



Local Author publishes her debut novel. Page 9

KEY PENINSULA NEWS

The voice of the Key Peninsula



Community Council candidates Pages 2-4

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Yes EMS levy, despite reprimands

By Marsha Hart, KP News

The voter turnout for Pierce County is reported at 30.82 percent, and Key Peninsula voters spoke loud and clear on the EMS levy ballot. The levy, which will continue a tax that is already in place to support emergency medical services on the Key Peninsula, was passing with 81 percent of the votes in favor as of press time.

"When I first saw the return I was humbled by the percentages," said Chief Tom Lique. "With all the issues going on the voters are approving the EMS levy, with plus 80 percent in the Department's favor."

An organization called H.E.L.P. that was in favor of the levy staged a large campaign, complete with mailings and many members waving signs at strategic points on the Key Peninsula.

With recent news surrounding some members of FD 16, Lique admits he was worried that voters could lose trust and the levy could fail.



Photo by Hugh McMillan, KP News

Levy supporters wave signs across the street from the polling station in Key Center on election day to sway voters to vote yes on the EMS levy.

Lique, with the support of the board of commissioners, just handed down reprimands for two volunteers and two career firefighters. Tim Nelson, a 20-year-old volunteer was terminated, office manager Christina Bosch was given a written reprimand, Mike Riegler was demoted from battalion chief to firefighter-paramedic,

and Doug Gelsleichter had his rank of battalion chief suspended for one year. The decision has not yet been made for Robert Bosch, and an investigation is continuing.

In July, Lique heard some rumors sur-

(See LEVY, Page 26)

Vandalism and burglaries plague KP

By Marsha Hart, KP News

Though the vandals who broke into the Longbranch Improvement Club and the Longbranch Community Church were caught and arrested in early August, there have been more cases of vandalism on the Key Peninsula.

The night of Aug. 17, sometime between 1:30 and 4 a.m. burglars broke into On the Way Deli in Key Center, and Homeport Restaurant in Home was burglarized that morning as well.

(See BURGLARIES, Page 25)



Photo by Hugh McMillan, KP News

Recent vandalism in Longbranch included the Longbranch Community Church. Church members and neighbors, including a group of teenagers, helped clean up the mess.

Community Council candidate profiles

2010 Candidates Area 1

No candidates registered

2010 Candidates for Area 2

Karen Lovett

Area: 2



I believe it is important to have a voice in the community and to maintain a working relationship between local citizens and higher levels of government. As a land owner,

I am very concerned about government involvement in our rights as property owners. Preservation and protection of our unique blend of farming, wilderness and wetland environments is essential in maintaining the quality of life we want to maintain. Many families who have lived here for generations should not have to worry about being taxed out of their homes. Seniors need to know that government and the community are acting in their best interests.

List of candidate's community service and work experience:

- American Rabbit Breeders Association (ARBA), Licensed Judge USA and Canada since 1983 (Served by appointment on ARBA Constitution and Show Rules Committees)
- Polish and Mini Satin Rabbit Breeder

- ARBA and 4-H Educational Youth Programs
- Key Peninsula Friends of the Library, secretary
- Key Peninsula Food Bank, volunteer
- Key Peninsula News, volunteer staff writer
- Lakebay Writers, member and managing editor
- Key Peninsula Writers Guild, member

Barbara Trotter

(Incumbent)

Area: 2



My goals, if re-elected to the Key Peninsula Council, are to make sure the voice of the Key Peninsula is heard at the Pierce County Council level and to continue to grow and improve the Key Peninsula Youth Council. I have been a KP council member since 2004 and have enjoyed the challenge of bringing important community issues to the attention of the decision makers at Pierce County and the State. I have also been the advisor of the KP Youth Council since 2004 and I am excited about the opportunity to help a new group of young people be of service to their community and learn about civic involvement.

volvement.

List of candidate's community service and work experience

- Currently Office Secretary for Gig Harbor High School
- KP Council member since 2004
- KP Youth Council advisor since 2004
- Peninsula School District Board of Directors 1995-1999
- President of Vaughn PTA
- President of KPMS PTA
- Citizens for Peninsula Schools (Levy Committee) Chair, 3 levy campaigns from 1994 - 2001

2010 Candidates for Area 3

Cinda Baldwin

(Incumbent)

Area 3



I enjoy serving the community I live in. I have lived on the Key Peninsula for over 8 years and served on the Key Peninsula Community Council, Harvestfest Tour, and Farm Board. Working as the KPC secretary and as Activities Committee chair allowed me to learn from the other directors. I have had opportunities to be creative in projects such as forums; and

to spearhead other new community functions. If re-elected, I will continue to work on these projects and I will assist in bridging the gap between the County Council and the Community Council. These two important councils must work together and address issues of concern for the Key Peninsula community. I enjoy and look forward to the opportunity to serve this wonderful community I have the pleasure of calling home.

List of candidate's community service and work experience:

- Real Estate Broker, six years
- Key Peninsula Foster Parent Association, Founder
- KPC, Secretary and Activities Committee, chair
- KPC Farm Council, Executive officer
- HarvestFEST Farm Tour planner
- Parents of Special Needs Children (Gig Harbor, Key Peninsula, Port Orchard)

Daniel Carl Miller

Area: 3



I'm running for the Area 3 representative position on the Community Council. My goal is to enable our community to succeed, and build it up. I will

(See Candidates, Page 3)

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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.

(From **CANDIDATES**, Page 2)

listen to and respect those I represent. I know that many families are struggling and will help in any way I can. I will support our businesses and our residents and will strive to find solutions. It would be an honor to serve.

List of candidate's community service and work experience

- Spent the last 23 years in the carpenters union--10 years swinging a hammer and 10 years as Financial Secretary/ Treasurer.
- I've been retired the last 3 years.
- Currently live on 10 acres in Home
- I served for a year in Tacoma on the Human Rights Commission
- Volunteered at the home park building the picnic shelter
- Delivered produce to the food bank from my garden.
- Employ local people and used local businesses as much as possible.

Dwight A. Hartman

Area: 3



My wife and I have friends here, we worship here, we do the majority of our shopping here and believe that this is a wonderful place to live. Changes are coming to

the Key Peninsula. With the economic down turn they have slowed. They will continue and will accelerate as the economy improves. Believing that we as citizens in this area can control the changes is foolishness. We know this area more intimately than do the Council members and staff located in Tacoma. We can work intelligently to influence the planning for this area and the decisions that will be made that affect us.

List of candidate's community service and work experience

- My entire working career has been in land use planning and regulation.
- 3 years at City of Kent WA
- 14 years at City of Issaquah WA
- 11 years at Snohomish Co. WA
- 3 years at City of Snohomish WA
- Wrote and administered 2 complete City land use codes including zoning, subdivision, sign regulations and design

standards and participated in literally thousands of hours of City and County Council meetings, Hearing Examiner sessions, as well as planning commission and other commission meetings.

- Set a standard of being totally honest and as helpful as possible in working with everyone I encountered whether they were elected officials, applicants trying to do something with a property, or simply someone who wanted to know what was happening on a property.
- My wife, Colleen, and I designed and constructed a 2,500 square foot residence near Issaquah. After moving to the Key Peninsula, we purchased property and have been actively involved in the permitting and now construction process of our retirement home.

David Mikelson

Area: 4



I have been an off and on lifetime resident of Longbranch. My grandfather, Oscar Larson, owned what is now Taylor Bay Estates. I spent summers there and still cherish

those memories.

As a director of the Key Peninsula Council, I will work to develop a strong relationship with the Pierce County Council. Also, as per our comprehensive plan, I will continue to protect our rural setting and push for the completion of the different parks already in progress.

Work Experience and Community Service:

- I was a construction worker for over 30 years and a proud member of Local 1144 Drywall and Metal Stud Framers.
- Parent Council Representative, Evergreen Elementary
- Parent Council Representative, Key Peninsula Middle School
- Boy's Basketball Coach, Peninsula Athletic Association
- Volunteer, RIF (Reading is Fundamental) Program, Evergreen Elementary
- Member, Key Peninsula Writers' Guild
- MC Host of Poets' Beat Nights, Key Center

KPC MAIL-IN VOTER BALLOT

(Mailed ballots must be received by Sunday, September 26.)



Voting Instructions:

1. **Voter requirements: Must be at least 18 years old by September 26. Must live or own property on the Key Peninsula.**
2. **Voters provide one envelope per ballot.**--The return address on the **ballot's envelope must include** voter's **name and property address.** Your name and return address is your voter and membership registration.
3. **Mark the ballot by circling your choices in ALL four areas.**
4. **Write-in votes are welcome.** If possible please provide contact numbers.
5. **Cut out the Ballot and seal in envelope**— For households with more than one eligible voter, ballots may be duplicated. (Only one ballot per envelope).
6. **Place stamp on envelope and mail to: KPC, POB 13, Vaughn, WA 98394**—Mailed ballots must be received by 3 p.m. Sunday, September 26.
7. **Drop-off Option:** You may drop off ballots at the KPC Booth at the Farmers Market in Key Center on Sunday, September 26 between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

**The Key Peninsula Community Council
2010 VOTER BALLOT**

Area 1—Zip code 98329

Two (2) positions open

No candidates registered.

Write-in: _____ Phone: _____

Area 2—Zip code 98329 and 98394

Two (2) positions open

1. Karen Lovett
2. *Barbara Trotter

Write-in: _____ Phone: _____

Area 3—Zip code 98349

Two (2) positions open

1. *Cinda Baldwin
2. Dwight Hartman
3. Dan Miller

Write-in: _____ Phone: _____

Area 4—Zip code 98349 and 98351

One (1) position open

1. David Mikelson

Write-in: _____ Phone: _____

(* indicates incumbent)

This ad paid by the KPC Elections Committee, 2010.

New Membership, Voting procedure for KPC is easier

The Key Peninsula Community Council and KP News have worked to design a Voter Ballot that fulfills registration and voting in one simple process. You are invited to use the KPC Voter Ballot and exercise your right to vote for Area Directors. The Key Peninsula Community Council serves as a representative voice for Key Pen residents at the local, county, and state level. All residents and owners of property over the age of 18 are eligible members of the Community Council. To register and vote, follow the instructions on the ballot.

This year your council has met with political officials, heard individual issues; and held public concern forums regarding the Key Center traffic signal and a foster care facility plan for Vaughn. To serve Key Pen interests regarding the EMS Levy and the eight (8) primary candidates for County Council District 7 seat, KPC added a primary candidate forum. The regular annual candidate forum is scheduled for Sept. 30.

Please clip out the KPC Voter Ballot and mail it in. A strong voting membership creates an authentic voice for the Key Peninsula.

HarvestFEST promises attendees many family-friendly experiences

Staff Report

HarvestFEST 2010 on the Key Peninsula will offer many opportunities for visitors to explore the working farms in the area. In addition to vegetables, farm animals and hay rides, each farm provides a unique look into the life on a Key Peninsula farm.

Farms will welcome guests Oct. 2 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

This year's participants have an array of experiences, from the ever popular Creviston Valley Farm, which provides live music, tractor hay rides, art displays, and juicy burgers and boiled corn for lunch, to Blue Willow Lavender Farm, which offers a wreath class and many lavender items for sale.

Each of the nine stops on the tour will treat visitors to something

different and special. This year's newest HarvestFEST participant is Marble Rock Hoof Wellness Center. It is home to 13 horses that have overcome serious lameness issues. They will be available to greet the public and provide an educational setting to learn more about holistic hoof care.

Trillium Creek Winery will offer tours of the vineyard and grape stomping, and Barefoot Boys Farm features the Bee Lady honey products. Gentle Giant Meadows Ranch will feature live bluegrass music and a petting corral, and Bea's Flowers will treat guests to a show, with Cusko the Goat to perform goat tricks. Children can paint with local favorite Tweed Meyer. In addition to fresh vegetables, Morgan Creek Farm will have floral arrangements, and a pumpkin patch and more.

Also on the schedule for that day is the popular Fiber Arts Festival. In its third year, the Fiber Arts Festival, held at the Longbranch Improvement Club, features textiles and information on a variety of materials. Spinners will be on display, and local artisans will demonstrate knitting, weaving, spinning yarn and much more. There will also be hands-on activities for children.

Local food establishments are participating in the festivities, and special HarvestFEST items will be available. On The Way Deli will add pumpkin soup, pumpkin ice cream and pumpkin muffins to the menu, O'Callahan's will be serving oysters, shooters, half-shell and pan fried, and Lulu's Homeport Restaurant plans for a local foods daily special.

For a map of the Farm Tour see p. 28.

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2	3/4 Inch Clean Gravel 15 tons=30,000 lbs
3	1 1/2 Inch Clean Gravel 15 tons=30,000 lbs.
4	Pea Gravel 15 tons=30,000 lbs
5	7/8 Inch Drain Rock 15 tons=30,000 lbs
6	1 1/2 Inch Drain Rock 15 tons=30,000 lbs.
7	5/8 or 3/4 Inch Minus Crushed Gravel 15 tons=30,000 lbs.
8	1 1/2 Inch Minus Crushed Gravel 15 tons=30,000 lbs.

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Flood Control District established, new taxes considered

By Rick Sorrels, KP News

The candidates vying for Terry Lee's seat on the Pierce County Council have criticized the council's passage of an ordinance, which creates a Flood Control District with associated taxes, which would pay for levee repairs along the Puyallup River, far from the Key Peninsula. Allegations have been voiced that the County Council manipulated the legislative process to avoid public comment on the proposed ordinance.

The facts show something different.

Ordinance #2010-16s was introduced in March and had a full hearing before the Economic and Infrastructure Development Committee in April, where it had been amended. Notices for hearings were posted in newspapers, and the ordinance was passed unanimously by the council on May 4. It was signed by the Executive on May 26 and became effective on June 5.

"The criticisms are all unfounded, based upon misunderstanding," said Terry Lee. "Nobody was paying attention until it became a political issue."

"The ordinance that passed created a framework only. It is almost entirely meaningless at this point, with no teeth, no details. A decision to tax or not will be made by a future council, a year or more down the road."

Pierce County has had a Surface Water Management Program for 19 years, with a Citizen's Advisory Board. Under this existing program, a tax is already collected. According to Lee, "The original intent of managing and protecting frequently flooded properties was expanded to include habitat protection, where road culverts are enlarged and lowered to help salmon migrate and spawn."

A number of recent developments have motivated a change to a "Flood Control District":

1. The Feds have "de-certified" the levees along the Puyallup River. This means that the levees do not meet standards and are subject to failure, which would flood the surrounding area, including Interstate 5 and the Port of Tacoma, the county's economic powerhouse.

2. There is a prohibition on dredging, which would endanger protected species of salmon. Dredging would have been the prac-

tical and cheap fix for the accumulated silt buildup.

3. New Flood Boundary Maps are expected from the Feds at any time, along with new regulations. If Pierce County does not adopt implementing regulations, then no disaster relief funds can be obtained from the Feds.

4. In order to qualify for matching funds from the Feds, we must have a particular label, a "Flood Control District", which identifies capital improvement projects. These are prerequisite to applying for federal funds.

"The recently passed ordinance created a framework only," said Lee. "The Flood Control District and staff administration will likely be set up next year, after the District is established, then there can be talk of revenue. It is even possible that the existing surface water fee will be sufficient, thereby removing the possibility of an additional tax."

The existing surface water tax is a tiered system, with, for example, residents of Nisqually paying \$132 per parcel of land, while Peninsula residents pay only \$22.

According to Lee, "The Flood Control District will also have a citizen's advisory

board. Whether this will be the same or an additional board as for surface water management remains to be determined."

Three of the seven seats on the County Council will change on January 1, 2011. All of the major decisions regarding flood control will defer to the new council.

The King County model for flood control remains an option, where 10 percent of collected tax money is sent back to municipalities for intramunicipality flood control.

In the late 1980s when severe winter rain storms, high winds, abnormally high tides, the positioning of the moon and planets, all conspired to create flooding along the Peninsula's shoreline, hundred year old homes which had never seen any flooding were suddenly and unexpectedly under water.

"The new council will also determine whether such unexpected flooding along the Key Peninsula shoreline would fall under these regulations and relief funds," said Lee.

During times of abundance, Pierce County had been expending tax money to purchase privately owned property located in flood plains and habitat lands.

Paid Advertisement

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT AND VOTING YES FOR EMS!

On behalf of the of the Fire Department, The Firefighters, & Firefighter/Paramedics, The Committee for H.E.L.P. would like to thank the citizens of the Key Peninsula for clearly demonstrating that they support the services provided to them by their Fire Department!

More than 80% of the voting citizens chose to vote YES for the EMS levy to keep Ambulance Service and Paramedics on the Key Peninsula and for that we THANK YOU!

We would especially like to extend a special thanks to the local businesses that stood up and openly supported the EMS Levy: Nimricks Furnishings, Sunnycrest Nursery, Dr Roes Medical, Close to Home Espresso, Charboneau Construction, The Mustard Seed Project and St Anthony Hospital.

paid for by The Committee for H.E.L.P. PO Box 421 Vaughn, WA 98394



Peninsula Views

EDITORIAL

No sense in senseless acts

When bad things happen in a small community it hurts. In a large city acts of vandalism and burglary are equally as painful, but on the Key Peninsula where most of us know our neighbors, it feels personal.

The theories of why these crimes have been especially plentiful this summer abound, and no one can know for certain. What we can be certain of is that it comes at a high cost.

In early August the Longbranch Improvement Club spent hundreds of dollars to clean up the mess and replace what was broken. It was the third, and most severe attack, in a few short weeks.

The windows are now boarded with plywood, and not far from the LIC the Longbranch Community Church windows look similar. It was attacked the same night Volunteers from the congregation and the community who came in to keep watch all night on a Saturday after hours of cleanup, in case the vandals returned. They didn't return, and everyone gathered for worship on

Sunday morning.

Two teenagers and one adult were arrested for the crimes when tips came in from the community. Citizens Against Crime, a local watch group on the Key Peninsula, was instrumental in providing some information to the Pierce County Sheriff's Department. Because the Sheriff's Department listened and came out to investigate, the individuals were caught, "pretty much red-handed," said Mike Baum, president of CAC.

Obviously that group is not the only one intent on making a mess and causing distress. The KC Corral in Key Center has been vandalized several times this summer, with the latest attack coming on Aug. 16.

While it may be difficult to prevent these crimes entirely, by being observant and sharing information residents can warn others and help catch the culprits. By joining Citizens Against Crime, talking with neighbors and keeping a watchful eye, we can all make it a little more difficult for criminals to avoid being caught.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Stolen mailboxes found

Last Saturday while I was checking my property that adjoins Russell Road KPS, I saw something unusual in some bushes on my property. Upon further investigation, I located several stolen mailboxes. I took pictures so that I could share with the Sheriff Department and the Key Peninsula News.

It is sad that we have some bad neighbors on the Key Peninsula who are thieves. However, I hope that the area Key Peninsula Patrol Group will take this one up from here, so that these folks can be caught and put away.

My nextdoor neighbor told us that she was hearing folks on the back property, and actually saw a few moving between the bushes.

I am sorry that we did not investigate this sooner. However, we will be from



here on. Those of us with property adjoining Russell Road KPS and those that live off Russell Road will be looking out. So if we see anyone on our property we are not asking first, we will be calling the Sheriff's Department so that they can be caught.

LaVerna Williams

FD 16 Chief thanks voters

I wanted to send residents of the Key Peninsula a huge Thank You for their support to renew the community's Emergency Medical Services levy. We were humbled to receive more than 80 percent of the vote, and recognize that you have given us a second chance. We won't let you down.

To those involved in the campaign to "Save your ambulance"- business owners, citizens and members of the fire service- thank you for all your hard work and renewed commitment to this organization.

We've come through some rocky times, but I feel that we have emerged stronger for it. To everyone in the community, the Key Peninsula Fire Department will manage these tax dollars wisely as well as the fragile trust you have given us with this vote. I personally will work to ensure the fire department honors the value of both as we move forward.

Tom Lique

Fire Chief Key Peninsula Fire Department

Macrocosms and Microcosms on the KP

It's easy to get caught up in the rhythm of our daily KP lives. We head up or down the KP highway for whatever reason, hit the stores, library, and restaurants, go to work, come home, volunteer, see people, get online, and so on. Other things going on out here sort of blur into the background or drop off the radar entirely. You drive and see trees and sky, but it's just trees and sky with a road through it and houses all around.

But last month on the 12th and 13th, the peak activity of the annual Perseids meteor shower was visible in our clear night sky. Humans have stopped their daily lives for tens of thousands of years to look up at a comet, or a meteor, or the moon, and say "Wow, ain't that sumthin'?"

Kevin Reed Here's Something



So when it rolled around this year, my wife and I pitched a couple chairs in the back yard and turned out all the lights to see the meteors fall to Earth (in this case debris from the comet Swift-Tuttle). If you've never done it, I recommend it. First, your eyes adjust to the dark and you see the band of our Milky Way galaxy – a spiral of 300 billion

suns 1,000 light years wide, all spinning in their own solar systems while the galaxy itself spins. The Milky Way moves along in observable space with perhaps a trillion other galaxies. Now imagine all the things going on here on Earth – humans doing all they do in cities, animals doing things, fish doing whatever, microbes, clouds, air, water flowing. The enormity of all that movement happening simultaneously can make you fall over and hit your head – which is why you want to sit down while you do this. Next you'll see satellites moving in straight lines across the sky, and within minutes you'll see the huge, bright streak of a meteor

(See Reed, Page 7)

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

(From **Reed**, Page 6)

burning up in our atmosphere, followed by another and another. We sat out for 2 hours and saw maybe 20 really good ones. Don't sit too long though, because you may forget the importance of paying your bills in all of that enormity.

Throughout the month, I noticed a couple other things that made me look the other way, to the very small. Things like flies. We leave doors open a lot as we do things around our house, and each day we get a fly or two buzzing around. A primal part of my brain forces me to track down and murder these intruders like a cat with a lot of free time, but if I'm feeling jaunty I'll flick them and toss them outside instead of swatting them flat. Sometimes they wake up and fly away. Last month I flicked a fly and threw it onto the front porch. In seconds, an ant much smaller than the fly came along and easily hoisted up the stunned insect and started hauling it away. Soon she was joined by her sisters, and they quickly dismantled the fly and brought the pieces back to their nest.

You can find wonder anyplace you look. Another day an alligator lizard got in our house and after I caught him I had

a chance to look at him up close before letting him go. An alert gold eye studied me from what looked like the face of a tiny dinosaur. After that, while sitting on my back porch, I looked over and saw two spiders mating in a web. This is always fun because often the female will kill and eat the male afterwards. Like ants and bees, the spider world is dominated by females that don't take anything off nobody. In this case, the male took care of business and rappelled like a nut to the edge of her web before slinking off to love another day or die trying.

And of course many of us are amazed each summer as the seeds we plant sprout and then grow into food we can eat while providing homes and hunting grounds for snakes, spiders, and birds.

To me, it was a fascinating month of being reminded how the place we live fits into the scope of things both large and small. I find it comforting that these things are going on all around us, because there's so much more to see and learn all the time, wherever you look. And the more we learn about all of that stuff, the more we can apply that to the narrow views we fall into while we navigate our daily lives.

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Better Properties North Proctor



2010 Key Peninsula Real Estate

MARKET REPORT

Homes for Sale	#249
Homes Sold (ytd)	#113
Average List Price	\$342,000
(price per sq ft)	\$173
Average Sold Price	\$231,000
(price per sq ft)	\$127

WATERFRONT REPORT

WF Homes for Sale	#54
WF Homes Sold* (ytd)	#9
Average List Price	\$619,000
(price per sq ft)	\$261
WF Average Sold Price	\$518,000
(price per sq ft)	\$188

* WF Properties "Pending" 5

This data provided to assist buyers and sellers in determining real estate values and will be updated monthly.



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#42589 \$250,000



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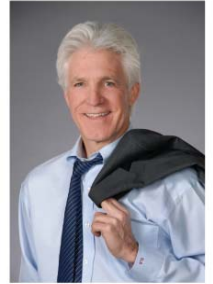
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ParentHelp123.org and Family Health Hotline are programs of

WithinReach



Photo by Sharon Hicks, KP News

Emma Michaels lives on Herron Island and has been writing since she was in grade school. She celebrates the release of her first novel, "The Thirteenth Chime."

Key Peninsula author celebrates book release

By Sharon Hicks, KP News

An antique clock mysteriously chimes 13 times when Destiny and David have to face their own past and hearts and solve the riddle of the clock before it chimes again. In her newly released book, "The Thirteenth Chime," young author Emma Michaels uses Steilacoom as the scene.

The Herron Island resident is not new to writing. The 20 year old said she read a lot as a child, which gave her the inspiration to write a story for fun when she was between 8 and 10. "The Thirteenth Chime" was released on Aug. 13 by Bokheim Publishing. It is a story for young adults with a paranormal plot, she said.

Michaels researched areas for story locations and was inspired from real life places. Her next series is completed, and she said it takes place on the Key Peninsula. A release date is not set for it yet.

Having no agent she spent six months finding a publisher online and the book is available for libraries to order. Soon she hopes to be signing at the library and Borders in Gig Harbor.

Michaels said she started writing "The Thirteenth Chime" last December and freelanced over two years prior to that.

She moved to the Key Peninsula area from California two years ago, and was featured as a debut author in Orange County for the Children's Book Festival. She is engaged to be married, and said she looks forward to her future of writing, and wants to be able to "inspire others and to go for their dreams." Her goal is to, "get to the New York Times best sellers list."



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CALL to Artists

Looking for local folks interested in being a part of our upcoming Artists In Schools school year binder to present to all of our local elementary schools and middle school.

Contact Erika Arnett, our AIS director, via email at re_arnett@hotmail.com with your proposals or questions.

REFLECTIONS program 2010-2011

An idea we have been swirling around is something we hope our entire community will support. An Art Crawl in the evening sometime in January that would take you to Evergreen, Vaughn and Minter Creek Elementary then onto Key Peninsula Middle School. REFLECTIONS is a great program encouraging all young people to submit art to this regional contest. All Arts. To learn more, go to

http://www.ptareflections.org/cs/how_to_begin.

ART SAVES and we are looking for more opportunities to partner with kids of the KP and support our schools!

celebrate ARTS in EDUCATION week

on September 12th! In recognition of the arts being instrumental to developing a well-rounded education such as creativity, imagination, and cross-cultural understanding.

Car show to benefit former KP resident

By Kevin Reed, KP News

At age 34, strong and healthy, the last thing Nick Taylor expected was to be diagnosed with a form of cancer. But while working a demanding job as a truck driver for Coca-Cola out of Tacoma, Nick started feeling completely exhausted all the time. At first he wrote it up to hard work and a lack of sleep, but in May he went to the doctor one morning to get checked out. They found a softball-sized tumor in his chest, millimeters away from his pulmonary artery, and by that afternoon he was diagnosed with Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma (NHL). NHL refers to a number of cancers of the lymphocytes (white blood cells), that can occur at any age, typically presenting in enlarged lymph nodes, fever, and weight loss.

Nick grew up on the Key Peninsula and graduated from Peninsula High School in 1994. He met his wife Suzie when they were 17, and she was going to school in



Photo courtesy of the Taylor family

The Taylor family smiles in spite of the struggles to make ends meet as Nick fights cancer and is unable to work.

Lakewood.

His mother, Cheryl Prante, works at the PHS in food services and has worked there for about 23 years. His father, Al Prante,

has worked at the shipyard in Bremerton for 28 years.

The summer after graduation, Nick entered the Marine Corps, was stationed in San Diego, and was honorably discharged. At 21 he and Suzie married, and today they have two children, Lindsay, age 8, and Luke, 4. The couple currently resides in Bonney Lake. Nick hunts deer, elk, and turkey, and loves fishing. But being a dad is "the most enjoyable thing in the world." According to Suzie, "the three of them always find ways to get into trouble."

Nick started his career at Coca-Cola in 1997 in Tacoma as a merchandiser. In three years he was driving a delivery truck full time. After his diagnosis, he began chemotherapy, and the treatment took its toll on his ability to work. He was soon unable to maintain the union's requirement of a 40-hour workweek, and when he could no longer work as a direct result of his cancer, the company terminated his employment.

"I've been a good employee and stood by the company. They didn't have to cancel my insurance but they decided to save a few hundred bucks a month," Nick said. "It just goes to show where employees stand" in a company of that size, he added. On the upside, when Taylor can work again, he will have a job waiting for him. "They told me on the branch level that I'd still have a job and that's what I'm hoping for, but I don't know technically where I stand. They're all good people at the Ta-

"They told me on the branch level that I'd still have a job and that's what I'm hoping for, but I don't know technically where I stand."

Nick Taylor

On his employment status after he could no longer work a 40-hour shift.

coma level," Nick said.

Suzie has been working at Columbia Bank in Tacoma Private Banking since 1996. She has worked part time to allow time to take care of the kids, and her job only provides insurance for her. If she extended coverage to Nick and the children, it would cost \$1,000 a month, or the amount of her whole paycheck. COBRA is his only insurance.

The Taylors have worked hard and are not used to being in a position of need. Their friends know they won't ask for help, so the people who love them are stepping in to help. NHL has an optimistic recovery rate with proper treatment. While Nick is ready to tackle whatever regimen the doctors define for him, he is without the health insurance to help pay for the expensive treatments. Four of Suzie's friends have organized a benefit for Nick this September. Dubbed "Hot Rodz for Hope," the classic car show for cancer will take place in Lakewood, from noon-4 p.m. on Sept. 18. The show will include classic hot rods on display, entertainment, silent auctions, raffle prizes, food, and other activities. There is a \$10 entry fee for display cars, and anyone can donate an auction item, gift for the raffle, money to the Nick Taylor Fund at any Columbia Bank Branch, or their time to help the effort. All proceeds from the benefit go to the Nick Taylor Fund. The benefit is co-sponsored by Classic Reflections Coachworks, Vision Service Group, and Columbia Bank. The organizers are looking for donations for the show, are hoping for a large number of donations for the Nick Taylor Fund, and would like to see a good turnout at the car show. Momentum is growing. "This event is starting to get legs," Nick said.



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BRIEFS

News

DNR closes roads, campground

The Washington State Department of Natural Resources is temporarily closing some roads, a campground, and access in two areas due to roadwork. The closures occur in Capitol State Forest, south of Olympia, and near Mount Si in eastern King County. In Capitol State Forest, Porter Creek Campground and the nearby B-Line Road closed on Aug. 19. The closure will continue through part of next year when DNR crews will assess the condition of the area to be re-opened. Read more on our Blog at:

<http://washingtondnr.wordpress.com>

Just east of Mount Si Natural Resources Conservation Area, DNR and the U.S. Forest Service are working on abandoning some old logging roads. One section

of road will be converted to a trail. That closure began on Aug. 20.

Source: Department of Natural Resources

Events focus is on fall prevention, free to public

Fall Prevention Awareness Week events will be held Sept. 13-17.

Gov. Christine Gregoir proclaimed Sept. 16 Fall Prevention Awareness Day, and many cities will sponsor events to educate and motivate people to address some of the many risk factors that make a person likely to suffer a fall.

Statistics show that 30 percent of people living in the community who are 65 or older have suffered a fall in the last year; 90 percent of all hip fractures result from a fall; 20 percent of those individu-

als that survive a hip fracture are never able to regain independent living.

Health care professionals have formed Peninsula Falls Prevention Coalition and are working together to provide information to help prevent falls.

The Key Peninsula Senior Center in Home will offer "Living with Diabetes," on Sept. 14 from 10 to noon, "Preventing Falls at Home," with a Franciscan Parish Nurse Sept. 15 from noon to 1 p.m., and "Staying Safe at Home," on Sept. 17 from noon to 1 p.m. The Mustard Seed Project will have a panel discussion about home safety, vision, medications, exercise and Franciscan LifeLine on Sept. 16 from 10 a.m. to noon.

For more information about the free events, call Key Peninsula Community Services at 884-4440 or The Mustard Seed Project at 884-9814, or visit fallsfreewashington.org.

Flavors of Fall are shaken, not stirred at Civic Center

Flavors of Fall will have a James Bond theme, and formal attire is encouraged for one of the main social events of the year on the Key Peninsula.

By Karen Lovett, KP News

It's that time again for one of the premier social events on the Key Peninsula. Flavors of Fall is set for Oct. 2 at the Key Peninsula Civic Center. As a member of the board of directors for the civic center, Claudia Loy formulated a plan to solve the civic center's financial woes. She has been the driving force behind the program since its inception. This year she is passing the torch to Mark Roberts, the new chairperson. Claudia remains actively involved as his mentor.

The first year, 1988, tickets cost \$35 a couple and the dinner/auction brought in \$6,000. For 12 to 14 years Claudia headed the event on a yearly schedule, but in recent years Flavors of Fall has been held every two or three years. The last one held in 2007 was co-sponsored with Two Waters Arts Alliance. The proceeds totaling nearly \$50,000 were split between the two organizations. The civic center needs money for operation and maintenance so the board will be hosting the event on its own again.

Claudia said, "It's the best social event of the year. People who've been there before remember how much fun it is. We need volunteers. It's a chance for people who are new to the area to meet people and get involved in the community."


This year's theme is James Bond: Shaken - Not Stirred. Cocktail attire is encouraged. This is an opportunity to dress up in tux and tails, formal gowns or vintage clothes.

Decorations and food will have a fall theme. Roberts and Loy are working with the local farm board and farmers to provide a menu that is supported by local vendors. Dorne Webster is the guest chef. There will be an oyster bar supplied

(See STIRRED, Page 12)

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Senior Society gets grant

The Key Peninsula Senior Society, AKA "Yesterday's Teenagers" received the happy news that the Dan & Pat Nelson Family Foundation awarded them a grant. These funds will greatly ease their operating costs. The Seniors would like to thank Jud Morris, Director of the Key Peninsula Family Resource Center for his assistance with the grant application.

The Seniors have been meeting at the Key Peninsula Civic Center in Vaughn for 30 years. They are looking forward to celebrating this anniversary Sept. 30. Anyone interested in attending is welcome.

3rd Annual Key Peninsula Civic Center

Winter Warm-Up Crafts Fair

Saturday, November 13th 10AM to 4PM

Artists & Crafters Wanted!

* Handmade and one-of-a-kind local crafts and creations only!
Chili cook-off * Special Artists Gallery Row * Kids Crafts Corner

Call 884-3456
email: kpciviccenter@centurytel.net

(From **STIRRED**, Page 11)

by Minterbrook Oyster Company, along with a martini bar. On the menu:

SALAD

Poached salmon on bed of farm greens, roasted bell pepper, cucumber, scallions, croutons, honey mustard dressing

ENTREE

Slices of herb-encrusted New York strip loin (herbs du peninsula) with turnip and potato puree, baked squash, seasonal vegetables, sautéed mustard greens, red wine sauce (mar chain de vine glaze)

Dessert will be part of the desert auction

Doors open at 5 p.m.; dinner is at 7 p.m. and the live auction begins at 8 p.m.

Seating capacity for the evening is 175-200 maximum. Ticket prices are \$50 per person.

If you have questions or would like to be invited, contact Claudia Loy at (253) 884-3937. Mark Roberts can be reached at mroberts@kemron.com to donate money, items or experiences for the auction.

KP Historical Society picnic at historic home

By Colleen Slater, KP News

The KP Historical Society summer picnic will be Sept. 11 at the old Whitfield home, currently owned by Mike and Daphne Walker.

Charles Whitfield purchased the property from Daphne Walker's great-grandfather, Ted Buckell, about the time Whitfield married Gertrude Howe Ranf. He had three children, she had two, and eventually they increased their family by four more.

The house was ordered from a catalog in the early 1920s, barged in from Tacoma, carried up the hill by Henry Hansen, and put together by numbered pieces.

Daphne Walker's mother, Daphne Moynihan, purchased the place from the Whitfield family when she moved here from California.

The Walkers have been restoring it, using photos and memories of local old timers, including Audrey Whitfield Paul,



The former Charles Whitfield home was ordered from a catalog and barged from Tacoma to the KP.

Photo courtesy KP Historical Society

who grew up in the house.

The reminder postcards sent to members about the picnic will carry a special commemorative stamp with a photo of the original home, created by and courtesy of Mike Walker.

For more information about the picnic, call 884-3702.

The regular fall meeting will be at the KP Civic Center in November, with special speaker Joan Curtis on "The Bad Boys of McNeil Island."

Flavors of Fall Dinner & Auction

Saturday, October 2, 2010 • Key Peninsula Civic Center

Doors open at 5pm • Dinner begins at 7pm

Auctions start at 8pm

**Oyster Bar sponsored by
Minterbrook Oysters**

**Prepare to be shaken, not stirred
at the Martini Bar**

**Arrive "Dressed to Kill" to win a prize for
Best James Bond look-a-like
Best James Bond Villain
or Best Bond Girl**

**Gourmet, three course meal
prepared by Chef Dorne Webster
highlighting local producers**

Tickets are \$50 per person and available exclusively at Sunnycrest Nursery
For more information, or to donate to the auctions: 253-884-3456 or www.kpciviccenter.org/Flavors

Going to the dogs

Local dog competition brings competitors and judges from around the country.

By Karen Lovett, KP News

Rain didn't dampen the spirits of 171 canine competitors and their owners during the Gig Harbor Kennel Club sponsored AKC agility trial held at Volunteer Park Aug. 7-9.

Judge Jeff Ipser from Cleveland, Ohio, had two long wet days and a third under drier conditions out in the field where umbrellas are banned. The wet slippery conditions add to the difficulty for the dogs as well as their owners.

Key Peninsula residents and dedicated agility dog owners Joan Benjamin and Bob and Linda Grass do not compete with the Gig Harbor AKC club, so they didn't enter the event. They came to join in the camaraderie and cheer on the canine/human participants who traveled from as far away as California.

The first dog to compete, starting

the teacup size, was Mach Two Max, a 13-year-old Chihuahua owned by Linda Chapler of Port Orchard and Seattle. After more than 12 years of competing, this was his final competition.

"He is 20QQ - has 20 qualifying runs for a total 750 points," Chapler said. "He was the first national top agility champion Chihuahua and he held that title for five years. The top agility dog in the nation is a Papillion, Tigger from Woodinville, Wash. Lots of top dogs in agility competition live in the Pacific Northwest. This is the fastest growing sport in the nation."

Joan Cook of the Key Peninsula is a member of the Gig Harbor Kennel Club and she was working the kitchen as well as competing with her two shelties.

"This is a great spectators' sport and is the most fun thing to do with your dog,"



Photo by Marsha Hart, KP News

April Caron of Shelton gives commands to Lonnie, an Australian Shepherd during the Intermediate event of the Gig Harbor Kennel Club AKC agility event at Volunteer Park.

(See **DOGS**, Page 24)

<p>Tuesday, Sept 14 Diabetes Self-Care Skills by the Diabetes Assoc. of Pierce Co. Held at KP Community Services 17015 9th St Ct KPN, Lakebay 10:00-Noon info 253/884-4440.</p>	<p>Wed, Sept 15 & Fri, Sept 17 Senior Exercise Class Open House Held at KP Community Services, 17015 9th St Ct KPN, Lakebay 10:00-11:00am info 253/884-5241</p>
<p>Wed, Sept 15 Blood Pressure Checks 11:30-Noon & lunchtime talk Noon-1:00pm by Franciscan Parish Nurse on <i>Staying Safe at Home</i> Held at KP Community Services, 17015 9th St Ct KPN, Lakebay info 253/884-4440</p>	<p>Thurs, Sept 16 Fall Prevention Day Panel Discussion by local professionals <i>Home Safety, Vision, Medications, Exercise & Lifeline</i> Hosted by the Mustard Seed Project Key Peninsula Library 8905 KP Hwy N, Lakebay 10:00 to Noon info 253/884-1205</p>

We are looking for Bread Run Drivers! Give us a call at 884-4440

<p><i>The Key Peninsula Food Bank is in critical need of donations. Help us feed your neighbors. Thank You</i></p>		<p>Key Peninsula Community Services Food Bank & Senior Center 17015 9th St Ct KPN P. O. Box 392 Lakebay, WA 98349 253-884-4440 FAX 253-884-6196</p>
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The Mustard Seed Project

We're building an elder-friendly Key Peninsula where our friends & neighbors can age in place.

September 2010 Third Thursday Community Forum
 Falls Prevention for Seniors

A panel presentation on vision, exercise, home safety, medications and more
 September 16, 2010 10 am-noon
 Brones Room, Key Center Library
(Part of the Peninsula Falls Prevention Coalition Week)

Immediate Volunteer Opportunities

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- Key Senior Information Center Volunteer

Call 253-884-2216

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 Free door-to-door transportation to medical appointments and other important errands for Seniors and Disabled Adults. Also van transportation to the Senior Lunches and beyond...
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Key Senior Information Center
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 253-884-9814
 tmsp@centurytel.net

COMMUNITY WORKS

Submit calendar items to news@keypennews.com • Deadline is the 15th of the month

Sept. 1-30-Art at the library

Photography by Key Peninsula resident Karina Whitmarsh is on display at the Key Center Library. 884-2242.

Sept. 3-Soccer challenge

Boys and girls under 14 will test soccer skills from 9 a.m.-12:50 p.m. at Volunteer Park. This free event consists of one throw-in, one kick for distance, one dribbling trial, and two shots on goal for each contestant. Valid certification of age must be presented. Drop-ins are welcome. This event is presented by Key Pen Parks.

Sept. 7, 13, 20, 27-Bloodmobile

The bloodmobile will be at Albertson's from 11:30 a.m.-7 p.m. It is also at Peninsula Light from 12-4:30 p.m. on Sept. 7.

Sept. 8-Co-ed volleyball

Registration ends on Sept. 8 for fun 6 on 6 games to be played on Sundays at 6:30 p.m. from Sept. 19 to Nov. 14. Games are for 18 and older, will be played at the KP Civic Center, and are self-officiated. Fee is \$290/team; 4-8 teams will play. Contact Chad@keypenparks.com or 884-9240.

Sept. 10, 17, 24-Skate night returns

Skate night for elementary and middle school students is held from 7-10 p.m. at the KP Civic Center. Cost is \$5, which includes skates. Refreshments are available for purchase. www.kpciviccenter.org or 884-3456.

Sept. 11-Weed control

A free workshop about weed control for large acreage will be held from 11 a.m.-noon at Sunnycrest Nursery in Key

Center. Sunnycrest Nursery and Pierce Conservation District will present techniques and tools that reduce and control noxious and obnoxious weeds in pastures and other large acreages. Register by emailing info@sunnycrestnursery.biz or erine@piercecounycd.org or call 884-9474.

Sept. 11-Lyme group

The Lyme disease support group meets from 1-3 p.m. at the Key Center Library.

Sept. 13-Learn how to jam

A class to explore how to make jams and jellies will be held by Barbara Rowland from 6-8 p.m. at the Volunteer Park Concession Building. Cost is \$12/person, which includes samples to taste and recipes to take home. Participants must be 14 or older and class size is limited to 20. Call 884-9240 or with chad@keypenparks.com

Sept. 14- Knit or crochet

Loving Hearts meet from 1-3 p.m. and from 7-9 p.m. on Sept. 23 at the WayPoint Church. New members are welcome to attend and make projects for non-profits in the community. loving-heartsonkp@aol.com or Virginia, 884-9619.

Sept. 14-17-Senior help week

The Peninsula Falls Prevention Coalition of Key Peninsula hosts several events for seniors beginning with a Living with Diabetes discussion on Sept. 14 from 10 a.m.-noon at the KP Senior Center in Home (884-4440). This will be continued with other discussions on Oct. 12 and Nov. 9. An Open House to observe the Stay Active & Independent for Life senior exercise class (S.A.I.L.) is held Sept. 15 and Sept. 17 from 10-11 a.m. at the KP Senior Center in Home. The Sept. 15 event will be followed by blood pressure checks from 11:30 a.m.

To submit an event

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

to noon and a Preventing Falls at Home discussion from 12-1 p.m. Both presented by the Franciscan parish nurse. The Sept. 17 event will be followed by Staying Safe at Home presented by the KP Fire Department.

Sept. 16 - Panel Q&A

A panel discussion of questions and answers, presented by the Mustard Seed Project, will be held on Sept. 16 from 10 a.m.-noon at the Key Center Library. Topics include Home Safety by the KPFD, Vision by the GH Optical/Lions, Medications by Purdy Costless and Exercise by the S.A.I.L. instructor from Franciscan Lifeline. Call 884-1205.

Sept. 15-State capitol tour

A tour of the Washington State Capitol Campus, including the Legistation Building and the Governor's Mansion, happens from 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m. for ages 18 and over. Participants will purchase their own lunch at the historic Oyster House on Olympia's waterfront. \$30 includes transportation from and back to Volunteer Park; space is limited to 5-7 people. This event is sponsored by the Mustard Seed Project and Key Pen Parks. Register by Sept. 8 at 884-9240 or chad@keypenparks.com.

Sept. 16-Disaster preparation

Chuck West, a division chief of the KP Fire Department, presents "What If?-Disaster preparedness on the Key Peninsula" from 7-9 p.m. at the Key Center Library. Donations for the KP Food Bank are appreciated. 884-2242.

Sept. 17-Register for adult softball

Registration for fall adult coed softball is due today. Eight games will be played on Sundays beginning on Sept. 25 through Nov. 7. Fee is \$220/team on a first-come, first-serve basis. Four to eight teams are needed. Chad, 884-9240 or chad@keypenparks.com.

Sept. 21-GED Classes begin

Key Peninsula residents are able to complete a basic skills education for college entrance or a GED. Classes are held Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9:30-11:30 a.m. at the Home Fire Station. New evening classes on Monday through Thursday from 6:30-8:30 p.m. are now available at the TCC Gig Harbor Campus. For information, registration and orientation call Tracy Clark, 253-460-2356.

Sept. 25-Zumba begins

Zumba, a fusion of Latin rhythms and easy-to-follow moves, is offered on Saturdays in the Whitmore Room at the KP Civic Center. Zumba is held from 9-10 a.m. Zumba Gold for seniors, beginners and those needing modifications is held from 10-11 a.m. Each class costs \$47. Register by Sept. 22 with chad@keypenparks.com or call 884-9240.

Sept. 25-Public lands day

National Public Lands Day, the nation's largest hands-on volunteer effort, is held at 360 Regional Park (SR 302 at 144th) from 10 a.m.-noon. Bring gloves, clippers, loppers, and/or shears to remove trash and invasive plants. Participants will enjoy their sack lunches at noon.

Sept. 25-Scrapbooking
Scrapbooking, featuring fall punch art, including pumpkins and a scarecrow,

(See **Community**, Page 15)

(From **Community**, Page 15)

perfect for borders, accents or cards, will be held from 12-6 p.m. in the Whitmore Room of the KP Civic Center. Registration is \$15; see www.kpciviccenter.org for applications and more information.

Sept. 26-New worship time

Lakebay Community Church announces a new Sunday Worship Service time at 9:30 a.m. New classes and seminars for all ages will follow the service. www.lakebay-covenant.net or 884-3899

Sept. 30-Flag football deadline

Non-contact flag football will be played in two leagues on Fridays and Saturdays from Oct. 15-Nov. 20 at Volunteer and Semmel Parks. Leagues are for 1st/2nd and 3rd/4th grades. Fee is \$40/player, which includes team t-shirt, and 4-8 teams will play. Register by Sept. 20 online at www.keypenparks.com or www.penmetparks.org, or call Chad, 884-9240.

Sept. 30-Candidate forum

A forum for candidates for the general election is held in the Whitmore Room of the KP Civic Center starting at 6:30 p.m. 884-3456

Oct. 4-Indoor soccer registration

Key Pen Parks offers Indoor Soccer for ages 4-8 with games on Saturdays from Oct. 9-Nov. 13. A team is ten to twenty kids, who will play with scaled-down equipment at KP Middle School gym. Adult involvement is encouraged during the sessions. Fee is \$43/child, which includes a t-shirt. Fifty-minute sessions begin at 9 a.m. for ages 7-8, 10-10:50 a.m. for age 6, 11-11:50 a.m. for age 5 and 12-12:50 for age 4. Fee is \$43/child. Register by Oct. 4 with Chad, 884-9240 or chad@keypenparks.com.

Oct. 7-Fuchsia club

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

KP Civic Center seeks board members

Key Peninsula Civic Center solicits interested members of the community to serve on the board.

The annual board meeting is November 11, 2010. All members of the Key

Peninsula are welcome to attend and can vote at the annual meeting. Board members serve one-year terms.

Interested? Call the KPCC at (253) 884-3456.

Emergency preparedness event offers essential information on County services

Staff Report

The Gig Harbor and Key Peninsula Emergency Services along with government agencies, community churches and members of the community are hosting an emergency preparedness event Sept. 11 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Chapel Hill Church.

September is National Preparedness Month, and the free event will provide classes and information on the many emergencies that are possible.

“We are trying to generate the in-

terest and enthusiasm that will cause people to take responsibility for their own preparedness and not rely solely on governmental agencies to meet their survival needs,” said Don Lee of Chapel Hill.

Keynote speaker will be Tom Minor, and a brief service will be held in memory of those who lost their lives on 9/11 and the subsequent loss of life of military members.

Classes will be offered throughout the day, and there will be booths with information.

Sept. 1-30-Quilts shown

Beautiful quilts will be on display at the Gig Harbor Civic Center, 3510 Grandview Street; call 857-4842 or go to www.gigharborquiltfestival.org

Sept. 4-Narrows run

The Rotary Club of Gig Harbor North sponsors the Tacoma Gig Harbor-Tacoma Run, a 10-mile run. A two-mile Fun Run/Walk and a short Kids’ Dash all start from the Galaxy Theatre in Uptown Gig Harbor at 6:30 a.m. Ten-mile and two-mile participants receive a commemorative t-shirt and custom race medal. A post-run party, featuring the Shy Boys Band, will be held in the Rotunda of Uptown Gig Harbor after the runs. Information and registration is available at www.active.com (search “over the Narrows”) or at 16 Running and Walking, 6745 Kimball Drive, Gig Harbor.

Sept. 4-Art walk

The Gig Harbor Art Walk is held in historic downtown Gig Harbor from 1-5 p.m. Contact 888-842-9344.

Sept. 17-Free movie

“Autumn in New York” is shown at 10 a.m. at the Galaxy Uptown Theatre. The free movie is sponsored by the GH Welcome Club; all are welcome to

OFF THE KEY

have coffee and discussion after the movie. 253-236-6490.

Sept. 17-Oct. 3-Play presented

“Hair Spray” plays at the Paradise Theatre on weekends. Call 851-PLAY for tickets or go to www.paradisetheatre.org

Sept. 18-Harbor hounds

Harbor house will walk in downtown Gig Harbor. Dogs must be on a leash. Go to www.harborhounds.com for rules, fees, and registration forms or call 206-406-2730.

Sept. 18 & 19-Studio tour

A self-guided tour of 32 local Gig Harbor artists in 28 studios will be from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Go to gigharboropen-studiotour.org for list of artists and map.

Sept. 25-Chowder cook-off

Gig Harbor and Key Peninsula restaurants compete for the title of Best Chowder at the Gig Harbor Farmers Market on Kimball Drive. Go to gigharborfarmersmarket.com for more information or call 851-7397.

SEPTEMBER PUBLIC MEETINGS

KP Metro Parks

Sept. 13, 7:30 p.m. at Volunteer Park Annex

Fire District 16

Sept. 14 & 28, 6 p.m. in meeting room, Key Center Fire Station

Key Peninsula Community Council

Sept. 8, 7 p.m. at Key Center Library

Peninsula School District Board

Sept. 9, 6 p.m. regular meeting at district office

KP Civic Center Board

Sept. 9, 7 p.m. in Whitmore Room, KPCC

LIC

Dessert meeting, Sept. 15, 7 p.m. Long-branch Improvement Club

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Herron Island is the perfect retreat! Relax in this wonderful cared for Chalet with SE water views of Case Inlet. Finished wood throughout. Features include open beams w/vaulted ceilings, lrg upstairs loft w/a view & main floor bedroom.

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Nestled on over a peaceful acre this gorgeous home shows its beauty as you walk through the front door & are greeted by the wonderful hardwood floors and a grand entry. A large living area w/open floor plan has a gas fireplace & spectacular custom built-ins.

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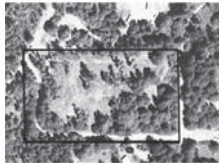
LAKE HOLIDAY \$79,950
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Janette Weister
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Photo by KPMS student photographer Kim Westenbiser

In back, Washington Peninsula Chapter of Project Linus official Pat Gracz oversees eighth grade KPMS students displaying blankets they made for Project Linus, Jade Absten, Alayna Piwonski, Zory Nichipor, and Kayley Hershey. Far left is KPMS Principal, Jeri Goebel.

KPMS students giving back with warmth

By Hugh McMillan, KP News

Key Peninsula Middle School Principal, Jeri Goebel, explained that, "Project Linus is an organization which collects homemade blankets to deliver to hospitals for children receiving chemotherapy

and treatments for cancer."

It's a way to give a little bit of comfort to the children, and is named for Linus, the character in the classic comic strip "Peanuts."

Eighth grade students Jade Absten,

Alayna Piwonski, Zory Nichipor, and Kayley Hershey spent lunch time and stayed after school to make the blankets for children in need. Project Linus honored the girls with a special volunteer patch and letter in recognition of their community service.

WWU ranked as Top School in Pacific NW

BELLINGHAM – Western Washington University is the highest-ranking public, master's-granting university in the Pacific Northwest, according to the 2011 U.S. News & World Report college rankings.

"While we are pleased to be recognized by this and other national rankings, the true measure of Western's excellence is the quality of our programs and, consequently, the caliber of our graduates who are highly sought after by employers and who become leaders in their fields and communities. The active minds of our more than 100,000 alumni change the lives of the citizens of our state and nation in so many important and enduring ways," said WWU President Bruce Shepard.

"Our students realize their aspirations because of our dedicated, gifted and inspiring faculty and staff."

Western also is ranked third among top public master's-granting universities in the West, a region stretching from Texas to the Pacific.

And Western was among the top colleges in its category in the West for a high percentage of freshmen students returning to school the following fall. (See freshman retention rates.)

U.S. News has separate categories for "national" (doctoral-granting or research) universities and liberal arts colleges and for specialties such as business and engineering.

The news magazine's annual rankings are posted on its Web site, <http://www.usnews.com>. Rankings are based on a variety of criteria including academic reputation, student selectivity and retention, faculty resources, peer assessment and financial resources.

Source: Western Washington University



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KEY PEN PARKS



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Indoor Soccer
Key Pen Parks is offering an Indoor Soccer program designed for the little guys & gals. This program gives youth the chance to learn & improve skills & fundamentals of soccer. Scaled down equipment, specialized drills & games are used to ensure success for all kids. Adult involvement is encouraged.

Ages: 4-8
Location: KP Middle School Gym
Day/Date: Saturdays, 10/9-11/13
Sess #1: 9:00-9:50am (age 7-8)
Sess #2: 10:00-10:50am (age 6)
Sess #3: 11:00-11:50am (age 5)
Sess #4: 12:00-12:50pm (age 4)
Fee: \$43
Min/Max: 10/20 per age group

Co-ed Volleyball League
Registration ends Sept. 8th. A fun 6 on 6 recreational Co-ed Volleyball league is here! Played on Sunday evenings starting at 6:30pm. Self officiated w/the best three out of five to 25. Mandatory captains meeting Monday Sept. 13th at 6:30 pm at KPCC Gym.

Age: 18+
Location: KP Civic Center Gym
Dates: 9/19-11/14
(No games Oct. 31st)
Fee: \$290
Min/Max: 4/8 teams

Non-Contact Youth Flag Football
Dream about playing football? Come & participate in this non-contact, pass only league w/emphasis on sportsmanship, teamwork & participation. Two leagues available, 1st/2nd & 3rd/4th grades. Great way to introduce your child to football in a fun recreational setting. Players will be notified in late Sept. of team placement. Season begins Oct. 15th and runs to Nov. 20th. Fee includes team t-shirt.

Days: Fridays & Saturdays
Location: Vol. & Sehmel Parks
Fee: \$40 per individual
Min/mix: 4/8 teams

For more information contact Key Pen Parks at 253-884-9240 or chad@keypenparks.com

Note: Registration forms available at Key Pen & Pen Met Parks. websites. Deadline is Sept. 20th. Coaches meeting Sept. 30th 6:30 pm at Gig Harbor City Hall.

National Public Lands Day
The nation's largest hands-on volunteer effort to improve public lands. In 08, 120,000 volunteers built trails & bridges, removed trash & invasive plants planted over 1.6 million trees. Join us for the 17th annual National Public Lands Day.


Location: 360 Regional Park (SR 302 at 144th St, Gig Harbor, WA)
Day/Date: Saturday, Sept. 25
Time: 10-12pm
Note: Bring gloves, clippers, loppers, & shears. Bring a lunch for noon!

Zumba
Fuses hypnotic Latin rhythms and easy-to-follow moves. The goal is simple: We want you to want to work out & get hooked. Zumba achieve long-term benefits while having an absolute blast in one hour of calorie-burning, body-energizing, awe-inspiring movements meant to engage, & captivate for life.

Location: Whitmore Rm, Civic Ctr.
Date: Saturdays, 9/25-11/30
Time: 9-10am
Fee: \$47
Min/Max: 5/20
Note: Deadline to register 9/22

Jams & Jellies
Learn how to save the flavors of summer for winter enjoyment. Explores how to make jams & jellies. Samples to taste & recipes to take w/you!

Instructor: Barbara Rowland
Ages: 14+
Location: Vol. Pk Concession Bld.
Day/Date: Monday 9/13
Time: 6-8 PM
Fees: Park\$12 Instructor day of class: \$12
Min/Max: 5/20
Note: Deadline to register 9/9



Key Pen Parks
"The key to your next adventure"

OFF THE KEY

Grand opening set for new history museum

GIG HARBOR -- The Harbor History Museum will celebrate its grand opening Sept. 18 with a ribbon cutting, free museum tours, salmon bake and entertainment from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The new 15,000 square foot museum is 10 times larger than the previous building, which closed in 2008.

The new museum is located at the corner of Harborview Drive, between Donkey Creek Park and the Gig Harbor Bay.

The one-room Midway Schoolhouse, the 65-foot commercial fishing vessel Shenandoah, and the first Thunderbird sailboat are among the new exhibits afforded by the expanded space. At the opening, visitors will have access for the first time to the museum's permanent exhibit exploring the history of the Peninsula: Connected by Water, as well as to a display in the Grand Lobby of a restored Norwegian rowboat and an exhibit about the Tacoma Narrows Bridge, which includes bent metal pieces of the original bridge, Galloping Gertie.

A Living History Program will introduce visitors to historical characters such as commercial fisherman Peter Skansie, mosquito fleet captain Emmet Hunt and

pioneer teacher Lucy Goodman.

Children are invited to raise and lower a mast at the Haul the Sail interactive and create displays on the curved magnetic wall of the Showcase Gallery, and everyone is encouraged to learn more about the culture of the Native American tribes at the Daylight Gallery.

The museum's first special exhibition will be Stars and Stripes: A captivating collection of America's icon. This world-class exhibition provides a look at America's icon through the eyes of a graphic designer who has assembled a vast array of American Flag memorabilia ranging from Native American weavings to toy flag-bearer soldiers to political artifacts. The exhibit will run through January 16, 2011.

The Harbor History Museum will be open weekdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesday through Sunday. Regular admission is \$6 for adults, \$5 for seniors and military, and \$4 for children age 7 to 17. Children 6 years of age and younger are admitted for free. Additional information regarding the museum, its exhibits, programming and grand opening activities are posted on <http://www.harborhistory-museum.org>.

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Election costs reduced, Pierce County poll sites open at lower cost

Tuesday, Aug. 17 was Primary Election Day, and voters faced important choices in federal, state and county races. The Primary Election determines the top two candidates to advance to the General Election. In Pierce County, voters have the option to Vote-By-Mail or go to a polling place. Of the state's 39 counties, Pierce County is the only one that offers polling place elections.

Fifty-six polling places were open for the Primary, and will also be open for the General Election this year from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Election Day.

"I'm happy to report we have been able to reduce the cost of conducting polling place elections by 47 percent," said Pierce County Auditor Julie Anderson. "By returning our tried and true precinct tabulators to the polls, ballots can be counted at the polling place rather than transported to the Election Center for counting."

For the last three years, Ranked Choice Voting prevented the use of precinct tabulators. Since voters repealed Ranked Choice Voting, Pierce County can return to counting ballots at each polling place. This saves considerable time, labor and expense. Pierce County has also saved money with more ef-

ficient printing of polling-place materials.

The county has approximately 404,987 active registered voters. Approximately 82 percent use a Vote-By-Mail ballot. The remaining 18 percent of voters have registered to vote at a polling place. The Elections Division estimates that 37 percent of eligible voters will cast ballots in the Primary. According to the estimates, 44 percent of the Vote-By-Mail voters will return a ballot, and 6 percent of poll voters will participate on Election Day.

If you would like to Vote-By-Mail for the General Election, it is not too late. Call the Elections Division at 253-798-VOTE (8683) and a ballot will be mailed to you.

Poll voters continue to dwindle as more voters opt for Vote-By-Mail. As poll voters decrease, the cost per ballot cast is correspondingly more expensive. During the February 2010 Election, the cost per poll ballot cast was \$12.76. In comparison, the cost per Vote-By-Mail ballot was \$3.76.

"We want to increase the polling place participation rate to bring the unit cost down," Anderson said. "It's frustrating to provide a unique and excellent service, only to see it underutilized."

Source: Pierce County

County Council seat race update

Staff Report

Unofficial results for candidates for the District 7 County Council seat being vacated by Terry Lee are showing Stan Flemming (R) and Betty Ringlee (D) in the lead as of press time. The unofficial election results had Flemming at 5,354

votes and 22 percent, and Ringlee at 4,109 votes and 17 percent.

At press time, the Key Pen's candidates' votes were lagging. Chuck West (D) was at 2,407 and Larry Wingard (R) had 1,856. Voter turnout for Pierce County is reported at 30.82 percent. The top two candidates will advance to the general election in November.

KP arts organization celebrates national arts education legislation

Staff Report

The U.S. House of Representatives passed legislation designating the second week of September as "Arts in Education Week."

Two Waters Arts Alliance is proud to be bringing arts to the Key Peninsula schools, and Laurie Austin said the passing of legislation is a good sign.

TWAA's program, Artists in Schools, works with students in Evergreen, Vaughn, and Minter Creek elementary

schools, Key Peninsula Middle School and Peninsula High School.

"Artists in Schools help students improve reading and math skills and develop their problem solving skills and creativity through the arts," she said.

Though TWAA brings programs to local schools in the spring, Austin said the organization hopes to secure funding to expand the program to include the fall semester.

For more information on TWAA, or to donate, email info@twowaters.org.

Call for columnists

Got something to say? The Key Peninsula News is looking for guest columnists to contribute columns on a rotating basis. The columns may be entertaining, informative, humorous or serious and must pertain to topics relevant to Key Peninsula readers. Previous published work is not a requirement for this position, which is unpaid.

To be considered, please submit the following: a one-paragraph biography or background summary, a one-paragraph

proposal outlining your column ideas and potential topics, and at least two proposed columns of 500 to 600 words or less.

Submissions must be emailed to news@keypennews.com. If you have questions, call us at 884-4699.

Deadline for submissions is Oct. 15. The finalists will be selected in November, and those selected will be announced in our December edition. The first rotation will begin in January.

Host families needed for exchange students

International high school exchange students are coming to study on the Key Peninsula during the 2010-11 school year.

STS Foundation, a non profit student exchange organization, is looking for host families in the area for two students, Stefan and Pascaline.

Stefan is a 16-year-old boy from Osna-

brueck, Germany. Pascaline is a 17-year-old girl from Pornichet, France.

The host family provides a separate bed, family meals and a safe environment. If your family is interested in being a host family, call Lillian at 1-800-522-4678 or send an e-mail to lillian@stsfoundation.org. For more information visit www.stsfoundation.org



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To learn more, download the complete **Refrigerator Market Profile** from http://www.energystar.gov/ia/partners/manuf_res/downloads/Refrigerator_Market_Profile_2009.pdf

Getting to know you

I just received an email with the disturbing news that our President is a closet Muslim, part of a nefarious plot to take over the world. It also pointed to the MANY WAYS our President fits the profile of the Antichrist! in the book of Revelations (sic), thus proving that the One World Government and FEMA death camps are swiftly approaching.

Sometimes I'll tell someone that I'm a minister, only to discover they aren't happy with that. They accuse me of all sorts of things, from hating gays and women to playing on people's fears in order to get rich (note: if that's the plan, it's not working very well).

This is the sad state of the world in which we live. Accusations and rhetoric stand in the place of trust and understanding. Much of what passes for news exacerbates the problem, as ideology and political agenda trump hard facts and the nuances of life.

I get it – the world is changing rapidly. It's tough to keep up with it all. Our grandparents never thought they would see an African-American president, or a day when people of the same gender could marry. "Foreign" religions are planting roots in our soil – I recently noticed a sign advertising a Buddhist monastery here on the KP. Change is upon us, and it's hard to make sense of it all.

It's September, and we're being reminded of the horrific 9-11 attack. While some call for understanding and reflection, most cling to nationalism and anger. As with so many other issues, people on 'our side' listen to 'our experts' and form opinions about 'those people' without ever taking the time to cross the divide and make personal contact.

As a Christian, my example is Jesus, the one who chose to leave Heaven and live on earth, a gesture of reconciliation toward us all. I have a friend who has chosen to do something similar with Muslims: he's lived among them, studied

Dan Whitmarsh
Writing by Faith



with them, sat with them in their prayer times, all in an effort to build a healthy bridge of friendship and communication.

This is not easy work. While the chasms that divide us can be unhealthy, so too is pretending those differences don't exist. We can't ignore the fundamental points of disagreement between Christianity and Islam, just like we can't ignore the differing issues between political viewpoints, understandings of marriage and family, or plans for the economy. Differences are real, and they matter.

What we can do, however, is get to know our neighbors as real people, listening to their stories, hopes, and ideas. We can work toward friendship even while disagreeing on basic tenets of worldview.

On Sept. 12, my friend Andy will be leading a discussion on understanding and relating to the Muslims in our community. It will be at the Key Peninsula Civic Center, from 4-6 p.m., and it's free. You're all invited and encouraged to come.

This isn't about an advertisement, though. It's a plea to all of us to look beyond the easy stereotypes, to dig deeper than first impressions; it's a call to do something heroic – to leave our comfort zones and get to know someone who is different, someone with whom we disagree. It's a suggestion that we befriend others and listen to their stories, rather than settling on labels and sound bites. We all share this community. We can do so with suspicion and mistrust, or with friendship and understanding. Usually, the only thing necessary is a little effort, a simple conversation, a question or two. Give it that, and the world will be a much better place.

Good clean fun brings area churches together

Staff Report

On Sept. 11, from 2 to 6 p.m. there will be a celebration of good, clean fun along with recognition and several moments of silence and prayer in memory to 9-11 and then the fun begins.

This year marks the third annual 'Key to Worship' event, a musical collaboration performed in harmony with area churches that has caught fire on the Key Peninsula and beyond. There is plenty of musical diversity ranging from gospel to today's current worship team music.

"We are excited more than ever for year number three and WayPoint Church will be hosting this year's event" said Gary Viers, event creator. "Again this year we will focus on the Red Barn youth project in an effort to educate

and make aware the various community features and benefits along with the ongoing challenges of getting the doors open for service."

Musical performances of area churches include: Gig Harbor Nazarene, InnerChange Worship, Lakebay Community Church, Longbranch Community Church, WayPoint Church and Wellspring Fellowship. The event is free, and everyone is welcome to join in the fellowship and music.

Families and children are strongly encouraged to participate. There will be a host of activities, games, arts and crafts for ages for 0-K, elementary grades, middle school and up. If you would like to volunteer for any of these age groups or other duties such as clean-up etc., please contact Glen Ehrhardt (253) 884-6255 or glen@harvest-timber.com.

KP News 'Where in the World'



Photo courtesy of Jackson Renz
Connie Renz pauses at Kapa's Beach Park, Kaua'i, Hawaii.

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Out & About

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Photo by Ed Johnson, KP News

Music, food and fun continued during Beyond the Borders, a yearly event at the Longbranch Improvement Club. The LIC had been hit by vandals the night before the event, so all activities had to be held outdoors on a rainy August day.



Photo by Frank Slater, KP News

Bill and Tracy Ketts harvest a crop of lavender at Blue Willow Lavender Farm on Wright-Bliss Road in August.



Photo by Ed Johnson, KP News

A joustier demonstrates his skill, and that of his horse, during the Washington Mid-summer Renaissance Faire held in Buckley.



Photo by Eleanor Walters, KP News

Vegetables are thriving in the community garden behind Sunnycrest Nursery in Key Center.

FD 16 CALL LOG

A summary of calls for Fire District 16 for July 25 to Aug. 14

July 25

Crews responded to a rollover type vehicle accident in the Wauna area involving a 21-year-old woman. The vehicle sustained moderate damage after it rolled over and landed on its wheels, leaving the woman uninjured.

July 26

Firefighters responded to the report of someone burning during the burn ban. The fire was found to be a campfire used for cooking. The small fire in the approved pit was a legal fire and the owner had taken pre-cautions.

July 28

Firefighters were called to a possible house fire in Vaughn across the street from the Key Peninsula Civic Center. The fire was started when a pan on the stove caught fire while it was heating up. The quick action of an occupant in the house saved the day when she grabbed the pan and threw it outside. No one was injured. The occupant was fortunate to have avoided any burns from the splatter. When pan fires occur, firefighters advise that you 'put a lid on it'.

July 30

Two 13-year-old Gig Harbor girls were swept away by the currants under the Purdy Bridge after they jumped into the water. One girl injured her neck and back on the initial plunge and her friend swam after her to help. Bystanders jumped into the water to assist but were unable to fight the strong current. Firefighter rescue swimmers pulled the two young ladies from Burley Lagoon while the 'would be rescuers' rescued themselves. The injured girl was placed on a backboard in the water and hoisted to a waiting ambulance on SR302. Traffic on SR032 was stopped during the rush hour rescue performed by both Gig Harbor and Key Peninsula Fire Departments.

July 31

A crew of five responders handled nine emergency calls and staffed an open house at the Wauna fire station. It started

with a brush fire in Purdy that was extinguished on the waterfront bank adjacent to several businesses; two auto accidents resulted in transporting of four people to area hospitals including the 41-year-old driver of a Mini Copper that missed a sharp corner in Vaughn; three other ambulance transports; a complaint of an unauthorized outdoor fire; one automatic fire alarm and a request for water rescue that turned out to be a mistaken alarm rounded out the day.

Aug. 1

Two vehicles were involved in a rear end type auto accident on SR302 near Lake of the Woods. A large truck stopped to turn left into the lake development and a sedan following the truck failed to stop and collided with the truck. Two people sustained minor injuries, the two occupants in the truck were uninjured.

Aug. 2

A 52-year-old man from the Lake Minterwood area suffered a broken ankle when he fell from a ladder. The ladder collapsed while he was painting his house. EMTs splinted the man's ankle and transported him to a local hospital.

Aug. 4

A 70-year-old California man fell approximately 30 ft. from a tree while trying to rescue a cat. The semi-conscious man was treated by medics for possible internal injuries while being transported to a local hospital from a residence near Minter Creek.

Aug. 5

Smoke was discovered coming from a travel trailer by a child who had gone outside into the yard of a Palmer Lake residence. The young girl ran back inside to tell her parents who came out to find flames coming from the 16 ft. 1970's vintage camp trailer. Fire crews arrived to find the trailer fully involved, six feet away from the home with the father spraying a garden hose protecting his home. The fire was quickly extinguished by the female fire crew.

A 50-year-old Kirkland man sustained a moderate head injury when his motorcycle left the roadway near Danforth drive on SR302. He did not remember the accident and could not tell investigators the cause of the one vehicle accident. The man was treated by KP Medics while en route to an Airlift landing zone. He was then flown by helicopter to Harborview Medical Center in Seattle.

Aug. 6

A 20-year-old man from Roy fell onto his BBQ when he got out of his tent in the early morning at Penrose Park. The young man, who was recovering from a long night of festivities, got an ambulance trip to a local hospital for the possible broken ribs and chest pain.

Aug. 12

A Chevrolet sedan driven by a 29-year-old Gig Harbor man caught fire while it was being driven. The man stated that they had worked on the car to fix a fuel leak earlier. The car, which was a total loss, burned in the Lake of the Woods development just off SR302.

Aug. 14

Key Peninsula medics responded to a call for a "motorcyclist down in the roadway" to find one of their own off duty firefighters injured. The 48-year-old man, travelling at 45 mph, struck the side of a Mazda Sedan when the car, driven by a 29-year-old Lacey woman, turned in front of him at the intersection of Key Pen Highway and SR302. The firefighter was first treated by another off-duty Paramedic/firefighter who came upon the scene. The firefighter was transported to a local hospital for moderate injuries.



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(From DOGS, Page 13)

Cook said.

She has been competing in agility events for eight to 10 years. Her former trainer, Susan Perry, lives and trains in Gig Harbor. Joan has her own equipment in her backyard now and trains her own dogs. She does mostly AKC shows.

Gillian Crawford, who grew up near Horseshoe Lake, currently of Gig Harbor, was secretary of the event. She said there are different reasons why dog owners enter such events, and what goes into the preparation.

"The runs can cost about \$17 a run and each dog does two runs a day. Winners get ribbons and medallions. Points go to the national breed club. It might just be spending a day with your dog and having fun.

"These dogs are treated as high-performance athletes. Some get regular massages, acupuncture and chiropractic treatments. They eat the best dog foods. They are often treated much better than their owners," Crawford said.

Buck Broatch from Seattle said the

competitions can be hazardous. "Exhibitors take their chances running on uneven grass. You can sprain an ankle. The dog has to pay attention to know where to go. Sometimes the exhibitor gets lost. Twisting and turning disorients you. You turn around and don't know where to go.

"A lot of people go to training classes on a weekly basis. For some it's a full-time job, three to four times a week," Broatch said.

Each dog competes in two events a day. The standard agility course includes three contact obstacles: A-frame- up/down, teeter that moves up and down, and the dog walks up a high walkway then down. Weave poles, tunnels, a collapsed tunnel (chute) of fabric, and various jumps complete the course. The jumper's course has no contact obstacles and consists of jumps and weave poles.

Before the start of the event, exhibitors walk the course without the dogs and plan where they will be and how they will hold their arms and hands to signal the dog. No dogs are allowed on the field until the actual completion.

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Photo by Hugh McMillan, KP News

Windows were broken at the Longbranch Improvement Club the night prior to the Beyond the Borders event.

(From **BURGLARIES**, Page 1)

It is not known if the two incidents were carried out by the same burglars.

Lisa Larson, owner of On the Way Deli, said a window was broken out and the thieves broke the bars off the window. Though they gained entry to the deli and attempted to take money, they left empty-handed, Larson said.

"They destroyed the place looking for money and they took the safe," she said. "It weighs between 200-300 pounds and I hope they got a hernia," she said.

One thing she knows they didn't get is money. "It was empty," she said. "I have money bags that were laying around. They were all scattered, paperwork was ruffled, but we don't ever keep money there."

Larson said she has been focused on her family. Her daughter just gave birth to a baby three months early.

"My dad and staff have handled it (the break-in) with absolute dignity, and I haven't been there," she said.

Friends at Homeport Restaurant in Home had a donation jar for Larson's granddaughter and the family. The parents are not able to work as the baby has endured surgeries and various medical procedures.

Burglars used a crowbar to break in to the Homeport, and owner Wally Johnson said they took the donations for the baby.

"They took all the money," Johnson said. "They took the money for Lisa's granddaughter, took the money for the backpacks for kids program and money from the cuss jar we use for the Christmas fund to support local children."

It appears they only wanted money, as nothing else was touched, Johnson said. They also took money from the jukebox.

"They're after money," he said. "It's not a good sign."

It isn't the first time either of the eating establishments have been broken into, and Johnson said he plans to install extra security cameras and reinforce the doors.

"It really makes you feel violated," he said.

It was the previous night that vandals broke signs, and made a mess of things at the KC Corral in Key Center.

Sheryl Mirenta, owner of KC Computer Repair, said the tenants have spent close to 50 hours cleaning the courtyard and planting flowers to enhance the appearance of the shopping center.

"They tore the signs down, ripped flowers out of planters and broke light bulbs," she said. "It's just malicious and it makes me angry."

Her shop has extra security measures, including bars on all the windows and a security system with alarms to the Sheriff's Department, she said. She plans to increase security by installing video cameras, she said.

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(From LEVY, Page 1)

rounding events at a conference and asked the department's attorney Joe Quinn to investigate, he said.

In June, Nelson and three FD 16 employees attended a conference in Wenatchee. Nelson, Riegle, Bosch, and Gelslechter were in the lounge of the hotel. Christina Bosch, the office manager, joined them for dinner. She was not there to attend the conference.

Nelson became intoxicated and when he returned to his room, ended up flooding the bathroom. People below the room reported water dripping from the ceiling.

All of the FD 16 members knew of the incident, Lique said.

"They knew the room had gotten flooded, but they still chose to come back and not tell anybody," he said.

The timing couldn't have been worse. The investigation began July 19, and by July 30 Lique received the findings. He said he spent the weekend reviewing the report and decided to move forward with the hearing, though it would mean negative press just prior to Election Day.

"Relatively speaking it went pretty



FD 16 commissioners supported Chief Tom Lique's recommendations to reprimand volunteer and career firefighters after an incident at a conference in Wenatchee.

Photo by Faith Rhodes, Special to the KP News

quick," he said.

Lique said it would have been easy to put off the decision until after the election, but he didn't want to do that. He said it was important to make the decision quickly, even if it meant losing the levy.

"That was definitely a concern of

mine," he said. "My goal was to not give any presentation like I was trying to delay it or schedule it around the election. I walked into it knowing that if the levy fails, in part it could be because of my decision to process through this investigation. I realized it could fail, and expected it to be a negative impact."

Instead, Lique said he is still trying to grasp the 80 percent vote.

"The voters were able to put it all aside and save the ambulance in an overwhelming majority," he said. "I think 80 percent is the best in the state in this election, and it's pushing a record. The voters want the ambulance."

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5. Marble Rock Hoof Wellness Center

8010 158th Avenue KPN, Lakebay 98349 (Next door to the Art Barn)

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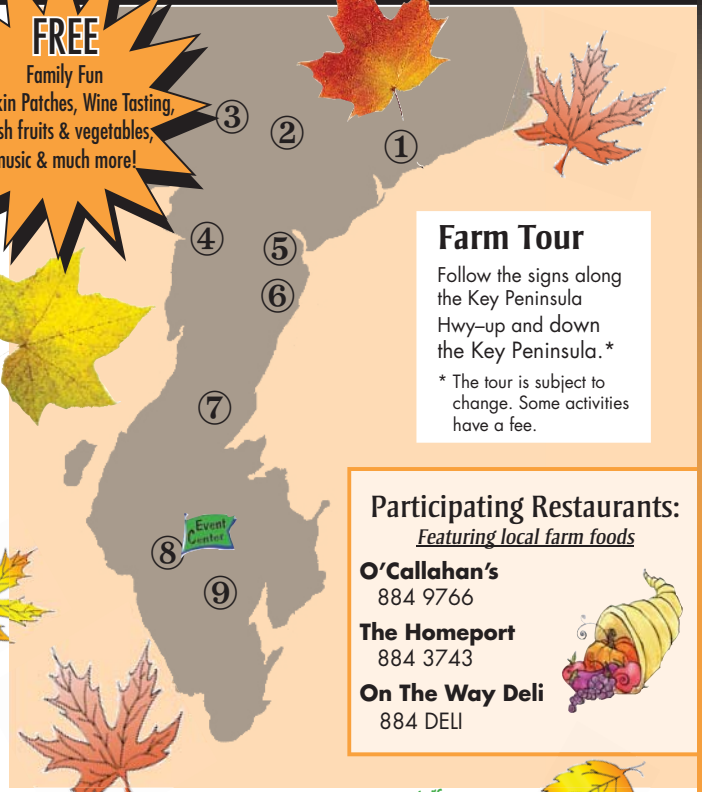
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