

Key Peninsula Civic Center Loses Property Tax Exemption

The Department of Revenue, on March 24, 2000, made a determination in which the Key Peninsula Civic Center's property tax exemption was denied for tax years 1998, 1999, and 2000.

The KP Civic Center (KPCC) originally applied for a property tax exemption in 1992. The Department of Revenue (Department) became aware through that process that some of the activities at the KPCC were ongoing lessons in karate offered by a community member. At the time, the instructor paid a rental fee for use of the space and collected his own fees for the classes. There were discussions and correspondence between the KPCC and the Department about classes for fees.

To meet the concerns identified by the Department, the KPCC informed the Department that it would charge, collect, and distribute all fees for classes at the KPCC, and asked for guidance regarding the exemption. The Department replied in writing, advising that the *main thing to avoid was promotion of any business purposes of monetary gain*. The Department provided the KPCC with copies of the applicable statute and rule, and a publication of general information for non-profit organizations.

In August 1992, the KPCC was granted the exemption. It was determined at that time, that a portion of the property - up to one acre - could be exempt under the requirements for a "Public Assembly Hall." The original two parcels were split into two parcels each and two of these parcels were granted exemption. The two remaining parcels remained taxable. The Department understood that the KPCC would be hiring class instructors for a set wage, thereby avoiding the problem of individual profits from those activities. The KPCC Board Treasurer told the KPCC board that the KPCC was fully in compliance with the requirements for the exemption.

Of primary importance for the exemption, was the understanding that use of the property for pecuniary gain or to promote business activities . . . nullifies the exemption otherwise available for the property for the assessment year. The exemption is not nullified by: collection of rent or donations if the amount is reasonable and does not exceed maintenance and operation expenses created by the user; fund raising activities conducted by a non-profit organization; use of the property for pecuniary gain or to promote business activities for periods of *not more than 7 days in a year*; and inadvertent use of the property in a manner inconsistent with the purpose for which exemption is granted, if the inadvertent use is not part of a pattern of use (*a pattern of use is presumed when an inadvertent use is repeated in the same assessment year or in two or more successive assessment years.*)

(More Property Tax Exemption on Page 13)

Are We Really Leaving No Child Behind?

An Editorial by Marty Marcus, Co-Editor

Washington is not the only state with children living in poverty, but there are more than 200,000 such children here in our state. A recent poll of Washington voters showed that 62% believe that eliminating child poverty should be among the top priorities here.

What effect does the current tax-cut proposal working its way through the Congress (maybe passed by the time you read this) have on children living in poverty. For one thing, the proposed \$1,000 per-child tax credit is not available to families who are too poor to pay federal income tax. If this child tax credit were to be modified, 30,000 children in Washington could be lifted out of poverty.

Under the tax-cut proposal presented to Congress, 203,000 low and moderate-income families, one quarter of Washington's families with children, would get nothing because they don't earn enough to pay income tax. These families represent 390,000 children, 28% of all the children in Washington.

If we allow our representatives in Congress to give billions of dollars to the wealthiest 1% of the people instead of providing health insurance for children who are presently uninsured; instead of raising the number of children in Head Start from 40% of those eligible to 80%; and instead of providing day care for more children whose mothers need to work, how can we, as a nation, look at ourselves in the mirror and say, "We are leaving no child behind?"



Ferris Wheel Ride

Vendor Applications For Key Peninsula Community Fair

The Key Peninsula Fair Association (KPFA) is announcing that Vendor Applications are now being accepted for the August 23rd thru 26th Community Fair at Volunteer Park (just south of Key Center).

This Community Fair, with carnival and midway, will be the single largest family oriented, educational and entertaining event serving our area with its population of 75,000. This will be an annual event looked upon in our community as a vital part of our Key Peninsula with a focus on schools and civic organizations.

The KPFA is a non-profit organization consisting of the Key Peninsula Civic Center Association, the Key Peninsula Business Association, The Key Peninsula Park & Recreation District and the Longbranch Improvement Club.

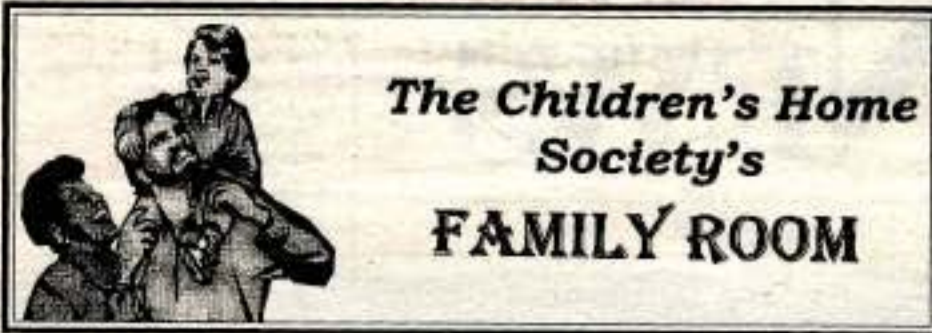
For vendor applications, or other information, please contact (253) 884-4FUN, or visit our web site @ www.keyfair.org, and respond by e-mail. Application deadline is June 30, 2001.

As a vendor, why would you choose not to be a part of this community fair?



At KP Civic Center
Saturday, June 2
8:00 to 11:00 PM

Tickets available at
Sunnycrest Nursery and
KP Civic Center or
At The Door.



It's time once again to register your children for our annual **Summer Fun Youth Program**. Forms went out to the local elementary school students several weeks ago, and we are beginning to fill up quickly. Summer Fun is for children going into the first through fifth grade next fall. The program will be held at two sites again this year, Monday and Tuesday mornings at the KP Civic Center, and Wednesday and Thursday mornings at the Longbranch Improvement Club. We begin on Monday, July 9th, and run through August 9th. Hours are 9 a.m. 'til noon. During the last week of the program, we will meet at Penrose Point State Park. We will have **Kindercamp** at each site one morning a week. This is a program designed especially for parents and their children, ages 2 through 5. The cost this year is \$20 per child per site for the five-week elementary age program, and \$10 per child per site for Kindercamp. Scholarships are available, so call if you need more information. We have a variety of activities planned, including drama, recycled art, reptile visits, marimba playing, beach hikes and more. There's a reason we call it **SUMMER FUN !!!**

Of course, it takes the efforts of many people to help these kinds of programs succeed. **We are currently seeking adult and teen volunteers** to round out the staffing of the Summer Fun program. If you are a high school student, a parent or grandparent, or an adult community member who enjoys involvement with children's activities, and you have some free mornings between July 9th and August 9th, we would love to hear from you. There is an application and screening process, and training will be provided. Teens can receive community service hours for school, and this kind of volunteer experience looks good on a resume or scholarship application.

Speaking of volunteers, **we are also in great need of clothing bank volunteers**. We have a backlog of donations to our free Clothing Bank, and no time to get the items ready for those who need them. If there are any community organizations or individuals who would like to adopt our clothing bank as a worthy project, please give us a call at 884-5433. Your efforts would be hugely appreciated.

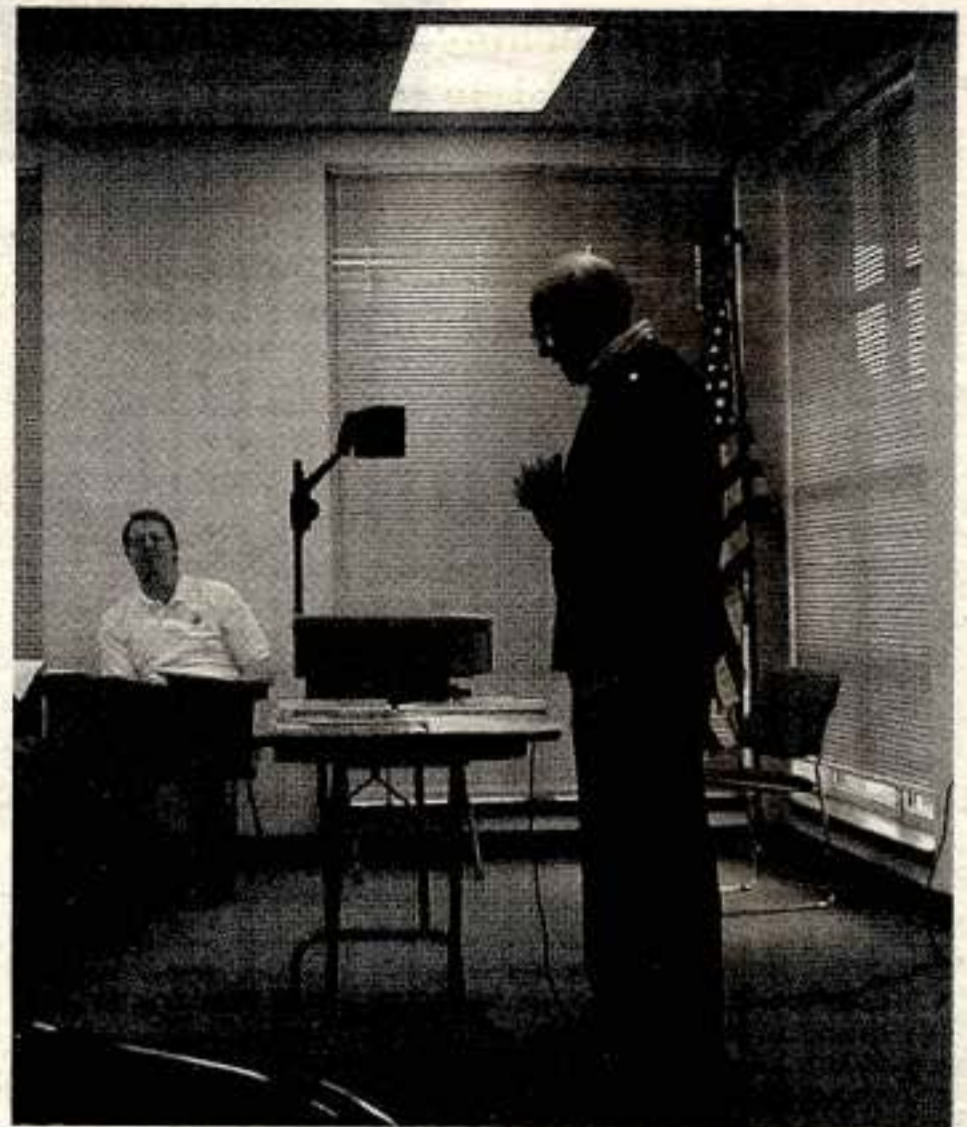
On June 15th, we will have a **Toddler Art** session from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m., here at the Civic Center. Please call Shawna to sign up.

The Children's Home Society Key Peninsula Family Resource Center is located in the lower level of the Key Peninsula Civic Center in Vaughn. Office hours are Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Our telephone number is 253-884-5433. You may leave a message at this number when the office is closed. Have a wonderful summer!!

KPCCA Board Meeting Minutes - April 12, 2001

Summary of motions carried:

- KPCCA will not rent chairs to anyone due to too much wear and tear.
- To sign the Water Sampling Bilateral Agreement with Pierce Co. Health Dept. only after a positive review by Ed Taylor.
- To decline the HUD grant for restroom upgrade.
- To advance the Jazz in June committee up to but not exceeding \$1000 to fund their budget.
- To change the entire front row of parking closest to the front doors into handicapped parking.
- To fund up to \$200 to support the (Scouts) Easter Egg Hunt.
- To rent the Gym & Whitmore Room to the Key Peninsula Baptist Church for their Vacation Bible School program in June.



Author/Historian Charles LeWarne addresses the Home Town Meeting. (See article on Page 11)

"Red Tide" Ain't Necessarily Red Anymore/Paralytic Shellfish Poison in the Key Peninsula Area

By Ray Hanowell, Environmental Health Specialist,
Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department

Paralytic Shellfish Poison (PSP) has developed into a serious concern in South Puget Sound. Last year, nine people in the Gig Harbor area became ill after eating contaminated shellfish and five of those people required hospitalization. Fortunately, medical staff were able to prevent any fatalities, but several of the individuals were gravely ill for several days.

PSP used to be called "Red Tide" but this name is no longer commonly used because it is misleading. Only in rare situations does PSP discolor the water. The reddish coloration that is generally observed once or twice each summer is caused by a type of plankton that doesn't produce a poison and doesn't make the shellfish unsafe to eat.

PSP poisoning can be life threatening and is caused by eating shellfish containing a potent toxin. A naturally occurring plankton produces the toxin. When conditions are favorable the plankton can reproduce rapidly to form a large population, referred to as a bloom. The toxin accumulates in shellfish such as clams, oysters and mussels that filter their food from the water. The toxin does not hurt the shellfish but may be harmful to anyone eating the shellfish. Unfortunately, the toxin is not destroyed by cooking or freezing.

Common symptoms of PSP poisoning include tingling lips and tongue, which may begin within minutes of eating the shellfish, leading to a tingling in the fingers and toes. In severe cases, victims have difficulty breathing and require immediate hospitalization. If any symptoms are noted, it is important to induce vomiting and contact a doctor at once.

Shellfish containing high concentrations of the toxin do not look or taste any different from shellfish free of the toxin. The only way to tell if toxins are present in shellfish is to perform a laboratory test. The Washington State Department of Health performs this test on a regular basis for shellfish samples collected throughout Puget Sound. Samples are routinely collected at Penrose Point State Park, Burley Lagoon, Filucy Bay and the Vaughn Bay Sandspit. The test results are then used to determine where shellfish harvesting is safe.

This information is available to the public via the Biotoxin Hotline, 1-800-562-5632, which is a recorded message accessible 24 hours a day. PSP information is also available on the Washington State Department of Health's Website, at www.doh.wa.gov.

The major recreational shellfish beaches in Pierce County are usually posted when a PSP closure occurs, but signs shouldn't be relied upon to determine if harvesting is safe. The only sure way to determine if PSP is a problem in a certain area at a certain time is to call the 1-800-562-5632 Biotoxin Hotline phone number.

For Most Compelling Message About Alcohol, Look in the Mirror

Federico Cruz-Urbe, Director of the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department

This article first appeared in the *Tacoma News Tribune*, on May 13, 2001.

It is copied here with the author's permission.

He's been staying out late. Vague about what he has been doing. Acting more out of it than usual. He's been falling asleep in class. This is my teenage son. I have words with him, which quickly lead to an argument. My anger escalates and my son, sensing the explosion about to erupt from Mount Concerned Father, stops me in mid-sentence. "Dad, stop worrying. I don't use drugs. I'm just drinking with my friends."

I remember exactly how anxious I felt at the time and how his words suddenly made me feel better. Thank God, you're not using drugs, no heroin or crack, cocaine or marijuana. You're not an addict. You're just drinking too much.

I was oddly comforted at the time, until I really thought about it. Why would I be relieved that my son was a problem drinker, struggling with school and with his family, with alcohol in the middle of it?

I guess it starts with me. I just need to look in the mirror. I am one of the 57 percent in our society who has alcohol as part of our lifestyle. For me, as an adult, it is a legal drug. I am familiar with it and know that if used in moderation, it is not a health or social problem. But drugs scare me - all the terrible connotations of addictions and destroyed lives, bizarre behavior, arrests and criminal prosecution.

But I need to look in the mirror again and look more carefully: Federico, do you have any friends or relatives whose lives have been ruined or destroyed by drugs? The truth is no. When I ask myself the same question about alcohol, I get a different answer. I have known many persons in my close family circle and social network who have been devastated by alcohol abuse.

I look in the mirror again. Federico, have you ever lived in a community where drug abuse was one of the leading causes of illness and death? I have lived in Chicago, Orlando, Savannah and Tacoma, and in none of these communities was drug use one of the major causes of illness and death.

So, what about alcohol abuse, Federico? I have to admit that it was one of the leading causes of illness and death in each of those communities. But I say to myself, drinking is not a problem for me. Look in the mirror again, Federico. Your son, family members, friends, your communities have all been hurt by alcohol abuse. How is it not a problem for you? When I look at it from this perspective, I feel like squirming. I'm talking about a glass of wine with dinner, a drink with friends, a cold beer after cutting the lawn. What's wrong with this? If we are just socially and moderately drinking, as I do, why is alcohol abuse such a pervasive problem across our country?

My friends, again, look in the mirror. Are we using alcohol responsibly and moderately? What do our kids see when they watch us drink? Does it impact their behavior? Our children receive daily messages that alcohol use is OK, even a good thing.

The industry targets our kids - it's fun, it's grown-up - with the goal being for them to begin drinking early and often. The alcohol industry's marketing efforts have been every bit as successful as Joe Camel and the Marlboro Man.

Pierce County data show 7 percent of sixth-graders are binge drinkers (that doesn't sound like many, but there shouldn't be any 11- or 12-year-olds routinely getting drunk), 19 percent of eighth-graders; and it continues to increase until, as seniors in high schools, 29 percent are binge drinking.

There is more to it than just slick advertising. When I look in the mirror, I have to admit that I am setting the example for my kids for alcohol use. And I have to admit that something has to change.

We as a community, need to look in the mirror and realize that we all are role models for our kids, and we have to admit that something has to change. We as a community are in denial. We cannot solve the problem or even improve this broad community until we personally admit our own responsibility. Many of us, myself included, have found that hard to do.

Habitat for Humanity Seeks Deserving Families

Habitat for Humanity (HFH) is a Christian ministry actively working with families in need to build simple, decent and affordable homes. The house, built by the selected family and volunteers, is then sold to that family at no profit and with no interest, resulting in a very affordable mortgage. Recently a local HFH chapter was formed to begin building homes for families in the Gig Harbor/Key Peninsula area. We select families living in substandard conditions that meet the financial qualifications and exercise a willingness to partner in the completion of the home. Substandard conditions can include overcrowded, unsafe, unhealthy and poorly maintained living situations. The criteria for household income of these families needs to fall between 25 and 50 percent of the median income in Pierce County (about \$15,000 to \$25,000 per year for a family of five). The partnering includes 500 "sweat equity" hours working with HFH volunteers to build their home and the homes of other families.

If you or someone you know might qualify, you can send for more information and an application. Post cards are available at the Angel Guild Thrift Store (Key Center), Key Peninsula Civic Center, Children's Home Society, Home Community Center, Walt's grocery store and local schools. Or you may call the central office at 627-5626 and request an application.

Harbor of Hope RELAY FOR LIFE

On Friday, June 15th, at 6 PM the annual Relay For Life will begin at Peninsula High School. It will continue for 18 hours as teams continue their "relay". Cancer survivors, their families and friends, and all types of community groups form teams of 8 to 15 walkers who continue their "celebration of life" by their participation.

The Relay is started by cancer survivors (the honored guests) walking the first lap. Team participants then start their rotations for the rest of the event. After dark, luminary bags are lit in honor of those surviving/battling cancer and in memory of those who have lost their lives to the disease. The candles stay lit throughout the night, motivating the walkers through their paces. Entertainment, carnival activities and kids activities, colorful decorated tents, prizes, games and fun for all ages round out the Relay experience.

Relay teams are sponsored by donations. Last year the Gig Harbor group raised \$200,000. This year they have set the goal at \$235,000. One member of each team should be on the track throughout the event, whether walking, running, wheelchairs, or sitting in a lawn chair on the track. Most teams have already signed up sponsors, but you can help by contacting one of the organizers mentioned below or by visiting the Relay For Life and giving your support.

This is a celebration of life — Thanks to rapidly advancing technology, early detection and education about prevention, more people survive today than ever before. Relay For Life is more than just another fund-raiser. It is about being a community that takes up the fight against cancer, coming together for a common cause. It serves to remind us that, although progress continues to be made in the crusade against cancer, much more needs to be done.

Contacts: American Cancer Society at 1-800-729-3880

Connie Schick, Chairperson, at 253-853-5833

Cathy Gabaldon, Team Recruitment, at 253-851-1344.

AARP Safe Driving Classes in June

The following Safe Driving Classes for Seniors will be held this month. The Fee is \$10.00 per student. Please phone the appropriate number for reservations.

Gig Harbor, Pierce Co. Fire District 5-2, 6/20 & 6/21, (253) 858-3393

Port Orchard, Givens Center, 6/21 & 6/22, (360) 337-5743

Silverdale, Silverdale Community Center, 6/21 & 6/22, (360) 337-5743

Shelton, Mason General Hospital, 6/25 & 6/26, (360) 426-3240

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★ CURRENT MEMBERS

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- Car, Boat & RV loans
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Key Peninsula Civic Center Financial Situation as of April 30, 2001

As a result of the current property tax issues we are having, it was thought that the community should be updated on the financial situation of the Key Peninsula Civic Center. What follows are copies of the Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Statement for the period January through December 2000; and, the Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss for the period January through April 2001. You will see from the following reports that the Civic Center is having a financial crisis. It will be imperative that we work diligently together as a community to raise funds to stabilize our situation and to save the Civic Center.

You will note that the grant income derived from the generous contributions of many is reflected in these financial reports. We have attempted to separate the grant income and expenses to show the actual operating funds available to meet the operating expenses as well as the outstanding property taxes. *Grant income is restricted to the reasons for granting - specifically, building improvements.*

We have attempted to provide an explanation for those expenditures that might raise a question. Should anyone have any further questions regarding these reports, please feel free to call the Civic Center for further information.

Key Peninsula Civic Center Balance Sheet	
As of December 31, 2000	
Assets	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Fireworks Account (6799)	6,300.24
CDs (2656,2664,5408)	19,092.49
Key M.M. Checking	<109.45>
President's Endowments	1,178.31
Banks: Skate	142.00
Telco CD	3,136.22
Telco Checking	2,806.38
Telco Savings	<u>38,020.81</u>
Ckng/Savings w/Grants	70,567.00
Ckng/Savings w/o Grants	27,386.81
Accounts Receivable	693.58
Other Current Assets	1,152.27
Fixed Assets	<u>2,093.80</u>
TOTAL ASSETS w/Grants	74,506.65
TOTAL ASSETS w/o Grants	31,326.46
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities: Current: Payroll	<u>226.60</u>
Total Current Liabilities	226.60
Equity: Opening Balance	46,907.84
Retained Earnings	<13,394.94>
Net Income w/Grants	<u>40,767.15</u>
Net Income w/o Grants	<2,413.04>
Total Equity w/ Grants	<u>74,280.05</u>
Total Equity w/o Grants	<u>31,099.86</u>
TOTAL L&E w/ Grants	74,506.65
TOTAL L&E w/o Grants	31,326.46

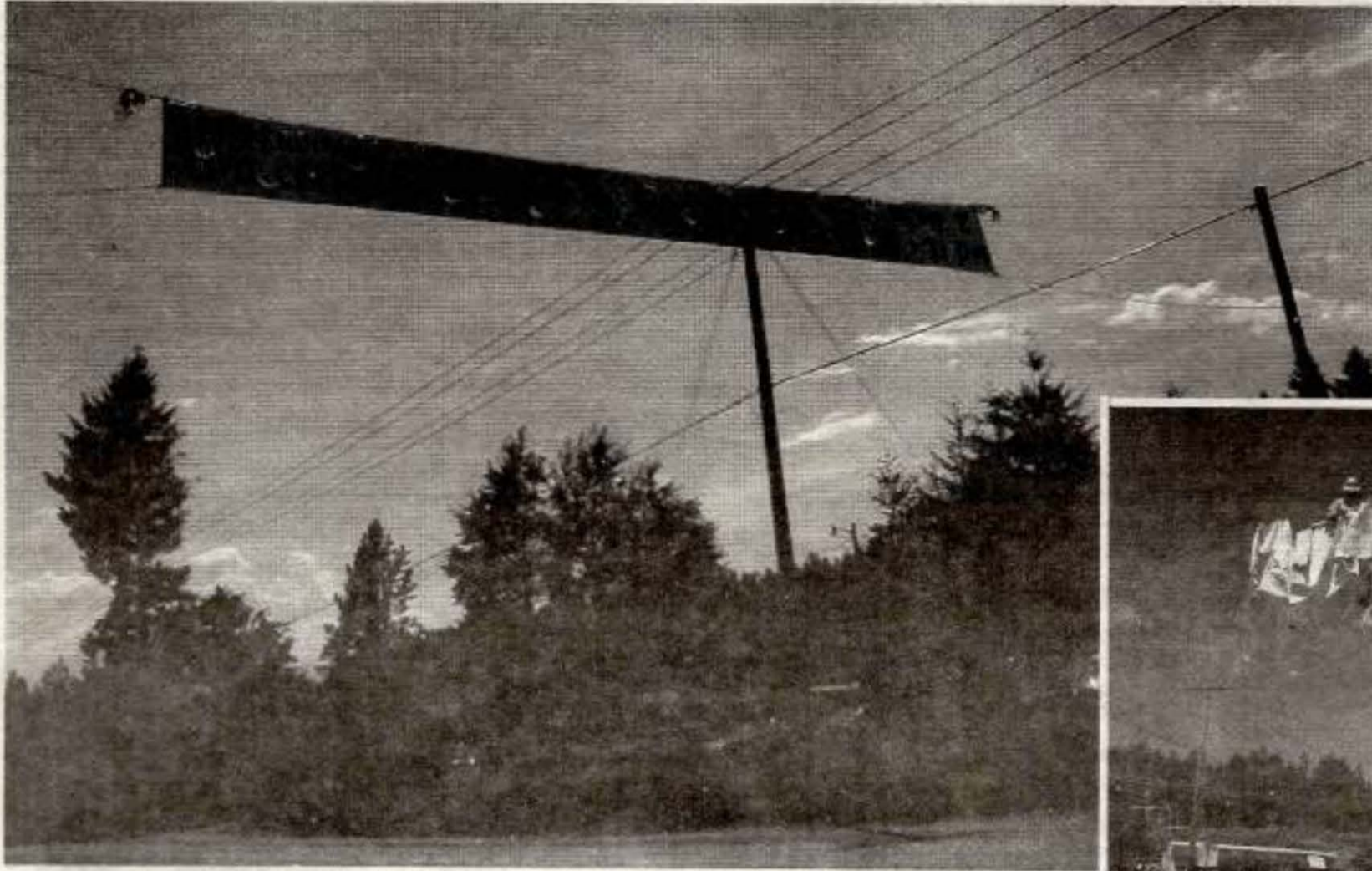
Key Peninsula Civic Center Profit and Loss	
January through December 31, 2000	
Ordinary Income and Expense	
Income	
Contributions	1,781.54
Event Income	25,111.92
Grant Income	51,582.40
Interest Income	1,310.59
Miscellaneous Income	620.25
Programs/Class Income	10,491.50
Rental Income	32,858.18
Retail Income	1,775.63
Skate Program Income	20,151.67
Total Income w/Grants	145,683.68
Total Income w/o Grants	94,101.28
Expenses	
Advertising	826.00
Bank/Credit Card Fees (2)	349.30
Building Improvements (3)	3,260.78
Building Maintenance/Repairs	3,874.05
Miscellaneous Expenses (4)	635.27
Event Expenses	15,016.49
Grant Expenditures	8,402.21
Insurance	11,100.71
KP News (to be reimbursed)	655.78
KPCC Kitchen (retail income exp)	219.06
Licenses and Permits	1,460.00
Payroll	22,572.01
Penalties (4 th Qtr 1999 late filings)	384.73
Professional Fees	3,395.00
Programs/Classes	7,300.25
Skate Program	2,449.95
Supplies	1,906.86
Taxes (5)	7,603.12
Telephone/Facsimile	2,354.89
Utilities	<u>11,150.07</u>
Total Expense w/ Grants	<u>104,916.54</u>
Total Expense w/o Grants	<u>96,514.32</u>
Net Income w/ Grants	<u>40,767.15</u>
Net Income w/o Grants	<u><2,413.04></u>

Key Peninsula Civic Center Balance Sheet	
As of April 30, 2001	
Assets	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Fireworks Account (6799)	5,820.48
CDs (2656,2664,5408)	5,143.23
Key M.M. Checking	620.33
Banks: Skating	142.00
President's Endowments	1,178.31
Telco CD	3,194.72
Telco Checking	1,741.89
Telco Savings	<u>9,424.76</u>
Ckng/Savings w/Grants	27,276.72
Ckng/Savings w/o Grants	20,542.34
Accounts Receivable	693.58
Other Current Assets	1,116.42
Fixed Assets	<u>2,093.80</u>
TOTAL ASSETS w/Grants	31,180.52
TOTAL ASSETS w/o Grants	24,446.14
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities: Current: Payroll	<u>250.12</u>
Total Current Liabilities	250.12
Equity: Opening Balance	46,907.84
Retained Earnings	27,372.21
Net Income w/Grants	<u><43,349.65></u>
Net Income w/o Grants	<u><6,903.84></u>
Total Equity w/ Grants	<u>30,930.40</u>
Total Equity w/o Grants	<u>24,196.02</u>
TOTAL L&E w/ Grants	31,180.52
TOTAL L&E w/o Grants	24,446.14

Key Peninsula Civic Center Profit and Loss	
January through April 2001	
Ordinary Income and Expense	
Income	
Contributions	1,421.08
Grant Income	3,000.00
Interest Income	600.56
Miscellaneous Income	190.26
Programs/Class Income	2,115.65
Rental Income	9,926.71
Retail Income	365.61
Skate Program Income	<u>11,414.49</u>
Total Income w/Grants	29,034.36
Total Income w/o Grants	26,034.36
Expenses	
Advertising	206.01
Bank/Credit Card Fees	90.20
Building Maintenance/Repairs	1,030.84
Miscellaneous Expenses	1,102.54
Grant Expenditures	39,445.81
Insurance	2,121.97
Licenses and Permits	679.00
Payroll	7,252.68
Professional Fees	100.00
Programs/Classes	924.55
Skate Program	1,761.00
Supplies	1,692.17
Taxes (6)	7,603.12
Telephone/Facsimile	688.32
Utilities	<u>6,134.83</u>
Total Expense w/ Grants	<u>72,384.01</u>
Total Expense w/o Grants	<u>32,938.20</u>
Net Income w/ Grants	<u><43,349.65></u>
Net Income w/o Grants	<u><6,903.84></u>

Explanations:

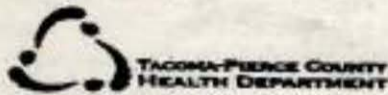
- (1) Grant Income 2000: Ben C. Cheney Foundation \$30,000.00; Gottfried and Mary Fuchs Foundation \$16,082.40; Russell Foundation \$2,500; and Angel Guild \$3,000.
Grant Income 2001: Angel Guild \$3,000.00
- (2) Bank and Credit Card Fees: copies of checks and bank statements missing from the 1998 and 1999 records \$225.00, annual key tax renewal \$40.00, funds transfer fee \$5.00, credit card usage fee \$29.30, and bad check fees \$50.00
- (3) Building Improvements: apartment renovation \$2,321.66 (in addition to \$3,188.16 spent in 1999), new storeroom costs \$939.12 (in addition to \$4,861.56 spent in 1999).
- (4) Miscellaneous expenses include: computer expenses, discounts given, dues, subscriptions, books, equipment/furnishings, grounds maintenance and repair.
- (5) Taxes: B&O \$2,275.59; Labor & Industries \$600.53; Employment Security Dept. \$358.19; Property Tax for Parcel 1-101 \$1,311.10 (penalties 1998 \$59.09, Assessed 1999 \$390.14, Penalties 1999 \$89.74, and Assessed 2000 \$544.88); Property Tax for Parcel 1-102 \$3,057.71 (penalties 1998 \$296.93, Assessed 1999 taxes 727.92, penalties 1999 \$167.42, Assessed 2000 \$1,017.08).
- (6) Taxes: B&O \$889.55; Labor & Industries \$206.16; Employment Security Dept. \$597.42; Property Tax for Parcel 1-102 \$488.23, Property Tax for Parcel 1-101 \$261.57, Property Tax for 1-100 \$4,707.56 (Assessed 1998 \$3,202.42, penalties 1998 \$1,505.14); Property Tax for Parcel 1-800 (Assessed 1999 \$211.49, penalties 1999 \$54.99, Assessed 2000 \$926.70, penalties 2000 \$169.89, one-half of Assessed 2001 \$476.71).



The Key Peninsula Civic Center would like to thank Shirley Tomasi and the Cultural Arts Commission for the banner advertising Jazz in June and the Peninsula Light Company crew and lineman Mike Benoit for putting it up while the wind was really trying to interfere.

Prevent Firearm Injuries

Save \$\$ and save lives. Use this discount coupon when purchasing gun locks and other firearm storage devices. Help prevent gun injuries to children—yours and others. Discourage theft and keep guns out of the wrong hands.



- 500 Sales Co.**
15403 Main Street
Sumner, WA 98390
(253) 863-9791
- Big 5 Sporting Goods**
2505 S 38th Street #F
Tacoma, WA 98409
253-474-1747
- Big 5 Sporting Goods**
4811 Point Fosdick Dr. NW
Gig Harbor, WA 98335
253-851-2172
- Big 5 Sporting Goods**
3500 So Meridian
Puyallup, WA 98373
253-848-9898
- Big Kmart (Lakewood)**
5401 100th Street SW
Lakewood, WA 98499
(253) 582-5406
- Big Kmart (Puyallup)**
621 River Road
Puyallup, WA 98371
(253) 848-8751

- Big Kmart (72nd)**
1414 E. 72nd Street
Tacoma, WA 98404
(253) 531-6824
- Big Kmart (6th Avenue)**
5132 6th Avenue
Tacoma, WA 98406
(253) 752-3584
- Big Kmart (Spanaway)**
17705 Pacific Avenue
Spanaway, WA 98387
(253) 847-4313
- Bull's Eye Shooter Supply**
414 Puyallup Avenue
Tacoma, WA 98421
(253) 572-6417
- Duffle Bag**
8207 So. Tacoma Way
Lakewood, WA 98499
(253) 588-4433
- G. I. Joe's, Inc.**
120 31st Avenue SE
Puyallup, WA 98374
(253) 445-8367

- Great Guns**
1926 Meridian E
Edgewood, WA 98371
(253) 952-4992
- SportCo.**
4602 20th Street E
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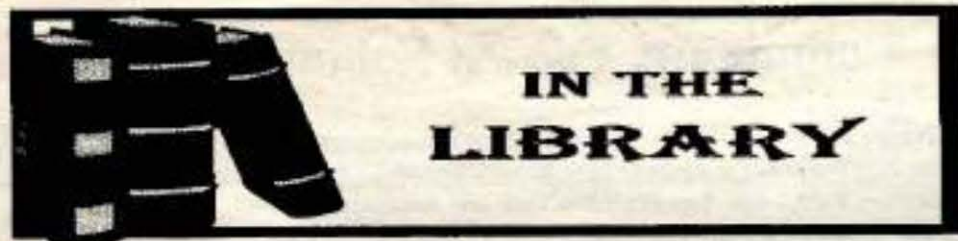
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BUGGY ABOUT BOOKS Summer Reading 2001

Make a beeline to your library! Collect stickers, enjoy special programs, and check out swarms of great books to read, all summer long!

Each week beginning on June 25, a different set of insect stickers will buzz into every Pierce County Library System branch and onto the Bookmobile.

For each 20 minutes of reading you enjoy each day, collect one sticker. Look in the booklet to find six buggy activity pages that match the stickers you collect. Can you collect the entire set?

Don't stop at 20 minutes of reading a day! You'll find other spots for stickers on pages 10 and 11 of the booklet. Don't forget: reading can mean listening to someone read to you, reading on your own, even listening to recorded books!

For summer fun online, check out Buggy About Books activities on Pierce County Library System's website. Go to the Kid's corner at www.plc.lib.wa.us/ilkids.htm

Check your library for contest entry blanks, information about storytelling, puppet shows, and buggy kids' programs!

Three programs will be held at the Key Center Library in July:

Thursday, July 12 at 2:00 PM: Insect Safari

Thursday, July 19 at 1:30 PM: Puppet Theatre

Wednesday, July 25 at 11:00 AM: A Buzzing in Your Ear



TAX TIPS

By
Marv & Myrtle
Keizur, CTP

Did you know you can claim refund (Income Tax) mistakes back three years or less? Did you find more deductions for your back tax return? You can claim them by filing an Amended Return 1040X and you will recover additional money because you missed legal deductions in previous years. This also applies if you find statements of additional income; then you should file a 1040X and pay the additional tax you would owe.

It pays to check out recent tax law changes. It may make a big difference in your tax liability. Don't be negligent about checking with your tax preparer on the latest news, especially if it could mean extra savings to you. You can now find tax tips on our web page - www.myr-naraccounting.com.

Obituary/Remembrance of Alice Irene Palmer - 30 Year Resident of Vaughn, WA.

Alice Irene Palmer was born on November 3, 1919, in Brainard, Minnesota and passed away on April 29, 2001, at St. Joseph Hospital in Tacoma, Washington. She was preceded in death by her husband of 58 years, Donald M. Palmer.

Alice was a member of many local clubs and organizations - The Gig Harbor Eagles, V.F.W. Post #4990 Auxiliary, the Ladies Auxiliary (Ashes) of Key Peninsula Fire District #16, the Key Peninsula Civic Center Association as Board Member and President, the Supreme Coattettes Club of Vaughn #609 and the Bowling League of Gig Harbor.

Alice is survived by a sister, Leona Mann of Edmunds, 3 children, 10 grandchildren and 9 great grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made in her name to the Key Peninsula Fire District #16. Service will be announced at a later date, as well as a graveside service at the Vaughn Cemetery.

Friends of Key Peninsula Library Move Ahead With Statue Fund-Raising

by Keith Stiles

The Friends of the Key Peninsula Library celebrated the 20th anniversary of that facility with a potluck dinner and program last month and, at the same time, formally opened their drive to raise the balance of \$7,000 to pay for a two-piece bronze statue for the library's front garden.

committee of Friends' members will be sending out mailings and making other contacts to raise the additional amount by the Spring of 2002. It is hoped that the statues will be finished and ready for installation at about that same time, according to Bates. Inspiration for the project is attributed to Molly Holmes, who pointed out that the Key Center Library has always been a center for the display of works of art within the community.

The program for the meeting was provided by Rocky Bay author Scott Cochrane who is about to release his book, "Life on the Peninsula: The Myths We Live By". In the business portion of the meeting Dick Bates was re-elected as president for the coming year, Barbara Pelot will be vice-president, Bretta Brones will serve as secretary and Brenda Bates will again be treasurer.



John Jewell, sculptor

The statue set, designed and to be completed by Vaughn artist John Jewell, features a young boy and a young girl enjoying the books and information to be found at their local library. John Jewell is donating his design and artistic work for the project. The \$13,000 overall cost represents the materials and casting costs for the lifesize figures. The Friends have approximately \$6,000 of the funds now in hand according to president Dick Bates, and a



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Happy Father's Day



To Your Health

by
William F. Roes, M.D.

I proposed at the beginning of this year that my articles would be about the future and new developments in medicine in the new millennium. Astute observers of the cutting edge of medicine will have noticed I haven't touched the really big topic. In fact, I've been afraid to even bring it up, not being sure how I could explain what I don't totally understand. This will entail more information than will fit into a single article, so look for a continuing series, starting today with the basic science and building in future months.

THE HUMAN GENOME - MOLECULAR MEDICINE IN THE NEW MILLENNIUM

Earlier this year competing scientists completed the atlas of human genetic material, a project called the Human Genome. There has been a considerable amount of hyperbole in the discussion of the mapping of the genetic makeup of human beings. It will change many of our treatments and predictions, but to understand how that will happen it is worthwhile exploring what a gene is and where it fits into the grand scheme of life.

Genes are bits of organic chemicals that pass on information from one cell to its descendants. Genes are made up of sequences of DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid) organic chemical structures that bind together in a very specific order to pass on specific information. The DNA forms very long chains that are called chromosomes. Humans have 24 chromosomes, all paired, with one set specifically coding for the sex of the owner. These chromosomes exist in the center or nucleus of each cell. All tissues are made up of cells, all specialized to do their specific jobs, but all carrying the information system (genes) in them. Each chromosome has thousands of genes. (Think of them as areas on the chromosome.)

The hope and promise of understanding what these individual genes mean is that by gaining this knowledge we would understand why disease hits some people and not others or why one patient responds to a specific treatment and another doesn't. The potential for predicting disease, for early diagnosis, and potential treating or preventing disease is one of man's greatest discoveries, but it can also be a Pandora's Box. In future articles I'll explore some of the treatments proposed and some of the potential dilemmas resulting from our improved understanding of the lowly gene.

Community Fair At Volunteer Park

by Nancy Lind

The Key Peninsula is going to have its very first all Community Fair August 23-26 at Volunteer Park. The Key Peninsula Park and Recreation District, the Key Peninsula Civic Center Association, the Key Peninsula Business Association and the Longbranch Improvement Club will make up the core organization, called the Key Peninsula Fair Association, a non-profit Washington State Corporation.

The goal is to better unite these four groups that have historically worked independently of each other and to collectively strengthen the quality of services and life on the Key Peninsula. The Fair Association has contracted with a respected carnival and will have contests, displays, exhibits and many other activities both before and during the days of the fair. Many volunteers are needed. **Everyone**, this is your chance to get involved at the ground level for an event of this kind right here in our own backyard. This is truly an exciting adventure. For an application for a booth, to be a sponsor or volunteer, call 884-4FUN. Visit www.keyfair.com or www.keyfair.org.

Volunteer Park: (Call James Dennis at 884-9240)

Little League games are in full swing. Come to the park, grab a hamburger and watch the kids play, especially the little ones at T-ball.

Adult Softball and Adult Baseball are also going on. Call the park for times.

Horseshoes is still a great game. Find your own niche.

Swap Meets are in the planning stage.

Farmers' Market is open every Wednesday, Noon to 6:30 PM. You can count on finding Washington grown products. If you have produce to sell, call Jan Piercy at 884-2496.

Tennis Court is available and a wonderful summer evening sport.

Upper Field plans are underway and we'll keep you updated.

Rocky Creek Conservation Area (Call Nancy Lind (884-3347)

Sunday Walk-a-Bout at 2 PM the last Sunday of each month. Meet at the big cedar entrance sign, one block off SR 302 (Elgin-Clifton) and 150 (Lake Holiday entrance).

Memorial Dedication for Kathy Ericson on June 9th at 3 PM. See announcement P. 14

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DELMER AND MAVE

YESTERDAY'S TEENAGERS!

Key Peninsula Senior Society
by Jim Nolan @851-4847

SENIOR SURVEY — WHY ???

Once a month we poll our Senior group on some subject of general interest and then publish the results of this admittedly small group of oldsters, so that all you readers can get an idea as to how we are thinking — IF at all !!! That's the reason and here's this month's question and results:

"Testing school children is being increased these days and discussed more and more. Do you think there should be more — less — about the same — amount for testing in elementary grade schools?" Our senior group, including parents, grandparents, some former teachers and educators, said:

More — 5 Less — 4 Same — 11

One of our newer members suggested the other day, "Say why don't we get together and have a picnic with all this GOOD weather?" Well, we DO have picnics, one or two every summer, and usually hold them on Thursday (our regular meeting day) at 12 noon on a pot-luck basis. We'll have one in July and another in August this summer, if the weather agrees, probably at one of the nearby State Parks. Want to join in? Give a call to 851-4847.

Who can match Marie's father?? He's 107-plus years of age, and Marie Schwenka just returned from visiting him at his home in Lexington, Nebraska. He's doing GREAT!!!

Norman Storset returned last month from his exhilarating trip to his childhood memories in Norway. He'll be happy to tell you all about it.

We lost two wonderful ladies of the KP Seniors last month. Pauline Williamson, wife of Chuck, who meant SO MUCH to this organization over the years. And, long-time member, Alice Palmer. We'll miss both — A LOT.

HONORED SENIOR OF THE MONTH Guess Who ?

She began life in Brooklyn, N.Y. and wound up here on the Key Peninsula in Wauna — Some trip !

As an adoptee of 5 years, she and her sister went to live in Hasting, Nebraska, where she spent a happy childhood and graduated from High School in 1936. Soon after, she went to visit sister, Alice, in Los Angeles. She went to work for Douglas Aircraft where she met Robert, her future husband, who was a SEABEE. They married in 1944, lived in Ventura and had their son, Jerry. After the war, they moved to Portland, Oregon, where he worked for Bonneville Power, and they had daughter Sharon. Robert retired after 37 years at Bonneville and they traveled around the US in their VW Wagon. After his death, she moved to Wauna to help son Jerry complete his house in the Lake Katherine area, and she still lives in her apartment in that house with him and daughter-in-law, Mary. She has been a long time member of KP Seniors and faithfully attends when her health and oxygen tank allow !

DO YOU KNOW??? SHIRLEY ROPER-WITT — HONORED SENIOR !!!



by Hugh McMillan

Evergreen Elementary 5th grade teachers, Michelle Proctor and Dave Aston, teamed up again and took their kids to Camp Seymour on Key Peninsula's Glen Cove recently. It was a long fun and learning filled experience beginning at 9:00 am and continuing until 8:00 pm. Weather slid from sunshine to drizzle to clear skies to downpour. Nobody cared.

They engaged in Co-op Olympics involving, among other things, rope climbing, trust building, running, and, although there was a bit of competition, it was mainly devoted to cooperation and support among the participants.

They spent time at the Camp's Marine Science Center where they enjoyed learning about the creatures living in and near the Cove's waters.

The Camp's Kyung Koh led them in donning personal flotation devices, and on-land, on-railings, and in-the-air training and practice sessions with canoe paddles which culminated in her assisting the kids into canoes and launching them onto the Cove's waters for the thrill of two person paddling around the Cove without adult control.

Everyone involved enjoyed an excellently prepared lunch and, later, dinner.

When the downpour became forbidding enough to preclude the planned out door camp-fire and skit playing, everyone simply repaired to one of the many under cover facilities at the Camp and regaled one another with hilarious skits.

The busy day ended at 8:00 pm with a trudge in the by-now-thankfully-light sprinkle to the Camp's entrance to join up with parents for the drive home.

Rest assured, none of these 5th graders will ever forget this fun and learning packed day.

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Congratulations to Year 2000 Citizen of the Year and 4990 VFW member, Louie Aguilar and new wife, the former Jeanne Howell.

KPCC ASSOCIATION 2001 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Prohibition Jazz Dance
June 2nd**

**Old Timers' Picnic
June 30th**

**Holiday Arts & Crafts Sale
November 17th**

**VFW Thanksgiving Dinner
November 22nd**

**Salatino Christmas Dinner
December 25th**

KEY PENINSULA CIVIC CENTER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<h1>JAZZ IN JUNE</h1>			Daily walk Monday-Friday 8:00-9:00am	1 Wee play 9:00-12:00pm SKATE NIGHT 6:30-9:00pm	2 PROHIBITION JAZZ BAND 8:00-11:00pm MUSEUM 1:00-4:00pm
3 KP Baptist Church 8:30-1:00pm Hockey 4:00-6:00pm	4 MOMS 12:30-4:30pm Daisies 3:45-5:00pm Karate 7:00-9:00pm	5 WIC 8:00-4:00pm Indoor Park 9:30-11:30am Child Reach 9:30-3:30pm Little Buddies 3:00-5:00pm Scouts 6:00-9:00pm TOPS 6:00-8:00pm	6 Wee play 9:00-12:00pm MOMS 1:30-5:30pm Lions 6:30-9:00pm	7 Indoor Park 9:30-11:30am Seniors 10:00-4:00pm Karate 7:00-9:00pm MUSEUM 1:00-4:00pm	8 SKATE NIGHT 6:30-9:00pm	9 MUSEUM 1:00-4:00pm
10 KP Baptist Church 8:00-1:00pm	11 MOMS 12:30-4:30pm Daisies 3:45-5:00pm VFX AUX 7:00-9:00pm VFW 7:00-9:00pm Karate 7:00-9:00pm	12 WIC 8:00-4:00pm Indoor Park 9:30-11:30am Little Buddies 3:00-5:00pm Scouts 6:00-9:00pm TOPS 6:00-8:00pm	13 MOMS 1:30-5:30pm	14 Indoor Park 9:30-11:30am Seniors 10:00-4:00pm Karate 7:00-9:00pm MUSEUM 1:00-4:00pm	15 SKATE NIGHT 6:30-9:00pm Last one for Summer!	16 MUSEUM 1:00-4:00pm
17 KP Baptist Church 8:30-1:00pm Hockey 4:00-6:00pm	18 MOMS 12:30-4:30pm Daisies 3:45-5:00pm Karate 7:00-9:00pm	19 WIC 8:00-4:00pm Scouts 6:00-9:00pm TOPS 6:00-8:00pm	20 MOMS 1:30-5:30pm Lions 6:30-10:00pm	21 Seniors 10:00-4:00pm MUSEUM 1:00-4:00pm	22 	23 MUSEUM 1:00-4:00pm
24 KP Baptist Church 8:30-1:00pm	25 MOMS 12:30-4:30pm Daisies 3:45-5:00pm Vacation Bible 8:30-12:30pm Karate 7:00-9:00pm VFX AUX 7:00-9:00pm VFW 7:00-9:00pm	26 WIC 8:00-4:00pm Vacation Bible 8:30-12:30pm Scouts 6:00-9:00pm TOPS 6:00-8:00pm	27 Vacation Bible 8:30-12:30pm MOMS 1:30-5:30pm	28 Vacation Bible 8:30-12:30pm Seniors 10:00-4:00pm MUSEUM 1:00-4:00pm	29 Vacation Bible 8:30-12:30pm Night Vacation Bible 6:30-8:30pm	30 HISTORICAL SOCIETY 11:00-5:00PM MUSEUM 1:00-4:00pm



Living and Learning on the Key Peninsula

Key Peninsula Historical Society

MARK YOUR CALENDAR - JUNE 30th, Saturday, at the Key Peninsula Civic Center will be the Old Timers Social. Don't be late - it starts at noon. The program will start at 1 PM and be presented by Tim Kezele. He will tell the history of the Old Timers Picnic. If you have any information to share, please call Dale at 884-2712 or Tim at 884-4538.

The Historical Society would like to thank the members of the Home Social Club for the excellent program on Home presented by Charles LeWarne. Author, LeWarne showed slides from his book, *Utopias on Puget Sound*, and many others from his private collection. He reminded us of the individualism of local settlers and many famous guests who came to Home for almost two decades. The history of Home is still a research topic for journalists, historians and students.

Look in your July mail for the flyer on our August 4th Summer Picnic. The Summer Picnic is going to be held at the home of Rob and Sally Snyder. The board is putting together an excellent program for this event.

REMEMBER THE MUSEUM IS OPEN THURSDAY AND SATURDAY FROM 1 TO 4 PM OR BY APPOINTMENT - CALL 884-4538.

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Come Be A Hospice Volunteer

Hospice volunteers provide respite care, companionship, transportation and emotional support for terminally ill patients and their families.

Anyone interested in a meaningful volunteer opportunity, with daytime availability, is needed in communities throughout the area. Training takes place June 22nd through June 24th.

The program is run by Group Health Cooperative, but volunteers need not be Group Health members.

To volunteer or for more information, call James Bentley at (253) 274-4635.

Volunteers Sought for Paint Tacoma- Pierce Beautiful

Want to feel good? REALLY good? Paint Tacoma-Pierce Beautiful gives that opportunity to volunteers who paint the homes of low-income seniors and disabled citizens.

Last year, more than 2500 volunteers painted 126 homes. This year, nearly 200 low-income homeowners have applied to have their homes painted. "We will paint as many homes as we have crews," says Sallie Shawl, director of the program. Paint Tacoma-Pierce Beautiful provides the primer and the paint, and the crews provide the volunteers.

This summer will be the 17th year of the program. Since 1985 when it began, a total of 1,064 homes have been painted by crews from churches, service clubs, unions, businesses, local government offices, Ft. Lewis and McChord and individuals who come out on their own.

Some of the homes haven't been painted for many years, and the homeowners are extremely thankful that they are finally getting this much needed help. Homeowner Floy Olson, whose home was painted last summer, says, "I am hoping to stay in my home as long as I live, and you folks have helped me do that!" Carolyn Jones said, "The house looks wonderful! ... It's hard to believe it's the same old place. My son almost drove right by before he realized it was home!"

Volunteer Deborah Hammond says, "Once you have the enthusiasm and the will to do it, the skill comes with the doing. And there's lots of advice from technical support folks at Associated Ministries."

Call 383-3056, ext. 106 or visit their web site at www.associatedministries.org for more information.



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Hear And Their On Our Key Peninsula

by Keith Stiles

Encouraging news just this last week about the long-awaited (and sometimes somewhat doubtful) new post office for Vaughn and Key Center. Postmaster, Joanne Clark joined other Postal officials in a meeting out on that piece of ground that Phil "Dirt" (Radcliff) has ironed out next to the Huckleberry Inn to finalize the paperwork for the new facility, now scheduled to be up and operating sometime next September. The thought that there will be some room to work, store things, fairly good parking AND running water (really) has our local post office people in a good mood.

Members of the Key Peninsula Business Association heard 26th District Representative Brock Jackley discuss his background and his interest in the affairs of our District at the monthly KPBA meeting at the Golf Course. It is reported that he seemed to be on firmer ground on those subjects than on predicting when, if ever, the Washington State Legislature will decide something and finally go home. Ray Hanowell, who is heading up the investigation of water quality in Vaughn Bay, will be the speaker next month.

Speaking of the KPBA, member Ross Bischoff told the group that the City of Tacoma and the Pierce County Human Services Division have just put out a nice, new, expensive map on "services for the retired". Retirees living on the Gig Harbor and Key Peninsulas will be interested to know that the map stops at The Narrows Bridge, further indicating that to Pierce County all of us (taxpayers) just don't exist. Be certain to get your copy now!

Folks from down Home way gathered at the last Home Town Meeting to hear a talk by Charles LeWarne, author of the well-researched classic local history book "Utopias on Puget Sound". The community room at the Home Fire Station was ... full and running over. (Editor's note: See Historical Society article.)

Speaking of fire-department type things, one can hear rumbles around town already that we might have an interesting race for the Fire District 16 Commissioner's spot coming up this Summer and Fall. Perhaps some "new" faces, attached to some not-quite-so-new bodies?

Word has it that a new Deli might be opening in July in the former Key Bank building in Key Center, a Walt and John Schmidt project.

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Happy Father's Day, June 17th!



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Questions & Answers
Financial Focus

Submitted by Connie R. Rose

Annuities – Keep Your Spending Power

You may think you're saving enough for retirement if you contribute the maximum to your company retirement plan – like a 401(k) – and your IRA, but that's not necessarily true for a couple of reasons: 1. People are living longer, and 2. Inflation. The combination of long life expectancies and inflation can erode your retirement income. As the comedian Jackie Mason once said, "I have enough money to last the rest of my life, unless I buy something." What can you do to keep your spending power intact during retirement? Consider an annuity. Annuities offer four important benefits: the possibility of a lifetime payment, tax deferral, tax control and a family protection plan.

Annuities have a special benefit that is not available on any other type of investment – the possibility for a lifetime payment. This option makes sense for those whose families tend to live longer than average since the insurance company bases your monthly payment on how long the life expectancy charts say you should live.

With tax deferral, you don't pay taxes on the growth of the money in your annuity until you make withdrawals. Consider Mark Twain's advice: "Never put off until tomorrow what you can do the day after tomorrow." That may not be wise advice for some things – like saving for retirement – but it may apply to paying taxes. Delaying payment of taxes allows your money to grow faster and gives you more money to draw income from once you retire.

Annuities give you tax control in a couple of ways: 1. You pay taxes on gains only when you withdraw money; and 2. If your investment objective changes, say from growth to growth and income, you can change the investments in your annuity without paying taxes.

The fourth benefit is a family protection plan, also known as a guaranteed death benefit. It works like this: If you buy an annuity and die before taking the lifetime payments, your beneficiaries are guaranteed to receive at least the amount you invested in the annuity, less any withdrawals. If the market value is greater than what you invested, your beneficiaries will receive that amount.

Annuities aren't for everybody. As with any investment, it is possible to lose money, and the guarantees depend on the strength of the insurance company that issued the annuity. Annuities also have fees and expenses that you should consider.

Ask your investment representative if an annuity makes sense for you.

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(From Property Tax Exemption Page 1)

Like all organizations that have been granted this tax exempt status, the KPCC is required to file an annual renewal form. This form requires financial information as well as a listing of all receipts to verify income. Each year the renewal is filed in March and must include financial information and income verification for the previous year for the following tax year. For example, in March 1998 the report required financial information and receipts for 1997 -- for the tax year 1999.

In March 1998, the renewal was filed with the Department, however, the income verification was not filed with the renewal. Repeated requests (documented by the Department) were made for this information. In March 1999, an annual renewal was filed and did include the income verification for the year 1998. However, the 1997 receipts had still not been submitted.

In November 1999, the Department again contacted the KPCC with a final request for the 1997 information. This time the KPCC immediately addressed the issue and provided as much information as could be located.

The Department carefully scrutinized the renewals of 1998 and 1999. They asked for copies of the contracts KPCC had with its instructors (e.g. karate, dog obedience). The Department advised that the KPCC contracts with instructors were not in compliance. What they were not aware of at that time, however, was that these contracts had not been in compliance since the exemption was granted in 1992.

The KPCC contracts were structured as follows: instructor collects the class fees, turns over all monies to the KPCC, the KPCC retains an hourly rate for space usage (e.g. \$20.00 an hour for the gym), and returns the remaining fee money to the instructor. The Department determined the property to be "taxable" because all funds received in payment for many of the classes were turned over to the instructors. These individuals received all of the income and are seen by the Department as using exempt property to promote their own businesses. Since they were benefiting on a per-student basis, this meant the property was being used for the promotion of businesses many more than the statutory limit of seven (7) days per year.

The contracts should have been (and now are) structured to comply. The KPCC, in concert with the instructor, determines the fee (based on per hour instructor fee, reasonable operational cost, and any equipment/supplies that might be required), collects the fees and pays the instructor the per hour rate established in their contract.

The KPCC Board is fully aware that two separate mistakes were made: (1) the initial non-compliant instructor contract and (2) the late and incomplete renewal filings in 1998 and 1999. However, the KPCC Board chose to appeal the decision of the Department. It was hoped that an argument of not being aware that an error had been made in 1992 might be deemed inadvertent and if it had been found out years ago, we would not be faced with this tremendous tax burden at this time. The KPCC Board members attending the hearing argued hard for an abatement of the decision. We argued that the community at large would suffer should the KPCC be forced to close if monies can not be made available for payment of these property taxes and penalties.

Information prepared by the Department of Revenue for the April 10, 2001 hearing contained surprises for the current KPCC Board members. "The KPCC benefited from property tax exemption for this facility from 1992 to 1998. In 1998, KPCCA submitted their annual renewal with only partial information about the uses of the building during the 1997 calendar year. After numerous unsuccessful attempts to obtain the required detail about the 1977 uses, the property was taxed by the Department of Revenue under its determination letter dated January 15, 1999, effective for the 1999 year. In addition, taxes for 1998 became due under the provisions of RCW 84.40.360. This determination was not appealed by the KPCCA. In February 1999, the KPCC submitted an application with statutory fees and late charges seeking the re-instatement of the exemption." Because of an internal failure in communication, the KPCC Board was not made aware that: a Determination of Non-Exemption had been sent to the KPCC in January of 1999; that the KPCC had a right to appeal; and, an application seeking re-instatement of the exemption had been submitted along with requisite fees.

The property tax table below, shows the 1998 through 2001 history of property tax billings and payments (as well as lack of payments for the parcels that were not property tax exempt) during the period in question.

As seen below, not only were the two parcels 1-100 and 1-800 assessed with taxes as of 1998, it was found that property taxes had not been paid in 1998 with the exception of the one payment made on 1-101. Only one payment was made in 1999 on one parcel, in the amount of \$823.08. Surprisingly, this one payment was made on one of the parcels that had lost the tax exempt status. No other payment was made in 1999 on the other three parcels.

In October, 2000, taxes were paid in full for parcels 1-102 and 1-101. No payment was made on the newly taxable parcels until we could appeal the decision made by the Department of Revenue.

The tax bills received in 2001 assessed additional penalties to the newly taxable parcels for 1998, and 2000 as well as assessed taxes for 2001.

The property taxes plus penalties that have been incurred as a result of losing the property tax exemption on these two parcels is significant. The total taxes are \$14,418.44 with penalties of \$3,629.74 for a total of \$18,048.18.

PARCEL	YEAR	TAXES	PENALTIES	
Parcel 1-100	1998	3,202.42	1,505.14	
	1999	2,746.28	961.20	
	2000	3,625.88	820.15	
	2001	2,047.54	-0-	
		11,622.12	3,286.49	\$14,908.61
Parcel 1-800	1998	493.22	118.37	
	1999	422.98	54.99	
	2000	926.70	169.89	
		2,796.32	343.25	\$ 3,139.57
			TOTAL	\$18,048.18

Since the current KPCC Board of Directors has become aware of the property tax problems, a total of \$8,126.00 has been paid for the 1998 and 1999 property taxes. A total of \$2,806.85 has been paid on the two parcels which have never been tax exempt but which were in arrears. The remaining amount of \$5,319.15 has been applied to the two parcels on which the tax exemption was lost. This is over and above the property tax payments made for the years 2000 and 2001. Refer to the table shown in first column of this page.

Tax Year & Parcel	Taxes Paid	Penalties Paid	Total Paid
1988 1-102	848.36	296.93	\$1,145.29
1-101	227.25	59.09	286.34
1-100	3,202.42	1,505.14	4,707.56
1-800	611.59	-0-	611.59
1999 1-102	727.92	167.42	895.34
1-101	390.14	89.74	479.88
	\$6,007.68	\$2,118.32	\$8,126.00

PROPERTY TAX YEAR	Parcel 1-102	Parcel 1-101	Previously Tax Exempt		BALANCE	
			Parcel 1-100	Parcel 1-800		
1998	Assessed 1998	848.36	454.50	-0-	-0-	
	Paid	-0-	227.25			
	Balance		227.25			1,075.61
1999	Assessed 1998	-0-	-0-	3,202.42	493.22	
	Penalties 1998	296.93	59.09	1,202.85	118.37	
	Assessed 1999	727.92	390.14	2,746.28	422.98	
	Paid 1999	-0-	-0-	-0-	<823.08>	
	Balance	1,873.21	676.48	7,151.55	211.49	8,912.73
2000	Penalties 1999	167.42	89.74	631.64	29.61	
	Assessed 2000	1,017.08	544.88	3,625.88	926.70	
	Paid 2000	<3057.71>	<1,311.10>	-0-	-0-	
	Balance	-0-	-0-	11,409.07	1,167.80	12,576.87
2001	Penalties 1998	-0-	-0-	302.29	-0-	
	Penalties 1999	-0-	-0-	329.56	25.38	
	Penalties 2000	-0-	-0-	820.15	169.89	
	Assessed 2001	976.46	523.14	2,047.54	953.42	
	Paid 2001 (to date)	<488.23>	<261.57>	<4,707.56>	<1,839.78>	
	Balance	488.23	261.57	10,201.05	476.71	11,427.56

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Decrease in Release of Toxic Chemicals

It took some time to get all the data gathered, but the 2001 edition of the annual "Chemicals in Washington State", a report on chemical releases to the air, water and soil by manufacturers, shows that from 1998 to 1999 there was a decrease of 3.2 million pounds, from 28.9 to 25.7 million pounds.

Greg Sorlie, who manages Ecology's hazardous waste and toxics reduction program, said, "With improved technology and better engineering, industries are able to grow their businesses without increasing their toxic output. The decreased numbers reflect the benefits of effective pollution-prevention planning. It's good for business, good for the public and good for the ecosystem."

The 1999 data are based on reports from 297 companies who released a total of 20.2 million pounds of toxic chemicals into the air, 2.5 million pounds onto the land, and 3.1 million pounds into the water. Methanol, also known as wood alcohol, at 4.5 million pounds, was the most-released chemical, most of it coming from the pulping process at paper mills. Cowlitz County led the list in '99 with 3.9 million pounds of toxic chemicals released. Other counties reporting more than 2 million pounds were Clark, Lewis, King and Whatcom. This report does not include toxic chemicals introduced into the environment through pesticide use, by motor vehicles and wood stoves and fireplaces. The report of a toxic release also does not mean that there were toxic effects on humans or the environment.

For more information on the report or the chemicals in individual communities, call Ecology's Hazardous Substance Information Office at 1-800-633-7585.

Drought Update — 1977 vs 2001

Eastern Washington continues to be the area of the state most affected by the drought, as was true in 1977 also. Water content of the snow pack below normal; river flows in the Columbia and Snake below normal; in '77 there were fish kills in the Yakima and Walla Walla Rivers, but none so far this year. Also in '77 an eight-mile stretch of the Methow River ran dry, but that hasn't happened yet this year. Dryland and irrigated agriculture were severely affected in '77; this year so far has seen 75,000 acres of agricultural land taken out of production, 25,000 acres of orchards pulled out, and the sugar beet industry is out of production.

Recent precipitation has helped stabilize water supplies, but has not provided relief for overall conditions. Many of us are enjoying the warm, sunny weather, but that's bad news for the snow pack. The increase in the snow melt means more stream flows now, but far less in the late summer when needed for fish to move. Water content of the remaining snow packs shows a great disparity across the state, with the pack feeding the Walla Walla basin at 8% of normal, the packs feeding the Columbia and Methow basins at 47%, and the packs feeding the Puyallup, White and Green River basins at 78%.

While we're getting into the conservation mode for electricity and gasoline, it appears we had better add water to that list now.

Kathy Erickson Memorial At Rocky Creek

On Saturday, June 9th at 3 PM, the Key Peninsula-Gig Harbor-Islands Watershed Interim Council will dedicate a bench in memory of Kathy Erickson at the Rocky Creek Conservation Area. Kathy Erickson, who taught third grade at Discovery Elementary in Gig Harbor, passed away suddenly in March of this year. She was well known on both peninsulas and was admired for her work in educating her students about salmon and the natural environment and sharing her love of nature with them.

The bench, made from recycled plastic lumber, will be placed in a secluded spot near Rocky Creek. For more information, please contact Barbara Ann Smolko at (253) 798-6156.

New To This Area?

We cover all of the Pierce County area and others as well. We feature monthly Luncheons at local sites, Socials, Lunch Bunch, Book Discussions, Bridge and other Games as well as Outings and Sightseeing trips out of town. COME!! Meet new friends, learn about the area and enjoy good company. We meet on the 2nd Thursday or each month.

**Next Meeting is June 14th
Social at 11:30 AM and
Lunch at 12:00 Noon**

Call Barbara at (253) 752-1009 for further information.

Key Singers 4th Annual Spring Musical — Sunday, June 10th

The Key Singers are entering their 4th year of existence and are busier than ever. Ages run the gamut, from teens to the 80's. Their songs are varied, from show tunes to gospel and the truly ridiculous. They will be celebrating on Sunday, June 10th, with their 4th Annual Spring Musical at the Longbranch Improvement Club. Time is 3PM. Admission is \$8 for adults, \$5 for students; children under 12 are free. Refreshments will be served and there will be a door raffle for 3 fantastic prizes - an overnight at Aloha Bed and Breakfast in Purdy, a \$50 gift certificate to Twetens in Port Orchard and a \$50 gift certificate to E. R. Rogers in Steilacoom.

This event is the major fundraiser for the group. Most of their performances are complementary and are at local community events, such as Pioneer and Old Timers' Days, the Christmas Programs in Key Center and Longbranch, the Cultural Arts Commission presentations and performances at the American Lake Veterans Hospital and other nursing homes. With the funds raised at their annual show they have been able to purchase music and to provide for their own sound system and risers.

The Key Singers welcomes new members. Practice time is Tuesday evenings, 7 to 9 PM at the Longbranch Community Church, just down the highway from the Improvement Club. You may also contact Director Jo Sturm at 884-1350 or Co-director, Marianne McColley, at 884-5615.

THE KEY SINGERS Present their SPRING MUSICAL

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**SUNDAY JUNE 10
3:00 P.M.**

**AT THE LONGBRANCH
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Adults \$8

Students \$5

Children under 12 FREE

Refreshments

Raffle drawing with 3 great prizes

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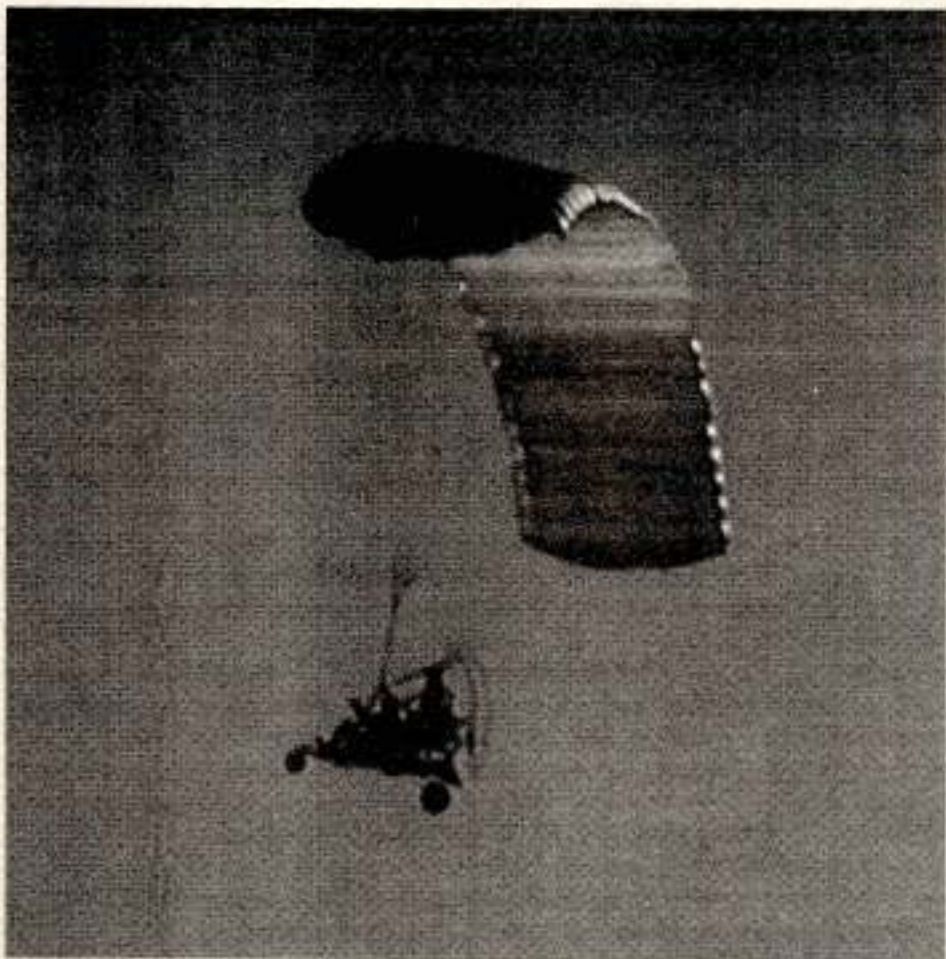
1. Call 581-8100 to reserve a trip, one to five days in advance.
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Who Is This Masked Man?

This apparition was observed cruising over Carr Inlet recently. If you happen to see him flying around and know who he is call the Key Peninsula News Editors at 884-2213.



LAKEBAY FUCHSIA SOCIETY

The Lakebay Fuchsia Society will be meeting Thursday, June 7th at 7 PM at the Library in Key Center. Our meeting will feature a slide presentation by Donna Fellows, photographed at an exposition of 32 fuchsia growers in England.

Visitors are welcome. Contact person: Ginnie Aardal at 884-9744

Grand Slam Baseball Camp

Grand Slam Baseball Camps for kids ages 7-12. Current college players and high school coaches teach fundamentals in a fun upbeat environment. Camps are July 9-13 in Purdy. Fee is \$99. For information call 253-859-5821 or visit www.grandslamcamp.com.

BAYSHORE GARDEN CLUB Friday, June 15

10:45 AM - Meet at Longbranch Improvement Club to carpool.
11 AM - Field trip to Marguerite Bussard's garden. 18017 76th St., Longbranch (884-3771)
12 Noon - Potluck lunch at Club.
1 PM - Business meeting; Flower Show Committee reports.
1:30 PM - Dress rehearsal for July Flower Show; how to fill out forms, etc.
2 PM - Practice on flower design, i.e. line, line mass, mass and miniatures.

Vaughn Bay Garden Club

On June 20, the Vaughn Bay Garden Club will meet at the home of Joy Rakes for a noon potluck. Co-hostess is Margaret Whittlesey.

After a tour of Joy's garden, the group will move to Kathie DuPriest's for a garden tour and plant sale.

This will be the last meeting until September. For information about the club, call 884-5403.

KPCCA Executive Committee 2001

PRESIDENT:

Dave Stratford
884-2566

1st VICE PRESIDENT:

(Maintenance)
Lloyd Miller
884-2536

2nd VICE PRESIDENT:

Betty Kelley
884-4126

TREASURER:

Virginia Liebergesell
884-3603

SECRETARY:

Rick Krum
(360) 895-3299

AT LARGE:

Phil Bauer
884-9172

AT LARGE:

Sylvia Haase
884-3603

PAST PRESIDENT:

Dale Loy
884-4169 or 884-3937

The Garden In JUNE 2001

by Sylvia Retherford
(253) 884-2487



May and June are bearded iris months but there are also the dwarfs that bloom in March thru May. Their colors are blue and white, yellow and brown, plain yellow and deep purple. There are also varieties that bloom both now and in fall. Wild irises give their glorious multicolored display considerably earlier here than in their high elevation habitat of Washington and Oregon mountain valleys.

The first summer lilies are just showing, as well as Japanese iris, Siberian iris, English iris and day lilies. Rhododendrons and azaleas have been blooming for months. Our Puget Sound region is unusually favorable, while people in other regions can raise them only with special attention to acid soils, summer water and protection from too much sun and low winter temperatures. We are indeed favored.

Strange as it may sound, early June is the time to plan and plant your winter garden. This is another privilege of our climate. Brussel sprouts, broccoli, cauliflower, kale, turnips, beets, radicchio and ornamental cabbage or kale are common choices. The ornamental kale crops are edible as colorful salads or can decorate your garden throughout the winter. Starting seeds now can be busy work keeping the babies watered and protected from slugs, etc., but it is worth it. Planting out in rows seems to work better than in trays or pots in that they can be thinned without disturbing the roots. Also, you can provide your neighbor with young plants. Not as good as your own undisturbed plants, but they will do well if tended. When the rains come in September, they take care of themselves and provide for the table from November until next April.

The spring vegetable garden now provides ample spinach, lettuce, green onions, peas and new potatoes which are joyful eating.

Scotch broom now colors our waste places and roadsides. It is a pest in some ways but grows quickly on disturbed soil, preventing erosion. And, being a legume related to peas, beans, lupines and clover, the broom bears small bacterial colonies on its roots which "fix" nitrogen into compounds and other plants that follow can use it in their growth.

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KEY PENINSULA BAPTIST CHURCH. Meeting Sunday mornings at Key Peninsula Civic Center in Vaughn. Bible Study 9:30 AM, Worship Service 11:00 AM, Wednesday AWANAS 6:45 PM. **Pastor James Rouse - Phone 884-9994.**

DEADLINE for the KP News classifieds ads is the 20th of each month, call 884-4699 to place your ad.

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Children's Museum of Tacoma

MUSEUM HOURS:
Tuesday - Saturday
10:00 AM - 5:00 PM

The museum will be celebrating the beginning of summer with a special Summer Kick Off Free Friday, June 29th, from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Wee Ones Weekly offers toddlers Father's Day Footprints June 5th & 6th, Tunes June 12th & 13th and June 26th & 27th, and June Bugs on June 26th & 27th.

Super Saturday Surprise on June 9th from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. is I'm Glad You're My Dad. Come and make a present for your dad for Father's Day.

June's themes for Curiosity Corner are: Gone Fishin', June 5th - 9th in honor of National Fishing Week. Learn some fun fishing facts and create a prize-winning catch of the day;

Pack a Picnic, June 12th - 16th, related to International Picnic Day, gives you a chance to pick up some tasty picnic recipes to try at home;

Eric Carle's Birthday, in honor of the famed author/illustrator, June 19th - 23rd, is a chance to read some of his great stories such as The Very Hungry Caterpillar and to create a collage like the ones in his books;

Summer Sun-Catchers, June 26th - 30th, is an opportunity to make pretty sun-catchers to let the sun shine in.

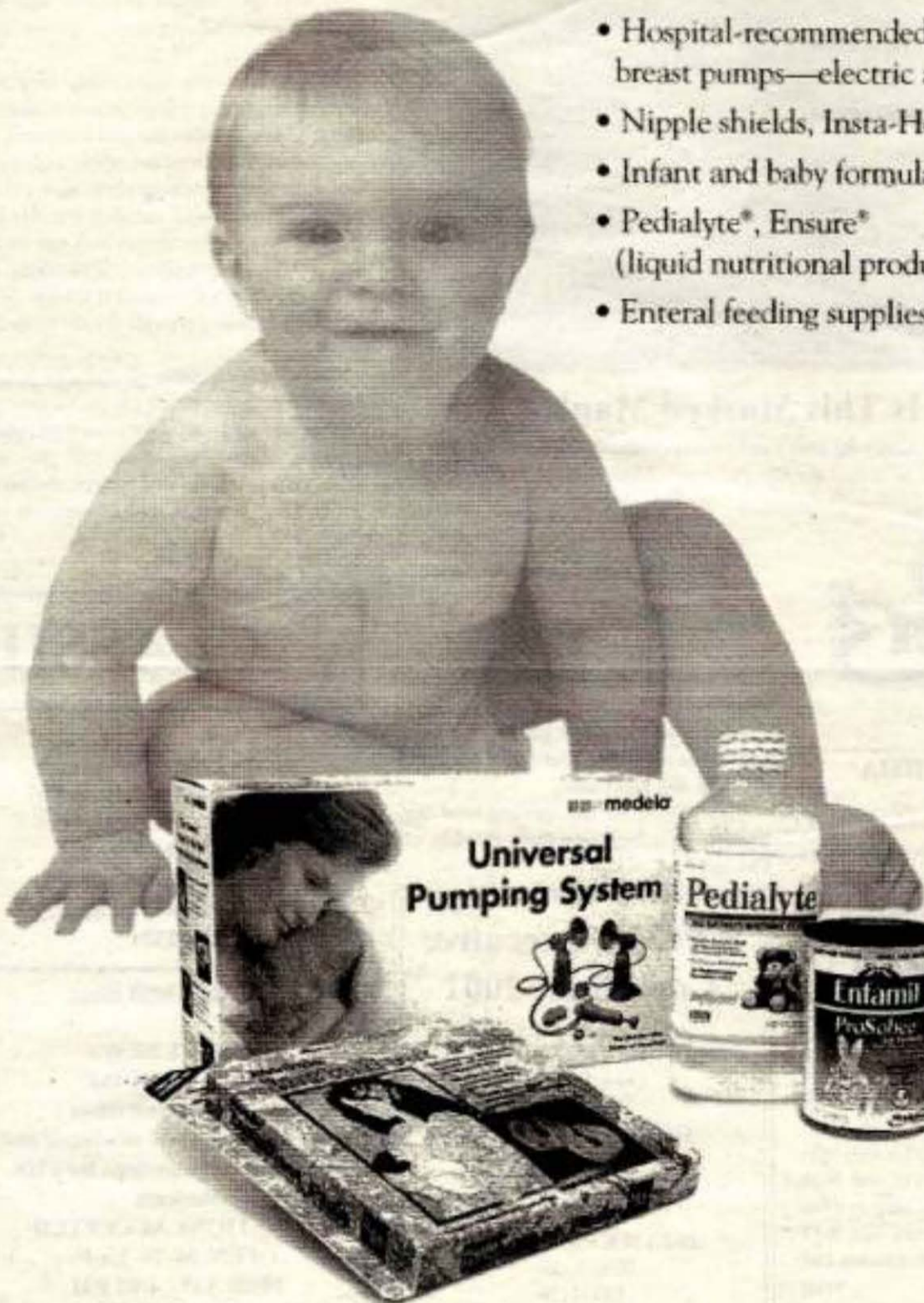
The Parent-Child Workshop, on Saturday, June 2nd, from 9 - 10:30 a.m. will be Papermaking using bright paper scraps with water in a blender.

For all he is, he gets just
Father's Day
June 19



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