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Key Peninsula NEWS

Non-profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 2
Vaughn, WA 98394

Box Holder

Volume 17 Issue 8
Circulation 6000

April 10
1989

Working together for the social and economic good of our Key Peninsula

Over \$200,000 stolen from Pierce County

by Hugh McMillan

According to Wil Brannon of the Pierce County Traffic Operations Center, \$100,696 in materials alone were stolen, with labor and equipment to replace these stolen materials amounting to an additional \$100,000+ of our tax dollars in 1988. The theft: traffic signs.

These figures do not include replacement costs of signs knocked down but left at the scene. Jim Ellison, Acting Pierce County Traffic Engineer, advised that an "equally significant" amount is spent repainting and repairing vandalized traffic signs.

This brings the cost to taxpayers to nearly half a million dollars - and that's just for 1988.

On the Peninsula side of the Narrows alone, \$8,262.55 in materials were stolen; labor and equipment to replace the signs amounted to another \$8,000+ of our tax dollars.

What prompted the investigation that produced these figures was the theft of a sign announcing "Citizens Against Crime Country, WELCOME." The sign was made by Pierce County for Citizens Against Crime (CAC). Installed by a crew from Washington State on March 20, 1989, it was reported knocked down on March 23. When a crew from State arrived to re-install it two days later, it was gone. A check of all State and County facilities failed to locate it. It is presumed stolen.

Brannon and Ellison advise that a good deal of overtime pay is involved

when stop signs or yield signs are knocked down or missing. Because of the life-threatening aspects involved, they are replaced as soon as possible following notification.

At least one Key Peninsula citizen's life was shortened three years ago because a knocked down stop sign was not visible at the intersection of Elgin-Clifton and 134th Avenue which caused a two-car collision resulting in severe injuries.

An anonymous member of CAC is offering a \$100 reward which was matched by CAC, making it a \$200 reward, to the first person providing information leading to the arrest and prosecution of anyone guilty of stealing or otherwise illegally removing, knocking down or vandalizing traffic signs. Call 857-3700 if you have such information.

The Pierce County Sheriff's Department advises that anyone guilty of stealing a sign will be charged with a misdemeanor or a felony. The person(s) responsible for the theft of the CAC sign may be prosecuted for committing a felony.

Mr. Ellison and Mr. Brannon advise that "missing" signs may be returned to any Pierce County Road Maintenance shop where they will be gratefully accepted with *no questions asked*. For directions, call Wil Brannon on 531-6990.

CAC's motto is: "This is an imperfect world. We can complain about it or we can try to do something about it. CAC is doing something about it." Please help.



Henry Stock (left) helps the State Traffic Department crewmen install the Peninsula's new sign, donated by CAC. The sign was installed on March 20 and stolen March 25. photo courtesy of Peninsula Gateway, Mick Schulz

GH Comprehensive Plan outlined by Megan Aprile

In the course of the coming discussions about land use, the goals, guidelines and policies of the Gig Harbor Comprehensive Plan will surely be brought up by all sides, if only because it is the only land use plan on the Key Peninsula.

There are two Gig Harbor Comprehensive Plans, one is the City of Gig Harbor plan which covers only the city limits of Gig Harbor. The other plan,

called the Gig Harbor Peninsula Comprehensive Plan, covers the Gig Harbor Peninsula (Rosedale, Fox Island and other areas) and part of the Key Peninsula. It was written jointly by a body called the Citizen's Advisory Committee and the Pierce County Planning Department, and adopted by ordinance by the Pierce County Planning Agency in 1975.

The area of the Key Peninsula af-

ected by the Gig Harbor Comprehensive Plan begins at the Purdy spit and extends to the intersection of Highway 302 and 134th Street (where Macon Bacon is located).

In the years since 1975 violations have naturally occurred, and some guidelines have been a source of friction. One controversial guideline of the plan has been the retention (or replanting) of natu-

ral greenbelts, or the planting of a landscaped buffer, along property lines adjacent to highways. This guideline applies to both homes and businesses.

In planning language, a violation of the rules is "non compliance." Both business owners and private citizens have

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Key Peninsula NEWS

PO Box 3, Vaughn, WA 98394

884-4699

Published twice monthly by Key Peninsula Civic Center Assn.

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The opinions expressed are the opinions of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the views of the publishers or the staff.

A twice-monthly non-profit newspaper, distributed free to all residents in the Key Peninsula area, supported by local merchants' advertising and staffed largely by volunteers. All proceeds go toward the programs of the Civic Center.

KP NEWS Deadline

The next issue of KP NEWS will come out on May 1. Please note the deadline for notices, articles and ads for that issue is Monday, April 24.

Mother's Day at KPCC

Yes, Virginia, there will be a Mother's Day breakfast at the Key Peninsula Civic Center on Sunday, May 14, 1989.

Members of the Key Peninsula Lions Club will open the doors to welcome you and your mom at 8:30 am. They will then prepare and serve a beautiful feast. Your mom will adore you for sharing this splendid meal with her and it will only cost \$3.50.

To the Editor

To the Editor

A sincere thanks and appreciation to all friends and neighbors who were a help and comfort at this time of bereavement.

Evelyn Stinson

To the Editor

KP protection plan pitfalls

There is a group of people who are meeting in order to put together a comprehensive land use plan for the Key Peninsula. In order to have the time needed to put together such a plan, the group came up with three initiatives which, if accepted by the community, will put unreasonable land use limits on the citizens of the Key Peninsula.

The first initiative is "Limit new commercial development to existing commercial areas such as Key Center, Home and Longbranch." The main problem with this initiative is that it is vague. They don't list all the existing commercial centers or the sizes of them. Another problem is that a business owner won't be allowed to build a building for commercial purposes on the same piece of property as his/her home, period. They didn't take into consideration the size of building, the type of business operating in the building, size of the piece of property involved or the set back the building will be from the highway or other county roads. Another problem that could result from this vague initiative would be to define any new business start as commercial development.

This initiative, if passed, would increase the value of the commercial property and raise the rent on existing commercial spaces. This, in turn, could dictate who could start a business in our community. There are several other potential problems that could arise from an ordinance as vague as this one.

In conclusion, the initiative to limit new commercial development to existing commercial centers isn't in the best interest of the Key Peninsula in its present form.

Tom Pifer

To the Editor

I am writing once again to express my concerns about the quality of the ambulance service in Pierce County Fire District 16. As everyone knows, we have always received excellent service from our fire department. We have always given them the support and funding they need and they have provided us with service that always meets and usually exceeds our expectations.

I have attended all the meetings of the Fire Commissioners and the special committee to consider the question of ambulance service in Fire District 16. If you have tried to attend any of these, you know how hard it is to find out when and where they are.

My personal judgement after listen-

ing to all the information that has come out of this mess is questions. Why did the commissioners stop the fire department ambulance service? Why did they fear going to the voters to ask for the funds necessary to continue these necessary services which the voters have always supported? Why would they even consider turning over the care of the people of their area to a company with the record of Peninsula Ambulance? -

In light of the recent news that Peninsula Ambulance can't provide a service at our acceptable cost, I would like to propose to the commissioners: 1) Immediately restart our own ambulance service; 2) As soon as possible, upgrade that service to ALS service by hiring three paramedics to work with and train our own people working for PCFD 16; 3) Go to the voters and ask for an excessive levy necessary to support this service as soon as it is practical.

Let us decide!

To the district voters I would like to say call or write the commissioners or the committee members to give them your views. It seems the only way we will get our service back is if it is the only option left to them.

If for some reason you would rather talk to just another concerned citizen, call me at 884-3081 and I'll see that your views are heard, even though they sometimes seem to fall on deaf ears.

The commissioners or the committee to solve the commissioners' problems can be reached by writing: c/o District 16, Fire Dept. Headquarters, Key Center, WA 98349.

Allen A. Yanly

To the Editor

This year our 3 year-old daughter joined and became involved in Girl Scouts of America. She has enjoyed and participated in all of the many activities made available to her.

There is, however, one drawback in this program. Last month she was asked to participate in a fund raiser by selling cookies. We signed a permission slip for her to be in this program. It was not explained to us that when we ordered cookies we would be responsible for any unsold cookies. When we were about to turn in our daughter's funds and the unsold cookies (four boxes) we were told that we had to pay for the unsold ones. When we objected we were bounced around to three different long distance phone numbers. With each encounter on the phone it was nicely explained to us that we would have to pay for the cookies.

Let me explain that the amount of money is not the issue. The fact that we would have to pay for unsold cookies was never mentioned but placed in the fine print of the permission slip. This is, in our opinion, totally underhanded and unscrupulous. We know that we were negligent in not reading the fine print, but we expected better from an organization such as the Girl Scouts of America. The annual cookie sales have always been well reputed and we were not expecting to be taken advantage of as if this were a skid row scam.

The young girls involved in Girl

Scouting are doing the organization a favor by selling cookies. The troop barely benefits from sales, receiving only 30 cents per box. It seems it would behoove the organization to make it a pleasant and easy experience for the girls. Instead it has become a source of anxiety for the girls and a headache for the parents.

Our daughter will no longer participate in fund raising events for the Girl Scouts and, should she be pressured to do so, she will no longer belong to scouting. We have urged our friends, neighbors and relatives not to financially support Girl Scouts of America beyond the troop level. We are disgusted and ashamed that a once fine organization has had to stoop to this level of deceit and trickery to make a buck.

John A. and Kathy M. Hendrickson

To the Editor

The Pierce County Public Works Department will begin herbicide spraying of roadsides for control of unwanted vegetation in mid-April. This letter provides information on the chemicals to be used and methods that residents may employ to protect themselves.

The herbicides that will be used in 1989 include: Oast/DuPont/Methyl 2 sulfanyl; Garlon 3A/Dow/Triclopyr; Diuron/Wilbur/Ellis/3,4-dichlorophenyl; Roundup/Monsanto/Glyphosate plus the additives Spreader-activator R-11 and Stayput.

Warnings on the various manufacturers' labels state: Keep out of reach of children; Hazardous to humans and domestic animals; Avoid breathing dust or spray mist; Avoid contact with skin, eyes, clothing; Causes eye irritation, may irritate nose, throat and skin; Do not apply near desirable trees or other plants, or on areas where their roots may extend; Do not use on home plantings, lawns, walks, driveways; Do not apply directly to wetlands or any body of water; Do not apply where runoff water may flow onto agricultural land. Prevent drift of spray; In case of emergency endangering life or property, call

To prevent spraying of the roadside adjacent to your property, obtain an "Owner Responsibility & Maintenance Agreement" from Road District No. 3 in Purdy (857-4411, Monday - Friday, 7:30 am - 4 pm). The signs that need to be posted are now available from the Road District.

Problems observed last year: some residents didn't post signs early enough and were sprayed; signs weren't always facing the direction the spray truck was traveling; signs were trashed by the Pierce County crew; the Spring spray program was followed by backside spraying from midsummer through Autumn. So keep those signs posted!

In a related issue, the Pierce County Health Department has received a grant from the Washington Department of Ecology to develop a ground water management program for Gig Harbor which will include identifying sources of ground water contamination. The Department

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Respite Care celebration

The Respite Care program at the Key Peninsula Health Center will celebrate its 5th Anniversary with a cake and coffee reception from 12:30 to 2 pm on Saturday, April 29, in the Brones Room. Community members who have participated in the program during the past five years as staff, volunteers, group or family members are cordially invited to attend the gathering.

Respite Care is also in need of two or three new volunteers. The amount of time requested is one to three hours a month. Respite Care meets every Wednesday from 9 am to 4 pm. Potential volunteers and group members are always welcome to visit the program in the Brones Room of the KP Health Center, or they may call Edie Morgan at 884-3920.

Mother's Day at KPCC

Yes, Virginia, there will be a Mother's Day breakfast at the Key Peninsula Civic Center on Sunday, May 14, 1989.

Members of the Key Peninsula Lions' Club will open the doors to welcome you and your mom at 8:30 am. They will then prepare and serve a beautiful feast. Your mom will adore you for sharing this splendid meal with her and it will only cost \$3.50.

Second annual Purdy Fun Run

The second annual Purdy Fun Run, a 10-kilometer loop around scenic Burley Lagoon and a fast and flat two-mile run, will be held Saturday, April 15. This is a Peninsula Running Club event in conjunction with the Purdy Area Boosters Association. Proceeds from these two races will benefit the Cross Country and Track and Field teams as well as aiding the Peninsula Scholarship Fund. Awards for the races include plaques to the first male and female finishers in each race and ribbons, first through fifth place, in all age divisions in both races. The age divisions for both male and female in both races are: 10 and under; 11 to 14; 15 to 18; 19 to 29; 30 to 39; 40 to 49; 50 to 59; 60 to 69 and 70 and over.

Last year's overall male winner of the two-mile race was Jay Latteri of Vaughn and the first female in that race was Lori Burkhart of Gig Harbor. The male winner of the 10K race was Jon Leachtenaur of Tacoma and the female winner was Monica Lindholm of Gig Harbor.

Both races will start in front of the SAVE store on Purdy Lane. Parking is available at the Park & Ride and at Peninsula High School. Day of Race registration will open at 7:30 am and both races will start at 8:30 am. Entry forms are available at the Floatation Device Pub and Grill, Lester's Sporting Goods, Purdy Barber & Hair Design, Purdy Realty, the SAVE store and at Fire District 16 Headquarters in Key Center. Day of Race registration is \$10 for either race and includes a short sleeve aqua T-shirt with the race logo printed in three colors.

Aid and water stations will be available on both courses, split times will be called at each mile and medic services will be provided by Fire District 16.

In addition to the running awards, there will be random drawings for prizes donated by the local merchants, including a runner's massage donated by Debbie Fenton of the Purdy Chiropractic Office.

For more information call Jim Latteri at 884-2334 or Ben Lieurance at 857-5945.

The Peninsula Running Club will also be in charge of the Pioneer Day Run on August 5. These races will start at the Civic Center and will include a 10K and a two-mile race and, for small children a 50-yard dash and a 100-yard dash.

Peninsula movings and shakings.....

Monday, April 10 ...

Webelos Fox Patrol meets in Scout Room 7 to 8:30 pm.
Al-Anon meets at Longbranch Improvement Club, 7 to 8 pm.
Public meeting on County EMS/ALS issue, 7:30 pm.
VFW and Auxiliary meet at 7:30 pm in VFW Room, Key Peninsula Civic Center.

Tuesday, April 11 ...

Altrusa meets at Shoreline Restaurant at noon.
Cootiettes 609 visit Cottesmore Nursing Home. Meet at Key Center to carpool.
Wolf Den 4 meets in Scout Room, 3:30 to 5 pm.
TOPS weigh in at 6:15 pm, meet at 7 pm, Vaughn Church.
Vaughn PTO meets at the school at 7 pm.
KPCCA Executive meeting at 7:30 pm.

Wednesday, April 12 ...

Respite Care meets from 9 am to 4 pm in Brones Room, KC Library.
Peninsula Social Club, 10:30 am, Longbranch Church Hall.
Community Center, Home has hot lunch for seniors at noon.
Peninsula Neighbors Craft Club meets at 10:30 am at Longbranch Church.
KP Park Board meets at KPCC at 7:30 pm.

Thursday, April 13 ...

KP Senior Society potluck lunch at noon in the Gold Room, KPCC.
Dr. Penrose Orthopedic Guild meets at noon in home of Arvilla Merchant.
Bear Den 3 meets in the Scout Room, 3:30 to 5 pm.
Diabetic Support Group for diabetics and families - KP Health Center at 7 pm.
CAC meets in the Gold Room, KPCC, at 7 pm.

Friday, April 14 ...

Family Recreation Night at Longbranch Improvement Club, 6 to 10 pm.

Saturday, April 15 ...

Twilite Dance Club, 8 pm to midnight.

Monday, April 17 ...

Ruth Circle has lunch and meeting at noon in Longbranch Church Hall.
Evergreen Eagle Boosters meet at 7 pm at school.
Al-Anon meets at Longbranch Improvement Club, 7 to 8 pm.
Webelos Fox Patrol meets in the Scout Room, 7 to 8:30 pm.
KP Land Use Committee meets at 7:30 pm, Gold Room, KPCC.

Tuesday, April 18 ...

Cootiettes 609 visit Retsil Veterans Home. Meet at Key Center to carpool.
Wolf Den 4 meets in the Scout Room, 3:30 to 5 pm.
TOPS weigh in at 6:15 pm, meeting at 7 pm, Vaughn Church.

Wednesday, April 19 ...

Respite Care meets in the Brones Room from 9 am to 4 pm.
Community Center, Home has hot lunch for seniors at noon.
Caregivers Group meets from 7 to 9 pm in Brones Room.
Vaughn Garden Club meets at 10:30 am at home of Beulah Kupka.
Lions Club meets at the Huckleberry Inn at 7 pm.
Longbranch Improvement Club meets at 7:30 pm.

Thursday, April 20 ...

KP Senior Society potluck lunch at noon in the Gold Room, KPCC.
Bear Den 3 meets in the Scout Room, 3:30 to 5 pm.
Diabetic Support Group for diabetics and families - KP Health Center at 7 pm.
Cootiettes 609 regular meeting - KPCC at 7 pm.

Friday, April 21 ...

KP Business Assn. meets at Huckleberry Inn, 7:30 am.
Bayshore Garden Club meets at Longbranch Improvement Hall at 1 pm.
Family Recreation Night at Longbranch Improvement Club, 6 to 10 pm.

Saturday, April 22 ...

Gig Harbor Twirlers Square Dance meets at Harbor Heights School.

Monday, April 24 ...

Angel Guild meets in the Brones Room, KP Health Center at 10 am.
Webelos Fox Patrol meets in the Scout Room, 7 to 8:30 pm.
Al-Anon meets at Longbranch Improvement Club, 7 to 8 pm.
Paul Cyr Community Forum at KPCC at 7 pm.

Tuesday, April 25 ...

Nutrition Day noon lunch for semors at Longbranch Church Hall.
Cootiettes 609 visit Naval Hospital, Bremerton. Meet at Key Center to carpool.
Wolf Den 4 meets in the Scout Room, 3:30 to 5 pm.
Altrusa meets at Shoreline Restaurant at 6 pm.
TOPS weigh in at 6:15 pm, meeting at 7 pm, Vaughn Church.

Wednesday, April 26 ...

Respite Care meets in the Brones Room from 9 am to 4 pm.
Community Center, Home will have hot lunch for seniors at noon.

Thursday, April 27 ...

KP Senior Society potluck lunch at noon in the Gold Room, KPCC.
Bear Den 3 meets in the Scout Room, 3:30 to 5 pm.
KP Historical Society meets at Longbranch Church at 7:30 pm.
KP Health Center Board meets at 7:30 pm.

Friday, April 28 ...

Family Recreation Night at Longbranch Improvement Club, 6 to 10 pm.

Saturday, April 29 ...

Gig Harbor Centennial Parade

Friday night skating

Friday night skating at the Civic Center is now being managed by Virginia Lasich who has replaced Dan and Linda Orme. Virginia plans some format changes which she will be presenting to the Key Peninsula Civic Center Board meeting in April for approval. Watch for upcoming announcements in the Key Peninsula NEWS.

Annual Fishermen's Breakfast

The Fishermen's Breakfast is an annual tradition of the Jackson Lake Sportsman's Club. We start the fishing season with a hearty breakfast of wheat cakes, scrambled eggs, orange juice, coffee, ham and rolls served on an all you can eat basis. All the profits are turned back into worthwhile community projects. The Club president is Judy Wilson and breakfast chairperson is Beatrice Emil.

This event, to which you are all invited, will be April 23 from 7 am to 1 pm at the Jackson Lake Clubhouse, 3500 Jackson Lake Road. The cost is \$4 for adults and \$3 for children under 10. For more information call Beatrice at 884-4156 or Dick Kasper at 884-4327.

Business Briefs

Specializing in water treatment systems for the home and small business, The Water Boys of Washington have opened an office at 14213 38th St., KPS, Lakebay to serve Peninsula residents. Ken Hurst, owner, welcomes inquiries concerning your water treatment needs.

Their hours are 8 am to 9 pm and their phone number is 884-9514.



Easter Bunny visits the Civic Center. The Easter Bunny must be partial to the Peninsula because every year the bunny is here, and the eggs are there waiting to be hunted. The annual Easter Egg Hunt, held each year at the KP Civic Center on Easter Sunday is for all our children. Each age group gets a hunting ground, and cookies afterward.

This year the Easter Bunny was helped by the Park Board, the Civic Center Association, Cindy Marshall, Rick Oldenburg and Barb Trotter. Katie Marshall, Brandon Marshall and Karen Best worked hard helping the bunny hide the eggs. And then there was Kathy Best (that's her in the ears, above) - she helped most of all, and has the cutest pair of blue pajamas you've ever seen!

KP NEWS photo by Joe Aprile

ALS Advisory Committee to hold public meeting

On April 26 at 7:30 pm the Fire Department Advisory Committee will sponsor a public meeting at Fire District 16 Headquarters in Key Center. The committee has been researching the issues of Emergency Medical Services on the Key Peninsula and is interested in gathering public opinion and advice. The committee will be filing a written report to the Fire Commissioners (and the public) by the end of May. Issues under consideration include ambulance transport, levels of emergency care provided and degree of involvement of public and private sec-

tors. Sampling citizens' opinions is a critical part of the Fire Department Advisory Committee's purpose, so all residents with ideas, opinions and suggestions are urged to attend.

The committee has been meeting on a weekly basis on Wednesday evenings at Fire District 16 Headquarters. These meetings are also open to the public. If you cannot come to any of these meetings, please make your views known by writing to: Fire Dept. Advisory Committee - FD #16, 8911 KPHN, Lakebay, WA. 98349.

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Your Park Board reports

by Daphne Daus



Winter storms took their toll on the Park District facilities this year. Both the Civic Center and Volunteer Park sustained damage to plumbing. The Park Board approved funding for needed repairs to the Civic Center boiler as well as various electrical repairs. Funding was also approved to repair the damage at Volunteer Park.

The name of the Gold Room was changed to the Whitmore Room following action taken at the March 8 board meeting. The change was made to honor the Whitmore family who deeded the property to the Civic Center Association in the early 1950s. A brief history of the family and their involvement in the community will be placed in the Whitmore Room.

Commissioner Dave Rovang, a member of the Building and Grounds Committee, gave a brief report on the preliminary findings of the committee. During their tour of the Civic Center, asbestos was found in the area above the stage. In consideration for the health and safety of the facility users, the area where the asbestos exists has been sealed off until it can be removed. We have been advised that the asbestos does not pose a health risk, though removal will occur as soon as possible. The Building and Grounds Committee will be submitting

their prioritized list of repairs and maintenance to the board at the April 12 meeting.

Commissioner Mike Kent has been busy organizing the efforts at Volunteer Park to prepare the fields and concession stand for the upcoming tournament season. At the April 12 Park Board meeting the commissioners will be reviewing applications for a concessionaire and maintenance person for Volunteer Park.

The Park District received approval from the Washington Parks and Recreation Commission to participate in the Summer Fun program once again. This is an exciting opportunity for the district to provide a summer recreational program for our area youth. Watch for more information here in the KP NEWS.

Every member of the board joins me in inviting you to attend our next board meeting. It will be on May 10 at 7:30 pm in the Whitmore Room of the Civic Center. Come share your ideas!

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Tax Tips

by R. Marvin Keizur

The most common filing mistakes discovered by the IRS on 1987 tax returns were neglecting to claim the standard deduction, failing to check the dependency status indicator box and disregarding or miscomputing the earned income tax credit. While IRS corrects these mistakes when it finds them, this delays the processing of refund checks.

Bad advice from the IRS - A recent survey by the General Accounting Office (GAD) found that while it is now easier to get tax advice from the IRS over the telephone, the answers given by IRS employees to GAD auditors posing as

taxpayers were wrong 36% of the time. Trap: the IRS is not responsible for its wrong advice.

Building a new home counts the same as buying one. So a person who sells his old home, buys land and then builds a new home on it can claim tax-deferred treatment for his gain on the sale of the old home.

Remember to file your tax return on time, the deadline this year is April 17. You are advised to get a receipt from a postal employee to prove you sent it on time. This would mean registered or certified mail. A timely private postage meter date is not sufficient proof of timely mailing.

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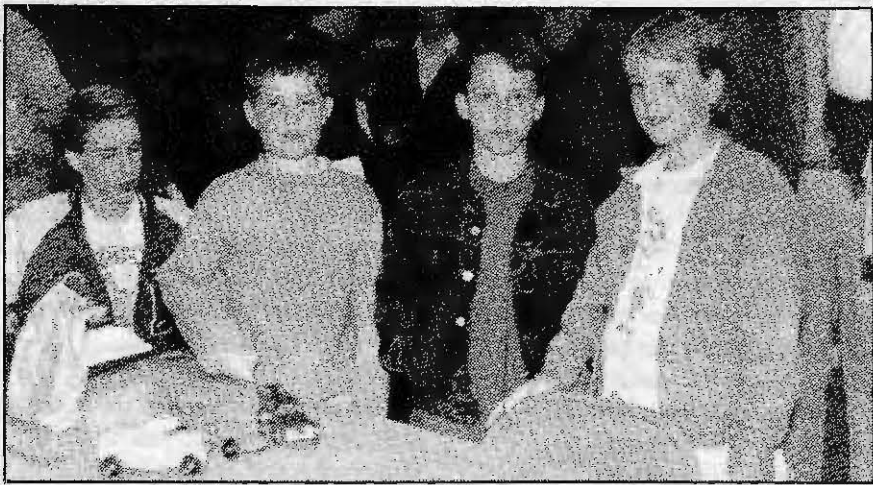
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Bear Cubs (from far right) Colin Churchward, Ruben Menchington and Brett Letellier pose with pride with their Pinewood Derby racers. Joel Wood (left) assisted in the weighing in. KP NEWS photo by Joe Aprile

Pinewood Derby weigh-in by Megan Aprile

Dateline: the Scout room at the Civic Center.

It's Friday, March 24, and Cub Scouts from Pack 213 are lined up to have their race cars weighed in for the big race on Saturday, March 25.

Actually, the story started back in January when every boy in the "Pack," or local Cub Scout organization, received his official Pinewood Derby kit which is a cardboard box containing a block of pine, four nails and four wheels.

All of the car kits, trophies, ribbons and other forms of recognition given for the Pinewood Derby are paid for out of membership dues and fundraising activities of Pack 213. The official track was built by fathers way back in the pack's

history, to Cub Scout specifications, and has been in use ever since.

It is up to the boy, with help if needed from his father, to saw, cut, sand, drill, glue, paint and decorate his kit until it becomes his Pinewood Derby car. When the day of the race comes, he stands up at the head of the track with other boys in his age group and watches anxiously as all their cars are released. A line judge at the bottom of the track calls the winners. Each rank of Cub Scout, Tigers (first graders), Wolves (second graders), Bears (third graders) and Webelos (fourth and fifth graders), will have an overall winner to go to district competition.

But before any boy can race, his car must meet the race requirements. It must

weigh no more than five ounces. It must not be over 7 inches long, 3 inches high or 2-3/4 inches wide. It is also run over a test board to make sure it has enough clearance to run freely on the official Pinewood Derby track.

Tonight in the Scout room there are several fathers present, as well as scales, drills and lead weights. The drills and lead weights are there so an underweight car can be made as close as possible to five ounces, or an overweight car can be lightened up with some holes. There is a father with a hot glue gun to secure wheels. The fathers are careful and supportive.

The boys are in high spirits. Zeb Slawson, a Webelo Scout, Fox Patrol, shows me his cherry red paint job with pride. It's his paint job and the part he enjoyed the most. Colin Churchward, Ruben Menchington and Brett Letellier, all Bear Cubs, have picked unique designs and paint jobs for their vehicles. Colin's truck has green glitter coating over green paint underneath clear varnish. Brett is proud of the flaming eyeball he painted on the side of his truck, which is carrying a toy dirt bike in the bed. Ruben's entry is an orange race car with a spoiler on the back.

Nobody wanted to make any predictions about winning, although Elias Lugo said he hoped he'd "do pretty good." All the boys I talked to seemed to realize that the really important part of the Pinewood Derby is that each boy has his chance to take pride in his own work, to make his car uniquely his own, and to learn some important lessons about sportsmanship

and competition.

Winners of the Tiger Cubs were: Brett Carlson, First Place; Ben Bradley, Second Place; Matthew Zehnder, Third Place. Winners of the Wolf Cubs were: Elias Lugo, First Place; John Snelson, Second Place; Joshuwa Bennett, Third Place. Winners of the Bear Cubs were: James Brown, First Place; Ruben Menchington, Second Place; Matthew Wiles, Third Place. For the Webelos the winners were: Joshua Krasko, First Place; Zeb Slawson, Second Place; Jake Johnson, Third Place.

Some of the fathers also built and raced their own cars against each other. The winner of that race was Al Carlson.

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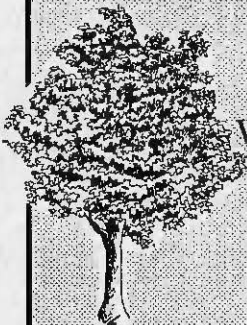
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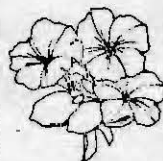
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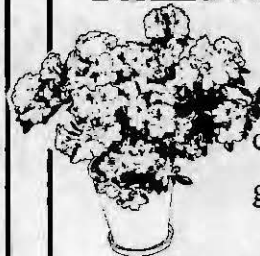
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Obituaries

Everett "Tubby" Franklin Stinson (77) of Vaughn died March 23. He was born in Williston, North Dakota, and worked as a logging truck driver and logger in the Peninsula area. He was a staff sergeant of a motor transportation unit of Patton's Third Army during WWII and was a member of VFW Post 4990.

He is survived by his wife Evelyn Stinson, of the family home, stepson and wife Garry and Donna Poland and their three children of Brush Prairie, Washington, and sister Frances Clary of Marysville, California.

Services were held Sunday, April 2, at the KP Civic Center, Vaughn. Remembrances may be made to the KP Ambulance Fund, 8911 Key Peninsula Highway KPN, Lakebay, WA 98349.

Frank John Wimmer (82) of Wauna died March 22. He was born in Chelan and lived in Pierce and Kitsap Counties for 55 years. Mr. Wimmer was a retired mechanic of cars and trucks and a WWII Navy veteran.

He is survived by his wife, Anna Wimmer of Wauna, daughter Charlotte Susan of Morton, son Richard Wimmer of Australia, grandson Mark R. Hobbs of Seattle, sisters Rose Lawter of Seabeck and Tillie Freese of Bremerton, a nephew and two nieces.

Graveside services were held March 27 at Haven of Rest Memorial Park in Gig Harbor. Haven of Rest handled the arrangements. Remembrances may be made to the Paramedic Fund, Pierce County FD #16, 8911 Key Peninsula Highway KPN, Lakebay, WA 98349.

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A Woman's Heart

by Elaine Forch



I have to smile when my college-aged daughter talks about absolute equality between men and women. I smile because, while I do believe in equality between the sexes in most areas of life, I know that there are some differences that cannot be eliminated no matter how unfair that seems. I'm not going to try and explain this "concept of differences" to my daughter because she'll find it out herself as she matures - especially if she ever goes on a diet with her husband.

My husband and I started our diet on January 1. We both decided to lose some weight on one of those "togetherness" plans that is supposed to provide mutual support and encouragement. Our "togetherness" ended on January 2 when I bounded out of bed at 4 am for our aerobic exercise session while my husband cemented his head under his pillow and refused to budge. He wouldn't get up at 5 am for his 1/2 cup of steamed oatmeal and skimmed milk either. At noon, while I was "race-walking" around the park, Harrold was chowing down on burritos and coke followed by a fast food fruit pie for dessert. In the evening while I did my time on the exercise bike, my errant husband relaxed with the paper. When I chided him about his lack of exercise and commitment to his weight loss program, he smiled and did the "wimp's pushup" (raising one's pinky finger four times in succession) and went back to his newspaper. After I gave him his quart of water and told him he was supposed to drink it down before dinner, he complained because that one measly quart of water caused him to spend a little time in the bathroom. I drank three quarts myself. But did I complain? No. I just moved my office closer to the ladies' room.

Nor did I complain when it came time to measure our dinner servings and my husband was allowed three times as much as I was - just because he is a man. And I didn't complain when I was the one who had to spend hours planning low fat, low calorie meals while my husband sat in his lazy boy changing television channels with his remote control.

I was also the grocery shopper who passed up the bakery items and the processed foods in favor of fresh fruits and vegetables and then spent more time

washing and preparing the veggies so my hubby could have healthy snacks. And I was the one who showed a weight gain of three pounds at our mutual weigh-in a month later. My husband lost seven.

Lots of women would be a little miffed because of this terribly unfair and unequal state of metabolic affairs. But not me. I've accepted it. In fact, I'm so mellow about it all that I think I'll go bake my husband a pie. Make that a cream pie. After all - he deserves it.

Angel Guild assists CAC

by Hugh McMillan, President, CAC

On April 3, Key Peninsula's Angel Guild contributed almost \$2,500 to Citizens Against Crime (CAC) for equipment and software for CAC's newly acquired computer and the group's program of technical support for the Peninsula Detachment of the Pierce County Sheriff.

"When the Angels invited us to discuss our wish list with their board, we were hopeful," said John Hendrickson, "but we had no idea they would be so generous."

"We presented the Angels with a very long list of items we intended to purchase over the long haul as monies were accumulated through sales of our buttons and T-shirts," commented Deputy Erik Berg. "And we thought the ladies might be able to give us a little help."

"You can't imagine how excited we were to learn that those wonderful people provided all of the money for all the material we wanted," said Hendrickson.

All members of CAC extend their heartfelt thanks to the Angel Guild. Rest assured that the money is well spent. We are training those deputies and our volunteers who will be responsible for this program right now, the equipment has been placed on order, and we expect to be able to measurably improve on our war against crime as a consequence of the generosity of the Angels.

KPFD accident report

There were two head-on collisions on the evening of April 6 reported to the KP Fire Department Headquarters in Key Center. Our Fire Department personnel were on the scene within the minute in both cases.

The first head-on collision was reported at 9:26 pm, 2 miles east of Key Center on Highway 302. The collision was reported by two of the Fire Department's own volunteers who were returning from an EMT (Emergency Medical Technician) class at Tacoma Community College. They reported the accident and immediately started administering care. There was one person in each vehicle, one was classified critical and transported priority by ALS ambulance to Tacoma General Hospital, the other's injuries were considered minor but was transported with the first driver.

At 9:34 pm, eight minutes after the first accident was reported, a citizen walked in to FD Headquarters, Key Cen-

ter, and reported the second head-on collision. This one was on Olson Drive (Hwy 302) between Key Center and Vaughn. The response team arrived literally within the minute. Again, there was one person in each vehicle, one classified critical and transported by ALS ambulance to Tacoma General, the other, injuries considered minor, went to Tacoma General in a private vehicle.


As of the morning of April 7, all four patients were reported in stable condition by Tacoma General.

The Washington State Patrol reported that the two people involved in the first accident were Larry B. Hinkle, 43, driving a '77 Ford Maverick and Russell L. Mayberry, 29, driving a '75 Chevy pickup. Cause of the accident was an improper lane change.

Fire Department information provided by Mary Ramsdell, Support Services Secretary, KPFD.

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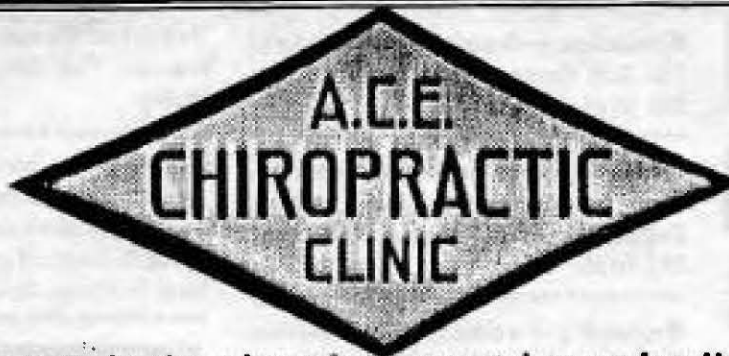
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The plan covers adjustments only. Any x-rays, exams or supports during the month would be an additional charge. Also, as you get better and your adjustments decrease during the month you would pay your monthly rate or \$20.00 per visit, whichever is less. If you don't come in during the month, no charge. Not good with any other offer.

Please call if you have more questions. Also check the KP NEWS to save on exams and x-rays!

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PERSONALS

The women of Key Peninsula Lutheran Church are having a "Daughter Brunch" on Saturday, April 29 at noon. To help celebrate Washington's Centennial, the theme will be Victorian. The Bellringers from Longbranch Community Church will entertain the group.

NEW HOURS! Burley Galleria - Daily 10:30 am to 6:30 pm; weekends noon to 4 pm. Six rooms art, gifts, fashions. Hwy 302E to Purdy, left 1 mile, left on 66th 1 mile - Burley Galleria on left (yellow building/red roof).

Continued on pg 11



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To the Editor...
continued from pg 2

has issued their first newsletter, entitled Pierce County Ground Water Currents. Will herbicide use on roads*and school grounds be included in this study?

A lead article, "Groundwater pollution challenges herbicide users," in the February 1989 Roads and Bridges, an industry publication, opens with the following: "Groundwater contamination may offer the number 1 challenge to herbicide use in the next decade.

"Federal and state rules concerning groundwater contamination will impact herbicide and plant growth regulator application, and can only be expected to get worse.

Herbicide producers have as much - or more - to lose as do herbicide users, if fears of groundwater pollution curtail herbicide use..."

Dory Myers

To the Editor

Once again Commissioner McMillan has managed to use either a public meeting or the press for free political advertisement, expounding how great and dedicated the commissioners are. This group is commonly referred to as "The Midnight Three" due to their penchant for recessing board meetings until near midnight or until the last citizen has gone home. Then they quickly and quietly reconvene, complete the "secret" business and adjourn the meeting. Anyone who has attended

the commissioners' meetings is well aware of the contempt and rudeness they show to concerned firefighters and local citizens.

It appears to me that state laws and county ordinances are routinely bent or broken; common procedures or rules for public meetings are twisted or not followed at all and, in general, the taxpaying public is looked upon as intruders to their meetings and treated with hostility and disrespect. For example, on February 13 the board held a "special" meeting with Mr. Haugen, owner of Peninsula Ambulance. The meeting was intentionally called so quickly the public would not be aware of it until it was over. Then, as an extra precaution, they held the meeting not only behind closed doors at a private business office, but they did this outside our district! In addition to this blatant insult to the citizens of our community, each commissioner in attendance picked the taxpayers' pocket for \$50. Not bad for a meeting of less than two hours. It may be of interest to know that as of March 1 our commissioners have removed \$2,392 from the taxpayers' wallets.

Furthermore, The Midnight Three are the ones who gave away the BLS ambulance transport service - the service the District bought and paid for with our hard-earned tax dollars. Also, one commissioner in particular was directly responsible for the loss of tens of thousands of dollars to the Fire District from reduced levy funds.

At present, from where I sit in the audience, I do not see three elected com-

missioners - instead I see three dictators. Thus, if Mr. McMillan truly wants to work together to find solutions to the District's problems, I challenge him and the other commissioners to the following tasks: 1) Responsibly adhere to all state laws, county ordinances etc. - not only in their legal sense but in their intent; 2) Courteously provide the citizens with public information that is before the board, welcome any and all public comments and stop the harrassment and intimidation of not only the firefighters and staff, but also the citizens; 3) Abandon the practice and/or appearance of the "good ol' boy" meetings. Don't be so ashamed of what you do that you must hide from the public behind closed doors; 4) Seek out legal advice, if necessary, to understand the "Privacy Act" in regard to personal letters vs. public information; and 5) Last but not least, seek out and listen to the public which you serve - for these are the citizens who have elected you and entrusted you to supervise and lead the proudest and finest group of men and women firefighters anywhere in this country.

James Bosch

We want to hear from you
Send your letters to:
KP NEWS
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Classifieds...
continued from pg 10

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Member F.D.I.C.

Gig Harbor Comprehensive Plan... continued from pg 1

complained about the way in which non-compliance is dealt with and, in the last issue, a letter writer urged better enforcement of the plan.

The plan itself states that "Cooperative programs are established with owners and residents...and public pressure exerted to assure (replanting or landscaping) within a reasonable length of time." There is also mention in the plan of an office or official to which to report non-compliance, and sanctions including bonding and fines. An official complaint can be filled out at the Pierce County Building Division, Room #2, 2401 S. 35th Street in Tacoma, but there is no office or official for complaints. Complaints are handled by the planner assigned to the Key Peninsula, Mike Erkunen.

The authors of the plan created a structure of officials and agencies which progressively review all applications. The application process is the one required by Pierce County Planning, and it has many steps. A person wishing to open a business, to use one example, has to draw a site plan including landscaping.

The first body to see all this information is the Peninsula Advisory Committee, or PAC. The PAC, ideally, is a committee of Peninsula residents. The PAC reviews and approves or rejects a projected plan. Approved plans for most business sites go on to the Pierce County Planning Agency and through that process.

If the finished project does not look

the way it did on the site plan, non-compliance is handled by Pierce County Planning, but a lack of landscaping or an illegal sign is not a basis at this point in time to deny occupancy. Citizens wishing to report non-compliance fill out a complaint form. Pierce County Planning will then send someone to inspect the site. If the complaints are found to be valid, a certified letter to the property owner details them and asks that they be corrected.

If the problems are not corrected, from that point on, each case is handled on an individual basis. The property owner can appeal at any point and have a hearing by the Pierce County Hearing Examiner to present his case. Any verdict can be appealed by any of the parties involved.

If code violations are serious, formal legal action is taken sooner. If code violations are in the area of illegal signs or lack of a greenbelt, a letter writing process or a phone calling process is started by Pierce County Planning to try and work with the property owner. If it becomes obvious over a period of time, which typically is many months, that the owner is not going to comply, the case can be turned over to the prosecuting attorney's office or a request for a revocation of a permit can be issued. The option of the prosecuting attorney seems to be the more common. The prosecuting attorney can ultimately levy fines and jail sentences for code violations up to a maximum of 90 days in jail and a \$1,000 fine. The fines or jail sentence can be suspended if the owner comes into compliance.

KP NEWS welcomes new staff

Joining the KP NEWS staff are Joe and Megan Aprile, Megan as reporting editor and Joe as photographer. The Apriles have been in Washington for eleven years. They have two children, Lia, 8, and Julian, 12.

Joe is a cancer research scientist at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Institute in Seattle. He has long been interested in photography and has taught photography classes. Megan has been working as a free-lance writer.

The Apriles are the Lakebay representatives on the Key Peninsula Civic Center Association Board. Megan is also active at Vaughn Elementary School. They enjoy living on the Key Peninsula very much and hope to contribute much to the paper. Welcome, Megan and Joe!

Ida MacWatters, who is designing and laying up our advertising, has also taken over the job of advertising sales from Dan and Linda Orme.

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