of some of Key Pen's biggest events — mark your calendar, invite the family and friends, and celebrate.

Spring Fling dance: On June 11, get your dancing shoes on and discover the local band Planet 884. The dance will feature a no-host bar, and proceeds benefit the Key Pen food bank. Pre-sale tickets are \$10 plus a nonperishable food item, available at local businesses; or \$12 plus food donation at the door. (Must be 21 to attend.) Call 884-4440 for details.

Fourth of July BBQ: If you think party,

you probably think food — and the folks at the KP Lutheran Church agree. A Fourth of July celebration invites families and friends for a barbeque. The July 2 event, featuring a '50s and '60s theme, will include entertainment, a raffle, and a classic cars display, starting at 1 p.m. Pre-sale tickets will be available at area businesses. For details, call 884-3312.

The Longbranch Community Church Annual Salmon Bake, July 23 at the Longbranch Improvement Club, is a tradition enjoyed by all generations. Talented local chef Oliver Coldeen will make sure you palate is satisfied, while children's games, a raffle, auction and entertainment will satisfy the rest of your

senses. Dinner starts at 2 p.m., advance tickets available at local businesses. Call 857-6255 or 857-5184 for details.

The Washington Renaissance Fantasy Faire, Aug. 6-7, 13-14, 20-21, at Minter Creek Ranch off State Route 302, is a trip back in time — complete with knights, fairies, sword fighting, archery, and the royal court. Celtic and medieval music, storytelling, a living chess match, food and gift vendors, bag pipes, kids activities and many more attractions will keep everyone busy. And if you're up for a little challenge, dress in period costume, or rent one on site. For details, call 851-4114 or see www.washingtonrenfaire.com.

The Key Peninsula Community Fair, Aug. 19-21, at KP Sports Center and Fairgrounds (Volunteer Park), has 20 acres of carnival rides, vendors, food, and entertainment. Wood carving demos and auction, antique tractor shoe and pull — petting zoos, kids' play zone, vendors and exhibits, two stages of back-to-back shows and a beer garden with dancing — this is the Key Peninsula's biggest party of the year. Get your shopping done, sample

food varieties, and keep the kids occupied all in the same place. Pre-sale tickets offer discounts. Call 884-4FUN or see www.keyfair.com

The KP Community Services' Old Timers' Day at the Longbranch Improvement Club on Aug. 20 is really for young and old alike — anyone looking for some old-fashion fun like "back in the old days." The famous loggers are back to show off dangerous stunts, local talent will entertain all day, kids will have their own activities, and admission is free. This year's party includes a K-9 unit demonstration, tae kwon do and horsemanship shows, displays, an auction, raffle, food, laughs and more. The fun starts at 10 a.m., or come early for the annual breakfast kick-off. Call 884-4440 for details.

Labor Day dance: Since you're starting your summer to the dancing beat, you can send it off in the same style. The traditional Labor Day Dance at the Longbranch Improvement Club this year brings the sounds of classic rock 'n' roll — with legendary band Junior Cadillac. For details call 884-6022. ☼

On any given day, kayakers can be seen paddling in tandem along the shoreline, or pulled into a cove for a break or picnic.

From Joemma Beach to Herron Island, in and around Glen Cove, Vaughn, Filucy Bay, Allyn, and other locations, this sport has been made easier with an instructional book, "Kayaking Around the Key Peninsula," by local authors Simon Priest and Caril Ridley. It describes legs of the journey around the KP, distances between points of interest with compass references, navigational hazards and cautions, and local resources for kayakers. A portion of proceeds from book sales helps support the KP Trails Committee.

Former KP resident Gary Ostlund recounted his kayaking experiences in a recent email to the KP News from his new

KAYAKING

By Irene Torres

home near Indianhoma, Okla.

His advice: "Before leaving the house, check the tide calendar." His philosophy is, "Why make work out of it if the tide can help. I always took my camera, binocs, and in more recent times a cell phone." A flotation device is also an essential item to include.

Kayak trips around the Key Peninsula are a valuable commodity. "A kayaking trip on Filucy Bay was an item in the recent Longbranch Improvement Club's

'Raise Your Spirits — Raise the Roof' Auction, according to Carolyn Wiley, auction co-chair.

Two Waters Arts Alliance will offer a kayaking opportunity on Aug. 14, "Kayaking the South Sound." Class sizes are limited. Call 884-2029 to reserve space. Attendees bring their own kayak (or rent one) or canoe. Kayak rentals are available in Port Orchard and Gig Harbor.

Organizers invite participants to bring a journal, sketch pad, camera, bathing

suit, walking shoes and paddle around Herron Island. Two Waters' members will serve dinner on the beach around the campfire. Musicians can bring instruments for a sing-along. ☼



File photo

A top to bottom

GUIDE

for Key Peninsula farm visits

Story & photos by Danna Webster

Farming is alive and well on the Key Peninsula. Pastoral settings, farms, and gardens make for a scenic drive down the Key Peninsula Highway. Spacious farm meadows were once covered with heavy forest, many cleared by the first settlers over 100 years ago. Some KP farms welcome visitors. You are invited to partake of the fruit of the land.

The Farm. 851-4556. West of Lake Kathryn on SR-302, turn left just past The Farm's reader board. The Farm's biggest sales are eggs, plants, and pigs. "I'm the cheapest guy around—'cause I sell at farm prices," says owner Mike Salatino.

He sells a thousand varieties of plants

as plugs for 15 cents and plant starts for 50 cents. Gardeners need to have their ground ready, choose their plugs, pop them out and stick them in the ground.

Customers can pick their own fresh produce from the five-acre "U-Pick" farm.

Bea's Flowers. 851-4449. From SR-302, turn south on 118th Avenue. On the corner at first crossroad (Creviston) is the farm of Bea and Louie Morrison and their much appreciated partner, daughter Linda Brewer. The produce stand opens when strawberries are ready. Vegetables, berries and fruits are offered in seasons. Dahlias, blooming by mid-June, bring visitors flocking to this farm.



Louie Morrison started with five dahlias and for a couple of years added colors requested by customers. After the third year, he bought what he liked. He plants in a mix of assorted colors together. He likes customers to hunt for their dahlias. Visitors are invited to come and look through the blooms for free. They may also pick their own bouquets for 20 cents a bloom. The Morrisons share stories of hard work and long days. Bea says she and Linda,

do the work. Louie handles the complaints. That means he makes the complaints. He says he likes to play Elmer Fudd. They make it clear that even with all the work, it is fun and they enjoy it. The farm dictates the work. "The problem here is that nature doesn't wait until you're ready," Louie Morrison says.

Honey 4-Sale. 884-2293. South from Key Center, turn west on Pollack Drive KPN after 68th Street. "The Bee Lady," Chanetta Ludwig, is one-tenth mile down.

Ludwig is willing to share her knowledge of beekeeping, sting treatments, bear management, and wasp identification with customers. A recent expansion to her business is professional wasp removal. This is no easy task because it entails finding and destroying the queen.

This spring, Ludwig's bees have worked the blooms of huckleberry, maple and blackberry. Her honey varieties of fireweed, blackberry, wild flowers represent the seasons. For fireweed, Ludwig takes her hives to the fields of Mt. Rainer. Honey taste samples help customers with their selection. (Continued on page 9)



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(Continued from page 8)

Trillium Creek Winery. 884-5746. Plans to open early June.

The first permit for a winery in the northwestern states was issued in 1933 to Charles Somers of Stretch Island. Over the years, other wine enterprises went into operation but none were as successful as his St. Charles Winery, which was producing 100,000 gallons per year by its last year of operation in 1965. It has been 40 years, and now, once again, the fruit of regional grapes pouring into peninsula wine glasses. The Trillium Creek Winery, a creation of Claude and Claudia Gahard, is preparing to go into operation. The tasting room is brand new and vat cellars are under construction.

The winery resembles a miniature Monet garden crowned by hilly vineyards much like those in France, Italy and Napa. Gahard specializes in a dry, crisp, delicious Muller Thurgau white wine. The winery also makes some fruit wines including rhubarb and Asian pear. The goal for their first year of production is to bottle 200 cases.

Read more about this winery in the June issue of Key Peninsula News.

Shiloh Farm. 884-4544. At Lakebay Post Office in Home, turn west on Herron Road. Larry and Sharon Wingard call Shiloh their "Old MacDonald's farm" and encourage visitors. Vegetable sales start in June. They offer 18 varieties of fruits and vegetables: tomatoes, potatoes, Walla Walla onions, grapes, Asian pears, peaches, Swiss chard, cucumbers, and the best baking and juice apple — Jonagold.

Wingard is a certified organic farmer and does not use chemical fertilizer or pesticides. Compost tea, pollination and growing calendars are welcome topics. Shiloh Farm is most famous for its pumpkin patch, home of giant pumpkins. Last year's great pumpkin weighed 450 pounds and gained 7 pounds a day in the early growing stages. Lots of pictures have been taken of children sitting on Shiloh's giant pumpkins. The Wingards donate \$1 for every pumpkin sold from their pumpkin patch. Last year, they gave Key Peninsula Community Services \$500 for its building fund.

Fairview Farm. 884-3107. At signs for Penrose Park on KP Highway, turn east on Cornwall Road. At 158th

Avenue turn south, away from the park, and go to 24th Street and turn west.

This is the farm that Coni and Ron Chaney built. The Chaney's raise lavender and herbs, boysenberries, fall gold and red raspberries, strawberries, many vegetables, angora goats, rabbits, beef, pigs and chickens. They provide grapes to Claude Gahard's winery and have a gift shop that sells soap, oils, herbal vinegars, wool and yarns.

Classes are offered about herbs and teas, spinning and knitting, and workshops on dye and soap making.

The gift shop also sells spinning wheels and the Chaney's tell stories about learning to spin. A new greenhouse was completed last year and many plants are basking in its comforts. The harmony of the Chaney's farm life is reflected in beautifully maintained mounds and rows of plants, and in the colorful and inviting gift shop. Ron Chaney shares a secret to matrimonial bliss he has learned from spinning: "If you go in the house and she's spinning really fast...walk on by."

Farms are known, far and wide, as a landmark of the Key Peninsula. ☼



Coni and Ron Chaney offer many home-made gifts in their shop. Angora wool and colorful yarns stock their shelves.

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Miscellaneous summer events

Art classes, Two Waters Arts

Alliance: Watercolor painting, precious metal clay making, acrylic painting, glass bead making, and peer writing sessions. Dates, times and prices vary. 884-2029 for information or reservations.

Beading workshop, The Beadin' Path:

June 11, 3 mini-workshops; more TBA; call or visit store for details, 851-9227, 13720 Purdy Dr. NW.

Clogging class at KP Civic Center:

884-3456.

Golf courses: Horseshoe Lake, 857-3326; LakeLand Village, 360-275-6100.

Adult Coed Softball:

Games are Monday through Thursday, starting the week of July 5. Team registrations and rosters are due by June 14. 884-9220.

Sequim Lavender Festival:

The lavender fest is a treat for all your senses - beautiful views of Olympic Peninsula's lavender fields, live music, food varieties, and gift vendors. The bus ride and tour will

be hosted by Sunnycrest Nursery on July 15. For more information, call 884-3937.

Key Pen Metro Parks' Group Tours:

Yakima Valley's fruit stands and wineries (Aug. 27, \$55). The Zillah Fruit Loop and Wine Tour takes you to various fresh produce stands and popular wineries. 884-9220.

SSS Odyssey Cruise: Tour South Puget Sound on the 90-foot yawl built in 1938 by Sparkman & Stephens, and help support the local Boy Scouts. June 18 from Longbranch Marina, \$30 per person with \$5 going toward raffle for scale replica; 2-3 hour trip based on weather; 884-5137.

Volksmarch, sponsored by KP Lions:

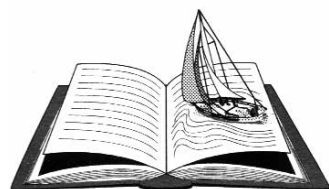
July 9-10, registration starts 8 a.m. 10K wooded trail, not suitable for wheelchairs and strollers. Free except for AVA and IVV credit walkers, who pay standard fees. Water, snacks, restrooms available. Pets welcome (you clean up). Call 884-3319 for details. ☼

(From KIDS, Page 4)

and Horseshoe Lake Park, or pay \$5 parking fee and splash at Penrose Point or Joemma Beach state parks. If you prefer laps, visit Camp Seymour during community open swim on Fridays, or the Peninsula High School pool. Novice swimmers, fear not. PHS offers swim classes and will have an open enrollment event on June 11. ☼



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Take a HIKE

By Colleen Slater

The Key Peninsula has many areas where hikers can stretch their legs and enjoy scenic surroundings. This partial list includes beach and forest walks, from short and level to longer with steep ups and downs. Most are maintained by volunteers. Running water and restrooms are not available in these areas.

Hiker guidelines include telling someone where you go, a cell phone is good, take water, sunscreen, and insect repellent if needed, wear sturdy shoes or boots, and remember the rules of good citizenship: Leave only footprints, and take away only pictures and memories.

The Linds' Property: This trail is mainly level and quite wide along most of its length. Owners Bob and Nancy Lind hope someday it will become a public park. Call (884-3347) for permission to walk on this trail in Home. About 1 1/2 miles of trail in two large loops through forest and edging open meadow. The trail bisecting the property crosses a small creek, which is rarely totally dry. Native

wildflowers are profuse in some areas.

Rocky Creek Conservation Area: A 2-mile loop From SR-302, turn north on 150th Ave. near the entrance to Lake Holiday, and directly left onto gravelled Crews Road to trailhead parking space on the left, with a roofed signboard inside the fence. Picnic area, where you can take the right-hand trail to East Rocky Creek, or the steep uphill trail that winds around and eventually descends to Crews Road. Cross the road to the wooden log bar and continue up left trail, keeping left at the forks, to cross a bridge. Continue down the old road to complete the loop. Parking also available at end of 150th Ave., and a couple of trail starts. Go right at the Y with aluminum tag on tree to complete the loop, and keep right at crossing on Crews Road.

Haley Property: The State Park sign notes "limited public facilities" being held for future development. The 1.5-mile trail is level along the boundary of a clear-cut where new firs were planted

several years ago. At a Y where logs block the left trail, turn right, and soon the forest descent is steep, over rocks and tree roots. Beware of stinging nettles bordering the trail as it levels out again. Dock leaves, to counteract the nettle stings, are few. After the lagoon is visible, as you progress toward the beach, watch for remains of a stone fireplace on your left, at the back of a level area where a cabin once stood. Pause to admire the view of the Olympics through the trees at the cabin site. Near the salt water is an open space used by boaters for camping. At the far end of the spit protecting the lagoon is a totem pole. Park at 177th

Avenue off Jackson Lake Road, walk west along the main road "one and a half utility poles". The trail head is obscured until you are opposite it.

Purdy Spit County Park: A low tide beach walk of about half a mile one way. Officially in Wauna; there is limited parking on the shoulder of State Route 302. For hikers, it is easy to park in Purdy, walk across the bridge and descend to the beach. At the other end is what's left of the old Wauna post office and Goldman's Grocery. Henderson Bay is a popular place for divers and windsurfers. The beach gets crowded in good weather with a low tide. ☼

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"Experience is something you get just after you need it" (author unknown)

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