

Remember when: July 26, 2015

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In 1940 (75 years ago)

— Ending the menace of forest fires and one of the longest dry spells in Kitsap County weather history, .35 inches of rain fell here late yesterday and last night, the first good soaking this parched ground has received in 56 almost rainless days.

The precipitation brought to 19.37 inches the rainfall for the year to date as compared with 21.27 inches for the same period last year.

— Employment rolls at the Puget Sound Navy Yard were boosted at the rate of about 53 men per day during the past working week, figures compiled today show.

During the five days Monday through today, 264 new men were added to the rolls including a large number today. Electrical and pipe fitter shops received the largest single forces during the week.

In 1965 (50 years ago)

— The highest honor given by the national Red Cross — the Award of Merit — is being sought for two young lifeguards who saved an 11-year-old boy from drowning at Memorial Pool on Friday night.

Claudia Hegdahl, 17, and David Creelman, 19, both of Kitsap County, have qualified for the top award.

They teamed up to rescue and revive Hollie Thomas after the boy sank unconscious to the bottom of the pool just before Friday evening's session ended.

Local Red Cross chapter manager Francis Lockwood said applications are in the mail to the San Francisco Red Cross committee that reviews heroic lifesaving actions.

— Work on the nuclear-powered submarine USS Sculpin began to accelerate today at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard with the sub to be moved into Drydock 2.

The Sculpin, commanded by Cmdr. Donald G. Fears, arrived Saturday morning for restricted availability, which is the local shipyard's first nuclear work assignment.

The Sculpin's work is expected to keep the boat here until late October.

In 1990 (25 years ago)

— Plans to convert the Admiral Theatre, an empty World War II-era movie house in downtown Bremerton, into a performing arts center cleared a major hurdle Wednesday night.

In a unanimous vote, the nine-member City Council approved an operating agreement that had been thrashed out between the city and the nonprofit Admiral Theatre Foundation.

Negotiations dragged for seven months after the city bought the 1,250-seat theater last December. Despite the informal understanding that the city would remain the owner and the foundation would take over renovation and operation, ironing out the details took much longer than expected.

The theater will probably open its doors next month for the first time since it closed last May. The foundation plans to show classic movies.

In 2005 (10 years ago)

Kids play in the fountains on the plaza. Downtown workers sun themselves during their lunch breaks. And commuters and tourists exiting the Bremerton Seattle ferry enjoy a walk along the water, catching a glimpse of Sinclair Inlet.

The Kitsap Conference Center has been as good as advertised in its effort to create a destination place downtown.

This week marks the complex's first year of operation, and so far the financial numbers are coming in better than expected for the city-owned facility.

Officials say it exceeded expectations for revenue for the first year, generating \$1.7 million in economic impact the Kitsap County.

The conference center also has had more than 37,000 people come through its doors in its inaugural year, about the population of Bremerton.

Compiled from Kitsap Sun archives by Ann Horn