

MUKILTEO BEACON

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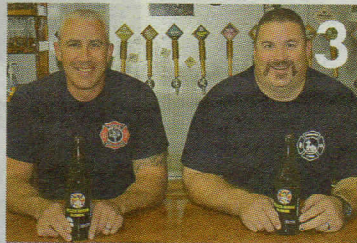
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Volume XX



IN THIS BEACON

Dieting: The mother of binge eating p4
 Friends compete in rowing event p6
 Symphony awards 4 scholarships p8
 Enter contest to win Mayor for Day p12



3

BEACH HOUSE

New ale sales
 to support
 firefighter fund



7

A backyard retreat in Old Town



Beacon photo by Sara Bruestle

Janice Henry's Mukilteo backyard is one of seven gardens featured in the 2015 Mukilteo Garden & Quilt Tour to be held July 18 and July 19. See page 2 for the story.

Tour combines beauty of gardens, quilts

BY SARA BRUESTLE

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The biennial Mukilteo Garden & Quilt Tour this weekend features seven gardens and more than 100 quilts that, when combined, are so beautiful that words don't do them justice.

The Mukilteo Way Garden Club and the Mukilteo Lighthouse Quilters Guild will host their fifth tour from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, July 18, and from noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, July 19, rain or shine.

The two-day, self-guided tour includes four gardens in Mukilteo, two in Edmonds and one in Everett. See all of them in one day or over the course of two. Entrance to each garden is allowed only once.

All of the quilts on this tour were inspired by and/or complement the gardens in which they are showcased. Some of the quilts are available for purchase. New this year is a collection of antique quilts.

Highlights from the tour include the round robin quilt "Arabella's Lighthouse Path" and the Henry garden, which has been described as "a backyard retreat."

"Arabella's Lighthouse Path" is the featured quilt on this tour's poster, bookmark and ticket. The four rounds – in mostly red, orange and yellow fabric – are by Kay Davidson, Paula Blazer, Barbara Burke and Sara Goss. Adrienne Reynolds quilted the rounds together.

"Each quilter works with the same fabrics, but designs their own row," said Ann Lindquist, of the quilters guild. "It's always a wonderful surprise."

"A lot of times, you don't get to see the finished product until everyone has done their part."

The Henry garden features a variety of colorful plants, as well as a waterfall, arbor fences, raised beds, flagstone terrace, sun deck, flower pots and more.

"Ever since I've lived here, I've puttered around in my yard," Janice Henry said. "I put plants in, I take plants out. I don't re-



Beacon photo by Sara Bruestle

The Mukilteo Garden & Quilt Tour is a one-of-a-kind event.

ally plan anything – it just sort of unfolds.

"It's a garden in progress. That's the way it's always been, and that's the way it always will be."

The nonprofit Mukilteo Lighthouse Quilters Guild was founded in 2004. The guild's mission is to provide opportunities for members and the community to learn about quilting.

Members also make comfort quilts for charity, including for KidsDream of Snohomish County and Senior Services of Snohomish County.

The Mukilteo Way Garden Club, also a nonprofit, has been promoting gardening and community service since its founding in 1933.

Members also care for the Fowler Pear Tree Park in Mukilteo, identify historic trees for preservation, and support a number of local gardening projects.

Proceeds from tours go back into the community, including donations to Compass Health, the Evergreen Arboretum in Everett, LaConner Quilt & Tex-

tile Museum and a Horticulture Scholarship Fund.

Tickets cost \$15 in advance and \$18 the days of the tour. Order tickets online or go to one of eight locations listed on the tour website. Tickets are limited to 1,000.

The days of the tour, tickets also will be available at the tour headquarters, Rosehill Community Center, 304 Lincoln Ave.

A "fishbowl" raffle will be held at the community center for a variety of prizes, including gift certificates, a garden tool hanger, pizza, a wheelbarrow, quilting kits and 10 bags of compost. Raffle tickets are \$1 or six for \$5.

The one-of-a-kind tour of gardens and quilts has been held in 2007, 2009, 2011 and 2013. After this weekend's event, the next tour will be held in 2017.

"I love the combination," Lindquist said of the tour. "There's beauty in the gardens, there's beauty in the quilts, and together it makes even more beauty."

For more information on the tour, go to www.mukilteogardenandquilttour.org.