



autumn *on the Key*

school ★ fun ★ home ★ food ★ garden

A special supplement to the Key Peninsula News

*Enjoy the pleasures of
the fall season*

au•tumn

Pronunciation: 'o-t&m

1 : the season between summer and winter comprising in the Northern Hemisphere usually the months of September, October, and November or as reckoned astronomically extending from the September equinox to the December solstice -- called also fall.
-Merriam Webster Dictionary

“Autumn on the Key” is a special supplement to Key Peninsula News.

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Colorful autumn events for Key Peninsula

Two Waters Arts Alliance

Fall offerings include pottery, drumming, felting, Chinese brush painting, beginning and intermediate drawing, Sumi painting, oil painting and writers' workshops. Scholarships are available. Brochures are available at the Key Center Library and at local merchants. For info, call 884-2029; or twowaters@hotmail.com.

Tour Columbia Gorge Wine Country, Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 1 and 2. Cost is \$155 for TWAA members and \$175 for non-members. This includes transportation from Vaughn and back with continental breakfast, Saturday night lodging, full Sunday breakfast, four wineries and Art Walk in Bingen. Lunch, dinner, tasting fees additional. For reservations, call 884-5608.

KP artists featured in Open Studio Tour '05

Sept. 17 and 18, artists from Gig Harbor, Fox Island and the Key Peninsula are featured in working studios, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Key Peninsula artists are Beverly Pedersen, water colors and silk; Laura McClintock, mixed media painter; Robin Petersen, illustrator; Karen and Norm Geiger, fine jewelers; Christopher Mathie, Raku pottery; and Chuck Gumpert, featured artist in Portland Street of Dreams. All KP artists will be at the Art Barn.

The Vicci Martinez Band plays Saturday, and the Jazz Musette with Lorraine Hart closes Sunday. Maps and information available at Art Barn in September. For details, call 884-2149 or go online to www.igharboropenstudiotour.org.

KP Civic Center events

◆ The Key Peninsula Civic Center hosts the second annual Blues, Brews & Brats on Oct. 22. This Oktoberfest features great traditional German food, brews from local breweries and award-winning blues band Little Bill and the Blue Notes. For more information, call 884-3456.

◆ Friday Night Skate begins Sept. 9 from 6:30-9 p.m. \$4 admission. Kindergarten through 8th grades. Info: 884-3456.

◆ Key Peninsula Historical Society fall quarterly meeting is

Oct. 22, noon to 3 p.m. at the KP Civic Center. Program: “Lewis and Clark.” Regular museum hours: Thursday and Saturday, 1 to 4 p.m. Open meetings first Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. For details, call 884-3272, 884-2712 or 884-4857.

KP Community Services

Senior lunch is served every Wednesday and Friday at noon. Guests are invited to stay for social hour with card games, movies and good conversations. For guests 60 and above, lunch is \$1.75; for others, \$2.50.

The Food Bank work crew volunteers have done some heavy remodeling, and are presently repairing the walk-in freezer and getting ready for holiday turkeys. Volunteers needed. 884-4440.

Longbranch Improvement Club

◆ On Sat., Sept. 3 the LIC Pig Roast dinner is served from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Dancing begins to the beat of Jr. Cadillac at 9 p.m. Tickets available at Sunnycrest, Home Store, Longbranch Marina, as well as at the door. Dance-only tickets also available at the door. No host bar. 884-1499. For band information, go online to www.jrcadillac.com.

◆ The Longbranch Players present “Bully—An Adventure with Teddy Roosevelt” on the LIC stage, a one-act, one-man play performed by well-known Seattle-area actor and director Rick May. Opening night, Friday, Sept. 30, features dessert buffet and discount tickets for high school students. Oct. 7 and 8 will be dinner theater venue. Two Waters Arts Alliance joins both days with a gallery show. Details, call 884-1061.

◆ Saturday night Contra Dances are scheduled at LIC for Sept. 24 and Nov. 12. Cost: \$7. Half-hour lessons start at 7:30 p.m. with dancing 8 to 11 p.m. The Contra dance is traditional old English country dancing and popular worldwide. Live music plays the tunes, a caller leads the dance, and each dance is walked through before beginning. High school students are especially encouraged to attend. Call 884-7830 for details.

Plant now for a year full of color

Story and photo by Colleen Slater

September and October, when the ground can be worked easily, is the ideal time to start, add to, or rearrange gardens.

Shrubs, perennials, bulbs, and even some annuals planted now, before fall rains and frosts arrive, are able to put down solid roots and be ready for next spring, summer, or fall bloom.

Plants listed here are only a small portion of available items to get into the ground this season. Stop by a nursery, browse catalogs, see what's blooming now, or check out plant picture books from the library to help determine what you want to put in your own garden.

Popular shrubs and vines to add landscape color include azaleas, camellias, forsythia, heathers, heaths, hydrangeas, lilacs, maples, rhododendrons, and



roses. For winter bloom, try winter jasmine, witch hazel, winter hazel or winter honeysuckle.

Perennials to plant in the fall comprise a lengthy list. Fall is also the time to divide those that have cut back on bloom, become ratty or weedy, to increase your own stock or give to others for their gardens.

Alyssum, anemones, thrift armeria, asters, astilbe, bee balm, bellflowers (campanula), boltonia, candytuft, cone-flowers, coreopsis, chrysanthemums, cranesbill (true geranium), assorted daisies, delphinium, dianthus, lavender, penstemon, peonies, phlox, poppies, primroses, salvias, sedums, verbena, yarrow comprise a variety of plant sizes, shapes and colors. Some are longer blooming than others, some bloom a second time if cut back when early flowers begin to fade, and some are so easy-care, every garden should have

(See **PLANTING**, Page 6)

School volunteers contribute to student success

By Karen Hale

How many times have you walked into a school and seen people who aren't teachers running around doing jobs? They may even be parents you know who have children at the school. Have you ever wondered what they are doing and why they are working so hard?

They are the unheralded but very appreciated volunteers. They help teachers with projects for their students. In elementary school, most of their work is arts and crafts preparation. Teachers don't have the time to go into the workroom and cut enough one-inch by four-inch strips of colored paper times 20 for one student, then multiply that times 25 students. Parents in the school workroom cut and trim hundreds of different color paper pieces for whatever project is next. Starting with kindergarten, the teachers have a curriculum to follow, and class prep time is always limited. If parents and other volunteers didn't help, our children would have fewer crafts in class.

As the children get older, setting up for science projects, retrieving

supplies, counting items, helping grade papers also comes in handy. Parents who run out of things to do can help re-file library books or help clean the staff lounge. Many things can be done to not only help teachers, but to show appreciation for all the hard work and time dedication given to teaching our children.

Volunteers also help organize fundraisers that benefit the schools. At Minter Creek Elementary, for example, PTA volunteers organized an auction in April 2004. This fund-raiser made enough money to buy a \$12,000 playground set (installed by parents), as well as \$3,000 for a new sound system for putting on shows.

PTA funds also go to teachers to help with class expenses, to field trips, end-of-year entertainment, library books, Accelerated Reader tests and other needs.

Volunteering at the middle and high schools is also valuable, especially for helping raise money for extracurricular activities. You probably have passed by a car wash organized as a fund-raiser for the cross-country or football team or

some other school-related extra.

Without volunteers in the schools, there would be a lot less available to our kids in their educational experience. How can you help? Ask your child's teacher, inquire in the school office, or call the PTA president. If you don't have time, think about paying PTA or booster dues to help with seed money needed for school projects and fundraisers. If you can, make a donation to the PTA or booster club that will be used toward either a special project, spread around to various items where it is needed most, or you can designate a specific project you want the money to be applied to.

If you don't have a child in the local school, your help can be just as important. Adult mentors and readers are always needed for activities such as afterschool reading programs and many others. The local schools or organizations like Communities in School or Peninsula are always recruiting.

Ask what you can do. It's that easy.

Karen Hale is a KP News writer and PTA member at Minter Creek Elementary.

Rob's Cheesy Apple Pie



Apple pie has always been a family favorite, and my father-in-law used to quote "Apple pie without cheese is like a kiss without the squeeze." Our son, Rob, just beginning to cook, wanted to make an apple pie.

"Why can't we put the cheese IN the pie?" he asked, so we created this new recipe:

Pastry for 2-crust pie, with 1/2 cup grated cheese included.

- 6 cups sliced apples
- 3/4 cup sugar
- 1 tsp lemon juice
- 1/2 tsp cinnamon
- 1/4 tsp ea nutmeg, allspice
- 1/8 tsp ea cloves, ginger, salt
- 1/2 cup 1/4" cubed cheddar cheese

Mix spices with sugar, lemon juice with apples, and lightly mix apples, sugar and cheese together. Heap in pastry - lined pie pan, cover with top crust. Crimp edges, cut apple design on top, brush with beaten egg.

Bake at 425 degrees about 50 minutes. (Oven temperatures may vary).

Recipe from Colleen Slater

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Joyce Niemann.



Rose, favorite flower of three generations of Olson women. (Joyce, Sylvia & flower photos by Danna Webster)

His granddaughter's garden

By Danna Webster



Andrew and Ellen Olson, Joyce Niemann's grandparents. (Courtesy Joyce Niemann)



George and Sylvia Allen, Sylvia Retherford's grandparents. (Courtesy Sylvia Retherford)



Sylvia Retherford.



Lily, favorite flower of three generations of Allen women.

The Key Peninsula is rich in history and notable residents. Vaughn and Home are two communities with great stories to tell. The communities are on opposite sides of the peninsula, but in each one is a granddaughter of an original founder and homesteader who remembers the stories, treasures her history and both grow gardens on their grandfathers' land.

Granddaughter Joyce Olson Niemann of Vaughn

Andrew Olson staked his homestead and began to farm 10 years before Home was founded. To understand and appreciate the open pastures and farmed land on the Key Peninsula, it helps to know something about logging.

One historic logging venture is described in Murray Morgan's "The Last Wilderness." It took place in 1848, when a British ship named Albion was commissioned to provide spars for Her Majesty's Navy. The ship's carpenter described the incredible task: The timber was tough and the sap nearly drowned the choppers when they got through the bark. Dragging the trimmed timbers to the water was almost impossible. After four months in Discovery Bay (near Port Townsend), the Albion's crew, with the help of numerous Clallam tribesmen, loaded 17 spars aboard.

Morgan goes on to describe logging developments in the next decade when mills were built and there was a revolution in saws, machinery, labor force and process. Circular saws from Maine could handle logs up to nine-foot-thick and turn out 50-foot ships' planks. Skilled

loggers were brought in to work in teams to cut trees near the water's edge, roll them into the water and ride them as they floated to the mill on the tide. That practice proved too slow and the riders were replaced by tugboats. The Sound became a highway for timber and that pattern changed little for the next 30 years.

By the 1870s, chopping the trees was replaced by cross-cut saws and logging was limited to areas that could be reached by skid roads where horses and oxen could pull the logs. Skid roads were seldom more than two miles from the salt water.

One such skid road was used by the Winchester Logging Co. in 1886 to get logs to Vaughn Bay, according to "An Automobile Tour through Key Peninsula History" by Simon Priest. Animals and steam donkeys supplied the hauling power to transport logs that were dumped at the head of Vaughn Bay, assembled in booms and taken to sawmills. Lackey Road essentially follows what was the skid road. It was also in 1886 when Andrew Olson staked a 120-acre homestead in Vaughn and began to clear the trees for a farm.

"Logging was just a way of life," says Joyce Olson Niemann as she describes what it took to create a farm on the Key Peninsula. She lives on a portion of the original Olson homestead, which once stretched west from Key Center to a hilltop above Vaughn Bay. The homestead became a major farming operation over the years, ranging from strawberry and huckleberry crops, to eggs and chicken hatchery, and to dairy and beef cattle. It was nearly 60 years later when Niemann's parents, Elmer and Elsie Olson, registered the homestead as Sunnycrest Farm.

"Here on the hill (you can watch) as the sun comes up in the east and sets in the west," Niemann says, describing how the farm earned its name.

Sunnycrest is an ongoing farm and Niemann's oldest son is the fourth generation to manage it. He raises hay and rents pasture. Next door to Niemann, her grandchild-

dren have built a new home. Nicole Niemann Carr and husband Tony are the fifth generation to try to keep it a farm. They both have employment away from Sunnycrest because "it takes jobs to support the farm," Niemann says.

Niemann is active in the Vaughn Bay Garden Club and has a rose garden that can be seen from Olson Road. Roses are a historic favorite of the Olson family women. A trellis at the side of Niemann's house supports a huge climbing rose that was her mother's plant. And the same species still climbs at Ellen Olson's homestead house nearby. Niemann laments whether she can continue to maintain her roses, which demand such heavy labor and constant care. But once again, in the 2005 season, her roses set the hillside ablaze with color.

Granddaughter Sylvia Edmonds Retherford of Home

The platted community along Von Geldern Cove was established in 1896 and is known as Home. To understand and appreciate the colony, it helps to know there was a popular movement in world history at that time in search of utopian societies. The book, "Utopias on Puget Sound, 1885-1915" by Charles Pierce LeWarne looks at Washington community experiments in Home, Burley, Freeland, Equality and Port Angeles. LeWarne notes that as isolated as Home was in the nation, "it attracted a remarkable group of permanent residents with varying beliefs and practices that differed from one another but were mutually tolerated." Home drew international visitors and a large number of celebrated persons.

"The community was the open forum that Oliver Verity and George Allen (founders) hoped it would become. Its residents talked and read and wrote about topics and ideas that conventional society preferred to leave unchallenged...the individualists of Home were

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(From **GARDENS**, Page 4)

addressing themselves to issues that society later would be forced to confront,” concludes LeWarne.

Three founders, George H. Allen, B.F. Odell, and Oliver A. Verity, arranged for the purchase of 26 acres on property fronting Von Geldern Cove, a.k.a. Joe’s Bay, in 1896. Two years later, they established the Mutual Home Association, making Home a landholding organization which lasted for 25 years. The fundamental principles of the community were tolerance and independence. George Allen is quoted in LeWarne’s book as saying, “We had heard and read many isms and had tried some of them with varying success. We wished to give each ism a chance to prove its usefulness to humanity.”

George and Sylvia Allen’s granddaughter, Sylvia Edmonds Retherford, was born on the same spot as where she lives now but in a different house.

“We had heard and read many isms and had tried some of them with varying success. We wished to give each ism a chance to prove its usefulness to humanity.”

George Allen in ‘Utopias on Puget Sound’ by LeWarne

Retherford was born in the house built by the Mutual Home Association for Lois Waisbrooker, who became famous as a defendant in a legal battle that resulted in the removal of the U.S. Post Office from Home. A new house for Retherford replaced the Waisbrooker building. Her home is next door to the house built by her father, Harry Edmonds, and very near her grandparents’ residence.

In the soil of her homeland, Retherford’s gardens flourish. Flowers, berries and vegetables thrive, from the exotic Gunnera plant, native of South America, to the original Island Belle grapevines grown by peninsula pioneers. She can identify her plants by common names and properties, or name them in

Latin — a reflection of the academic standards set by her grandparents. The Allens were University of Toronto graduates in the fields of science and teaching. This factor influenced the establishment of a school immediately in the new Home colony where both George and Sylvia Allen taught all levels of instruction. Retherford inherited their interest in science and holds a double major from the University of Washington in botany and chemistry. Retherford is a dedicated historian of the Home society experience and is active in the Bayshore Garden Club.

“My big interest is gardening,” she says, and recalls the Ladies’ Club of Home. “They were very garden oriented. Gardening was a great deal of it and

helping ...people with physical and financial trouble.”

Retherford’s vegetable garden serves to feed the family, and, though she finds her exotic Gunnera, with leaves six feet across, beautiful and spectacular, it is flowers that hold a special place.

“My lilies are my favorite. My mother loved them and my grandmother loved them. Grandmother was the gardener. Grandfather helped but he worked with concrete and was a builder of houses,” Retherford explains.

The Allen family home is a few houses down from hers, toward the head of the bay. Retherford says everyone who has lived in the house, after her grandparents’ passing, have taken good care of it.

“It’s as beautiful now as when I was a child,” she says.

When first asked about George Allen, her response is as a granddaughter rather than a historian, “I loved him dearly,” she says.

Choosing a heating system for your home

By Jonathan White
Marketing Manager Peninsula Light Co.

I have been in the energy efficiency business for more than 25 years and the most frequently asked question is what heating system or fuel is the best choice. There are many factors to consider - cost of fuel, type of heating system (forced air, hydronic, solar or zonal electric), new construction, remodel, age of home, efficiency of heating system, budget, maintenance and personal preference.

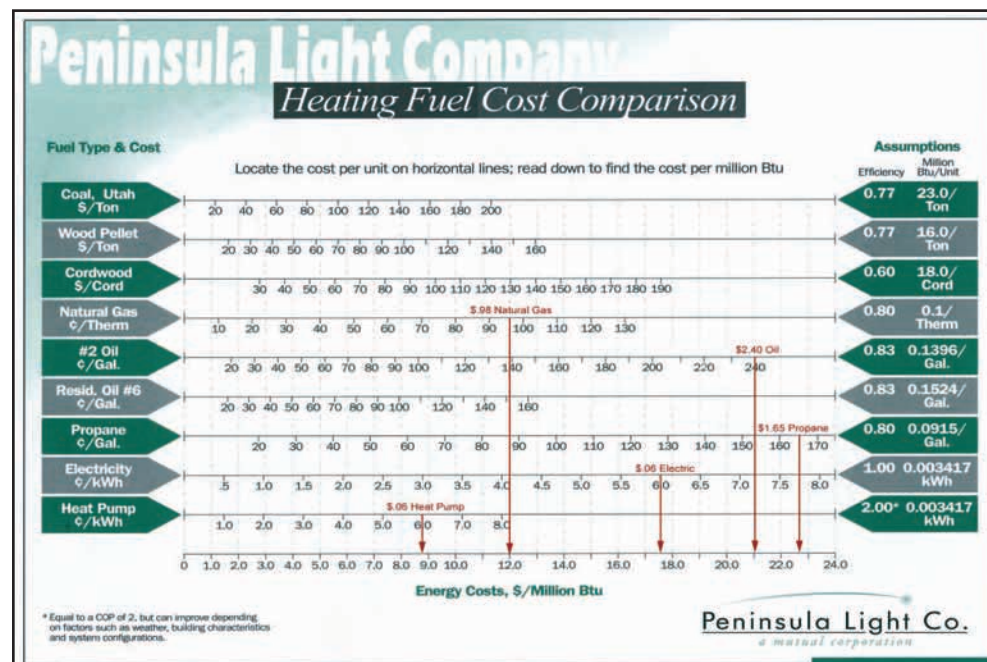
The Washington State Energy Code has set minimum standards for efficiency and sizing of heating systems for new construction and remodeling. According to the energy code, all forced air heating systems other than electric (electric is 100 percent efficient), have to have a minimum efficiency of 80 percent. This includes oil, propane, and natural gas. Today, most manufacturers have systems that operate at 90 percent efficiency or greater.

Heat pumps, which use electricity to operate, exchange heat between the outside and inside of your home via a heat transfer fluid known as Freon. In the Pacific Northwest, heat pumps operate on an annual efficiency basis of 150 percent. The current federal and state requirements are 6.8 Heating System Performance Factor (HSPF), or 10 Seasonal Energy Efficiency Rating (SEER). Keep in mind these are only minimum standards that have to be met. Most heat pump manufacturers produce

equipment at even higher efficiencies. In January of 2006, the new federal standards go into effect. They will be 8.5 HSPF and 14 SEER. Most heating contractors have been offering these more efficient heat pumps for several years.

Regardless of the heating fuel you choose, you can save money on your operating cost by selecting the most efficient system. Also, the standards will continue to migrate up, so be sure ask for an alternative estimate on more efficient equipment, especially heat pumps.

We have all seen the cost of fuel for cars and homes continue to rise in recent years after a long period of fairly low or consistent fuel costs. Oil for home heating, which was a good choice when faced with a furnace replacement, was at a dollar or less per gallon until the last few years. The current cost for oil has gone up by more than 100 percent. Ranked as one of the lowest cost fuels for home heating in the past, it is now the second highest. Natural gas has been the predominant choice since the early '80s. Only recently has it experienced price increases that have not only homes and businesses concerned, but the industry itself as it looks for new reserves to serve growing commercial demand. Propane is a by-product of refining oil so its cost escalation is tied to the rise at the gas pump. Propane hasn’t seen the extreme cost in-creases oil has, but it ranks as the highest priced fuel for space heating.



Fuel Cost

Fuel Type	Cost/Unit
Oil	\$2.40/gallon
Propane	\$1.65/gallon
Natural Gas	\$.99/therm
Electricity	\$0.06/kWh

Over time, we have seen the cost for heating fuels increase — sometimes slightly, sometimes tremendously. Choosing a heating fuel and heating system for your home can be like playing the stock market, trying to figure out which fuel costs are more susceptible to market influences. The “Heating Fuel Cost Comparison” chart

can assist you in determining the cost of operating with different heating fuels. As illustrated by the chart, the heat pump is the most efficient and lowest cost of all the fuel types. Although the cost of installing a heat pump is two to three times that of a conventional system, it seems to be one of the most popular choices when natural gas isn’t available. The added benefit is air conditioning during the months when we really need it. Finally, the more efficient the thermal shell (windows, doors, walls, floors and ceiling) of your home, the less it will cost to heat your home.

Important dates this fall



Fall Equinox
Rosh Hashanah
Columbus Day
Yom Kippur
Halloween
Veteran's Day
Thanksgiving

Thurs., Sept. 22
Tues., Oct. 4
Mon., Oct. 10
Thurs., Oct. 13
Mon., Oct. 31
Fri., Nov. 11
Thurs., Nov. 24



(From PLANTING, Page 2)

several.

Shrubs and perennials need to be placed first in a new garden, with consideration for height, season of bloom, color, foliage and texture.

Bulbs, including corms and tubers, can fill in the spaces.

Alliums, corydalis, crocus, cyclamen, daffodils, daylilies, hyacinths, iris, muscari, scilla, snowdrops, and tulips are good for fall planting. These, too, come in a wide range of height, color, bloom time, and within a species, often a surprising variety.

Overplant spring bulbs with cool-season annuals, with winter or ice

pansies as one of the top choices. Annual poppies and sweet alyssum are other good cover plants.

Here, some Key Peninsula winters are mild enough to plant other annuals from seed, such as sweet peas for a trellis, bachelor buttons, calendula, and godetia.

Artemisia, dusty miller, lamb's ears, some ferns and grasses can be used for silvery or gray contrast. Several plants mentioned above also have good-looking foliage when not in bloom, and that may be a consideration when purchasing new plants.

Take time this fall to add to your garden. Something blooming year-round outside is an attainable goal.

arts alive on Key Peninsula

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AUTUMN EVENTS

STUDIO TOUR AND CONCERT

Saturday, September 17th AND 18th at the ART BARN

COLUMBIA RIVER ART AND WINE TOUR

Sat & Sun October 1st and 2nd. Call Marlies at 884-5608.

TWAA ART GALLERY AT THE

Longbranch Players Theatre Production

Friday, September 30, October 8th and 9th in Longbranch

TWAA Fall Class Schedule will be available soon.

WATCH FOR THE 2006 TWO WATERS ART CALENDER

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on the run, they also run the risk of injury. What's a parent to do?

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From soccer and football practice to gymnastics and cross-country meets, kids today go non-stop. The problem is, when they're always



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Autumn is great time for farm visits

BEA'S FLOWERS AND PRODUCE STAND, 851-4449

This produce stand closes around the end of September. Dahlias, available until first frost, are blooming and are brighter in the fall. The U-Pick Flower field is open dawn to dusk. At this time of year, the whole plant is for sale. Buyers can see the blooms and choose their plants.

THE FARM, 851-4556

The biggest pumpkin farm on the peninsula, according to Mike Salatino, is The Farm. Growing season finishes with the pumpkins on Oct. 31. Pumpkins are available about the last three weeks of October. Other "U-Pic" fall produce includes hot and sweet peppers, broccoli, cabbages and tomatoes. Eggs and honey are sold through the winter.

FAIRVIEW FARM AND FAIRVIEW WINERY, 884-3107

Fall is when Fairview Farm discounts lavender plants, and all fleece and fibers. In September, Coni Chaney resumes spinning and dying classes. In October, Chaney's shear the Angora goats and then wool, mohair and angora bunny fibers are available.

Fairview is newly licensed as a winery and in the process of obtaining permits to sell their wines. The wine selections will include raspberry, blueberry, boysenberry, blackberry, strawberry, watermelon, lemon, red currant and honey Mead.

SHILOH FARM, 884-4544

Shiloh Farm is the home of the great pumpkin. On Aug. 1, it weighed 144 pounds

and by October it will weigh several hundred pounds. Visitors who come to select their Halloween pumpkins may choose from varieties of sugar, Spook-tacular, white lumina, and Big Mac, which weighs between 100-200 pounds. Shiloh produce includes tomatoes, green beans, Walla Walla onions, beets and "Peaches and Cream" sweet corn. Grapes will be ready in October.

TRILLIUM CREEK WINERY, 884-5746

How sweet it is. That is the key measure for picking grapes. The Gahards hope to have grapes that measure a brix of 25 percent, which means the grape is 25 percent sugar. The taste should have a good fruit flavor and a mature grape is evident when the seed skin turns brown. Different grape varieties are harvested in different weeks of fall. Picking begins in mid to late August and continues into October for the Pinot Noir; red wine comes on late.

Visitors are welcome to drop in and see the winery's progress. The tasting room is nearly finished but the bottle cellar construction has suffered some delays. Those who have experienced making homemade wines will especially enjoy sharing lessons with the Gahards.

HONEY FOR SALE, 884-2293

In the fall, dahlias and lavender are available at Chanetta Ludwig's honey farm. Along with the service of professional wasp removal, Ludwig offers the option of apia therapy for arthritis and MS treatment.

Compiled by Danna Webster

The Fine Art of Adria L. Hanson National Portrait Artist



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Reliable, service-oriented people.

Questions about your bill or service? Need help deciding what appliance or heating system is best suited for your home? Want to know about energy efficiency? Want your water quality tested? Just give us a call. We're ready to serve you.

Reliable, responsive management. One great advantage of belonging to a cooperative is that you have a vote. We listen to you and we are also not-for-profit and this year we are lowering our rates!

Remember, **Peninsula Light is you.**



For more information about our services, please visit our website at www.penlight.org, check your Peninsula Light Newsletter "Light" or call us at 253-857-5950.

Peninsula Light Co.

The power to be...