



Happy Valentine's Day
Feb. 14

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FEBRUARY 2013
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Angel Guild

- Drive Thru Feed
- Eagle Scouts flourish on the Key
- Fire District 16 fire reports

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KP Fire Department: Managing property values, personnel and levy propaganda

By Scott Turner and Charlee Glock-Jackson, KP News

The best-laid plans, it is said, can often go awry. That's what happened with the Key Peninsula Fire Department, and the man who runs the district.

At the time Fire Chief Tom Lique and his staff were crunching the numbers for their recent levy request, they based their plans on projected property tax revenues and staffing needs. The goal was to hire eight new firefighters to help quash long response times, making the district a safer place to live and work.

The levy passed with 66.1 percent support. But between the time the levy request was put together and January 2013, several things happened that affected Lique's plans.

The citizens who call Key Peninsula home may not be getting all the new firefighters as promised, but according to the chief, the district is better covered for emergencies now (and in the future), as long as area property values don't decline.

An unexpended event from the past has put a wrinkle in the department's future.

"We had a male firefighter who went out on medical retirement back in 2007," Lique said. "There were advances in medical treatment that, with surgery last year, he was able to return to work."

Lique said the Department of Retirement (DRS) contacted him and told him the firefighter was being pulled off the retirement roster because he was no longer disabled. And according to RCW 41.26.470 and the department's legal team, the district had to put him back to work.

On Dec. 6, a month after the bond issue passed, that firefighter returned to "full active duty, full pay, full benefits and full rank he left the organization with," Lique said. "This means that I reinstated him with the first class firefighter rank he retired at.

(See Levy, Page 4)

Wauna man's model trains keep him busy, happy

By Charlee Glock-Jackson for KP News

Dick Suess spent his career playing and coaching football, and during those years he and his wife moved often.

About 15 years ago, after living all over the country (and even in England), Suess decided to retire to Puget Sound country and the couple built a home in Wauna.

"When we had our home built, we were the only ones here in this neighborhood. Now we have three neighbors — which is just perfect," Suess said.

His wife makes the daily commute to St. Joseph Hospital in Tacoma, where she's the head dietitian, but except for attending meetings of the Pacific Northwest Football Hall of Fame — of which he's a director — he stays fairly close to home.

What keeps Suess busy on this side of

(See Trains, Page 10)



Dick Suess loves tinkering with his model trains in his Wauna garage. Someday he plans to open up his special depot as a field trip destination for area school kids, young and old alike.

Photo by Scott Turner, KP News

Monthly free clinic comes to KP Community Services

By Charlee Glock -Jackson
For KP News

As of February, there's a once-a-month free medical clinic on the Key Peninsula, thanks to the combined efforts of Key Peninsula Community Services and a coalition of area medical providers.

According to KPCS Director Penny Gazabat, the free clinic will serve KP residents who don't have health insurance or a primary care physician.

"There's no income criteria," Gazabat said. "It's sort of an urgent care facility for people with colds that just won't go away, or who have flu symptoms or perhaps have things like asthma or COPD. We hope it will be a stop gap for people who might otherwise go to the St. Anthony emergency room."

Gazabat emphasized that the new clinic will not dispense any narcotic drugs or other medications. "We won't fill prescriptions," she said. "And if it turns out that a client has an emergency or a life-threatening situation, we'll call 911 or tell them they have to go to the ER."

The clinic was spearheaded by Dr. William Roes because he saw a need for a local after-hours medical service, she said.

"It's a consortium of several private practice physicians, hospitals and KPCS," Dr. Roes said. Both Franciscan and MultiCare health systems are involved, as well as a number of area doctors.

"The idea is to improve access to health care on the Key Peninsula," Roes said.

Roes feels the Peninsula has long been un-



Photo by Scott Turner, KP News

Nurse practitioner Regina Puratich examines the second patient to visit the new KP clinic last month, moments before the patient was seen by Dr. James Patterson in a dedicated room at the Key Peninsula Community Service, in Lakebay.

deserved.

"There are 17,000 people living here on the Peninsula and I'm the only primary care doctor. That's one doctor for 17,000 people. The national standard is one doctor for every 3- or 4,000 people. And lots of people here don't have a primary care physician or insurance," he said.

The goal behind the clinic, he said, is to meet temporary needs and help citizens find a regular medical care provider.

"We want to help them understand their options," Roes said.

The new clinic is based, in part, on "Project Access," a program sponsored by the Pierce County Medical Society. "Ours is a walk-

in clinic geared to minor urgent care needs like an ear infection or a bladder infection or things like that. Or perhaps for someone with chronic needs — like, they're out of blood pressure medication, for example," he said.

The clinic won't have any emergency capabilities — like suturing a bad cut — but all the things the clinic can care for will be handled at no charge.

Emergency situations will be referred to St. Anthony Hospital, which will handle special needs, X-rays and so forth, Roes said.

At this time, there is no ongoing funding for the clinic. Space has been provided at no charge by KPCS, and all of the doctors and nurses participating at the clinic are doing so

on a volunteer basis. They'll take turns being "on call," he said.

There will also be volunteer social workers available to help patients find regular medical providers in the area.

Eventually, a board of directors will be formed and fundraising events will likely be held, Roes said.

Roes himself will not be one of the participating physicians. "Since my practice is here in Key Center, it's not appropriate for me to be at the clinic. Some of the clinic patients might assume that, if I treat them at the clinic that now I'm their doctor," he said. "I'm just helping put this whole thing together."

Both Roes and Gazabat agreed that KPCS is the ideal and natural location for the clinic.

"KPCS is a natural partner and we have an ideal location," Gazabat added. "We've converted a storage area into a regular exam room for the clinic, and we plan to be open whenever the clinic is in service."

Right now, that's just once a month, she said. But the goal is to provide clinic services at least once a week.

The first session on Jan. 17 "was a good experience," Gazabat said. "We only had a couple of clients, but it gave us an opportunity to see how our procedures will work and if we need to change anything. Once the word gets out, we think we'll be serving lots of patients for lots of reasons."

The next clinic opening will be Thursday, Feb. 21. Clinic hours will be 5:30-8 p.m.

For information, contact KP Community Services at (253) 884-4440.

To subscribe, please write,
call or fax:

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KEY PENINSULA NEWS

www.keypennews.com

Unsolicited submissions deadline including press releases: 15th of each month prior to publication

Photo of Mount Rainier in the masthead was taken from the dock in Longbranch by Thomas Morgan, a KP News reader and Key Peninsula resident.

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

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

The opinions expressed herein are the opinions of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the views of the publishers or staff. All letters to the editor must be signed and include a daytime phone number for verification. No anonymous letters will be published. Submissions are used on a space available basis and may be edited if used. THE KEY PENINSULA NEWS reserves the right to edit all submissions for length and content. Mail letters to: P.O. Box 3, Vaughn, WA 98394, or e-mail to news@keypennews.com.



FEBRUARY 2013

Key Pen Parks PROGRAM GUIDE

Recreation Coordinator: Jessica Smeall, jessica@keypenparks.com 253-884-9240 x22

REGISTER ONLINE: www.keypenparks.com

PET EASTER TREAT HUNT



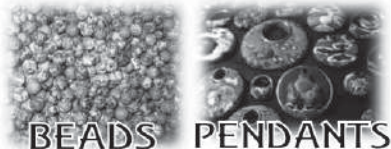
SAT. MARCH 16
10:00AM-12:00PM

PET COSTUME CONTEST! FREE PRIZES!
EASTER BUNNY PHOTOS!
@ Volunteer Park

2nd Saturday ART FOR ADULTS POLYMER CLAY JEWELRY

Learn to design and create millefiori canes with polymer clay (Fimo, Sculpey, Kato clay are brand examples). We will use our designs to create original jewelry elements: pendants, beads, and charms. Instructor is Jess Smeall, who has 20 years experience creating with Fimo and also owns Urban Gems, a jewelry and home décor business where she sells her clay creations.

Location: Volunteer Park Office
Date: Sat. Feb. 9
Time: 9:30am-12:30pm
Fee: \$25



BEADS PENDANTS

ADULT FITNESS FITNESS CAMP

Instructor: Shannon Reichl

INDOOR (WEEKDAYS)
Location: Civic Center Gym
Day: Mon & Wed **Time:** 1:15-2pm
Dates: Feb. 4-27 (4 weeks)
Fee: \$30 for 1 class/week,
\$60 for 2 classes/week

INDOOR (WEEKNIGHTS)
Location: KPMS Gym
Day: Mon & Wed **Time:** 6-7pm
Dates: Feb. 25-Apr. 3
Fee: \$45 for 1 class/week, \$90 for 2

- AGILITY TRAINING • CARDIO TRAINING
 - CORE TRAINING • STRENGTH TRAINING
- ALL in a FUN workout!



Mid-Winter Break CAMPS K-5th Grade

While school is out, keep busy learning and having fun with our specialty camps!

MONDAY FEB. 18
Marine Science
Time: 10am-2pm
Location: Camp Seymour
Fee: \$30 (includes lunch)
Explore sea creatures and the amazing underwater world all around us. Interactive lessons from Camp Naturalists!

TUESDAY FEB. 19
Eco Adventure
Time: 9:30am-12:30pm
Location: Volunteer Park
Fee: \$15
For young nature enthusiasts—study wildlife, identify skulls and specimens, play environmental games, & earth art projects!

WEDNESDAY FEB. 20
Dance!
Time: 9:30am-12:30pm
Location: Civic Center
Fee: \$15
Hip hop, ballet, jazz, lyrical, modern—all styles of dance will be practiced in this camp. No experience needed!

THURSDAY FEB. 21
LEGO
Location: Volunteer Park
Fee: \$25 each
Space Adventures
Time: 9:30am-12:30pm
Amusement Park
Time: 1:30-4:30pm
Build Lego models and learn engineering skills w/ Bricks 4 Kidz!

Upcoming Public Meetings

Park Board Meetings are at the Volunteer Park office, at 7:30pm on the following dates:
February 11

SCHOLARSHIPS Available!

Thanks to the Key Pen Parks & Recreation Foundation, we offer financial assistance to those who qualify. Call 884-9240 for more details.

2013 Key Peninsula Civic Center's

Crab Feed!

Saturday, February 9th
4:00 to 7:00^{PM}

Featuring
fresh caught
Pacific Coast
Dungeness Crab.



Dinner includes:
Fresh Crab • Spaghetti
Salad • Garlic Bread

~ Soda, Beer & Wine for sale ~

Bring your own seafood crackers & picks

Proceeds benefit the:



Adults \$ 25

Children (6-12) \$ 10

Children under 6 free

Tickets may be purchased at:

Blend • Key Peninsula Civic Center • Sunnycrest Nursery

Tickets sold at the door, depending on availability

253.884.3456 • www.kpciviccenter.org • Facebook
17010 S. Vaughn Rd Kp N, Vaughn, WA 98394

(From Levy, Page 1)

That's \$110,000."

To accommodate that unanticipated re-hire, Lique had to lay off two lower rank firefighters to budget the return, he said.

The property tax numbers started trickling in in September, just as Lique and his staff were putting together their 2013 budget.

"We start working on the budget in September because we had to have the budget done by November," he said. "But we don't get the official numbers until February, which always makes our budgeting so difficult."

Lique started crunching numbers in time for the commissioners meeting in November, and came in with preliminary budget numbers that "were horrible" and showed another \$200,000 shortage, he said.

The department went from a 96 percent collection rate — with 96 percent of people paying their taxes — to 93 percent. "There's a 3 percent reduction in the number of people paying into their taxes in October, so that's where the shortfall came into play. We get our funding from people, so that's two more positions that are lost," he said.

He had four people starting in January who, potentially, were not going to be employed — two because of the retirement rehire and two from financial shortfalls, he said.

Under the current Local 3152 IAFF labor contract, if the department lays someone off, that employee goes on a rehire list for two years. Rather than laying people off and then hiring them back later, Lique decided to "just take these four people and keep them on (duty)."

Lique pulled money out of a district reserve account to pay for the four positions until April. "When we collect the levy money that month, I will start repaying my reserve account and will be able to hire two additional firefighter positions before summer," he said.

WHAT COMES NEXT?

According to Lique and Sheila Niven, past fire board chairperson, no matter how one does the arithmetic, the community is still going to benefit from the new levy and new hires.

"I think the chief has done a great job juggling all these different balls. I want to convey to the public that as of Jan. 1, you don't just magically get eight new personnel. We don't get paid until April, and so it's going to be a gradual process of adding new personnel," Niven said.

She said there's going to be at least six new positions, so long as properties values don't continue to take a nosedive.

Until the department is up to a full staffing complement, the chief said he will use strategic manpower assignments to augment any potential laps in response times.

"I believe that through creative staffing models, I can take on minimum staffing, which had been around four or five people per day, and maintain it at seven people per day," he said.

Even though he hasn't collected a dime from the levy, by staffing the district's three main stations, Lique believes he will take a bite out of response times he vehemently championed pre levy.

"I'm going to impact our response times. I believe that I can hold true to all those promises I made, but I just need a chance," he said.

If the chief can't match his staff levels and "five-minute response time to fire and medical-aid calls 90 percent of the time" by 2014, he will go to the fire commissioners and tell them to leave the levy money alone, not to collect it, he said.

"The property owners won't have to pay the tax, and we'll move forward with our basic budget. It will be 19 fire members on staff and we'll continue to provide the best service.

"I don't think that will be the best way to do it, but at the end of the day it's the right thing to do if it comes to that," he said.

KP Veterans thank community for support

Members of the Key Peninsula Veterans would like to thank everyone in the KP community who participated in their annual Trees of Sharing program during the holidays.

Donations of more than 480 gifts were delivered to the Lakewood American Lake VA Hospital by KP Veteran members Mike Coffin, Ginger Zampini and

Eddie Suchanek.

The gifts were distributed by the Volunteer Services Division to hospitalized veterans as well as homeless veterans who would otherwise not be able to share the joy of Christmas holidays.

If you are interested in helping the KP Veterans call (253) 884-9852 or visit kpveterans.net.



connect with your schools

PENINSULA SCHOOL DISTRICT • 253.530.1000 • WWW.PSD401.NET

KGHP Improvements Completed Thanks to Community Support

Peninsula School District KGHP radio station has recently completed major upgrades. Over a period of 18 months, the transmission systems and broadcast studios were upgraded to state-of-the-art technologies.

The upgrades will result in significantly improved emergency communications, sound quality and signal transmission. The studio will also improve the educational experience for students who participate in radio broadcasting courses at Peninsula High School, where KGHP is located.

The project was a team effort by community volunteers, underwriters and several agencies participating in a cooperative partnership agreement. The cooperative partners include Peninsula Light Co., CenturyLink, PenMet Parks, KeyPen Parks, the City of Gig Harbor, Gig Harbor Fire and Medic One, Key Peninsula Fire District, St. Anthony Hospital, Key Peninsula Business Association,

KGHP-PC Foundation, and Dr. Kadzik, DDS.

“We continue to appreciate the partnerships with our community agencies and businesses supporting KGHP and working together to improve education and safety for all of our students,” said Superintendent Chuck Cuzzetto.

The project’s success was celebrated with a ribbon cutting ceremony on Jan. 16 and an open house Jan. 26. The open house included studio tours and an opportunity for the public to participate in hands-on, DJ-like experiences.

“This project is a truly unique partnership focused on what’s best for our community. Combining forces, the district and the community sponsors have done much more than rehabilitate a radio station,” said Technology Director JB Fitzpatrick. “They understood the value of updating this resource not only for community programming, public safety and emergency response, but for our students and their future aspirations in related careers.”



KGHP supporters and PHS students celebrate the completed improvements with a ribbon cutting on Jan. 16. Photo courtesy of Hugh McMillan.

Student Transfers: Deadline April 30, 2013 - PSD policies 3130 and 3140 speak to the process of requesting student transfers. The policies and forms referenced in the paragraphs below are available online at www.psd401.net.

A Request to Transfer within Peninsula School District form must be completed annually by any student requesting a transfer and should be submitted to Peninsula School District, Attention: Dan Gregory, Academic Officer K-12 Programs, 14015 62nd Ave NW, Gig Harbor, WA 98332 by April 30. Policy 3140 Out-of-District Transfers, speaks to requests for non-resident transfers into or resident transfers out of the Peninsula School District. To become a Non-Resident Student in the Peninsula School District, parents must first complete an Application for Non-Resident Admission and obtain a district release from their resident school district. Non-Resident transfers are granted on space availability at the school and grade level requested. Requests should be submitted to Peninsula School District, Attention: Dan Gregory, Academic Officer K-12 Programs, 14015 62nd Ave NW, Gig Harbor, WA 98332 by April 30.

To obtain a release from Peninsula School District, parents must submit a Request for Release—CHOICE form to the Education Service Center for signature. Questions? Please call Roxann Tallman at (253) 530-1007.

Video and Audio Recording on School Buses- For student safety, video and audio surveillance is being utilized on most buses. Notices are posted inside the buses that include audio surveillance. This will become a policy added to our online District Policy Manual and Student Handbooks for the 2013-2014 school year.

Nondiscrimination Statement Peninsula School District does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, honorably discharged veteran or military status, sexual orientation including gender expression or identity, the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following employees have been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination: Title IX and Compliance Coordinator is the Academic Officer K-12, (253) 530-1000, gregoryd@psd401.net; Section 504/ADA Coordinator is the Director of Student Services, (253) 530-1000, thompsonc@psd401.net

Volunteer Clearance

Are you going to volunteer in your child’s classroom or chaperone a field trip? First, be sure to check your volunteer clearance status. Once cleared (through thumb-printing), it is good for two years. If you are new to the district or you don’t remember the last time you filled out a form, please inquire at your school. Clearance is required if you want to volunteer, participate in after school programs or chaperone a field trip.

Adverse Weather

When adverse weather impacts the district, PSD administrators must determine if it’s safe to keep schools open. Several transportation department employees, along with the Superintendent and Academic Officers, drive roads known to be treacherous on both peninsulas starting at 3 a.m. on days when inclement weather is expected. Once roads are tested, the district may choose to operate on its regular schedule, close schools, or opt for a late start. Starting classes late allows employees additional time to arrive to work, provides the safety of daylight for students and bus drivers, and provides more time to test snow routes. A personalized message from the superintendent or other district personnel is recorded on SchoolMessenger then broadcast to all student household and staff contact numbers. Other resources in case of emergency closures include the PSD website, the PSD emergency information line at 253-530-1088 and local television and radio stations.

FEBRUARY EVENTS

- 7 School Board Regular Meeting 6 p.m. at District Office
- 11 District Choir Festival – All day at Chapel Hill
- 18 President’s Day Holiday – No school
- 19-22 Mid-Winter Break – No school

MARCH EVENTS

- 7 School Board Regular Meeting 6 p.m. at Minter Creek
- 12-14 High School State Writing and Reading Testing (grades 10-12)
- 15 No School--Possible snow make up day
- 21 School Board Regular Meeting 6 p.m. at District Office
- 25-26 Elementary ONLY early release 12:15 for conferences
- 26 Superintendent Forum 6:30-8 p.m. at Goodman Middle School

Peninsula Views

Safety, freedom in gun debate

There are varying opinions on the whole gun debate. Most think it is a two-sided battle, involving the National Rifle Association and the politicians in D.C.

That is the national debate, but the feelings and opinions by law-abiding Americans are multifaceted and complex. There is not any one answer that can serve as the final decision. There are many questions that need answering and many proposed solutions that will not work.

The biggest question that faces us as a nation is quite simply, where do we want our rights to end and safety to begin? What we are possibly looking at is a fundamental change to the Constitution, a radical infringement on rights granted to us by the founding fathers. The Second Amendment is No. 2 for a reason, it is part of the checks and balances that allow the citizenry the means to protect themselves.

This was for protection from criminals and to discourage the formation of a tyrannical government. "The right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed." Those words resonate through time.

Safety is a good thing. Losing freedom in the name of safety is not.

If it can be proven that disarming Americans will make us all safer, many of us would change our opinions overnight. Quite the opposite has been proven.

A well-armed citizenry is far safer than one that is not. The anti-gun groups want you to think that the last assault weapons ban was a great success. There is no data to show that there was any significant decline in gun violence from 1994 to 2004, when the first ban was in effect.

An assault weapon has the ability to fire in full automatic mode. The public cannot own assault weapons without a

Cecil Beal Gun Sight



special license issued by the Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco Firearms and Explosives.

Former Gov. Gary Locke outlawed anyone in Washington state being able to own assault weapons even if you held that special license.

When the founding fathers wrote the Second Amendment, the public at large owned the same guns as our military. The creators of the Constitution saw no reason why the two should not be armed equally.

If you spend time watching the network news channels, you would think we are facing an epidemic of gun violence in America.

I can tell you that when it comes to gun violence and the statistical record, our mainstream media falls way short of telling the whole story.

It isn't that they are out-right lying but they are certainly not telling the whole story. Purposely leaving out details in a story or overlooking a story just to sensationalize another is in my mind misleading. This is a dereliction of their duties as a news organization. Case in point: Two days after Sandy Hook, in San Antonio, Texas, an off-duty police woman stopped a potential massacre when she confronted a distraught young man, shooting him four times.

This story was not given anywhere near the attention that the shooting in Connecticut was. Why? Because no one was killed. Death unfortunately makes news and gets ratings.

Cecil Beal has been involved with firearms through business and collecting most of his life. He can be reached at crvbeal@hotmail.com.

Reading to a child in our digital age

Reading to a child in this digital age is perhaps more important now than ever.

With so many electronic devices available to entertain, distract, and yes, even teach us, books are easily overlooked.

The human brain is "hard-wired" for spoken language, but not for reading. Babies learn from an early age to connect sounds they hear frequently — the words, tones, and rhythms of human speech — to their environment. Infants also learn to "read" facial expressions and body gestures. But the ability to read written symbols, as well as write them, does not develop naturally. Children need to be taught these skills.

Learning to read and write is a developmental process. This process continues over the course of several years. Children acquire literacy skills through interactions with others. But numerous scientific studies and years of research point to one specific activity that builds the skills and understandings necessary to learning to read: being read aloud to.

Reading to a child provides an invaluable foundation for all of his literacy education. A teacher can always tell if one of her students has been read aloud to at home. And also, if a child's experi-

ence with print and books has been limited. A child who has been read aloud to has larger and stronger vocabulary skills. In fact, communication skills in general are often stronger.

You can read aloud books that children cannot read on their own. This is why it is so important to read aloud to children who are already reading. Children can understand more complicated stories and sophisticated books than they can while reading alone. And if the child does not understand what has just been read, you are right there to explain it to him or her.

What children know before they begin their first day of school is strongly related to how easily that child will learn to read. I have found that there are three main predictors of reading success:

- The ability to recognize and name letters of the alphabet.
- General knowledge about print — which is the front of the book, the back

(See Allen, Page 8)

Deborah Allen Read to Me



Letters Policy

The opinions expressed herein are the opinions of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the views of the publishers or staff. All letters to the editor must be signed and include a daytime phone number for verification. No anonymous letters will be published. Submissions are used on a space available basis and may be edited if used. THE KEY PENINSULA NEWS reserves the right to edit all submissions for length and content. Mail letters to: P.O. Box 3, Vaughn, WA 98394, or email to news@keypennews.com.



Photo by Ed Johnson, KP News

KGHP-FM fundraiser

KGHP-FM's Spencer Abersold beamed a smile during a Jan. 6, fundraiser auction at O'Callahan's. The popular Key Center restaurant was occupied by the radio staff to help cover the expenses of operating the local station, and student training program based at Peninsula High School. Abersold said they raised more than \$400 through a raffle, donations and T-shirt sales. "Our DJs were entertaining and were also entertained by the opportunity to meet their audience," Abersold said.

Salon 302

Hair & Spa

Located at Lake Katherine Village
OPENING SOON!

Watch for our Grand Opening announcement

We still have a few spots available for licensed manicurists, massage therapist, estheticians and cosmetologists.

Contact salon302hs@yahoo.com if interested.

Groundhogs and shadows,
Hearts and flowers
And Presidents' birthdays too.
Windstorms and raindrops
Sunshine and showers.
And happy short month to you.

Brighten your day with treasures from our shop

ANGEL GUILD THRIFT SHOP
in the Key Center Corral
253-884-9333 — angelguild9013@hotmail.com
Open Tuesday through Saturday 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

The Angel Guild Thrift Shop is an independent philanthropy and is not affiliated with any other organization.

Master's Dry Carpet Cleaning

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

<p>ACROSS</p> <p>1 Israeli tribe 4 Biblical giants 8 Universe (pref.) 12 Stitchbird 13 Synthetic rubber 14 Table scraps 15 Eg. god of pleasure 16 Tallow (2 words) 18 Madame Bovary 20 Commotion 21 Padded jacket under armor 25 Son of Zeus 29 Dish (2 words) 32 Ganda dialect 33 Agent (abbr.) 34 Indian sacred fig 36 "Blue Eagle" 37 Ravine 39 Immense 41 Swelling 43 State (Ger.)</p>	<p>44 Medieval shield 46 Before (Lat.) 49 Culm (2 words) 55 Fiddler crab genus 56 Snake (pref.) 57 Unfledged bird 58 Centers for Disease Control (abbr.) 59 Love (Lat.) 60 Tooth (Lat.) 61 Exclamation</p>	<p>Answers</p> <table border="1" style="font-size: x-small; text-align: center;"> <tr><td>H</td><td>O</td><td>I</td><td>S</td><td>N</td><td>E</td><td>S</td><td>V</td><td>M</td><td>A</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td>O</td><td>D</td><td>O</td><td>S</td><td>V</td><td>A</td><td>S</td><td>I</td><td>H</td><td>P</td><td>O</td></tr> <tr><td>U</td><td>N</td><td>I</td><td>V</td><td>E</td><td>R</td><td>S</td><td>E</td><td>S</td><td>E</td><td>C</td></tr> <tr><td>P</td><td>R</td><td>A</td><td>V</td><td>E</td><td>S</td><td>C</td><td>U</td><td>S</td><td>E</td><td>C</td></tr> <tr><td>T</td><td>A</td><td>V</td><td>E</td><td>S</td><td>T</td><td>A</td><td>V</td><td>E</td><td>D</td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td>L</td><td>V</td><td>S</td><td>S</td><td>O</td><td>L</td><td>O</td><td>F</td><td>T</td><td>E</td><td>D</td></tr> <tr><td>A</td><td>G</td><td>I</td><td>T</td><td>P</td><td>I</td><td>P</td><td>I</td><td>E</td><td>R</td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td>A</td><td>G</td><td>A</td><td>S</td><td>O</td><td>S</td><td>W</td><td>N</td><td>I</td><td>T</td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>A</td><td>V</td><td>A</td><td>R</td><td>C</td><td>A</td><td>S</td><td>N</td><td>O</td><td>T</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>M</td><td>M</td><td>A</td><td>O</td><td>A</td><td>D</td><td>O</td><td>A</td><td>V</td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td>T</td><td>I</td><td>H</td><td>F</td><td>L</td><td>T</td><td>A</td><td>V</td><td>I</td><td>N</td><td>V</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>I</td><td>H</td><td>O</td><td>V</td><td>A</td><td>N</td><td>N</td><td>I</td><td>S</td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td>I</td><td>C</td><td>O</td><td>S</td><td>K</td><td>A</td><td>N</td><td>K</td><td>A</td><td>N</td><td>A</td></tr> </table>	H	O	I	S	N	E	S	V	M	A	S	O	D	O	S	V	A	S	I	H	P	O	U	N	I	V	E	R	S	E	S	E	C	P	R	A	V	E	S	C	U	S	E	C	T	A	V	E	S	T	A	V	E	D	E	L	V	S	S	O	L	O	F	T	E	D	A	G	I	T	P	I	P	I	E	R	E	A	G	A	S	O	S	W	N	I	T	E	S	A	V	A	R	C	A	S	N	O	T	E	M	M	A	O	A	D	O	A	V	E	T	I	H	F	L	T	A	V	I	N	V	S	I	H	O	V	A	N	N	I	S	E	I	C	O	S	K	A	N	K	A	N	A
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DOWN

1 Deride
2 Attention-getting sound
3 Raze
4 Amer. Bar Assn. (abbr.)
5 Pigeon
6 Black cuckoo
7 Hindu god of love
8 Banner
9 Yellow ide

10 As written in music
11 Mountain standard time (abbr.)
17 Amer. Dental Assn. (abbr.)
19 Pointed (pref.)
22 End

23 Auricular
24 Rom. historian
25 Build
27 Irish sweetheart
28 Hall (Ger.)
29 Created
30 Old-fashioned oath
31 Beer ingredient
35 Afr. worm
38 Vomiting
40 Drain
42 Amer. Cancer Society (abbr.)
45 Habituated
47 Alternating current/direct current (abbr.)
48 Apiece
49 Tibetan gazelle
50 Revolutions per minute (abbr.)
51 Exclamation
52 Nautical chain
53 Belonging to (suf.)
54 Manuscripts (abbr.)

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59				60					61	

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(From Allen, Page 6)

of the book, and how to turn pages.

• Awareness of phonemes (the sounds in words).

Young children need to be spoken to and listened to. When a parent sings rhymes and plays word games with her child, she is sharing the sounds of our spoken language. This helps the child recognize the different sounds and combinations of sounds in words.

The following facts are somber reminders of the importance of providing a strong foundation for reading for children from birth to age 5:

More than 88 percent of children who have difficulty reading at the end of first grade display similar difficulties at the end of fourth grade.

Three-fourths of students who are poor readers in third grade will remain poor readers in high school.

Thirty-three percent of American fourth-graders read below the "basic" level on the National Assessment of Educational Progress reading test (according to the NAEP 2009 Reading Report Card).

Early intervention programs can be profoundly valuable. These programs can assist a poor reader to increase reading skills to at least an average level.

Children with hearing and/or speech issues need to be identified and diagnosed early. Then they can get the help they need to become proficient, or to prevent later reading difficulties.

Research has shown that families, teachers and even community programs (libraries) all contribute to a child's learning to read. But there is no substitute for the close bond established between a parent and a child reading together.

When you read to your child, you are doing so much more than teaching and demonstrating the use of language — you are also saying, "You are important to me. I care about you, and I enjoy spending time with you. You are safe."

Deborah Allen is a teacher and librarian, and she enjoys reading to children all the time. She can be reached at windmeadonfarm@gmail.com.

Thoughts on violence in society

We live in a violent society. Violence is experienced in mass shootings and home break-ins, the aggressive way we drive and the disparaging way we speak to people of differing political persuasions. Violence plays

a role in our entertainment and in our relationships. Violence is all around us.

Some statistics indicate violent crime is declining, which, if true, is good news. Society is still too violent. 2012 was another horrific year for mass shootings: Aurora, Sandy Hook, Clackamas, Café Racer, Lake Kathryn Village.

Whether or not there were less shootings is beside the point. Too many real people still died senseless deaths.

We must discuss the prevalence of guns in our society, including the types of guns available. Guns were used in each of the mass killings. Rather than assuming it's an intractable issue, we must research and propose ideas that would lead to effectual solutions, balancing the harm guns can do with the rights of citizens to protect them-



Dan Whitmarsh
Writing by Faith

selves. This discussion must be driven by people who can differentiate between fact and rhetoric. These are real problems that need real answers, not paranoid or utopian fantasies.

We must also have a discussion about the abundance of violence in entertainment. Many people play violent games and never shoot their neighbors. Thus, some say, don't blame video games.

That kind of nominalist thinking ignores the reality that we are part of something bigger than ourselves. Violence in media may not strongly affect you or me, per se, but given enough time, it sets the tone for a society.

We must also address the mental health

(See Whitmarsh, Page 9)

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◇ Susan Donahue
◇ Write in: _____

◇ Linda Niles
◇ Write in: _____

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(From Whitmarsh, Page 8)

crisis. In our debate over gun control, we too often ignore the failures of the mental health system. People are now calling to fund armed guards in our schools. That money might be better invested in research and support for those struggling with issues of mental health.

Society has become fragmented, with many finding themselves lost and disconnected. Church, social clubs and activity groups have given way to individuals isolated in front of computer screens, cut off from society by their headphones.

Where once we could find support in each other and recognize the warning signs when others were drifting, we have lost the institutions that unified us. We need to find ways to be involved in each other's lives, more opportunities to interact with each other, laugh, cry and play together.

Finally, we must admit our reliance on, and admiration for, violence. Our standard narrative is to respond to perceived slights with brute force. If this is our entertainment and our national defense policy, why would we expect troubled men and women to behave differently?

We are quick to drop bombs and slow to pursue peace. We have national academies dedicated to teaching warfare; we give scant attention to the idea of peacemaking. It is long past time to confess our love for violence, repent for the many lives lost to our hunger for violence and move in the direction of peace.

Dan Whitmarsh is pastor at Lakebay Community Church.

A conversation with the mayor

Meet Brett Skahan, the legendary mayor of Lyle.

You may have already met him, as he frequents local business areas and discusses "personal finances" with anyone willing to listen.

He's one of the people who make our community special; a part of our past, present and future.

Skahan's great-great grandfather, married a Native American and built a cabin near the Minter sandpit.

Brett Skahan lives in his mother's house on Minter Creek, on SR-302, while the family's brush shed is on the other side of the highway. The reason his property is divided is that the original road ended at their property.

Brush picking was one of the many ways Skahan's ancestors made a living a tradition that he still performs. Fortunately for Skahan, he lives in a forest where brush is abundant, near the location of the fabled town of Lyle.

The town of Lyle was an 8.28-acre parcel located less than a mile north of the entrance to Minter Creek. Marcella and C.P. Cole, her husband, platted the town on May 14, 1890.

The town was a bit of a trading post, servicing the loggers and railroad. It was a place where local girls could make a buck and Skahan's ancestors provided the "moonshine."

The decline in logging, railroading, and the advance in roads marked the end for Lyle. On March 25, 1946, the town was officially vacated; few remnants

Steve Whitford Words of Whit



mark its exact location.

Lyle's population now consists of birds and squirrels. Gone but not forgotten, the town still exists in antiquity and in the mind of its self-appointed mayor, Skahan.

I caught up with Mayor Skahan the week before Christmas and during the interview he discussed his plans for the holidays and what gifts he deemed appropriate.

For example, he said, "If a woman asks for something with a lot of diamonds, a deck of playing cards should suffice." He reached deep into his hip pocket to reveal the special treasure he was giving his girlfriend. "Behold," he

said with grin, "a shiny set of keys for a new car;" not the car itself, just the keys.

Mayor Skahan has an unusual method of obtaining campaign contributions. Unlike other politicians who'll accept whatever is offered, he always has a specific amount in mind. On the day I spoke to him it was exactly \$2.50, not a penny more or less.

"Last week I got a big surprise," he said. "A man gave me a donation and when I looked at it, I had a \$10 bill." He thanked his supporter, but had to ask, "Why are you being so generous?" His benefactor replied, "Seeing as you're the mayor of Lyle, I thought it would be a good idea if I paid my taxes in advance, just in case I have to travel through Lyle."

Something old, something new, something funny and something true.

Steve Whitford can be contacted at steveandstella@gmail.com.

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Gifts from more than 50 individuals and organizations refreshed and renewed the library's meeting room.

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Sallie Shawl
Sally P. Smith
Soul Speak Counseling
Virginia Thompson
Rosina Vertz
Danna Webster
Robert and Linda Weeks
Linda Whaley
Carolyn and David Wiley
Richard and Jane Wooster
Anonymous (7)

(From *Trains*, Page 1)

the Narrows Bridge is his model railroad.

In 2008 or thereabouts, Suess caught up with his lifelong dream and converted the couple's two-car garage into a model railroad.

"I've loved Lionel trains ever since I was a kid. I liked everything about them but I moved around so much as a coach that I never really had a chance to build the railroad that I always wanted.

"A few years ago, my wife very generously gave me the use of our garage for my trains," Suess said with a smile.

His Model "O" gauge railroad isn't just a lifelong work-in-progress, it's a work of art.

It's not your basic kid's toy train — it's quite a bit larger than those little trains that sometimes get set up beneath Christmas trees.

Suess' layout is approximately 12 feet square.

There are three trains that run on two separate tracks, circling through a hand-crafted landscape filled with mountains and canyons, forests and villages.

"The mountains are inspired by the Cascades and the two villages are modeled after the towns of Snoqualmie and Skykomish," he said.

There are houses, schools, churches and shops — and lots of tiny people.

Except for the human figures, Suess makes everything himself. He carefully designs, measures, cuts, glues and paints each

tree, building and boulder. "But I don't make any of the figures," he said. "That would be way too hard. They're all store-bought and most of them come from a little hobby shop in (Tacoma's) Proctor District. It's about the only hobby shop in the area that has train things."

Suess belongs to the Pierce County Lionel Train Club, which takes part in the annual Model Train Festival at the Washington State History Museum.

The 2012 festival, which ran through the holiday season, was "the biggest event I've ever been to at that venue," Suess said. "Everybody loves the trains and there's so much interest in seeing so many trains in one place every year."

The club has a special portable railroad that it takes to those types of events. "It would be nearly impossible for me to move my own railroad around like that," he said.

This year, Suess' railroad will receive national recognition.

Several months ago, unbeknownst to him, one of his fellow members sent a photo of Suess' setup to *Classic Toy Trains* magazine. The magazine staff liked what they saw and Suess' railroad will be featured in an upcoming edition.

Meanwhile, Suess is content to just hang out in his Wauna garage and play — er, work — with his trains. "I can sit there for hours, just watching the trains go around the tracks and thinking up new things to add," he said. "Someday, I might even invite some local elementary schools to come here for field trips."

Day use and camping area reopen at Penrose Point

The day use area and the first camping loop at Penrose Point State Park opened after months of renovations and upgrades to the park's sewer system.

While the bulk of the sewer system project is completed, park manager Janet Shonk said there is still some cleanup to do and more electrical work at two of the park's lift stations.

Shonk said the RV dump station and boat pump-out will remain closed until Feb. 8, when the electrical work is scheduled to be complete.

According to Shonk, the South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group is managing a grant-funded project to remove the creosote bulkhead and restore the beach at Penrose.

According to Kristin Williamson, proj-

ect manager, Poulsbo's Sealevel Bulkhead Builders were awarded the bid and started work on Jan. 14.

Work associated with removing the bulkhead and restoring a natural beach and park picnic area will proceed nights and weekends during periods of low tide, and is projected to be completed near March 1.

Williamson said the project will include mobilization of heavy equipment and material to the site by tug and barge.

The park will remain open during construction.

The first loop of the campground is now open for first-come, first-served camping. Reservations for camping between May 15 and Sept. 15 can be made online at parks.wa.gov or by calling (888) 226-7688.

Olde Glencove Hotel welcomes new season

By Colleen Slater, KP News

A devastating fire didn't dampen Luciann Nadeau's enthusiasm to hold onto her dream home. Amid some disappointments and challenges, she bit the bullet and moved ahead, making some changes and improvements to her landmark Olde Glencove Hotel as she progressed.

She's back home and still unpacking, but already hosted a small wedding in the refurbished dining room in January.

Last April, fire, caused by a defective splice in the electrical wires in the ceiling of the adjoining guest house moved into the main hotel building. Luckily, a guest in the smaller building woke to the odor of smoke and broke into the hotel to alert Nadeau.

Nadeau praises the Key Peninsula Fire Department for a quick response and for dousing the fire. She said water caused more damage than the fire itself, but she was grateful to be alive and to have her beautiful home saved.

Chuck West Construction, LLC has handled the repair and renovation, staying as close to the original construction as possible.

In many areas, blue plasterboard was attached to lath and then plastered to recreate the historical texture of the walls.

The biggest challenge? "Nothing is standard for new construction and each room is different," said West. His company had to be creative and revise what was fixable.

"We don't use a carpenter's level here," he said. "Everything was eyeballed to get things to look right."

West said an important part of this job was the great relationship his crew established with Nadeau and the house.

The hotel is a historical treasure chest, filled with items Nadeau proudly shows off.

"I put up this (bedroom) wallpaper when my 16-year-old daughter was on a trip to Disneyland in 1952," she said on a recent tour.

"The safe was used on the Messenger," Capt. Henry Winchester's boat that plied Puget Sound waters, she added, while pointing out her oak bannister, built in the late 1890s.

Antiques and reproductions are found throughout the building.

A plain-grained walnut bed and dresser grace one room. She said her husband told



Photo by Scott Turner, KP News

Olde Glencove Hotel owner Luciann Nadeau, gets a helping hand from worker Chuck West, with Chuck West Construction, during the recent reconstruction.

her to be sure she wanted them in that room because he wasn't going to move them again.

A stained glass window from a Port Townsend cathedral decorates a small room. Unique beaded redwood door frames intrigue Nadeau. She's not sure if the result was intended or if it was a mistake repeated to make them all the same.

She didn't intend to remodel, but because of water damage, had the opportunity to change some of the décor, including a striking hammered tin ceiling in the kitchen, she said.

Nadeau feels so much a part of the community. As people heard about the fire, she said many called to ask how they could help.

Some, including former hotel guests, brought or sent antiques of their own to replace or add to Nadeau's décor.

She continues to praise the quick response and the work of the KP fire department. "They saved 95 percent of what we had," she said.

An old brass bell is polished up and hangs next to the kitchen door "just in case" of future emergencies.

Three weddings are scheduled for the summer and Nadeau looks forward to sharing her refurbished historic residence with newcomers and returnees.

For information, visit glencovehotel.com.



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NOW

GED classes

Key Peninsula residents are able to complete a basic skills education for college entrance, employment skills or a GED. Class meets Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9:30-11:30 a.m. at the Home fire station. Evening classes (6 to 8 p.m.) are available at the TCC Gig Harbor campus. Enroll any time. For detailed class information, registration and orientation call Tracy Clark, (253) 460-2356.

FEB. 1, 8, 15, 22 MARCH 1

Friday skate night

Geared for kids 5-13, skate night is held from 5:30-8:30 p.m. at the KP Civic Center. This is a safe place with roller skating, arcade games and concessions — all for \$5 including skate rental. Parents are welcome to attend and visit with others on the observation balcony. kpciviccenter.org or 884-3456.

FEB. 2

Logging display opens

The KP Museum opens a new exhibit of logging on the Key Peninsula and beyond called "Tall Trees, Tall Men, Tall Tales" featuring photos, stories and artifacts to be displayed all year. More pieces will be added during the next month, with a grand opening planned for March. Anyone with photos or artifacts that might be useful to add to the display can contact the museum at 888-3246. Open hours at the museum are 1-4 p.m. on Thursdays and Saturdays. Free admission, but cash donations are appreciated.

FEB. 4

Library reopens

The newly improved Key Center Library opens its doors at 11 a.m. for all patrons. An Open House will be held on Feb. 16 from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. (see Feb. 16).

Gospel singalong

Longbranch Community Church hosts gospel singalongs every first Sunday of the

month, 6-7 p.m. Bring wind, brass, string instruments and your singing voice. Free, no refreshments, all are welcome. 884-0767.

FEB. 4-27

Indoor boot camp

KP Parks host Indoor Boot Camp taught by Shannon Reichl, for adults only, from 1-2 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays at the KP Civic Center. Fee is \$30/one class/week or \$60/two classes/week. 884-9240x22.

Swim lessons

Easter Seals Camp Stand by Me continues swim lessons on Monday and Wednesday afternoons. Level 1-beginning is from 4-4:30 p.m. and Level 2 intermediate is from 4:30-5 p.m. and Level 3-advanced is from 5-5:30 p.m. Cost is \$40 for the monthly session. Call 884-2722 or email campadmin@wa.easterseals.com.

FEB. 4, 11, 18, 25

Bloodmobile dates

The bloodmobile is at Albertson's from 11:30 a.m.-6 p.m.

FEB. 5, 12, 19

Play time

Baby play/learn time, for babies 0-24 months, is at 10:15 a.m. followed by preschool learn/play time, for children 3-6 years, at 11 a.m. Both are at the KC Library. (253) 543-3309.

FEB. 5

Key Singers

The local community chorus, Key Singers, meets on Tuesdays from 7-8:30 p.m. at the KP Lutheran Church to rehearse for a spring concert held in May. New members are welcome. Anyone who enjoys singing a variety of music and can carry a tune may call 884-5615 or just show up. Annual dues to help cover cost of music and annual PHS scholarships are \$10. Bring a friend or relative and come have some musical fun.

To submit an event

To submit an event for the Community Works calendar, please email news@keypennews.com, or mail to P.O. Box 3, Vaughn, WA 98394. Briefs must be submitted by the 15th of the month.

FEB. 6, 13, 20

Family story time

Family story time, for families with preschoolers, is from 11-11:30 a.m. at the KC Library. (253) 543-3309.

FEB. 7

Opera preview

The Friends of the Key Center Library welcome Norm Hollingshead, who will preview Seattle Opera's "La Boheme" at 7 p.m. at the KC Library. (All of the Friends' opera tickets are sold.) This event is free, although donations to the food bank are appreciated. (253) 543-3309.

Fuchsia club meets

The Lakebay Fuchsia Club meets at 7 p.m. at the Key Center fire station. Ginnie, 884-9744.

FEB. 9

Pancake breakfast

The Longbranch Improvement Club hosts a pancake breakfast from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Tim, 884-0577.

Tryouts

The KP Little League holds tryouts from 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at Volunteer Park. Askkpll@hotmail.com.

Second Saturday art

Key Pen Parks offers a new art concept for adults (16 and older) from 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at the Volunteer Park Office. February's project is polymer clay jewelry with Jess Smeall, who has 20 years' experience with polymer clay. Fee is \$25/class. Jessica@keypenparks.com or 884-9240x22.

Crab feed

The KP Civic Center hosts the annual crab feed from 4-7 p.m. at the KP Civic Center. Dinner includes fresh caught Dungeness crab, spaghetti, salad, and garlic bread; beverages (soda, beer, wine) are available for purchase. Please bring your own seafood crackers and picks. Tickets, \$25/adults or \$10/kids 6-12, may be purchased at Sunnycrest Nursery, KP Civic Center, or the Blend and will be sold at the door if available. Proceeds benefit the KP Civic Center. 884-3456 or kpciviccenter.org.

FEB. 12

Ashes meet

The Ashes support group for FD16 meets at 10:30 a.m. at the Key Center fire station.

Knit or crochet

Loving Hearts voluntarily knit and crochet hats for chemo patients and the backpack program for kids, baby items and blankets, wheelchair/walker bags, and fingerless gloves for veterans in the community. They meet from 1-3 p.m. Donations of yarn and needles are always welcome. Virginia, 884-9619 or lovingheartsonkp@aol.com.

FEB. 13

Bayshore garden club

The Bayshore Garden Club meets at 1 p.m. at the Longbranch fire station. Francine, 569-1381.

FEB. 16

Baseball tryouts

The KP Little League holds tryouts from 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at Volunteer Park. Askkpll@hotmail.com.

Library open house

The Key Center Library hosts a community open house from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. This is a celebration welcoming the community to enjoy the library as a central gathering place,

(See **Community**, Page 13)

(From **Community**, Page 12)

filled with plenty of new improvements. The Brones Room has been refurbished and includes spaces and equipment for tots, kids and teens including a cyber-bar for laptops and moveable furniture for reading, studying or socialization, plus space for community meetings and activities. The open house features strolling magician Jeff Evans from 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and Rusty Roots, performing from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Preschoolers are invited to a "block party" to build and create with large blocks at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. Kids from age 6-14 are welcome to join a computer demo and discover new programs (math, science, music, art, etc.) at 2 p.m. Refreshments are available from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. The Pierce County Library System, the Pierce County Library Foundation and the Friends of the Key Center Library all welcome the Key Peninsula community to the event. (253) 543-3309.

FEB. 17

Third Sunday jam

Bluegrass Gospel Jam session is held at Longbranch Church (16518 46th Street KPS) from 6 - 8:30 p.m. for all acoustic instruments, ages and skill levels. Everyone is welcome to play, sing or simply listen. Bring music stand and finger food to share; music and beverages are provided. (425) 492-4177.

FEB. 18-21

Mid-winter break camps

KP Parks hold camps for k-5th grade students during mid-winter break. Monday camp is Marine Science from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. with Camp Seymour's camp naturalists and costs \$30 including lunch; Tuesday camp is Eco Adventure held from 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Volunteer Park and costs \$15; Wednesday is Dance Camp held from 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at KP Civic Center and costs \$15 for sampling all styles of dance (no experience needed); Thursday is Lego Camp with Bricks 4 Kidz! at Volunteer Park - morning is Space Adventures from 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and afternoon is Amusement Park from 1:30-4:30 p.m. The fee is \$25 per session. Thanks to Key Pen Parks and Recreation Foundation, some financial scholarships are available for those who qualify. Call or email for an application or registration. Jess@keypenparks.com or 884-9240x22.

FEB. 19

Toll bridge meeting

The Washington State DOT will present updated Narrows Bridge financial information to the Citizens Advisory Committee and the public from 6-8 p.m. at the Gig Harbor Civic Center, 3510 Grandview St., Gig Harbor. The public is welcome to attend committee meetings to view

the information presented and/or submit written comments or questions online at wsdot.wa.gov/Tolling/TNBTolling/CitizenAdvisoryCommittee. Public comments will be heard and considered at this meeting. New rates for all Washington state toll facilities will be effective July 1, 2013. For information about Tacoma Narrows Bridge tolling, call (206) 716-1109 or visit wsdot.wa.gov/tolling.

FEB. 21

Community Forum

Mustard Seed hosts a free community forum at 10 a.m. at the KC fire station. Edie, 884-1205.

Words and wine

Words and Wine, with a featured poet or author and open mic, meet at 7 p.m. at the Blend Wine Shop. 884-9688.

FEB. 23

Words and music

Words and Music begins at 6:15 with guest singer/songwriter Ari Hest, food, and beverages for a \$20 donation. Call 253-778-6559 for information.

FEB. 25

Farm council meets

The Farm Council meets at 6:30 p.m. at the KC Fire, Key Center station. dwebsterkp@gmail.com.

OFF THE KEY

FEB. 2

Art walk and chocolate

The "Art of Chocolate" will be part of the Saturday Art Walk in downtown Gig Harbor from 1-5 p.m. Join the monthly Art Walk for a little something sweet. Details at www.ghhwa.org.

FEB. 2 to APRIL 7

Fossils at museum

"Cruisin the Washington Fossil Freeway" with artist Ray Troll and Paleontologist Kirk Johnson will be at the Harbor History Museum, 4121 Harborview Drive. While learning about Washington state fossils, kids can also experience "digging" for fossils. Wonderful, colorful artwork by renowned artist Ray Troll,

along with insight into the fossils of the Pacific Northwest, makes this exhibit educational and interactive. 856-6722.

FEB. 5

Mom's night out

Arcadia Montessori offers a mothers' night out from 6:30-8:15 p.m. at Arcadia Montessori, 13302 Crescent Valley Drive NW. This is open to mothers from Arcadia and the community. Connect with other moms of preschoolers, create art and have fun. Facilitator and art instructor is Jana Fisher. Bring an old work shirt to work in, your beautiful self and another mother friend. Fee is \$25 for the entire evening, art project, light snacks, sparkling cider, wine, a whole lot of fun and great company. Please RSVP or feel

free to call (253) 720-9272.

FEB. 9

Bloodmobile

The bloodmobile is at Safeway from 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Dental care offered

Dr. Block and Dr. Coyner are participating in the annual Give Kids a Smile, a dental care program for underserved children ages 0-18. Treatment day is Feb. 9 from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. in Dr. Block's office in Gig Harbor. Treatment is by appointment only and space is limited. Call Jennifer, 272-1101, for an appointment.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

Key Peninsula Veterans

Feb. 4, 7 p.m. at KP Resource Center; www.kpveterans.net.

KP Lions

Feb. 6 and 20, dinner and program, 5:30 p.m. in VFW Room, KP Civic Center; 853-2721.

Peninsula School District Board

Feb. 7, at district office, 6 p.m.

Key Pen Parks

Feb. 11, at 7 p.m. at Volunteer Park; keypenparks.com.

KP Community Fair Association

Feb. 12, 6 p.m. in Roadhouse Restaurant VIP room; keyfair.org.

KeyFest

Feb. 12, at 6 p.m. at Roadhouse; president@keyfest.org.

Fire District 16

Feb. 12 and 26, 6 p.m. in meeting room, Key Center fire station; keypeninsulafire.org.

KP Community Council

Feb. 13, 7 p.m. at Key Center fire station; guests Greater GH Foundation; kpcouncil.org.

KP Civic Center Association Board

Feb. 14, at 6 p.m. in Whitmore Room; kpciviccenter.org.

LIC

Feb. 20, dinner potluck at 7 p.m. at Longbranch Improvement Club; 884-6022 longbranchimprovementclub.org.

KP Citizens against Crime

Feb. 21, 7 p.m. at Home fire station; kpcitizensagainstcrime.org.

MORE CALENDAR

See Weekly Events listings on page 14.

WEEKLY EVENTS

MONDAYS

Clogging

Mike and Watona Williams instruct beginning to advance clogging for all ages in the Whitmore Room of the KP Civic Center from 6-8:30 p.m.

MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, FRIDAYS

Open walk

Get some exercise from 9-11 a.m. this winter in the safe, flat, dry and warm

gym in the KP Civic Center and meet new friends. Open to all ages; families welcome. \$2 suggested donation. 884-3456.

TUESDAYS

TOPS #1325

Take-Off Pounds Sensibly meets at 9 a.m. at the Key Peninsula Lutheran Church. Free child care, fun and support are provided. 884-2554

Dance classes

Dance classes for ages 3-12 are held at the KP Civic Center: Intro to Dance, 9:30-10:15 a.m., Ballet/Tap I, 4-4:50 p.m., Jazz Combo, 5-5:50 p.m. and Ballet/Tap II 6-6:50 p.m. Monthly tuition is \$30 with a \$10 registration fee. Julie Miller, 253-606-3763 or juliermiller@comcast.net

Key Singers

Key Singers meet at Key Peninsula Lutheran Church, from 7 - 8:30 p.m. New members welcome. 884-5615

TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS

Preschool play time

The Children's Home Society KP Family Resource Center offers a preschool/toddler indoor park program from 9:30-11:30 a.m. at the KP Civic Center. Caregivers must stay with child. Drop-ins are welcome; stay for as long as you wish. A \$1 donation per child is suggested. 884-5433.

WEDNESDAYS

Lakebay writers

The Lakebay Writers meet from 1:30-4 p.m. at the Blend in Key Center. 884-3931

Watermark writers

The Watermark Writers present a free writer's workshop from 5-8 p.m. in Vaughn. 253-778-6559

THURSDAYS

Toastmasters

The Toastmasters meet from 8-9 a.m.

at the KC fire station. Join the fun and improve your speaking ability.

Senior Society

The Key Peninsula Senior Society meets at 11:30 a.m. for a potluck, fellowship and games in the Whitmore Room at the civic center. All are welcome. 884-4981.

SATURDAYS

Writers' guild

The Writers' Guild meets from 9 to 11 a.m. (new hours) at the KP Museum starting Feb. 9. 884-6455.

Zumba

Zumba for ages 16-plus is offered on Saturdays from 9:15-10:15 a.m. at the KP Civic Center. Cost is \$53 for a six-class punch card that is good for 2 months after purchase date. 884-9240 or jessica@keypenparks.com.



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In the Heart of Key Center

Lakebay Marina and Resort in renewal process

By Colleen Slater, KP News

As a boy from Wollochet Bay, Mark Scott loved to visit the Lakebay Marina by boat and buy a burger and candy bar. Today, Scott owns the marina and plans to return it to the place he remembers, with modern facilities.

Back then, the marina offered moorage, launching, gas, a café and store. The resort included campsites and cabins for rent.

Scott points to the paint color he remembers, robin's egg blue, and will redo the marina with that as the main hue.

He has managed marinas in Seattle and is excited about bringing this historic site to renewed life as a destination for Puget Sound boaters. His parents' home on Wollochet Bay is about 15 minutes away and Day Island is less than half an hour.

He envisions various events scheduled for the marina, such as a music festival and a farmers market, perhaps dances (again), and he's open to other suggestions from the community.

Scott's marina manager, Kerry Jamieson, a Key Peninsula native, has moored a boat there for 20 years, so it's a familiar place for him.

Jamieson is an environmental specialist and former cabinet maker who built a Chris-Craft runabout while in high school, operated a tugboat for awhile and is now regional commander of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla for the area. Scott said Jamieson brings special skills and a lifetime interest in boats to his new position.

The landmark marina is presently getting shipshape.

Some deck boards need replacing, others need repair and made secure. Several old trees with rotten interiors were taken down, but the shop hums with daily activity, and each new improvement is a reason for celebration.

Three cabins near the shore, as well as a larger building that may have been a dance pavilion, need attention to make them usable. The house, built about 1920 by Dolly Caspary, Lakebay postmaster, begs for a new roof, paint, some interior repairs and extensive cleaning. In the early 1930s, Dr. Johnson lived there. He was an osteopath but delivered several local babies. It was once the parsonage for the Lakebay Community Church and Scott refers to it as The Parsonage House.

The warehouse for the Washington Co-operative Egg and Poultry Association was



Photo by Ed Johnson, KP News

The popular Lakebay Marina and Resort is getting a facelift while in operation. A grand opening is slated for April 15.

constructed on the decking in 1928, where local farmers could send their chickens and eggs off by boat. Barkemeyer was the first manager and the Burro, captained by Bert Bernston, was the last of the Mosquito Fleet to transport freight to and from the marina. Ernie Johnson was a later manager.

Bill Durerden took over the warehouse

and dock to create the marina in the late 1950s. Reine Streich added floats and operated the marina most of the 1960s. He invited Puget Sound Yacht clubs to gather and set up dances for them.

Shane Hostetler arrived with his family as a 5-year-old in 1968, when his father bought the marina.

Scott and Jamieson's main concerns in January were heat and water, including hot water.

There is ethanol-free gas available, the store is being stocked and an updated café is in process of being built. Jimmy Haskins, of Jimmy D's Pub fame, plans to reopen the café this spring, Scott said.

The store is open and will soon be fully stocked with chips, pop, beer, wine, ice cream bars, candy, camping supplies and other

items.

Soltron™, an organic-based enzyme fuel additive that removes algae, moisture, sludge, reduces emission and increases power, is also available.

According to Scott, the marina is a licensed boat seller, handles yacht sales and is taking listings to sell boats for people.

He said the boat launch is available for a small fee and campsites will be ready this spring.

The goal for the Lakebay Marina grand opening is set for April 15, in time for the Bay Lake trout season. The marina is operating now with about 10 guest moorages, including space for rafting small groups of boats.

For more information, visit lakebaymarina.com.

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Minimum wage to increase in the month

By Irene Torres, KP News

The Department of Labor & Industries (L&I) announced the state of Washington's minimum wage increased to \$9.19 per hour beginning Jan. 1, 2013.

An informal survey of Key Peninsula businesses found little impact, except at El Sombrero Mexican Restaurant. Owner Pablo de la Cruz has 19 employees on the Key and 24 at his Port Orchard store. He pays wait and bus staff minimum wage and with other 5-8 percent increases his business has incurred, and said he has "no choice but to raise prices a little bit, to pass along to our customers, to stay in business."

L&I calculates the state's minimum wage each year as required by Initiative 688, approved by Washington voters in 1998. The 15-cent-per-hour increase, from \$9.04 to \$9.19, reflects a 1.67 percent increase in the Consumer Price Index (for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers, CPIW) announced in November by the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

The CPI-W measures average price

changes for goods and services purchased by urban wage earners and clerical workers. The goods and services it monitors include basic living costs such as food, clothing, shelter, fuels, and services such as doctor visits.

According to a BLS announcement, about 80 percent of the increase was due to a jump in gasoline prices, which rose an average of 9 percent during the past 12 months.

Washington is one of 10 states that adjust the minimum wage based on inflation and the CPI.

Employees at Sunnycrest Nursery, in Key Center, start at an hourly wage just above the minimum. Owners Claudia and Dale Loy said they did not think there will be an impact on their bottom line from this increase.

"We pay a living wage. We just don't live very well," an employee joked, as she hugged her boss.

At Capitol Lumber, there is only one non-salaried employee. The manager does not anticipate hiring until business picks up in

the spring.

The new Subway store in Key Center employs 11 staff including the manager, Emily Henson. She said, "It will have an impact (statewide) but we won't know how much until we hear from our corporate office." Subway raised prices in 2012 at all its outlets.

Washington has the highest minimum wage, followed by Oregon, where its minimum wage rose 1.7 percent, or by 15 cents, to \$8.95 per hour.

Washington's minimum wage applies to workers in both agricultural and non agricultural jobs, although 14- and 15-year-old workers may be paid 85 percent of the adult minimum wage, or \$7.81 in 2013.

Jeanne Weston, owner of the Key Peninsula Liquor store, employs three part-time workers and her son, but anticipate no impact on her business. She cited a recent survey that calculates it takes an annual income of \$75,000 for people to be happy. "We don't pay people enough," she said.

More information on Washington's minimum wage is available at wages.lni.wa.gov or (360) 902-5316.

Immunization programs offered for children


Immunizations required for school-aged children are available to Key Peninsula residents for low or no cost.

The Key Peninsula Medical Center offers the Well Child Clinic (up to age 12) and gives physical exams and shots for \$10 per visit every Tuesday 9-10 a.m. They are located in Key Center. For information, call 884-9221.

MultiCare/Mary Bridge Children's Hospital offers its mobile immunization van. Immunizations are free for children to age 18 and are administered Tuesdays, 2-7:30 p.m. at 4545 Point Fosdick Drive NW, Gig Harbor. For information, call 530-8011.

Franciscan Health Care immunizations are free to age 18, and are offered at Key Peninsula Middle School in November, and at Vaughn Elementary in the spring.

Dr. Roes, at KPMC, has been providing these services for 30 years. Vaccines are provided by the state at no cost. Continuation of the programs will depend upon the Legislature's budget choices.



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Football was a great kickoff for life of KP neighbor

This story first appeared online at keypennews.com on Nov. 1.

By Danna Webster, KP News

A few months ago, Longbranch resident Jeff Harris had something to celebrate.

Last November, Harris and his fellow teammates from the 1962 Oregon State University (OSU) football team were inducted into the Oregon Sports Hall of Fame and Museum.

The 1962 Beavers represented OSU at the fourth annual Liberty Bowl in Philadelphia, where they defeated the Villanova University Wildcats.

Harris played left tackle and played alongside quarterback Terry Baker, who won the Heisman Trophy and was named "Sportsman of the Year" by Sports Illustrated.

The Beavers were coached by Tommy Prothro and ended that season with a 9-2 record.

Fifty years ago, the Liberty Bowl was one of only five postseason football contests that NBC televised in color and black and white.

It was estimated that 27 million fans watched the game in comfort while 17,048 frozen fans watched from the arena that registered 17 degrees at kickoff. The two teams switched from cleats to tennis shoes prior to the game due to the frozen footing on the field.

The game became a defensive struggle and Villanova dominated. Midway through the first quarter, Villanova's punt to OSU was downed on the one-foot line. One play later, OSU quarterback Baker got loose and ran to a 99-yard touchdown. Baker's attempt at a two-point conversion failed. However, his 99-yard run before a national television audience cinched his approval for the Heisman Trophy and the game's final score.

The day after the game, the OSU champions took time to tour New York City and the Statue of Liberty before flying home to Corvallis, Ore.

That flight was only the second in Harris' lifetime. His first flight was to Corvallis from his home in Aberdeen when he was offered a football scholarship at OSU.

"Football was a great high school endeavor and getting a scholarship was amazing," he said.

He admits his dreams were to attend the University of Washington "like every Aber-



Photo Danna Webster, KP News

Jeff Harris styles in his Oregon State University cap. His Beavers football team won the 1962 Liberty Bowl and inducted in the Oregon Sports Hall of Fame.

deen kid."

When he traveled with OSU to Seattle to play UW in 1961, he said he was terrified, "but we beat them, three-zip."

Reality bettered the dream.

After graduation, Harris never talked about football. "It wasn't part of post-college life," he said.

Harris joined the Peace Corps and served in Peru. After that, he worked for the U.S. Agency for International Development in Vietnam and Washington, D.C., then relocated to the other Washington and worked in Olympia for the state's Department of Commerce.

After his move to the Key Peninsula in 1995, he started the Custom Camera business near Key Center and has served as director for South Sound March of Dimes, director of Community in Schools and was the first president and founding member of the Key Peninsula Community Council.

From his football years, Harris said he still treasures the opportunity to play for coach Tommy Prothro, whom he called "a real Southern gentleman."

He said Prothro taught him the concept of teamwork, the value of doing his best and how to reflect about what he has done.

"It wasn't about glory, it was about the team winning and making a contribution," Harris said.

AJ Million

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US home values have increased for 13 straight months. Home prices are expected to continue to rise in 2013. Inventory is down, lowest supply of homes for sale since 2005, and demand is up. While prices and interest rates are a historic lows, the time to buy appears to be now. For those who wish to sell, the future certainly looks promising.

23 years of local experience!

Effective February 1, 2013, by vote of the Key Peninsula Civic Center Board of Directors, the hourly rental rate for all rooms at the KP Civic Center will increase.

New rates

Gymnasium: \$60/hr

Whitmore Room: \$30/hr • Kitchen: \$30/hr

VFW Room: \$25/hr • "Library": \$25/hr

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KP man is cooking barbecue and launching themed parties

By Irene Torres, KP News

When Greg Murphy's father started his barbecue business in 1968, he told his son, "It's better to work for yourself because you're getting paid for what you do."

He came up with an idea to convert it into a mobile barbecue pit, landed a contract with King County ballparks for the food concessions and got busy cooking — following in his father's footsteps.

He came up with an idea to convert it into a mobile barbecue pit, then landed a contract with King County ballparks for their food concessions, and got busy cooking — following in his father's footsteps.

Since then, he said his Murph's BBQ and Catering business has become a staple at the Puyallup Fair and at other venues throughout Western Washington, including Bumbershoot, Pridefest, Taste of Tacoma and, most recently, at Key Peninsula's Volunteer Park.

Murphy expanded into Pierce County when the Seattle Super Sonics basketball team played in Tacoma during a remodel at the Key Arena.

He has owned a restaurant and a bar and grill, but says he doesn't want all the responsibilities of being open seven days a week.

Murphy loves sports, especially track and field and has followed the Olympics since 1984. He attended the games in Atlanta, Salt Lake City, Greece, Italy, Beijing and Vancouver, British Columbia. Murph's BBQ sponsors qualifying Olympic athletes and he has tickets for the 2014 games in Russia.

"I'm a pinhead," he said. "I make my money on barbecue and spend it on the Olympics."

He has transformed the Volunteer Park concession stand into a football tailgate party with Seahawks memorabilia lining the walls.

"During (Seahawks) away games, we go outside, play football, get dirty, then come inside to watch the game and eat," he said.

Murphy is a season-ticket holder for the Seattle team and attends home games. During the baseball season he usually changes the concession décor.

Murphy moved to the Key Peninsula a year ago. He wanted something different and wanted to build on his name brand recognition but found the Key Peninsula to be different than any place he's ever lived or done business.

"It's hard to market myself out here because I'm a special events and catering guy," he said.

His menu includes the usual barbecue fare: turkey, chicken, ribs, pulled pork/chicken/beef sandwiches, sausages, hamburgers and hot dogs with side dishes.

He's joined the Key Peninsula Business Association and works with other businesses to meet their catering needs.

In 2011, Murphy lent his expertise to the Key Fest fair and served as a working volunteer with a stand for roasted corn and pulled pork sandwiches.

During January, he plans to begin marketing "theme" parties, from the "usual to the unusual." He said that he can feed between 20 and 1,000 people. "I've got wheels. I will come to you," he said, smiling.

For information, contact murphys-bbq@yahoo.com or call (253) 572-7374.



By Ed Johnson, KP News

Greg Murphy, of Murph's BBQ and Catering, cooks up fine eats at Volunteer Park and is expanding his mobile business to include more party and themed events.

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Friends gather to celebrate the life of Geoff Baillie

By Danna Webster, KP News

A celebration of life for Geoff Baillie was held Dec. 31 at the Longbranch Improvement Club.

A capacity crowd packed the landmark facility to salute his accomplishments and contributions.

The program opened with swinging blues music by the Blues Passage Memorial Band. Baillie used to play the harp (harmonica) in the band. His devotion to blues music led to his creation of a blues harmonica band at Evergreen Elementary School.

Jacque Crisman, principal of the school at that time, told of the hours and hours of practice resulting in the kids, wearing cool shades, performing gigs to raise money for their reading program.

Past blues events and annual fundraisers presented with his wife, Lynn Larson, raised thousands of dollars and bought 1,500 books for the school's library. "I thank him for believing in us, believing in the kids at Evergreen, and believing in the kids of the Peninsula School District," Crisman said.

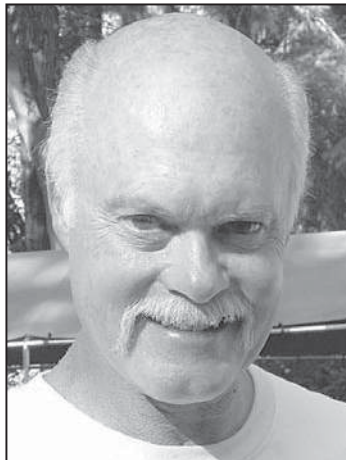
The new wharf at the Longbranch Marina is "truly a memorial to Geoff's leadership," said Phil Johnson, who served with Baillie on the LIC Board of Directors.

Johnson described the accomplishment of building a new wharf after county condemnation of the old one in 2010. He said it was a high-wire act requiring the juggling of permits, financing, removal of the old wharf and meeting a tight deadline before fishing season opened. "Several LIC members lost confidence in the project but it was done two weeks before fishing started," Johnson said.

Many friends and family members testified to Baillie's rare combination of talents and skills.

He was an engineer with people skills and a passion for music and team sports. He was born March 27, 1947 in Racine, Wisc., and graduated from high school in 1965. He attended the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where he majored in nuclear engineering and played centerfield on the school's varsity baseball team. He also attended Arizona State University law school and was a registered professional engineer in Washington state of the civil discipline.

Baillie was a member of the National As-



Courtesy photo, for KP News

Geoff Baillie

sociation of Environmental Professionals, a past-president of the Seattle Engineers Club, and founder and president of Baillie & Associates, Inc., which he established in 1998 after nearly 35 years' experience in project management of transportation, industrial and institutional projects. He spent much of his career consulting with WSDOT, the Federal Bureau of Prisons, and was vice president of BERGER/ABAM Engineers, Inc. and also served as president of the Peninsula School District Board of Directors and president of the Conboy Water Association. He was president of the Longbranch Improvement Club for the past three years.

Many stories were told that included Baillie's characteristic to thank people even though he was the one doing the giving. He considered it a gift to be able to share life with people.

He is survived by his wife, Lynn Larson; his children with Lori Smith Baillie; Geoffrey Baillie, Brian Baillie, Ashley Baillie; and grandchildren Conor and Oliver Baillie; sister Bonnie Baillie Konsinowski; cousins, nieces, nephews and friends.

The Blues Passage Band closed the program with a duet by Baillie's sons singing, "Gloria G-l-o-r-i-a."

The family is encouraging donations in memoriam to be made out and sent to Evergreen Elementary School, 1820 Key Peninsula Hwy S, Lakebay, WA 98349.



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Community says goodbye to young KP woman

By Irene Torres, KP News

Editor's note: Amanda's story first appeared in print in November. It can be viewed at bit.ly/link.info/wkd.

Amanda Messenger was not alone when she died on New Year's Day.

A dozen of her friends and family were at her University of Washington bedside helping, holding her and waiting for a new set of lungs that never came.

The 22-year-old Key Peninsula woman had been fighting cystic fibrosis, a genetic condition that creates thick mucous in the respiratory system, which, too often, leads to early death for its victims. Amanda's sister Jessica Messenger had succumbed to the same disease in 2005, at age 16.

Messenger spent Christmas in the hospital with family.

"It was the best Christmas ever. But, three or four days later, she started going downhill. She got really sick — too sick for a transplant," said Mitch Messenger, her father.

The doctors told the family they would



Photo by Scott Turner, KP News

Amanda Messenger

keep Amanda comfortable if the breathing apparatus failed to remove enough carbon dioxide from her blood.

Messenger said his daughter knew her

time on Earth was not long.

"She knew it was time. She told me she was ready to go," he said. It was hard to watch her take her last breath. We had our hopes up so high, then it was over within a minute."

Messenger had been reading her journals and the "good-bye" letter she wrote to her boyfriend. He said in it, she shared her love for everybody and her strong belief in God.

"I am so inspired to be a better man because of her," he said.

Her friends will remember Amanda as a fighter and a giver of love and hope.

"They say beauty is in the eye of the beholder, but there isn't anyone who couldn't see the beauty in Manda's passion for life," said her friend Danika Davis. "She was not only loved, but adored by all those whose lives she touched — truly an angel on Earth, she will never be forgotten."

Messenger is making a point that others will remember her, too. Her friends' "Pandamanda" fundraising campaign has brought him messages of empathy and

love through social media from all around the world.

"It blows my mind. I am so proud of Messenger," he said. He said the fundraising will continue.

"We want to open an Amanda Panda House close to the University of Washington hospital where families of cystic fibrosis patients can stay," he added.

There was a celebration of life for Amanda held at the Key Peninsula Civic Center Jan. 19. "She wanted a big party, and about 250 of her friends showed up. It was just great," he said.

A new flag pole for Volunteer Park in the works

By Hugh McMillan, KP News

In 2012, the Key Peninsula Veterans group was asked to provide a flag-raising ceremony at KP's Volunteer Park for Key Fest, the community's annual fair. KPV members visited the park to ascertain where and how they would provide the ceremony for a memorable, patriotic celebration.

The vets were astonished to learn there is no flagpole at the park. They were compelled to improvise. They placed small flags around the event's stage before leading the pledge of allegiance. The KPV members were disappointed, as was their audience.

Subsequently, KPV has resolved to acquire and install a permanent flagpole to accommodate an appropriately large American flag

(See **Pole**, Page 22)

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Jane (Bradley) VanSlyke

Jane VanSlyke was born in 1921 in Havre, Montana, and passed away at age 91 on Jan. 5, 2013. She moved with her family to Vaughn in 1925.

In 1941, Jane married Harmon VanSlyke and together they raised three children in Vaughn and Victor.

They enjoyed square dancing and traveling to many countries in their retirement years. Jane owned a ceramic business, and loved Tuesday lunches with her sisters. She

loved knitting, playing Bingo, bus trips and spending time with her friends and family.

She is survived by her two sons, Tom (Ursula) and Dale (Diann), son-in-law Art, six grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband Harmon, her daughter, Carmen and her grandson, Jon.

VanSlyke was loved by many and will be truly missed. A memorial service was held at Haven of Rest in Gig Harbor on Jan. 19.



Jane VanSlyke

KP Crab Feed slated for Feb. 9

By Karen Lovett, KP News

Preparations are gearing up for the Key Peninsula Civic Center's annual fundraising feast.

Last year, 170 adults and 20 children consumed about 650 pounds of whole Dungeness crab, helping the popular center bring in about \$3,000.

The price of crab is always the big "feed" variable, but event organizers said they are not raising fees this year even though crab prices are higher than last year.

Proceeds from the event will be used to help fund the center's many programs. This year's ninth-annual crab feed is co-chaired by civic center President Mark Roberts and board member Pat Medveckus.

The unique part of the event is that it's run by volunteers. Members of Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts and kids who participate in skate night will all be part of the work crew.

Spaghetti, bread and salad will be

served along with crab. Soft drinks, beer and wine will be available for purchase. Coordinators are asking the public to bring their own crab crackers and picks.

In addition to a disc jockey, live music will also be provided by local steel guitarist Mike Schweedler.

"This is a day for our community to get together and have a blast. The money raised goes right back into our system to help fund projects and keep further functions safe and affordable for all," Roberts said. "It's a great family event too. People even bring friends and family members from out of the area."

The event will be held from 4-7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 9, at the 17010 S. Vaughn Road center. Tickets are available at Blend, Sunnycrest Nursery, KP Civic Center and at the door depending on availability. Adults prices are \$25, and children (6-12) \$10.

For information, call 884-3456. If you have an interest in volunteering for this or other events, contact Mark Roberts at (253) 884-2196.

Earl Frank Sorrels

Earl Sorrels was born Dec. 14, 1921, at Chilkoot Barracks, Alaska, and died at home, Dec. 16, 2012, at age 91.

Earl graduated from Curtis Wright Tech and Cal Aero Tech. He was Howard Hughes' personal aircraft mechanic. He served in the Army Air Corps and the U.S. Air Force during World War II, Korea and Vietnam. He built spy planes for the Lockheed Skunk Works and retired from both the Air Force and Civil Service, and was handcrafting spinning wheels on the Key Peninsula until his death.

He is survived by Doris, his wife of 64 years, four children, seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Memorial services to be held at 11 a.m. on Feb. 9, at Agnus Dei Lutheran Church, 10511 Peacock Hill Ave NW, Gig Harbor.

December 6, 2012

I wanted to write and let anyone viewing this site know that Patty Sexton is every bit as good as people say she is, in fact better.

She is truly wonder woman, without the outfit. I could never say enough good things about her and what she has done for me and my family. Patty truly cares for all the clients she walks through the process.

I became very ill with fibromyalgia and several other things a number of years ago. Patty's name was given to me by a friend who had gone through her to get Social Security Disability and had been very pleased with the result.

I was really desperate as I couldn't work anymore so I gave her a call. We met in her office and she spent over two hours patiently asking me questions and then forming the answers in the best possible way. She is incredibly knowledgeable as to how to put things for the people at Social Security, a valuable commodity.

She filed the paperwork for me and we were given an interview. Before the interview she walked me through all that would take place so that I was comfortable going in, she met me there, and quickly established a rapport with the interviewer. It was truly a piece of cake. I got approved first time out which I understand is rare, I have two grown daughters so I was not too far from retirement age, but my daughters were, and she got them approved as well for some of the same things.

If you are considering filing for SS disability and want to be sure of success, I can't recommend Patty Sexton and Mission Possible highly enough. Do yourself a favor and let her handle your case, I am sure you will be as thrilled as I am to write about your experience.

Sincerely, Kathie Lee

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Community comes together with books, funds for KP library

By Scott Turner, KP News

Last month, community members came out in force to help raise money for the Key Peninsula Library.

On Jan. 12, the Friends of Key Center Library held a book sale at the popular Blend Wine Shop.

Throughout the day, many dozens of adults packed the popular social hotspot for a glass of wine, some friendly conversation and to hunt through mounds of donated cookbooks for a good buy and a good cause.

Friends President Maureen Reilly was there helping a host of other volunteers guide book shoppers through bound treasures and where their donations would go.

Reilly said her group is raising money to help fund the remodel of the library's Kenneth Brones meeting room. "We want to turn it into a multiuse space specifically for teens and tweens — as a safe place to go after school," she said.

She said they sought about \$35,000 for the upgrade last August, and currently have raised about \$45,000.

"It's fantastic and it's over and above our goal. We have had very generous support from the community. Lots of people got involved, lots of people have been excited



Photo by Scott Turner, KP News

Last month, Gary Flintoff, left, Diane Huff and Blend owner Jeff Minch, share a moment during a Friends of the Library book sale at the Blend Wine Shop in Key Center.

to participate, and we are just thrilled about how this is going," she said.

Reilly said the grassroots support of many organizations and individuals hosting fundraisers like the book sale has been beneficial for the library and community.

The genesis of the cookbook sale started when Blend Wine Shop owner Jeff Minch approached her. "He had mentioned he had

boxes of cookbooks that he would like to donate to our cause, so we set up this cookbook sale and put out posters and fliers, and invited the public to come and participate," Reilly said.

Shoppers have been buying everything from diet and grilling cookbooks, to holiday and collectable series items, with the donations funneling straight into the fund

administered by the Pierce County Library Foundation.

"It's a huge, big deal. Jeff has actually been wonderful during the library closure. He has volunteered his space for lots of groups that used to meet in the library.

"This is what the spirit of the Key Peninsula is all about. This is a vibrant community and everyone is working together to make this possible," Reilly added.

Diane Huff, of University Place, was there sipping a glass of wine and flipping through a pizza book. She came to Blend to donate a few books, but ended up browsing and buying some for herself.

"Any time you can give back to your community in anyway, is perfect. This is a fun way to do it too. You can come and meet people, and you can have a glass of wine. What's better?" Huff said, smiling.

According to Reilly, anything that didn't sell that day will parlay into another Friends of Key Center Library book sale, or will be available on a shelf for used books (for sale) at the library when it reopens, Feb. 4.

The Key Center Library will be hosting a special open house celebration Saturday, Feb. 16, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

For information, visit piercescountylibrary.org/branches/west-county-branches/key-center.

(From **Pole**, Page 20)

The group's members presented a proposal to the Key Pen Parks Board to make this happen and were well received.

The KPV has submitted a grant proposal for funds and, if successful, will seek assistance from the community to help bring the project to a successful conclusion.

Because an expensive American flag was once stolen from the flagpole located in the Purdy business area, the KPV intends to install a "theft-proof" flagpole relying on an internally situated flag rope.

They said the cost of the pole and its installation in a permanent concrete base will run about \$5,050.

The KPV, a non-profit organization, said they will contribute some \$2,000 in "in kind" labor in addition to the grant money it hopes to acquire.

Along with contributions from businesses, fraternal organizations and the general public, the KPV said they want the flagpole acquisition to be a successful community event.

For information or to donate, contact John Thorpe at jwthorpe@sbcglobal.net or (253) 884-5042.

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Photo by Ed Johnson, KP News

On Jan. 17, Watermark Writers and Blend Wine Shop presented an evening of readings by local writers, including Linda Whaley and "Harmonica" Dave Canales. Whaley and Canales were trying out a new genre they called "lyricature," consisting of stories told by Whaley to the accompaniment of Canale's guitar. Eight writers read their work to a full and appreciative house. For information on the monthly event, call 778-6559.


Where in the World...



Lyndsi LaRose, age 23, was photographed in the lobby of International City Theatre in Long Beach, Calif. She played "Audrey" in a leading role in the play "Leading Ladies." LaRose was raised on the Key Peninsula and graduated from the UCLA School of Film Theater in 2012.

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Photo by Ed Johnson, KP News



Photo by Ed Johnson, KP News

Construction on the new dining hall and amphitheater at YMCA's Camp Seymour has made progress since breaking ground last June. Diane Jackson, camp supervisor, reported that things didn't get rolling until sometime in September, but since then, the contractor has made remarkable progress and she expects the facility to be completed in mid-April.



Photo by Ron Cameron, KP News

A heron is captured catching a breakfast fish in the early morning light in Von Geldern Cove.