



# Friends' Focus

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## Upcoming Events

May 7, 2011

### Rain Garden Install

Artondale Elementary  
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

May 21, 2011

Parade work day and float building at Marian's house - RSVP to: (253) 851-9524 for directions

June 4, 2011

### Maritime Gig Parade

Meet around 9:30 a.m. along Burnham Drive in Gig Harbor

## Future of Food fundraiser success at Grand Cinema

Last month's fundraiser, the showing of the *Future of Food*, was a success with over 50 people turning out to hear how genetically modified foods has and will continue to change how our food is grown.

Attendees heard presentations relevant to food and farming from experts in the field of farming and farmland preservation. Thanks to those that presented - Dick Carkner with Terry's Berries, Anuttama Bud, with Self

Reliant Community of Graham and Steven Garrett, GIS Analyst.

Other farm groups provided important information to attendees on how to grow your own food - Thanks to: Self Reliant Community of Graham, Peace of the Earth Farm and Edible Landscapes.

We would like to thank those who attended and our supporters who made this event fun and successful:



Tacoma Grand Cinema  
Fred Meyer  
Coscto  
Cenex  
Peace of the Earth Farm  
Wild Birds Unlimited  
Vino Aquino  
Trader Joes  
Full Circle  
Wilco Farm Stores



Attendees network with farm groups gathering information to help make themselves and their communities more sustainable

## Inside this issue:

## Full Circle offers locally organic food to you *By Kris Pendleton*

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<b>Thanks to supporters:</b>	
<b>Mark &amp; Joyce Spikes</b>	
<b>Robert &amp; Lois Hartwig</b>	
<b>Joe &amp; Marion Carroll</b>	
<b>Gregory &amp; Dion Rurik</b>	
<b>Janet Medcalf</b>	
<b>Robert &amp; Linda Welander</b>	
<b>John &amp; Kendall Youngman</b>	
<b>John R. Carroll</b>	

Rooted in the importance of growing organically, both its crops and community have enabled Full Circle to explore unique avenues in providing good food.

Full Circle grows over 400 certified organic acres in the picturesque Snoqualmie Valley and offers a unique Farm-to-Table service making it easy to live the good food life.

Full Circle's boxes provide a wide selection of organic produce and artisan goods,

offer the option to fully customize each box, and bring Farm-to-Table values directly to your neighborhood throughout the year.

Through the years, Full Circle's mission has remained much the same: to participate in the development of a healthy future for people, wildlife and the environment by growing, sourcing and providing food fostered with integrity, all while celebrating the good food life.

Pick up your fresh box of produce box at a local community 'Host-Site'.

Sign-up at [www.fullcirclefarm.com](http://www.fullcirclefarm.com) and save \$10 off your first order with the promo "CHICORY". Live the good food life.



## Vision

**Communities will strive to utilize all planning strategies that balance the elements of environment, equity, and economics.**

### *Board of Directors*

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*Please consider joining us on the board, we would love your input!*

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*Membership fees and donations are tax deductible.*

## Comp plan update signals potential loss of farmland

The County is in the process of amending its Comprehensive Plan. Several amendments have raised red flags. More loss of farmland could be on the way. Here is a summary of what could be lost if approved by the County:

**U2 - The City of Orting** wishes to expand the areas (SW boundary of Orting, N & S of Kapowsin Hwy and adjacent to Calistoga Ave bridge) to encourage urban growth by re-designating 74 rural acres, 122 rural farmland and 121 acres of Ag Resource land to employment center for a total of 317 acres.

**U3 - The City of Sumner** wishes to bring 188 acres (mostly owned by Orton Farms) into its UGA by changing designation to R10, MUD, and MSF. The application reveals that most of the soils are "prime" for farming.

**U4 - Bonney Lake** would like to change 31 parcels (74 acres) of CC and RS5 to EC (Commercial and Light Industry) to correct an irregular UGA boundary.

**U5 - Bonney Lake (Fennel Creek area)** would like to re-designate 62 parcels (331 acres) of Ag Resource Land and RS5 to Parks and Recreation and Residential Resource to correct an irregular UGA boundary.

**U6 - Bonney Lake** proposes 10 parcels (29.7 acres) of R10 and ARL changing to ES and Commercial to correct an irregular UGA boundary.

**U7 - Applicant Joel Clark** proposes for **Bonney Lake** area changing 5 acres (designated RS5) to Community Center and Mixed Use District.

**U8 - Puyallup** requests 44 parcels at 304 acres zoned MSF, & Employment Center to R10.

and ARL near E. Pioneer Rd area. It appears that this amendment tries to compensate for the loss of farmland proposed in other amendments (not in Puyallup). Estimated farmland loss = 945 acres, farmland gain = 331 acres. Net estimated loss is 614 acres. It does not cover the loss.

**U9 - The County** proposes to recognize one parcel already annexed to **Bonney Lake** by correcting text.

**U1 - The City of Gig Harbor** proposes to include the bay (80 parcels at 26 acres) into its UGA so that in the near future it may be annexed to give the city law enforcement authority over vessel traffic. Marine parcels and adjacent tidelands will have the same zoning as the adjacent upland parcels.

### **The schedule for public hearings is as follows:**

Planning Commission

2401 So. 35th St, Tacoma, WA

May 25 - U9

June 1 - U1

June 8 - U2, U4, U5, U6 and U7

June 15 - U3 and U8

June 22 - Final recommendation

The Planning Commission will make their recommendation to the County Council at the end of June. Stay tuned for the council meeting schedules. We will post on our website when we get them or you can go to the County's website.

Please attend one of these meetings or contact the Commission members through Toni Fairbanks at [tfairba@co.pierce.wa.us](mailto:tfairba@co.pierce.wa.us). Ask them to deny any amendment that increases the Urban Growth Area or reduce farmland.

Please note that we only reported UGA amendments in this newsletter, for details on all amendments and maps, go to [www.co.pierce.wa.us/pc/services/home/property/pals/land\\_use/cpamend.htm](http://www.co.pierce.wa.us/pc/services/home/property/pals/land_use/cpamend.htm).

# Environmental Clubs wrap up another productive year

As the school year winds down, the environmental clubs are getting ready for the big push to get ready for the Maritime Gig Parade. Students from four schools, in third to fifth grade and middle school are reviewing what they learned to come up with their float idea. The year was full of learning experiences:

Guest speakers at Pierce County taught students about watersheds and water quality. They worked through water quality activities to pinpoint water pollution at a imaginary



lake and brainstormed ways to prevent water pollution at their own homes.

Guest speakers from Tacoma's Nature Center provided wildlife information and hands-on identification lessons. After learning about wildlife, students picked an animal and gave a report on the animal and its habitat to other students.



Voyager students weeded and planted native plants at their school as part of Earth Day activities.



After sprucing up the entrance to Voyager, students hoisted a bird bath and bird feeder to attract wildlife.



Pierce Conservation District, Stream Team instructed students on water quality sampling and provided the proper procedures to conduct sampling at Crescent Creek. Students also got to compare previous club water quality sample years to this year.

We wish to thank all our project partners who help make the clubs possible:

- Pierce County
- Peninsula School District
- Pierce Conservation District
- Susan Deeds (Voyager)
- Cristin Mandaville (Artondale)
- Matthew Mills (Purdy)

On May 7th, students will install a rain garden on the playground at Artondale elementary school to better infiltrate water and make better use of the local mud hole. Thanks to Pierce County for their awesome work in getting this ready to plant and doing all the heavy work!



**Voyager Club from left to right:** Kirin Peterson, Jack Deeds, Flynn Peterson, Jacob Welty, Georgia Lundeen, Jensen Ghidella, Samantha McKenney, and Max Meyer.



**Kopachuck Students from left to right:** Kristin Deeds, Cayla Berejikian, Isabel Gates, and Emma Barber (not pictured: Evelyn Lundeen).

# Join FPC today!

As a member, you will receive newsletters and weekly email updates informing you of county-wide planning, development and environmental issues.

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Enclosed is \$35 for my annual membership dues.

\_\_\_\_ Enclosed is a donation for \$\_\_\_\_\_.

I am interested in helping with the following:

\_\_\_\_ Environmental

\_\_\_\_ Education and Outreach

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