



# KEY PENINSULA NEWS

The voice of the Key Peninsula



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HAPPY 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY

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## INSIDE

July 2008



KP Fair Guide, **INSIDE**



Wings 'N Things open in Purdy, **page 18**

## KPMS receives national award from Intel Corp.



Making a model of a comet are, l-r, Alex Chandler, teacher Karen Borders, Mariah Roberts, Loren Bonner and Devon Kennedy. See story on page 32. *Photo by Mindi LaRose*

## Enjoying the local bounty

### Key Pen's farmers market launches

By Irene Torres, KP News

The Key Peninsula Farmers Market is official, after a kickoff fundraiser on June 15. Every Sunday from June 22 to Sept. 28, right off the Key Peninsula Highway in the parking lot of O'Callahan's Pub and Grill in Key Center, about 20 vendors will set up and sell their produce and other items.

"The goal of this market is to celebrate the residents of the Key Peninsula and their efforts to farm, create, and flourish. In doing so we are protecting our rural farmland and celebrating our rural identity," said the organization's president, Tara Froode. "Every vendor signed on at this point in time is a Key Peninsula resident. That is truly amazing and exciting. There is so much going on that we are not aware of, such a bountiful area we all live in."

The timing of this farmers market fits within a national movement to eat organic, whole, local foods. The selections are subject to seasonal availability, and there is an effort to educate consumers to eat foods in season. At this market, expect to see wild greens, fresh herbs, fresh flowers, Alpine strawberries, Alaska salmon (provided by local fishermen), and fresh baked goods, among other delicious foods. At the end of the season, the market will collaborate with the second annual KP Farm "Harvest Fest" farms tour.

Volunteers play an integral part, as

(See **MARKET**, Page 30)

## Farmers' guru visits KP

By Danna Webster, KP News

The chores stopped at Warwick and Janice Bryant's sheep farm on a rainy Tuesday in June. It wasn't the rain that stopped them; it was a visit by a farmer from Swoope, Va. named Joel Salatin. The Bryants set up hay bales in their large open air barn to accommodate about two dozen local area farmers who wanted to meet Salatin and hear what he had to say.

Joel Salatin has become the guru of modern day farmers. His Polyface Farm, a farm of many faces, has become a popular tour destination for Americans interested in healthy food sources. Salatin was in Washington for major speaking engagements and Erin Ewald,

who has her Pierce Conservation District office in Key Center, invited him to visit the Key Peninsula. He accepted.

The weather cooperated Key Peninsula style. The rain stopped long enough for guests to hike up the quarter-mile lane to the barn, there was a torrential downpour while all were snuggled on hay bales listening to Salatin, and the rain paused long enough for everyone to return to their cars.

Salatin's topic was grass farming but like the name of his farm, the topic took on many faces. Why grass framing? "Grass farming enjoys a cultural desire for pastoral landscaping right now. We (farmers) have something ecstatically

(See **SALATIN**, Page 22)

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# Eighth KP Fair bigger and better

By Colleen Slater, KP News

The Key Peninsula Community Fair board is excited about the eighth annual fair, with emphasis on first-time local entertainers, as well as a repeat of popular attractions. Fair attendance increases every year, including many people from beyond the Key Peninsula.

Hundreds of volunteers contribute thousands of hours to make this a successful event.

Board President Mike Hays raves about the Davis Carnival from Clackamas, Ore., the third year for this company to set up here. The company is already booked for next year.

Hays says there are no longer enough carnivals to go around, and some available ones aren't high quality. Davis' carnival advertises clean, wholesome fun for all ages, with thrilling rides and challenging games. They enjoy coming to the Key Peninsula, according to Hays.

"Pre-sale" all-day carnival passes are available at Sound Credit Union and Sunnycrest Nursery in Key Center, and the Beach Hut in Home. These passes sell for

## Fair details

To learn more about this year's events, including the schedule, see the official fair guide in this month's Key Peninsula News. Or visit the fair's Website at [www.keyfair.org](http://www.keyfair.org).

\$20 instead of the onsite price of \$25, and also include free admission to the fair.

Teen Night opens the fair on Thursday, July 10, at 6 p.m. for sixth grade through high schoolers. Free admission, karaoke, carnival rides, and food are part of the activities. Students need money for carnival, food and beverages.

Farmers from around the peninsula will bring animals for the always popular petting zoo. Sheep from Kaukiki Farm will be on hand for shearing demonstrations, and fleece samples will be displayed.

The focus on entertainment this year is "local" but that term covers the Northwest. Dr. William Roes and his Down Home Band, Donn Allard and Renegade Train, Jazz Musette, and Shahdaroba dancers all include peninsula people. Swing Fever



L-r, Leah Durasmith and Auburn Luedke, at last year's Teen Night.

Photo by Mindi LaRose

leader Stan Yantis hails from Mason Lake, and Mazey-T-Clown from Steilacoom.

Mazey performs at noon on the main stage both Saturday and Sunday. She'll wander the grounds to entertain kids and adults alike after the performances.

Magician Kevin Wolfe, as well as the famous and funny Valentine Pigs, return by popular demand.

Three community nonprofit groups — Key Peninsula Business Association, Key Peninsula Civic Center Association, and

the Longbranch Improvement Club — created and maintain the Key Peninsula Community Fair. Members of these organizations and volunteers from across the peninsula expend a lot of time and effort to make the fair a memorable event each year.

This eighth fair continues the tradition of a safe, affordable event for the whole family, with a multitude of exhibits, entertainers, competitions, and local vendors.

## BRIEFS

news

### KPVI to fly service flags on July 4

Key Peninsula Veterans will be flying the service flags at the Veterans Memorial at Vaughn Bay Cemetery, honoring our Declaration of Independence from Great Britain in July 4, 1776. The American flag and the seven service flags will be flying from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The service flags fly in tribute to the American military men and women serving their country and fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan.

For more information on the Key Peninsula Veterans Institute, visit [kpveterans.com](http://kpveterans.com) or contact KPVI President Mike Coffin at 884-9852.

### Watermark Writers hosts Young Writers Workshops

Young writers are wanted for a workshop to be held in Vaughn on Aug.

22 and 23.

There will be different paths the young writer can follow, including building a novel, writing for the gaming industry, songwriting, journalism and poetry. Friday evening will be an introduction with pizza and soft drinks. Saturday will include workshops to inspire writers, hosted by successful authors and writers. Lunch will be included. Cost is \$25 and scholarships are available.

An anthology will be published to include the work done during the

event. Students will receive a copy with their work in print.

For information or to register, email [info@watermarkwriters.com](mailto:info@watermarkwriters.com).

### Key Pen Metro Parks seeks commissioner candidates

Key Pen Metro Parks seeks a replacement for commissioner Ross Bischoff, who recently passed away. Commissioners attend a regular meeting on the second Monday of the month. The position is open to all

residents of the Key Peninsula.

Submit a resume and cover letter to Key Pen Parks, Position 2, PO Box 70, Lakebay, WA 98349. Key Pen Parks will accept resumes until 5 p.m. Tuesday, July 8. Commissioners will interview applicants on July 14 during the study session and appoint a member during the meeting; the new commissioner will serve until the general election in November 2009.

Contact Scott Gallacher, [scottg@keypeninsulaparks.com](mailto:scottg@keypeninsulaparks.com) or 884-9240.

## KEY PENINSULA NEWS

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2. The objective of Key Peninsula News is to support and create community by reporting news and features and providing a forum for local information. News and editorial coverage focuses on the Key Peninsula and immediately adjacent areas within Fire District 16.

#### OUR GRATEFUL THANKS TO ALL WHO CONTRIBUTE TO THE KEY PENINSULA NEWS!

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# Demand for food bank and other services is up

By Danna Webster, KP News

Recession is a reality for the clients at the Key Peninsula Community Services (KPCS), no matter what the economists declare. According to the executive director, Penny Gazabat, becoming a client who needs the services of the food bank and KPCS is only one paycheck away for any of us.

"We want people to know we're here to

help respectfully and compassionately. We'll do what we can," she says.

When Gazabat was asked to participate in the KP News' informal review of recession and the local economy, she used real numbers for her answers. KPCS service is up 75 families since the first of the year and about 35 additional families have signed up to use the walk-in access for bread fruits and vegetables. All clients meet strict qualifications for the emergency food assistance program. For example, a household of one person must have a monthly income of \$1,575 or less and a household of six may have an income that does not exceed \$4,257 monthly.

The Community Services has begun surveying its clients to measure whether the organization is meeting the immediate needs of these families. Many responses have been satisfactory and report that the three-day grocery supply provided per family is filling their need. Those surveyed say the business hours at KPCS work well for most of them; however, staying open late one night of the week would help families with daytime job schedules.

Gazabat and the assistant director Kyong Bertsch work to expand services for their families beyond the food bank. Clients needing assistance with transportation and utility costs are referred to the Family Resources Services in Vaughn. Recently, Bertsch set up 68 families with the Pierce County energy assistance program. She helped the families through the required paperwork, which will help to lower their electric bills.

KPCS has made internal operation changes to compensate for higher costs and a reduction in resources. They have examined mileage and trip destinations and made changes in their van usage. Securing the vans when parked overnight has become a necessity, due to attempts that have been made to siphon the gas from the vans.

"We lock up the trucks and hopefully that makes them less tempting," says Gazabat, acknowledging there has been an increased need for gas vouchers for clients. KPCS assists them by getting appointments with the Chapel Hill Presbyterian Church's program that has fuel vouchers.

The seniors programs are also

expanding at Community Services. The seniors are not a part of the assisted families services. New credit accounts, which redeem good discounts, have been opened to purchase groceries for the senior lunches. Meals are served on Wednesday and Fridays and, after Labor Day, Sunday dinner will again be offered as a cooperative program with I.M.Pact. A "Falls Prevention Class" is conducted by Key Pen resident Marilyn Perks. The class includes some aerobic exercises to improve balance and general health. Some seniors are practicing the new bowling game sensation Wii and are looking forward to tournaments.

Gazabat and Bertsch are enthusiastic supporters of expanding programs necessary for their increasing numbers of clients. They keep careful records of all the services provided and cooperate with other programs on the Key Peninsula to serve people needing food assistance.

"I get to do this," says Gazabat, emphasizing "get." "I get to come to work and help people. How lucky am I," she says.

KPCS may be reached by calling 884-4440.

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## Press Release:

### Key Peninsula Lutheran Church

### "God's Big Back Yard"

July 21-25 9-12:00 pm

Ages K-9th grade

Our church family is reaching out to our local community to serve our children this summer and encourage awareness of the needs of people first in our own homes, then our friends, those in the community, and to people in the world.

Daily puppet shows and music will be provided with Bob and Lynda Wickline and the Fox Island, Fishers of Men Puppet Ministry.

The children and youth will also experience daily service projects to help understand how to put into practice what they learned from the Bible. All ages will join in an outreach project. Daily crafts, snacks and games are planned also.

Pre-registration is encouraged! Questions? Call Julie at the church office, 253-884-3312. The church address is 4213 Lackey Road KPN, we are located at the corner of Key Peninsula Highway and Lackey Road.

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# EDITORIAL

## Summer brings mixed emotions to KP

Traditionally, summer on the Key Peninsula is a positive time, with all the festivals and celebrations filling the air. This summer is no exception — there are many celebrations, indeed. But in the middle of all the pleasant festivities, the summer is bound to heat up, as local fire district commissioners continue to make a circus out of their meetings.

No matter how bright the sunshine, it's hard to ignore the fact that a cloud of controversy continues to hover over Fire District 16. Meeting regulars can recall the impossible atmosphere at the commissioners' meetings that dominated for months, leading up to the infamous "mug incident." Calls were made for resignations, recall plans were formulated, and strong requests were made to feuding commissioners to behave themselves in the public meetings.

High hopes were held for the times when the board of commissioners would be expanded to five members, so that two commissioners could privately discuss disagreements (among other things) without creating a quorum. Those hopes appear to have not materialized. Recent meetings of the commissioners have carried the all too familiar barbs, retorts, petty disputes and so on. As one meeting-attende remarked, "The three-ring circus appears to have expanded to five."

It is unfortunate, and very troubling for the voters, to see these meetings continue in such manner. These meetings are not

only counterproductive, they are tiring for the public — not the best way for the fire district to rebound and move into the future. The fire district is already famous well beyond the Key Peninsula for these passionate displays, and there seems to be little hope that things are about to change. What will it take?

Luckily for those of us who crave a different kind of entertainment, summer has its much-expected lineup of local events — so, we move on to the good news.

Summer started with a boom on the KP, with the local middle school once again receiving huge national honors, and the farmers market bringing local goodies to the starved masses. Well-deserved applause goes both to the Key Peninsula Middle School students and staff, and to the farmers market volunteers, for such wonderful news.

The bang continues, literally, with the annual fireworks show (courtesy of our Henderson Bay neighbors). And just as people start running out of their personal arsenal (as evidenced by the quieter nights around neighborhoods), the KP community fair brings food, music, rides, displays for everyone to enjoy (not necessarily in that order). The annual salmon bake by Longbranch Community Church follows in short order, then the excellently eclectic Beyond Borders festival — it is like one summer-long party, with a few breaks in between acts.

We can all be proud of these wonderful treasures, as we look forward to an exciting summer filled with community-building activities. The same cannot be said of some of our elected fire officials — they hold no treasures nor are they building anything but increased animosity. Dear voters, please advise.

## I need a boat

The sunbreaks of the last few months saw the first of the boats hitting the sound en masse. Of course around here, that means like 10 boats off Penrose Point State Park and maybe six off Joemma Beach, but still, makes me wish I had a boat of some sort. We have this bad kayak that we bought for lake use. It's open and is a double-seater, not well-suited for the Sound. I figure we can use it at low tide on an absolutely flat water surface so we are guaranteed to not get sucked out to sea in frigid waters and wind up on Discovery Channel's "Shouldn't Be Alive" (or worse, get sucked out to sea and not make it on the show). But it will have to do until we can update our kayak and get a boat of some sort.

In preparation of that fateful day when we are proud boat owners, I've spent some time reviewing Washington's boating regulations. One thing you want to avoid is Operating Your Vessel in a Negligent Manner. You'll get the hammer if you're caught doing this with a fine of \$343. I always wonder why the fines are odd numbers like that, or \$101. Why not \$350? Nice and even, and more for the state. Or, if you're against the state having money, make the fine \$300. How do they decide that odd number? And why?

Related to that is the rule that you can't operate a vessel under the influence of alcohol. When you see the results of accidents stemming from drunken boaters, you'll agree it's a nice law to have around. There's a field sobriety test you can get on the water, did you know that? I'm not sure what it consists of, but if you've got to walk a line with your eyes closed and touch your nose, it's got to be a hum-dinger of a

**KEVIN REED**  
HERE'S SOMETHING



challenge when you're bobbing around on the water, with or without the booze. The two previous offenses can contribute to the felony of Homicide by Watercraft, which didn't know existed. You can also commit Assault with a Watercraft when you negligently injure someone. Add those to your Things to Avoid list.

There are a bunch of violations that result in an \$87 fine, at least 22 that I can find. Don't have a floatation device for each person? Got one but it's not the right size? Have the floatation device, but it's not readily accessible? Don't display a "skier down" flag? Your flag pole not to regulation? That's 87 beans each. If you're water skiing with no observer in addition to the driver, it's \$87, and if the observer is not observing, you might get fined 87 smackers. And don't drive a Canadian boat around for more than 60 days, or you'll be looking at the big eight-seven.

I find the concept of the derelict watercraft a fascinating one. I guess most of them aren't worth much, but I'd like to find one that is. With a big bag of money in it, and a bunch of great equipment. I won't hold my breath, especially since it's probably a lot easier to find if you have a working watercraft, which of course I don't. Maybe I'll take my Stimulus Package Shot in the Arm government tax payout coming my way and rush out and do my part to stimulate the U.S. economy by putting a down payment on a boat that I can't afford. That should help the country with its long-term macroeconomic problems, eh?

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Article clarification

Thank you so much for writing the article about my sewing business, Robin Designs. It is an honor to be acknowledged by the Key Peninsula News. You did a nice job explaining the details of my sewing; however, I need to clear up some inaccuracies about my parents' writing. They both write about

local boating, so it is a bit confusing.

My father, John Bailey, was a writer and editor for the Tacoma News Tribune for many years. After he retired, he continued writing for them a boating column, then went on to write a sailor's newsletter in Port Townsend. He continues to be a freelance writer.

My mother, Jo Bailey, and her husband, Carl Nyberg, write the "Gunkholing" books, which are not and never have been part of the "Afoot and Afloat" series. The two of them also write a monthly article for 48 Degrees North, the sailing/boating magazine.

This may be more than anyone wants to know, I just had to set the record straight as the rest of the article about my business was accurate.

*Robin Gould  
Longbranch*

### Plant sale a success

The Lakebay Fuchsia Society has just completed its 13th annual plant sale and, thanks to all of you flower lovers, it was again a huge success. The plant sale is the one and only fundraiser our club has and we would like to thank all of you for

support over the years. Besides paying for our club's activities, the funds raised enable us to support various local organizations, such as the Boy Scouts, Key Center Library, Civic Center, Children's Home Society, a Peninsula High School scholarship, and a Northwest Fuchsia Society scholarship.

Everyone is invited to visit our Fuchsia Display Garden at the Key Peninsula Civic Center and our meetings the first Thursday of each month at the Library in Key Center. Thanks again!

*Sandy Forsyth  
Port Orchard*

# Many reasons for celebrating

I have decided to have this column be one of celebration. So, what do I, and we, have to celebrate? Well, I am celebrating my one-year anniversary as a columnist for the Key Peninsula News. Hopefully, this is a celebration that you are sharing with me. Either way, I would like to hear from you. Tell me how I have been doing. I would also like to celebrate the return of the glass is half-full guy (after my last column on choosing between heating or eating).

So let's talk about what you have to be happy about and celebrate. I've read that research indicates people who are happy (and celebrate) live longer than those who are not happy. So let's get happy out there!

I am sure there is something in your life you feel good about and can be happy about, something that is worth

**JUD MORRIS**  
FROM THE WATER'S EDGE



celebrating. Is there something happening in your life that you can celebrate with your family, friends, or relatives? Are you having a birthday this month? Or are you having an unbirthday this month? Both are good reasons to celebrate.

Is there something happening in your Key Peninsula community worth celebrating? Summer weather on the Key Peninsula is certainly worth celebrating. The birds are singing and chirping. Butterflies are flying and frogs are croaking. Flowers are blooming,

vegetables are growing, and our new farmers market in Key Center has just opened. Let's celebrate the water getting warmer. Graduation from elementary, middle and high school are certainly worth celebrating. School vacation is worth celebrating.

Some of the other things to be happy about here on our very own Key Peninsula are the upcoming Key Peninsula Community Fair, Old Timers' Day, Beyond the Borders, and the Longbranch Community Church Salmon Bake, and let's not forget the Lions' Club Volksmarch. I am sure you can think of many other reasons to celebrate.

July is also the month for Canada Day (Canadian Independence), and our own Independence Day. Let's celebrate them both. And please let's be very careful around all fireworks (too many

“ I've read that research indicates people who are happy (and celebrate) live longer than those who are not happy. So let's get happy out there!

”

celebrations have ended in tragedy).

Yes, July is a great month, and worthy of celebration. I am sure there is something happening this month that is worth your celebration. Let me know what you are celebrating.

As I wrote this column, I heard in my mind the song "Celebration." Can you hear it, too?

Enjoy.

# A revolutionary act

By Daniel B. Johnson  
Special to KP News

It is a fairly safe assumption that, given the right information, most people make correct and intelligent choices. Given the fact that our Constitution guarantees freedom of the press, we are apt to believe that we are making intelligent choices based on the abundance of information we are provided. But we would be at least partially wrong. We would be wrong



because all of the major media — ABC, NBC, CBS, MSN, CNN, FOX, Time Warner, Disney and all of the major newspapers — are owned and controlled by the same cartel with the same agenda. In fact, except for a few "underground" publications, the Internet, for now, is the sole surviving bastion of a free press.

Enter Aaron Russo. You probably don't even recognize the name. He produced "The Rose" and "Trading Places" but, until now, remained anonymous to most of us. In what will surely prove to be the crowning achievement of his life, Russo has produced a movie that is so stark-ravagingly honest, it is at once shocking, frightening and empowering.

"America: Freedom to Fascism" is a profoundly courageous work that strikes at the root of what's wrong with America. It's not the Democrats. It's not the Republicans. It's not terrorists. Boldly going where all others have feared to tread, Russo dares to expose those institutions that gradually over the past century have made unwitting slaves of us all: the Federal Reserve, the IRS and the Income Tax. Those are probably not at the top of your list of concerns. But they should be. In the words of Johann Goethe, "None are more hopelessly enslaved than those who falsely believe they are free." And it was none other than Henry Ford who

## KP showing

Watch "America: Freedom to Fascism" in the Whitmore Room at at 7:30 p.m. Friday, July 18. at the Key Peninsula Civic Center.

said, "It is well enough that the people of the nation do not understand our banking and monetary system, for if they did, I believe there would be a revolution before tomorrow morning."

Well, Mr. Ford, thanks to Aaron Russo, there just may be a revolution. As George Orwell said, "In a time of deceit telling the truth is a revolutionary act." In a film like no other, Russo has told the truth.

*The opinions expressed on this page are not necessarily those of the KP News. We neither endorse nor oppose issues or proposals discussed on this page and present these views for public information only.*



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# KP News executive editor resigns

By PJ Callahan, KP News

Rodika Tollefson has resigned as executive editor of the Key Peninsula News, effective Sept. 15. In an email message to the KP News staff and contributors, she explained: "I made this decision because I felt the time is right to move on, and a door opened that will allow me more 'free time' so I can get reacquainted with my kids." Tollefson, who edits and writes for other publications in addition to working for KP News, went on to joke that the change would mean cutting her work week to 58 hours instead of 60.



TOLLEFSON

Tollefson will continue to live on the Key Peninsula with her husband and three sons, ages 2, 11 and 13, and plans to volunteer for the newspaper.

"When I met Rodika for the first time, she impressed me as a bright, young, energetic woman with great

ideas," said Irene Torres, president of the KP News Publishing Board and volunteer staff writer. "Little did I know how multitalented she would turn out to be. We are fortunate to have been able to work with her during these past five years. Under her direction, the KP News has become an important part of local history and a trusted source of community information, news and stories about our neighbors. Her announced resignation truly signifies the end of an era; but, it also signals the beginning of a new era. All of the KP News Publishing Board members, as well as staff and contributors, know that Rodika will enjoy ongoing success in her career."

Tollefson will serve as editor for two newspapers owned by the Kitsap Sun — the existing North Mason Life and the new Port Orchard Life. She served as the first paid editor of the KP News for five and a half years, and is credited with revamping the editorial content and vision for the paper.

According to Tim Kezele, longtime Key Peninsula resident and past civic

center president who served on the publishing board when it was created in 2004, "She took a broken-down paper that lost money for years and had ceased publication for six months, and came back with this winning publication that the Key Peninsula could be proud of."

The KP News Publishing Board has begun recruiting for a replacement.

"An earnest search for a new executive editor is already underway," Torres said. "Rodika has laid excellent groundwork for the newspaper's business continuity. With her willingness to see the newspaper through this transition, we expect a qualified person will be selected to fill the position during August, and be ready in September to seamlessly take the newspaper into the future."

## BRIEFS

news

### Parks district offers grants

Key Pen Metro Parks has developed a program to help community groups improve park, recreation, and program opportunities for citizens of the Key Peninsula. In 2008, there is a maximum of \$25,000 available in two pools, with \$5,000 available in \$1,000 grants, and the remaining \$20,000 available for one or more grant for larger projects.

The types of projects supported by Key Pen Parks grants are: capital improvement projects, park maintenance and recreation programs. To qualify, community groups must match the district's contribution with volunteer time, in-kind donations of goods and services, and/or financial contributions. Call 884-9240 for information or to request an application.

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# Septic-related project launched for KP

By Irene Torres, KP News

Three representatives from the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department visited the Key Peninsula in early June to announce a relatively new program available for septic system repair. About a dozen KP residents turned out to the KP Civic Center to hear Ray Hanowell, Christine Matter-Rhinehard and Len Adams, with the Septic System Operation and Maintenance Program, discuss their work.

A failing septic system is the last thing anyone wants to think about. But considering the costs of remediation of streams and waterways, and the staggering cost (\$24,000-\$28,000) for a replacement, the septic system deserves attention.

The health department frequently conducts shoreline sampling in shellfish areas. Employees check septic systems in these areas on a three- to five-year basis with a dye test. They monitor for paralytic shellfish poisoning. They also refer poor animal-keeping practices, and ensure new septic systems protect water quality.

Hanowell discussed the program, a partnership of Pierce County Water Programs, the Pierce Conservation District, Shellfish Partners and the health department, in conjunction with the Puget Sound Partnership ([www.psp.wa.gov](http://www.psp.wa.gov)), to clean up the Puget Sound. The goal is to have a plan in place and move in that direction by 2020. They are seeking public input and will hold more public meetings as the program develops.

The Key Pen has been identified as a Marine Recovery Area (MRA), at risk for failing septic systems to impact sensitive shellfish habitats and water quality. Under the MRA program, part of the health department's existing Shellfish Watersheds Program, KP residents whose properties are near streams and shorelines may be eligible for low-interest loans and grant monies to help cover the costs of repairs.

The three-step process for keeping a septic system functional is:

- Find it: The health department's offers a service for the public to access as-built drawings of about 4,500 of the 80,000 septic systems in the county. The contact

## 5 signs of a failing system

- Foul odors inside or outside the house
- Plumbing or septic tank backup
- Slow draining fixtures
- Gurgling sounds in the plumbing system
- Surfacing sewage, wet spots or lush vegetation growth in the drainfield area.

Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department contact on septic issues: 798-6470 or email [septicinfo@tpchd.org](mailto:septicinfo@tpchd.org). For information on the repair grant/loan program, call Ray Hanowell at 798-2845.



Photo by Irene Torres

Ray Hanowell presents the new septic system programs at the KP Civic Center in early June.

number for this department is 253-798-6577, or search by parcel number or street address on their web page at [www.tpchd.org/septic](http://www.tpchd.org/septic).

- Inspect it: Adams said an inspection takes only five to 10 minutes and is voluntary. Certified contractors or the homeowners themselves can do inspections. A county pamphlet (How to Inspect Your Septic Tank) shows how to make a "sludge judge" to measure the level of solids in the septic tank. Adams outlined future activities, including additional septic surveys, more homeowner education, better identification and faster correction of failing systems, and possibly attaining more grant funding. The Pierce County Coalition for Environmental Health Priorities (Mary Ann Siefert, 253-798-3823) and the KPGH Island Watershed Council (Barbara Ann Smolko, 253-798-6156) have helpful information for homeowners.

- Take care of it: Matter-Rhinehard said, "You own, operate and maintain your very own small wastewater treatment plant, whether you like it or not." Her advice is to conserve water, not use water-appliances (dishwasher, laundry, showers) simultaneously, and space usage throughout the day, allowing the tank to rest between loads. This helps keep the solids in the tank and from flowing out into and filling the drain field. "Don't flush solids, including coffee grounds, grease, diapers, cigarettes, and tampons," Matter-Rhinehard advised. She discouraged the use of strong chemicals or overuse of bleach, cleansers, or flushing unused medicines and antibiotics. She encouraged the use of "greener cleaners" like baking soda, liquid castile soap, and vinegar and water. As far as septic tank additives, Matter-Rhinehard does not recommend them. "Manufacturers must prove they don't do harm to the environment, but they don't have to prove they work," she said.



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# Playground in the works for Home Park

By Donna Smeall, KP News

Several years ago, a small group of individuals decided change was needed in Home. The small community had no park until they decided to change things and cleaned up a property now known as Home Park. In that same community spirit, the Key Pen Parks Playground Committee has taken action.

On March 12, 2008, this committee of nine volunteers formulated the Home Park Project and submitted a budget for the construction of the park. The budget is broken down into four parts, including \$50,000 for playground equipment, to be bought from BigToys Inc.; \$30,000 toward building a contained restroom vault; and another

\$22,000 will be set aside for site work on a picnic shelter. Funding will come from Key Pen Metro Parks as well as sponsorships and donations.

The committee members also voted to add a specialized park area for younger children separate from the older children, allowing for safer play for them.

The parks district is seeking sponsors and volunteers who would like to contribute to help build the playground and picnic shelter. Sponsorships and donations are accepted for benches, picnic tables, barbecue pits and other components.

Contact Key Pen Parks by emailing to [info@keypeninsulaparks.com](mailto:info@keypeninsulaparks.com) or call 884-9240.



A rendering of the Home Park playground.

Courtesy KPMPD

# Powerline Road settlement to be approved

By Rick Sorrels  
Special to KP News

The long-standing road access dispute between Powerline Road residents and the city of Tacoma, which owns the road right-of-way, is nearing final settlement for the property owners involved in the lawsuit.

"Property owners have agreed to maintain the road and to each pay \$50,000 for a recorded easement," said Bill Fosbre, attorney for the city of Tacoma.

Fosbre said the utility board that governs Tacoma Power (owned by the city) approved the settlement on June 11, and the matter was expected to go before the city council at the end of June. "We expect that the property owners' title companies will cover the

cost," Fosbre said.

The Tacoma City Council is the only entity that can legally agree to grant property rights to individuals. Fosbre said he expected no problem at the June 24 city council vote, which took place after the KP News deadlines.

"Property owners not involved in the lawsuit are not covered by the settlement, but I expect that a similar offer might be accepted by the utility's board, if the unsettled property owners chose to resolve the issue in that manner," Fosbre said. "There has been no discussion yet what to do about those property owners not included in the settlement. They would be trespassing if they continue to use the road without obtaining agreement with us."

Lance Lott, the lead plaintiff in the

lawsuit, said, "We (the property owners) are not happy with all of the details, but the attorney and title companies led us to believe there were no other alternatives. The iron gate stays. The title companies will be paying Tacoma Power about \$600,000, but they are not paying for future road maintenance. The property owners involved in the lawsuit must form a road maintenance group and absorb the cost of future repairs. The other property owners not involved in the lawsuit do not have this responsibility, which might develop into an area of contention over their free ride. I'm sure glad that I paid for the extra title coverage when I purchased the property."

Last winter, a section of Powerline Road (known on maps as 144th Street)

near Wright-Bliss Road washed out due to heavy rains, causing daily access problems for residents and also for Tacoma Power, which needs to access utility lines about once per month. None of these residents had joined this lawsuit.

Tacoma Power has been seeking an alternative access route through neighboring properties to bypass the washed-out section of road. "Offers have been given to property owners for Tacoma Power to purchase access rights," Fosbre said. "We await their return."

Residents along this western portion of Powerline Road will be facing a double whammy of a washed-out road and no right to use the road even if it were serviceable.



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# Squabbles continue among FD 16 commissioners

By Danna Webster, KP News

For the past year, local citizens have watched the turn of events for Fire District 16, as Commissioner Allen Yanity was convicted of assaulting fellow Commissioner James Bosch. With the legal decision settled and interview restraints lifted, the two commissioners expressed views about the work of the fire district's Board of Commissioners that, on the surface, seem in agreement.

In separate interviews with KP News, Bosch and Yanity agreed that the five-member board is an improvement; establishing the Key Center station as a physical fitness center for the firefighters is the right move. Both agree there should be zero-tolerance of illegal drug use for fire fighters, and both acknowledge the objection to mandatory drug testing is a labor union issue argued by many public service unions including firefighters, police and teachers' organizations.

However, agreement on those subjects is not an indicator of a unified approach for these two commissioners. As the expression goes, the devil is in the details.

Before the June 10 commissioners' meeting was called to order by Bosch, who is the chairman, a recall petition document, claiming that Bosch violated his oath of office, was circulating in the audience. The petition stated that Bosch's participation in an executive session on Feb. 5, which considered the appointment of two additional commissioners, was a malfeasance and misfeasance of his duty.

Once the meeting was called to order at 3 p.m., the first request was from Yanity asking to amend the agenda. He requested the presentation of four complaints against him be moved out of an executive session and into public hearing. Bosch agreed to do so.

After comments and reports about a good conference, a good response by firefighters to a house fire and awards for firefighters, the discussion slid into a 15-minute argument about Yanity's allegedly unauthorized attendance at a Brown's Point meeting and his reimbursement request for a restaurant dinner when the vendors at the meeting provided a meal.

Former Commissioner Fred Ramsdell

and his wife walked into the meeting in time to hear Yanity say, "It's a state law, you can't tell me what to eat," causing Mary Ramsdell to whisper to her husband as they sat, "I see it's as productive as ever."

Shortly after 5:30 p.m., the commissioners were ready to return to the four complaints against Yanity. Volunteer Claudia Jones raised her hand and said she found the coffee mug Yanity was using offensive. She read aloud the message from the cup, "I see dumb people." "I don't understand the level of integrity. I don't find it is an appropriate place to bring that," she said.

At 5:45 p.m., Bosch presented guidelines for public discussion of the four complaints against Yanity and all four complaints were heard and disputed. The commissioners voted three to one to issue a warning to Yanity about his rude and loud conduct at the Feb. 5 meeting; they voted to censure Yanity for his fourth-degree assault finding by Pierce County Supreme Court; to serve a warning to Yanity about disparaging remarks about a vehicle accident during

a rescue operation; and to censor him for his statements made in a May 21 Peninsula Gateway article seeking the attention of the auditor about the matter of the executive committee meeting on Feb. 5.

Settling the four formal complaints did not end the meeting. There was further controversy over meal and travel vouchers.

Bosch: "There is another big issue. Mr. Yanity goes into the office and on his own changes the reimbursement request."

Yanity: "When did I change the voucher?"

Bosch: "I only know my original request was voided out."

Yanity: "Who said I did that?"

Hunt: "I think vouchers should be left alone. In the future — no changes."

There was a call for adjournment at 7:04 p.m. and Yanity's aside remarks of "Kangaroo Court" were silenced. About 90 minutes of the meeting addressed fire district concerns and issues, and over one-half of the time, about 150 minutes, was consumed by internal commissioner problems.

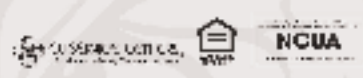
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# Volunteers keep KP roadsides

By PJ Callahan, KP News

Whether it's adopt-a-road or adopt-a-highway, Key Peninsula volunteers are motivated by community pride and the desire to keep our scenic highways beautiful, environmentally safe and free of litter. Several local organizations and groups volunteer their time as part of the two programs.

Almost since Pierce County first created the Adopt-a-Road Litter Control Program in 1992, the Key Peninsula Lions Club has maintained a two-mile section of Key Peninsula Highway south of Olson Drive NW.

"During the first perhaps 15 years of the 24 years, the KP Lions assumed responsibility for cleanup of the stretch of KP Highway from Key Center to Volunteer Park, and we went about the task annually and wound it up with a club picnic at various sites," said Hugh McMillan, membership chair. Since then, the group has occasionally received assistance from various correctional facilities.

Other volunteer groups that help keep Key Peninsula Highway and other county roads litter free include Delk family, Key Peninsula Business Association, Key Peninsula Lutheran Church, Key Peninsula Youth Council, Kleinsasser, Vohn & Diana, Longbranch Community Church, and Longbranch Improvement Club. Groups that have adopted State

Route 302 include Drive Through Feed, LDS Church-Key Center Ward, Ravensara, Rocky Bay Equine Veterinary, Victor Improvement Club and WSU Alumni.

"These folks take better care because it is literally their front yard," said Bruce Wagner, road maintenance manager with the Pierce County Road Operations Division.

The county and state support the groups through loaned-out hardhats, vests and "Volunteer Litter Crew Ahead" signs. They also provide litter bags and bag pickup. Since 1992, volunteers have collected over 17,232 bags of litter (that's over 4,308 tons) from county roadways. In addition to equipment and supplies, the county sends out a mini-DVD that outlines the program fully and provides safety information to all groups. The state also provides safety tips.

"Safety is the number one priority," said Duke Stryker, Olympic Region Area 1 coordinator for the Washington State Department of Transportation Adopt-a-Highway Program. "If our volunteers can't clean our roads safely, we won't ask them to do it. We won't put them in a place we wouldn't put ourselves."

Through partnering with the county and state to support litter control efforts, volunteers save money by reducing the amount of time paid road crews spend cleaning roadside litter. The programs also help remind people not to litter, reduce traffic hazards if litter were to blow into the view of drivers on the highway, and eliminate hazards to the environment.

The county and state programs operate essentially the same way. The first step is to form a group and designate a responsible person to be the leader. Application information, forms and agreements are available on the respective agency Websites. Both programs require all participants be at least 15 years old and for one adult to supervise each group of eight minors. Parental consent is required of participants under 18 years. Due to the risks associated with roadside cleanup, all participants are required to sign hold-harmless agreements.

"The risks, I think, are minimal," said Key Peninsula Business Association President Jud Morris. "We are all wearing gloves of some nature. The problems are more for the environment, like plastic and cans that don't biodegrade."

Most highways require cleanup two to six times a year, depending on the highway and volume of anticipated litter. Assigned sections by the county are two miles long,

# clean



Photos by Karina Whitmarsh

Genevieve Ellis of Ellis Accounting holds a pair of glasses she found among the trash along Key Peninsula Highway during KPBA's last road cleanup.

while state sections include two to four miles of roadside. Both programs allow participants to choose their section, based on availability. More popular areas or sections have waiting lists.

Both programs require a two-year commitment in order to receive an official Adopt-a-Road/Adopt-a-Highway sign with the group's name installed along the highway. The state also offers a sponsorship program that costs \$300-\$900 to have a WSDOT-approved contractor pickup and dispose of the litter on behalf of the sponsor, who is recognized on the signs.

To find out more about the Pierce County Adopt-a-Road Program, see [www.co.pierce.wa.us/pc/abtus/ourorg/pw\\_u/roadops/Adopt\\_A\\_Road.htm](http://www.co.pierce.wa.us/pc/abtus/ourorg/pw_u/roadops/Adopt_A_Road.htm), or call 798-7364. To report illegal dumping or junk vehicles, call 798-4636. To report the license plate of a driver who litters, call 1-866-LITTER-1. To learn about the Washington State Adopt-a-Highway Program, visit [www.wsdot.wa.gov/Operations/adoptahwy](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Operations/adoptahwy).

# KP Youth Council hits the road

By Hugh McMillan, KP News

One of the local groups participating in the Adopt-a-Road program is the Key Peninsula Youth Council. Members held their cleanup in May, giving up a substantial part of a Sunday to tidy up South Vaughn Road.

KPYC Secretary Nicole Rodman wrote, "Road cleanups are one of my favorite projects the Youth Council does because not only is it making the community look better, it also helps the environment. Last time we cleaned this stretch of road we picked up a ton of litter, this time there wasn't that much. To me that shows that what we are doing is really helping."

Mariah Roberts said, "I have a lot of fun doing this as it allows us to hang out in a more casual setting. We walk the roads with our garbage bags and road crew vests and end up being incredibly visible to even the most unseeing eye. I look forward to doing it next year."

Shanice Hrouda said, "We split up into two groups, each covering a part of the road. Although we were picking up garbage that people threw out of their car without a moment's hesitation, it was quite fun. We laughed, made jokes and thoroughly enjoyed ourselves. You have to wonder why someone would throw a plastic baggie with two rocks in it out of their car. One of the girls badly cut her leg due to something pointy and plastic sticking out of her bag, but even that did not dampen the day."

KPYC President Sarah Baum said road cleanup seemed like "a nice way to help the community."

"We plan to make this road cleanup an annual event around springtime," she said. "...Driving on the Key, I see a lot of garbage along the road. It's good to know that we are helping to reverse that problem and keeping the Key Peninsula a nice place to live."



Photo by Hugh McMillan

Gathered under their sign, members of the Key Peninsula Youth Council (l-r) Cameron McMillan, adviser Barbara Trotter, Shanice Hrouda, Mariah Roberts, Nicole Rodman, Alex Johnson, Torrie Torres, and Sarah Baum gave up a substantial part of a Sunday to tidy up South Vaughn Road.

# Key Penners at Maritime Gig



Key Pen resident Yulya Nichipor, 1, enjoys the Maritime Gig Fest. *Photo by Mindi LaRose*



KP resident Bill Trandum and his grandson, Maxwell "Max" Case Rogers, take a moment from parading to wave for the camera. Max's middle name, Case, is after Case Inlet, a favorite destination of his parents, Chris and Heidi Rogers. *Photos by Rodika Tollefson*



Top left, Representing Key Pen-based Birch Electric in the Maritime Gig Parade in downtown Gig Harbor in June are Miranda Canavan, Sara Liberty, Tonya Stevens, Ellie Canavan, Emily Stevens, Kendall Liberty and Bridget Liberty, all residents of Key Pen or Gig Harbor. *Photo by Rodika Tollefson*



Left, Foreground, Matt Burkey, a Key Peninsula Middle School seventh grader, is part of the entry by All Star Guitar, owned by KP resident Dan Wilson (seen in the background wearing a white hat). Right, the Boardman family, left to right, Tom, Rebekah and Julie with KPMS music teacher and band director Meg Mansfield after a KPMS performance at the Gig.



Key Peninsula Middle School's beginning and intermediate bands perform at the Gig after the parade. *Photo by Rodika Tollefson*

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# Salmon bake helps celebrate church history

By Glen Ehrhardt, Special to KP News

The 100th anniversary of the Longbranch Community Church celebration coincides with the church's eighth annual salmon bake. As is traditional, the bake will be on Saturday, July 26, 2-6 p.m. at the Longbranch Improvement Club.

New additions make this down-home community atmosphere event even more unique. An array of nonprofit community organizations with awareness booths detailing local programs and services will be on hand. A hay ride for both young and old with its very own accordion player is available.

"This represents country living at its best," says Oliver Coldeen, head chef for the event. "Especially with the 100th anniversary of our church, combined with our typical summer bake festivities, it makes this year's event even more attractive."

The menu includes Coldeen's famous salmon (hot-dogs for nonsalmon eaters), corn on the cob, potato salad, and strawberry shortcake.

A fully stocked trout pond with fishing



Photo courtesy Glen Ehrhardt

Oliver Coldeen mans the grill at last year's salmon bake.

contests for all ages once again promises real excitement. The pond is stocked with 350 trout, some weighing in over four pounds. "We feel this really ties in well with the overall theme," Coldeen says. The state salmon hatchery will be involved in this collaborative effort.

This year serves up a variety of Christian-based musical entertainment along with an eBay type silent auction. Items can be bid on or bought outright for a predetermined price. A partial list includes: a night, including dinner, at the Inn at Gig Harbor, a night's stay at the Bear's Lair B&B, boat outings and a professional photo shoot.

*Glen Ehrhardt is an organizer of the annual LCC salmon bake.*

# LCC celebrates centennial

By Colleen Slater, KP News

Longbranch citizens built the first church on the peninsula, The Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Holy Trinity, and the third, Longbranch Congregational Church. The oldest church in continuous existence on the Key Peninsula is Longbranch Community Church.

Elizabeth Curl helped organize a Sunday School for English-speaking settlers of the area about 1900. She became superintendent and remained active until her death at 94. A Ladies Aid Society also was created, but a real church took a few years more.

Stephen Penrose, president of Whitman College in Walla Walla, spent summers at Penrose Point, and proposed the building of a Congregational church.

The Wyatt family hosted a meeting of 21 interested people in 1908 to form a church "under Congregational principles." Wyatt donated land overlooking Filucy Bay. Local funds and labor, plus some Congregational Church money, provided the means for construction. Raffles, bazaars, dinners and festivals added contributions.

On April 11, 1909, Easter services took place in the lower floor, called Penrose Hall. Penrose preached for them when on the peninsula and conducted the church dedication service that summer.

William Major Upcraft, a missionary on leave due to health reasons, was selected as pastor in 1909, and asked that a generous quarterly offering be made to missions in lieu of a salary.

In the 1930s, the hillside began to slide, and the church started breaking apart. The congregation met in the schoolhouse and community hall, and discussion began for a new church.

In 1940, Longbranch Community Church was incorporated. Abel and Leda Rickert donated a half-acre for the building. Again, community members worked together, raising money, donating materials, and using their tools to build. The new church, dedicated in 1948, was free of debt.

Charles and Ivanell Glasson bought the first church property, dismantled the building, and contributed the stained glass windows, bell, and Bible to the new one.



Photo courtesy Glen Ehrhardt

The modern look of Longbranch Community Church.

August Anderson built the mahogany veneer pulpit furniture. He also supplied water from a spring on his property across the road until a well was drilled. Carl Jacobson donated the organ used into the 1960s, and in later years, a piano. Mrs. O'Gust Johnson, Mrs. Louise Ostling, Mrs. Joe Dorfner, Mrs. August Shellgren and daughter Ellen gave memorial windows.

The Art Summerfelts, Joe Dorfner, Mrs. Philip Smith, and Ingolf Reiten provided gifts of a gold cross, candelabra, communion table, and flags. Eloise Paul later donated a stained glass window in honor of her late husband, Lyle, former pharmacist and Longbranch Mercantile storekeeper.

John Smircich served as first pastor. Marguerite Curl, granddaughter of Elizabeth, and Raymond Bussard became the first couple married in the new church.

The Abel Rickerts donated additional land in 1958 for a fellowship and education hall. In 1960, a house moved across Filucy Bay on a barge at high tide was used over the years as a manse, office, classrooms, and the first peninsula health clinic.

"For one hundred years the Longbranch Community Church has faithfully served as a witness to God's love, through word and deed. Positioned like a lighthouse on Filucy Bay, it has been constant and steady in shining God's divine light into hearts and homes on Key Peninsula, said its current pastor, the Rev. Arlyce Kretschman.

One hundred years of community spirit will be included in this church's anniversary celebration.

## Event information:

Saturday, July 28, 2 to 6 p.m., Longbranch Improvement Club at 4312 Key Peninsula Hwy S in Longbranch.

Tickets \$14; pre-sale \$12; 6-12 - \$5; 5 and under free. Purchase at Charboneau Construction, Coast to Coast Hardware at Lake Kathryn, Home Store, Longbranch Marina, Sunnycrest Nursery, or call 253-857-5184.

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#28088675 Susan Hoover 253-884-9168



**LONG BRANCH LAND \$139,000**  
10 Acres in a private, level setting. Well & septic installed. Foundations of previous dwelling destroyed by fire are visible & could possibly be used or removed. Well is 213 Ft deep. The tank & pump burned in the fire, but well & well head remain.  
#28092578 Dottie Mazza 253-225-0530



**HERRON ISLAND LAND \$109,500**  
The jewel of the south sound w/play fields, ball park, boat docks & launch. 3 mi of beach roaming. Property is 2 L shaped lots. 1 can be used as a garage space, the other has old cabin, either tear down or major rehab. Prop has water, power, needs updated septic.  
#28012565 Dallas Amidon 253-606-0972



**LAKE OF THE WOODS \$181,500**  
Great lake view! Well maintained home across from park & bke. Mstr at Opp. end, & a bonus rm to use as? Skylights add extra light to kitchen w/breakfast bar & eating area. Lots of windows in this bright & cheery home. Xtra lrg garage w/storage rm, cabinets & workspace. #28060127 Liz or Cinda 253-241-1797/253-884-1754



**LAKE OF THE WOODS \$249,900**  
Rambler close to amenities. 3BR 2BA with an inviting front porch. Pellet stove, open feel, lg LR, K w/eat-at counter, lg laminate flr. DR w/siders to roomy deck & hot tub. Lg, private back yard. Private Lake Beach Rights-enjoy activities on pristine waters.  
#28020206 Laura Mosley 253-377-6025



**LAKEBAY \$339,500**  
Spacious home in beautifully wooded setting. Stroll one of the wooded paths to the pond or soak in the hot tub. 2 two-car garages both with shop space. Extra large kitchen with island make s everyday meals or entertaining a group of your friends a breeze.  
#27183791 Liz Gefe 253-884-1265



**LAKEBAY \$288,500**  
The open floor plan and vaulted ceilings provide lots of light for this cozy home and the surrounding wooded acre provides privacy. An additional acre is also available for even more privacy in this small neighborhood.  
#28007666 Joyce Touey 253-380-2191



**HERRON ISLAND \$449,900**  
Breathtaking sunsets, Olympic Mountains, Case Inlet. Wrap around deck gives freedom to wander. Enjoy the hot tub. Over 100' w/125' of rock bulkhead. Two car carport w/shop and storage. Picture perfect cottage, open concept, propane fireplace, large eating bar.  
#28056194 Dallas Amidon 253-606-0972



**LONG BRANCH LAND \$179,950**  
5 Acres w/garage that includes full bath, power & deck. Pump house & well near street. 1000 gal. Propane tank almost full. Private electric gate shared w/neighbor. Driveway into garage. Lightly treed, partially cleared. Outbuilding is storage office.  
#28103843 Laura Mosley 253-377-6025



**CAVE CREEK QUALITY \$267,500**  
Beautiful 2 story home on 1 Ac. 3 BR, family & living room. Deck looking out over property. Stainless steel appliances. Hardy plank siding on all sides of home. Tile & upgraded carpet floors. Quiet dead-end road; all property surrounded by large tracts. #28086762 A.J. Millon 253-884-9537



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# PHS students get a taste of the business world

By Donna Smeall, KP News

Juniors at Peninsula High School experienced what it's like to run a company as part of a program called Washington Business Week. Students break into teams, or "companies," and have to make a variety of decisions related to running a business.

"Without our sponsors and the many volunteers we get every year, this program would not happen," said Michelle McLean, program coordinator. McLean combined efforts and resources with Tracey Turcotte, WBW's program manager, to get this year's program together. "It came down to crunch time... It almost didn't happen," McLean said.

Students are paired up with a company adviser (a community volunteer) who guides them through the process of creating a "business" from A to Z. With tools provided through the sessions, the students create a new product and a company working as a cohesive team. They also follow the sales and stock trends of their company through a

## Business Week

For more information about Washington Business Week, go to [www.WBW.org](http://www.WBW.org) or call 253-815-6900. WBW has added a summer program where the students can participate in a more in-depth educational experience at a local college campus. Pacific Lutheran University is the newest campus to join.

computer simulation called BizSim.

Nineteen companies were formed for this year's program; teams developed anything from a medical product called SurgoBot to the equivalent of an I-touch type device called "Life In the Palm of Your Hand" electronic secretary.

Each student had a role to play and a contribution to make. Student Mike Patterson of Company 6, Crystalview Contacts, said, "The pressure was on to adjust and make things work... I loved it; now I am going to participate in the summer program at PLU if they let me."



One of the PHS "companies" at Business Week.

Photo by  
Donna Smeall

By the end of the week, literally a couple hundred volunteers from the community have gone through the doors of the high school, educating and providing tools for the students to do their best with their project.

Volunteer judges, some from outside Pierce County, came to examine the students' efforts and the students found out whether their business met the grade or not. A presentation about their company, mission, and new product, including a commercial selling it, were shared with the judges. Students later

participated in a mockup tradeshow. Each "company" marketing teams raced around the floor of the show reaching out to the judges (investors) to try to gather investing dollars to win the day.

At the last hour of the academic day, the students gathered in the auditorium to see how their companies did. Principal Tim Winter told the audience, "In this fourth year of doing WBW, this is the largest body of volunteers here today; let us give them a round of applause for giving of their time and energy."

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The drawing will be held July 4th, 2008.

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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## BRIEFS

### school

### Wilkinson elected Washington State PTA leadership director

Kari Wilkinson, of Lakebay, was recently elected Washington State PTA leadership director. In this position she will be the chair of the convention classes

committee, coordinate the WSPTA Leadership Conference, and help develop WSPTA leadership resources.

Prior to being elected leadership director, Wilkinson served multiple terms as president of several PTAs including. Most recently, she served as Washington State PTA Region 10 director, which supports PTAs in Clover Park, Peninsula, Steilacoom Historical, Tacoma and University Place School Districts in Pierce County. In addition to her service with Washington State PTA, she teaches 7-year-olds at her church, volunteers for community events, and enjoys time with her husband, Matt, and their four children.

### PHS makes national list

Peninsula High School was included in Newsweek Magazine's recent list of top high schools in the nation. The list includes the top 5 percent of schools based on their high rates of students who take advanced placement exams. PHS ranked No. 1,325. It has previously been included on the list in 2006, when it was ranked No. 932.



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# COMMUNITY WORKS

Submit calendar items to [news@keypennews.com](mailto:news@keypennews.com) • Deadline 17th of the month

## Now-July 4 — Fireworks sold

Key Peninsula Veterans Institute is selling fireworks at Lake Kathryn Village. This event helps fund the many outreaches to veterans in the local Key Peninsula community. KP Civic Center Association volunteers are selling fireworks daily from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. at O'Callahan's parking lot in Key Center. Profits go to the Civic Center and back into the community.

## Now-Aug. 16 — Summer reading program

Summer Reading runs now through Saturday, Aug. 16. Kids get free booklets and information at any library or Bookmobile and log the number of minutes they read on the library's Website, [www.piercecountylibrary.org](http://www.piercecountylibrary.org). Programs include "Catch the Reading Bug" for kids ages 3-12, and "Metamorphosis" for teens. Registration may be required for some programs; contact branches.

Check for reading goals to win prizes at [www.piercecountylibrary.org/kids-teens/summer-reading-2008](http://www.piercecountylibrary.org/kids-teens/summer-reading-2008) Mary, (253) 536-6500, ext. 136

## July 2 and 16 — Lions Club host candidates

The Key Peninsula Lions Club invites the public to meet candidates for public office. On July 2, KP Metro Parks District Manager Scott Gallacher will discuss the future of KP Parks. State representative candidate Jan Angel will present on July 16.

Thursdays, July 2 & 16, 7 p.m. VFW Room, Key Peninsula Civic Center; George, 853-2721

## July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 — Toastmaster meetings

Join the Key Peninsula Toastmasters meeting Wednesdays from 12-1:00 p.m. at the Key Center Library. [fshirley@centurytel.net](mailto:fshirley@centurytel.net)

## July 3 — Adult co-ed softball deadline

Key Pen Parks is accepting team

registrations for weeknight co-ed softball. Teams will play a 10-game season, beginning July 14, and a tournament. Games will be Mon.-Thurs.; the tournament will be held on Sat.-Sun. in September. Cost is \$575 by July 3 and \$625 after that. Scott, 884-9240

## July 3 — Fuchsia club meets

The next meeting of the Lakebay Fuchsia Society will be Thursday, July 3, at 7 p.m. at Key Center Library. Myvanwy; 884-2283

## July 7-18 — Sports camps offered

Key Pen Parks, partnering with Skyhawks Sports, offers the following sports camps for ages 4-11. Each participant will receive a t-shirt, camp specific ball or pompoms, and great instruction.

July 7-11, Cheer, ages 5-6, 9-10 a.m., Mon-Fri, \$39, Key Center Civic Center

July 7-11, Cheer, ages 7-11, 10:30 a.m.-12, Mon-Fri, \$45, Key Center Civic Center

July 14-18, Mini-Hawks, ages 4-7, 9 a.m.-12, Mon-Fri, \$99, Discovery Elementary Scott, 884-9240

## July 7, 14, 21, 28 — Bloodmobile

The bloodmobile will be at the Albertson's, 11330 51 Ave. NW, Gig Harbor, on Mondays from 12:30-7 p.m. See calendar at [www.keypennews.com](http://www.keypennews.com), for other dates.

## July 12 — Volksmarch at Penrose

The Key Peninsula Lions Club will sponsor its 19th annual 10K Volksmarch in Penrose Point State Park. The march starts at the Ulsh property; call for detailed directions. The trail passes into Penrose Park where it passes primeval forest, Puget Sound, and back to the start point. Water and toilets are available.

Saturday, July 12, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. start at Ulsh Road; end at Penrose Point State Park; 884-3319 or 857-3655

## July 12 — ASHES annual rummage sale

ASHES holds its annual rummage to raise money to help the firefighters buy items they need and are not in their budget. ASHES contributes to the ambulance funds and to scholarships for department-related education of the firefighters. Donations may be dropped off at the station the day before from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Good, gently used items are welcome. Women interested in joining ASHES, call the numbers below.

July 12, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Key Center Fire Station; 884-5430 or 884-3771

## July 12 — Bug Art

Children 6 and up can create some buggy art for the summer reading program "Catch the Reading Bug." Key Center Library, 1:30 p.m. Registration required. 884-2242

## July 12 & 13 — Safe sitter class

The KPFFA is presenting CPR, First Aid and how to be a safe sitter courses. The KPFFA provides scholarships for many of the safety classes.

Saturday & Sunday, July 12-13, Safe sitter class, Key Center Fire Station, \$15-\$25 bring a packed lunch; 884-2222

## July 17 — Puppet Theater

The "Three Little Pigs" and "Stone Soup" will be presented for children ages 5 and up at 10 a.m. at the Key Center Library Puppet Theater. 884-2242

## July 19 — S.A.V.E. flea market

S.A.V.E. Thrift Store in Purdy is hosting an outdoor collectible flea market from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. No early sales. No animals allowed. If it rains, the sale will be the following weekend. Vendors call 857-2800 for information.

Marsha, 857-7557

## July 24 — Mother Goose at the library

Children ages 3-5 accompanied by a

parent are invited for stories, songs, rhymes and fun on Thursday, July 24 at 10:30 a.m. 884-2242

## July 29 — Zoo at the library

Children ages 6 and up observe and learn about little bugs with big jobs on Tuesday, 10:30 a.m. at Key Center Library. Presented by the Point Defiance Zoo. Free. Register at 884-2242

## July 31 — Local writers share work

Bongo drums will open Beat Night at O'Callahan's starting at 6 p.m. Writers, poets and songwriters will present. All are welcome

## Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22 — Outdoor movies

KP Parks partnered with Children's Home Society to offer Friday movies in August, as follows: Aug. 1 "Ratatouille," Aug. 8, "Bee Movie," Aug. 15, "High School Musical" and Aug. 22, "Shrek 3."

Movies shown at Volunteer Park at dusk, or KP Civic Center in case of adverse weather. Suggested donation \$1 per person and one can of food for Key Peninsula Community Services.

## Aug. 4-8 — Vacation Bible School

Children 4 through those entering sixth grade in September are welcome to attend from 9-12 a.m. at Lakebay Christian Assembly's Vacation Bible School. Contact Gail, 313-0171 or [funandfancy@ureach.com](mailto:funandfancy@ureach.com)

## Thursdays — Senior society meets

"Yesterday's Teenagers" have weekly potlucks, card playing and general fun every Thursday at noon at the Vaughn Civic Center and welcome any seniors. 884-4981 or 884-5052



# OFF THE KEY

## July – Concerts and movies in Gig Harbor

Concerts are on Tuesdays at Skansie Brothers Park from 6:30-8 p.m. Bring a chair or a blanket and arrive early. July 1, The Diamond Experience; July 8, Danny Vernon-Elvis Tribute Artist; July 15, 133rd ARMY Band; July 22, The Beatniks; July 29, JC Hyke.

Friday night Date Night movies at Donkey Creek Park are for adults only and begin at dusk. Bring a chair or blanket and arrive early. July 11, "Casablanca"; July 25, "A League of Their Own."

Saturday night Family Night movies are begin at dusk at Skansie Brothers Park - July 12, "Bee Movie"; July 26, "Happy Feet"

## July 12 – Visit a farm

MayHill Farms in Port Orchard invites all to enjoy the farm, walk and see art such as watercolors, cards, bamboo walking sticks and wreaths, herb wreaths, felting, wool art and more. Farm has labyrinth. Kids' activities are from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Free admission and parking. [www.mayhillart.com](http://www.mayhillart.com)

## July 14 & 21 – Teen Survival

The Gig Harbor Police Department offers a program for teens called Act Cautiously, Decide Carefully, with topics: July 14 - Internet Safety; July 21 - Bullying; Aug. 18 - School Safety. All classes will be broken down into a two-hour class for parents on Monday, Aug. 18 from 6-8 p.m.

Monday, July 14 & 21, 10-11 a.m. followed by lunch, Gig Harbor Civic Center, 3510 Grandview Street. Register

with GHPD Community Service Office  
Lynn Mock; 853-2426 or  
[mockl@cityofgigharbor.net](mailto:mockl@cityofgigharbor.net)

## July 19 – Patio-Bake Sale

St. Hugh Episcopal Church annual patio-bake sale in Allyn supports the local and extended community, including the Key Peninsula. Lots of items for sale including furniture, linens, knit items from Mission Creek Ladies, electronics, sports equipment, tools, plants, and more. The church has been giving support to the KPCS Food Bank for some time.

The St. Hugh Episcopal Church is located in Allyn, at the far end of E. Wheelwright, a short distance up Lakeland Way. The sale is 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

## July 19-20 – Summer Art Festival

The 24th annual festival, sponsored by Peninsula Art League and KeyBank, offers arts and crafts from over 150 artists, food vendors, music, and entertainment for children. The Summer Art Show is inside KeyBank. Free shuttle buses will be at the park-and-ride on Kimball Drive.

Saturday & Sunday, July 19-20, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. on Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. on Sunday, Gig Harbor, free: [www.peninsulaartleague.com](http://www.peninsulaartleague.com); Carol, [cfvalstyn@comcast.net](mailto:cfvalstyn@comcast.net) or 265-8139

## July 19-20 – Allyn Days

Allyn's Waterfront Park will be host to the 26th annual Allyn Days Salmon Bake & Festival sponsored by the Allyn Community Association. Over 100 booths, including several micro-breweries, will be

open Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. (followed by a free dance from 6-9 p.m.) and Sunday from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. [www.AlynACA.com](http://www.AlynACA.com) or call 360-275-9744

## July 20 – Deadline for bike ride registration

The fifth annual Ride Around Puget Sound (RAPSody) will be bicycling across the new Tacoma Narrows Bridge as part of the 170-mile route, which starts and ends at Tacoma Community College and passes through Port Orchard, Shelton and Olympia. Training for this challenging ride should start now for the Aug. 23-24 ride.

RAPSody is a fundraiser for the Bicycle Alliance of Washington's statewide bike advocacy and education efforts. Cost is \$80 through July 20. Registration closes on Aug. 17; [www.rapsodybikeride.com](http://www.rapsodybikeride.com) or 206-577-6999 Register online at [www.active.com](http://www.active.com).

## July 26 – Car show at Narrows

Cruise the Narrows Car Show at the Tacoma Narrows Airport is from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. All years, models and makes of cars, motorcycles, and boats are welcome. Dash plaques, door prizes and trophies in over 20 categories are awarded. Proceeds go to Cruisers Charities. [www.gigharbor-cruisers.org](http://www.gigharbor-cruisers.org)

## July 26 – Grapeview Water Festival

The 15th annual Grapeview Water Festival, sponsored by the Grapeview Community Association, will be at the Fair Harbor Marina. Good food, free activities for kids, a 3 balls/\$1 putting derby, a silent auction and a fishing derby (11:30-3) will be held. Life jackets are mandatory for all children. Saturday, July 26, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Fair Harbor Marina, on Grapeview Loop Road off Hwy. 3 miles from Allyn; Jody, [lgrumme@juno.com](mailto:lgrumme@juno.com)

## July 26 – Women in the Outdoors Workshop

A workshop presented by Puget Sound NWTF Chapters & Ft. Lewis Recreation will be for women aged 14 and up. Choose 4 from 8 courses. Fees: single, \$50 or \$45 if before July 14; \$45 each for two; \$75 mother/daughter special. Lunch included.

Saturday, July 26, Women's Workshop, Ft. Lewis-Russell Landing, 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. fee, must register by July 19; Megan, 253-7828

## Ongoing – McNeil Island information wanted

A local writer seeks stories, photos, and memorabilia from the early days of McNeil Island before residents were forced off, and up to today. Accounts involving McNeil, Longbranch and/or Anderson Island residents joining together in leisure, commerce, farming, etc., also wanted. Contact Chris at 884-9560 or email [McNeillIsland@centurytel.net](mailto:McNeillIsland@centurytel.net).

## Now – Peninsula Youth Orchestra registrations

The Peninsula Youth Orchestra is accepting applications in July for experienced string students (9-19 yrs old, 1+ year(s) string experience) to join the PYO for String Camp '08. Camp will be held August 11-15, with rehearsals, master classes, two concerts and fun. Paula, 253-534-5384, [info@harborpyo.org](mailto:info@harborpyo.org) or [www.harborpyo.org](http://www.harborpyo.org) to download an application.

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Do you remember  
**Earl & Billie (Velma) Quirk or  
Frankie Owens Quirk**  
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I am researching my relatives and am interested in copies of pictures, letters, and news clippings, or hearing your memories about them.

Please contact me by letter or email:  
**V. S. Brock, 38 Hawkins Place, Duxbury, MA 02332  
or [vsbrock@verizon.net](mailto:vsbrock@verizon.net)**

I will be in Gig Harbor in early July and again in mid-August and will gladly copy information you have or meet with you to hear your memories of the Quicks. If you prefer to talk by telephone, send me your name and phone # and I will call you.

Thank you.

## JULY PUBLIC MEETINGS

- Pierce County Council District 6, July 2, 5:30 p.m. at Lakewood City Hall, 6000 Main Street NW
- Fire District 16, July 8 and 22, 3 p.m. at Lakebay Fire Station
- Key Peninsula Community Council, July 16, 7 p.m. at Key Center Library
- KP Metro Parks, July 14, 7:30 p.m. at Volunteer Park Annex
- Peninsula School District Board, July 3, 5:30 p.m. (special meeting) and July 17, 6:30 p.m. (regular meeting) at the District Office, 14105 62nd Ave NW, Gig Harbor

# Key Center Roadhouse ready to serve

A new Key Peninsula resident himself, server Lloyd Rolfes, welcomes customers to the new Roadhouse Restaurant.



By Irene Torres, KP News

Father's Day found Linda and Mike Cuzzetta busy at the Key Center Roadhouse, where they are every day during breakfast, lunch and dinner — 6 a.m. to close. During the week, they seat an average of 80 to 100 guests a day, and on weekends between 150 and 175.

Both share the philosophy that their guests (which they prefer over the term customers) deserve to be treated to big portions at affordable prices. Mike said some guests are "awestruck" that they can substitute starch for starch (sweet potato fries for home fries) at no extra charge, and if the kitchen has the ingredients, they will customize meals. He said, "This is a matter of educating our guests to the fact that custom-made meals take longer." Mike said they

didn't anticipate having "this many people, so knowing how much to order, prep, and staff was a challenge at first."

The Cuzzettas said the two months since their opening have been gratifying, especially with the community support they've received. Mike said, "We've already met friends who have placed us on their 'short-list' of five restaurants. They want us to succeed. They feel a part of the business, and that feels really good."

Mike said he has been in the restaurant industry for 50 years, starting on a dish-line when he was 12. He has since earned a degree in restaurant management and has a teaching credential in institutional management. Linda is a gourmet chef by hobby.

They refer to their kitchen as "the

heart of the house." They both beam when recounting the Pierce County Health Department inspector's statement that the Roadhouse is "one of the cleaner restaurants" he has inspected.

Because some guests had to be turned away from the 65-seat restaurant on Father's Day, the Cuzzettas plan to open the lounge for additional food service capacity when the next holiday comes around. Future plans for lounge entertainment like mellow two-piece music ensembles, a comedy-dinner show and karaoke are being considered.

Keith Thomas, the Cuzzettas' business partner, takes care of the lounge business and accounting for the restaurant. Thomas also owns the Sit-n-Sip Tavern in Wauna.

Photo by  
Mindi LaRose

## Wings Pizza n Things bring memories of Pearls by the Sea

By Hugh McMillan, KP News

After months of sitting idle in its almost "National Monument" location in Purdy, the restaurant which for years was "Pearl's by the Sea," then, briefly, "The Beach House," and, even shorter lived, "Margarita Beach," has opened anew, and some patrons describe it as "the best location for a restaurant anywhere." Its new moniker is "Wings Pizza n Things, Sports and Grill," part of a nationally franchised food chain based in Texas. It is co-owned by Patrick Ward and James and Natasha Jones.

Everything has been freshly, brightly repainted and there is a new attractive floor. Framed copies of vintage travel prints adorn the walls and in the niches between the bar-lobby and the main dining area are scattered not-at-all-exact hand-made models of some famous aircraft including a Fokker tri plane, a Jenny, a P-51 Mustang, and even a Stuka.

Ward, of Bremerton, says, "Purdy has become my home away from home."

He has been in the restaurant industry for 25 years, 11 of which were at the Bremerton Keg restaurant. He has also worked such places as Black Angus and Anthony's. "Throughout all these years," he said, "I hold quality in



Photo by Hugh McMillan

The crew of "Wings Pizza n Things, Sports and Grill" recently opened in Purdy shares a bit of humor during a break.

the highest regard. Some might say that I am a perfectionist. Knowing how hard it is to open a restaurant for the first time, I was hesitant to do it on my own. Once James and Natasha Jones approached with the idea, it was an opportunity I couldn't pass up."

James Jones, born and raised in Bremerton and now a Purdy resident, is employed at the Bremerton naval base. His wife, Natasha, was born in Japan and has called several places home including the Purdy area. She teaches second grade nearby.

More than half of the restaurant's employees were born and raised on the Key Peninsula.

Longbranch Improvement Club

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www.longbranchimprovementclub.org

Go online to  
**www.keypennews.com**  
to see more photos in the photo gallery!

# Partying with ponies on the Key Pen

By Kristen Pierce, KP News

Mother-daughter team of Helen Chamberlain, founder of Sweet Medicine Party Ponies, and daughter Melissa Boardman work together on the Key Peninsula. The name of their business is a derivative from Chamberlain's primary business, Sweet Medicine Massages. She

and her husband, Jerry, own a home on several acres of land (also named the Sweet Medicine Farm), which they purchased in 1998. Since then, they have built arenas, a beautiful barn, and many fenced pastures for their "growing family" of miniature ponies. Recently, they added a wonderful playground for the children who come to enjoy the ponies.

Chamberlain is a Burley native. She always had farm animals and horses to enjoy and take care of while growing up. She also participated in junior rodeos as a young girl. The love of horses runs in the family. Her uncle has several full-sized horses on the acreage adjoining her property in Purdy.

On many occasions, Helen joined her aunt and uncle on outings to horse sales. At one of the sales, there was a particular black and white miniature pony that stood out in her eyes and tugged at her heartstrings. Realizing she had not brought her wallet, Chamberlain begged her aunt to dig in her purse for the money to buy the pony for her. Since then, she has bought and bred



Photo by Kristen Pierce

Helen Chamberlain with her granddaughter Olivia, Melissa Boardman's daughter, enjoying a visit with a pony.

five more miniature ponies. Their names are Calista, Junior, Bart, Blaze, and Too-Too, who has a newborn foal. "Each time my husband leaves town, I buy another pony," she admits.

Originally, Chamberlain's pony was a pet, until she came up with the idea to incorporate pony rides into a friend's wedding reception. The ponies were such a success that the idea of hosting children's birthday parties evolved into a business.

The children can ride by saddle or in carts. Chamberlain explains, "Either the children come here or we can bring the ponies to their homes." She goes on to say, "I have a love and passion seeing the expressions on the kids' and adults' faces as they enjoy the ponies and make a lifetime experience they'll always remember. We get to give them a piece of what I got to grow up with."

Her future goals are to work with the two black and white ponies and train them to act together as a team while giving people rides in the custom-made buggy. She also hopes to be able to do more weddings. As far as long-term goals, both women hope to pass on the love for miniature ponies and hopefully a thriving business, to Boardman's daughter, Olivia.

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*"Serving the Key Peninsula For 60 Years"*

(From SALATIN, Page 1)

and sentimentally desirable," he said to the guests sitting on hay bales and looking out upon the pastoral landscape of Bryants' sheep grazing on rich green pastures.

Salatin first spoke about the brix of grass. Like grapes, grass reaches a natural sugar content (brix) at its peak. A high brix in grass indicates a high humus in soil, which is achieved when organic matters sweeten the soil. The farmers want a good sweet grass for their animals' pasture and good pasture requires good usage. That introduced the topic of Salatin's mob grazing technique. A mob of animals, such as cattle or chickens, are crowded into a restricted area of pasture for a given period of time and moved systematically across the acreage. The mob acts as a single organism mowing the grass, while enriching the soil.

At Polyface Farm, Salatin employs his mob grazing theory, which he says is nature's model. Herbivores in nature mob for predator protection, moving daily onto fresh forage and away from yesterday's droppings. His goal is to approximate nature's template as



Photo by Danna Webster

Joel Salatin speaks to visitors of Warwick and Janice Bryant's farm.

closely as possible. When the cows rotate out of one pasture, a portable henhouse, called the Eggmobile, moves in. The laying hens free range from it, eating bugs and scratching through cattle droppings, sanitizing the pasture just like birds in nature.

Choosing the right animals based on desirable inherited traits became the

next topic as Salatin discussed genetics and geography. He discouraged importing breeds from regions foreign to our habitat. He explained the reason breeds have geographic names (Shetland Ponies, Scottish Highlanders) is because over time they worked well in that region. "We need a Pierce County sheep," he said. "It is a big mistake to bring in the wrong geographical animals, just because they are cute, in preference to the run of the mill stock from the neighbors," he said.

Once farmers achieve successful crops and herds, their next problem is getting their product to consumers, according to Salatin. "I believe the biggest hurdle is distribution," Salatin said as he began to describe a practice at his Polyface Farm where local farmers bring their produce to a central location and carpool it to the markets. "Distribution and marketing are collaborative based and shared at so much per pound," he explained.

The distribution topic was particularly significant to one guest, Todd Waltermire of Oakland Bay Farm in Shelton. He has begun organizing farmers in his area into a fresh harvest-share program. Consumer members receive fresh produce from local farms

on a weekly delivery basis. (Waltermire has a Webpage for information about his project at [www.oaklandbayorganic-farm.net](http://www.oaklandbayorganic-farm.net).)

After the presentation, Salatin was surrounded by guests seeking autographs. Some had become fans after reading about Salatin in Michael Pollan's "The Omnivore's Dilemma" and others brought copies of Salatin's own books such as "EVERYTHING I WANT TO DO IS ILLEGAL: War Stories from the Local Food Front," "Holy Cows and Hog Heaven," or "Salad Bar Beef."

Guests drove away from the Bryants' Kaukiki Farm enthused about farming and about the prospect for the new farmers market in Key Center. Many of them are involved with the market or with the HarvestFest Farm Tour that occurs the first Saturday in October. After Salatin's presentation, Janice Bryant was asked if she thought the Key Peninsula farmers market is a good idea, and answered, "I think it is essential as an outlet for local farmers in the community to support each other."

Supportive farmers working to sustain the farm lands was essential in the message Salatin delivered to the Key Peninsula.

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## Burn Ban Information

Is the burn ban permanent? Well, the answer is yes and no.

All land clearing fires are banned as of July 1st. The ban on land clearing fires is permanent. But 'Rural Residential' burning will be OK after the normal summer safety ban is lifted. The summer safety ban should start in early July as well. Sometime in the near future Washington State does plan to ban all outdoor burning.

These regulations are dictated to us by Puget Sound Clean Air Agency. Some lobbying from us and other rural communities helped them to understand the rural side of the issue. But they felt that enough of a 'reasonable' alternative existed at this time for to cease burning in land clearing operations, so that ban becomes permanent in Pierce, King & Snohomish counties.



Illegal burn

Once our normal fire safety ban is lifted, around Oct. 1st, the community will be allowed to continue burning 'rural residential fires' and the normal rules are expected to apply. This will be fires of natural vegetation on plots of land with an existing dwelling. The fires will be expanded from the current 4 feet limitation to ten feet in diameter. The exact rules haven't been set yet by the

Puget Sound Clean Air Agency but most likely will require a permit, just like they presently do.

Burn barrels have always and will continue to be illegal, as well as the burning of garbage. Once the new rules are worked out we will make them available to the public at the headquarters station and on our website. Be safe.

## Contact information

**Firefighter Association** - Molly: 884-6368

**Fire Chief** - Tom Lique: [tlque@piercefire.org](mailto:tlque@piercefire.org)  
884-2222

**Fire Commissioners** - Chairman Jim Bosch:  
884-3320

**Personnel Manager** - Christina Bosch:  
[cbosch@piercefire.org](mailto:cbosch@piercefire.org)

**Technical Services and Public Education** -  
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**Phone contact for all others:**

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## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

### Nicole Trent

Nicole grew up here on the KP and graduated from Peninsula High School. She joined us in 2003 as our accounts manager. Nicole fills in at the front desk when she isn't in her office. She is a certified notary, can take blood pressures and is just a wonderful person to work with.



## Upcoming Events

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# Kiwi Farms Fencing: A little bit of New Zealand on the KP

Sharon Hicks, KP News

This is not the kind of fencing used in a duel nor does the Kiwi bird enter the picture. It is about Janice and Warwick Bryant of Lakebay, who own a fencing company in Port Orchard. Warwick is from New Zealand and came to the United States in 1988 at the age of 19. He grew up on a farm that consisted mostly of agricultural fencing.

Deciding there was more to life, he spent five years touring and working in various countries in Africa, South America and Europe before he ended up in Wyoming.

Janice grew up in Iowa and the two met in Wyoming, were married in New Zealand, then Janice was transferred to the shipyard in Bremerton in 1989. That summer the Bryants started



The Bryant Family (l-r): Jackson, Warwick, McHardy and Janice, on their Key Peninsula farm, Twin Creek Farm. Warwick and Janice are owners of the Kiwi Fencing Company, Inc. in Port Orchard.

Photo by Mindi LaRose

thinking about agricultural fencing in New Zealand and decided to start a business in Port Orchard. Looking for a name associated with Warwick's country, they came up with the Kiwi bird so their company became Kiwi Farms Fencing Company, Inc.

The company is a major one in Washington and does custom fencing of every kind and size. In Chehalis, they put

up a 15-mile fence over a two-year period, which Warwick says is the longest. Another was three miles around the perimeter.

Warwick's staff will meet with clients to find their particular need and come up with a match, which can be of any material including PVC vinyl, electric, mesh, post and pole rails, chain link — the list goes on. His goal is to help people's dreams come true, which he calls the "white picket

fence dream."

A lot of agricultural fencing is done for bison, ostriches, horses and arenas. Kiwi Farms specializes in horse fencing and farm planning on a custom basis. For many animals, it is necessary to put up electric fencing with a noticeable top wire.

A lot of work is done with the conservation district in learning how to fence-off streams. Some interesting fencing has been done at the bear enclosures at the Point Defiance Zoo and Northwest Trek. When asked about a most challenging job, Warwick said putting up a chain link at the Monroe Prison, and Bellevue and North Kitsap hospitals.

Outgrowing Port Orchard, Janice and Warwick moved to Lakebay in November. They have two sons, McHardy, 5 and Jackson, 3.

Bryant has met a lot of white water rafters and thoroughly enjoys them as they are such a "happy-go-lucky kind of people," much like his friends back home. Asked if he misses New Zealand, he says he returns there at least once a year, sometimes twice.

## Meet Dan Towey

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# Ferris wheel part of early history

By Marge Radonich  
Special to KP News

Did you know one could ride a Ferris wheel and get a dish of ice cream in Vaughn before most folks had electricity in their homes?

The Gordon Kingsbury family, with sons Ralph and Howard, were in the chicken business. Around 1930, Kingsbury bought new pullets, which had coccidiosis, a disease with no cure. He tore down the new chicken houses and used the lumber to build cabins and a dance floor.

They called the resort at the end of Vaughn Bay Road Sunshine Beach. Most of the neighborhood kids gathered there to swim, and buy ice cream and penny candy.

Audrey Whitfield Paul said recently, "When Mr. Kingsbury died, a part of Vaughn died, too."

Several books as well as a CD in the Key Peninsula Historical Museum are biographies and autobiographies of people who grew up on the peninsula, including Ralph Kingsbury's "Ralph Has the Last Word" and Chet Dadisman's "A Bit of Dadisman Genealogy and My Life Remembrances."

Dadismans had the Home warehouse on the waterfront, where trucks delivered feed to local farms and picked up eggs.

Martha Moiré Swanson's notes and photos tell about the Moiré family, the only residents of Palmer Lake from 1925 to 1943. A fence surrounded the lake, and the city of Tacoma raised muskrats for their pelts.

Five albums on the history of Home were compiled by Stella Retherford. These and other books and collections of stories by local people can be read at the museum.

Local history books for browsing and for sale include Bertha Davidson's "Parade of the Pioneers," R. T. Arledge's "Early Days of the Key Peninsula," Colleen Slater's "The Key Peninsula," Findlay and Paterson's "Mosquito Fleet of South Puget Sound," and several others.

"Children of Home" is a CD, featuring stories by several people who grew up there.

The free museum open Thursdays and Saturdays 1-4 p.m., accepts donations.

Volunteer docents are needed. Call 884-3702 for information.

# Beyond Borders: A taste of the world awaits

By PJ Callahan  
Special to the KP News

A multicultural music event is coming back to Longbranch on Aug. 2, bringing to the Key Peninsula international music, food, art and more.

Beyond the Borders, the creation of Mark Runions, a Longbranch resident, was an "idea that took flight" last year when Runions and several members of Two Waters Arts Alliance began brainstorming ideas for a fun, family-oriented summer event celebrating the arts.

Initially Runions began by simply thinking about what he would like to see on the Key Peninsula. His first thought was a "multicultural music event with something out of the ordinary." The art and food components came later, as the LIC and Two Waters began to put together a plan. Carolyn Wiley, events chair of the LIC, was also instrumental in formulating the plan and coordinating the event.

The goal was to put together an international flavored event with good music from around the world, art and food, and to "expose the local community to wider variety of art and entertainment." Grants from the Angel Guild and the Geneva Foundation made a free event possible.

When asked about the biggest challenge the group faced in putting the event



Photo courtesy Mark Runions

The festival brings international culture to the Key Peninsula for the second year.

together last year, Runions said getting quality bands to drive to this locale for one-hour sets for less than their normal fee was a balancing act. "Fortunately, we were able to negotiate here and there until we could meet the budget and make it work," he said. "I really appreciate the groups that recognized our budget constraints and helped make it doable."

Soliciting volunteers and having no track record for the event were the biggest challenges. "We needed to make it sound appealing. We wanted to create a free event that offered music, art and food to our community and would be attractive for families. For this area, we knew it had to be free."

Organizers said last year's event drew a good crowd, and everyone enjoyed the

food and the music. The beer garden was also a popular hangout for adults because they could see and hear the musical acts.

"The drummers kept things moving during the breaks, the food was great and we all seemed to sense that something special was happening," Runions said. "It helped keep alive the spirit I got involved with over 20 years ago with some Key Peninsula arts activists. It created a kind of post-Woodstock feeling by exposing musicians and artists in a low-key way without commercialization."

This year's event builds upon last year's success, with additional volunteer help, more tents for shade, and more. "This event offers the tastes, sights and sounds of the world without a plane ticket or passport," Runions said.

## Beyond Borders details

The free festival is sponsored by the Two Waters Arts Alliance, the Longbranch Improvement Club and the Angel Guild, and takes place on Aug. 2 from noon to 6 p.m. at the LIC, Key Peninsula Hwy. S., in Longbranch. The four main acts are: Mooncoyne (Irish/Celtic), Leif Tutusek and Lora Chiora (Zimbabwe-Shona song and dance), Ancient Sounds (multicultural instrumental) and Abráce (multilingual vocal and percussion), as well as "Rhythm Intermission" in between those acts. The event will feature an art show in the gym, a beer and wine garden, international food and desserts from the LIC kitchen.

TWAA will accept artists' work Friday 4-6 at the LIC. Art will be selected by Bev Pederson and then hung Saturday morning. There is no entry fee and all work must be retrieved at 6 p.m. Saturday. TWAA is leasing table space at \$40 to artists or craft folks who would like to sell work at the festival. Please contact Margo at margomac53@comcast.net. For more information or to volunteer, contact Mark Runions at 884-4807 or visit [www.twowaters.org](http://www.twowaters.org).

## Movie screening

Key Peninsula resident Dan Johnson, managing director of Aspen Land Surveying, wants to share with local residents a movie that is important to him. "America...From Freedom To Fascism" didn't make it to most theaters, according to Johnson.

"I saw it when it first came out. It made such an impression on me that I want to show it to as many as I can. I think it is of value to others who are concerned about the direction that freedom is going in this country," he says. So Johnson bought a copy and his first public showing will be at the Civic Center on July 18 at 7:30 p.m. in the Whitman Room. The film is produced by Aaron Russo, who produced the feature films "The Rose," which introduced Bette Midler; and "Trading Places," starring Eddie Murphy and Dan Aykroyd. Russo promoted some of the '60s successful rock acts, including The Who, Janis Joplin, The Grateful Dead and Jefferson Airplane.

## 'Music of the Night' fireworks show at the Purdy Spit

By Jeanette Brown  
Special to the KP News

The fireworks display this year organized by the Henderson Bay Fireworks Committee will begin with The Star Spangled Banner and include a selection of four songs: The Music of the Night by Michael Crawford (Phantom of the Opera), What I've Done by Linkin Park, Heavenly Day by Patty Griffin and Baba O'Riley by The Who. The Purdy Sand Spit is a great vantage point for the Henderson Bay Fireworks Show and can also be enjoyed by those boating offshore.

"The show was a great success last year and a lot of fun," said organizer Richard Gillette.

Key Pen's Keith Stiles will once again be in the control booth at

Tune in to KGHP at 97.7 or 89.9 to complete the experience with music! Anyone interested in donating money to this nonprofit group should email [rgillette@centurytel.net](mailto:rgillette@centurytel.net).

KGHP-FM, Peninsula School District's radio station heard on 97.7 or 89.9, to broadcast the synchronized music so that everyone who watches the show can hear and listen to the music, which is choreographed to the fireworks display.

Organizers urge residents to respect the privacy and safety of local property owners and not drive to the area, which has no extra parking. Boaters are advised to stay a quarter-mile away from the barge for safety reasons.



Photo courtesy Susan Rule

A view of the Henderson Bay fireworks from the Gig Harbor side of the water.

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Firefighters battle an early morning fire in Lake of the Woods on May 27. The fire was blamed on an electrical problem. Nearly 30 firefighters responded, including from two nearby jurisdictions. The home was destroyed, with losses including contents and a car estimated at \$750,000. No injuries were reported.

Photo by Hugh McMillan

## FD-16 STATS

### Key Peninsula Fire Department rescue calls

**May 16:** An adult male with severe abdominal pain drove himself to his mother's home. The mother called 911 for assistance before his arrival. He was treated and transported to a Tacoma hospital.

**May 17:** Medics restrained and transported a combative woman who had reportedly overdosed on meth.

**May 18:** Two boys were wrestling when one struck the other in the head with a piece of plastic. Medics were called after the parent of the injured child reportedly struck the other boy in the head. A parent of the second child drove him to a hospital and Pierce County sheriff's deputies were called to investigate.

**May 23:** Firefighters responded to a rollover accident at the 2800 block of Whiteman Road KPS. One patient was transported to a Tacoma hospital for treatment.

**May 23:** A firefighter-paramedic sustained back injuries when an oncoming vehicle crossed the centerline in the 11900 block of SR-302 and hit the ambulance she was riding in. That driver fled the scene.

**May 24:** Paramedics responded to a Longbranch residence where an elderly female fell and suffered facial injuries. She was evaluated and transported to a Tacoma hospital.

**May 25:** Firefighters responded to an automatic fire alarm at a residence in the Key Center area. A contractor working at the home accidentally triggered the alarm.

**May 30:** Medics responded to a van that rolled over and crashed on Jackson Lake road. The driver, reported to be impaired,

### May total calls: 140

Medical aid: 96  
 Fires: 18  
 Burn complaints: 15  
 Vehicle crashes: 17  
 Weather related: 0  
 Other: 8  
 Mutual aid received: 8  
 Mutual aid given: 3

suffered only minor injuries and was transported to a Tacoma area hospital.

**May 31:** Paramedics were called to a Lakebay residence twice in the same afternoon for a teenage female who injured her hand and later threatened to harm herself. She was taken into custody by Pierce County sheriff's deputies and transported by ambulance for evaluation at a Tacoma hospital.

**June 4:** Medics responded to Minter Creek Elementary school for an arm fracture. The child suffered the injury on the playground. Medics splinted the arm and transported the patient to a Tacoma hospital.

**June 10:** A teenaged male fell from his skateboard and sustained a head injury on Lackey Road. He was stabilized at the scene and transported to a Tacoma hospital for treatment.

**June 11:** Firefighters provided mutual aid in Kitsap County, north of the county line on 82nd Avenue NW. The residential fire was contained to the second floor and there were no injuries reported.

**June 12:** Medics responded to an elderly male who suffered cardiac arrest as dispatchers coached a family member in doing CPR. The patient was rushed to a Tacoma hospital while medics continued life saving efforts.

# Equestrian teaches therapeutic horsemanship

By Sharon Hicks, KP News

What can you do with 35 acres? Sandra Reid decided she could found Boots 'n Breeches Therapeutic Horsemanship, and that's what her JW Farms is about. She is a member of the national organization NARHA, North American Riding Handicapped Association, which serves children and adults with disabilities.

Growing up in Pennsylvania on a farm with animals of all kinds, Reid developed a love for animals and horses, which has carried on since she left her state at the age of 12. Reid's life was interrupted, however, in 1998, when she was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis, and was unable to work for six months. (Her MS is now in remission.) The experience gave her the incentive to realize her dream of working with horses and people in a therapeutic setting. Five years ago, the dream came true in Port Orchard, starting out with two riders. That was the beginning of Boots 'n Breeches.

Reid's mission is to offer a superior program that transforms individuals and



Photo by Karina Whitmarsh

Sandra Reid at JW Farms in Lakebay.

encourages them to develop to their fullest through the therapeutic bond between horse and rider. Here, they can learn to regain balance, confidence, and something they can bond to that will have an impact on the rest of their lives. In April of this year, Reid moved her business to JW Farms in Lakebay on 35 acres with six horses.

Reid owns Oreo, a frisky appaloosa, and Hercules, a more serene haflinger;

two other horses belong to Boots 'n Breeches and two are privately owned. A specialty of Hercules is that he will lower his head for a rider to disembark.

Cash, a Border Collie, fits right in and loves to run with Oreo, back and forth, the length of the indoor arena. If he is locked out, his head can be seen bobbing up through the windows; he will then start running to catch attention. All horses are matched to the riders and will adapt to the rider's ability. In many cases, adaptive materials such as special stirrups and back braces are used.

Horses can help people in therapeutic horsemanship, as the movement of the horse imitates the human walk by gently and rhythmically moving the rider's body in a manner similar to a human gait. The riders show improvement in flexibility, balance, muscle strength and posture. The unique relationship formed with the horse and rider can lead to increased confidence, patience and self-esteem for individuals with mental or emotional disabilities.

Some of the disabilities that commonly

benefit from equine-facilitated therapy are muscular dystrophy, cerebral palsy, spinal bifida, multiple sclerosis, autism, learning disabilities, emotional disorders, spinal cord or brain injuries and many, many more.

In June, Boots 'n Breeches offered a program called Horses for Heroes in Lakewood for wounded or disabled veterans at Brookwood Equestrian Center.

Reid teaches classes on Monday afternoons and Saturday mornings in Lakebay and Tuesday and Thursdays in Lakewood. This summer, she will be increasing her classes and is looking for three more instructors. All classes are one hour long.

"Seeing interaction between rider and horse and to share the thrill of the rider is what makes my work so rewarding," she says. "In one case, a little boy with autism who had not spoken was so thrilled that he said 'Mommy, look at me.'"

Reid plans to continue Boots 'n Breeches for as long as she can, with long-range plans for the farm to benefit more advanced riders.

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# Key Pen contractor receives accolades for air museum work

By Jeanette Brown  
Special to the KP News

Earlier this year, Key Peninsula's Dennis Erickson watched with pride while a crane lifted a F-16A fighter jet onto a custom-designed cement display pedestal he crafted and constructed at McChord Air Force Base, using 151,000 pounds of cement and 10,000 pounds of one-inch steel re-bar.

The aircraft was one of three F-16A fighter jets that scrambled from their alert detachment located at Langley Air Force Base on Sep. 11, 2001. Lt. Col. Brad Derrig, a commander with the 119th Operations Group, North Dakota Air National Guard, flew the jet over Washington, D.C. that day to defend the nation's capital against further terrorist attacks. It was Derrig who flew the fighter one last time to its final resting place at the McChord Air Museum to take its place in defense history and await permanent display outdoors. The museum will honor the contributions of those who defended the United States on Sept. 11, 2001.

The F-16 aircraft that was flown by Maj. Dean Eckmann on that day will be on static display at the Heritage Park located at the North Dakota Air National Guard Base (Hector IAP); the third F-16 fighter aircraft is being used by another Air National Guard unit for training.

Erickson has worked in the construction and concrete industry since the mid-1980's and started his Key Peninsula business, Viking Construction Co., in 1998. Originally from Minnesota, Erickson likes to travel to Nome, Alaska, as much as possible to a remote cabin located on an old gold mine claim that has been in the family for almost 100 years. He also lived in Renton for a spell and in California before moving back home to Minnesota. He met his wife, Duchess, in Minneapolis.

In 1990, the couple decided to make Lakebay their home, partly because Duchess had grown up in California and missed the Pacific Ocean and the mountains. The couple loves the laid-back lifestyle on the Key Peninsula and



Photo courtesy Erickson family

Dennis Erickson at the base of the pedestal after the installation of the F-16.

the beauty of Washington state. They have four children, Jesse (16), Caleb (14), Zarissa (25) and Katrina (18). Duchess is employed on the KP at artbeads.com; in their spare time the family likes to go on long road trips and they also like to go camping.

Erickson said, "I learned about the F-16 jet project from a client while doing a job in Longbranch. He had contacts at McChord and knew that the Western Air Defense Sector (WADS) was looking for a contractor with a background in custom cement design. I told him I was interested and he recommended me."

An official at WADS then contacted him and Erickson made an appointment to look at preliminary design plans for the base and static pedestal at McChord. "I started working on the project during the middle of December 2007 and finished it on Feb. 6," he said. Channel 13 was on hand Feb. 11 to cover the mounting of the

historic aircraft onto its handsome concrete base and pedestal.

Erickson explained, "Ness Cranes picked up the F-16 and placed it on top of the pedestal and then the steel plates were fitted together. The plates were attached to both the jet and the pedestal and Fraser Mechanical based out of Shelton furnished them. I used BoMac Concrete (of Key Pen) to mix my cement on site; otherwise, I did all of the cement work on the base and pedestal for the F-16 myself, as the sole craftsman and contractor for the project."

A ceremony followed, hosted by WADS on May 21 at McChord. Erikson received an invitation from U.S. Air Force Col. Paul D. Gruver, the commander of the Western Air Defense Sector, to attend the F-16A dedication and civil leader reception. Gruver gave Erickson an honorary medal; Erickson also met Lt. Col. Brad Derrig, the pilot of the historic F-16A jet. Erickson said, "I felt pretty good about being included in the dedication, and attending the event was important to me."

Erickson, who is no stranger to 8-foot-tall cement foundations, said he considers his participation in the \$150,000 project "the pinnacle and highlight" of his construction career. He received a letter of appreciation from Col. Gruver that day, which stated, in part, "I would like to express my appreciation for Viking Construction's outstanding work on the historic F-16A construction project... In particular, I want to recognize the superb craftsmanship and work of Dennis Erickson."

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(From MARKET, Page 1)

with nearly every Key Pen event, in setting up the farmers market. Froode worked on the organization, obtaining health department and temporary use permits and insurance. Holly Hendrick, market manager, contributes to the marketing effort, and is working to set up a demonstration booth each week. Barbara Schoos is treasurer and developed the bylaws. Danna Webster is community liaison and facilitates communications. Claude Gahard, as vice president, worked with the Pierce Conservation District to secure a small grant for startup funds. Ramona Dickson conducts some of the marketing efforts and serves as community liaison. Greg Calahan is donating the site space and serves as mentor. September Hyde designed the farm map and guide. Kim Sutherin worked on market brochures. Froode said, "All of these volunteers have been amazing and this market would not have come to fruition if it weren't for each individual's input and spirit."

Webster said, "The motivation of the farmers market is to preserve the local identity, to empower and support local

## Shop local

The Key Peninsula Farmers Market will be open through Sept. 28 every Sunday from noon to 4 p.m. The market is located in the parking lot of O'Callahan's Pub and Grill, off Key Peninsula Highway in Key Center. Booths are \$10 per day or \$100 for the entire season. Applications are still accepted from produce vendors, and there is a waiting list for crafters. For information, contact 884-6350.

farmers. They need direct marketing to decrease transportation costs."

Calahan, owner of O'Callahan's, is lending his business expertise to the market's board. His mentoring with the volunteers focuses on the commercial aspect. He said, "I want people to shop in Key Center. With the gas crunch, it should become the norm to buy local. And I want to maximize the use of the corner real estate."

The market is a member of the Washington State Farmers Market Association, and as such must follow certain rules, including one requiring

that farmers gross more than crafters.

Jackie Aitchison, a Kitsap County resident who is director of the Washington State Farmers Markets Association, told the group she is amazed that the KP Farmers Market was pulled together in three months, since it took four years to get as many vendors for the Poulsbo Farmers Market.

The ratio of three producers to one crafter for booth slots was established in response to input from the community, who didn't want the market to turn into a crafts fair. Froode said, "This issue has been a bit difficult, with a sudden rush of crafters wanting to sign on, but we are trying to come up with some creative solutions and balance that." The ratio set for KP producers to vendors selling products from other areas in the state (e.g., peaches from Eastern Washington) has been easier to manage, as all of the current vendors are local.

O'Callahan's will have live music in the beer garden on Sunday afternoons, providing entertainment during the market. Calahan said, "I think it (the farmers market) will do real well if they run it like a business."



Photo by Karina Whitmarsh

Proud winners of one of the raffle prize-lettuce from Gourmet Food and Flowers, Timothy and Kimberly Oaks.

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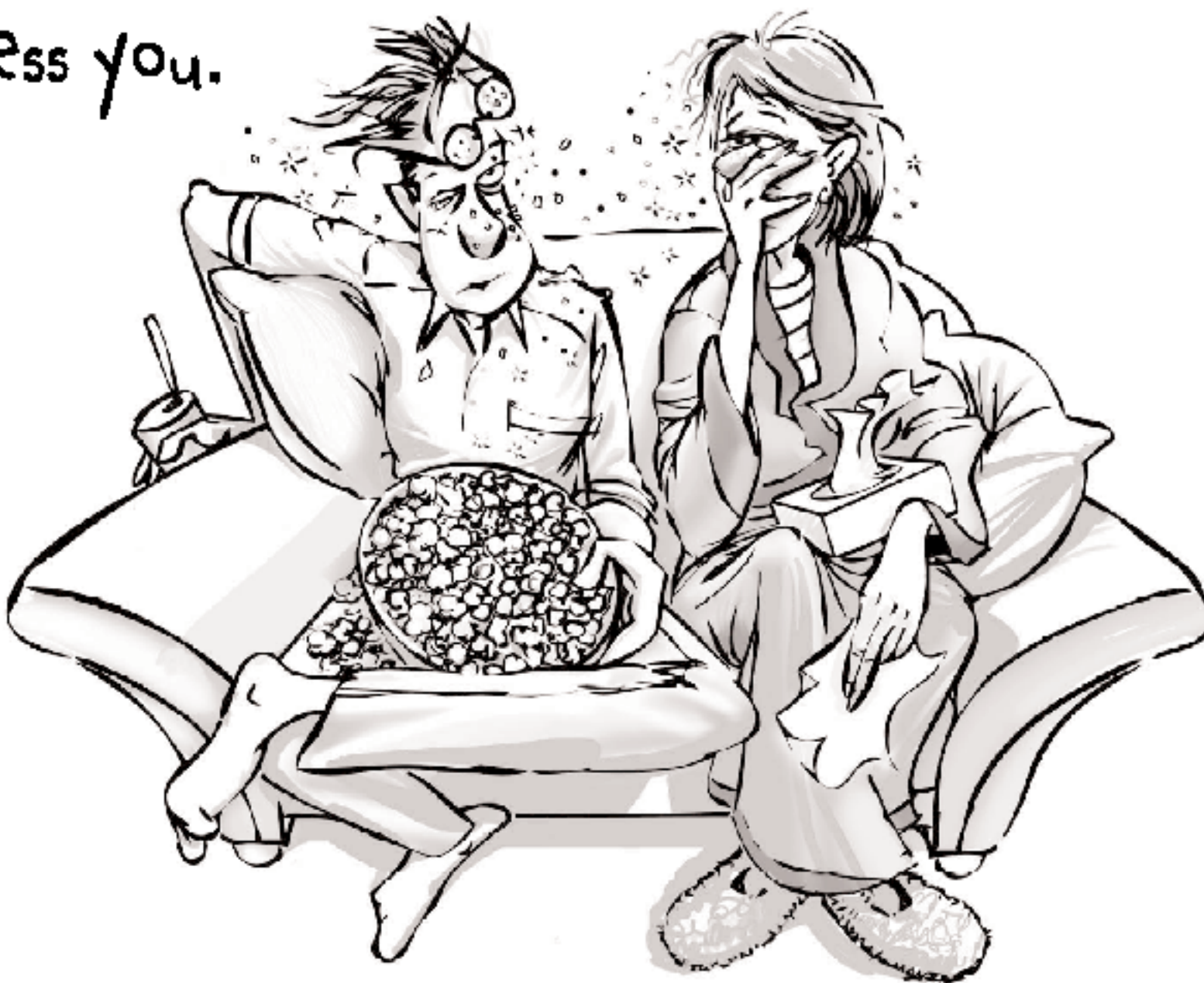


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# KPMS receives national science award

By PJ Callahan, KP News

Key Peninsula Middle School's science and math program received a boost the first week of June when the school was named one of six 2008 Intel Schools of Distinction. KPMS was selected as the best middle school in the nation for science excellence from among hundreds of applicants nationwide. The annual program honors schools for implementing innovative and replicable math and science programs that produce positive educational results.

"Each winning school has achieved academic excellence in math and science by embracing such 21st century learning skills as digital literacy, critical thinking and problem solving, as well as teamwork and community involvement," said Brenda Musilli, Intel Corp. director of education. "Math and science skills are more important than ever, both to an individual's success and our country. We honor these exemplary schools for their excellence in serving as role models to educational institutions across the nation."

The school will receive a \$10,000 grant from Intel and an award package that includes curriculum materials, professional development resources, hardware and software valued at more than \$160,000. Award sponsors include Dell, DyKnow, eInstruction, Futurekids, Scantron, SMART Technologies and SpectrumK12.

Karen Borders, who teaches sixth- and eighth-grade science and led KPMS' NASA Explorer School team, said the school "will not find out what is in the technology package until the awards ceremony in September."

"At that point, we will put together a

small committee that will decide how the equipment can best be distributed to have the greatest impact on student learning," she said. "This process will be systematic, aligned with our KPMS vision and will reflect the input and participation of staff."

This newest award piggybacks on the school's three-year partnership with NASA as an Explorer School from 2004 to 2007. One goal of the NASA program is for schools to build relationships with other programs and agencies that can further support the school's goals of STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) education. According to Borders, KPMS has actively sought partnerships to sustain all components of the original program.

"We have partnerships with Museum of Flight, American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, Spitzer Space Telescope, Mauna Kea Observatories, McChord Air Force Base, Starbucks, Albertsons, Angel Guild, Washington Space Grant Consortium, Tacoma Astronomical Society, Olympia Astronomical Society, University of Washington and many others," Borders said. "These partnerships help with mentors, guest speakers, grant funds and more."

Intel evaluated each competing school based on providing hands-on investigative experiences, incorporating a variety of instructional strategies and meeting rigorous education industry standards and assessment benchmarks, such as the Information and Communication Technology literacy maps developed by the Partnership for 21st Century Skills.

According to Intel's Website, KPMS was honored for making "dramatic changes

in student achievement and engagement in science, science achievement upon entering high school and family participation in science." "The school's science achievement scores have improved from 26.1 percent to 41.5 percent over the past four years," the Website stated. "All training, mentoring and coaching is data-driven and is done through the lens of 'what is best for the students?'"

"I think that our Science Department commitment to student-focused learning, science taught across curricular areas (i.e. language arts and math), the NASA focus, high district standards and inquiry-driven lessons have significantly impacted our science scores," Borders said.

Representatives from KPMS will attend an awards celebration in Washington, D.C., on Sept. 9, where one Star Innovator will be announced. The winning school will receive an additional \$15,000 grant and additional products and services, bringing the Star Innovator award to more than \$200,000.



Photos by Mindi LaRose

KPMS eighth grader Robert Casey holds a "dime to the sky" as he was asked to do by Steve Biles of Jet Propulsion Laboratory/NASA. KPMS students interacted via video conferencing with Biles, who was located in California at NASA's JPL. A rotating camera and microphones were set up in the classroom, which allowed the students to also be seen and heard by the speaker.

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# Parks' artist in residency programs provide inspiration

By Robin Peterson  
Special to KP News

Go take a hike. In fact, spend the summer hiking in one of the most beautiful national parks in the country. Better yet, live in a comfortable log cabin inside the park for a month exploring a world heritage site and biosphere reserve. Can you imagine a better summer job? The job I'm describing is the Artist in Residence (AIR) for Glacier National Park. You, too, could have a summer job like this.

Artist residency programs in many shapes and forms have been around for over a century. In a nutshell, these programs allow visiting artists to stay and work in special places that are conducive to creativity. They are offered by all sorts of organizations, including the national parks system. No two programs are alike, and each residency includes opportunities and conditions specific to each location.

Artists and their works were instrumental in the formation of the national parks system. Thomas Moran's landscape paintings brought public support to the creation of the first national

park in Yellowstone in 1872. The national parks residency program was started in 1984. Today, more than 29 parks participate, each with its own individual goals and requirements. You can find which parks offer AIR programs by visiting [www.nps.gov/archive/volunteer/air.htm](http://www.nps.gov/archive/volunteer/air.htm).

When I first heard about the national parks' AIR programs, I did some research online and found that Glacier Park was interested in an illustrator. With my background in illustration and natural science, it seemed perfect timing for my application. Fortunately, park administrators agreed and I headed to Montana for my first summer residency in 2006. My project was ambitious: create a poster that depicts the diversity of a place known for just that.

I wasted no time hitting the trails, eventually hiking more than 150 miles in the park. My summer research included thousands of digital photographs, a full sketchbook and incredible experiences learning about the park and its inhabitants. I brought all this material home to pull the project together in the studio over the next six months. The result is an acrylic painting that has been



Robin Peterson at the Sieyh Bend at Glacier National Park.

Photo courtesy  
Robin Peterson

published as a poster by the Glacier Natural History Association. The poster depicts more than 100 identifiable flora, fauna and geologic features of the park. I also self-published a book of photographs and natural history about the region called *Jewels in the Crown*.

With such a successful experience for both the park and for me, it wasn't difficult to convince them to have me back in 2007. The second summer was an equally wonderful experience. A highlight

was watching wolf puppies in the wild. My project for 2007 was a children's alphabet featuring plants and animals of the area for the Glacier Park Website. The alphabet is a combination of photos and line drawings that may be downloaded as coloring pages. I also self-published the drawings and a series of oil paintings as a Glacier Park alphabet in book form. Recently, I exhibited 28 original oil paintings of Glacier at the Kimball Gallery in Gig Harbor.

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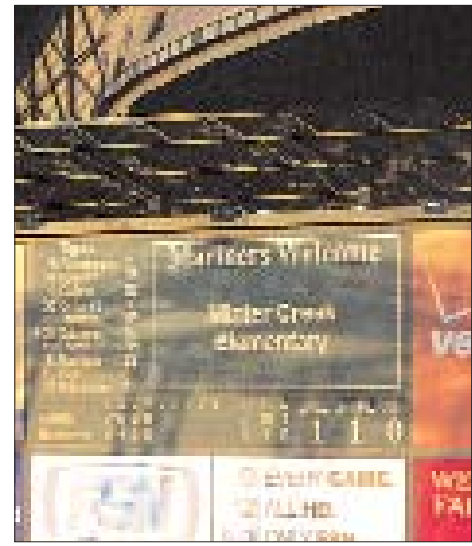


Above, Katie Goins participates in the Narrows Pony Club fundraiser dressage show in June. The club was started by children and parents of the Key Peninsula to support their children in their activities. *Photo courtesy Krisa Davis/www.equine-reflections.org*

Bottom left, David Baycroft, 3, prepares with his wheelbarrow and shovel for the groundbreaking of WayPoint Church in early June. More than 70 church members and friends, including Pastor Heinz Malon of KP Lutheran Church, gathered for the ceremony. *Photo by Colleen Slater*



A quartet of Northwest Pipe and Drum members swirls onto the scene at the Key Peninsula Veteran's Institute's annual "Aisle of Honor" and memorial services on May 25. *Photo by Hugh McMillan*



MinterCreek Elementary School students (front) Joey and Ricky Russell enjoy the night with their dad, Rick, classmates and teachers at the MinterCreek Mariners' game night in May. The Mariners may have lost to the Tigers at the Friday night game, but the Minter Creek Elementary school was recognized on the readerboard at Safeco Field.

*Photos by September Hyde*

Below, Sharon Lisicich of Gig Harbor, representing the United States Tennis Association Pacific Northwest, presents a \$2,500 check to KP Civic Center President Ben Thompson for tennis court improvements. Left to right, Rufus Clark, Phil Bauer, Peter Kram (USTA member), Thompson, Loyd Miller and Lisicich. USTA Pacific Northwest gives about \$200,000 per year, 10 percent of its annual budget for tennis court developments in communities in Alaska, Washington, Oregon, and some areas of Idaho and British Columbia. The two-tone green courts were expected to be finished press time, and an opening ceremony with barbecue fundraiser is planned for August. *Photo by Colleen Slater*



New Key Pen author Dick Dixon with his dog, Chloe, at a reading of his book "My Heroes Have Always Been Dogs" at Borders Books in Gig Harbor. Chloe is one of the dogs portrayed in the book.

*Photo by Sharon Hicks*