



KP News Wins Top State Awards Five Years Running

Our writers and photographers continue to rack up wins.

STAFF REPORT

KP News staff and contributors earned 14 awards at the statewide Washington Newspaper Publishers Association 2022 Better Newspaper Contest at its annual ceremony October 8, held this year in Bellingham.

Now in its 135th year, WNPA awards outstanding newspaper work published over a 12-month period.

Forty-eight newspapers from across the state submitted 1,166 entries for the 2022 contest. KP News competed against daily and weekly publications with markets greater than 7,000 in circulation. The competition was judged by the South Dakota Press Association.

KP News won 17 awards in 2021, 14 in 2020, eight in 2019, and three in 2018.

Executive Editor Lisa Bryan took first place for sports profiles with “Lacrosse and Leukemia—Bo Clark’s Long Game,” which the judges called “incredible to read.” Bryan also won third place in editorials for “Getting Along With Others,” where she wrote “Did the whole world emerge from Covid isolation stark raving mad? ... Will we remember that everyone, even people we don’t care for, still belong to our Key Peninsula tribe?”

Krisa Bruemmer won first place in education reporting for “Pandemic Fuels Increase in Homeschooling.” The judges congratulated her “enterprising reporting” that went beyond typical coverage “to include hard data and a variety of perspectives.” Bruemmer also won third place in personality profiles for “KP Institution and Leader of the Band, Dr. Roes Retires, Sort Of.”

Associate Editor Ted Olinger received second place in the longform news category for “More Than a Food Bank” and second place in longform profiles for “RoxAnne Simon Is Paying It Forward on the KP.”

Chris Rurik took third place in the social issue category for “Homeless in High School.”

CONTINUED PAGE 4



Nine candidates running for four offices addressed residents. *Tina McKail, KP News*

Candidates Hold Fort, Answer Questions at KP Civic Center Forum

Meet your candidates. Election Day is November 8. Early voting in other states has already broken records.

TED OLINGER, KP NEWS

The 18th semi-annual candidate forum took place before a crowd of 100 or more at the Key Peninsula Civic Center October 11, and was mostly civil but for the behavior of one participant. The nonpartisan event was sponsored by the KP Business Association, the KP Civic Center Association and KP News, and organized by Safe Streets Campaign.

Moderator Connor Schultz of Safe Streets introduced nine candidates for four public offices and explained the rules. Each candidate was given two minutes for opening and closing statements and one minute to answer questions. Candidates agreed to restrict their speech to their own work and not to attack

opponents. The audience was asked to refrain from applause, cheering or booing to maintain a respectful atmosphere.

It almost worked.

Questions were submitted by audience members in advance. Answers to most are summarized below in the order they were given.

Q. What will you do if elected to address two key issues facing the Key Peninsula and Gig Harbor: Crime and taxes?

Young: The first I would do is listen to our police community, and restore their ability to pursue and take in criminals. I would love to make hard drugs illegal again. The second thing I would do is I would immediately vote to reverse the impending 49 cent gas tax increase that was just voted on by the

other party.

Denson: First, we have to hire more deputies; the county council has 57 more positions funded, they are hiring folks as quickly as they can, but once we are fully staffed it’s really important to advocate that the Peninsula detachment get more help out here. We need to be more proactive and more preventive with crime, and we need to work with our neighbors to do it.

Loneragan: One of the reasons we have these problems with crime is because of some of the legislative action that was taken last year. But at a county level, our jail is not at capacity; we do not have enough staffing. Somehow, we need to convince people that

CONTINUED PAGE 4



253-884-4699

www.keypennews.org

www.facebook.com/KeyPenNews
PO Box 3, Vaughn WA 98394

EXECUTIVE EDITOR: Lisa Bryan
editor@keypennews.org

ASSOCIATE EDITOR: Ted Olinger

STAFF CONTRIBUTORS: Krisa Bruemmer,
Ed Johnson, Eddie Macsalka,
Tina McKail, Joseph Pentheroudakis,
Chris Rurik,
Sara Thompson, Carolyn Wiley

CONTRIBUTORS: José Alaniz, Vicki
Biggs, Dan Clouse, Jack Dunne,
April Godwin

CALENDAR EDITOR: Meredith Browand
calendar@keypennews.org

PAGINATOR: Heather Meier

SOCIAL MEDIA: Joseph Pentheroudakis

OPERATIONS MANAGER: Tim Heitzman

BOOKKEEPER: Linda Grubaugh

AD SALES: Deanna Hunter
sales@keypennews.org

DISTRIBUTION: Anna Brones, Norm
Brones, Bill Dietz, Bruce Macdonald,
Jay Stewart, Bob Wilkins

PUBLISHING BOARD: Sara Thompson,
president, Michele Gorman, Bruce
Macdonald, Jeff Minch, Herb O'Niell,
Dave Stave, Bob Wilkins

UNDERWRITTEN WITH SUPPORT FROM:

The Angel Guild

Fund for Nonprofit News at
The Miami Foundation / Newsmatch

Community Donors

Member WNPA and INN

Copyright 2022 Key Peninsula News, all rights reserved. Financially and editorially independent, KP News is mailed at no charge to Key Peninsula residents and is available at local merchants. **Support:** The nonprofit KP News is made possible by advertisers, donors and subscribers; annual subscriptions are \$30 for first class mail delivery. **Share:** Send community information, concerns or complaints. Signed letters to the editor published as space allows, include daytime phone number. KP News reserves the right to edit all submissions. Deadline 15th of month. Printed in Canada.

A REASON TO BE THANKFUL

Here's What I Think About That

LISA BRYAN,
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

The season to be thankful and generous in spirit is just around the bend. It comes not a moment too soon. It's finally time to snuggle up inside after a dry summer that lasted longer than any in recent memory.

In holiday preparation some years back, we installed an inexpensive mounting system to suspend 12 feet of wire on a barren hallway to display some textiles and liven up the place. Months later, in an office cleaning blitz, my husband took on a serious tone when he asked, "What about all these stacks of old newspapers?"

It was embarrassing to realize how many I had accumulated. I like the feel of paper, at least that's my excuse, even though I know it's faster to look at previous editions that go back decades on our website. I knew what to do next.

One by one, I hung each print edition on the wire in the hallway, beginning with our first coverage of COVID-19. At one point, we were able to stand back and see a whole year of front pages in full. That's no longer the case now.

I was stunned looking again at June and July 2020 at front page stories about friends deeply involved in our community who died tragically and unexpectedly. Seeing all the papers hung in a row, slowly gazing from the beginning to where we are now took my breath away.

Reporting during these Covid years has been hard — harder than anything I have ever done in my life. But I am not alone. Here come those tears again.

We have the most incredibly devoted staff and team of contributing writers, photographers and proofers, some of whom put the paper ahead of their private lives time and time again because they believe in what we do. We enjoy a team of exceptional, award-winning talent that continues to attract more of the same into our fold.

And it's not just our production team that keeps us going. Deanna Hunter is arguably the best sales rep we have ever had. Our bookkeeper, Linda Grubaugh, is top notch and I don't know what we would have done

without their collective diligence to keep the money coming in.

We have a largely unsung distribution team that rolls with the punches and gets the job done even when delivery dates and times have been disrupted. They care about getting the paper into the hands of the community that supports it all one way or another.

Last summer, I took a call from an out-of-state businesswoman who by chance picked up a copy of our paper at a small market while visiting Gig Harbor. She took it home and read it front to back. "I absolutely love your paper and I want to know more — a lot more."

The situation she described in her community may sound familiar. Located in a rural area, ripe with recreational opportunities, surrounded by towering conifers flanked by mountain views and shoreline, the population is a mix of pioneer stock, hard-working, off-the-grid semi-recluses and transplants with a taste for independence. In good weather, the drive into the city took under an hour from the loose collection of unincorporated "small towns" commonly referred to as one.

Like the Key Peninsula, their location offered the best of both worlds.

But they had a real problem.

The city daily paper, once widely read and trusted, suffered from dried up revenue streams, the results of a highly competitive internet. Layoffs ensued. Once acquired by a hedge fund, reporting staff dwindled further, as did the number of pages.

Nobody was going to council meetings, keeping an eye on local county government. Nobody attended school board or fire commissioner meetings, and nobody knew what was going on in the land use department.

The basic watchdog functions and unbiased reporting of quality journalism all but vanished.

By luck, a neighbor discovered a land use deal quietly making its way through the county planning process.

The neighbor asked around, "Have you heard anything about this? It seems impossible, can they really do this?"

Speculative developers had been working behind the scenes to effect changes to local regulations that would radically change the nature

and very character of the community. If it went through as planned, it stood to more than double the buildable land and forever change their way of life.

Thanks to the small group I met with via Zoom, they were able to halt the process, at least temporarily. But they also came to understand the importance of independent local journalism. What they wanted to learn from us was how to start a local nonprofit newspaper like the one you hold in your hands.

It's no secret that without financial support through donations from readers like you, we would cease to exist. The community is part of our team. Together we make it happen month after month.

The time to vote is here. The campaign season has been marked by dehumanizing one another with convenient labels. That is a well-worn and dangerous path. It's easy to get swept up by heated rhetoric designed solely to divide rather than solve anything. When that happens, we ultimately lose some of our own humanity ourselves, making it more difficult to change the course to a better path.

But the election will soon be over. Until then, let us remember to be grateful for what we have.

Endless political vitriol robs us of our ability to remember much less comprehend that life is complex, rich with diversity, and infinitely interconnected.

In the end, it's connection that matters most of all. ■



Vaughn Couple Celebrates Installation of Bainbridge Island Public Art

With their first collaboration, Anna Brones and Luc Revel provide an emotional context for visitors to a Japanese Exclusion memorial.

SARA THOMPSON, KP NEWS

Vaughn residents Anna Brones and Luc Revel celebrated the dedication of the installation of their work at the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Exclusion Memorial in September. It is the couple's first public art project and first artistic collaboration.

The memorial is located at the site of the former Eagledale ferry dock, where 227 Bainbridge Island men, women and children—the first of 120,000 Japanese and Japanese Americans—were forced to leave their homes 80 years ago. Two-thirds were American citizens. Despite a history on the island dating to the 1880s, they were rounded up, tagged and forced to board a ferry to Seattle. Most would be sent to Manzanar, a concentration camp in California, exiled by President Franklin Roosevelt's Executive Order 9066 Civilian Exclusion Order No. 1.

"We learned to call them concentration and not internment camps," Brones said. "The Nazi camps in Germany, often called concentration camps, were really extermination or death camps."

The motto for the memorial is Nidoto Nai Yoni, "Let It Not Happen Again." It is managed by the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Exclusion Memorial Association, National Park Service and Bainbridge Island Parks. The Bainbridge Island Japanese American Community provides tours of the site.

"Planning for the memorial began in 2004, with overall design under the purview of Johnpaul Jones of Jones and Jones Architects," said Val Tollefson, president of the memorial association. "The original site plan included a story wall, completed in 2011; a reconstruction of the original ferry dock, scaled back to what we call the departure deck and completed in 2021; and a visitor center."

"The original site plan did not anticipate artwork on the departure deck," Tollefson said, "but once it was completed it was obvious that something was needed to explain the significance of that deck in the overall story." The association sent out a request for proposals.

Brones, a Vaughn native, writer and artist, was intrigued. "I thought it was interesting and local. Luc encouraged me to apply. I was out of my scope in terms of visualizing space and 3-D. It was something I wanted to do but I didn't have the language or expertise."

Revel, who trained as an architect in Australia, filled that gap. "Space is what Luc works as an architect," Brones said. "And then when we talked together, we just had so many ideas. We decided we should apply together."



Beyond installation, design considerations essential in public art, like ADA Compliance, forces artists to be more creative. *Luc Revel*

They submitted their proposal in February 2021, and Brones was struck by the desire for collaboration with the community. Carol Reitz, a third generation Japanese American and president of the memorial association, was on the committee that worked with Brones and Revel. "Our goal was to elicit the emotions of people who walked the deck in 1942," Reitz said.

"Someone on the planning committee said, 'You shouldn't feel good walking across that deck,'" Brones said. "That stuck with me. How do you create, especially in someone without a personal connection, emotions that might have been felt that day that you can portray through artwork?"

The input from the committee led to changes in the design, but key components of the initial proposal remain—the steps taken to the ferry, the dehumanizing tags the victims were forced to wear, and the use

of silhouettes.

By June the couple created a mock-up to get a sense of scale and the design was completed in October 2021. Two abstract figures of soldiers flank the entry to the deck. To their right are silhouettes of a mother and child and to their left are a man and woman. A single ghost-like silhouette follows, and then the path fills with footsteps, bisected abruptly by a glass partition as the deck ends.

The initial design of the silhouettes were all ghost figures—images cut in steel panels. But that design could be a trip hazard if people tried to step through them. "We had to figure out a solution. How do you create something that has that sense of openness but isn't actually open?" Brones said. "The solution was to use the repeating pattern of the tag shapes that creates a grid or cage. It ended up being really powerful."



The changing natural light interacts with each element to produce haunting images.

Luc Revel

Reitz has talked to visitors about the impact of the installation. "People have tears in their eyes," she said. Visitors step on a soundbox connecting abstract images of two soldiers at the deck entry as visitors enter the deck. That sound, said one person who had volunteered in a prison, reminded her of a prison door closing. A 12-year-old took note of the child's silhouette—it was smaller and younger than him. The footprints of all sizes at the end of the deck makes it clear that people of all ages were taken away.

"The silhouettes," Reitz said, "show that sometimes we don't see people as people and don't see the humanity. And it also indicates that people have lost who they were—they disappeared."

"Anna and Luc's installation is universally seen as a resounding success," Tollefson said.

Brones and Revel said that the project took longer and was more complicated than they had anticipated, but that they are eager to do more public art.

"I don't know of a single culture where art doesn't play a big role. It's hard-wired. It's how we communicate," Revel said.

"There is so much research about why art is important—for health and wellness, for empathy," Brones said. "It provides a bridge that makes a connection that creates an interest, so you want to learn more. It is easy to think of artwork as superficial or a beauty thing and it is so much bigger."

Find more information about the memorial online at bijaema.org. ■

FORUM FROM PAGE 1

working in law enforcement is an honorable thing to do.

Randall: We need more law enforcement, but we also need to prevent crime in our community. I started the day meeting with police chiefs and mental health providers, talking about how we build and strengthen the system with mental health, crisis response and drug treatment to prevent more crime. We have a challenge that we're not currently able to solve without big investments in mental health and drug treatment.

Hutchins: It is a little astonishing to me to hear the legislative and executive leadership of Washington state act like they have just discovered there's a crime problem and they're going to take it very seriously, when some very reckless policies were pursued over the last legislative sessions. The question asked about taxes as well: \$15 billion dollars in revenue surplus—that's what Washington state had. We do not have a revenue problem in Washington. We need to pull back on taxes.

Richards: I was down in the Legislature the last two years representing crime victims. We need more police officers (especially) to respond to car thefts. We've got to come up with solutions to lower property taxes for every homeowner, we've also got to lower taxes for small businesses like my dad's. He does landscaping around here.

Caldier: Law enforcement said these bills that came through were awful, and I listened to them and voted no. Unfortunately, many of my colleagues did not listen to them. We need to roll them back. On top of everything, we need to allow businesses to thrive and grow. When more people are employed, more people (and) businesses contribute to our tax pool, and it actually overall lowers the cost for everyone else.

Macklin: In my career in health care, we've always dealt with a so-called staffing crisis. The pipeline seems to get longer and longer. We actually need to talk about that in our policy, moving kids from high school to the trades. On taxes, we have a very weird and inefficient system that really sucks out the middle. We have to do better at putting money in the pockets of business and also invest in

The candidates included:

- Incumbent Sen. Emily Randall (D-Bremerton) and Rep. Jesse Young (R-Gig Harbor), both of legislative district 26, vying for her Senate seat.
- Spencer Hutchins (R) and Addison Richards (D) competing for state representative position 1 for LD 26, currently held by Rep. Young.
- Incumbent Rep. Michelle Caldier (R-Port Orchard) and Matt Macklin (D) competing for her seat, state representative position 2 for LD 26.
- Deryl McCarty (NP) for Pierce County Auditor. His opponent, Linda Farmer (NP), was unable to attend.
- Robyn Denson (D) and Paula Lonergan (R) competing for Pierce County Council District 7.
- Representatives for Rep. Derek Kilmer (D-6th CD) and his opponent Elizabeth Kreiselmaier (R) made opening statements for each but did not answer questions for them.

infrastructure that supports small businesses.

McCarty: Auditors don't do crime. Auditors don't do taxes. But we can provide leadership to push the Legislature. There are things that auditors can do in this county. We need someone to go in there and say, why are you doing that?

Q. What would you do to help solve the highway safety and congestion problems on State Route 302?

Richards: One of the reasons I am running is because I am disappointed in how our district and particularly the Key Peninsula continues to get overlooked in Olympia for spending priorities. We know (we need) a new Purdy Bridge. We've got an emergency preparedness issue out here in Longbranch. There's only one way in or out, and we've got to do something about that.

Caldier: We have put stuff into the budget. The problem is that we have a governor who line item vetoed what we put in and the Legislature had to sue the governor and have that resolved in the supreme court. It was incredibly frustrating having to work in the environment that I had to work in with some of the characters that were a part of that. The other piece of the puzzle is that unfortunately fish culverts have taken a higher priority than our roads.

Macklin: We can't solve the problem of bottlenecks in an entire community. When something happens down in Home, there's no urgent care, there's no emergency service, and there's a line of traffic. If you're having a stroke, there's not going to be a fast

enough route to get you to services when you need them. We need something here in this community.

McCarty: Auditors don't do traffic (but I'm on the transportation commission for this county. The question was about traffic on 302. No, it's not. The question is traffic. It's everywhere. I'm a military logistician. We have to get us to work, get us to school. But our first responders have to get there. We have to get parts to the port, or to the airport, or to McChord, and we're not doing that job.

Lonergan: Because of the Growth Management Act we are very limited as to what can take place in this area. That is something proscribed by the state. That is the first issue, but the next thing is funding. We may have to look at land and expansion, and that takes a lot of planning.

Denson: You all know that 302 is a state route but the county does have a role to play, and I will be advocating for that as soon as they finish the environmental impact statement—started in 2005. If we can finish that and get a preferred alternative, and there are a number of great options, then we can advocate for that.

Randall: I've been working on traffic and infrastructure problems. That's why I sit on the transportation committee and why I signed on to every transportation package over these last couple of years until we finally got one across the finish line this year. Now, I will admit we weren't able to get every piece of infrastructure that our district needed in that package; 302 didn't make it. But I am

ready to go back and keep fighting, hopefully it doesn't take another four years, to make sure that we get the same investment in our community so that we can benefit from the tax dollars that we're paying, just like everyone else.

Young: There's a difference between budgets and packages and what you just saw is the reason why there literally is no money out there right now. You need to write balanced budgets that bring dollars back to the district, not wait every 10 years for a gas tax increase package to pay for bike lanes in Seattle. I will never vote for that.

Hutchins: The transportation budget has been historically in Washington State a bipartisan issue, but this last legislative session the majority party passed a transportation budget I think for the first time, in my memory, without a single Republican vote. That indicates to you some of what Jesse was talking about in terms of fiscal irresponsibility and lack of reality about what it's going to accomplish.

Q. This one is just for the candidate for auditor: Do you believe there is just reason to have confidence in our state and federal elections, i.e., mail-in ballots, voting machines, drop boxes?

McCarty: I'm going to answer yes, and I'm going to answer no. All that voting data we have, the auditor's office is trying to protect but there's always somebody who is trying to unprotect it. There are 800 government password compromise attempts made in the United States every second. We've got to stay ahead of this.

The forum ended with two-minute closing statements from each candidate. Young used his statement to indirectly attack his opponent, saying he was responding to texts he'd just then received praising a position Randall took in the Legislature. "That is a lie," he said.

The audience booed, cheered and admonished each other as Young talked over attempts by the moderator to intervene, refusing to return the microphone and exceeding his allotted time. He finished by asking that his opponent be allowed to respond without enduring the treatment he had received.

For her part, Randall reiterated her positions, accomplishments and plans. ■

AWARDS FROM PAGE 1

The judges said, "Nice work sharing a story that would be hard to share ... written in a kind, considerate and genuinely interesting manner."

Rurik also won second place in topical columns for "At Home with Moths, the Beautiful Bellwethers," about which the

judges wrote "What a gem of a column to have in your local paper."

Phyllis Henry won her second award, this time by earning second place in the general interest category for her columns "Coast to Coast."

Carolyn Wiley continued to dominate with her reign of humor, winning her fifth award in as many years when she took third

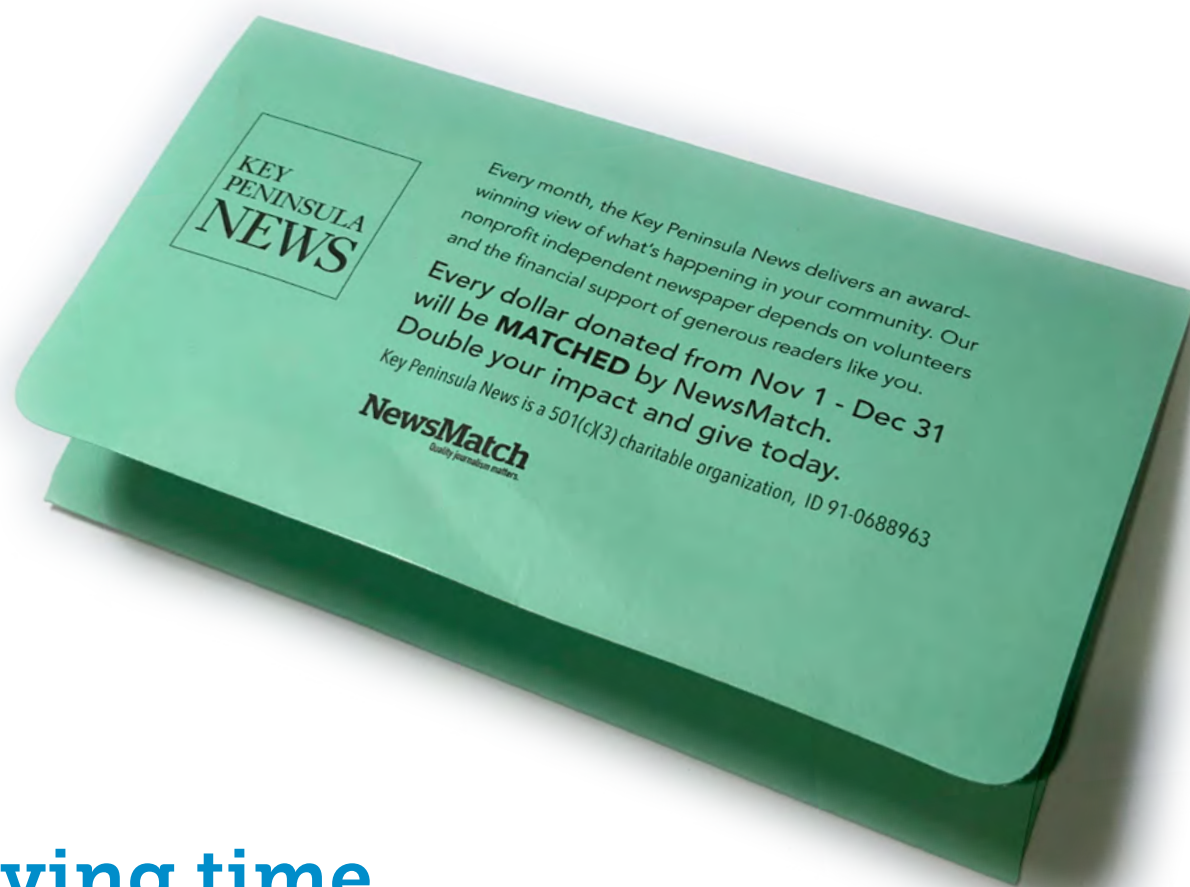
place in the general interest category for her "Devil's Head Diary" columns. "We can tell you have fun writing," the judges said. Wiley also received a \$20 cash bonus for "being the oldest person here," an honor she accepted with vociferous derision.

Photographers Tina McKail and Caleb Galbreath shared second place for their photo essay documenting the Home Fourth

of July parade. McKail, Ed Johnson and Chris Rurik shared third place for their photos in November Out & About.

Designer Tim Heitzman won two second place awards with an ad for The Mustard Seed Project and his in-house Mother's Day campaign, "Mothers We Love." The judges wrote, "Great use of art that really pulls you into the text. Love the subtle humor." ■

LEARN ABOUT OUR MATCHING BENEFACTORS AT NEWSMATCH.ORG



It's giving time.

Readers like you directly contribute to the success of the Key Peninsula News. We're always thankful for the acclaim we win, the praises you send and the donations that keep the presses running.

NewsMatch will match donations received during our year-end campaign. NewsMatch is the largest national fundraising campaign to encourage independent news organizations.

NewsMatch magnifies the impact of your support of independent local news. Through matching, it supports our mission of providing *free, unbiased and*

independent news to everyone living on the Key Peninsula.

Enclosed in this edition is our familiar green envelope. Mail your donation or go online at keypennews.org and choose a one-time gift or monthly giving plan that fits your budget.

Each and every donation ensures more of the joys of the award-winning newspaper that's made possible by its community of readers. Thank you.



CHARGE IT! GIVE ONLINE AT KEYPENNEWS.ORG

Dan Clouse THE OTHER SIDE



Two Greek Paradoxes

The Temptations' Motown classics, "My Girl," "Get Ready" and "Ain't Too Proud to Beg," were music highlights of my high school years.

The songs were playing on radios everywhere, in our bedrooms and our cars. In living rooms, turntables spun them at 45 and 33-1/3 RPM on console stereos that looked like furniture.

John, Paul, George and Ringo are still famous names, but few could name the five Temptations in a tavern trivia contest. David Ruffin, Otis Williams, Eddie Kendricks, Paul Williams and Melvyn Franklin never were exactly household names.

One of the reasons is that the five Temptations of the mid-60s didn't stick together as a group. By 1968, David Ruffin was gone, replaced by Dennis Edwards, and a couple of years later Eddie Kendricks had moved on, too. As time passed, singers left, and new ones replaced them.

None of the original Temptations is alive today, except for Otis Williams. If you go to a Temptations concert at the casino, you'll enjoy the Motown sounds of Otis Williams—and four younger singers. Williams is now the sole owner of the trademarked name The Temptations.

Here's a question: Is the 2022 group still the Temptations?

Philosophers of Plato's time didn't have to bother with questions about the Temps. After all, they had no Motown or Emerald Queen Casino. Those logicians were arguing instead about what has come to be known as "The Ship of Theseus Paradox."

We have Plutarch to thank for the story. As you remember, in his account of the mythological character Theseus, Plutarch tells how the hero sailed to Crete to rescue the 14 young Greek captives held for the annual sacrifice to the Minotaur in his labyrinth. After killing the blood-thirsty monster and escaping with beautiful Ariadne's help, Theseus sailed home to Athens. The grateful hometown Chamber of Commerce preserved Theseus's ship for generations. As time passed, the city fathers kept it afloat by removing the rotten planks and putting new timbers in their places. According to Plutarch, "The rebuilt ship became a standing controversy among philosophers. Some held that the ship remained the same, and others contended that it was not."

A simpler and funnier version of the story has been handed down in my family. We retell it as "The Old Colonial Ax." In our traditional version, the proverbial heirloom first has its wood handle replaced and then the steel blade. Is the refurbished tool still the old colonial ax? Or something else?

Leave it to philosophers to tell more complicated versions.

They have conflicting explanations for what they call temporal persistence. According to the Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy, there are three competing notions: a three-dimensionalist theory known as endurantism along with two four-dimensionalist theories called perdurantism and exdurantism. It's really quite simple: "For a perdurantist, all objects are four-dimensional worms that occupy different regions of spacetime." Got it?

You can't make this (expletive deleted) up. And who says philosophy can't be hilarious?

Idle-minded Greeks were always wondering about intellectual puzzles. Who else would have asked "Why is there something rather than nothing?"

Those precursors of Mensa invented another puzzle. They called it sorites, even though it has nothing to do with Greek-letter sororities. For the sorites head-scratcher, imagine a heap of sand. Take away one grain of sand at a time until the heap is gone. Then ask yourself: When did the heap stop being a heap?

A modern instance of the sorites is that all the classic rock and R&B hits you're listening to on digital platforms have a little note by the title that reads "Remastered." For those of us who listened to those songs so many times that they're engraved on the granite of our musical memories, it's disconcerting to hear remastered songs on Spotify or YouTube. The streaming versions sound different. It is more than just the familiar scratch at the 45-second mark on the vinyl record I played over and over again in smoky dorm rooms that is not the same.

A remastered version is perfect, clear and clean. That's the whole idea, but it's no longer the original. Are the old and new versions the same song? When did the remastered copy stop being "Whole Lotta Love"? I want to know.

People have given the puzzle of the heap lots of different names. One of the most memorable is "Boiling a Live Frog." Journalists call it "The slippery slope" and "Creeping normality." They use them to talk about things like climate change or the Republican Party.

I call it the "Parent of Teenagers

Moment." That puzzle strikes when you realize that your children's clothes and tastes in music have become incomprehensible. You ask yourself, "When did I stop being cool?"

Sometimes I think of it as the "Mirror Question." That's when I see an elderly fellow in the mirror and wonder, "When did I stop being young?"

Whether or not you've spent time philosophizing about yourself as a four-dimensional worm—other than on a Monday morning, I mean—change happens.

Like the Temptations and the Ship of Theseus, time has changed me. So many old planks have been replaced in the leaky maritime museum exhibit I am now.

That's what time does.

Now if only I could figure out whether I'm still me or someone else.

Dan Clouse is an award-winning columnist. He lives in Lakebay.

Vicki Biggs A SHIFT IN PERSPECTIVE



At the Crossroads

My granddaughter and I have a new tradition, something I never could have predicted. We demonstrate for women's rights together. Today we stood on a corner in Gig Harbor along with other women, families, and men, raising our signs and waving at supporters driving through the intersection.

We are an enthusiastic and determined group. Two hours of standing and waving, looking for ways to make a brief connection with the occupants of vehicles in a busy traffic area, is not easy. Demonstrators have prepared their individual signs with messages like: "We won't go back to the '50s," "Women want fundamental rights," and "Abortion is healthcare." We were encouraged to see fathers and brothers as allies in the fight for women's rights.

When I was a young woman, we had just achieved the right to safe, legal abortions. Back-alley abortions would be a thing of the past; women would no longer die from an unwanted pregnancy. Women also gained access to "the pill." This was huge. Contraception that was safe and effective was a game changer for women in controlling their own reproductive choices.

During that same time women made gains in other areas, such as access to the education they wanted and employment in nontraditional roles. They were able to get credit in their own names, without

the consent of a husband or parent. For today's young women, the excitement and "liberation" of those days can hardly be imagined. The radical persistence and bravery of the "women's libbers" changed the world for American women.

The road leading to those changes was long. In 1848, women organized to fight for women's rights. White men in the controlling class, otherwise known as The Patriarchy, managed women's lives down to the gnat's eyebrow. There were laws in every state restricting a woman's right to own or manage property (they had no rights whatsoever), laws restricting abortion for any reason, and contraception was illegal. It was perfectly legal to beat or rape your wife, or commit her to an insane asylum without cause. Men could divorce their wives, but wives could not divorce their husbands. Women could not vote or serve on a jury. Women were not allowed to attend medical or law schools. Working women rejoiced when they won the right to a 54-hour work week, at wages considerably lower than men.

And yet, here we are today. Women are losing the right to control their own bodies—losing the right to healthcare of their choosing, rights that we'd won in my lifetime. Next, women may lose the right to contraception. A candidate for representative in Michigan has supported the idea that women should not be allowed to vote. Some members of the U.S. Supreme Court have floated the idea that people should not be allowed to marry whomever they love, and the court could restrict interracial and/or same sex marriage.

Historically men have used tools of power and control to manage women. During the confirmation hearings considering then Supreme Court candidate Brett Kavanaugh, Sen. Kamala Harris asked, "Can you think of any laws that give government the power to make decisions about the male body?" He was unable to respond. Polls have shown that about 62% of Americans support safe and legal abortion services. Yet, a minority—legislatively represented mostly by white men—are pushing an agenda of power and control over women's bodies.

Power and control are the hallmarks of abusers. Despite increased public awareness about domestic violence, 184 people have been murdered in Pierce County since 1999 in domestic violence incidents, most of them women. Threats and acts of violence have been used to subjugate women for millennia. Women seeking abortion and healthcare providers are threatened by overt acts of power and control, and sometimes violence. A nationwide ban on abortions is being promoted by a conservative minority,

with no recourse for rape or incest. At the same time, just as it was in the past, there is no mention of punishment, consequences or responsibility for abusers or rapists.

And so, I stand on a corner with my 26-year-old granddaughter. We stand for a woman's right to choose, a woman's right to healthcare, a woman's right to be safe from her abuser, a woman's right to be legislatively represented by someone who recognizes the equality and value of women. We stand together in the long shadow of women who fought well over 100 years for women's equality in every aspect of life. We stand on the corner for the life of my newborn great-granddaughter. May she never find herself standing on this corner, at these crossroads.

Vicki Biggs is a longtime social worker. She lives in Home.



Who Owns History

"What happened?" It's a fundamentally human question, maybe the closest we get to simple curiosity. And it's not simple, not at all. Eyewitness accounts can be flawed, even events from my lifetime can take on a dreamy reality as time passes. My kids remember things that they weren't part of, having heard the stories and filled in the blanks, making the story more personal, funnier, better. Who's to say what happened?

When we lived around a campfire the oldest person was probably the keeper of cultural wisdom, at least until they were routinely wrong, or obviously nutty. When most of us died young, anybody who lasted

30 to 40 years was a treasure, venerated, and a leader. They could probably make stuff up and assert their truth to get their way. Or some shaman character, wrapping their thoughts in visions and folklore, could lead their tribe out of trouble or into it. But the tribe could stand together.

A cohesive society must have shared beliefs, at least with regards to "who we are," which must include something about "how we got here." Some mixture of truth and legend seems unavoidable. I suppose each of us struggles with that balance, believing our story is true and any deviation therefore false. Wars can be driven by insistence on "the one true path," though I suspect convenient plunder plays a substantial role.

America is maybe uniquely post-tribal, at least on paper. Separating church and state is a pretty radical idea really and always challenged. "Us" and "them" goes pretty deep, and our attempt to consider a culture of diverse ethnicities feels pretty hard these days. My patriotism is based on my optimism on that issue.

Our "how we got here" story has some tragedy in it. People can be cruel. Lots to be proud of, lots to learn from. The truth and nothing but the truth seems like a high bar, but our public education institutions have a responsibility to reach for it. I learned, innocently enough, that nothing important happened in the whole world except wars in Europe, things were rough and then America, the correct answer (of course I'm exaggerating, but I hope you can see my point).

I'm comfortable with young kids hearing mostly heroic history lessons, but how is that at the age of 70 I just heard about the Tulsa Race Massacre in 1921? That's not some Battle of Hastings trivia question (1066). I've been to Tulsa, maybe you have too. Nice town. I just learned about

Chinatown being burned down in Tacoma during our own race riot (1885).

Of course, you and I are not responsible for it or any of a thousand other atrocities committed in history. But I want to know about it and I want my fellow Americans to know.

But who decides "what happened?" Vietnam was my first exposure to splintered realities. To some it was a heroic battle between good and evil fought at great expense in lives and treasure, because we owed it to our fathers who fought the same fight, and their fathers, and on and on. Others saw post-colonial brutality, mechanized horror and futility. My memory is that it ended when Walter Cronkite, whom we all believed, went there and told us all over dinner that it was unwinnable. We fought on for a while, but it felt over. Now I read reports of the valiant Ukrainian forces finally pushing the Red Menace back, and I believe them joyously, but I wonder what the press was saying in China and the USSR when Saigon fell. Probably pretty close.

What we no longer have is a Walter Cronkite, so our fractured truths sustain themselves. The closest to truth I find these days is Wikipedia, which is a weird idea. I know Cronkite was a product of CBS News, and I could follow the money and prove to myself that his "truth" had its biases. The key was the shared belief.

Wikipedia is a product of the information age, and I suppose all of us are learning about how tricky "truth" is now, but it's still quite a transformation to trust my phone more than a person, any person. The information on Wikipedia is crowdsourced. It's curated, by people, but anyone can suggest edits and additions. It's a collected truth, and maybe that's all that matters.

Jack Dunne lives gratefully in Lakebay.

April Godwin
TECH TALK



Meta-What?

I recently watched a short video about a man who lives in the metaverse. The video jumped back and forth between the real world and a computer-generated alternate reality. In the metaverse scenes, I watched this man wake up in a large high-rise apartment overlooking a bustling city. Then I watched him get ready for his day and go for a drive in his high-end sports car. At the close of the day, he climbed back into his king-sized virtual bed and played a movie on his wall-spanning flat screen TV.

In the real world, he never left his sparsely furnished bedroom. He started and ended his day in a twin bed with safety rails. He showered in the middle of his room using a bucket rudely scaffolded over a kids swimming pool, and his car was a small desk with a gamers steering wheel sitting on top.

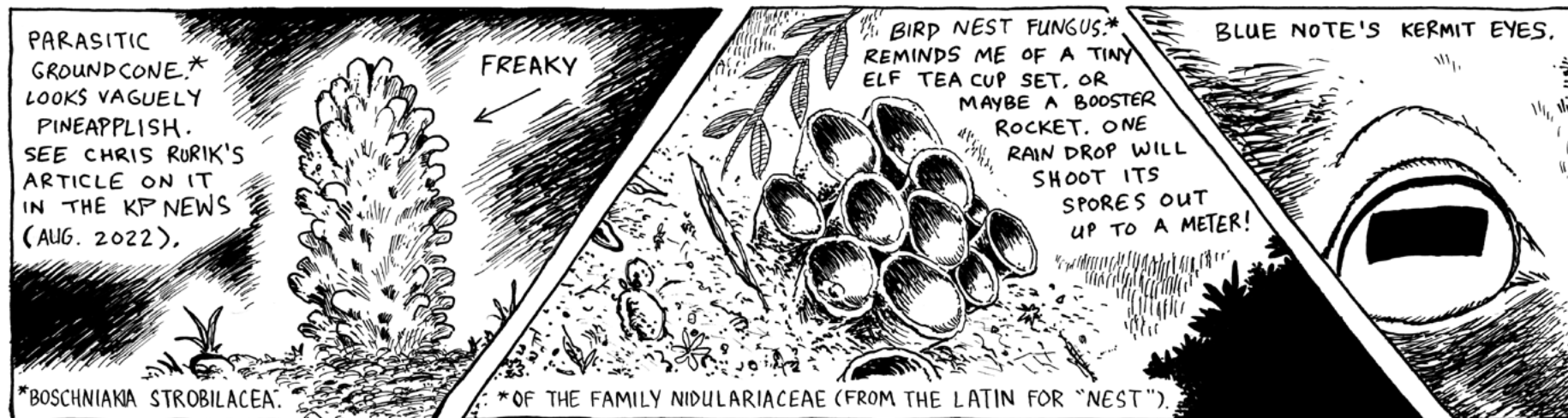
For some people, the metaverse is a novel way to experience online games, for others it promises a new way of life. In the metaverse, you can be anyone you want, and you can live any lifestyle you can imagine. Your virtual self, or avatar, can be configured to look like a supermodel or an ogre, it's your choice.

You can push outside your comfort zone with practically zero risk. If you wanted to, you could scale a mountain in the morning, swim with sharks in the afternoon and visit the Leaning Tower of Pisa in the evening, all without ever leaving the comfort of your home or spending prohibitive amounts of money (at least for now).

The metaverse promises applications that go beyond living fantasy lives. Some compa-

CONTINUED PAGE 8

José Alaniz WE LIVE HERE: WEIRDOS



nies are edging toward a virtual work environment for office workers, and the metaverse already offers safe learning opportunities for real-world professionals, such as doctors and nurses.

There are other benefits too. Many metaverse activities require physical movement. Whether you're rescuing a princess, solving a puzzle or learning karate, you're moving your body, which translates into real-world fitness.

Some people argue the metaverse can level the playing field, making life more equitable and comfortable for those of us who aren't super rich. But there are some serious challenges to that argument.

First and foremost, to participate in the metaverse you must have an internet connection. This automatically excludes nearly three billion people worldwide. You also need a virtual reality headset. In today's market a decent one will cost you at least \$300. And then there's access to games and other environments. While there is some free content out there, many experiences require a paid account.

And then there are the costs related to your avatar. For example, you might want to upgrade your virtual house, car or wardrobe. Digital fashion is really taking off in the metaverse, and companies are taking notice. You can already buy virtual down jackets and beanies from Ralph Lauren and sneakers from Nike. Or, if you have enough real-world dollars, you can buy high-end fashion from the likes of Gucci, Balenciaga and Dior.

A virtual reality headset is essentially a blindfold. This means spending time in the metaverse can be dangerous for your physical body. Think about all the potential hazards inside your home, such as sharp objects and windows. Imagine spinning around in circles, flailing your arms and legs while trying to smash flying objects only you can see, all while wearing a blindfold.

The metaverse might also be dangerous for you mind. Moving between the metaverse and the real world can also be disorienting. Some people report feeling dizzy or disassociated from their physical body for hours after leaving the metaverse.

Even so, interest in the metaverse is growing quickly and supporting technologies are being developed almost as fast. Some of the world's biggest corporations have already gone all-in on the metaverse. Future iterations promise hyper-realistic sights, sounds and even smells. At some point, you just might take a trip around the world where you can see all of Paris from the top of the Eiffel Tower, smell the empanadas in Argentina and feel cobblestones under your feet in Belgium, all without ever leaving your living room.

April Godwin is an IT administrator who lives in Lakebay.

Letters to the Editor

FORMER COUNTY COUNCIL CANDIDATE ENDORSES LONERGAN

I would like to thank everyone for the support I received during my run for Pierce County Council.

It will continue to be my motivating force to ensure that the Key Peninsula's voice is heard in county governance. Having met with both candidates who advanced to the general election, I feel we will best be represented by Paula Lonergan.

Politics have become a very divided partisan game with the ruling party pushing an agenda of supporting the criminals and rioters in our streets. Law enforcement is handcuffed and threatened individually with discipline if they attempt to do their job. That party is quick to shut down any discussion and put a negative label on anyone willing to challenge that narrative. We cannot continue going this direction.

Paula is an African American grandmother who is not afraid to instill the discipline needed to take our streets back while showing the compassion to correct behavior to get someone on the right track.

Chuck West, Lakebay

Editor's note: Chuck West currently serves on the Peninsula School District Board of Directors Position 1. The opinions expressed here are his own, and not those of Peninsula School District.

IN GRATITUDE AND SUPPORT OF FREE SPEECH

I want to thank the many enlightened people who sent cards, letters and made phone calls in support after the article by Eddie Macsalka concerning "The Yankee Clipper" and its devotion to free speech and finest tonsorial services (Cutting Out: KC Corral Barbershop Closing Its Doors," October.) One caller even referred to the Key Peninsula as a conservative gem tucked away among the many failed policies of a liberal government.

My hope is that those unafraid to take a stand for free speech will continue to polish this gem by voting their consciences on November 8.

Thank you, farewell and God bless the Key Peninsula.

Nita Garnier, Lakebay

Owner, The Yankee Clipper

REP. JESSE YOUNG FOR SENATE

Our state and quite honestly our country are faced with a significant divide. On one side you have liberal urban voters, many of them radical supporters of extreme left-wing programs and policies. On the

other side, rural voters, many of them libertarian or conservative simply want to be left alone to enjoy their freedoms and pursue opportunities to succeed. Much of what divides us is driven by our lifestyles. Where rural residents are largely responsible for their own transportation, water and sewer disposal, urban people are dependent on government for these services and vote accordingly.

Jesse Young understands the needs and desires of rural citizens. Emily Randall clearly does not. Jesse Young has consistently voted for conservative ideas and policies that enhance rural living. He helped make sure that our area would not be subject to the outrageous Sound Transit vehicle license fees. He supports our veterans, has worked to protect our groundwater that we depend on from being polluted and has worked on legislation to support rational low-income housing programs. He believes in and supports individual rights over radical collectivism driven by Seattle leftists.

Emily Randall consistently votes with radical Seattle Democrats for policies that harm the lifestyles and livelihoods of rural residents. She voted for radical carbon taxes that will drive up the cost of transportation critical to people living in rural areas. Thanks to Sen. Randall, we are looking at a 40-plus cent increase in gasoline prices in January. She supports extreme public safety restrictions like the pursuit limits on our police forces that have driven up crime in our otherwise quiet and peaceful area. She has never found a tax she doesn't like. We quite literally cannot afford Emily Randall as our senator.

Marc Christensen, Vaughn

Precinct Committee Officer 26-321 Republican Party

KP NEWS MUST MAINTAIN BALANCE

In the August edition, you published a column by Bruce Cook that strongly supported Rep. Jesse Young and trashed Sen. Emily Randall.*

The column then reappeared as a paid political ad in October.

I think it is important to note that the KP News is the primary, often the only, source of local information and discussion of issues for most of us on the peninsula and that you are supported and read by folks with a very wide range of social and political views. As such, it is imperative that you provide a balance of views.

There are several important things about Jesse that Bruce neglected to remind us of. We could start with his intimidation

tactics, with his openly armed buddies, toward local high school students during a peaceful and very local BLM protest. Add that to his participation with right wing militia groups and his open support — unlike most everyone else in his party — of now former Rep. Matt Shea, who was accused of domestic terrorism by a state House investigation and removed from his caucus by his Republican colleagues.

Don't forget about Jesse being disciplined by both parties in the state Legislature for abusing his own staff members or his extreme anti-abortion views. Jesse is about as far right as anyone you can find in Olympia.

Bruce also ignored several accomplishments of Sen. Randall. Let's start with her successful spearheading of legislation that just reduced the Narrows Bridge tolls or any of her other accomplishments. On a very local level, she has worked to increase healthcare access in partnership with Peninsula Community Health Services and the Key Peninsula Fire Department, prioritized rural broadband, and invested in affordable housing for seniors at The Mustard Seed Project.

Emily clearly works hard and effectively for those of us who live on the peninsula. I strongly urge you to vote to re-elect her.

Rod Mitchell, Vaughn

**Editor's Note: A reader's guest opinion column endorsing Sen. Randall over Rep. Young appeared in our July edition (See: "Emily or Jesse?" by John Pat Kelly). The guest opinion column in the August edition was a reader response by Bruce Cook. KP News was unaware at the time of publication that Cook is the Chair of the 26th Legislative District Pierce County Republican Party. We regret the omission.*

TIME FOR A WAKE-UP CALL

Meredith Browand's column in the last KP News regarding attacks on public education needs to be expanded ("A Tribute to Teachers," October).

If we fail to see this as just one part of a broader campaign, there will be hell to pay. There is a cabal of pseudo "conservatives," aka insurrectionists, working to grasp the governmental reins of power by delegitimizing and then tearing down the institutions that have enabled the country to function for over 200 years.

This includes our public education, judicial, electoral, congressional taxation systems. The sad thing is that the often-well-meaning citizens, who have been tricked into carrying out this war against our institutions, are going to be left behind in the dust if it succeeds.

Richard Schwartz, Longbranch

Coho Salmon Season Comes to a Close on Minter Creek

Fishermen take advantage of unseasonable weather to hook their final catches of the year.

EDDIE MACSALKA, KP NEWS

On a normal Sunday afternoon in October most Western Washington residents are dodging damp weather to watch a Seattle Seahawks win.

This wasn't a normal October Sunday. It was 72 degrees and sunny without a cloud in the sky. The Seahawks entered the fourth quarter down 31-19 to the New Orleans Saints.

Instead of wasting the day away on his couch in his Key Peninsula home, 28-year-old Wes Giddings was strapping on his waders to take full advantage of the final weeks of Coho salmon season. He joined nearly 100 other fishermen—men, women and children—along the banks of Minter Creek and Henderson Bay.

"I bet there were 200 or more people out here this morning," said Giddings, who generally comes during the early morning low tide when he feels the Coho are biting the best.

Coho salmon—referred to by experienced fishermen as "silvers"—return to Minter Creek in early fall through October. The Minter Creek Hatchery, just off Creviston Drive, is home base to about 90 percent of the returning cohos. The fact that the hatchery is a few thousand feet from the mouth of Henderson Bay makes Minter Creek a prime spot.

"You see all these cars lined up along the road here, but there's not a person in sight. That's because everyone is down (at the mouth) scaring away my fish," Giddings said as he started casting at the first bend of the creek, just south of the bridge. He was using a twitching jig to see if he could agitate any of the coho. "You could complain, but it's actually just nice to see people doing positive stuff outside."

Giddings is a lifelong fisherman, having grown up in Port Angeles and fishing all over the Olympic Peninsula, mainly for steelhead trout. "I only started coming to Minter a couple of years ago. It's not the best fishing river in the state, but it's right in (the Key Peninsula's) back yard."

He says up in the Olympic Peninsula, especially near places like Forks, it's far enough away where you won't see many cars lined up along the road, but close enough that it's worth checking out.

As a child Giddings remembers how cool it was to see his family members come home with handfuls of fish, and he started doing it as a way to get attention. Fishing



Minter Creek is the most popular spot on the Key Peninsula for local fishermen to nab a variety of salmon. The coho season ended in October. *Tina McKail, KP News*



Low tide is hit or miss. It's easier to see the fish but easier for the fish to be frightened by the hundreds of people who fish Minter Creek daily. *Tina McKail, KP News*

and hunting is a huge part of his family's life, and he's already started passing down that passion to his 2-year-old son, Grady. "I brought Grady down here to Minter Creek before he could walk. He was strapped to me," Giddings said. "I caught two fish that day with him — that was pretty frickin' cool."

"I brought one of the fish on the bank and it was flapping around, spraying mud all over Grady. He was bawling," Giddings

said.

He'll take Grady fishing in the Olympic Peninsula when he's a little older, since it's a hike to get to the older Giddings' favorite spot. "Fishing up there is like what you see in a movie. It's gorgeous, and you can be by yourself the whole day, if that's what you want," he said.

Fishing is interesting that way. Some fishermen prefer a moment of solo serenity, while others appreciate the family-bonding

or beer-with-buddies aspect of it.

Minter Creek fishermen are mostly social and seem to like to talk about where fish are biting. "There's a lot of people here and it's fun to share in the excitement," Giddings said. But that doesn't mean it's like that everywhere. "In Forks, I wouldn't tell any of those dudes where I was catching fish."

That October Sunday wasn't the best outing for Giddings, who gave up after about an hour without even seeing a single fish in the water. Others walked away empty-handed, too. "I caught two in less than an hour last week when I was here."

The October 6 Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife escapement report, which tracks the number of specific fish that sneak past Giddings and others without getting caught, confirmed the season is nearing an end. Coho numbers were down significantly from this point last year.

At 1:40 p.m., the tide started to come in and more fishermen began to arrive. "Hopefully they'll have a little more luck than me." Going home fish-less among hundreds of fishermen always reminds Giddings about the fatherly advice he plans to ingrain in Grady some day: "Find your spot and don't tell any of your friends about it, because their dads will just come out and ruin it." ■

New PHS Girls Basketball Coach Wants Seahawks Soaring to New Heights

Hannah Lekson leads a young Seahawks team in her debut season as head coach.

EDDIE MACSALKA, KP NEWS

In 2018, Hannah Lekson had an itch she just couldn't scratch.

It had been a little more than two years since her last game with the University of Puget Sound Loggers womens basketball team. Her coaches had warned her to prepare for life-after-basketball.

Her post-college days were filled with looking for basketball to watch on TV, going to local college games, and searching nearby rec centers for adult leagues. It wasn't enough, and that itch started to irritate Lekson.

Then it hit her: Basketball is much bigger than Hannah Lekson, and she had a lot more to offer the game than just playing.

Lekson joined the Peninsula High School girls basketball team as an assistant coach during the 2018-19 season, and this past June the 30-year-old was named the Seahawks new head coach. She replaces Mike Schick, who left earlier this year after five seasons to take a non-basketball-related job in Texas.

"This is an amazing opportunity," said Lekson, a 2011 PHS graduate and a three-sport athlete for the Seahawks, garnering all-league honors in both soccer and basketball. She also ran track. "I love these girls—I have a close bond with them."

Although Lekson is very familiar with this team, she said taking over may not be an easy transition for her or them. This is Lekson's first head-coaching gig, and she admits she's had to have conversations with the team about roles and relationships. "I was always the fun assistant coach, but now the role is going to change a bit."

Lekson plans to create a strong culture among her coaching staff, among her players, and then ultimately between the coaches and players. "Of course, I want to win, but I have to get everyone to buy into what we're doing, and I want to see growth in each player."

What Lekson lacks in experience, she says she makes up for with resources. She still talks with her former PHS coach, Ann Lovrovich, and her college coaches, Cody Butler (Yakima Valley College), and Loree Payne and Joleen LaMay (University of Puget Sound). Payne is now the head coach at Northern Arizona University and Butler is a former assistant at Boise State, both NCAA Division I schools.



Hannah Lekson, in her inaugural season at the helm of the Peninsula Seahawks girls basketball team, is taking over a young program looking to be regulars in the 3A state tournament annually. Lekson was a four-year season assistant for the Seahawks before being named head coach in June. *Tina McKail, KP News*

PHS athletic director and football coach Ross Filkins, who hired Lekson, also is supportive of her and the team. "He's always so responsive and values us," said Lekson, who has known Filkins for 15 years, ever since he was her high school history teacher.

Lekson and her mom moved to Vaughn in 2008 and she has lived around the area ever since. She grew up in Minnesota, where basketball was so popular during the winter mainly because the

gyms are a lot warmer than the near-Arctic temperatures outside. She joined Lovrovich's team during her sophomore year and helped lead the Seahawks to the district tournament. Lekson tore the anterior cruciate ligament and meniscus in her right knee early on in her junior season that forced her out of action that year. She recovered in time for her senior season to draw some interest from local colleges.

Because of her injury, she didn't

have plans to play college ball. That all changed when Butler asked her to join the Yakima Valley College team. She played two winning seasons with the Yaks and claimed she learned and grew a lot during her time at the community college. Then Payne lured Lekson back closer to home to the University of Puget Sound, where Lekson was part of two NCAA Division III tournament teams.

Lekson hopes to use everything from recovering from a serious injury to the college recruitment process to help her Seahawks team.

"I want to be a resource for these girls on and off the court," she said. "My goal is to help them reach their goals, whether that's with basketball or anything else. I'm here to support them."

Lekson takes over a very young but capable team. The Seahawks are coming off a 14-9 (9-5 in the 3A South Sound Conference) season and only have two seniors on the roster. Lekson expects a big season from senior Brooke Zimmerman, who she called "an extremely intelligent, talented and well-rounded player."

Lekson also called out senior Sophie Casello, junior Kaylia Heidelberg and sophomore Grace Richardson as those who've really evolved over the summer. Daisy Peay, a sophomore-transfer from South Kitsap High School, could also make an immediate impact.

"These girls are going to see more structure and will be held to a higher standard than they've ever been," Lekson said. "We'll be a lot more defensive-minded, and I really want to push these girls because I know what they can do."

With such a young team, Lekson needs to be forward-thinking, so much so that she even wants to start regularly involving the middle schools that feed into PHS.

"I'm not just wanting to develop a Peninsula High School basketball team, I want to build a Peninsula-wide basketball program," she said. "I like the 'we' mentality."

Up first for Lekson and the Seahawks is a home game against Spanaway Lake on Tuesday, November 29. Tip-off is at 7 p.m.

"I'm sure that day my heart will be racing, and I'll be pacing my office," said Lekson, who is an insurance agent for Sound Business Insurance in Gig Harbor. "I'll have to race home after work to raid my closet for something to wear that night." ■

WayPoint South Finds the Key to Home Through Grace on the Peninsula

An inspiring young pastor from Kansas and a fledgling congregation, rendered homeless by the pandemic, gathered wherever they could be together for Sunday worship.

LISA BRYAN, KP NEWS

Pastor Mark Klingler opened the new doors of WayPoint South for worship September 4 at the former location of Grace Evangelical Presbyterian Church on McEwan Road NW and Key Peninsula Highway NW. Technically it's Lakebay, but in local hearts it's Home.

Neighbors noticed the sudden burst of activity at the church throughout August and watched the steady progression of work parties expand and groom the gravel parking lot, freshen landscaping with new plantings and rejuvenate the building's exterior with a transformational paint job that made the church look sharp. Followed by new signage, it seemed WayPoint South found the home the congregation had prayed for.

"It's hard to get a building on the peninsula that's on the highway," Klingler said. "So, when this came up, we said, 'We'll take it.'"

The decision to disband the congregation of Grace EPC, while sad, was a practical one. Pastor Ed Longabaugh was set to retire August 31. Several members had moved out of state while others were planning to do the same.

The building, owned by the Assemblies of God, sat dormant for over a year before Grace EPC arrived in 2016. But the goal shared between Longabaugh and Klingler to make a seamless transition without missing a single Sunday church service was a mission accomplished.

"Closing a congregation is hard," Longabaugh said. "But we're very pleased that WayPoint South finally has a permanent home. Mark and WayPoint South people were wonderful and respectful to us. I'm pleased that they've already gone to two services."

About five years ago the leadership of WayPoint Church faced a dilemma that other churches may find enviable: more people and families attending services than they could reasonably accommodate without building an addition or constructing a new church altogether.

Klingler said, "One church with two locations offered a way to impact more people with less money by starting something new."

With its heart for younger families, WayPoint South began its contemporary style music-filled Sunday worship housed at the old Evergreen Elementary School about four years ago. Attendance grew as



"Covid really drove home the lesson that nothing is permanent," said WayPoint South Pastor Mark Klingler. *Lisa Bryan, KP News*



Congregants file out of their new facility on a recent Sunday. *Tina McKail, KP News*

anticipated until the novel coronavirus struck in March 2020.

Gov. Jay Inslee closed public schools, followed by statewide stay-at-home mandates lasting many weeks. Those actions unleashed a fury from some, who cited the closures as an example of government overreach instead of a legitimate response to the public health crisis that COVID-19 was in those days — well before effective vaccinations became available to those most vulnerable.

"Those six weeks turned into a year and a

half," Klingler said. "Between the pandemic, the school construction and all the regulations, we never went back to Evergreen."

Without a building, WayPoint South worshipped in an open field for Sunday services. Later that fall, they rented space at the Longbranch Improvement Club until mandatory indoor mask compliance proved too contentious.

When it came to masking, Klingler said he recognized a responsibility to protect people.

"There were times during the pandemic I

thought, if there was anything else I could be doing right now, I'd do that," Klingler said. "I didn't feel like I was the person to decide that for people. It's not good for my soul to engage in a fight."

He said he eventually came to believe that his job as a pastor was to offer them the space to make that decision whether to worship in person, take part online, or attend a fully-masked service at WayPoint North.

"We found we have about 70 people who will follow us anywhere," Klingler said. "We met in barns, in homes, and for nearly six months in the chapel at Camp Woodworth."

After moving into their new building, Klingler said he avoids the use of the word permanent and prefers to say they have a stable home.

"Covid really drove home the lesson that nothing is permanent," he said. "In the book of James it says, 'What is your life? You are just a mist, here for a little while and then you vanish.' That was my life during the Covid times, it's just a mist. It will come and go. I've got to be OK with that."

"Even the names, WayPoint and WayPoint South, and all these different groups we create are only temporary," he said. "Grace EPC came, and it went. . . . We should be OK with that. Like, it's not about that name — it's about the heart of the matter."

"A waypoint is just a point along the way, on your journey to heaven," he said. ■

KPFD Closes Budget Gap, Considers Key Center Property Plans and Gathering Public Input

The new fire chief had his hands full taking control of the budget and planning the department's future.

TED OLINGER, KP NEWS

Key Peninsula Fire District 16 has closed an anticipated year-end budget gap and is making slow progress developing plans for the Key Center real estate it acquired at the end of last year, according to Fire Chief Nick Swinhart and Fire Commission Chair Stan Moffett.

In July, the department was facing a \$200,000 shortfall in its \$10 million 2022 budget. The department is now about \$185,000 in the black, according to Swinhart.

“One major way we worked on closing that gap was working out an agreement with labor to change how and when we hire people back (after leave or injury) and overtime, which basically required lowering minimum staffing from seven to five,” he said. “We also halted all spending; all critical spending had to go through me for approval, which had a big impact. It’s still really close.”

KP News incorrectly reported in August that the department had hired 12 new career firefighters and paramedics in the preceding two years. The actual number was 14, but the increase in new positions was just eight. (See “KP Fire Department Confronts Budget and Real Estate Issues.”)

Early in his tenure in 2019, former KPFD Fire Chief Dustin Morrow made three temporary hires permanent and added four new hires. He later initiated a process to hire an additional seven personnel before resigning Dec. 1, 2021, for a total of 14, filling six vacancies and adding eight positions. This expanded the line staff to 34, or three shifts of 11 plus backup provided by one of three chiefs on call.

The minimum number of personnel on shift was lowered to five in August and will remain there at least until the end of the year while the department comes up to full strength with the last of its new hires, according to Swinhart.

“Once we get two people back from paramedic school and two from long-term injury, we hope to increase minimums back up to seven,” he said. “It’s important to note, however, that we rarely have only five on duty.”

Stations in Wauna, Home and Long-branch are still staffed 24/7, he said.

The 2023 budget will be up for approval by the fire commission at the end of November. “What we are looking at is putting some healthy amounts of money into an apparatus replacement fund, as



KPFD says it responds on average to six or seven calls in a 24-hour period, often with multiple units. *Anne Nesbit, KPFD*

much as \$250,000, which would be great because we haven’t been able to fund replacement for quite some time and that will get us prepared to replace those big ticket items,” Swinhart said. “We’re also looking at increasing our maintenance budget so we can keep up with the issues with some of our vehicles.”

Fire engines can cost anywhere from \$500,000 to \$700,000, he said.

No decisions have been made regarding the two Key Center real estate parcels the department purchased at the end of 2021, with an eye toward building a new headquarters and training facility to replace the aging station 46.

The former Olson house on Key Peninsula Highway was rented and a lease for the former O’Callahan’s restaurant (aka Reed’s and Buck’s) at the corner of KP Highway and 92nd Street NW was signed in April, but the building requires extensive repairs and remains vacant. The department spent \$23,000 on urgent roof and other repairs and estimated that another \$50,000 would be needed to complete

the work.

Instead of spending more money on the property, the department and lessee are negotiating a lease amendment permitting the lessee to make repairs in lieu of rent for a period of time. The property is expected to generate about \$70,000 in annual rent. A steak and seafood restaurant is planned.

“We have our attorneys talking,” Swinhart said. “The tenant is resisting some of the language in the lease amendment that our attorney is insisting upon to protect the district.”

The fate of both properties is still under discussion.

“Right now, we’re looking at building a new (HQ) after 46 somewhere because this building is 50 years old, it’s already been remodeled multiple times, if we remodel again, we start getting into updating things like sprinkler systems and seismic safety improvements and that sort of thing, which could make trying to remodel this building very, very expensive,” he said.

A capital planning committee met a

few times with members of the public to explore options, but little progress has been made, according to Fire Commission Chair Moffett.

“What the committee needs to decide is do we need a new headquarters facility, and what does that look like,” Moffett said. “There are also decisions about what needs to be done about remodeling the other stations. When we have something tangible, we price that out, then we can take that to the public and do some town meetings and get the community’s feedback.”

Moffett had hoped to hold town hall-style meetings to discuss and modify the district’s plans over the summer, but now believes that could begin in January.

“The district needs to make decisions about what it needs going forward the next 10 or 20 years, and that was the whole idea of the new headquarters,” he said. “The two primary issues there was being able to staff in Key Center and having additional meeting rooms. Personally, I believe the property we purchased will work well for that.” ■

NATURALIST'S NOTEBOOK

Falcons and Stink Bugs Enliven, Entertain and Baffle the Key Peninsula

CHRIS RURIK, KP NEWS

Last month, writing about what to anticipate in our natural world, I pointed to the return of rain as one of September's most important events.

Hold on. That was two months ago.

By many measures we have had the warmest and driest fall on record—Augtober being the new coinage—thanks to a ridge of high atmospheric pressure that remained locked like a fortress wall over the eastern Pacific Ocean, preventing wet systems from developing. Rain will likely have returned by the time this goes to press (knock on wood), but the never-ending run of summer weather has me stirring up questions like dust with every step I take in the parched woods.

Will we still see the full suite of fall mushrooms? Will the deer go into rut when they usually do? What impacts have there been on the complex food webs in our soil? How are our poor cedars feeling now, on top of last year's extreme heat?

Variability underpins climate and all ecosystems. Unprecedented events should not go unexamined. What are you seeing? What concerns do you have? Let me know at nature@keypennews.org.

The Falcons You Might See

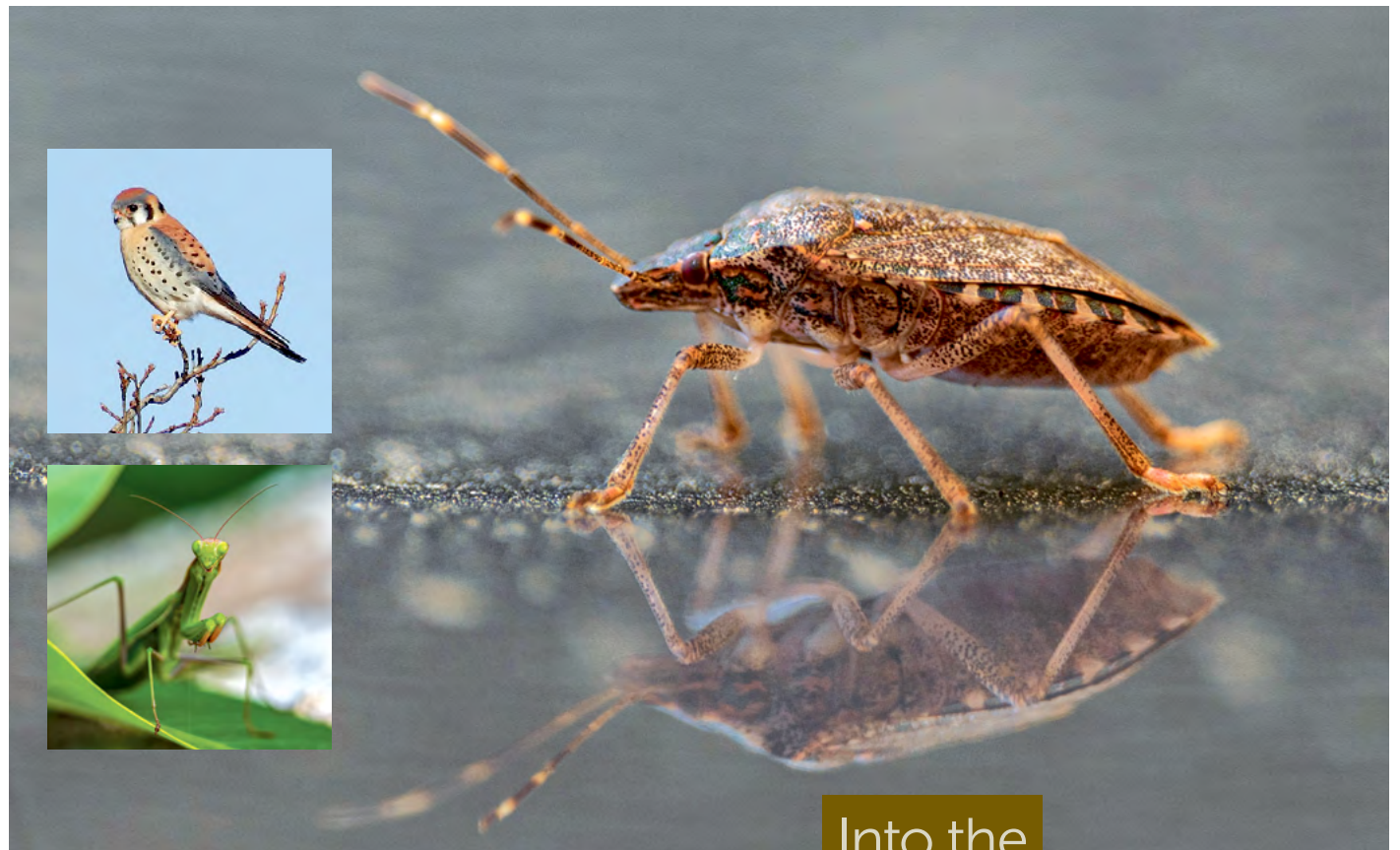
Recently I found the Key Peninsula's third record of American kestrel. The orange and slate-blue falcon played hide-and-seek with me for a few minutes before vanishing into the treetops.

The kestrel is America's most common falcon, a baby-faced hunter of grasshoppers, dragonflies and small mammals that is a fixture on fences and snags in open country. We live in one of the few regions where kestrels are rare, and this one probably had wandered a bit on its fall migration.

Keep your eyes open for two other types of falcons around here. Neither is common. They appear when you least expect them.

Falcons are relatively easy to pick out in flight. They have strongly bent, narrow wings coming to extreme points, and they fly with stiff and hyper-agile wingbeats. Only mourning doves have a similar look overhead.

Peregrine falcons hardly need an introduction. Large and powerful, they follow shorelines and marshes where they can set up screaming dives to send waterfowl scattering for their lives. If you get a good view, look for the dark helmet that comes down over their eyes.

American Kestrel *Chris Rurik, KP News*Preying mantis and stink bug *Tina McKail, KP News*

Then there are merlins, small dark falcons that specialize on attacking small birds. While peregrine falcons drop like missiles from above, merlins tend to attack from below, exploding into flocks of birds and making quick work of the ensuing confusion. A good time to look for a merlin is at sundown in winter, when they perch atop conifers to say goodnight to the world.

Stink Bug Home Invaders

Time to hold my nose and cover this. Several of you have asked about the stink bugs that seek entrance into your homes in late fall, commenting that they seem extra numerous this year.

You know the type. Of our several species of local stink bugs the one that concerns us is the brown marmorated stink bug (BMSB), a mottled gray-and-brown, shield-shaped thing that crawls slowly across windows and siding and often stands at attention, vibrating its white-banded antennae.

If you've been around a while, you might know that these guys are a new phenomenon. Native to eastern Asia, BMSB made its first appearance in the United States in Pennsylvania around 2000 and has since laid siege to North America as well as Europe and South America, rapidly establishing itself

as a peerless agricultural pest. It feeds directly on fruit, vegetables, nuts and a host of native plants, causing corky spots and disfigurement.

I appreciate almost all insects and spiders. I don't appreciate these. To answer your questions: I cannot say if they are more abundant this year than other years or if the hot, dry fall has kept them more active and visible than normal—a non-answer that applies as well to this year's many praying mantises and flies. As for why they want to sneak into your house, it has to do with survival tactics. Every insect needs to orient its stages of life around the survival of winter. Many overwinter as inert pupae, others as hidden larvae, while BMSB overwinters as an adult. To assure safety in its motionless winter torpor, it seeks a crevice where it cannot be bothered. Homes offer many such crevices.

Some native insects use the same strategy and can be seen alongside BMSB, including western conifer seed bugs, boxelder bugs and red-crossed shield bugs. These are not pests.

If you were to design a world in which BMSB could be everywhere all the time, it would look a lot like the Anthropocene, with every land full of hard structures with cracks and crannies, fields of juicy plants where predators and competitors have been sprayed to

Into the
WILD
EXPLORING WITH THE
KP NATURE GUIDE

oblivion, and containers crossing oceans. It's one of those species that just go well with human infrastructure, and I wouldn't be

surprised if one day soon it has a simpler name akin to barn owl, city pigeon, giant house spider, cellar spider.

(Incidentally, the suite of spiders that have found a good living in houses do very well preying on BMSB.)

For now, BMSB runs amok. But a rebalancing may be in store. In its native range it is not a pest because over three-quarters of its eggs are parasitized by wasps. One wasp in particular, a nearly microscopic critter called a samurai wasp, specializes on BMSB eggs. Well, in 2015, samurai wasps were found in Washington, likely hitching their way here along with stowaway BMSBs, and they are spreading fast. So far, they seem to be leaving our cute native stink bugs (many are bright green) alone. Samurai wasps will never eradicate BMSB, but they may bring it into check.

It's a lot more promising than the agriculture sector's first response, spraying pesticides, which kills all insects and ruins any chance you may have had for a native predator or parasite to take advantage of the BMSB bounty and rebalance the insect ecosystem. Plus, BMSB is such a generalist that it has no problem feeding away from fields and returning when the spraying stops. ■

YOUR TASTE BUDS WILL THANK YOU, WHICHEVER WAY YOU GO



A Tale of Two Puddings — ‘It Was the Best of Times, It Was the Best of Desserts’

BARBARA VAN BOGART

As fall slip-slides away, our culinary attention turns to winter and the upcoming holidays. While we regretfully say farewell to summer foods (until next year), heartier dishes now take center stage when it comes to planning family and friend get-togethers. Who doesn't look forward to meals focusing on comfort food, making us feel good while we stare down our rainy season?

As the holidays approach, it's nostalgic to reach back in time and search out recipes from years gone by; perhaps those that haven't been made in a long, long time, but deserve a place at the table again. One of the two recipes fit the bill for me this year, made even better by the fact these are two “rival” countries (Sweden and Norway) coming to the same holiday table. Détente anyone?

First up: Rommegrot

While Norwegians, Finns and Swedes all claim versions of this delicious warm pudding, served during the winter months and especially during the holidays, the version below is from a Norwegian friend, devoted to her family culture. Made with sour cream, whole milk, a little flour, butter

and salt, it is topped with a drizzle of melted butter, cinnamon and sugar. While I haven't made it in years (that will change this holiday season), I remember making this with her while helping ourselves to plenty of taste tests along the way. It is truly sublime and most definitely qualifies as comfort food.

2 cups top-of-the-line sour cream, or make your own (recipe below). You can also substitute heavy whipping cream. Life is short—make your own sour cream if possible.

1 cup whole milk
 ½ cup flour
 2 tablespoons white sugar
 1 teaspoon salt
 Melted butter for topping
 Cinnamon sugar mix, also for topping

Heat milk just to a boil but do not scald. Remove from heat and keep warm. Put sour cream into a medium saucepan, slowly bringing it to a simmer, stirring continually. Allow to simmer for 5 minutes, while continuing to stir. Slowly whisk in flour to sour cream (about 2 tablespoons at a time). Once flour is fully incorporated, add 2 tablespoons sugar and the salt, and mix well. Slowly add in hot milk, whisking



while adding, until evenly mixed and thickened. Spoon into bowls and serve, topping each bowl with melted butter, cinnamon and sugar. What's not to like?

Homemade sour cream:

¼ cup whole milk
 ¾ teaspoon distilled white vinegar
 1 cup heavy cream

Combine milk and vinegar and let stand for 10 minutes. Pour heavy cream into a jar. Stir in milk and vinegar mixture, cover the jar and let stand at room temperature for 24 hours. Chill before using. Makes 1 cup.

Next: Aunt Sig's Swedish Rice Pudding

My paternal Great Aunt Signe made this every Christmas. While rommegrot is served warm, this rice pudding is served chilled, topped with lingonberries. This delicious pudding graces our holiday table every year. Aunt Sig (as we called her) would be proud to see her recipe in print.

1 cup white rice, uncooked
 1 quart, plus 2 tablespoons whole milk
 1 packet (½ ounce) unflavored gelatin

1 teaspoon salt
 1 cup sugar
 1 teaspoon vanilla
 1 pint whipping cream
 1 whole, blanched almond
 1 jar lingonberries

In a heavy saucepan over medium heat, bring rice and 1 quart of whole milk to a boil. Reduce heat to low and cook, stirring frequently, for about 20 minutes or until rice is tender, being careful not to scorch. Meanwhile, in a small bowl, sprinkle gelatin over remaining 2 tablespoons of milk and stir to soften. Add softened gelatin, sugar, salt and vanilla to cooked rice. Stir until well combined, then refrigerate for at least an hour or until well chilled. Whip the cream until it holds stiff peaks, then fold into chilled rice mixture. Fold in almond.

Served chilled with lingonberries. The person who finds the almond can expect good luck in the coming year. This recipe can be halved, but why would you?

Take the challenge! Warm cream pudding topped with butter, cinnamon and sugar or chilled rice pudding with whipped cream and lingonberries? Your taste buds will thank you, whichever way you go. ■

‘When the Emperor Was Divine’ by Julie Otsuka

This high school staple was banned on the 80th anniversary of the World War II internment of Japanese Americans that it describes.

TED OLINGER, KP NEWS

A friend recommended this novel to me after it was banned from the curriculum last summer by the Muskego-Norway school board in Wisconsin, a district of about 4,800 students. There were no complaints about the book. The board took it upon itself to pull it for a subcommittee to review last June after new board members were elected on a “critical thinking, not critical race theory” platform. The book has remained under “review” ever since, according to NBC News.

Board President Chris Buckmaster called the book “too sad.” Terri Boyer, a board member who serves on the committee reviewing the book, said it lacked “American perspective.” Buckmaster also said the district’s own 2020 directive to include at least one book by a woman of color in the 10th grade curriculum was discriminatory.

Absent from this thinking is that Julie Otsuka’s award-winning historical novel is about Americans put into concentration camps in America by their fellow Americans. Between 1942 and 1945, 128,000 U.S. citizens and legal residents were imprisoned, half of whom were children.

My friend’s grandparents were among them, so this latest school book ban in the growing national trend was of special interest to her.

“When the Emperor Was Divine” (2002) was Otsuka’s first novel, based loosely on her own family’s experience. Her voice is so restrained and the story so graceful one would hardly know what to expect without knowing the history—and reading a book like this is perhaps the best way to learn just how much one doesn’t know.

The story is told through the eyes of a mother and her two young children. The mother and father had lived in Berkeley for decades and their children were born there. In early 1942, the father is taken away by the FBI in his pajamas and slippers. Soon after, the

family is packing.

The mother is scrupulous with her preparations. She divides clothes, towels and sundries, leaves a window open for her bird to escape, and prepares a last meal for their aging family dog. The children want to know will it be cold where they are going? Will father be there? Who will live in their house? When the time comes, the 10-year-old girl doesn’t want to leave her friends. The younger boy is upset because he can’t find the dog.

A long train ride with blacked-out windows takes them to a camp of tarpaper barracks surrounded by barbed-wire in the Utah desert.

The father is somewhere else. They exchange postcards. The children remind him of all the trips he’s promised them. They were going to Egypt to climb the pyramids. They would stroll along the Great Wall of China. They’d paddle a boat through Venice.

“Be good to your mother,” he writes. Otsuka evokes the quiet damage of the coming years of deprivation and loneliness and tedium not by naming those things, as I just did, but by summoning their corrosive effect one moment at a time.

When the family first arrives, the boy stands by himself in the shade of young willow trees planted to hide the barracks from anyone outside the fence. He idly picks a leaf to save while hoping to see the wild western mustangs he’s read about. Later, horsemeat is served in the mess hall.

The willow trees die after the first winter. “I shouldn’t have picked that leaf,” the eight-year-old says to himself, and destroys the evidence.

The girl becomes more interested in the soldiers guarding them than she is in her fellow inmates, whom the government insists are called residents. She is afraid of getting her first period since she has only one, yellow, dress. She loses patience with her mother, who sits alone all day reliving the last moments of her former life.

“Did I remember to turn off the



stove?”

“You always turned off the stove.”

“Did we even have a stove?”

“Of course, we had a stove.”

“That’s right. The Wedgewood. I used to be quite the cook once, you know.”

When the family goes home in 1945, the trees are taller, broken bottles litter their yard, and someone has dug up and stolen Mother’s prized rosebush. The man who said he would rent out the house for them is gone. But people have been there and left nothing but trash and messages scrawled on the walls, words we will never see. The old neighbors are surprised the family has come back. Are you really going to stay? New neighbors stare from their porches and say nothing. The children’s classmates seem not to have noticed they were gone or that they have returned.

In December, an old man in an old suit walks up to the house carrying a dirty cardboard suitcase. The mother tells the children to go greet their father. They don’t believe her. He’s bald, he’s lost his teeth, he’s bent over. When they put their arms around him, they feel his ribs. “Over and over again, he uttered our names, but still we could not be sure it was him,” says the girl.

We never learn their names; they appear nowhere in the novel. Neither does the word “internment,” nor “guilt,” nor “innocence.”

There is no profanity, no sex, no violence, and no overt displays of racism in this banned book that is too sad for 10th-graders in Wisconsin.

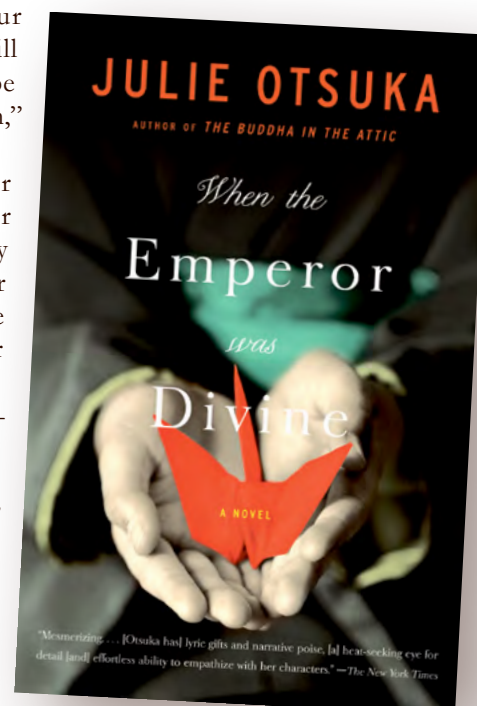
Two works that do remain on the 10th grade Muskego-Norway reading

list are “Romeo and Juliet” (spoiler alert: Underage drinking followed by sex and suicide) and “The Things They Carried,” Tim O’Brien’s classic and sometimes graphically violent novel about fighting the Vietnam War, there and at home.

One other concern expressed by Muskego-Norway School Board President Buckmaster was that teaching this novel would require putting it into historical context, specifically, he said, by having students study the 1937 Nanjing Massacre in China committed by the Japanese Imperial Army. That would certainly go far to expose young minds to the unalloyed terrorism of the atrocities of war, as well as the practical application of such notions as false equivalency and collective punishment, and perhaps even institutional racism.

But more context might be gained by admitting that America was wrong. President Ronald Reagan did that when he formally apologized to all internment survivors after signing a bill into law to pay them reparations in 1988.

When I told my friend I was writing this piece, she said, “My grandfather was taken in the middle of the night, like the character in the book. I heard this book was banned; I wanted to learn why. It is because the message from the author is the truth.”



“When the Emperor Was Divine” by Julia Otsuka, published 2002 by Alfred A. Knopf

Julia Otsuka is the author of three novels and a number of short stories. She has won 10 national awards, including the Asian American Literary and Alex awards for “Emperor,” a Guggenheim Fellowship, the PEN/Faulkner Fiction, and the American Academy of Arts and Letters award for literature.

Award for literature.

KP Community Services Plans To Serve for Years To Come With Help From Recent Grants

Senior center and food bank among the services KPCS looks to return to pre-pandemic levels.

EDDIE MACSALKA, KP NEWS

Key Peninsula Community Services Executive Director Willow Eaton can pretty much sum up the current economics of a nonprofit food bank in one sentence: “The demand is up, but the supply is down.”

The demand is only encouraging KPCS to expand its services, which includes providing a senior center, meals for the community and a food bank to meet the need of local residents.

The Lakebay organization

recently earned two \$100,000 grants from the Washington State Department of Agriculture to strengthen its infrastructure to continue serving the Key Peninsula for years to come. In November, KPCS will increase space in its parking lot and make it more accessible, and in early 2023 plans to add protective fencing around the property.

Perhaps the biggest undertaking for this nearly 100-year-old former Lakebay Elementary school house is fixing up the masonry of the brick-and-mortar building early next year. It’s not just for aesthetic purposes; guests and staff are starting to feel the effects of the outdoor elements during the respective seasons.

KPCS is hoping to take advantage of the restoration by starting an “Engrave your name in history” fundraising campaign. The organization needs to replace 200 bricks in the building, and donors can buy a brick for \$200. Each brick can have two lines engraved with 16 characters on each line. Eaton is hoping the fundraiser brings in \$40,000 for KPCS. The campaign ends November 11.

“We want to be here for a long time,” Eaton said. “More than anything we like to have people here visiting us. It’s why we exist. It’s the ‘community’ part of our name.”

Like most nonprofit organizations and those they serve, KPCS is still feeling the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. In October, the organization had to stop doing home deliveries to seniors across the Key Peninsula who were staying home to be safe because

pandemic-funding from Pierce County for that program ended. According to Eaton, more than 18,000 meals were delivered to seniors in the last 30 months, and almost 60 seniors depended on those meals each day.

“We tried really hard to continue home delivery, but it would cost us \$10,000 a month to keep it going,” Eaton said.

“It’s disappointing and sad because some seniors just can’t leave their home due to health reasons or because they’re the caretaker for their spouse.”

Instead, KPCS is inviting seniors and others to join them at the Lakebay location for lunch Tuesdays through Friday from 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. Meals are free for those over 60 but a donation is appreciated; for those under 60, it’s \$5. Eaton encourages anyone who plans to attend to make a reservation so there will be enough food. The meal program drives the organization’s senior center, as most activities happen before or after lunch.

The KPCS food bank is something Eaton has been particularly proud of since the start of the pandemic.

“Our food bank was open during COVID,” said Eaton. “We didn’t miss a day, even early on.” She admits service was a little slower than normal during that time because only her full-time staff was working, instead of her small army of volunteers.

Today, the KPCS food bank is feeding more than 2,000 clients a month. Eaton used emergency COVID funding to help with the demand for fresh meats, fruits and vegetables. Clients can even pick-up dog and cat food, diapers and toiletry items. She is hoping for an influx of food donations during the holidays, and for those needing a Thanksgiving turkey, KPCS is accepting orders through November 11.

But even with grants and being able to meet the need, KPCS continues to raise funds.

The Key Peninsula Logging Show in August brought in \$12,000 each for KPCS and Food Backpacks 4 Kids,

another Lakebay-based nonprofit serving the Key Peninsula. Food donations are accepted Tuesday through Friday at 17015 9th Street Ct. NW in Lakebay. KPCS also takes financial donations online at keypeninsulacommunityservices.org. ■

**THE LAKEBAY ORGANIZATION
RECENTLY EARNED TWO
\$100,000 GRANTS FROM
THE WASHINGTON STATE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.**

ADVOCATE/ REPRESENTATIVE SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY

98% success rate since 2006
53 of 53 cases approved in 2020

MISSION POSSIBLE

EMPLOYMENT SERVICES, INC.



360-798-2920
www.mpes.net

*Helping Disabled
Clients Since 1992*

HOME EXCAVATING & DOZING



**NATURE TRAILS,
BEACH ACCESS,
SITE CLEARING & PREP.,
LOGGING,
ROCK WALLS & STEPS,
DRAINAGE SYSTEMS,
ROAD GRADING,
DEMOLITION,
STUMP REMOVAL,
GRAVEL &
TOPSOIL DELIVERIES,
& MUCH MORE.**

DIFFICULT JOBS ARE OUR SPECIALTY!

(253)884-5798

PAINTING DRYWALL
TEXTURING MILLWORK
WALLPAPER HOME REPAIRS
SIDING PRESSURE WASHING



**ALL TERRAIN PAINTING
& REPAIRS N.W., LLC**

Save yourself the hassle - have us paint your estate!

www.Facebook.com/AllTerrainPainting allterrainpainting@gmail.com

FREE ESTIMATES CALL 253-514-0997

I BUY ANTIQUES!



Cash Paid For Quality Antique Items

- Native American Indian & Tribal
- Asian Antiques • Old Paintings
- Early Photos • Historic Items
- Rare & Interesting Objects

call or text
(253) 278-2103



Longbranch Community Church

www.longbranchchurch.net

Come and join us Sunday mornings

Worship Service and
Children's Church 10:30
Adult Bible Study 9:00

16518 46th St SW, Longbranch

425 492-4177

God's Blessing to You - Pastor John Day



Pre-Holiday Harvest

EXTRA SAVINGS!
40% OFF NOV. 1-20
FALL DÉCOR & CANDLES
30% OFF NOV. 1-15
SPRING BULBS, GARLIC & ONIONS
25% OFF NOV. 15-30
EVERGREEN TREES & SHRUBS

Time to pre-order for the holidays. Spectacular Thanksgiving centerpieces and wraps from our florist for delivery or pick-up 🌿 Gorgeous custom holiday wreaths available to ship November 20. 🌿 We're closed for Thanksgiving Day.



SUNNYCREST NURSERY
FLORIST & DECOR

IN KEY CENTER OPEN MON-SAT 9 to 4 SUNDAY 11 to 4 253 884-3937 
www.sunnycrestnursery.com



Is your property overgrown and out of control?

Our compact but heavy-duty forestry mower is purpose-built for clearing small trees, underbrush, and a variety of unwanted vegetation across a wide range of environments.

For a free consultation call Dan Wehmeier 253-370-2391



WEHMEIER llc.

Donate now to be part of our **Friends Match Friends** year-end campaign

Investing for the better.

The Longbranch Foundation makes strategic investments designed to improve life where we live.

Your donation to the Foundation can be focused on our key pillars:

- Elementary education programs
 - Scholastic and tech school scholarships
 - Local nonprofits, especially against hunger
- Access to natural beauty
- Stewarding our legacy

Your support helps build a stronger future by investing in our children, our community and our wonderful Key Peninsula.



Find out more at www.longbranchfoundation.org




DRIVE THRU FEED ON THE KEY

KEY PENINSULA'S DRIVE THRU LIVESTOCK FEED SUPPLIER

Complete selection of livestock feeds including XCel, Payback, Equis, Scratch and Peck, Haystack and Earth First brands. **Rewards bonus:** Earn a point for every dollar spent, accrue 400 points, take 10% off purchase.

- Order online, now with bulk options**
Visit website store for pickup or delivery
- Large animal burial service**
Call for details now

Call (253) 303-1260 www.drivethrufeedonthekey.com
Open Tues-Sat 11 to 6, Sun 10 to 4 **Closed** Mon Veteran family owned & operated
at 16915 121st St. NW/Hwy 302 On Facebook @drivethrufeedonthekey

ASK ABOUT DELIVERIES, ONE TON+ BULK PRICING AND QUALIFIED FARM BUSINESS TAX EXCEPTIONS.

We have qualified buyers ready to buy

Your one & only local real estate experts.

We cover waterfront properties, homes, acreage, and farms. When it's time for a new beginning, call the New Beginnings team, your local real estate experts. www.new-beginningsre.com

NEW BEGINNINGS

Real Estate, LLC
 call 253 **858-7053**
 in Key Center at 9121 KP Hwy (at the light)

Rental property professionally managed by local experts.

Property management for owners and renters. We handle it all for you. *Looking to rent? See what we have at* dkpropmgmt.com



DK Property Management, LLC.
 call 253 **884-2076**
 in Key Center at 9121 KP Hwy (at the light)

Qualified renters ready to move in now

SENATOR EMILY RANDALL



PUTTING *people* FIRST

State Senator Emily Randall works with both parties to get results for our community. From expanding healthcare, to supporting local business and keeping our neighborhoods safe, Emily is our voice in Olympia.

VOTE
BY NOVEMBER 8

RE-ELECT
Emily
RANDALL
FOR STATE SENATE

Paid for by Emily Randall for Senate (D) PO Box 1883 | Port Orchard, WA 98366

INDEPENDENT, LOCALLY OWNED. FROM OUR FAMILY TO YOURS.

Customer Appreciation Day Wednesday, November 16

Celebrating from 4-7 pm

The Zimmerman family is so very thankful for our loyal and amazing customers.



Special Guest
Santa Claus

PHARMACY 253 857-7797 M-F 9am-7pm, Sat 'til 6pm, closed Sun
STORE 253 857-7944 M-F 9am-7pm, Sat 'til 6pm, Sun 10am-5pm
COSTLESSPURDY.COM

Purdy
COST LESS
Prescriptions

LOWEST RX PRICES IN AREA WE MAIL PRESCRIPTIONS

Buying or selling? We will take good care of you.

At Windermere Key Realty, we know the local market better than anyone, that's why we're the market leader.

Our agents are devoted to delivering personal service, backed by the largest network in the region.

Selling, buying or just looking, make us your personal connection for real estate.


Windermere
REAL ESTATE

Windermere Key Realty 253-857-3304 11615 State Route 302

LARGEST IN THE AREA, BIGGEST IN THE REGION

Our new board room seats up to eight and is available as a courtesy for local community service organization meetings. Call Rob for your free reservation.

STOP THE CRIME AND DRUGS!

ELECT

Paula Lonergan

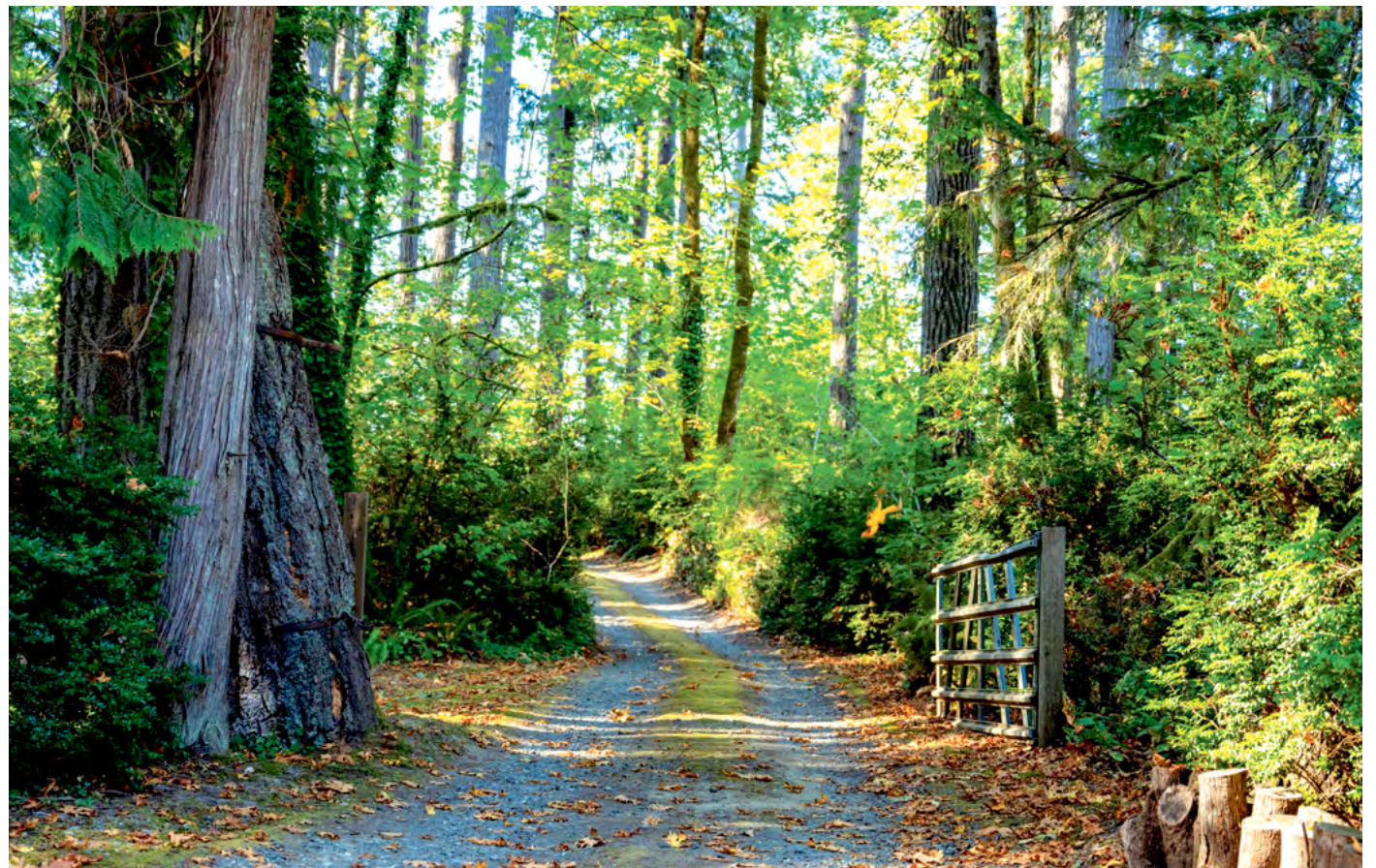


“I will always stand up for you, to improve law enforcement response, and to solve other Key Peninsula issues.”

**COUNTY COUNCIL 7
REPUBLICAN**

electpaulalonergan.com

Paid for by Elect Paula Lonergan,
3715 N. 27th Street, Tacoma, WA 98407
(253) 549-6778



Rural life on the Key Peninsula can mean making compromises, but not on internet connection. *Tina McKail, KP News*

KP Residents Seek Alternatives to Broadband Internet

Hotspots and satellite help fill the gap. Hotspots help fill the gap, but overall speeds on the KP are well below standards.

SARA THOMPSON, KP NEWS

Key Peninsula residents have turned to wireless hotspots and satellite service for solutions to inadequate internet access as Pierce County’s plan to expand access to broadband moves forward. “But many people are desperate for connectivity and cannot wait,” said Pierce County Council Chair Derek Young (D-7th, Gig Harbor).

Peninsula School District had extensive experience with hotspots during the pandemic, serving more than 700 families at its peak and 120 currently. Hotspots require good cellular service, which can be a challenge on the Key Peninsula. Verizon and AT&T hotspots generally worked best depending on the location, said Kris Hagel, PSD executive director of digital learning.

“We found that you might be able to have up to two people using one hotspot,” Hagel said. PSD benefits from state-negotiated rates, but most plans charge for data, “So that can get expensive.”

George Hovany, who lives near Camp Seymour, has been using a Verizon hotspot device despite his one-bar signal strength. He said that his internet speed had slowed over the last month, but that it was good enough that he probably would not sign up for satellite service. “I am happy but

not overjoyed.”

A number of Key Penners and neighbors have turned to Starlink, a satellite service operated by SpaceX. A mostly clear view of the sky is required for the service, which can be an issue for many on the Key Peninsula, but installation is usually simple. There is a waiting list, the initial cost is \$599, and the monthly fee is \$110. (See “Internet From Above,” KP News, December 2020.)

Geoff Mitchell moved to Belfair from Puyallup six years ago. “We had Xfinity, and the internet was just a part of life,” he said. “Moving out here was like returning to the Stone Age.” He had DSL CenturyLink service, which he said was “painfully slow,” and then tried a Verizon hotspot but the data limits were a problem.

Mitchell installed a Starlink system a year ago. His home is surrounded by 150-foot-tall trees, so he paid to have the receiver installed at the top of one. Because the system included only a 100-foot cable, he needed additional cable, a power box at the base of the tree, and then an ethernet connection to the house. The cost of the installation was \$2,000.

“It was worth every penny,” Mitchell said. “I have a business, my wife works from home, and I have two kids.”

Rick Quintus moved to Longbranch from east Lewis County in 2019 where he had Gigabit internet service. He tried HughesNet, a satellite service, but data limits and poor speed made it untenable. He turned to a Verizon hotspot, but poor reception rendered it inadequate. Astound Broadband (formerly Wave) provided service across the street, but there was no access to houses on his side and an estimate to get a line installed was \$20,000.

Quintus recently installed a Starlink system but faced the dilemma of trees obstructing the signal.

“The whole point of moving out there was I kind of like living in the woods,” he said. “A lot of people on the KP will be faced with that decision.”

At installation he confronted the same issues described by Mitchell—a limited cable run, the need to get power to the receiver, and running cable to the house. Once the installation was finished, he said the speed was great and there was no problem streaming video. But he loses connection for a few seconds each minute, and that presents a problem for applications that require a constant connection. He hopes to get the Starlink system working well enough that he can cancel his DSL service. ■



SHOP EARLY FOR BEST SELECTION
Holiday Decorations
 NOW IN THE STORE

Please donate items in the shed out back Tuesday-Saturday 9:30-3:30.
 Sometimes due to circumstances we have to close the donation shed — please drop off items *only* when someone is there.
 When donating, please put clothing in tied plastic bags and shoes/hard items in boxes.
 Store open Thur-Sat 10-4 In the KC Corral.
 Shop eBay at www.ebay.com/usr/angel_guild_thrift
 Thank you for helping us serve the community with your gently used donations.



Licensed Bonded Insured LYSTAC*891BQ

Oliver Lystad
 General Manager/Lead Estimator
 Vaughn, WA 98394

Patios - Driveways - Stairs
 Retaining Walls - All Finishes

Residential
 Commercial
 Building & Remodeling
 Concrete
 Flatwork & Foundation

C 253.255.7012

oliver@lystadconstruction.com
www.lystadconstruction.com



Where “nice way to live” **UNDERSTATES.**

We make senior living a little better—with all the comfort and confidence you could hope for, plus a distinctly Northwestern lifestyle, too. You’ll enjoy:

- A beautiful, natural setting
- Interesting residents who are as eager—and empowered—as you to create the gratifying community life you want
- Life Care, the only plan for access to a full continuum of excellent long-term care at predictable rates for life
- The stability provided by owner Emerald Communities, the not-for-profit that steadily reinvests in our community

FOR A VISIT, CALL 866-860-4821


 HERON'S KEY
 GIG HARBOR

A MEMBER OF EMERALD COMMUNITIES

4340 Borgen Blvd. - Gig Harbor, WA 98332

HeronsKey.org



INDEPENDENT LIVING • ASSISTED LIVING
 MEMORY CARE • SKILLED NURSING • REHABILITATION

In September, grants were awarded to:

- \$5,000 to KP Historical Society
- \$4,559 to Mustard Seed Project
- \$3,000 to KP Civic Center
- \$1,000 to Altrusa Foundation
- \$338 to Longbranch Improvement Club



Open 10 to 4 Thur-Sat *hours may change*
 Key Center Corral 253 884-9333

Pregnant? You are not alone.

We provide services at no cost to you.



 **Care Net**
 OF PUGET SOUND

1-800-NOT-ALONE
WWW.CARENETPS.ORG



Since 1932, Minterbrook Oyster Company (located off Creviston on the north end of the Key Peninsula) has been bringing fresh oysters & shellfish from the pristine waters of the Puget Sound to our local community and customers worldwide.

Minterbrook has always been a family owned and operated company, and the Kingman's, owners for over a decade, aspire to keep that virtue alive.

We have recently expanded our product selection with high-quality Washington crab & sweet Alaskan Side-Stripe shrimp.

CLAMS, CRAB & SHRIMP FALL SPECIALS

- Manila Clams \$7/lb*
- Whole-cooked Crab \$10/lb*
- Crab Sections \$13/lb*
- Alaskan Side-Stripe Shrimp Tails \$20/3lb bag*
- Whole \$20/5lb bag*

Other products available in our retail store, open 9 am to 4 pm except Sunday (closed):

- Smoked Salmon
- Smoked Oysters
- Fresh Oysters,
- Savory Clams & Mussels
- Crushed oyster shell for landscaping and beach front



www.minterbrookoyster.com
 garrett@minterbrookoyster.com
253 857 5251
 Google Map "Minterbrook Oyster"
 12002 114th St. Ct NW

More High-Speed Internet Comes to the Key Peninsula But Only for Some on the North End

A contract with Comcast is one of many steps to bring broadband to underserved households.

SARA THOMPSON, KP NEWS

In October Pierce County plans to sign a contract with a broadband franchise to provide high speed internet service through a privatized fiberoptic network to 526 households on the north Key Peninsula. The project is part of a multipronged plan to close the broadband divide separating the haves from the have-nots for an essential infrastructure.

The Key Peninsula project is one of two in the county approved in April following a request for proposals that went out in November 2021. With a deadline completion of three years, 35.1 miles of fiber will connect 526 homes to high-speed internet. The county will subsidize 70% of the total \$5.1 million dollar price tag. The second project, in south Pierce County, is a collaboration with the Nisqually Tribe.

Funding comes through a \$15 million allocation from the American Rescue Plan Act, the \$1.9 trillion federal stimulus plan passed in 2021.

In a separate approach designed to attract service to un- and underserved households, the county announced an incentive plan in October, with approximately \$5 million available. Astound Broadband (formerly Wave)

and Comcast, the two cable internet providers on the Key Peninsula, are expected to participate. Wanrack, the company that laid the fiberoptic cable for the Peninsula School District, has expressed interest in partnering with a franchise owner and the county, according to Pierce County Council Chair Derek Young (D-7th, Gig Harbor).

The process for spending the final \$5 million will be determined by the county council once the efficacy of its request for proposals and incentive approaches has been evaluated.

The council took some initial steps to close the broadband gap in 2018 with a study by Magellan Advisors. That report confirmed there were significant inequities in broadband access. In 2019 the council passed a resolu-

tion declaring that broadband is essential infrastructure and then worked to streamline building codes and policies that impeded expansion of broadband.

In early 2020, the council hired CTC Technology and Energy to develop a broadband strategic plan released in March 2021. CTC concluded that fiber was a more cost-effective solution than fixed wireless due to lower maintenance and replacement expenses and ease of expansion.

The impact of satellite service, specifically SpaceX Starlink, was considered unclear at the time of the report.

The report identified four contiguous areas with no or inadequate internet (defined by download speeds of less than 25 Mbps and upload speeds less than 3 Mbps) affecting 14,000 households. The council declared these areas as broadband incentive districts. Two are on the Key Peninsula with 1,213 homes in the north and 2,079 in the south.

In June 2021, the responsibility for broadband planning and implementation was assigned to the Pierce County Planning and Public Works Department. "The idea has been to think as broadly as possible and to be as flexible as

possible to bring broadband to the areas in need," said Debi Ross, strategy and performance division manager. "Our hope is that we have made the incentive proposal tasty enough that the franchise owners will be excited to enter into a partnership."

"The incentive program really nudges providers to move into areas that might have been marginal in terms of profit," Council Chair Young said. "The fact of a potential competitor changes the market, and a franchise wants to be the incumbent."

Federal funding comes with some strings attached. All providers must participate in the federal Affordable Connectivity Program, which allows eligible households to receive up to a \$30 per month discount on internet

service; up to a \$75 per month discount if the household is on qualifying tribal lands; a one-time discount of up to \$100 for a laptop, tablet or desktop computer; and a low-cost service plan that may be fully covered through the ACP.

The current budget of \$15 million will not be sufficient to bring internet to all the households in Pierce County. "This is not the end of investment in the expansion of broadband," Ross said, "There are three additional major federal and state programs aimed at expansion." The county plans to apply.

As the incentive program is being implemented, other plans are underway to bring high speed internet to parts of the Key Peninsula. Astound Broadband expects to install fiber to homes on Herron Island in 2023.

Mark Cockerill, who implemented the broadband survey for the Key Peninsula Community Council, invited Herron resident Eric Bergson to a 2019 meeting with representatives from Astound.

"I've been on the island for approximately 15 years begging for better internet," Bergson said. "For as terrible as most of the KP is, the island is further limited by the one small suboceanic line that runs from the mainland. Everything I tried to think of was a swing and a miss."

The company realized the population density made a project there economically viable, said Kevin Stamey, senior director of technical operations in Washington. "Oceanic cable placement is very expensive, and it would take a really long time for those permits, delaying a project like this for up to a couple of years," he said.

Astound opted to use a microwave relay system to get a signal to Herron. The relay system permit might be approved by the end of the year, with a four- to five-month timeframe to get fiber to each home.

Stamey said that Astound is looking at other neighborhoods with enough density to make projects viable and that the company will participate in the county's incentive program. ■

"THIS IS NOT THE END OF INVESTMENT IN THE EXPANSION OF BROADBAND."

"THE INCENTIVE PROGRAM REALLY NUDGES PROVIDERS TO MOVE INTO AREAS THAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN MARGINAL IN TERMS OF PROFIT."

KEY PEN PARKS & KEY PENINSULA FIRE DEPARTMENT

LETTERS TO SANTA

HAVE A JOLLY HOLLY HOLIDAY SEASON!

DECEMBER 4, 2022
3:30PM - 4:30PM
KEY CENTER FIRE STATION

BRING THE FAMILY TO THIS FREE EVENT! ALL LETTERS TO SANTA WILL BE DELIVERED IN TIME AS LONG AS THERE IS A RETURN ADDRESS. WE HAVE A FUN ACTIVITY PLANNED, AND SANTA COULD MAKE A SURPRISE APPEARANCE!

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THIS EVENT, GO TO WWW.KEYPENPARKS.COM OR WWW.KEYPENINSULAFIRE.ORG

Give us a call to see if we can get you a rebate from Peninsula Light Company on a new water heater.



Call our office at
 253-981-3552

930 Industry Drive, Tukwila
www.benla.biz

PENINSULA SCHOOL DISTRICT Key Peninsula Community Connection

Peninsula School District - November 2022

Vaughn fifth grader helps kindness bloom

Vaughn Elementary fifth grader Sophia P. is a creative, well-rounded student. She loves to sew, paint, draw, and play soccer and softball. She is also a young entrepreneur, using her talents to create and sell beautiful bouquets of flowers to help raise money for children in Ukraine.



LEFT: Sophia P., a fifth-grade student at Vaughn Elementary School, harvests flowers from her home and her Babushka's garden to create beautiful bouquets.

Now Sophia has her own business on Facebook called "Sophia's Blooms", managed by her parents. During the growing season she sells bouquets to community members and at some school-related events. While some of Sophia's profits support her bouquet business and horse camps, up to 50% is donated to children in Ukraine who need medical procedures. Sophia is part Ukrainian, and wants to be a doctor when she grows up. During the next growing season, Sophia and her mother plan to buy more planters, soil, flower seeds, and vases to expand her operation.



"She is full of compassion and kindness. Since the war started in Ukraine, she has wanted to help somehow. She has found that how," Sophia's mom, Inna Pimental said.

Arts-infused instruction supports innovation in the classroom

Teachers and staff at Minter Creek Elementary came together last summer to dance, craft, and learn together. Minter Creek was one of three schools in the Peninsula School District to receive art-infused instruction training from Arts Impacts, stemming from grants the schools received last year from the Washington State Arts Commission and the Gig Harbor Arts Commission. Arts Impact is a local arts organization that specializes in providing professional learning in the arts for teachers in Pierce County. Through music, art, theater, and dance, teachers connect core academic concepts and increase engagement for a wider variety of learners. One example of art-infused instruction is connecting vocabulary with theater and visual arts. Students can create posters with definitions, parts of speech, a synonym, an antonym, syllables, origin and sentences in their own words. Students then perform skits to act out examples of the vocabulary. The Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction supports Art-Infusion and Arts Impact training at Washington schools to help integrate more creative thinking into core curriculum.



Minter Creek Elementary School Librarian Adam Sripranaratanakul practices a dance during Art Impact training in August 2022.

Peninsula Reads promotes lifelong learning through literacy



Being a proficient reader by the third grade is critical for lifelong success. As a part of its new five-year strategic plan, the Peninsula School District (PSD) has set a goal that all third-grade students will read at or above grade level by 2026. To reach this

visionary goal, PSD is spearheading a community-wide effort to promote literacy development in young children by engaging community members of all ages in activities that support the importance of early literacy. The campaign kicked off in October and continues until the end of the school year. Visit <https://bit.ly/PeninsulaReads> to learn more about literacy activities connected to this campaign and to see how you can get involved. #PeninsulaReads

Upcoming Dates and Events

Sunday, 11/6 Daylight Saving Time	11/23 - 11/25 Thanksgiving Break - No School
Tuesday, 11/08 Election Day	
Friday, 11/11 Veterans Day - No School	

STRONG LOCAL LEADERSHIP VS SEATTLE STYLE POLITICS!



**STATE SEN.
EMILY RANDALL (D)**



**STATE REP.
JESSE YOUNG (R)**

**SYSTEMICALLY
RACIST**

Believes that America is inherently good or systemically racist

**INHERENTLY
GOOD**

**VOTED
FOR**

Voted for a Payroll Tax, State Income Tax, and Energy & Heating Tax

**VOTED
AGAINST**

**DEFUND
POLICE**

Believes we should Support Police or Defund Police

**SUPPORT
POLICE**

AGAINST

Supports Parental Rights and School Choice

SUPPORTS

**VOTED
FOR**

Voted for graphic K-12 sex education AND keeping our kids out of classrooms long after the science said it was safe to return.

**VOTED
AGAINST**

**VOTED
FOR**

Voted to increase our gas tax by \$0.49 per gallon this coming January

**VOTED
AGAINST**

SUPPORTS

Supports creating a new Road User Charge and GPS Vehicle Tracking Tax to add to the gas tax.

AGAINST

AGAINST

Supports safe Economic Recovery via lowering taxes and regulation on struggling families and small businesses

SUPPORTS

THE CHOICE IS CLEAR - VOTE JESSE YOUNG BY NOVEMBER 8th 2022

JESSE 
YOUNG
FOR STATE SENATE
26TH DISTRICT GOP



DOES YOUR RETIREMENT MATH ADD UP?

When it comes to retirement, it's all about the numbers—how much money you'll need and how much you're saving to get there. Find out your retirement numbers with this five-minute calculation. With the right information, you can move ahead and plan with confidence.

**Need your numbers?
Contact us today to learn more.**

MKT-06070-0317 Tracking #1-819240 (Exp. 02/22)



TODD ROSENBACH
Financial Consultant
7901 Skansie Ave, Suite 210
Gig Harbor WA 98335
(253) 884-4787
todd.rosenbach@lpl.com
www.toddrosenbach.com



Securities and advisory services offered through LPL Financial, a registered investment advisor. Member FINRA/SIPC.

WAYPOINT north south

ONE CHURCH...TWO LOCATIONS

WAYPOINT NORTH-Sundays 9am & 10:45am
WAYPOINT SOUTH-Sundays 10am **NEW LOCATION!** 2406 McEwan Rd NW, Lakebay
Streaming live @ 9:00am on YouTube.com or on our WayPoint Church Facebook page.



website - waypoint-church.org Questions? Email the church - office@waypoint-church.org

Homeless at a young age, **JESSE YOUNG** didn't let poverty get in the way of success and helping people

It's an all-American story: a young boy grows up in poverty, seemingly destined to be a statistic, but instead fights the odds and achieves one accomplishment after another. First as Valedictorian of his High School class, then a degree from Notre Dame and ultimately selected to serve his district as State Representative. But if you ask Jesse, these wouldn't be his greatest accomplishments. His wife, Jennie, and six wonderful children are what he cares about most.



[PAID ADVERTISEMENT]

A COMPELLING STORY: Homeless on the Streets of Tacoma

As a young boy in grade school, Jesse Young bounced around among various shelters, apartments and different living arrangements. Violence was common and the streets were harsh, but it motivated Jesse to get out of poverty and to make a better life. Eventually, with lots of providence, the love of a hard-working mom, caring teachers and counselors, and sheer determination, Jesse's hard work began to pay-off, one step at a time.



VALEDICTORIAN OF HIS CLASS

Jesse had all the street smarts anyone could ever want, but he learned to turn his attention to the books and ultimately was chosen as Valedictorian of his graduating class at Wilson High School in Tacoma. Jesse knew he needed to get a quality education if he was going to break the vicious cycle of poverty.

NOTRE DAME, HERE I COME

Because of his High School academic accomplishments, Jesse was named a Washington State Scholar by the State Legislature and accepted into one of the nation's most prestigious and storied colleges - the University of Notre Dame. Armed with academic scholarships and a part-time job washing dishes, Jesse earned a degree in Management Information Systems. Jesse and Jennie then moved to Silicon Valley to work in the high-tech industry, which allowed him to travel extensively and develop global experience in the technology field. Ultimately, the Youngs came home to Gig Harbor, started their family, and Jesse started his consulting business.



FAMILY COMES FIRST

There is nothing Jesse is more proud of than his family. He takes being a role model for his six kids seriously and works tirelessly to teach them how to overcome the challenges of life that he knows all too well. Who better to teach self-reliance and hard work than someone who started from nothing?

APPOINTED AND ELECTED TO SERVE AS STATE REPRESENTATIVE

From the streets of Tacoma to serving in the State Legislature...what a journey! Jesse Young was unanimously appointed in January 2014 by Democratic and Republican officials to serve as the 26th District State Representative after the seat became vacant. He has been resoundingly re-elected every cycle since 2014. As a Legislator, Jesse has proven he is not just a yes vote for his party but takes careful consideration on every issue - especially homelessness. Now considered an intellectual leader among his peers, he brings to the table the perspective of a professional who has also seen the harder side of life, which many in our state continue to face.

Paid for By Vote Jesse Young (R), P.O. Box 222, Gig Harbor, WA 98335

SHINING WHERE THE LIGHT IS NEEDED.

We serve current Heron's Key residents and others who treasure life in beautiful Gig Harbor. A not-for-profit community wholly focused on taking care of our own, we offer Assisted Living and Skilled Nursing for residents at Heron's Key. If your loved one has Alzheimer's or another form of dementia, we can provide compassion, true friendliness and highly specialized Memory Care at The Lighthouse.

CARE IS NEAR. CALL 866-765-8076



4340 Borgen Blvd.
Gig Harbor, WA 98332
PenroseHarbor.org



MEMORY CARE • ASSISTED LIVING • SKILLED NURSING • REHABILITATION



[PAID ADVERTISEMENT]

Jesse or Emily?

The state Senate race in our 26th legislative district between first term incumbent Democrat Sen. Emily Randall and four-term incumbent Republican Rep. Jesse Young is projected by most political observers to be the most expensive and hotly contested race in Washington this year.

While on the surface it may look like these two homegrown politicians came from similar public high school educational backgrounds, beyond that they have very little in common and their time in the legislature has produced drastically different results.

Emily is a graduate of South Kitsap High School (2004) and Wellesley College (2008), the alma mater of Hillary Clinton. After voting for and contributing to Barack Obama's presidential campaign in 2012, Emily volunteered for and donated to the Hillary Clinton presidential campaign in 2016. She has since gained notoriety as an extreme liberal through her social media posts, making national news for celebrating public vandalism of a pro-life billboard on her Instagram account. She has described herself as a liberal, feminist, lesbian.

After graduating from college, Emily worked for her alma mater, Children's Hospital Boston, the San Francisco AIDS Foundation and Planned Parenthood before resigning in 2018 to move home and run for political office as a first time candidate. She narrowly won by 104 votes.

Since taking office in January 2019, Emily has had, from any objectively candid perspective, a disastrous first term. The only question is what failures to start with: Massively raising our taxes (including gas, according to the Washington Policy Institute), decriminalizing some controlled substances (SB 5476), socializing health insurance (SB 5822), voting for antigun legislation to ban high capacity magazines and promote "red flag" laws (SB 5078), introducing Critical Race Theory under the guise of diversity training (SB

5227) and graphic sex education into elementary school curriculum (SB 5395), and failing to support our police with more funding.

On top of that, she cast the deciding vote to pass the capital gains tax bill into law in 2021 before stepping off the senate floor during a vote on the bill to restore police pursuit (SB 5919) during the waning days of the 2022 session. Her actions were recorded on television (tvw.org). As a result, the bill failed, and law enforcement officers remain unable to do their jobs effectively and provide public safety in Washington state.

In stark contrast, Jesse graduated from Wilson High School in Tacoma as valedictorian in 1995 and received a Washington State Scholar Award from the legislature. He accomplished these feats while homeless, as documented by the The News Tribune (Tacoma), which featured him in an article in 1995 after he was accepted into the University of Notre Dame on partial scholarships. There he worked nearly full-time to make ends meet and eventually married his high school sweetheart, Jennie. They have six children. Jesse majored in business and computer science and graduated from Notre Dame in 1999 with a degree in management information systems.

Jesse became a software engineer and technology consultant for multiple Fortune 500 companies on the West Coast, including PeopleSoft, Boeing, Primera Blue Cross, Russell Investments and Kaiser Permanente. In late 2013, a legislative vacancy occurred in our 26th district and Jesse was one of three nominees forwarded to the Pierce County Council. I spoke on his behalf, and he was unanimously appointed to fill the vacancy through 2014. Jesse has since been elected four times and amassed an impressive and formidable track record.

First on the list of accomplishments was achieving what was called the impossible task of refinancing the Tacoma Narrows Bridge

debt and stopping all toll increases. His efforts saved us all over \$200 million and, as a result, tolls haven't reached \$10 dollars a trip, which is where the Transportation Commission projected them to be this year before Jesse delivered on his promise.

In 2016, Jesse partnered with Democrat Rep. Strom Peterson (21st LD) to co-author the most significant environmental policy passed in Washington state history. The bill protects our ground water and reduces carbon emissions and builds out our electrical vehicle charging station infrastructure without raising taxes through the empowerment of the Pollution Liability Insurance Agency. Jesse's bill for the environment (HB 2357) was so lauded, Gov. Jay Inslee used it as the foundation for his national environmental plan when he ran for president in 2020.

Jesse has also passed key legislation expanding resources to health and social welfare organizations, balanced transportation budgets, and consistently worked and voted with Democrats to expand funding for those struggling with homelessness. Since the 26th is a military district, he has also been a consistent force in standing up for our veterans and their families. His recent legislation providing greater access and options for medical services was passed unanimously this session. He is also the reason we don't have to pay the massively expensive annual Sound Transit car tab renewal fees because he stopped their taxing authority from crossing Puget Sound into our district (tvw.org).

So, the voters have two very different candidates with different values, policies and track records to choose from, and I strongly and proudly endorse and recommend Rep. Jesse Young for state Senate in the 26th District.

Bruce Cook lives in Lakebay.

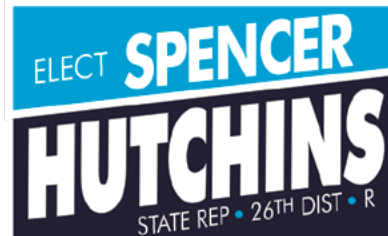
Reprinted from opinion column in "Peninsula Views," Key Peninsula News, August 2022

Paid for by Bruce Cook, 20422 30th St SW, Lakebay, WA 98349



Your team for the State House

We will continue to fight for Key Peninsula's fair share in Olympia.



Paid for by Michelle Caldier (R) PO Box 1710, Port Orchard, WA 98366 and Friends of Spencer Hutchins (R) PO Box 1117, Gig Harbor, WA 98335



Great Things for a Great Community

Founded in 1925, Peninsula Light is your member-owned, not-for-profit electric cooperative, providing reliable power throughout Gig Harbor and the Key Peninsula. We are dedicated to continually improving the quality of life in this great community through system reliability, helping you conserve and use electricity more efficiently and rising to the challenges of a rapidly changing industry.

Call 253-857-5950 or toll-free 888-809-8021

Open Monday-Friday, 8 AM - 4:30 PM
13315 Goodnough Drive Gig Harbor, WA 98335



www.penlight.org

Peninsula Light Co.

a mutual corporation • since 1925

The power to be...

*Please
join us
Saturday,
November 12
at 1:30 pm
for an open
house as
we cut the
ribbon for
the Village.*

*9115 154th
Avenue CT NW
Lakebay, WA
98349*

After many years of planning and effort, the homes of Mustard Seed Village are nearly complete. At last, there is a local choice for supportive care for the elders of the Key Peninsula.

Join your friends and neighbors November 12 at 1:30 for ribbon cutting and an open house.

The Village is across the street from the Mustard Seed Project's Crandall Center at 9115 154th Ave Ct NW, on the hill above Key Center.

After the ceremony, enjoy refreshments, music and tours. Meet some of the staff and learn about the unique aspects of the Village.

If you have questions about the open house, please call us at 253-884-9814 or email information@themustardseedproject.org

Are you interested in experiencing a new way of living at the Village? Please call 253-900-9936 or send an email to living@mustardseedvillage.org.

Does the Village seem like a place you might like to work? Please email Denise Macartea at caring@mustardseedvillage.org or call 253-900-9935.



PRINT AND ONLINE CALENDARS ARE UNDERWRITTEN BY A GRANT FROM THE ANGEL GUILD

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

To add a listing for your event or find the latest details, visit www.keypennews.org/calendar

Nov 2 Day of the Dead Celebration 4 p.m., Gig Harbor Library. All ages welcome.

Nov 4 Coffee and Connection 11:30 a.m., Tom Taylor YMCA., Gig Harbor.

Nov 5 Bird Walks 8:30 a.m., rain or shine. Meet nature guide Chris Rurik at Gateway Park pavilion.

Nov 5 Pier Into the Night 6 p.m., Harbor Wild Watch, Jerisich Public Dock.

Nov 8 Pro Bono Tenant Info Eviction and legal assistance for renters. 10 a.m. KP Community Services. 253-884-4440

Nov 10 Girls Night Out 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., Gig Harbor United Waterfront Alliance. 253-514-0071

Nov 11 GH Veterans Day Celebration Noon, Point Fosdick Antique Airplane Hangar.

Nov 12 Winter Warm Up Craft Fair 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Key Peninsula Civic Center.

Nov 15 KP Kids Maker Fun 4 p.m., Key Center Library. STEAM and science activities.

Nov 18 Safety Tips for Seniors 12:30 p.m., Key Peninsula Community Services.

Nov 19 Junior Naturalist Workshop 10 a.m., Harbor WildWatch, Donkey Creek Park.

Nov 24 Turkey Trot 5K 8 a.m., Gig Harbor Post Office parking lot.

Nov 17 KP Book Club "Sea of Tranquility" by Emily St. John Mandel, 11 a.m., KP History Museum.

Nov 26 - 27 PHS Winterfest Arts and Crafts Fair Sat: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sun: 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Peninsula High School.

WEEKLY EVENTS

Monday AI-Anon Keys to Sanity Family Group, 5 p.m., KP Fire Station.

Monday Walks with Rusty 9 a.m., Gateway Dog Park/360 Trails, Dog Walks with Jason.

M-W-F SAIL Stay Active and

Independent for Life. 10 a.m., Mustard Seed Project. 253-884-9814

M-W SAIL Flexibility and balance for those over 60, 5:30 p.m., KP Community Services. 253-884-4440

T-W-Th HeartFit Women's free fitness classes. Tue 6 p.m., Wed 5 p.m., Thu 10 a.m., WayPoint Church. heartfitwp@gmail.com

T-TH Open Activity Hours 2 to 4 p.m., Mustard Seed Project. 253-884-9814

T-TH Tai Chi 9:45 a.m., KP Community Services. 253-884-4440

T-TH-SA SAIL Flexibility and balance for those over 60. 8:30 a.m., KP Community Services. 253-884-4440

T-SA KP History Museum 1 p.m., KPHS Museum behind KP Civic Center.

Wednesday Gentle Yoga for Older Adults 11:30 a.m., Mustard Seed Project. 253-884-9814

Thursday Family Story Time 10:30 a.m., Key Center Library. 253-548-3309

Thursday Senior Bingo 1 p.m., first and third Thursdays, KP Community Services. 253-884-4440

Thursday KP Toastmasters 8 a.m., WayPoint Church. 425-243-2618

Thursday Fresh Express Mobile Market 11 a.m., first and third Thursdays, KP Community Services.

Friday Skate Night 6 to 9 p.m., Key Peninsula Civic Center, kindergarten to eighth grade.

Saturday Eddon Boatyard Tours 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Gig Harbor Boat Shop.

MONTHLY MEETINGS

26th Legislative District Democrats First Thursdays on Zoom, 6:30 p.m. 26thdemocrats@gmail.com.

Key Peninsula Advisory Commission Third Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m. Details at piercecountywa.gov/5937

KP Business Association Luncheon, third Fridays, noon at El Sombrero, kpbusinessassociation@gmail.com.

KP Business Association Business meeting, first Tuesdays 6:30

p.m., DK Property Management, kpbusinessassociation@gmail.com.

KP Community Council Second Wednesdays on Zoom, 7 p.m., keypencouncil@gmail.com.

KP Citizens Against Crime Third Thursdays, 7 to 8:30 p.m., Key Center fire station.

KP Civic Center Association Board meeting, second Thursdays, 7 to 8:30 p.m., Whitmore Room, KP Civic Center. 253-884-3456

KP Democrats Third Monday, 7 p.m., Home Fire Station, johnpatkelly@aol.com or 253-432-4256.

KP Fire Commission Second and fourth Tuesdays, 5 p.m. Key Center fire station and Zoom, keypeninsulafire.org or 253-884-2222.

KP Historical Society First Tuesdays, 11 a.m. at museum. kphsmuseum@gmail.com

KP Lions Club First and third Wednesdays, 6 p.m., potluck at Key Center fire station. 253-525-0802 or keypeninsulalions@outlook.com

KP Parks Commission Second Mondays, 7:30 to 8:30 p.m., Home fire station, 253-884-9240.

KP Veterans First and third Mondays, 7 to 8 p.m., KP Lutheran Church. 253-884-2626

Lakebay Fuchsia Society First Thursdays, 7 p.m., KP Civic Center, Whitmore Room, 253-884-2283.

Longbranch Improvement Club Third Wednesdays, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Longbranch Improvement Club, 253-200-0308 or licweb.org.

Peninsula Emergency Preparedness Coalition Second Wednesdays, 6 p.m. on Zoom. 6ftwav@gmail.com or 253-720-0662

Peninsula School District Board Meeting Fourth Thursdays, 6 to 7:30 p.m., 253-530-1000.

Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department Tues and Thurs, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Key Center Corral. Call 253-432-4948 for the schedule; Air Quality, Triple P, COVID-19, General HD, Water/Wells and Healthy Housing advice.

Join us! Community Volunteers
Senior Ride Program | Key Senior
Information Center | Assisted Living Project
Support Groups, Forums and Classes

Building an Elder-Friendly Key Peninsula



Here Comes Santa Claus!

Santa for Seniors

RSVP 253-884-9814

Join us **December 6** for a sit-down meal or **December 7** for a festive event and take-home meal.



 **The Mustard Seed Project**
253 884-9814

Office open Monday-Friday, 10 am to 4 pm
information@themustardseedproject.org
www.themustardseedproject.org
Follow us on Facebook!

FALL '22/WINTER '23 SCHEDULE STARTS SEPT 13

FREE KP BUS CONNECTS

Welcome aboard!

VAUGHN TUE/THUR MORNING

- 8:55 Vaughn Elementary School
- 9:01 Wright Bliss Rd NW @Olson Dr NW
- 9:02 Wright Bliss Road @104th St Ct NW
- 9:03 Union 76 @SR 302/4 Corners
- 9:06 SR 302 @150th Ave/Lake Holiday bus shed
- 9:08 SR 302 @140th Ave/Lake of the Woods
- 9:10 SR 302 @Charboneau Construction
- 9:13 Lake Kathryn Village
- 9:19 Purdy Park & Ride

VAUGHN WEDNESDAY MORNING

- 9:50 Vaughn Elementary School
- 9:51 Wright Bliss Rd NW @Olson Dr NW
- 9:52 Wright Bliss Road @104th St Ct NW
- 9:54 Union 76 @SR 302/4 Corners
- 9:57 SR 302 @150th Ave/Lake Holiday bus shed
- 9:58 SR 302 @140th Ave/Lake of the Woods
- 10:00 SR 302 @Charboneau Construction
- 10:03 Lake Kathryn Village
- 10:09 Purdy Park & Ride

EVERGREEN TUE/THUR MORNING

- 8:50 Evergreen Elementary School
- 8:59 Palmer Lake public access 24th St SW
- 9:00 Palmer Lake 21st St SW @193rd Ave
- 9:05 KPCS Senior Center & Food Bank
- 9:06 Home Gas Station @KP Hwy N
- 9:09 167th Ave Ct NW @KP Hwy N
- 9:13 Food Market in Key Center
- 9:15 KP Hwy N @Minterwood Dr NW
- 9:21 Lake Kathryn Village
- 9:30 Purdy Park & Ride

EVERGREEN WEDNESDAY MORNING

- 9:50 Evergreen Elementary School
- 9:54 Palmer Lake public access 24th St SW
- 9:55 Palmer Lake 21st St SW @193rd Ave
- 10:00 KPCS Senior Center & Food Bank
- 10:01 Home Gas Station @KP Hwy N
- 10:04 167th Ave Ct NW @KP Hwy N
- 10:08 Food Market in Key Center
- 10:10 KP Hwy N @Minterwood Dr NW
- 10:16 Lake Kathryn Village
- 10:24 Purdy Park & Ride



A partnership of the Mustard Seed Project, Puget Sound Educational Service District and Peninsula School District.

Fall '22 - Winter '23 School Year Schedule

TUE/WED/THUR AFTERNOON

- 4:42 Purdy Park & Ride
- 4:47 Lake Kathryn Village
- 4:50 SR 302 @Windermere Realty
- 4:52 SR 302 @140th Ave/Lake of the Woods
- 4:53 SR 302 @150th/Lake Holiday bus shed
- 4:55 4 Corners gas station @SR 302
- 4:57 Wright Bliss Road @104th St Ct
- 4:58 Wright Bliss Road @Olson Dr
- 5:00 Food Market in Key Center
- 5:04 167th Ave Ct NW @KP Hwy N
- 5:08 Home Gas Station @KP Hwy N
- 5:10 KPCS Senior Center & Food Bank
- 5:13 Palmer Lake public access 24th St SW
- 5:14 Palmer Lake 21st St SW @193rd Ave
- 5:18 Evergreen Elementary School



253-884-BUSS or keypennews.org/kpbus for interactive map and downloadable schedule

We're on Facebook too!

FREE COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION FOR ALL AGES

PLEASE ALLOW ±10 MINUTES
YOUTH UNDER 12 MUST BE WITH ADULT
NO BIKES



CIVIC CENTER CORNER

FREE ADMISSION!

15th Annual Winter Warm-up Holiday Crafts Fair

**Saturday
November 12th
9am - 3pm**

*Handmade & One-of-a-Kind
Local Art and Creations!*



**SANTA ARRIVES
AT NOON!**
Concessions Available!

❄️ kpciviccenter.org ❄️ 17010 S Vaughn Rd NW, Vaughn, WA ❄️ 253-884-3456 ❄️

NEW: Skate 6-7pm for K-3rd graders, 7-9pm for K-8

Skate Key Peninsula Civic Center Night

Friday nights 6-9pm \$5

for K-8, includes skate rental and games



Yoga classes at the Civic Center

8:30 am Mondays and Wednesdays

Book online www.kpciviccenter.org/yoga.html

Key Peninsula Civic Center, 17010 S. Vaughn Road 253/884-3456 www.kpciviccenter.org The Key Peninsula Civic Center Association, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, fosters and promotes the civic, social, cultural and general well-being of the Key Peninsula community



Justine Zingsheim-Nadeau, DVM
Lisa Woods-Zabari, DVM
Jaclyn Snyder, DVM
 13701 118th Ave NW
 Gig Harbor, WA 98329
 253.857.7302
 petfriends@brookvet.com
 www.brookvet.com

TENDER LOVING CARE FOR ALL YOUR FAMILY PETS!

Equine, Livestock & Residential Fencing Since 1989

Warwick & Janice Bryant



13108 125th St NW 800-598-3374
 Gig Harbor WA 98329 253-851-5494
 www.kiwifencing.com fax 253-851-5550
 #KIWIFCI055DA becky@kiwifencing.com



- Hot Water Heaters
- Plumbing Services
- Repairs, Repipes, Remodels
- Gas Lines

WA Cont. Lic. #APPLEPD077LD



EASEMENTS SITE PLANS
 BOUNDARY LINE ADJUSTMENTS

Aspen Land
 Surveying LLC

253-303-0270
 www.aspenland.com

Half a block east of the Key Center stoplight at The Landing

Call (253)851-9170 or Visit Today
 12615 134th Ave. NW Between KP Hwy & Hwy 302



*Celebrating over 20 years on the Key Peninsula
 Animal Care and Friendly Customer Service Our Specialties*



Moran's Portable Restrooms LLC
 (360) 994-9544



www.moransportablerestrooms.net
 moransportablerestrooms@gmail.com

This newspaper is made possible by hundreds of generous community members who value independent nonprofit local news.

Your donation supports staff, operations, printing and postage to deliver a free newspaper every month to every home on Key Peninsula. Take part in the success of our "little hometown newspaper."

Donate your annual gift now (or give a little every month)

Give online at **keypennews.org** or mail your check to KPNews, PO Box 3, Vaughn WA 98394.

News Match

Donations received before Dec 31, 2022 are eligible for matching.

Meet Brent and Rachel
Now in Key Center
 Call 253-400-4733 for all your insurance needs



9121 KP Hwy NW next to Capitol Lumber

FREE ESTIMATES | 253.858.9907

- SITE DEVELOPMENT
- CUSTOM OUTDOOR LIVING SPACES
- ARCHITECT DESIGN | ENGINEERING
- GARAGES | ADU
- CUSTOM HOMES
- PATIOS | DECKS
- HOME RENOVATIONS | ADDITIONS
- SIDING | ROOFING



GENERAL CONTRACTOR
 LICENSED | BONDED | INSURED

WWW.RAINIERCONSTRUCTIONLLC.COM

RAINIER*8408V

Single Seniors
Fun and friendship after Fifty

PICNICS • FISHING • GOLF
 • SPEED DATING • CARDS
 PARTIES • POTLUCKS
 for Active Seniors
 Social Drinking, Smoking OK

Patti Foster (253) 853-5046

20+ YEARS EXPERIENCE BONDED & INSURED LICENSE #604203872

**Site Prep/Clearing/Hauling
 Grading & Excavation
 Residential/Commercial**

Call for free estimate
253 649.9736

John Bassler Owner/Operator
 downtodirtexcavation@gmail.com

PARAMOUNT FIREARMS
 CURATORS OF FINE FIREARMS

We buy firearms and military edged weapons
 I'll come to you

253 993-4101 Barry@paramountfirearms.com
 Barry Bookman - licensed dealer

PERFECT EXCAVATION
 general contractor

Clearing, Brush-Cutting,
 Excavation, Grading,
 Drainage Systems,
 Retaining Walls & more!

(206)930-9043
 www.perfectexcavation.com

KEY PENINSULA BAPTIST FELLOWSHIP

SUNDAY SCHOOL 9 AM
 FELLOWSHIP TIME 10:15-10:30
 WORSHIP SERVICE 10:30

WE MEET AT KEY PENINSULA CIVIC CENTER IN VAUGHN
 PASTOR PAUL JENSEN 253 353-2745
 WWW.KPBFELLOWSHIP.ORG
 FACEBOOK: KEYPENINSULABAPTISTFELLOWSHIP

GOTCHA COVERED

BLINDS / SHADES / SHUTTERS / DRAPERIES
 CONNECTED HOME / COMMERCIAL

Call or text **253-357-0018** cswallace@gotchacovered.com
 www.gotchacovered.com/the-south-sound/



2022 Annual Scarecrow Contest

First Place and People's Choice Award (\$275) went to The Headless Horseman from Sleepy Hol-low by Shaina and Rayden Collins (lower right).

In Second Place (\$75) was KP Beautification Worker Bees by the Beautification Project (top left and middle left detail).

Third Place (\$50) went to Pumpkin Pie by Ashlee and Riley Jones (lower left).

Sarah Anderson of Madrona Café created the End of Summer skeleton (upper right).

Peek-a-Boo Garden cultivated by Sunnycrest Nursery Florist and Décor (middle right).

Sponsored by Key Peninsula Community Council, KP Business Association, Pierce County, the Angel Guild, and the Farm Council.

All photos by Tina McKail, KP News

