

S.U.M.M.E.R Recreation



Summer
Camps



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Fresh food



KEY PENINSULA
NEWS
The voice of the Key Peninsula



on the Key Peninsula

“Summer Recreation” is a special supplement to Key Peninsula News.

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KEY PENINSULA NEWS

The voice of the Key Peninsula

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To Our Key Peninsula Neighbors and Visitors

The Key Peninsula is an extension of the Kitsap Peninsula, with Mason County on the west. The extensive salt water shoreline with marinas, state parks, and stretches of sandspit is inviting to visitors arriving by boat as well as by cars.

The peninsula, as well as neighboring communities and towns, is especially welcoming to visitors in the summer, with varied activities and interesting things to see and do.

Please use this guide to enjoy your time with us, whether you live here year round, in the summer, or are a visitor to our scenic Key Peninsula.

Colleen Slater
Summer Guide Editor



Summer events calendar

June

23 – Key Peninsula Historical Society picnic, KP Civic Center – noon 253-884-3272

30 – Key Peninsula Lutheran Church BBQ – 1 p.m. - 253-884-3312

July

12-15 – Key Peninsula Community Fair – 884-4FUN (4386), www.keyfair.com

21, 22 – Allyn Days & Salmon Bake – noon; www.allynaca.com

28 – Longbranch Community Church Salmon Bake – 2-6 p.m. - Longbranch Improvement Club

August

4-19 – Renaissance Faire - Saturdays and Sundays, 10-6 p.m.

11 – Key Peninsula Historical Society Old-timers' Picnic – Noon. 253-884-3272

• Tacoma H.O.G. (Harley Owners Group) members celebrate their 20th anniversary with dinner and music at O'Callahan's

18 – Old Timers Day, Longbranch Improvement Club – 10 a.m. 253-884-3771

September

1 – Labor Day Dance – Longbranch Improvement Club

Off The Key Events

June 17 – Salmon Bake, Manchester Library, Port Orchard

June 29 – Gig Harbor Peninsula Chamber of Commerce Golf Scramble, McCormick Woods

June 29-July 4 – Carnival by the Bay-Fathoms of Fun Festival, parade and Fireworks-Downtown Port Orchard

June 30 – Grapeview Patriotic Day Celebration Fireworks Show, in bay south

For Gig Harbor and Olalla events, check www.gigharborchamber.com

For Port Orchard events, check www.portorchard.com

of Stretch Island. View from boats or bridge. 10 p.m.

July 14-15 – Gig Harbor Summer Art Festival; www.peninsulaartleague.com/artFest.html

July 19-22 – Chris Craft Rendezvous-Port Orchard Marina

July 27-29 – Whaling Days, Silverdale - www.whalingdays.com

July 28 – Cruise the Narrows Car Show, Gig Harbor, 9-3 p.m., \$15; www.gigharborcruisers.org

• Grapeview Water Festival and Art Show at Fair Harbor Marina; www.grapeviewwa.com

July 29 – 19th Annual Mustang Car Show-Downtown Port Orchard

Aug. 10 – Rock Around the Block Dance -

South Kitsap Rotary - Port Orchard

Aug. 11 – Taste of Hood Canal, Belfair, 10-6; 877-278-8900 www.tasteofhoodcanal.com

• Classic Car Show, Belfair, 10-6 p.m.; \$15 donation

• The Cruz Custom Car Show & Festival By the Bay, Port Orchard

Aug. 17 – 2nd Annual Rock the Woods for Melanoma Research Concert-McCormick Woods Golf Course

Aug. 18 – Olalla Bluegrass Festival

• Summerfest at Harmony Hill, Union; www.harmonyhill.org/news/summerfest.html

Aug. 22-26 – Kitsap Fair and Rodeo; www.kitsapgov.com/parks/Fair_Information.htm

Aug. 25, 26 – Gig Harbor Folk Festival

• RAPSody Bike Ride, Tacoma – Shelton; 425-348-2369; \$80-\$90; www.rapsodybikeride.com

Aug. 31-Sept. 1 - Blackberry Fest – Bremerton – and Tour de Kitsap; www.blackberryfestival.org



Photo by Mindi LaRose

BECKY WILLARD GOLF



Is Fido ready for a vacation?

By Robert McCrossin
Special to KP News

Before you decide to take a two-week vacation driving across country with Fido on your lap, there are some things to consider. Are you planning a Fido friendly vacation and is Fido going to enjoy it anyway?

Before you take off on any kind of vacation, you must plan ahead. Whether flying or driving, there are vaccines to check. Are you going to an area that is more likely to have a certain kind of parasite and do you have Fido prepared for it? Does every place you plan to stay in allows pets? And if they do, do they have rules about age, breed, vaccine status, etc? Do you plan on including him in your day-to-day activities or is he going to be locked away alone in a strange place? Have you planned for Fido's meals, and if he is on medication, are you properly prepared? Do you have enough water easily accessible for an overheated pet? Are there pet friendly rest areas if driving, and if traveling with a smaller pet on a plane, are you able to take him out for a stretch and potty break between connec-



tions? A well-planned vacation with your pet can be very rewarding as long as you have done all the planning for him.

Is Fido a traveling pet? The best way to find out is to take him with you on a day trip. You can find out how well he travels long distances cooped up in a confined space. Does he bark incessantly every time you pass a loud car? Does he whine or get sick because he's stressed from all the commotion a drive can include? How often does he need a break from the car or is he just as happy to stop and stretch when you do the same? It's a warm day and you're hungry. What to do with Fido? Perhaps you grab some fish and chips and eat in the park or by the beach. Of course

Fido will want something to eat. Will he be satisfied eating what you brought for him?

Plan on some confinement during the trip to see how Fido handles the situation. Too much stress on a short trip could result in disaster on a long trip. How does Fido respond to walking around a bunch of strangers? Can you go through a crowded area with a well behaved dog? Try to find at least one area on your day trip that is pet friendly. This will be great to see how Fido acts when around other animals as well as people. One dog can be very outgoing with people and not like other animals invading his space. Or vice versa.

A good traveling pet is one that can adapt to any situation because it's a family situation. Rules are followed just like at home. And just like at home, Fido is part of the day-to-day activities of the family, so he feels completely safe and comfortable.

For those animals that are not good traveling pets, the best alternative is to either provide home care or have your pet boarded with a reputable kennel. If you aren't sure which would be best for your pet, discuss it with your veterinarian or other pet care professional.

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- Jr. Golf Lessons
- Jr. Golf Zone (Sat group lesson)

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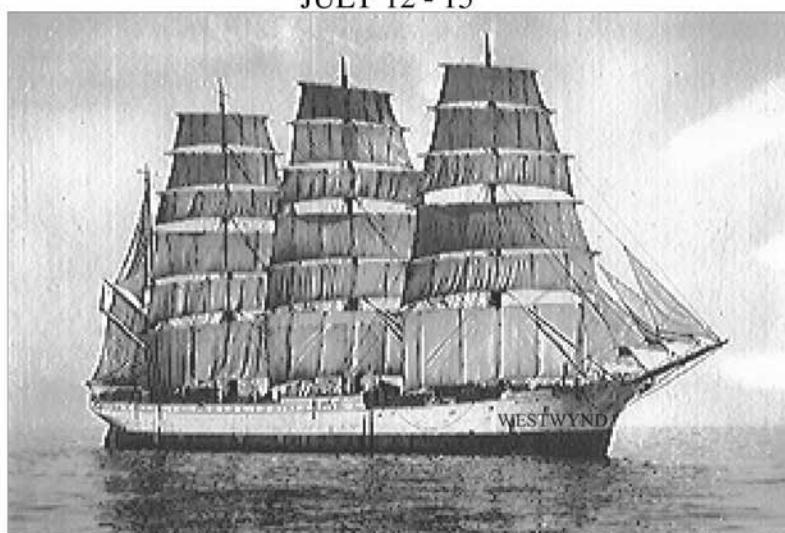
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Longbranch is becoming a clean, 'green' marina

By Danna Webster, KP News

The Longbranch Improvement Club is in the process of making their marina 'green.' According to dockmaster Mark Jones, they have joined a volunteer program called Envirostar to clean up the marina. The program provides education to boaters about best common maintenance practices and their effects on the water. "We're leaning toward alternative product usage down on the water — kitchen products are not good," Jones says. "No suds! Suds kill little creatures."

Alternative products include familiar ingredients: baking soda, white vinegar, lemon juice, salt, water and lots of elbow grease as boat cleaners. Baby oil is recommended as a hand cleaner. "Chemicals really do impair the life down here," says Jones.

Unlike rules about bilge and holding tank dumping, which can carry \$20,000 fines, this program has no real teeth. Each boat will be required to display a sign saying the boater knows environmentally safe practices such as the difference between legal and illegal bottom scraping,



Photo by Danna Webster

Ethan Carter from Tacoma fishes for pier perch at the LIC open boating day breakfast, May 5. When his bucket is full, his grandfather, Brad Voorhees, has taught him to release them back to the harbor.

The marina will provide signage, educational information and make products such as energy-efficient absorbent rags available.

Envirostar can rate marinas up to five stars. It takes a pump station facility to earn five stars and the Longbranch does not

For more information:

www.longbranchimprovementclub.org/marina; www.envirostars.org
www.pugetsoundkeeper.org

have one. An inspection by Envirostar is expected soon. "I'll be happy with two stars," Jones says. With a two star rating, Longbranch becomes a certified Washington clean marina, can fly a green marina flag and be listed in a green business directory.

Certification means the marina would join 22 others such as Port Orchard, Edmonds, Des Moines and some Seattle and Tacoma marinas, all dedicated to the reduction and proper management of hazardous waste, protecting the marina environment, and educating boaters on clean boating practices.

The program has some obstacles to overcome. The closest recycle facility for hazardous waste is in Tacoma. And, this year, there will be no collection site on KP provided by Pierce County. The major obstacle, perhaps, is convincing long-time boaters to make some changes.

"I prefer to use our Mermaid soap. Vinegar strips wax," says Tacoma boater Brad Voorhees. He motored over from Tacoma for Opening Day breakfast and has made the marina a favorite destination since 1990. "If (the marina is) going green, where's the pump-out? The marina should take the first step (with a pump-out station)," he says. "I think you can go overboard being green."

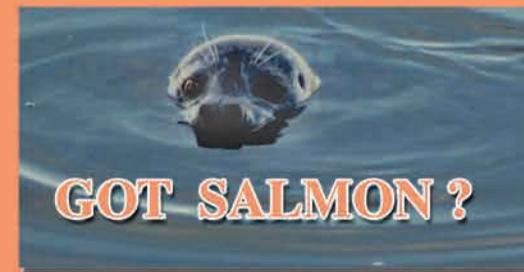
Dockmaster Jones understands that part of his job is to sell this new idea. Resistance to change is natural but the marina is already changing. When "LIC built the marina, they anticipated 18 foot boats. The average today is 40 plus feet," he says.

Jones introduced the Envirostar program to the LIC Board this spring, and was given a unanimous approval vote. His motivation is to protect the natural environment of Filucy Bay.

The marina has a "beautiful view of Mt. Rainer. People come (here) from all over the state. They love it for what it isn't — love the tranquility. It's like the old San Juans of the '60s," Jones says. Becoming a green marina is a "great idea — long overdue," he says.

**Saturday,
July 28th
2:00 - 6:00 PM**

Longbranch Community Church 7th Annual Salmon Bake



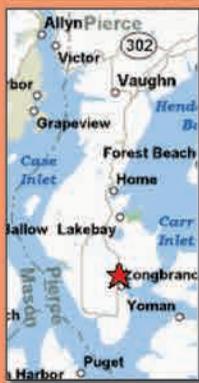
The event will be held at the Longbranch Improvement Club
4312 Key Peninsula Hwy S.; Longbranch, WA 98351

For tickets, call Ruth Bramhall at: (253) 857-5184 or visit:
Sunnycrest Nursery ~ Charboneau ~ Coast Hardware ~ Longbranch Marina ~ Home Store
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Visit www.longbranchchurch.net for additional information, directions or ticket needs.



catch the spirit here
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Heritage Nursery celebrates Key Pen history

By Chris Fitzgerald, KP News

Open since April 15, Heritage Nursery is the brainchild of a small group of plant-savvy locals who wanted to offer neighbors and visitors an alternative to the farmers market in Gig Harbor. Steve and Jeni Wilkin own the 10-acre plot that fronts Key Peninsula Highway North near 64th Street. This spring they planted grass, created a drive-through that swoons around the market grounds, and constructed a tiny cottage with a front porch that shows off tomato plants. The Wilkins' idea was to construct something along this stretch of highway that was visually pleasing, functional, and reminiscent of a farming community long gone. They are antique buffs, with a passion for old machinery and farm implements — as evidenced by the much-loved green antique car and gray and red tractor sitting on their own slabs near the Heritage Nursery sign. The popularity of his “display” surprised even Wilkin; he was in a restaurant in Eastern Washington awhile ago, glanced at a calendar on the wall — and saw his



Photo by Tim Kezele

Colton Karr on the antique tractor at Heritage Farm Nursery.

antique green car as the featured photo for the month. “People stop and have their picture taken with it all the time,” he says. “Especially the older folks. It’s pure nostalgia.”

The Wilkins invited landscaper Tim Kezele, and Steve and Donna White to join them in opening the small nursery. The Whites own Morgan Creek Farm in

Vaughn, and start stock in their greenhouse. All three partner families have something unique to offer the venture. Wilkin’s landscaping company specializes in retaining walls and sprinkler systems, Kezele is a master gardener who cares for some of the best-looking orchards on the KP, and the Whites are experienced farmers market vendors who hope to eventually transfer their business to this “home base” on the Key Peninsula.

Open Sundays for now, the nursery is offering tomato, veggie, flowering plants and landscape shrubs from their combined stock. As they branch out, the partners intend to use local growers as much as possible, and open the site to local craftspeople and artisans as well.

Wilkin’s plans include the relocation of an antique barn to the site. “I’m looking for a historically accurate barn, not a reproduction. We have a local barn with a ton of history in mind,” he says. “If that doesn’t pan out, I’ll look elsewhere — we intend to take an old barn down board-by-board and reconstruct it here.” His vision for the new life of the

old barn includes offering farm-style antiques for purchase, and possibly even a farm-related museum of sorts.

“There’s so much history here,” Wilkin says. If this venture succeeds, the partners find and reconstruct an old barn, and the public beats a path to their barn doors, the rich history of this lost farming community will not be forgotten.”



Bright flowering plants for sale at the nursery.

Photo by Colleen Slater



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Summer camp and other recreation

The Key Peninsula is home to several camping facilities. Several include family camp weekends; a few have day camps, and several are noted for horse camps.

Camp Coleman: a YMCA facility, offers traditional camping sessions for 5- to 18-year-olds. www.seattlemca.org/page.cfm or 253-884-3844

Camp Seymour: includes outdoor environment sessions, as well as sports, challenge courses, and arts and crafts for grades 1-12. 253-884-3392 or www.campseymour.org

Camp Seymour will hold an Open House on June 10, 2-4:30 p.m. The facilities are open for touring, and registrations for various classes and camps.

The Camp Seymour pools are open for community swim sessions from July 10-Aug. 22, Monday-Friday, 1-2 p.m. Cost per swimmer is \$1 each. Call 253-884-3392

Camp Stand-By-Me (Easter Seal): will offer swim classes for adults at their pool beginning in June. 253-884-2722

Delano Bay Christian Camp: 253-884-2966 or www.delanobay.org

Miracle Ranch: has day camps and resident horses for 3rd-12th graders. 253-884-4410 or www.cristacamps.com

Soundview Camp: has camps for 2nd through 12th grades and family camps, with horses available at most of them. 253-884-9202 or soundviewcamp.com

Camp Woodworth: offers boys and girls camps with sports, music and survival skills. Their focus is on Christian relationships. 253-884-2365

Paradise Theatre: Theatre Art Camps in July for ages 3 to 18. Workshops in acting, dance and voice, with performances by the older groups. 253-851-PLAY

SUMMER SPORT CAMPS

Key Peninsula Metro Park District will partner with Skyhawks Sports to offer a variety of recreational sport camps at various locations. See sidebar above.

All camp participants will receive a T-shirt, camp specific ball or pompons, and instruction. For more information, visit www.keypeninsulaparks.com or www.skyhawks.com.

ADULT CO-ED SOFTBALL

Key Peninsula Metro Park District (KPMPD) is [now] accepting team registrations for weeknight co-ed softball. Teams will play a 10 game season plus a double elimination end of the season tournament. Games will start the

week of July 16. Games will take place Monday-Thursday with the tournament being played on Saturday and Sunday in September. Individuals without a team may contact KPMPD to be put on a player availability list. Cost of the league and end of season tournament is \$575. Team registrations and rosters are due by July 6.

For more information, visit www.keypeninsulaparks.com, call 253-884-9240 or info@keypeninsulaparks.com.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOLS

Three local churches will hold Vacation Bible School on consecutive weeks.

The Baptist Church starts off the season July 16-20, meeting at the Key Peninsula Civic Center. Call 853-6761.

Vaughn Community Church will hold their sessions, called SOS Gospel Express, at Volunteer Park July 23-27. 884-2269 or vaughnchurch.org

The Key Peninsula Lutheran Church will "Take the Plunge" July 30-Aug. 3 for ages first grade through middle school. 253-884-3312 or www.kpluth.org.

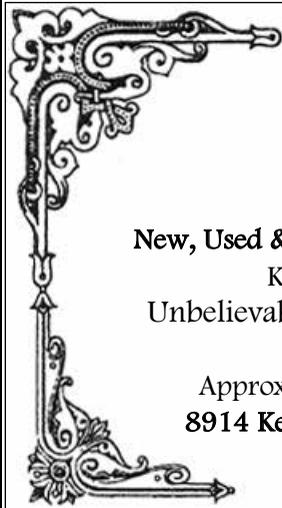


Photo courtesy Al Robison

Delano Bay Christian Camp staff wait to greet campers.

CAMP	AGES	TIME	DATE	LOCATION	FEE
Cheer	5-6	2pm-3pm	July 16-20	Civic Center	\$35
Cheer	7-11	3:30pm-5pm	July 16-20	Civic Center	\$40
Mini-Hawks	4-7	9am -noon	July 16-20	Discovery Elem	\$94
Basketball	5-7	1pm -2pm	July 30-Aug 3	Civic Center	\$35
Basketball	8-12	2:30-5pm	July 30-Aug 3	Civic Center	\$45
Soccer	6-14	9am-3pm	Aug. 6-10	Minter Creek Elem	\$128
Golf	5-9	9am-noon	Aug. 13-17	Minter Creek Elem	\$104

All camps are Monday through Friday.



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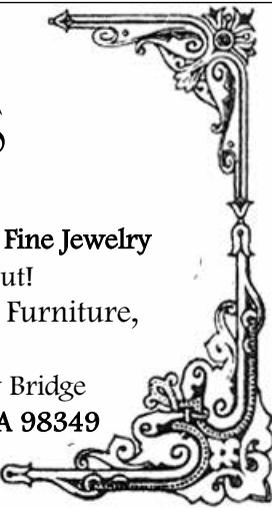
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The Key Peninsula is fresh food shoppers' paradise

By Danna Webster, KP News

Consumer awareness and the trend toward healthy food have grocery shoppers looking for local farmers. Food shoppers are looking for attributes like freshness, high quality and better flavor, which are determined by factors like the distance the food travels from the farm to the table, the fertility of the agricultural land, and purity of the water sources.

If this is the year you join the fresh foods "local-motive" crowd then here is a Key Peninsula farm resource directory:

Key Peninsula Farmers

Bea's Flowers

11816 Creviston Drive, Minter
253-509-0239

Hours: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tues.-Sat.

Products: String beans, corn, fresh produce from local gardens. U-pick dahlias, lilies and glads in season for 25 cents per bloom.

Fairview Acres

14513 24th Street KPS, Lakebay

253-884-310

Hours: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Wed.-Sun.

Products: Lavender, herbs, berries and vegetables. The farm's gift shop sells soap, oils, herbal vinegars, wool and yarn. Their berry wines are available at Trillium Creek Winery.

Honey 4-Sale

16305 Pollack, Lakebay
253-884-2293

Hours: Open daily 9 to dusk

Products: Honey, salad greens, lavender and dahlia plants

Shiloh Farm

1127 188th Ave. KPN, Home
253-884-4544

Hours: Hours flexible, open daily

Products: Seasonal foods only: peaches, apples, Asian pears and the only pumpkin patch on the Peninsula; home of the "giant pumpkin."

The Farm

10812 SR-302 (Wauna)
253-851-4556

Hours: 9 a.m.- 5 p.m. Sun. to Fri.

Products: flowers, vegetables, herbs, eggs, and honey. Garden plots available for rent to families and groups, land is prepared and water provided.

Trillium Creek Winery

17812 18th St. KPN, Home
253-884-5746

Hours: 11 a.m.- 6 p.m. Tues.-Sun.

Products: Many wines from Chardonnay to Merlot, featuring Muller Thurgau and local fruit wines. Summertime specials on Saturday evenings at 5 p.m. will present European-style cheeses from the Estrella Family Creamery in Montesano.

Aquaculture Farms and Fishermen

Minterbrook Oyster Co.

12002 114th St. Court, Minter
253-857-5253

Hours: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mon.- Sat.

Products: Fresh shucked Pacific oysters, live oysters in the shell, live clams, smoked oysters and smoked salmon

Rolf's Choice

253- 884-1055, Longbranch

Hours: Call for an appointment any time during the week

Products: Fresh frozen Alaska salmon, Kings and reds. Also smoked sockeye. Rolf "takes good care of the fish"; he catches and delivers the fish to the dock.

The Crab Guy

20013 Highway 3, Belfair
360-275-3345

Hours: 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. Tues.-Sun.

Products: fresh seafood: Dungeness crab, halibut, salmon, prawns, razor clams

Winks

Two locations:

15405 118th Ave. NW, Minter

Hours: Daily 10:30 a.m.- dusk

Purdy Shopping Center

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Farmers Markets

Belfair Farmers Market

Highway 3 and Roessel Road, Belfair
Contact number: 360-275-0616

Hours: 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday

Products: Seasonal vegetables, honey, jams, fry bread, flowers, plants, and soaps

Gig Harbor Farmers Market

Stroh's Field, 3500 Hunt St. NW
253-884-9672

Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays

Products: A market offering fresh flowers, produce, food, wood crafts, jewelry, and other handcrafted arts from nearly 100 vendors

Port Orchard Farmers Market

Waterfront Marina, Historic Downtown
Port Orchard

360-377-3173

Hours: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday

Products: Fresh produce, eggs, meat, seafood, honey, on-site cooking, local arts and crafts

Heritage Nursery

Key Peninsula Highway
(See story on page 5.)



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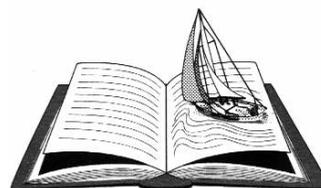
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Vicci Martinez headlines KP Fair

By Irene Torres, KP News

Headlining the entertainment for the Key Peninsula Community Fair on Saturday, July 14, will be Tacoma native singer-songwriter, Vicci Martinez.

Martinez is just 22 years old, but she's a seasoned performer. Her "smooth yet gritty and soulful voice emerges... as she picks up her guitar and starts to sing," according to RockRGirl Magazine in January/February 2005.

Entertainment Chair Vicki Husted Biggs said, "We are sure she is going places!"

Martinez started playing music when she was 5 — thanks to her parents' insistence on classical training — but didn't start singing until she was 12. She credits Dave Matthews for changing her life at age 14. She was charged by his energetic delivery and the sincerity of his expression, when he performed at a concert at



Vicci Martinez, 22, will sing and play her guitar for Key Peninsula Community Fairgoers.

Photo courtesy James Paschal Cecil Jr.

the Gorge Ampitheater, according to her Website www.viccimartinez.com.

After winning the Washington State High School Talent Competition, sponsored by Troy E. Wright Entertainment in 2001, Martinez went on to be a semi-finalist on CBS-TV's star search in 2003. She turned down an opportunity for a contract on the first year of "American Idol," realizing she wasn't ready to "sell

her soul," according to her bio.

She performed at the Miss Washington USA Pageant in 2004, and has been seen locally playing her songs at Jazzbones, The Tractor Tavern, The World Famous Swiss Pub, as well as the University of Washington, The Experience Music Project, and at White River Ampitheater. Television and motion picture star Ben Stein says, "Vicci has incredible talent and I love her stage presence."

She has many music festivals to her credit, including Seattle's Bumbershoot, Summer Meltdown, and the Sunbanks Rhythm & Blues Festival in Grand Coulee, Wash. She has shared the stage with many notable artists like Sting, Maria Muldaur, and even the president of the United States, George Bush. Country blues star Naomi Judd is quoted as saying, "She's living proof the world needs more artists like Vicci Martinez." Now, KP fair-goers will delight in watching an often barefoot

Martinez "banging out percussive acoustic melodies, or strapping on a djembe" to entertain the crowd.

Biggs said, "Friday night, a widely acclaimed blues band with local roots, Little Bill and the Blue Notes, will be opening for the very exciting band Pop Culture, performing all the '80s hits with a high-energy show that is a huge crowd pleaser." The Pop Culture Website is www.popcultureband.net.

Martinez discography recordings:

- Vicci Martinez Band "VMB" December 2000
- Vicci Martinez "Acoustical" February 2001
- Vicci Martinez "Acoustic Tambien" June 2003
- Vicci Martinez Band "Sleep to Dream" August 2003
- Vicci Martinez Band "On My Way" June 2005
- Vicci Martinez Band "Vicci Martinez Live" March 2006 (DVD)

Renaissance Faire returns to Key Pen

By Rick Sorrels, Special to KP News

Faeries, Knights, and trolls, Oh My! Costumes, food, and hucksters' cry. Dancers, games, and sword events. We end our day quite content.

The Washington Renaissance and Fantasy Faire is back for its 10th consecutive year at the same location at Minter Creek Ranch alongside State Route 302 midway between Purdy and Key Center. Faire days are the first three weekends in August.

"Ren Faire," as it is commonly known, is a combination of a "Renaissance Faire" and a "Fantasy Faire."

"Fantasy" includes make-believe trolls, faeries, gnomes, Grimm's Fairy Tales, unicorns, and miscellaneous whimsical things. Vendors and actors are required to dress in costume. The public is not required to dress the part, but frequently does. It's fun to let loose and join in. Klingons and Jedi Knights are discouraged; that's somebody else's fantasy and they have their own conventions elsewhere.

"Renaissance" is a historical reference to the 14th through 16th centuries. Western Europe came out of the Dark Ages to a time of good weather, prosperity, and a social and technological re-awakening. The Tales of King Arthur, Robin Hood, the

Three Musketeers, the Scarlet Pimpernel, etc., have all left us with a romantic impression of this era. Ren Faire will be filled with swashbucklers galore, even a few pirates playing their "Renaissance" role.

Magicians, stage plays, merchants plying their wares, belly dancers, tarot readers, fortune tellers, sword and weapon demonstrations, mischievous trolls, alluring fairies, pickle girls, Shakespearean actors, archery competition, and even vintage food vendors (meeting 21st century health requirements) will compete with scores of others for your attention and time that always runs out far too soon. Ale houses are available for adults, knighting ceremonies are available for children, period music and gaiety is available for all.

The "Big Draw," of course, is the jousting knights with their charging horses, armour, pageantry, and clashing weapons and shields. Their feats of daring-do will astound the crowd. Jousting tournaments will be held twice daily.

A spectacular Fratelli show will leave you breathlessly spellbound with aerial acrobatics on horseback, vaulting, dressage, horseback somersaults, juggling swords and fire while riding on the backs of moving horses, and many other things the likes of which you cannot imagine.

The circus historically has two preeminent families, the Wallendas (high wire) and the Zoppes (horsemanship). Three

Zoppe brothers will participate in the Jousting and Fratelli shows (think the Harlem Globetrotters of the Horse World). Joining the Zoppes will be additional circus performers from their home base in Orlando, Fla., along with local talent, including the return of a Lady Knight.

Olissio Zoppe owns, manages, and directs the troupe known as Cavallo Equestrian Arts. Last year, at Raleigh, No. Ca., Zoppe was "de-horsed" by an errant jousting lance wielded by their newest member. "Things happen," said Zoppe. "We really have a good safety record, but with 3,000 pound-galloping horses, ... equipment designed to be used in combat, ... crowds of people,



Photo courtesy Amy Forsyth

Lance splinters fly during a jousting match.

and vastly different facilities at each location we perform, sometimes the unexpected does catch up to you. ... No matter what, we will give you a show that you will never forget."

For more information, visit [washingtonrenfaire.com](http://www.washingtonrenfaire.com).



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