

Council-Manager  
Government More  
Efficient, Bainbridge  
Audience Hears | **A2**

**GRIFFEY NOT SO JUNIOR ANYMORE | B1**

**ALSO IN SPORTS > Final Four Has Heathcote Back in the News | B1**



KITSAPSUN.COM  
**Kitsap Sun**

75  
CENTS

ALLYN | BAINBRIDGE IS. | BANGOR | BELFAIR | BREMERTON | GIG HARBOR | HANVILLE | INDIANOLA | KEYPORT | KINGSTON  
MANCHESTER | OLALLA | PORT GAMBLE | PORT LUDLOW | PORT ORCHARD | POULSBO | SEABECK | SILVERDALE | SOUTHWORTH | SUQUAMISH



**Pin-Up Poses  
for the Roses**

This year's calendar features risqué — but not nude — pictures of local gardeners as a fundraiser for the Master Gardeners Foundation of Kitsap.

By CHRIS HENRY  
CHENRY@KITSAPSUN.COM

Those naughty Kitsap Master Gardeners are at it again.

In 2006, they raised eyebrows with their "Gardening Au Naturelle" calendar, featuring tastefully nude photos by nationally known Kitsap photographer Winifred Whitfield. Now they're reprising the idea with "Gardeners at Play 2010."

The calendar will be a major source of funding for the Master Gardener Foundation of Kitsap County in a year when the Master Gardeners' host organization, WSU Kitsap County Extension, is facing significant budget cuts.

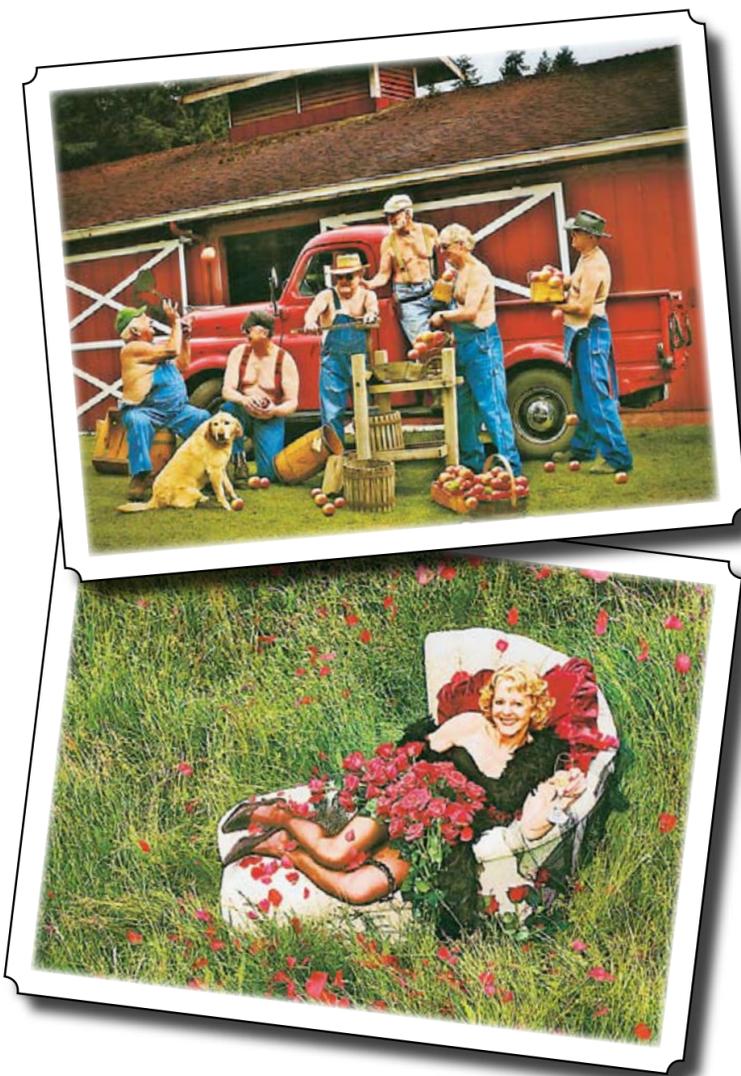
The recently released 2010 calendar is a shade more tame than its predecessor, featuring members of the group mostly clothed and striking poses reminiscent of World War II-era pin-up models.

The calendar's "celebrity" model — Ms. February — is Dee Coppola, wife of Port Orchard Mayor Lary Coppola.

"It was fun," said Dee Coppola, editor of WestSound Home & Garden magazine and Web site. "That was a nice honor. I think they do a lot of good for the community, so I'm happy to help."

Whitfield, who works out of Kitsap County and New York City, again lent her skills to the project, charging a nominal fee far below the price she usually commands.

SEE CALENDAR | A3



PHOTOS BY WINIFRED WHITFIELD | COURTESY OF MASTER GARDENERS FOUNDATION OF KITSAP COUNTY  
At top, "Gardeners at Play" features the Apple Cider Gang: from left, Vick Lund, Mojo the dog, Frank Anderson, Bill Gaylord, Ted Hoppin, Ron Cleveland and Steve Kimbrough. At bottom, Ms. September, Sheri Kiley, strikes a pose.

**GET YOUR COPY**

To order "Gardeners at Play 2010," contact the Master Gardener Foundation of Kitsap County, P.O. Box 3077, Silverdale, 98383-3077; www.kitsapgardens.org; mgfkc2010@telebyte.com; \$13 plus shipping.

**County Revisits Rural Wooded Program**

The commissioners want to have a detailed discussion over the program that would allow higher densities in exchange for keeping land in open space.

By CHRISTOPHER DUNAGAN  
CDUNAGAN@KITSAPSUN.COM

**PORT ORCHARD**  
Before allowing increased development in rural areas, it is critically important to understand the history and philosophy behind the "rural wooded incentive program," the Kitsap County commissioners decided Wednesday.

Commissioners Steve Bauer and Charlotte Garrido said they would like to conduct a two- to three-hour "workshop" to establish goals and policies for the program, which could forever change the face of Kitsap County.

"We need to step back," Bauer said in response to a series of options laid out by county planners. "What are our interests, our values, and what are we trying to achieve?"

The rural wooded incentive program was approved two years ago, but it remains under a moratorium while the commissioners take a fresh look at the details. Until the moratorium is lifted, no applications will be accepted.

Under the program, a property owner would be allowed to increase the average density from one home per 20 acres to four homes per 20 acres. To gain that "density bonus," the houses would be clustered together on one-fourth of the property, leaving three-fourths of the land in forested open space.

SEE RURAL | A7

**As Winter Drags Into Spring, Several Need Help With Heat**

An extended chilly spell is proving to be distressing news for those struggling to keep up with their utility bills.

By ED FRIEDRICH  
EFRIEDRICH@KITSAPSUN.COM

Lingering winter weather and a lousy economy are making it hard for people to pay their heating bills.

Last month was the sixth-coldest March on record. Kitsap County's economy wasn't so hot, either, running a seven-year-high unemployment rate of 7.8 percent. The nearly

10,000 county residents who are out of work must cringe to hear their furnaces kick on.

Requests for food, housing and energy assistance are up 30 percent from a year ago, said Stacy Howard, spokeswoman for the Salvation Army's Northwest Division in Seattle. That includes a 17 percent increase for energy aid.

"In this time it's rough out there, and now it's cold," Howard said Wednesday. "Thermostats are going up, so are the bills, and more people are needing help. Now it's snowing today."

The Salvation Army works with Puget Sound Energy on the Warm Home Fund, in which donations from PSE customers,

SEE COLD | A7



JIM BRYANT | FOR THE KITSAP SUN  
From left, Keoni Bricchetto, Charles Schultz and Curtis Rollins walk through a rare April snow in Port Orchard on Wednesday.

**Harrison to Close Unit in Effort to Trim Costs**

The 12-bed Behavioral Health Unit, sparingly used, will close May 1.

By JOSH FARLEY  
JFARLEY@KITSAPSUN.COM

**BREMERTON**  
Harrison Medical Center is closing a 12-bed unit devoted to mental and behavioral health care in an effort to save money, president and CEO Scott Bosch announced Wednesday.

The number of patients treated in the Behavioral Health Unit at the Bremerton campus had fallen to an average of about three a day, making it "unsustainable," the hospital said in a news release. The unit will close May 1.

Patients needing such care won't be turned away, Harrison officials said. They will be treated either in the hospital's general medical care units or at facilities outside the hospital, such as Kitsap Mental Health, they said.

SEE HARRISON | A7

**READER'S GUIDE**

Business **A10** | Comics **B6** | Horoscope **B5** | Movies **A7** | Obituaries **A5** | Puzzles **B5**  
Classified **B8** | Dear Abby **B5** | Lottery **A4** | Newsline **A4** | Opinion **A6** | Television **B7**

**TODAY'S WEATHER**

Periods of rain; later, mostly cloudy with a little rain.  
High, 48; Low, 34. | **B10**

**HOW TO REACH US**

Home Delivery (800) 325-9985  
Switchboard (360) 377-3711  
Newsroom (360) 792-8558



**COMING FRIDAY**

"Art" on the Island: Bainbridge Performing Arts is staging "Art," a comedy about the conflict between three longtime friends who have different reactions to a single piece of artwork. | **KITSAP A&E**