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Celebrating our veterans, freedom



Photo and story by Hugh McMillan

Heads are bowed at a reading of the names of 207 veterans whose burial flags flew over a brightly sunlit Vaughn Cemetery this Memorial Day. The annual event, sponsored by the Key Peninsula Veterans Institution, is a moving testimonial to those whose service embraced the several branches of the U.S. military all the way back to the U.S. Revolution, and played host as well to Canadian, United Kingdom, Scotland and Belgian veterans' flags. KPVI president Cy Young shared the program with, among others, Art Brown and Bill Micenko in full highland Scot regalia on the bagpipes, Dean Draeger, Kawn Schaefer, Chris Draeger, Greg Dorries, and Troy Nary who harmoniously sang the National Anthem and other patriotic tunes, and Pacific Lutheran University student Tyler Nugent and University of Washington student Matthew Henriksen who ended the ceremony with a beautiful rendition of taps. As we celebrate our Independence Day, the Key Peninsula News would like to extend our thanks to all the men and women who are serving and have served our country to keep it free.

Auto thefts on the rise

By Rodika Tollefson
KP News

On a recent Saturday afternoon, Roy Lampson discovered something that didn't belong on his property: the carcass of a car. It was the second such

discovery the Tacoma resident found on his Rocky Bay land within the last year.

On closer inspection, the retired welder discovered one more thing: The vehicle condition appeared to be the work of a professional. There wasn't much left of it, either—no engine, no

doors, it was stripped clean.

"It appeared to me that whoever chopped it knew what they were doing and had experience," he said.

The vehicle, an '88 Honda Prelude, was stolen from a Gig Harbor resident, and according to the police report, "it appeared to have been on the property

(See THEFTS, Page 20)

Coolican addresses Promise to Youth

By Hugh McMillan
KP News

In early June, more than 30 community members including a good number from the Key Peninsula met at Peninsula High School to hear school district Superintendent Jim Coolican discuss the importance of "Developmental Assets" and community and educational partnerships. He emphasized that, "as the district moves from a 'good' school

district to a 'great' school district, we must have the mindset of no excuses regarding students achieving their full potential."

"Education reform has taken the nation from universal access to universal proficiency," he said, stressing the district's commitment to student achievement.

Coolican highlighted student survey results cited in the Promise to Youth (See PROMISE, Page 10)



Photo by Hugh McMillan

Superintendent Jim Coolican addresses the Promise to Youth Community Leadership forum in June at Peninsula High.

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There's no place like Home

By Irene Torres
KP News

Eighty-five years after the Mutual Home Colony was dissolved by a judge's order, the Home community is receiving attention once again. This time, the attention is favorable, with formal recognition of the area as the first planned community in Pierce County.

Growing to more than 200 acres with over 200 inhabitants, it was platted in 1901. Populated by householders who shared a utopian vision, Home displayed "an absence of all laws, rules, and regulations," wrote founder Elmer Verity in 1897. They all agreed not to condemn any of their neighbors or ostracize them

To find out more

For information and application forms, contact Airyang Julia Park in the Planning and Land Services Department, Pierce County. Another public workshop will be scheduled in the upcoming weeks. Call 798-2783.

for their actions, no matter how much those actions deviated from the established custom of the era.

These days, residents of Home have a unique opportunity. With a grant, the Pierce County Historical Landmarks Commission will undertake a historic survey, conduct an inventory of sites to enhance information on the physical

characteristics of the Home planned community, and produce a design manual to guide remodeling, new construction and building additions.

The purpose of these activities is to maintain the significant historical character of the community.

Two workshops to benefit homeowners are planned for public input. Home residents can take advantage of financial incentives designed to encourage compatible rehabilitation of existing homes and businesses. Airyang Julia Park, Pierce County historical preservation officer, cited an example: "If a property owner invests more than 25 percent of the assessed value of improvements (buildings) on his or her property, in a manner consistent with keeping or restoring important historic elements of the building, the invested dollar amount will be subtracted from the assessed

valuation of the property." This will lower property taxes for 10 years.

Property owners must apply for the special tax valuation within two years of beginning the construction activity. Construction-related expenses, including fees for architects and permits, qualify for this special valuation tax relief. Certain restrictions apply to the qualifications for tax incentives. The property must either be visible from a public right-of-way, or be made available for public viewing once a year, according to the Pierce County Planning and Land Services.

Once described as a "dilapidated community" by J.C. Harrison in his publication *Solidarity*, Home now has the means and the motivation to flourish and to disprove the words of radical author Emma Goldman describing Home as an "anarchists' graveyard" in her autobiography, "Living my Life."

New park district to select officers

By Rodika Tollefson
KP News

The newly created Key Peninsula Metropolitan Park District has been meeting concurrently with the Key Pen Parks and Recreation District since its creation in May, but the new commissioners were planning their first independent meeting at the end of June to select officers and launch into other business discussions. An estimated payment of \$10,000 for the month of May was expected to be received from the county, based on the month's collected zoo/trek taxes.

The MPD has started practically from scratch, and Commissioner Kip Clinton, who is also on the KPPRD board, said by-laws, a mission statement and a priority budget would be the first order of

business. The MPD board is also working with KPPRD on transfer of assets and inter-local agreement before the KPPRD can be dissolved.

"We are holding over some of the existing committees like Friends of Rocky Creek and Friends of Home Park. We are taking baby steps," Clinton said, adding that some felt no need for a big ceremony and instead were eager to "get down to business." Gig Harbor's MPD had one such ceremony in June, with Pierce County Councilman Terry Lee and others present for the celebration.

Clinton said the first big expense would probably involve the much-needed replacement of the tractor mower, a hand-me-down from years ago from another park jurisdiction. One decision was firm so far: The commissioners will not request a per diem stipend, she said.

"We have agreed it's a strictly voluntary position," she said. The district will, however, hire a part-time, seasonal employee to work on weekends and as needed, and anyone age 18 and older interested in a summer job is encouraged to call Commissioner Jerry Schick at 884-1560.

Several MPD representatives were also planning to visit the Si View MPD in North Bend, created more than a year ago, to discuss their experience.

"We're putting together projects that begin with the re-invigoration of Volunteer Park and will expand outward to develop other recreational projects," said Commissioner Caril Ridley, adding that KPMPD will look for grants and volunteer help to continue in the same "good old barn raising enthusiasm" as has been the tradition on the Key Peninsula.

Your chance to be heard

The Community Council elections were approaching at press time, and the first elected Key Peninsula Community Council was set to start work in July. But as organizers were rounding up their work, they had several jobs unfinished. One of the biggest was to compile a survey, which gives residents a chance to identify their priorities and concerns.

The sub-committee that developed the extensive survey was planning to compile the results that would give the new council a starting point.

"We are all ears, if you have something good or bad to say about the Key Peninsula, this is your chance," said Denise Carron who helped design the survey that has been improved several times and now includes categories from police and land use to activities for kids and economic development. "The goal is to give the new directors an idea of what's important to the community."

Although the surveys were previously distributed at the Livable Community Fair, locations such as the library and at group presentations, Carron said the committee is currently using the Key Peninsula News as the main way to disseminate it (see survey on page X). Anyone who has previously picked up a survey as well as KP News readers are strongly encouraged to voice their views and return the surveys. Carron said that the immediate goal was to have feedback for the new council, then the information gathering would continue in upcoming months so more interested residents could participate.

Peninsula KEY NEWS

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'Town meeting' discusses Wauna traffic, building

By Danna Webster
KP News

The third public meeting by the Friends of the Old Wauna Post Office was held to discuss the two most important subjects: the traffic on State Route 302 and the historic building. The traffic solution was summed up by one woman in the audience after listening to a regional director of Washington State Department of Transportation, a state senator and a state representative: An increase in the traffic and more deaths would place SR-302 on the highway budget priority list. Unfortunately, she wasn't much off the mark.

Regional State Highway Director Randy Haim explained the work done by his department and their budget. He discussed the priority list for the so-called "Nickel Tax" money and that SR-302 is not on that list. He mentioned that a vote on the Regional Transportation Improvement District (RTID) plan has been postponed until November 2005. That plan would provide a budget for some highways not on the Nickel Tax list. However, there is an uphill battle to persuade voters to vote for more tax.

Sen. Bob Oke pointed out that when the monorail was approved, the car tab was increased by \$400. Rep. Lantz added that it's a common complaint of voters that they are already paying for the bridge. Add those complaints to the increase in gas at the pumps and a tax increase doesn't look pretty.

According to Haim, an estimate for improvements for two highways in our region, one of them being SR-302, is \$143 million. Oke said the state is about \$50 million behind what is needed for roads and bridges. "Far apart between the needs and revenues," was Haim's

summation. A gentleman in the audience piped up that these traffic problems were on a five-year plan when he moved out here and that was 26 years ago.

The discussion turned to the condition of the Old Wauna Post Office. Lantz said although the building is "no architectural jewel," it is evidence of what we had on our waterfront from the days of the water highways.

"This little, modest, falling-down building represents something significant in our district," she said.

Lantz is co-chair of the Heritage Caucus, which oversees applications of cultural facilities like the Old Wauna Post Office. The building is a good candidate for funding, according to Garry Schalliol, director of the Heritage Resource Center for Washington State Historical Society. He explained that matching funds are used for modest projects like this. For every dollar the state puts in, the project puts in two and the project dollars can be "in-kind" monies.

Tim Kezele, president of the Key Peninsula Historic Society said "in-kind" support is already available for the building. One lumber company has offered materials and there are people willing to do the work. "From a historic view, it fits right into our mission," Kezele said. He added that the Old Wauna Post Office, which represents the days of the Mosquito Fleet, is one of the few historic buildings left on the Peninsula because many others have been torn down or burned down. Kezele reported that improvement efforts were halted last year and the roofing has become unstable. Already there is some new water damage to the interior so it is important to have a new roof before the rains of next winter.

One resident commented, "It seems



Moderated by Nancy Lind of Friends of Wauna Post Office, the Wauna Town Meeting panel included, left to right, Garry Schalliol, director of Heritage Resource Center for Washington State Historical Society, Sen. Bob Oke, Rep. Pat Lantz, and Department of Transportation Regional Director Randy Haim.

Photo by Danna Webster

the people who want it moved are adamant," while other voices in the audience chimed out, "It's the traffic".... "It's an eyesore."

Paul Garrison, a Wauna resident, offered the suggestion that a replica of the building could be built on some nearby state property, to which Lind replied, "I'm not really interested in another building."

Lind told the audience earlier, "I like to clean up," describing her cleanup projects at Rocky Creek Conservation

Area and at Home Park. She said she wants to do the same for the Purdy Sand Spit. "It's criminal how filthy that sand spit is," she said. "The county is not going to do it."

The Friends of the Old Wauna Post Office will take the building restoration proposal to KP Metro Park District for insurance authorization and they will ask the state for funding support, Lind said. So, as the Bard said, "to be or not to be: that is the question"—one that's still up in the air for that little piece of history.

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Key Peninsula Community Plan

Editorial

Your chance to sound out

Local residents have complained for years about lack of services on the Key Peninsula. There are plenty of issues to go around—bad traffic, bad roads, lack of law enforcement, the list goes on. So when the citizens are given the chance to voice their concerns, they would seize the opportunity and start talking. Right?

Not according to the Community Council organizers, who have been trying to get the residents' opinions on local priorities. A comprehensive survey, circulated by the Community Council, brought back five dozen replies or less.

The council does not have the power to raise taxes. It is giving the community a chance to voice concerns. The survey will be used to prioritize the work of the newly elected directors.

If you have complained about lack of this or that, tell the council what you like (or don't like) about living on the Peninsula. They are listening, and their group voice, in turn, will be heard by officials who have the power to improve services.

Get a pen, turn to page 9, check boxes, then mail the survey in—it can't get any simpler than that. Let us all stop complaining and start contributing by at least filling out a survey, if nothing else.

A recent survey taken at the Livable Communities Fair held on the Key Peninsula indicated a strong community interest in responsible land use planning, including prevention of sprawl, saving the rural character of the peninsula, providing protection for the rights of farmers, and improving the permitting process.



LEE

Additional concerns related to safety, conservation and protection of the environment, improving transportation and infrastructure, promoting local business, and providing activities for youth.

Because of this interest, I proposed a resolution to the Pierce County Council to initiate a community plan for the Key Peninsula and to fund its development.

Why does the Key Peninsula need a community plan? I believe with the completion of the second Narrows Bridge, we will see an influx of people who see an easier approach to a relatively untapped, beautiful area—an area where they might like to live or

have a summer home at the beach. That's why it's important to have in place a plan which will direct that growth, address associated traffic issues, and keep the character of the Key Peninsula intact.

A community plan will provide residents, property owners, business people, and Pierce County government with a detailed sense of how the community wants the Key Peninsula to develop in the future and what standards could be utilized to create and maintain the look and feel envisioned in the plan. The plan will identify actions necessary to implement the community plan, including adopting or revising land use regulations, identifying priorities for use of public funds to develop physical improvements such as better roads, water-related improvements, and park development, social programs, and economic programs.

The community plan will be developed under the direction of the Key Peninsula Community Planning Board (CPB), a group representing a variety of interests and geographic locations of the community. Representation may include: Peninsula Light Company, Pierce

County Fire District #16, the Peninsula School District, the Key Peninsula Business Association, development interests, parks and open space interests, the Key Peninsula Gig Harbor Islands (KGI) Watershed Committee, and local residents. If you are interested in participating as a member of the CPB, I encourage you to contact my office for an application. We anticipate the CPB will be created and begin work this fall.

The process of creating a community plan includes many open meetings and public hearings designed to gather the input of citizens and incorporate those desires into a unique plan developed to address the specific needs of the Key Peninsula and to protect the quality of life which you enjoy here. This plan will be developed by Key Peninsula citizens for the future of the Key Peninsula.

For information about the community plan, contact Mike Kruger at 253-798-2700.

Terry Lee represents the Key Peninsula on the Pierce County Council. To contact his office, you may e-mail him at tlee1@co.pierce.wa.us or call 253-798-6654.

Letters to the Editor

Resident cautions boat owners

I want to thank the Pierce County Sheriffs Department, Officer Delgado, and Mark Runions, the harbormaster at the Longbranch Marina, for the rapid recovery of my missing 2003 17-foot Boston Whaler boat that was moored in front of my home on Dutchers Cove. The boat suffered approximately \$1,200 damage over a 12-hour period in May. The thieves apparently had been casing our neighborhood for several days. The thieves trespassed through a neighbor's yard, took their kayak and accessories, and rowed out and jump-started my ignition system.

I strongly urge all South Sound residents to be aware of any suspicious activities, and most importantly, don't just tie up your boat; find a way to lock it up.

The good news is that the sheriff's Department has a complete physical description of the culprits and a

description of their motor vehicle. All police information has been forwarded to my insurance company. Now I have to come up with \$500 out of my pocket to meet the deductible.

*Ned Swanson
Vaughn*

Volunteer expresses thanks

I have been an extremely fortunate person and I haven't expressed often enough how appreciative I am of so many people that have helped me with the projects I get involved in. This is a letter to say THANK YOU! Thank you to all the people who attended the first very well mannered meeting at the Civic Center in January which gave us all a chance to hear the concerns and the desires of several residents of the Key Peninsula about the restoration of the Wauna Post Office. The guests that night were Terry Lee, County Councilman, Airyang Park, County Historic places facilitator and Tim Kezele, President of the KP Historical Society.

The second equally civil meeting in March focused on the horrific traffic in the Wauna corridor and Terry Lee and Lois McMahan were the guests. We are all concerned about that dangerous stretch of road but it isn't on the radar of WSDOT so far. Some day, hopefully. The third meeting was in June when both issues were discussed with guests Sen. Bob Oke, Rep. Pat Lantz, Garry Schalliol, Director of Heritage Resource Center of the Wash. State Historical Society and Randy Hain, Regional Director of the Puget Sound region for WSDOT. It was a recap of the first two meetings with some more perspective from our distinguished guests. Some have said nothing got resolved but I believe that before you get resolution you get information and that's what was accomplished. It cost me some money but it was worth it. Thank you to everyone who attended and for your input. This is the democratic Town Meeting style where everyone gets to be heard.

Another THANK YOU to the women of the Washington Corrections Center for

another good job at Rocky Creek Conservation Area on June 7. These women are so valuable to us for the cleanup work that they perform once a month in this well used park. I was told by a resident recently that he sees many people using the trails. Last evening 50 kids and many adults from the LDS church had their annual work and barbecue and it was awesome. They cleaned up garbage, walked and snipped the trail, weed whacked and had hamburgers. Lu Winsor, whose dedication to this park was so profound, would have been very pleased.

Another big THANK YOU to Marty Marcus, who initiated a picnic table project for Home Park, to the KP Business Association for funding, to Bill Macarras' Boy Scout Troop for building the table and to Loyd Miller and Phil Bauer for pouring the concrete and finishing the table.

I am quite awed with so much support from the community and it proves to me that these areas that have been cleaned up are very valuable to our park system.

*Nancy Lind
Home*

Museum expansion plans on hold...for now

By Rodika Tollefson
KP News

As someone who grew up on the Key Peninsula, Tim Kezele seemed like the perfect choice to become the president of the local historical society. So when he was asked to do the honors about a decade ago, he agreed but on one condition: He had to get a museum along with the job.

A few months later, he did, and the Key Peninsula Museum was born. Heading to its 10-year anniversary next summer, the museum features another dream along with its displays of artifacts—plans for an expansion that would about double its space, add more displays and finally create a home for treasures that are now stored away.

Jim Olson, a renowned Seattle-based architect whose family has lived in Longbranch for more than nine decades, has even offered to come up with conceptual drawings. The dream includes a second room, a glassed-in front porch and a wheel-chair-accessible courtyard.

But despite much enthusiasm about the project a couple of years ago, the drawings are on the back burner for now. The reason, said Kezele, who is still the KP Historical Society president, is lack of enough volunteers to help carry current programs and projects let alone develop new ones.

"Our volunteer core is so small that we're focusing on keeping the museum operating and trying to build our membership," Kezele said "The same people are trying to do all the work, we

Visit the museum

Do you want to know more about your history?

The Key Peninsula Museum is open Thursday and Saturday from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. during the summer and volunteer docents are eagerly waiting to share. The museum is located at the Civic Center in Vaughn. If you'd like to join the roughly 140 members of the society, call the Civic Center at 884-3456.

just need more active participants."

Funded largely by membership dues—which started at \$1 per year and are now \$10—as well as book sales and contributions, the museum also depends on grants but last year it had none. Kezele said they were "pretty impressed to make it the whole year without grants."

The expansion idea was dedicated to longtime residents John and Addie McMenamin, who left for California a few years ago. Kezele, an avid collector of historical objects he routinely saves from all over the Peninsula, said potential additional displays would include the buggy used by late Elmer Olson for courting and a tall band saw circa 1882.

"We have the vision and the need and I believe we have the support," Kezele said. As the museum heads toward its anniversary next year, perhaps its ambition will grow beyond an architect's rendering and the collective memories of the community will get a bigger home.

Fire district gears for 'big' month

By Rodika Tollefson
KP News

July looks to be a big month for Fire District 16, with the expected arrival of four new firetrucks and the anticipated opening of the Wauna fire station.

The district was expected to take delivery of its first truck by the end of June, and if all goes as planned, it will be in service by middle of July, according to Capt. Guy Allen. The other three new rigs were anticipated to be in service by the end of the month.

Before the trucks can be used, they must be outfitted with the proper equipment and all personnel must be trained to operate them. Chief Eric Livingood Nelsen said in late May that the plan was to give one truck each to the Key Center, Wauna, Home and Wright Bliss (Vaughn) stations while keeping two old ones at the other two stations and two more for backup and training.

One of the reserve trucks will be kept at the new maintenance shop operated by Gig Harbor's Fire District 5. FD-16 signed an interlocal agreement with Gig Harbor

"The plan was to have a regional maintenance facility and we've been working on it for a couple of years."

- Chief Eric Nelsen

for vehicle maintenance at the facility, which will mean savings for the district. The smaller vehicles will continue to be serviced locally at car shops.

"The plan was to have a regional maintenance facility and we've been working on it for a couple of years," Nelsen said. Previously, FD-16 shipped its broken-down firetrucks to Tacoma, Bremerton and other locations.

The opening of the new Wauna fire station, delayed while some construction issues were solved, was also expected in the upcoming weeks. Nelsen said an inspection for a certificate of occupancy was due after details like a fence were finished up, and in the meantime staff was going to start moving in furniture and equipment.

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Path planning moves ahead

A recent meeting of interested citizens who discussed the creation of a new bike and pedestrian path along KP Highway created a list of concerns that organizers will address, such as landscaping and signs. But aside from those details, the biggest work ahead is identifying funding and working with Pierce County to make sure the path meets requirements and regulations. Simon Priest, one of the local residents spearheading the effort, says many people have come forward with donations and offers of help. Surveying, brush cutting and path clearing are some of the tasks involved.

The path will stretch between Home Park and the Key Center Library and will be used by joggers, kids riding bikes or walking to their bus stop, or anyone else looking for a walkable area. The 4.5-mile paved path will not widen the road, nor will it require easements from property owners, Priest said. It will be between 4 and 6 feet wide.

"We are at the exploration stage. It's a concept that the community said it wants and needs," Priest said. "We hope it will be built in the spirit of Volunteer Park."

For details, contact Jimmy Livengood at 857-6484.

GED program graduates 'Class of 2004'



Photo by Hugh McMillan

In June at Evergreen Elementary, Tacoma Community College representatives presented GED certificates of graduation for 19 graduates at the first Key Peninsula GED Graduation ceremony. Fourteen proud, elated graduates able to attend, whose ages spanned decades, were Stephanie Higgins, Tonia Houle, Sandra Huffman, Lisa Hutchinson, Alissa Kegher, Stephene Latham, Joseph Lindhartsen, Attida Malo, Kyle Mason, Diane Merritt, Jamie Mikelsen, Bonnie Phillips, Shayne Reynolds, Jesse Thomas, Kym Williams, Derrick Wolbert, Debra Worley, Kaida Worley, and Louis Worley. Congrats, graduates!

Accidents, fires: Price of littering goes beyond fines

Litter and it may hurt in more ways than you think—Washington state officials are warning residents. This summer, the state Department of Ecology is continuing its campaign to reduce the amount of litter that lands on the state's highways by reminding drivers about the fines and dangers associated with their actions.

"In 2002, some 350 car accidents involved litter or road debris," said Cullen Stephenson, who manages DOE's solid-waste program. "Such accidents can have tragic results. Most could be avoided simply by tying down or covering loads."

Drivers can be fined \$194 for failing to secure a load, and costs can escalate if an accident is caused. Lit cigarettes pose another threat, with drought-like conditions and dry forests causing concerns about wildfires.

"Based on these concerns, the Legislature has upped the fine for tossing a lit cigarette to \$1,025," Stephenson said.

About 352 pounds of litter about 3,000 cigarette butts are picked up for every mile of highway in the state, the agency said.

Fines for illegal dumping also have been increased, to up to \$5,000 and jail time.

If you see someone littering, call toll-free 866-LITTER1.

Key Peninsula Baptist Church
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July 19-23rd from 9am to noon, children from 4 yrs through 8th grade are invited to join us at the Key Peninsula Civic Center, for **FREE** Bible activities, snacks, games, crafts, music and more! Call Pastor Rouse for info at 253-853-6761.

Also: Youth entering 8th through 12th grades are invited to summer Youth Group on Wednesday nights at the Civic Center. Info: 253-884-1911.

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Teacher shares inviting home, love

By Dana Shaw
KP News

Down the wooded lane and up the cobblestone path to Deanna Williams' cozy Nature's Child Montessori school in Lakebay is an atmosphere as inviting inside as it is scenic outside.

Children ages 3-6 find an enthusiastic, loving teacher eager to start their learning. Learning the Montessori way means seeing, hearing and feeling, Williams says. They don't just say or write the ABCs, for example, they feel them. They run their little fingers over sandpaper letters while saying aloud the sound the letters make.

Does it really make that big of a difference?

The founder of the method, Maria Montessori, discovered it worked very well with mentally handicapped children. She wondered what would happen if she tried it on other children — and found they learned even faster.

Deanna Williams noticed the difference in her own daughter when



Photo by Dana Shaw

Deanna Williams demonstrates some of the interactive games used at the school.

she was enrolled in a Montessori school. She went from drawing black angry pictures to drawing Carebears and rainbows. This inspired Williams to start her own school, she says. She received her Montessori teaching certificate from the University of Puget Sound, then converted her home into the friendly, inviting little school it is

today.

Williams handles between 10 and 12 students September through June. The price is \$3,500 a year for full time and \$1,900 for half-day. Parents can also pay monthly.

Along with the Montessori lessons she teaches Spanish and plays the piano for singing time.

Chamber of commerce looks at economic development

By Rodika Tollefson
KP News

Trying to change the "them and us" mentality that often separates the Gig Harbor and Key Peninsula, the Gig Harbor/Key Peninsula Chamber of Commerce has launched an effort to help the areas work together at economic development and help businesses improve the economic climate, expand and thrive. In May, chamber representatives had the chance to hear out the local business owners, in a neighborhood forum that was part of the chamber's strategy to reach specific geographic areas and industries.

The concerns raised were not new, with health, building and land-use permits causing the top frustrations, and the business owners feeling stuck when trying to deal with the county. "You can't get anything built without permits. We heard horror stories about having to jump hoops," said Bob Dragoo of Peninsula Light, chairman of the chamber's economic development committee.

Dragoo said Gig Harbor business owners had expressed similar sour points in the past and the chamber has been working with the city to streamline some of the permitting processes. Now, their plan is to communicate what they heard to Pierce County. He said county and health department representatives will be invited to upcoming public affairs forums that the chamber holds every week.

"We need to become the nerve endings for this community," Dragoo said. The Key Peninsula forum was the first of several neighborhood meetings planned, part of the chamber's strategy for addressing business growth and expanding its outreach. The approach also includes the creation of a task force to look specifically at growth issues, and so-called S.W.O.T.—a group that meets with individual businesses to talk about their strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats.

"Growth will happen whether we plan it or not. We need to look at growth not just in a small microcosm, and we need to start working together," Dragoo said.

Businesses interested in learning more about the economic development efforts should contact the chamber at 851-6865.

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Show & Tell



Photo by Irene Torres

Above, The KPMS band, students of Meg Mansfield, entertained a crowd at Jerisich Park during the Maritime Gig Festival in June. Right, Key Pen's Lorina Schaufler, who was an artist in resident as part of Two Waters Arts Alliance Artists in School program, is showing Minter Creek Elementary students how to decorate plant pots using "recycled treasures." *Photo by Rodika Tollefson*

Bottom right, Vaughn Elementary fourth grade students are nearly ready to celebrate the end of the year—launching rockets seemed like a good way. *Photo by Hugh McMillan*



Left, Key Peninsula Middle School science teacher Karen Borders gets ready to present details about the school's new partnership with NASA to the school board. Right, Christian Larsen, a school psychologist at Vaughn and Harbor Heights elementaries, was honored in June with the school district's Ellen Fay Award for Academic Excellence. Larsen was called an inspirational leader dedicated to students. He is seen here with Superintendent Jim Coolican who presented him with the award. *Photos by Hugh McMillan*

Kudos

Student receives George Fox University degree

Gregory Dombek of Vaughn graduated from George Fox University during the midyear commencement ceremonies in May. Dombek received a bachelor of science degree in biology.

George Fox University is a Christian university of the liberal arts, sciences, and professional studies that enrolls about 2,900 students at its campuses in Newberg, Portland, Salem, Ore., as well as Boise.

Wauna resident accepted to Jamestown

Emily Cox of Wauna was accepted to Jamestown College in North Dakota beginning in the fall. Jamestown College is a liberal arts and science college affiliated with the Presbyterian Church. The approximately 1,050 students may select from 30 areas of interest and 17 programs.

Cox is a graduate of Peninsula High School. She plans to major in history and participate in fastpitch softball. During high school, she was active in fastpitch, soccer and the National Honor Society.

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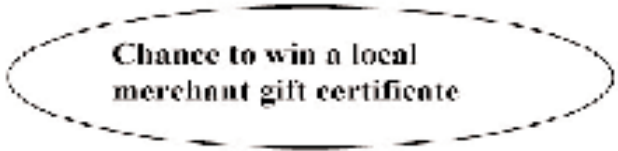
The KPC is a non-profit community organization formed by the residents from the Parly Bridge to Devils Head to improve the quality of life on the Key Peninsula. During the last year many individuals have worked together to develop an organization to help solve priority problems and achieve important goals. The KPC is not a unit of government and cannot tax or regulate. The KPC will work and partner with public and private organizations to improve our community in areas such as law enforcement, public safety, transportation, recreation, employment, health and youth programs including a peninsula-wide youth council. KPC is your voice for our community.

As a Key Peninsula resident we would like to learn more about your areas of interest in our community. Please take a moment to answer the following survey questions. Your feedback is valuable and will allow us to start addressing your areas of interest in the future. Thank you for sharing your thoughts with us. All answers are confidential and will be reviewed by the KPC. If you have any questions please contact the KPC at 884-0557.

 Submit a completed survey by July 25th, 2004 for a chance to win one of the following local merchant gift certificates:

- \$35.00 Peninsula Market
- \$25.00 Sunnycrest Nursery
- \$15.00 Home Country Store

*****Winners will be notified by phone*****



Please return completed surveys and KPC raffle ticket either by mail to Key Peninsula Community Council, 8903 Key Peninsula Highway, Lukeby, WA 98349 or by inserting it into one of the many Community Council drop-boxes located at Key Center Library, and Key Peninsula Community Services (in Home).

KPC 2004 RESIDENT SURVEY

POLICE (Please mark top 4 areas of interest in this category. Area of interest is defined as an area of concern or importance)

- | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Police patrols | <input type="checkbox"/> Police response time | <input type="checkbox"/> Illegal dumping | <input type="checkbox"/> Drug enforcement | <input type="checkbox"/> Crime prevention |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Animal control | <input type="checkbox"/> Enforce speed limits | <input type="checkbox"/> # of police on peninsula | <input type="checkbox"/> Drug/Meth labs | <input type="checkbox"/> Abandoned vehicles |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Search/Rescue | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | | | |

EMERGENCY SERVICES (Please mark top 4 areas of interest in this category. Area of interest is defined as an area of concern or importance)

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fire equipment | <input type="checkbox"/> Fire personnel | <input type="checkbox"/> Fire response time | <input type="checkbox"/> Local emergency preparedness |
| <input type="checkbox"/> EMT equipment | <input type="checkbox"/> EMT personnel | <input type="checkbox"/> EMT response time | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

MEDICAL/DENTAL (Please mark top 3 areas of interest in this category. Area of interest is defined as an area of concern or importance)

- | | | | | |
|---|--|--------------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dental Clinic | <input type="checkbox"/> 24/7 urgent care facility | <input type="checkbox"/> Hospital | <input type="checkbox"/> Health Dept. services | <input type="checkbox"/> Pharmacy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Elderly long-term facilities | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | | |

INFRASTRUCTURE (Please mark top 6 areas of interest in this category. Area of interest is defined as an area of concern or importance)

- | | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Road improvements | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 rd turn lane on KP Hwy | <input type="checkbox"/> Bike trails on KP Hwy | <input type="checkbox"/> Road maintenance | <input type="checkbox"/> Lighting on KP Hwy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cell phone coverage | <input type="checkbox"/> Public transport (buses) | <input type="checkbox"/> Traffic control (lights/signs) | <input type="checkbox"/> New roads | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 nd road parallel KP Hwy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Litter control/pick up | <input type="checkbox"/> Cross walks | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | |

YOUTH (Please mark top 4 areas of interest in this category. Area of interest is defined as an area of concern or importance)

- | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Youth activities | <input type="checkbox"/> After-school programs | <input type="checkbox"/> Teen programs | <input type="checkbox"/> Activity center | <input type="checkbox"/> Day care |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Play areas for children | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | | |

(From **PROMISE**, Page 1)

brochure provided all participants to emphasize the importance of community-school partnerships. "We can do anything but we can't do everything," he said. "All of us have a role in building assets for our community's youth."

Among those attending were State Reps. Pat Lantz and Lois McMahan and Pierce County Councilman Terry Lee. The Key Peninsula was well represented by Cristi Watson, executive director of the Key Peninsula Community Services/Food Bank; Jacque Crisman, principal of Evergreen Elementary;

Dennis Taylor of Safe Streets; Mike Kecham, director of YMCA's Camp Seymour; B.J. Bolson, co-principal of KP Middle School; Koffe Kpachavi, director of Camp Colman; Dexter Reuhl and Rochelle Doan of Communities in Schools-Peninsula and, doubtless, others.

Gig Harbor Peninsula Chamber of Commerce member Werner Karshner facilitated a discussion of various topics relevant to furthering the Promise to Youth developmental asset approach. He noted that, "Developmental Assets identify 40 concrete, positive qualities and experiences that have a direct

relationship and influence upon youth development. By working together to provide and build these assets for our children we can consciously and intentionally nurture our children to become competent, caring and successful adults."

If you would like to know more about the Promise to Youth Community Leadership Team and the Developmental Assets, would like a copy of the Promise to Youth informational brochure, or would like to have a speaker for your organization or group, contact Carol McLaughlin at 857-8183 or mclaughlinc@peninsula.wednet.edu.

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->Insert into Community Council drop-boxes located at Key Center Library, and the Key Peninsula Community Services Food Bank (in Home).

LAND PLANNING (Please mark top 6 areas of interest in this category. Area of interest is defined as an area of concern or importance)

- | | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community development plan | <input type="checkbox"/> Septic monitoring | <input type="checkbox"/> Less tree cutting | <input type="checkbox"/> Monitor land use | <input type="checkbox"/> Land use planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Noxious weed control | <input type="checkbox"/> Litter control | <input type="checkbox"/> Maintain rural feel | <input type="checkbox"/> Wildlife protection | <input type="checkbox"/> Fish/shellfish protection |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Natural vegetation buffers | <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial zoning | <input type="checkbox"/> Ground water supply protection | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS/ACTIVITIES (Please mark top 6 areas of interest in this category. Area of interest is defined as an area of concern or importance)

- | | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community activity centers | <input type="checkbox"/> Health Club | <input type="checkbox"/> Transit for elderly/disabled | <input type="checkbox"/> Counseling programs | <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer programs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior activities | <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural/Art activities | <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment facilities | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Communication (how to get info out to public) | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | | | |

PARKS (Please mark top 4 areas of interest in this category. Area of interest is defined as an area of concern or importance)

- | | | | | |
|---|---|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parks and trail system | <input type="checkbox"/> Parks with no user fee | <input type="checkbox"/> Clean beaches | <input type="checkbox"/> Beach access | <input type="checkbox"/> Walking trails along KP Hwy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bike lanes/routes | <input type="checkbox"/> Marine safety | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation programs/class | <input type="checkbox"/> More events | <input type="checkbox"/> Organized sports |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public boat launches | <input type="checkbox"/> Parks maintenance | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | |

BUSINESS & EMPLOYMENT DEVELOPMENT (Please mark top 4 areas of interest in this category. Area of interest is defined as an area of concern or importance)

- | | | | | |
|---|--|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Retail stores | <input type="checkbox"/> Recruit sm/med businesses | <input type="checkbox"/> Dine-in restaurants | <input type="checkbox"/> Fast food restaurant | <input type="checkbox"/> Services along KP Hwy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Support for cottage industries | <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial development | <input type="checkbox"/> Job opportunities | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

SCHOOLS (Please mark top 4 areas of interest in this category. Area of interest is defined as an area of concern or importance)

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Quality of Primary Schools (K-5) | <input type="checkbox"/> Availability of post-secondary schools | <input type="checkbox"/> Quality Secondary Schools (6-12) | <input type="checkbox"/> Support for home schooling |
| <input type="checkbox"/> School sports | <input type="checkbox"/> After-school programs | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

CATEGORY RANKING (Using 1 = most important through 11 = least important, please rank the following categories in order of importance to you)

___ Police	___ Emergency Services	___ Medical/Dental	___ Infrastructure
___ Business/Employment Development	___ Schools	___ Land Planning	___ Community Programs/Activities
___ Youth			___ Parks

Name (Optional): _____

Zipcode _____

in Household: _____

Resident Status: Resident Non-Resident Part-Time Resident

Housing Status: Rent Apt/Home Home Owner Land Owner Land Lord (Rent home out)

Age: 18-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 75-84 85+

Want to become a KPC member? Yes No Already a member

May we contact you to clarify survey answers? Yes No **Phone Number:** _____

KPMS hosts all-district middle school dance

By Hugh McMillan
KP News

Recently at the Key Peninsula Middle School, all four of our middle schools gathered for a DJ-led dance with music from all kinds of eras including even Glen Miller; the kids were dancing to "Moonlight Serenade." As they would say, "Cool!"

There was some musical stuff from this period as well — played at a decibel level guaranteed to mangle auditory nerves. The kids were full of themselves and laughter and good spirits and having a wonderful fun-soaked evening of getting to know one another. Kids from Kopachuck chatted with KPMSers, and both danced with Goodman and Harbor Ridgers.

They joked, chatted in clusters, gyrated through dance routines that would make a pretzel blush, munched on goodies from the snack bar and had the time of

Almost to a man (boy), the guys awkwardly go through motions they hope will be viewed as "in" dancing — that is, those who aren't looking at the floor to be sure their feet are still there or clustering like ants in "man" groups.

their lives. Something they'll never forget.

Don't say you don't remember your dances at this age. Little has changed. Almost to a man (boy), the guys awkwardly go through motions they hope will be viewed as "in" dancing — that is, those who aren't looking at the floor to be sure their feet are still there or clustering like ants in "man" groups. The



Photo by Hugh McMillan

A crowded dance floor of all four middle schools' kids having a ball.

girls? They danced with one another and knew — how come they always do — what the steps were.

You didn't do that? Come on!

And while all this merriment was going on, so unobtrusively you had to look hard for them, a caring group of administrators including Barbara "BJ" Bolson, KPMS co-principal; Sharon

Shaffer, Goodman assistant principal; Thom Worlund, soon to be KPMS assistant principal; Shannon Wiggs, Kopachuck principal; Connie West, Harbor Ridge assistant principal and Jay Reifle, HRMS principal, were there to make sure all was safe, happy, clean, and reasonably orderly.

It was like stepping back in time.

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AFTER 'OURS 'rockets' at Evergreen Elementary

By Hugh McMillan
KP News

Community volunteer and former high school science teacher Chris Henderson explained some of the fine points of bottle rocket engineering to students at an Evergreen Elementary School session of the AFTER 'OURS program. The "rockets," made from plastic beverage bottles filled with water to various content levels and charged with air pressure, are launched by the students on the playing field to the delight of all participants.

"Rockets" are just one of the myriad offerings of Evergreen's AFTER 'OURS, which offered all sorts of classes during several sessions this school year, including

Operation Smart, which was "geared for fourth and fifth grade girls, and deals with math, science and technology," said Olga McDonald, After 'OURS site coordinator at Evergreen.

"We have been trained by the YWCA. Christy King, our Americorps volunteer, has been leading the group. I am very excited about the program and being able to offer it during AFTER 'OURS." She explained that Operation Smart is intended to enhance a desire in girls to learn subjects that "normally are not of much interest to girls."

"We had an AFTER 'OURS journalism class," said McDonald, "and it produced a newsletter under the guidance of Peninsula High School student Adam

Wreszkzi, who is still involved with the program. He works with Christy King in the class."

"Some other classes offered were crafts, quilting, ceramics, science, harmonica, Spanish, and a cooking class, just to name a few," she added. "We have some wonderful volunteers for our program

who are making a huge difference in the children's lives and adding to the success of the program."

McDonald said anyone interested in participating in the After 'OURS program in September may contact her at the school at 884-3393 or via email at McDonaldO@peninsula.wednet.edu



Photo courtesy of Evergreen Elementary

Community volunteer and former high school science teacher Chris Henderson explains some of the fine points of bottle rocket engineering to an Evergreen Elementary School fifth grader during a session of the AFTER 'OURS program there. The "rockets," made from plastic beverage bottles filled to various content levels and charged with air pressure, are launched by the students on the playing field to the delight of all participants.

Up-Up-Away

By Alexander M.
Published in the Evergreen Update,
The AFTER 'OURS Newsletter

There once was a class. They were making an air rocket. It is made with bottles and it is pushed up with an air compressor. The bottle cap gets tightened on the bottle and when the string pulls the cap off, the air gets pushed up the bottle and the

bottle lifts in the sky.

It was a nice class because the kids really liked the class. Eight out of 10 kids interviewed said, "I like it a lot."

They had to stand far away so they can't get hit. The bottle has a tube, which has the air going through the pipe and the pump blows the air and the bottle blows off.

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KP schools bid farewell and thanks to principals

By Hugh McMillan
KP News

Among the 30 Peninsula School District teaching and administrative personnel who are retiring this year, the Key Peninsula will miss several giants who have long exemplified the excellence in education for which they lived among us.

Among them are two principals who have inspired local kids for many years: Vaughn Elementary's Craig Shurick, after a 30-year career, and Key Peninsula Middle School's Jim Adams.

Adams is bringing to a close 41 years of dedicated service in education. His first teaching job was at a junior high school in Napa, Calif.

In the late 1970s, Jim and his wife moved to Gig Harbor where both got teaching positions at Peninsula High School and brought into the world three children, Heidi, Rob and Amy. He received a master's degree in education from the

"When I told my dad, a chemical engineer, that I was going to be a teacher, he started to shake his head and stopped, thought for a minute and said, 'Well that's a noble profession but you won't make money in it.' He, of course, was stating the obvious but he was right."

-Jim Adams

University of Washington in 1985 and in 1987 completed the principal certification program at Western Washington University.

"My goal was to be a principal of a middle school," he said. In 1989, he began fulfilling that goal with a transfer to Key Peninsula Middle School where he taught social studies and health, coached track, and served as ASB adviser. His first administrative job was as assistant principal at Goodman Middle School, which led him to Kopachuck Middle School and a year later to KPMS, both times as assistant principal.

"I eventually was assigned as principal of KPMS and have finished this phase of my career as co-principal," he said.

Adams served in the Naval Reserve in the 1950s and re-enlisted in 1975. He retired in December 1993 as a Chief Petty Officer with 25 years of service. "I served in submarines, aircraft carriers, communications and the Seabees. Over half of my time was with the Seabees for whom I have a deep sense of pride and affection," he said. "Throughout my academic career, I have had the pleasure of working with a dedicated and idealistic group of people — educators — and the privilege of knowing and facilitating the learning of thousands of young people. The satisfaction I receive from meeting former students who have in some way experienced success in their lives is awesome and they pay me the highest compliment of having been part of that success."

Adams claimed there is nothing remarkable about his career though he knew from an early age that he would be in public service.

"When I told my dad, a chemical engineer, that I was going to be a teacher, he started to shake his head and stopped, thought for a minute and said, 'Well that's a noble profession but you won't make money in it.' He, of course, was stating the obvious but he was right. It is a noble profession. It has been a rewarding career and I am proud to be an educator."

Many of his students have asked, "But why is he leaving us? He's so wonderful." And literally thousands of our kids have been the beneficiaries of Adams' deeply committed and highly professional care.

Vaughn's principal, Craig Shurick, also leaves behind very big shoes to fill.

"Can you imagine? They told me, 'You can't teach (all) kids to read!' Well, we showed them by producing some of the best readers in the district and in no time at all," he once said. "Our program is emulated all over the place, it's so good."

No one, with any degree of impunity, ever accused Shurick of a lack of determination to succeed — and the ability to inspire others to do the same.

He began his career by teaching science to grades 6-12 in 1978 and in 1982 he began a nine year stint as assistant principal at Gig Harbor High. He's been at Vaughn since 1995. Before that, from 1991, he was at Kopachuck Middle School.

He's a Pacific Lutheran University product, earning a bachelor of science, a bachelor of arts in education, and a master's of education, as well as having



Above, Vaughn Elementary's Craig Shurick opens presents at his retirement send-off party in June. Left, Jim Adams during a recent political party for Derek Kilmer, candidate for state office this November.

Photos by
Hugh McMillan

extensive postgraduate work.

He has a myriad of awards including the Association of Washington School Principals' Meritorious service award, Vaughn Elementary School's 2000 Leadership in the state's most improved school award by the Gov. Gary Locke and State Instruction Superintendent Terry Bergeson, and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation School Principal Award. Shurick would be embarrassed to see listed many other distinguished honors of which he is recipient and the seven professional associations of which he is a member.

An early memory of the effect Shurick

has on kids came at a dance rehearsal in Vaughn music teacher Mary Farr's class a few years ago. The youngsters practiced and practiced until Farr asked, "Do you think we're ready to invite principal Shurick to our performance?" This was greeted with a loud "Yes!" and a student was dispatched at a dash to Shurick's office, returning with him moments later. He was greeted with an enthusiastic roar that would make any rock star jealous.

Our kids — and their parents — will miss these wonderful educators and would no doubt join us in wishing them well in their new dreams.



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Volunteers are the backbone of fire district

By Rodika Tollefson
KP News

When the Key Peninsula's fire district was created more than five decades ago, it was operated by volunteers, and it took more than 20 years to hire a paid firefighter. Much has changed since then for the district, as technology advanced and population expanded. And although the paid staff has slightly more than doubled since 1986, volunteers remain the backbone of the department.

"There are only five career (paid) firefighters working any day per shift between all the stations," said Capt. Paul Bosch. "It's very difficult to perform the work at a fire—we need the volunteers to support the career staff."

The district is comprised of 18 firefighters including the chief, additional office staff, and more than 30 volunteers including about a dozen who live at the fire stations. Most of the resident volunteers are pursuing this as a career, though for FD-16 that may not always be a good thing.

"We're in a transition now where the typical volunteer is younger and looking for a job; we don't have a lot of volunteers who are homeowners here," Bosch said. That means the volunteers train here then accept full-time jobs with another fire district, and FD-16 has to start the training process all over for new recruits.

This process is demanding. Volunteers attend between 120 and 150 hours of fire and medical training before they can respond to calls; the training includes practicing with live fire and physically demanding exercises. Recruits also must pass medical exams, background checks and other basic requirements. Volunteers have to spend at least six

hours per month in training and respond to at least five calls—which could be challenging for those working full-time jobs, but it's a commitment they must make.

"You never know when a fire is going to happen; it's tough working full time and just happening about a fire," said Tony Carr, who started with the district three years ago as a volunteer and recently was promoted to a temporary career position. "There have been days when I was out on a call until 4 in the morning and I had to get up at 5 to go to work. It's a tradeoff you accept."

When emergency personnel respond to a call, however, there is no distinction of whether they are paid or not. Out there in the community, a firefighter or a paramedic is just that, and everybody does the job with equal professionalism. If you see them direct traffic at an accident scene or fight a fire, all you see is one team of professionals putting their lives on the line to help others.

"When we have our bunker gear on, you can't tell the difference. We all do the same job," Bosch said.

With the budget being tight, the district has not been able to increase its career staff for about a decade—yet population and the number of calls have been growing in the meantime. Bosch said the district could use at least three more career personnel, but the funding doesn't allow it.

"The citizens of the Key Peninsula should consider volunteering and helping their neighbors. There is a job for everybody," Bosch said. Anyone who is not qualified or doesn't want to be involved in rescue work can find plenty of things to do, from filing to helping direct traffic at accident sites.

"Even if it's time consuming for



Photo by Hugh McMillan

Fire District 16 volunteer and career personnel at a recent training, which is staged regularly.

someone not getting paid, part of the satisfaction for me is knowing you are helping the community you live in, getting thanks from someone whose family member you helped—that makes it worth it," Carr said.



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Public invited to hear about new hospital

Franciscan Health System will host two "town meetings" in July to update the community on the next steps of development for St. Anthony Hospital in north Gig Harbor, to celebrate the state's approval of the project, and provide more information about Zimmer Gunsul Frasca (ZGF) Partnership, one of the preeminent architectural firms in the United States that has been hired to design the facility.

The meetings will be held:

Tuesday, July 13, 7 p.m., Best Western Wesley Inn, 6575 Kimball Drive, Gig Harbor

Thursday, July 15, 7 p.m., Key Peninsula Civic Center, 17010 South Vaughn Road, Vaughn.

Kids invited to summer program

Openings are still available for all summer kids programs offered by Key Pen Family Resource Center/Children's Home Society:

Evergreen Elementary School, Mondays and Tuesday, 9 a. m.-noon

Key Peninsula Civic Center, Wednesdays and Thursdays, 9 a.m.-noon

Summer Fun Youth Programs has a program for kids going into first through fifth grade next fall and also the "Middle School Mentors" for those going into sixth through eighth grade. The cost is \$35 and scholarships are available. Call 884-5433 for details.

ASHES holds sale

The Fire District 16's auxiliary, ASHES, will hold a rummage sale August 7 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Key Center fire station. Donations are welcome and may be dropped off the preceding Friday, August 6, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. For information, call 884-4834 or 884-3771.

The Bayshore Garden Club

The Bayshore Garden Club will meet at 1 p.m. July 2 at the Longbranch Fire Station. Hostess is Dorothy Rome and Anna Waldo will present "My Mother's Garden." Edith Pinder will have the horticulture presentation; the design presentation to be announced. For information, call Sylvia at 884-2487.

Angels wanted

Summer is on us and the ladies of Angel Guild are busy as usual getting the



Photo by Hugh McMillan

Big day for new Boy Scout troop

On Saturday, June 12, Boy Scout Troop 272 held its first-ever fund-raising breakfast at the Key Peninsula Community Services/Food Bank in Home. KPCS is the troop's sponsoring agency. The troop has only been together some seven months but is well on the road to accomplishments under the direction of its Scoutmaster Mike Cope, Assistant Scoutmaster Kim Cope, and Merit Badge Counselor Stacey Voss. All proceeds from the breakfast are dedicated to support of the troop with purchases of camping equipment, scholarships for those in need, and other scouting activities. Seen here from left front clockwise are Nate Ludwig, 11, Daniel Ludwig, 15, Brian Cope, 11, Corey Cope, 13, all of whom are home schooled, Tyler Voss, 11, of Evergreen Elementary, and Kyle Cope, 16, also home schooled, and Scoutmaster Mike Cope.

shop stocked with new merchandise. We have been busy donating to good causes on the Peninsula. Last month we gave to the Community Fair, Minter Creek Elementary and Rocky Bay for two scholarships for residents to attend camp at Camp Easter Seal.

If you think you would like to be an Angel and have the time to commit to that, come into our shop and tell the clerk and she will see that your name and information get to the right person.

There is a lot of hard work involved in being an Angel but we all manage to have a good time while we are working and when we are through it is with a feeling of satisfaction. We are open from 10 to 4 Wednesday through Saturday. We have daily specials so come in and check on them.

—By Betty Barkubein

TOPS June events a success

What an awesome way to start off the summer with an "Open House" to bring our Area Captain Carlene Wellington and her husband Gary who happens to

be our TOPS Ambassador. Friends, family and others came by to see what TOPS #WA 1019, Vaughn is all about. This year the TOPS (take off pounds sensibly) is focusing on couples. We are proud to announce that we have three couples in our group and they all are an encouragement to us all.

Since this is a support group, why not get your family involved and keep each of you motivated all at the same time. It is hard enough when you have to make separate meals for the family, but this way you get to share your time with your spouse and family in helping with choosing a healthy lifestyle.

Our walk around Home was an enjoyable one. We had five people walk the whole distance and we even had a former member come and join us. She always talks about how beautiful this walk along the waterfront is. Upon completing the walk the Lakebay chapter brought apples and water for everyone. Thank you Lakebay TOPS chapter!

Summer is here, this is an opportunity to get outside and get some type of exercise. If you have questions, Jo at 884-4220 or Jena at 884-3456. Our meetings

are held every Tuesday evening in the VFW room at the KP Civic Center. Weigh-in time is 6:00 p.m. and meeting starts at 7:00 p.m.

—By Jena Henak

Musicians, performers wanted for kids

Easter Seals Camp Stand by Me began its summer season hosting groups of children and adults with disabilities at the camp property on Vaughn Bay. The camp is searching for volunteer performers—musicians, clowns, magicians and others—and all styles are appreciated. If you have an act you'd like to share with the campers and help create laughter or cheer during their camp experience, call Suzie or Alison at 884-2722.

Bible School at Vaughn Community Church

We are thrilled to have the opportunity to do God's All-Star Champions this July 5 - 9h from 9 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Pre-school through fifth grade is invited to join us in learning about sports and exploring who Jesus is! Space is limited, please contact the church office at 884-2269 for details.

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Maritime Gig has KP flavor too

It may take its name after Gig Harbor but the Maritime Gig in June had lots of Key Peninsula flavor, as residents as well as many groups represented their community with pride, fun—and lots of candy.

Seen here in far right photo, Vaughn Elementary runners, left to right: mom Tiffany Martinez, Cody Hanson, Dmitriy Sokviken, Tyler Richardson, Marcos Martinez, mom Kirsten Roberts, Adam Drage, Cole Martin, Alex Barna, Jesse Smith, and teacher Lori Harrison Hagen. Right, Peninsula School District's radio station KGHP FM volunteer personnel, front to rear, Mike Schmitz and Cameron Smith, are on the balcony over the Gig Harbor/Key Peninsula Chamber of Commerce office handling the technical side of the station's live broadcast of the Gig celebrations. The station's teacher and administrator, Lee Smith, left rear, narrates live broadcasts of the annual event's parade along Soundview Drive in downtown Gig Harbor.



Photos by Hugh McMillan

GET INVOLVED

Children's Home Society

Youth and adults needed to help with the Summer Fun Youth Program. Children's Home Society also has an ongoing need for persons with office skills. Contact Edie Morgan at 884-5433.

Peninsula Adult Basic Education Program

Key Peninsula Outreach needs to recruit tutors to help adults (16 and up) pass GED tests and/or build basic skills in reading, writing, and math. Training is provided. Contact Bob Strobe at 851-2424.

Washington State University Pierce County Extension 4-H Youth Development

4-H needs responsible, caring adults project and club leaders to mentor youth, teach life skills, and

have fun. Contact Nancy Baskett at 798-3258.

YMCA Camp Seymour

Volunteers needed to assist with the following summer camp programs for children 8 to 14: woodworking, sailing. Lifeguard and/or instructor also needed for community recreational swim and swimming lessons for children. Contact Magill Lange at 884-3392.

To submit a listing, call 884-4699 or email news@keypennews.com.

Volunteer Spotlight: Elaine Hettick

Photo and story by Danna Webster

The 4-H Program that serves the Key Peninsula and Gig Harbor is young and still in its growing stages. Elaine Hettick, a 4-H leader for Pierce County 4-H, grew up in Gig Harbor and now owns a farm near Horseshoe Lake.

The Hettick's farm has three horses: Orphan Annie, Toby and Wonder, a billy goat with nine new kids and other habitants. Orphan Annie is a friendly, well-mannered horse that came from a wild mustang herd off the Oregon range. "I know that hard



Elaine Hettick and daughter Shawna with Orphan Annie.

work will eventually pay off," Elaine says. "I took my once wild mustang, adopted in 1977, through the 4-H

program. I started out on the bottom with her, but worked hard over my 10 years in 4-H and became very successful with her. I want to teach others that they can succeed in whatever they do if they work hard and put in the time."

Elaine's youngest daughter Shawna has just turned 5 and this year will be her first opportunity to join 4-H. What would she choose for a 4-H project? "Maybe bicycle," she says, "because I can go very fast uphill." Her mother agrees and suggests gardening and goats as other possibilities.

Parents and children working as partners is the key to success in the 4-H program. As long as the child has parent help, Elaine is open to any project. The 4-H calendar is busy with meetings twice a month, parades, presentations at fairs, and special

events.

This year, the boys and girls were involved in her 4-H group are between the ages 5-11. But she is quick to point out that projects are available through the senior year of high school. "It's a learning experience. It's all about teaching the kids life skills," she says. Those skills include public speaking, formal presentations, record keeping, animal care, responsibility, community service and being a team player.

The 4-H programs begin the first of every October. Key Peninsula families may sign-up now for the next new year.

There is a 4-H office at the Puyallup Fair grounds and sign-up sheets will be available at the Key Peninsula Fair in August. Interested families are encouraged to call Elaine Hettick at 253-851-7696.

In search of Lake Kathryn

Lake Kathryn Village Mall. You've passed it hundreds, maybe thousands of times as you entered or left Key Peninsula, but have you ever been to the lake itself? No? And why is that? Is it because the lake is hidden back in some trees like some people claim? And only fills with water during part of the year? Or is something more sinister going on? I was sent to find out.



**William Dietz
For Whatever
It's Worth**

The obvious place to begin my investigation was at the Lake Kathryn Village Mall. Starting with the Minter Veterinary Hospital, I went door to door, and asked each person I met the same question: "Where is Lake Kathryn?" "I heard it was a swamp out back," a lady named Sandy replied.

"I don't know," Shannon answered. "Maybe they paved it over," Kathy put in. "You should talk to Don Zimmerman. He would know."

Maybe they were telling the truth, and maybe not. I went next door to the Coast hardware store, where I met Dave. "So, where's the lake?" I asked, fastening him with what I'm fairly sure was a steely-eyed gaze.

"Out back," Dave replied. "It's a seasonal lake. The original plan was to clear the area, and build retirement homes, but they couldn't because of the wetlands."

"So, can I go out there?"

"No," Dave replied. "I'd rather that you didn't. Not without permission from Don Zimmerman."

Dave was hiding something, I figured, and left the store. My next stop was the Peninsula Market Deli, where I ran into Dawn. She was out on the loading dock taking a break. When I asked her about the lake she shrugged. "When people ask

"When people ask I tell them it's back in the woods."

-Dawn, Peninsula Market

I tell them it's back in the woods."

"And they buy that?"

"Sure."

All the people I had spoken to were nice, but maybe a little too nice. Maybe that's the way they are, or perhaps there was something sinister behind those smiles. Why would every single one of them give the same sort of answers? And refer me to the same man? Unless they had agreed on how to handle such inquiries ahead of time...and hoped to pull the wool over my eyes.

But one thing was obvious. The person at the very center of the potential conspiracy was the mysterious figure known as Don Zimmerman, who, clever man that he is, was hiding in the CostLess drugstore. Though evasive at first (he felt his customers were more important than

the Key Pen News), I eventually managed to corner Zimmerman, and demanded the truth. "Where," I wanted to know, "is the lake?"

"It's out back," Zimmerman insisted, "back beyond the trees. We bought 37 acres...and developed eight. The original plan was to deepen the lake and build a restaurant next to it. But you can't alter the environment within a hundred feet of the lake without a wetlands permit and that isn't going to happen."

It sounds innocent enough, doesn't it? But did you notice the way that all of the different accounts match up? As if everybody came together ahead of time? Yeah, that's what I thought too. What if the real Lake Kathryn is hidden somewhere on the Peninsula where only a chosen few are allowed to enjoy its warm, crystal-clear waters? Leaving the rest of us to swim in chilly Horseshoe Lake?

But not to worry... The search goes on. And if Lake Kathryn is out there, I'll find it—and let you know.

Key Pen resident needed for county board

Pierce County Human Services is seeking individuals who would like to serve on the Aging and Long Term Care Advisory Board and is especially interested in members representing the Key Peninsula among other locations. The advisory board assists and advises Pierce County on services to the county's aging and persons with disabilities populations.

Advisory board membership is open to individuals residing in Pierce County who have an interest in aging and long-term care issues.

Interested persons should contact John Mikel, Pierce County Human Services, Aging and Long Term Care, 3580 Pacific Ave., Tacoma WA 98418-7915, by phone at 253-798-2823, or e-mail at jmikel@co.pierce.wa.us.



Derby cancelled, fishing goes on

Photo and story by Hugh McMillan

In a drizzle that came and went most of last Saturday, Homer Larson and Theresa Kissner were trying their luck at catching a bass at Key Peninsula's Jackson Lake. They weren't aware that this was the date of the KP Sportsmen's Club annual bass fishing derby until two other vehicles appeared with people asking for the derby site before disappointedly turning back.

The soggy weather apparently dissuaded several who had called the sponsors to say they'd be there. Larson caught this barely legal size bass early on. At a chance meeting a few days afterward, he told the photographer he later "caught the biggest, tastiest bass he'd ever seen; it was over 18 inches long." He learned then that the derby had been cancelled.

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A day in the life of a Herron Island captain



A DAY IN THE
LIFE

By Colleen Slater, KP News

Captain John Farris, Master of M/V Charlie Wells, sips coffee outside his Herron Island home, listens to early morning birdsong and watches the antics of a new fawn almost near enough to touch. Quiet. Peaceful. It is an hour before the first island ferry leaves the dock for the mainland on a Friday morning. Farris is a licensed U.S. Merchant Marine officer with 30 years experience. He operated fishing boats, tugs, and workboats before accepting the Herron run. Weekday captain for nearly five years, he greets friends and neighbors in line for the 6:15 a.m. run, coffee mug in hand.

Donnie Surratt, cheerful deckhand, directs the loading, and about eight minutes later, unloading on the mainland. The signal light is green, a reminder for pedestrians to stay off ramp and dock while cars are in motion. A single high school student is among the first early commuters.

First trip back to the island carries a CenturyTel truck and several construction workers in assorted vehicles. A manufactured and two log homes are being built on Herron. "We hauled the



Photos courtesy of Frank Slater

Above, Captain John Farris on the bridge of the ferry. Below, Steve Wiggins in the wheelhouse.

(manufactured) house over in 10 trailer loads one day," says Captain John with a smile. They had to schedule midweek, and work in trailer loads as they could. It was a busy day.

On Memorial Day weekend, they ran several shuttles. Nine hundred vehicles for a three-day weekend isn't unusual. Many houses on the island are used only summers and weekends. Some island residents plan ahead to shop and run errands on other days so they can stay home on Fridays. In contrast, this winter when the snows were heaviest, the ferry carried only two cars in two days. Some drivers had difficulty navigating the hill above the landing. "The Islanders just stayed home," said Farris.

Every two years, the ferry goes to the shipyard for two weeks to be checked and repaired. Islanders are given the schedule well in advance, park their cars on the mainland, and commute by private boat.

Back at the island, captain and deckhand meet the islanders out of their cars to wait for loading time. This trip includes Terrill Farris, John's wife, to substitute at the Key Peninsula Middle School; Skylar Surratt, seventh grader; and mom Susie, also heading out to sub. Skylar loves island living for the quiet and feeling of safety. She doesn't mind being the only one her age, because she has many summer friends — some who stay and start school with her. She also has three younger sisters. Two boys and three girls also take the 8:30 a.m. ferry from the island to catch the bus to Evergreen

Elementary. The only kindergarten student will be back for the 12:30 p.m. ride home.

Captain and deckhand get a break between the 9 a.m. ferry in and the noon run out and back. They usually have another breather until after 2, for the going-home run. Today, with construction workers leaving earlier than usual, they need to shuttle at the noon passage. When there are too many cars for one load — maximum is 12 — turnaround is quick and they do a shuttle.

Most Fridays, Steve Wiggins, weekend captain, takes over on the 6:30 p.m. run. He makes his last trip back to the island at 9 p.m. Today, he's on duty earlier, so Farris can make an appointment in town. Wiggins, who captained fishing and pleasure boats before moving to Herron Island, has been operating the Charlie Wells about the same length of time as Farris.

This day the 4 p.m. has only three cars. David and Kevin jump off the school bus and chatter as they board and move inside the narrow cabin. The Surratt twins have ball practice on Fridays. David has only lived on the Herron for five months. He loves the beach, but hates his chore of scooping up and disposing of deer poop. Kevin, an islander since age 2, agrees about the beach, but has perhaps a more agreeable chore — doing dishes.

On the run back to the mainland, Wiggins invites two visitors to the wheelhouse after the boat is underway.

The bow and stern on this boat are determined by which direction it travels. Identical controls are on both sides - End No. 1, and End No. 2. A wheel on each side is for backup manual steering, but the usual mode is by hydraulic operated rudder.

The island homeowners own the ferry, renamed Charlie Wells in 1992 in memory of a much loved captain. Homeowners' annual assessments pay for about half the operation and maintenance, and ferry fees provide the rest. Low tides sometimes cause cancellations and delays, but each resident can pick up a bi-monthly schedule of dates and times. Islanders have chosen to arrange their days by the ferry schedule or have their own boats to cross the water.

The Charlie Wells has been a rescue ship in times past. One day Farris noticed a small aluminum boat with a man hanging on to the outside. The hapless fisherman had snagged a salmon, hauled it aboard, but the lawn chair he'd been sitting in flipped and he went overboard. Captain Farris steered the ferry north, helped the man back into his boat, and the story has become an island legend.

Another day, with squalls approaching, the ferry crew found a young man, with an East Coast accent, spinning around in his 10-foot pram with broken oarlocks. They towed him in and were only 15 minutes behind schedule at the mainland. Those waiting on the dock asked the crew what they'd been doing out there, but most passengers sat in their cars, read their papers, and didn't notice anything out of the ordinary.

Are the captains and crew ever bored? All three men working today say "No." Every trip is different; no two days are alike. Weather, tides, wind, passengers vary. Occasional whales are sighted, but only one so far this year. Seals are common, as are deer crossing between island and mainland.

When the wind makes the waves too rough for island docking, the ferry steers around to the north side of the island and idles until it is calmer. If the wind comes from the south on an outgoing tide, perhaps twice a year in the fall, Wiggins says waves may be three to four feet high. North winds have more effect on the mainland dock, but wind difficulties are not common.

What does Farris like best about this work? "Being home every night. Not being on the ocean. Living on an island." It's a great life for these special people who operate the Herron Island link to the mainland.



(From THEFTS, Page 1)

for an extended period of time.”

Sgt. Ross Herberholtz with the Pierce County Sheriff's Peninsula Detachment said such reports are not uncommon in their service area, which encompasses Gig Harbor and the Key Peninsula. “We know they (chop shops) are going on at different places and they are difficult to come across...A lot of times deputies are in pursuit of something else and they stumble into a chop shop,” he said.

Several agencies are working together on the problem, including the sheriff's office, Washington State Patrol and Pierce County Planning, which enforces permit violations. A code enforcement officer inspecting a property, due to complaints or sightings of wrecked cars, will contact the state patrol if suspicious activity is found, often times triggering further investigation by the Illegal Wrecking Yards unit or the Auto Theft Criminal Investigation Division.

“The majority of the guys we arrest for chop shops and illegal wrecking yards have a criminal history involving methamphetamine and narcotics and distribution,” said Trooper Johnny Alexander of the Washington State

Patrol. “It's easy to conceal in the rural areas.”

Some of the criminals scout malls and other areas for cars, sometimes close to their “operation” but often miles away. Small Hondas and Toyotas are especially popular because they can be stripped “within moments,” but it's not unusual to see a town car or an SUV involved.

“You can find them in the middle of Puyallup but it's more convenient to do it in the remote areas like the Peninsula, where it's easy to store a car,” Dean Fenton, a detective with the WSP's auto theft criminal investigation division, said. “Parts are either sold, exchanged or reassembled, but many cars are getting harder to steal, that's why they often stick to Hondas.” Other cars get shipped overseas.

Washington state is fourth in the country in the number of stolen vehicles, with a car being stolen every 15 minutes, according to WSP. Puget Sound area is No. 1 in the state, with more than 70 percent of the statewide auto thefts concentrated in the King, Pierce and Snohomish counties. Washington, in fact, has a reverse trend compared to the rest of the country: While national trends show a reduction

in auto thefts, they have been on the rise in Washington, and year 2000 had highest number in state history.

“It's very common for stolen cars to end up in a chop shop, even SUVs and big pickup trucks, but especially small Hondas and Toyotas,” Herberholtz said.

Although taking precautions is not a sure-proof guarantee, you can minimize the chances of having your vehicle stolen by following basic steps like trying to park in well-lit, well-traveled areas and not leaving the keys in the ignition —not even private subdivisions are safe. Special tracking technology can be installed in the car that activates a signal when a car is declared stolen. The information is entered into a national database and the signal can be detected by law enforcement authorities to help them locate the vehicle.

Washington State Patrol also takes aggressive “pro-active” steps including using bait cars that will trap a thief inside until police shows up. With the help of tips from the public, surveillance and information from a task force that includes agencies ranging from county planning to the health department, detectives are trying to crack down auto theft rings and chop shops.

What you can do

If you suspect illegal activity, call 798-INFO, a centralized county hotline that accepts all complaints about illegal dumping or junk vehicles and forwards them to the appropriate authorities. The hotline is part of an effort called Pierce County Responds, a multi-agency anti-blight effort.

If you find a vehicle that appears dismantled or you suspect criminal activity, you can also report the crime to the county sheriff's office at 798-4721.

The occasional sighting of stripped cars on the Key Peninsula doesn't necessarily mean there is a shop set up somewhere out here in the remote woods, but citizens who see suspicious activity are encouraged to report it. Not every tip will lead to a SWAT team swooping the area or a television news report on yet another busted operation, but as Trooper Alexander said, “bad guys don't always get away...we are very aggressive in trying to put these guys behind bars.”

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Walk the Key Pen with Volksmarch

The Key Peninsula Lions' Volkssport Club will hold its annual Volksmarch on July 10-11 at Penrose Park. The walk starts between 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. (both days) and finishes at 4 p.m. The distance is 10 km (6.2 miles) and the event is held rain or shine. Used eyeglasses and hearing aid donations are welcome and will be recycled by the Lions Club for the needy.

Trail: Walk briefly on hard top country road from Start/Finish point to dirt trails in primeval forests in the park. The well-cleared trails meander up and down gentle hills through dense forests with a variety of trees, bushes and beaches along Puget Sound. Trails are not suited for wheelchairs or strollers.

Awards: "B" awards are available. Credit is only \$3. Participant not seeking credit are welcome to walk for free but all must register, carry and return a start card.

Hatpins: "B" hatpins available.

Parking: The Start/finish registration



Photo by Hugh McMillan

Simon Priest and Caril Ridley examining the trail that will host the 15th annual Key Peninsula Lions' Volkssport Club's Volksmarch through Penrose Point State Park. The Key Peninsula Trails Committee, under the direction of Priest and assisted by Ridley and the Lions' Volkssport Club were recently building a new trail leading directly to the bike and hike campsite via the park's main entrance road. Bud and Delores Ulsh, the adjacent landowners, have volunteered their property to serve as the start/finish point for the Volksmarch and are supportive of the new trail plan.

desk will be set up on the Ulsh property, where walkers may park at no charge. State parks require a \$5 parking fee.

Miscellaneous: Water and restroom available at start/finish and about the halfway point. Cold drinks and snack food available at the start/finish point. Pets are permitted; owners are

responsible for leash and cleanup. The park has camping; call the ranger station at 884-2514 for reservations. There are restrooms, showers, swimming, RV facilities, boating, picnic areas, and in season, clamming.

Information: For more information, contact Hugh McMillan at 884-3319.

Wauna senior wins track competition medal

Dick Suess of Wauna was one of two members of the newly organized Gig Harbor Senior Track Club to compete in the Seattle Senior Games in June. Suess won the 65-69 age bracket gold medal in the Shot Put, and a bronze medal in the Javelin.

Suess is the past age bracket gold medal winner in the shot put at the 2003 Washington State Senior Olympics, and came in second in the discuss and javelin.

Charles Brocheo, a medalist sprinter and Gig Harbor resident, was the other Gig Harbor Senior Track Club participant at the Seattle event. He also brought back medals from Seattle.

The track club's next event is at Senior Games in Bremerton on July 10, and several new members will join Suess and Brocheo. On July 24, the biggest event of the year, the Washington State Senior Olympics, will be held in Olympia.

Any man or woman over the age of 50 can become a member of the club. For information, call Dick Suess at 857-3383.



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From Pioneer Stock The Summerfelt family

By Colleen Slater
KP News

Descendants of Julius Summerfelt trace their ancestry on the Key Peninsula to 1890 when Julius and wife Emilie arrived in Longbranch. Boorn in Germany, they met and married in Minnesota, where Julius emigrated at 15.

He became a U.S. citizen in 1892 in Tacoma, where son Art was born. Julius and Emilie built a home on Summerfelt Hill, now Rouse Road. He died at 41 of a ruptured appendix, on board the Tyconda, as Art, 14, took him to the hospital.

Art was taking professional singing lessons as he was a talented vocalist. His father's death changed his life, because he had to stay home and take care of the farm.

Granddaughter Debbie Nichols writes: "I can't remember a single family event that he didn't lead us all in singing. His favorite was 'Let me call you sweetheart.'"

Art married Hazel Thomas, a South Dakota girl, and they lived with his parents for a while. Daughter Thelma was born downstairs in her grandparents' home the



Photo courtesy of Janete Petersen

Stump pulling at the Julius Summerfelt home, circa 1908. From left, Emilie, Julius Summerfelt, unidentified person; Art on stump, sister Lena with hand on come-a-long cable.

same day her cousin Lois was born upstairs.

Art served in the U.S. Army as mess sergeant and had many jobs including

logging, caretaker of the Campfire Girl Camp, huckleberry picking, and custom tractor work. He was also fire warden several summers.

He moved his family from waterfront to waterfront around Longbranch in a houseboat for several years, then lived on Devil's Head. They eventually built a home across from what is now Camp Soundview, where the children were raised. This house still stands, but other family homes burned or were replaced.

Don, Janette, Thelma, Mildred and Earl grew up with assorted chores around a mainly self-sustaining 20-acre farm. They raised chickens, pigs, cows; grew berries, fruits, vegetables. Some milked before school. They made their own butter and when old enough, the children picked loganberries to pay for school clothes.

The Summerfelts walked everywhere, having neither bicycles nor automobile. A ferry trip from Longbranch to Tacoma to shop was an exciting highlight of their life. Millie said they could hardly sleep the night before a prospective ferry trip.

Art's wife, Hazel, died while Millie and Earl were still at home, and he later married Martha Hannus Johnson, originally from Whiteman Cove area. Dorothy and Linnea were born to them

and raised on the Summerfelt farm.

After Martha's death, Art married Olga Allowson Johnson. He reached 84 years of age, physically fit until his last years while battling cancer.

Millie notes they didn't have a lot of time off from chores, but did enjoy fishing, clamming, and pleasant days at their grandparents' homes. In winter, they skated on the pond on Rouse Road, and the radio was part of their daily lives.

Don was one of the first high school seniors allowed to drive the school bus in 1936-37. For several years after that, some of the senior boys followed suit.

Janette Petersen's home is at Dutcher's Cove, Don is on Lackey Road, Millie Niemann and two of her sons have homes on fourth generation Hansen property in Vaughn. Linnea Lind and daughter live in Longbranch.

Debbie interviewed her grandfather, Art, and other old-timers while in middle school. Louis Hiller had a brickyard at Delano Beach in late 1800s, and made bricks for Union Station and the old St. Joseph Hospital in Tacoma. He recruited friends and relatives to come from Wisconsin to work for him. Hiller was uncle to Julius Summerfelt and his sister Hulda — grandmother to Shirl, Marge and Dave Rickert.

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Featured Home of the Month



Charming Victorian on Glen Cove. Quality custom built home w/ferwork trim from Texas. Stroll the cobble stone path thru herb & mature flower gardens to view the unique waterfall meandering down to the fish pond. Relax on the covered wraparound porch which provides a wonderful view of Glen Cove as do many of the rooms in this beautiful home. Discerning buyers should definitely preview this awesome waterfront home. with too many features to list! MLS #24078777 \$450,000

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“In the Heart of the Key Peninsula”

What Do Realtors Know?

When your realtor refers you to a mortgage broker or home inspection or insurance agent, should you take their suggestion or find your own professional on the internet or in the telephone book? A recent article recommends that you should not take the suggestions of your realtor because they will only suggest easy inspectors or mortgage brokers. We disagree.

Most experienced realtors know auxiliary people they have worked with who they know are competent, professional, and available for your questions and comments should there be a problem. Yes, the Internet mortgage brokers can sometimes offer very attractive rates, but how helpful can a mortgage broker in Florida be about the market values on the Key Peninsula? Why would anyone recommend an “easy” inspector who might miss an important issue like bad LP siding or water under a house?

Realtors work hard to get their licenses, they work even harder to maintain them, taking yearly classes and keeping informed about current issues. They don't want to jeopardize that license by giving bad advice. Usually a realtor will offer several suggestions for home inspectors or mortgage brokers or contractors and let the client choose from those suggestions. The client should then interview those people themselves and choose the one they feel is most competent.

MARKET WATCH:

Waterfront homes closed thru this office in June:

46 th St KPS	\$410,000
Hall Rd	\$725,000
A St in Home	\$320,000



CHARMING VICTORIAN! - \$450,000

Quality custom built home located on Glen Cove. Enjoy the beautiful gardens as you wander down the cobble stone path to view the unique waterfall meandering down to the fishpond. The lookout tower provides a wonderful view of Glen Cove, as do the many rooms in this beautiful home. MLS #24078777



COMFORTABLE HOME ON DOUBLE LOT - \$125,000

This home offers an open floor plan, with extra room for a den, family room or extra bedroom. You can enjoy the view of Palmer Lake from your spacious living room, back porch or hot tub or keep busy in your detached 2-car garage. Located on the end of a cul-de-sac, this property includes beach rights for your enjoyment of fishing, swimming or boating. Better hurry, this one won't last long! MLS #24077974



GREAT OPPORTUNITY! - \$210,000

Commercial property near Hood Canal. 200 ft. of frontage on Highway 101, 3 miles south of Hoodport, 4 miles north of Shelton. Garage has 5 bays, 2 offices, storage rooms, spray booth, mechanical hoist, brake lathe, 2 bay car wash with shampoo and vacuum unit and small icehouse. This property is completely paved and currently used as auto wholesaler. Too many uses to mention! MLS #24077503



WATERFRONT BUILDING SITE - \$43,900

Close to Gig Harbor. Private wooded waterfront lot on dead end street. Water available. Has been perked for 3 bedroom septic. Needs new septic design, approximate cost \$400 plus county permit. MLS #24015533



TERRIFIC VIEW! - \$395,000

Great views of Mt. Rainier and Carr Inlet from both levels of this large light filled 4 BR, 3 BA home, with beach rights. Terrace, two decks, fruit trees, garage plus work area. A must see! MLS #24068632



SECLUDED LOT - \$174,500

Enjoy the view of the Black Hills from your living room. Quiet and private yard with garden space. You can entertain on your covered deck and in the firepit area. Home has vaulted ceilings, family room, freestanding fireplace, and walk-in-closet in master bdrm. MLS #24066913

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• Buyers Available



The Air Up There: Freedom in three dimensions

By Rodika Tollefson
KP News

The Purdy Sand Spit is usually deserted during gloomy, chilly weather. But on the windiest days of the year, when drivers hurry past the spit, a few brave souls are having the times of their lives.

You've likely seen them before: A giant kite of orange or another bright color glides across the sky. On the water below, a man in a wetsuit hangs tight. His hands steer the kite; his feet planted on a board; his body swiftly surfing on the waves.

"This is pretty boring," explained a fellow surfer who was geared up to head into the water on one such recent outing. The wind, too wimpy by his standards, was not strong enough for the more spectacular stunts: air flips, jumps and twists. For a kitesurfer used to literally looking down on windsurfers, simply staying on the water seems a rather bland exercise.

Kitesurfing, kiteboarding, kiteskiing, kitesailing — this sport has many names. It's an addictive affair, converting former windsurfers and wakeboarders from coast to coast. Dubbed the 3D of windsurfing, it's a perfect blend of water and air, and lots of adrenaline rushes in between.

"Imagine, if you will, having a jet engine in the air and a razorblade strapped to your feet, that is what it is like," said Marcus "Flash" Austin, one of the world's top kitesurfers, in an interview from his Hawaii home a couple of years ago. "Like a roller-coaster ride from hell, you hang on and fly by the seat of your pants, cringing with every 'wup-tee-doo,' soaring upon every launch into outer space like Buck Rogers. Everything is strawberry fields from up here, and then someone pulls the plug and your stomach drops; the instinct to

abandon ship pulsates through your veins — just in time for a secondary lift to land you like a butterfly."

Several years ago Austin, who won the Red Bull King of the Air Kiteboarding Championship, and two Kitesurfing World championships, was one of a few enthusiasts kitesurfing off the Maui coast. Today, the sport is catching on from Canada to Croatia, and Maui has become a kitesurfer's Mecca of sorts, with professional schools and competitions.

Kitesurfing has gained wind in the Pacific Northwest in the last couple of years, and Purdy is one of the kitesurfers' local hot spots. Seattle's John Penxa, co-founder of the Seattle Kitesurfing Association, estimated around 90 "kites" in the area back in 2001, when the sport was in an "embryonic stage."

For some, kitesurfing is simply a natural extension of other water-surfing sports—an extension that requires less wind. And then there is that temporary release from gravity. The freefall from 20 to 50 feet in the air. The adrenaline rush of your speed, mixed with the wind flowing into your face. Pure freedom.

Got kite; will surf

What is kitesurfing? It's skimboarding, surfing and flying a kite, all at the same time. The body is the only connection between the kite and the board, and both have to be controlled simultaneously.

"It's the nearest thing to an anti-gravity device," Austin said. "One thing that intrigues me is cheating gravity."

The required elements are simple: a kitesurf kite and a board, a kite control device and accessories like safety release, wetsuit, harness or life jacket.

Brett Nichols of Seattle said it took him about six months to learn. Of course, he did have a lot of surfing experience under



Photo by Hugh McMillan

Mike Darley (pictured), Terrance Towe of Tacoma, and Shaun Ward of Bremerton at the Purdy Spit in late-May taking advantage of a brisk breeze they described as "mild" to hurl themselves across the inlet. Observing the three daredevils from shore, Peninsula High School senior Erik Marvik of the Minter Creek said he "can't wait to get into the sport," despite the fact that it can be dangerous. He explained that the kite is controlled by four lines attached to what appears to be a handle bar similar to that on bicycles. "This enables you to turn," he said, "in much the same way as smaller kites with four lines can be made to do loops and skim across the ground." Marvik said he'd heard of one kite boarder who was lifted off the surface and flew over the spit into Burley Lagoon. "It was apparently a safe landing; I heard of no injuries."

his belt. The trickiest part, he said, is to learn the kite maneuvering. With enough practice, it's easy to get over the part where the kite drags you around.

"You could be in the (cold) water for 20 to 30 minutes, so you are acutely aware of the steep learning curve," he said.

Steep learning or not, kitesurfers are an interesting bunch. Anything for a chance to "catch big air" (surfer lingo for big jumps). Just check their vehicle cargo.

"Have the gear in your car and watch the wind," Nichols said. It basically means, be ready to drop everything — work included — on the spur of the moment. Sometimes there is an hour or more warning, sometimes not. The saying "he goes where the wind blows" applies to kitesurfers literally: The rendezvous place changes

depending on where the best wind is.

The beauty of kitesurfing is its versatility. "You can get off work at 5 p.m., break out the kite, go into the water for two hours, then go pick up the kids and groceries," Austin said. "It's easy to travel with, easy for parents, easy in light-wind areas."

In lower winds, beginners can learn quickly. In high winds, the sport becomes extreme. At this point, you hang tight and take a deep breath. Once you whisk yourself off the water and launch into the air, again and again, you are hooked—and perhaps learn to understand why others call the sport "a healthy addiction."

"It's...Mother Nature's most addictive drug, a three-dimensional platform of excitement," Austin said. "The feeling of freedom, to me, is unsurpassed."

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Summer Programming Preview - June through Aug

Here is a sample of some of the many exciting events Two Waters is offering

Feltmaking Workshop - This workshop is an artistic felt-making class for both children and adults. Jennifer will teach the ancient textile techniques of wet and needle felt-making as you create colorful, unique art textiles.

Saturday, June 12 11 a.m. to 1 pm

Watercolor - Join Beverly for either one or both classes as she shares her fabulous watercolor expertise. Beverly has won numerous awards in many art mediums and her teaching abilities have been proven over and over in the South Sound. Saturdays, June 19 and/or 26 11 a.m. to 1 pm

Brochures with full details & registration forms are available in local post offices, libraries, schools & businesses.

Feltmaking Workshop - Sat, June 12
Watercolor - Saturdays, June 19 and/or 26
The 3rd Annual Seaweed Show Free Event - Saturday, July 10
Cartooning - Tuesday, July 13 & Thursday, July 15
Beach Walk and Clay Day - Sat, July 17
Mosaic Shopping Show - Sat, July 24
Art for the Woman's Soul - Sat, August 7
Poetry Writing Camp - Aug. 9, 11 & 13
Plain-air Painting - Saturdays, August 14 and/or 21
The Key Peninsula Community Fair - August 20, 21 & 22

The beat goes on around KP

By Danna Webster
KP News

Music is in the air this summer. Two of the best Peninsula concerts play at the Civic Center in Vaughn. The Prohibition Jazz Band did the opening honors June 5 and Little Bill & The Blue Notes will close us out in style Oct. 23.

Dancers, musicians and music-appreciators attended the Jazz in June concert. There were all kinds of dancers... gliders... and sliders... and near colliders. There were first-time dancers to the Key Peninsula and others who recalled dancing at Horseshoe Lake Dance Hall when that was "what you lived for."

One of the musicians listening to the jazz band was Bob Lind of Home. He was a drummer for nearly five decades and played with many favorite dance bands at Tacoma hot spots. He said the band was terrific and had excellent musicians. Lind stood close to the stage waiting for the band to ask if there were any requests. He made quite a few.

There were some of those who were just plain listeners, hearing favorite songs and knowing all the words. They appreciated the music, and the dancers, and sitting on a June night in a historic building full of memories.

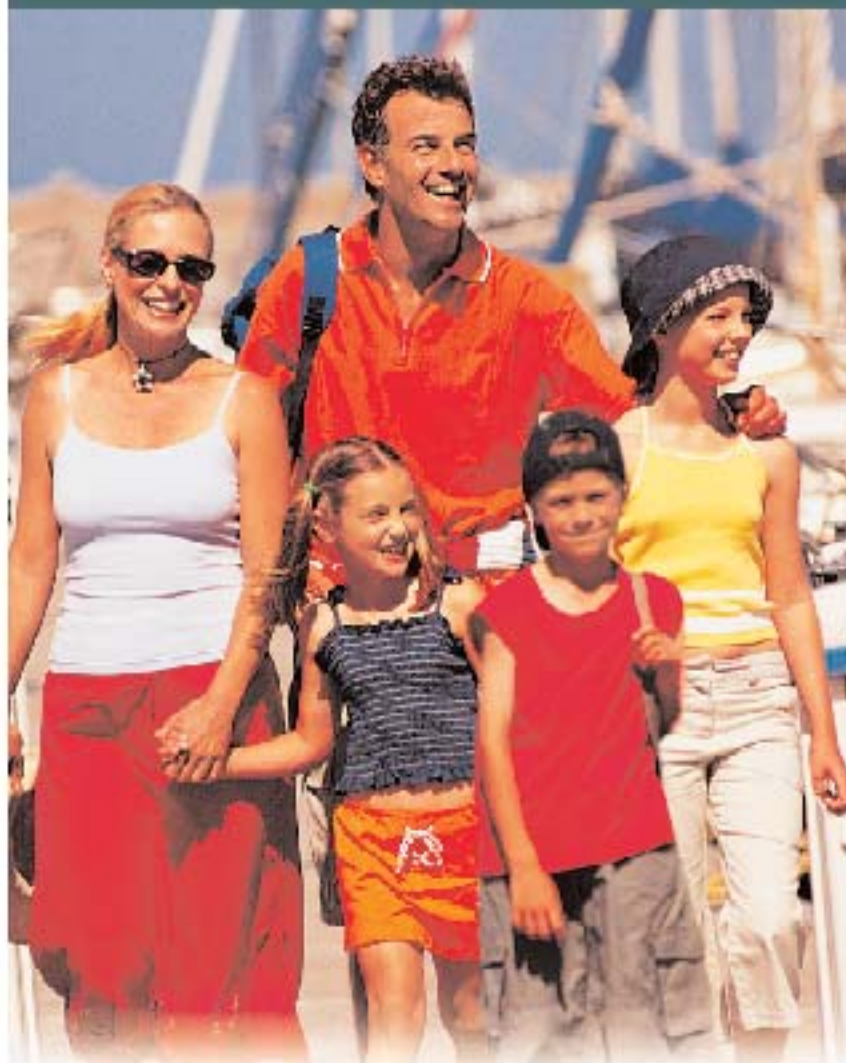
Some say the best is yet to come. Little Bill & The Blue Notes arrive in October. Highlights from Little Bill's career are on display at The Experience Music Project Museum. To top it off, the drummer for this band is also a Key Pen resident, Tom Morgan. The blues band is playing for the Civic Center's fall fund-raiser. That will be a night to "grab your coat and get your hat, leave your worries on the doorstep, just direct your feet..." to music on a Vaughn Bay street.

Sure, Oct. 23 seems a long time off but you know how it is around the Key Peninsula—you barely blink and the summer is gone, and next thing you know your body is already craving the next dance date.

Clarification

A KP News article stated Bonny Snyder joined Positive Results as a Reiki Master and hypno-therapist. Positive Results owner Lauren Swanberg would like it clarified that "while that is partly true, we do work together as a team on some projects and share the same space, Bonny has her own business name." It is called Sound Body, Mind and Spirit.

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Art is here, there and everywhere!

By L. Brudvik Lindner

Spring and summer has Two Waters Arts Alliance (TWAA) blazing artistic trails through schools and camps on the Key Peninsula. The months of May and June brought seven local artists and 70 hours of creative instruction to over 200 students at four Key Peninsula schools. Artist in School coordinator Paddy Gilson delivered the genius talents of artists Marty Lewis (drawing skills), Debra McElroy (poetry), Colleen Carrigan (nature & multi-media), Reni Moriarity (sumi painting), Lorina Schaufler (mosaic pottery), Jennifer Lewellyn (fabric art), and Paddy Gilson (fairy tales & puppetry) to second, third and fifth graders at Evergreen Elementary; sixth graders at KPMS; first, second and third graders at Minter Creek and kindergartners at Vaughn.



The Genuine
ARTicle

The AIS pilot program was a roaring success; accolades to teachers, artists and students for their contributions to a creative community achievement. TWAA extends a special applause to Paddy Gilson for organizing the imaginative learning sessions for Key Peninsula students. "The AIS program was focused on engaging children in a variety of art forms; it was truly a mission accomplished," said Gilson.

Attention kids (grade 3-7), TWAA enters the campground scene this summer! If you are looking to stretch your artistic muscles, Camp Seymour is the place to be July 4-10. Included in this extraordinary week of activities will be a

sand casting class taught by renowned multi-media artist Beverly Pedersen – a class not to be missed!

The third annual Scarecrow Show will once again be held at the Sunnycrest Nursery parking lot, Saturday, July 10, 10 a.m. to noon. Bring old clothing, hats, gloves, plastic bags, straw, string, sticks and stands to this free and whimsical family event.

Experience the mystical Beach Walk and Clay Day at Camp Seymour Saturday, July 17, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Space is limited to 10 for this day of walking, collecting beach treasures, and —in the spirit of Andrew Goldsworthy's art form — creating organic objects to adorn the beach. The second half of the day will be spent designing clay pinch pots and firing them in the primitive pitfire method.

TWAA is alive and kickin' due to the volunteer efforts of our generous community members. Your support continues the mission of bringing art alive on the Key Peninsula. To become a member, volunteer time and reserve your summer class, call 884-3407 or see www.twowaters.org. Scholarships and family discounts are available for most classes, including the art camp at Camp Seymour.



Photo courtesy of Kathy Bauer

Artwork by students under the direction of artist Reni Moriarity.

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2004 fair promises more, better than ever

By Danna Webster
KP News

"Mark your calendars! Aug. 20, 21 and 22, the Fair is a-comin' to Town!" is something you'll likely start hearing a lot around the Peninsula, as organizers of the community's biggest event are kicking into high gear.

The Key Peninsula 2004 Fair will be a-hummin' and a-buzzin' with more activity than ever, they say. There will be more carnival rides, more entertainers, more vendor booths plus two brand new feature attractions: an antique tractor show and chainsaw woodcarvers' demonstrations. And, back by popular demand, a favorite attraction from last year's fair, Bullwacking Kass and her dozen oxen.

Yes, on the third weekend of August, the lights on the ballpark diamonds will dim and the dazzle of Fair Time will begin. The Antique Tractor and Engine Association will display tractors, engines and equipment. But the highlight of their show will be the tractor pull.

Tractors weighing from 1,000 to 14,000 pounds will test their might and muscle as they strive to pull the heaviest sleds the farthest. The tractor stops every 20 feet to add more weight, which in this case means more people. Serious Atkins dieters may have to remain spectators.

Meanwhile the guests to the Key Peninsula Fair will be entertained and amazed by chainsaw carvers. The carvers are sponsored by Kenny's Northwest Experience, a studio located in the heart of Allyn. Men and women woodcarvers will quickly and skillfully create bear,

Help needed for 2004

Last year over 300 volunteers worked together for the Key Peninsula Community Fair. The fair is a fund-raiser that serves to directly benefit Key Peninsula neighborhoods.

Whether a few hours or the entire fair, all assistance is greatly appreciated.

Call 253-884-4FUN if you can help. Visit www.keyfair.com for more details.

moose, cougar and salmon using their mighty chainsaws. Some of the pieces created will be auctioned to the public for the benefit of the KP Fair Association non-profit sponsors.

Judging by the yard decorations around the Key Peninsula, folks will really like the antique tractors and the woodcarvings. But the hit of last year's fair is sure to please the crowds once again, the oxen and their lady Bullwhacker.

Bullwacking Kass, known to some as Sheryl Curtis, will recreate those thrilling days of yesteryear with the presentations of her "Old World Oxen Living History Co." A visit to this event allows you to step back into history about 150 years ago.

So hurry! Hurry! Hurry! Put those fair dates on your calendar. And be sure to visit the Key Peninsula Fair Website at www.keyfair.com. This year there is a great special for people who purchase their admission tickets on the Internet. The \$4 admission ticket may be purchased for \$2 online.



Photo courtesy of Antique Tractor and Engine Association

Above, Look for the tractor pull at this year's fair—a popular event organized by the Antique Tractor and Engine Association.



Left, Bullwacking Kass, aka Sheryl Curtis, set up camp at last year's fair, where she and her mighty oxen enjoyed quite a bit of attention. Photo by Hugh McMillan

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A man of big heart

John Parker gives equal encouragement to his teams, opponents

By Hugh McMillan
KP News

Among us is an adult who pours his heart, time, and booty into kids. He's the sponsor of not one but two little league baseball teams and he's been sponsoring them for 11 years. His generosity and involvement with these kids peppers comments from his kids and coaches, members of other Little League teams and coaches, even from his wife.

Who is this guy?

He's the sponsor of two Little League teams called Freight Taxi. He's unassuming. He doesn't toot his own horn. He's just there dispensing what all kids need, love and leadership and pizza and soft drinks after every game. Not just for his team players but for their opponents as well.

"There's no way that I could let the other team's kids watch our kids eating without inviting them to join us," he said. That pretty well sums up the heart of John Parker, a man of the kids. More times than memory serves, when asked on the field during a game, "John, what's the score?" his answer is, "I don't know." And when he asks his coaches or managers, nine times out of 10 they don't know either. "We're here to play



Courtesy of KP Little League

Key Pen Little League champs after their June win, bottom row left to right: JJ McCall, Emerson Brown, Collin Smith, Alec Bendorf, Al Rasmussen; middle row left to right: Jeff Newton, Jake Sorgenfrei, Darrian Creamer, MacKenzie Dobbins; top row left to right: Colton Juarez, Andrew Fallon; and left to right: coach Brian Medveckus, coach Stuart Fallon, sponsor John Parker, manager Matt Medveckus.



Photo by Hugh McMillan

John Parker, center, high-fiving with his Freight Taxi minors and their opponents after a game in April at Volunteer Park on the Key Peninsula.

baseball. For the kids to have fun. That's what it's all about," he says. But they do like to win. All of them. And one Tuesday in June, they did. Big!

Matthew Medveckus, manager of Freight Taxi's major league team, said: "This was by far the best little league baseball game I've ever seen as a coach and a fan. My hat goes off to the kids of Freight Taxi and my coaches. This is a storybook finish to my coaching career. There is no better way to hang it up ... until I have my own kids."

At a previous playoff game, Medveckus said, "Without John Parker, none of this would have happened. He just brings out the best in all of us, kids, coaches, you name it."

John's wife, Tanja, said he started Freight Taxi in 1996 with his brother-in-law and one delivery truck. "Growing up with nine brothers, he was very

"Having three daughters who are interested in hip-hop and swimming, and no sons to play a game of hoops with, Parker wanted to get involved again with sports as much as he could."

-Tanja, John's wife

competitive athletically. While his brothers' sport of choice was basketball, they also played football, and competed in track and wrestling," she said. He also has four sisters.

"John has a passion for kids and community," Tanja said. What a masterful bit of understatement. Having three daughters who are interested in hip-hop and swimming, and no sons to play a game of hoops with, Parker wanted to get involved again with sports as much as he could.

"When we first moved out to Lakebay 11 years ago, we would pass by Volunteer Park and notice the baseball games being played," Tanja said, "We had some friends whose sons were involved in Little League. The rest is history."

Let's all hope that is not the case. Thanks for caring, John Parker. It's people like you who make it all worthwhile.

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STEP BACK IN TIME Vaughn Sunday School picnic



Photo by Mrs. Palmer, 1913, courtesy of Colleen Slater

"The others (of the church were) watching the ball game —married played singles so of course Frank & D'Arcy were busy," is written on the back of the photo by Agnes Bill; Frank was her husband and D'Arcy Buckell her brother.

Agnes Bill is in back row with the fancy hat, Edna Buckell (wife of D'Arcy) with baby Daphne. Little girl with hands to her face is Kathleen Bill, sister Elsie just behind her, sister Dorothy behind the small girl in front, and brother Bob to her left, with the hat on.

Reverend A. R. Dodd is at center back with white beard, his wife just in front of him, and daughter Grace (later Mrs. Harmon Van Slyke) to her right.

Daughter May or Florence is likely the one to Dodd's left behind lady with hat, perhaps Mrs. Sampson. Son Roy is in dark shirt near center of photo with cup in hand, and Genevieve, his wife or future wife, just below to his right. To his left may be a Kingsbury.

Bertha Gabrielson (later Mrs. Bob Davidson) may be girl in sailor dress. Some other church families of that era include Austin, Davidson, Hall, Hansen, Holman, Kincaid, Mills, Niemann, Olson, Rodman, Van Slyke, Whitfield and Wright. If anyone can identify family members or would like to see the original, contact Colleen Slater at 884-5403.

How Home lost, gained a post office

By Sylvia Retherford
Special to KP News

Home was established in February 1896 and in its early days mail came to the village via the Lakebay Post Office. Spirited citizens took turns walking to Lakebay to bring the mail to Home. The King family home at the head of the bay was the distribution point. In 1900, application was made to the postal department for a post office in Home, since the population had risen to about 150.

On Feb. 21, 1901, Home was granted a post office and it was established in the King home, with Elum Miles as postmaster. About a year later, Mattie Penhallow became postmistress and the post office was transferred to her home, at Fifth and A streets on the waterfront.

Several controversial publications were being mailed from Home at this time. "Discontent: Mother of Progress" carried many articles on labor unrest, social and political dissidence and "free thinking" on religion and sex philosophy. It was mailed weekly throughout the United States and to some foreign countries by its editor and publisher, Charles Govan. Many Home residents were regular contributors. It carried local Home news as well.

"Foundation Principles" was a monthly magazine on women's rights, written and edited by Lois Waisbrooker and Olivia Shepherd. Both of these ladies, aged about 70 years, had written on this subject most of their adult lives, Miss Shepherd in Chicago and Mrs. Waisbrooker in San Francisco. So in Home they combined their efforts; their

theme was mistreatment of women in industry, unfair property laws pertaining to women and the enslavement of women in marriage. Present Equal Rights Amendment proponents would have approved of their philosophy; however, they were well before their time.

Mrs. Waisbrooker and postmistress Mattie Penhallow were tried by jury in Tacoma for sending "obscene materials through the mails." The judge fined Waisbrooker \$100 and Penhallow was acquitted. However, she stated on the witness stand that she was an anarchist and atheist.

On Sept. 6, 1901, President McKinley had been assassinated by Leon Czolgosz, who had stated that he was an anarchist. So Tacoma newspapers and some local ministers drew public conclusions that Czolgosz had some connection to Home. This proved false during the subsequent trial.

Following this lurid publicity, feelings ran high, and when editorials on March 8 and July 15, 1902, in the Tacoma Ledger further inflamed Tacomans against Home's residents, it was an easy matter to have Home's post office removed. On April 30, 1903, the federal postal authorities closed it on trumped up charges. An entire community was punished for the acts of a few.

Lakebay again became Home's nearest post office and residents re-installed the daily walk by a community member to bring the mail to Home. Mrs. Penhallow still served as postmistress in her home, but without pay. Rural free delivery was established in 1909. Albert Sorenson was the first carrier using his horse and buggy.

Lakebay's post office was moved to Home in 1958 for "convenience and better service." Its name was not changed even though the postal rule book states that the name of a post office shall be that of the community in which it is located.



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Religion briefs

Candlelight vigil held for soldiers, peace

The Key Peninsula Lutheran Church invites the public to participate in a candlelight prayer vigil for peace in the Middle East and the safe return of U.S. soldiers from Iraq and other missions. The vigil begins Friday, July 9 at 5 p.m. and ends July 10 at 8 a.m. in the church sanctuary. The church is located at the corner of Key Peninsula Highway and Lackey Road. The church is inviting the community to participate by stopping by at any time during the vigil. The candlelight vigil offers a serene, quiet atmosphere for prayer and reflection and a chance for you to

pray for other families. Anyone who has a prayer request may call the church office prior to the event at 884-3312.

Lutheran Church receives grant

The Geneva Foundation has awarded a \$27,500 grant to the Key Peninsula Lutheran Church for purchasing appliances and equipment for the kitchen in its fellowship hall. Church representatives said once the new equipment is installed, the fellowship hall will be able to better serve Key Peninsula residents by hosting Sunday community meals when they are not served at the Community Center during the summer and serve as an emergency shelter in the event of a disaster. The hall will also be available for community

use that involves the preparation of food and for use as a school or day care site.

The Geneva Foundation has been a generous contributor to the local community in the past, making a grant to the I.M.Pact program to establish a safe house for domestic violence victims. The foundation was established by the Albers Flour Mill family, and Vaughn residents John and Shirley Nederlee, who are part of the organization, have helped facilitate grants for the Key Peninsula.

"KPLC would like to express deep-felt gratitude to the Geneva Foundation and John and Shirley Nederlee for this generous donation," Pastor Alan Marshall said. "KPLC's hope is that many people on the Key Peninsula will benefit from the generous gift."

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Out & About



Above, Key Pen's Phil Bauer, Steve Kaffer, Brian "the watermelon" and many others traveled to the Gig Harbor Maritime Gig Parade in June to spread the word about this year's Key Peninsula Community Fair. *Photos by Hugh McMillan*

Top right, Ann White (left), charter member and volunteer with Citizens Against Crime, together with two other CAC volunteers monitoring the speed check radar at the May 22 and 23 Harvest Time Fair in Wauna. The device, provided by the Pierce County Sheriff's Department, served to make drivers aware of their speed in the congested area.



Right, Hunter Erwin, age almost 2, waits patiently while a group of adults including his uncle, Key Pen resident and former local firefighter Mark Beal, are talking nearby at the Aisle of Honor at the Vaughn cemetery. *Photo by Hugh McMillan*

Right bottom, The Peninsula blooms with colors, showing off gardeners' hard work —like these gorgeous roses spotted in the yard of Joyce Niemann. *Photo by Colleen Slater*



Above, Jubilant Key Peninsula Little League minor Moreland and Son team players celebrate their 12 to 10 victory over A and R Construction of South Kitsap Western on June 11 at South Kitsap Southern's Field. Andy Mattingly, manager, and Rich Goddard share the excitement. With his back to the camera is Andrew Mattingly, the tournament's MVP, with his teammates. Catcher Lucas West raises his hand in a victory signal. Moreland and Son took second place in the Inter-League tournament. *Photo by Hugh McMillan*