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THE VOICE OF THE KEY PENINSULA

April 2019 Vol. 46 No. 4

Dogabout: The Saga of Sherpa Jack

A dog wandering the southern KP for eight months is now home.

TED OLINGER, KP NEWS

You may have seen the signs on the roads south of Home. You may have seen the Facebook posts with photos and sightings and stories about his escapades. You may even have seen him, the now legendary Sherpa Jack, a 100-pound Anatolian Shepherd living wild on the southern KP since bolting from his Longbranch home after Fourth of July last summer.

After months of wandering and many attempts by many people, Jack was captured and returned home March 16.

“We got him from a breeder about July 10,” said Davy Kienast, who owns the dog with his wife Crystalann. They have two small children and an assortment of animals including sheep, chickens, ducks, geese and three other dogs on the Longbranch farm where they’ve lived for two years.

The couple chose the Anatolian Shepherd because “he’s a livestock guardian to protect the animals,” Davy Kienast said. They named him Jack.

“We had him on a lead in the field with the animals, he was still getting used to us,” he said. “But we only had him three days. People were still shooting off fireworks here, and he chewed through his steel cable, climbed the fence, and ran away.”

Jack was 11 months old. He was also wearing an electronic training collar with prongs positioned at the base of his neck.

The Kienasts searched the area and posted flyers and Facebook notices, but there was no sign of Jack.

A few weeks later, Kim Hunsaker noticed him in her Palmer Lake neighborhood.

Hunsaker worked in two different veterinary offices over 11 years and was familiar with the breed. After perusing Facebook, she found the post about Jack and contacted the Kienasts.

“He was using the woods by my house and behind my house as a passthrough trail,” Hunsaker said. “Every night at dusk he would come out of the woods

CONTINUED PAGE 3



It’s official. Dustin Morrow signs on as chief beginning April 1. Photo: Lisa Bryan, KP News

KP Fire Department Hires New Chief

After an exhaustive search, a new fire chief was hired from outside the local district.

LISA BRYAN, KP NEWS

The Board of Commissioners of Key Peninsula Fire District 16 selected Dustin Morrow as their top pick for chief at its Feb. 28 meeting. Two weeks later, at the Mar. 12 commissioners meeting, Morrow signed a contract and, followed by a round of applause, left that evening as Chief Morrow.

“We had many outstanding candidates but it is Dustin Morrow who stands out as the best fit for our fire department and our community,” said Commissioner Frank Grubaugh, the current board chair.

In his role as Deputy Fire Chief with Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue in

“IT’S SO PERFECT FOR US WE CAN HARDLY BELIEVE IT.”

Oregon, Morrow was second in command of a fire protection district servicing 390 square miles from 26 stations, protecting nearly half a million citizens with a staff of over 500.

But his start came as a teen after joining as a volunteer firefighter for his hometown department in West Linn, Oregon. He spent his first eight years as a career fire-

fighter there, where he was outnumbered by volunteers 10-to-1.

“In 2002, we moved up the Washougal River to Washington, where we lived for 12 years on 8 acres, until the commute just became unbearable—four hours each day to get to and from work,” he said. Eager to spend less time commuting, when a unique opportunity to work in the private sector came up, Morrow took it.

But his heart was still in firefighting and his absence was short-lived.

“When we decided to come back to firefighting, the top thing was—it had to be in a rural area. We started searching,” Morrow said. His wife Laurie’s parents

once lived in Gig Harbor, so they had been there, but hadn’t explored it much.

“It’s so perfect for us we can hardly believe it,” Morrow said. “I guess you could say we are very excited to be here and become part of this community.”

Laurie is a graphic artist who for the last 16 years has operated a small printing business. The couple, married 27 years, has three sons:

Austin, 23, stayed back in Oregon; Garrett, 19, and Bryce, 17, live at home.

In a rental house for now, the Morrrows purchased 5 acres in Longbranch and are in the early phases of building their new home.

The board of fire commissioners developed its hiring strategy in early fall 2018 when then chair Commissioner Keith Davies said he felt that “hiring an individual the caliber of a fire chief, with the salary range of a fire chief,” was something he personally had no experience with, and neither had any of the other commissioners.

“None of us have degrees in Human Resources. We wanted experts to help us with the overall process,” Davies said.

The board hired The Prothman Co., an executive placement firm based in Issaquah, to advise and assist them in a search for the best candidate to lead the department.

Davies said he felt confident the community would understand the rationale for spending money to use a recruiting firm, but acknowledged that after the board made the decision, “there was some internal grumbling.”

Prothman conducted interviews with interested community members, career staff, administrative personnel and volunteer firefighters to get a feel for what people on the KP value in their fire department.

There were 26 applicants; Prothman recommended five to the board with a one-year placement guarantee.

The board hosted a community meet-and-greet for the five candidates Feb. 28, where candidates casually mingled with members of the public interested in sizing them up.

The next day, four panels of six met at Gig Harbor Fire and Medic Headquarters to further evaluate the candidates. Three panels consisted of one career battalion chief and one volunteer firefighter from the district; two career battalion chiefs from nearby fire districts; and two community members. A fourth panel consisted of the fire commissioners and a representative from Prothman.

At the conclusion, panelists reported their findings to the board.

“The gratifying thing for me was that the people initially opposed to using an HR firm remained involved in the process and on the panels,” said Davies. “Sitting on the final panels changed their minds and I’m grateful they told us, ‘No—this is the best thing we’ve done.’”

Here's What I Think About That

LISA BRYAN,
EXECUTIVE EDITOR, KP NEWS

It's spring and time to get out and play. The first day was bathed in warmth as windows were thrown open to air out the dust of winter. Along with record high temperatures came clouds of tree pollen that brought back itchy eyes and stuffy noses from allergies all but forgotten. At home, spring cleaning is underway inside and out; places we collectively care about and enjoy beckon.

Friends from the city come out for the day and there is nothing like walking the wooded trails of Penrose Park, trillium spotting, beachcombing and simply breathing the fresh marine air. Here sound comes from songbirds, drumming woodpeckers and chattering eagles. The lively beauty of seabirds and marine mammals in Puget Sound with Mount Rainier is your backdrop. Yes, you live here. And you cherish it.

If you are one of those people who can't walk past litter without wincing, compelled to pick up trash, plastic bottles and cans thrown from passing cars along your way, thank you. As much as it feels like nobody seems to care, you are not alone.

In 1960s America, an era of social and environmental consciousness awoke in part to address the impact that modern industrialized society had upon land, air, sea—and us. With it was launched a targeted campaign of public service messages that introduced our 1970s child minds to a cartoon owl speaking the slogan, "Give a hoot! Don't pollute."

It must have been a naturalist who observed the correlation between roadside trash and owls struck by motor vehicles at night, as the owls swoop down to capture

the nocturnal rodents the litter attracts.

In another 1971 televised public service message was the iconic image of a Native American man (an actor later discovered to be Italian) overlooking a land filled with litter. The commercial ended with a close-up of a single tear running down his weathered face. Impressionable children like me cried too. And we began in grade school by collecting and bundling literally tons of old newspapers for recycling.

There are people who litter and there are people who pick up. Businesses, homeowner associations, civic groups and neighbors gather in teams for roadside cleanups on the Key Peninsula and arrange for Pierce County to pick up the bags. Volunteers from an early March KP Business Association cleanup removed 13 big garbage bags of litter in the mile and a half stretch of highway they scour several times each year.

It's easy to spot litter trends as a walker. In my neck of the woods it's the empties of plastic mini bottles for a single shot of liquor that far outnumber the used syringes people report. The best place to find minis and beer cans is around the corner off the highway just past where it meets the secondary road.

The Key Peninsula is surrounded by water on three sides and rainwater transports upland litter down drainage ditches and streams where it flows directly into Puget Sound.

The Ocean Conservancy reports that cigarette butts remain No. 1 on the top 10 list of items collected at shoreline cleanups, followed by food wrappers, plastic beverage bottles, plastic bottle caps, plastic straws

and stirrers, plastic bags, plastic grocery sacks, glass beverage bottles, beverage cans and plastic cups and plates.

According to the Environmental Protection Agency, between 1960 and 2013 the amount of waste from human consumers continued to rise in the U.S., nearly doubling the average amount of trash generated by each person from 2.68 to 4.40 pounds per day. The EPA states the most effective way to prevent marine and aquatic debris is to prevent waste in the first place.

After nearly 50 years, it is clear to me that blaming, shaming or ticketing the people who litter accomplishes little.

Pundits would have us believe that conservatives are against the very word "environment," that climate change and industrial pollution don't matter to them and a world dependent upon more oil production, corporate profits and lower taxes for the already rich matters most. Others would call liberals bleeding heart fools who want to sacrifice jobs to promote socialism, and bring an end to American economic prosperity with unnecessary and excessive environmental regulation.

Those are simplistic generalizations and patently false, but the reality is simple. If you want your children to grow up drinking clean water and breathing fresh air, you are pro-environment. If you like to fish and hunt, you are pro-environment. Picking up litter or, better yet, not littering at all, is proof that you love living on the KP. It's our home turf and we want others to respect it, and us.



[A LITTLE GOES A LONG WAY]

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The KP News invites all community members to contact us directly with any information, concerns or complaints at editor@keypennews.org or 253-884-4699. Community members are also invited to post any public meetings or events on our online calendar at keypennews.org. Entries received by the 15th of the month will be printed in the next edition.



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DOGABOUT FROM PAGE 1

and go traipsing through Palmer Lake. We (Hunsaker and the Kienasts) sat out here with food and eventually some live traps, but he was too smart. I talked with Animal Control and they said tranquilizing him is hard because if he runs off, we don't have a way to track him and he'd be vulnerable."

Monica Gujral of Longbranch spotted news of the missing dog on Facebook some weeks later. She had experience rescuing pit bulls and thought about going to look for Jack.

"I kid you not, within three days that dog was at my front door," she said. They spent four hours together that first day.

"I learned you cannot call to him like a normal dog," she said. "I started using some tactics I learned doing dog rescue; I turned my back to him and walked backward, and used my phone to see where he was. And then I understood if I whispered, if I used a small voice, I could talk to him."

Gujral contacted the owners and they spent time letting the dog get to know them during a few encounters over months, but they could never get close. They also noticed that his training collar had cut into his neck and caused an infection.

"He naturally grew much larger and so now it's actually puncturing his skin and he has drainage all down the front of his neck," Kienast said.

"I don't like my animals being where they're not supposed to be," he said, and they wanted him back. "We have tried drugging him, I've shot him with a net gun to try to capture him, and he broke the net and got free."

Gujral created a Facebook page for the missing dog called Helping Sherpa Jack—Lost Dog on the KP.

"He probably knows every square inch of this peninsula better than any human being, so I said we're going to call him Sherpa or Sherpa Jack," Gujral said. "It's almost like I'm a marketing rep again; I'm marketing his existence. My intention (was) to let people know he's not a threat—he's our local Bigfoot, except he's a lot more accessible and he's sweet and kind and he likes children and he likes other dogs."

Once they had an idea where Sherpa Jack was roaming, the Kienasts contacted Pierce County Animal Control for help and were referred to Lost Dogs of King County, an organization that specializes in capturing long-term stray dogs.

"We generally go after really hard to catch dogs, dogs that are just impossible to catch," said Jennifer Hagstrom,



The dark stain around Jack's neck was from a draining infection caused by his training collar.

Photo: Monica Gujral

a volunteer with Lost Dogs.

"We've got traps. We use trail cams. Jack's a very confident dog. He watches our every move. And that's the problem," she said.

After defeating a few attempts to trap him, Sherpa Jack continued to visit a particular area in Longbranch even as separate efforts to capture him were underway in the vicinity.

"We tried to work with the rescue people on the trap but that didn't quite work out," said Rachael Hurst of Longbranch.

She has her own rescue dog who, with the neighbors' dogs, made friends with Sherpa Jack,

and Hurst was concerned Jack may get scared off—as he has from other homes—by too many people, nearby gunshots or too much attention.

"I'm a little bit of a farm girl," she said. "I've been around the Anatolian breed before. I knew this wasn't just your typical dog."

Hurst started feeding him, patiently getting the food bowl

closer to him each day.

"Eventually I had a hand resting on the bowl and I let Jack bump into my hand. The next time I reached out a finger and scratched him under the chin a little bit. Baby steps. The collar is tight, but I was able to get my fingertips under it on the top," she said.

Sherpa Jack is known to have frequented at least three homes in the last eight months where there was a woman with experience assisting animals in need.

On Saturday, March 16, Hurst was able to clip a leash onto Jack's collar. He resisted at first, put then calmed down and sat

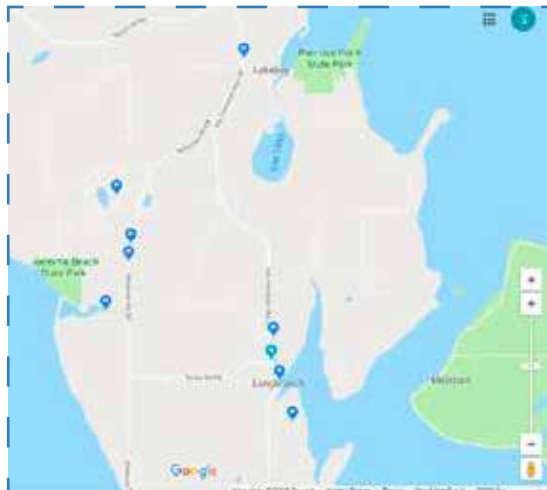
down beside her. Kienast got a snare pole on him and with the help of a neighbor loaded him into a cage, and took his dog home. Kienast cleaned the wound on Jack's

neck and had him examined by a vet the next day. Jack has since been neutered and is recovering in the Kienast's living room.

"We're just going to have to slowly rehabilitate him and get him used to people, so he wants to stay with us,"

"I KID YOU NOT, WITHIN THREE DAYS THAT DOG WAS AT MY FRONT DOOR."

"WE'RE JUST GOING TO HAVE TO SLOWLY REHABILITATE HIM AND GET HIM USED TO PEOPLE."



The KP Washington Facebook page kept track of Jack sightings to help capture him. *Map: Sylvia Nold Wilson*

THRIVE YOUR WAY

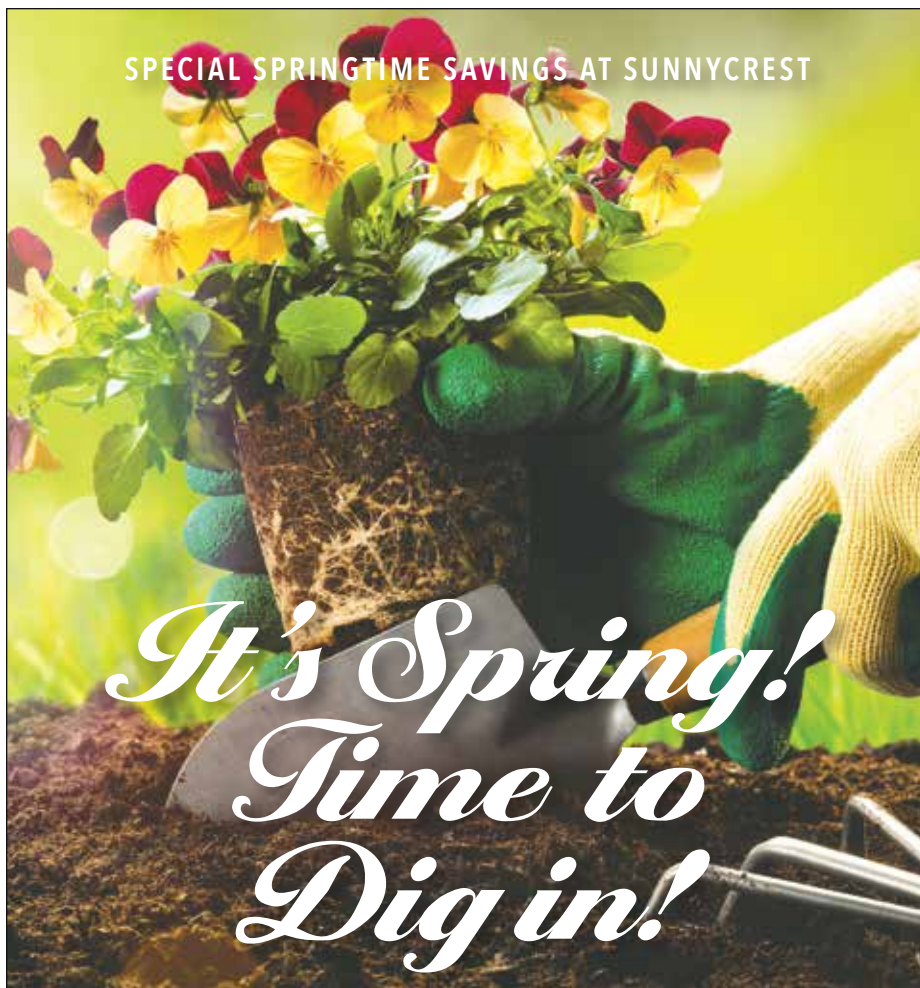
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The pier warehouse was converted to a marina in 1958 but retained the local co-op logo until at least 1963. *Photo courtesy: Mark Scott*

Lakebay Marina Awarded Historic Landmark Status

LISA BRYAN AND TED OLINGER,
KP NEWS

Lakebay Marina, once known as the Washington Cooperative Egg and Poultry Association Lakebay Station, was officially placed on the Pierce County Register of Historic Places by unanimous vote of the Pierce County Council Feb. 12.

“From this point forward, the owners are eligible to apply for preservation grants, whether that is a building or structural type grant or a program such as a federal tax credit,” said Chad Williams, a planner in the Pierce County Planning and Land Use Department who oversees Pierce County’s Historic Preservation Program.

“Sometimes folks think this means we’re going to roll a wheelbarrow of money out there, but that’s far from the truth,” he said. “Applications are reviewed, hope-

fully for structural rehabilitation as opposed to, say, adding a sign. Nothing is automatic in that process and everything must still be to code.”

“We’re pleased and moving forward,” said Catherine Williams, the new president of the Key Peninsula Historical Society (no relation to Chad Williams). She helped research and finalize the application to the county landmarks commission with Lakebay Marina owner Mark Scott.

“Mark approached me at the museum and asked if I would be willing to work on

it with him,” Williams said. Brian McBeth, a graduate student earning his master’s degree at the University of Oregon, had already prepared an earlier application, and she built on his work. “I talked to Chad Williams at Pierce County and he suggested focusing on the co-op, because there wasn’t much information on that and they already had a lot of information on the Mosquito Fleet.”

Farmers on the Key Peninsula joined the Washington Co-Operative Egg and Poultry Association in 1928 and built a warehouse at the end of the pier, now home to the Lakebay Marina.

The original pier in Mayo Cove was built in 1884 by Carl Lorenz for his own use. He ran a mill on Bay Lake and built boats to take the milled wood to

market. Lakebay steamboats hauled passengers, produce, livestock, merchandise and mail for the next 74 years.

“The co-op offered people, particularly during the Depression, the chance to turn themselves into chicken farmers,” Williams said. “Chickens were cheap to raise and to keep, and you could take your eggs there to swap for gas, tires, tractor parts, or get cash.”

“The eggs were called cackleberries,” Williams said. “They had so much fruit out here; huckleberries and raspberries, so why not?”

The co-op shipped an average of 150 cases of eggs a week, each containing 18 dozen, according to Williams. That

“SOMETIMES FOLKS THINK THIS MEANS WE’RE GOING TO ROLL A WHEELBARROW OF MONEY OUT THERE, BUT THAT’S FAR FROM THE TRUTH.”



This plaque from Pierce County will soon adorn Lakebay Marina. Photo: Ted Olinger, KP News

Code Violations May Bring Criminal Charges for Lakebay Marina Owner

County and state agencies address multiple issues, including alleged criminal activity.

LISA BRYAN, KP NEWS

worked out to 7,800 cases annually or 1,684,800 eggs a year.

“They had special rail cars that were refrigerated; we shipped those eggs from this peninsula clear back to the East Coast,” she said. “They liked ours better; they were fresh, they liked the way they were packed, and they were pretty. We used mostly Leghorn hens that gave a big, white egg.”

There was also a social aspect to co-op membership.

“It was a big social part of the Key Peninsula at the time, particularly in the ’30s, bringing people together,” Williams said. “The roads were pretty much dirt roads and muddy at best; the water was how people got around.”

There were approximately 370 members in the co-op at a time when there were only about 1,300 people on the peninsula. “I was astounded,” Williams said. “Only one member of the family was a member; that means almost every family on the peninsula was involved in the co-op.”

Joyce Olson of Vaughn is one of the few people left on the KP who worked with the co-op. “As a 14-year-old she drove her father’s farm truck with thousands of eggs in the back down the hill to the marina, double-clutching all the way and trying not to run off the road or hit anybody, or break any eggs,” Williams said. “Then she’d drive out on the pier, turn around and back up with men waving their arms all around, and then they’d load her up with two tons of hay and she’d drive back up that hill home, double-clutching all the way.”

The co-op’s Lakebay station closed when it combined with the Gig Harbor co-op in 1958. The warehouse was converted to a marina. Mark Scott became its third owner in 2013.

In an email to KP News, Scott wrote that he “would like to thank Cathy for her help; (she) made it happen (and) the community owes her a thank you.”

Williams is now working with state historian Michael Houser in Olympia to place the marina on the Washington Heritage Registry, which could mean state money for historical restoration.

Pierce County Code Enforcement issued a final notice to correct a series of violations at Lakebay Marina in summer of 2018. The violations included operating an unpermitted RV park and campground, illegal shellfish harvest and unpermitted signage. The marina owner, Mark Scott, appealed the case before the county examiner in September, and that appeal was denied.

Code Enforcement then referred the matter to the Pierce County Prosecuting Attorney’s Office for criminal charges.

The current case is specific only to the violations cited in the examiner’s

October 2018 ruling against Scott’s appeal. Pierce County Prosecutor Mary Robnett has yet to file those criminal charges against the marina owner but that is no indication a criminal case won’t be pursued.

Scott declined to comment on the pending charges.

Residents along Mayo Cove have witnessed and reported problems at Lakebay Marina. The steady stream of complaints to Pierce County increased following the sinking of several boats there over winter. (See “Winter Moorage: Another Sinking at Lakebay Marina,” KP News, March 2019.)

“We have called every agency under the sun: the sheriff, the county, the Department of Ecology, DNR, Fish and Wildlife, the Coast Guard, the fire marshal, the health department. . .you name it,” a marina neighbor told KP News under the condition of anonymity.

Neighbors continued reporting illegal liveaboards at the marina not allowed under the terms of Lakebay Marina’s aquatic lease with DNR. Neighbors document the same vehicles leaving the parking lot each morning and returning to park overnight.

Neal Cox, South Puget Sound District Manager of state aquatic lands for DNR said, “Mr. Scott denies those accusations.”

“What we don’t see are any of those live-aboard boats leaving to empty their sewage at a pump out station,” said a neighbor who declined to be identified. “There is a portapotty onshore, but it hasn’t been serviced since last summer and raw human waste has accumulated to just below the toilet seat.”

Persons living inside parked RVs, unpermitted on the Lakebay Marina uplands, have also lodged complaints against the marina management to Pierce County and DNR.

Ty Booth, the senior planner at Planning and Land Use for Pierce County, said, “I understand that people wonder if the county is taking care of these upland concerns like abandoned junk vehicles and garbage, why isn’t the county taking care of these vessels in the water that sink?”

The Lakebay Marina footprint includes uplands, shoreline, private tidelands and state aquatic lands, and each of those agencies has its own protocols.

“Our department doesn’t regulate vessels—we regulate land use and development,” Booth said. When Booth and

Code Enforcement officer Mark Lupino receive reports, they send them to the applicable agencies.

Pierce County Building Department officials got involved when they condemned the pier and the building in July 2015 after concerns about the restaurant structure. Officials were forced to board up the entrance multiple times, but after learning the restaurant was still open and serving the

public, they finally resorted to barricades. (See “Lakebay Marina Aims for April 1 Reopening,” KP News, April 2016.)

Scott filed substantial development plans that were conditionally approved by Pierce County in October 2016, however the complexities and costs involving multiple federal, state and county departments prevented the proposal from going forward and the conditional use permit expired. (See “Proposed Dock Expansion at Lakebay Marina Faces Local Opposition,” KP News, November 2017.)

Booth said the county and other agencies met in May 2018 to discuss concerns or potential concerns at the site. The state Department of Ecology, the Department of Health, the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department, Surface Water Management Division and Code Enforcement were all represented “to discuss a lot of various issues that have occurred out there, including derelict vessels. At that time, we had reports of vessels being taken from the site onshore and being scuttled.”

“The county is working to try to address situations out there. But it seems like one thing gets rectified and then something else pops up,” Booth said.

The Lakebay Marina Facebook page reported plans for a spring reopening.



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Carolyn Wiley

DEVIL'S HEAD DIARY



Coping with Dragons

Years ago, I bought a small, exquisite piece of framed calligraphy that now hangs in my laundry room, where it speaks a simple truth:

*There have been no dragons in my life,
Only small spiders and stepping in gum...
I could have coped with dragons.*

Except for the surprise factor, small spiders are inconsequential and I've usually avoided gum on the bottom of my shoe.

Pantyhose, however, have been a near constant threat.

Pantyhose were a boon to the women of the 1960s, replacing the sadistic demands of the longline girdle, garter belt and scads of unmatched stockings. But improper implementation of pantyhose can inflict severe reputation scarring when combined with wide-leg bell-bottom pants.

Beware, for that fiendish fashion combination is reemerging from its long banishment to the infernal regions, where it belongs.

While undergoing an otherwise innocent new-neighbor coffee-klatch interrogation one day, I let it slip that I could play bridge. An invitation was extended to spend an afternoon assessing the variable combos of 13 and wagering on the probable alignment based upon the indispensably cryptic verbal cues.

A dabbling artist, I finished up a print-making session, doffed my inky duds by the washer, dug through the dryer, and was out the door—coiffed, bejeweled and chic in my best bell-bottoms—on my way to the first of what I assumed would be many neighborly bridge games.

Eventually, I lucked into a dummy hand and got to examine our inspired hostess-created spread. I collected a dainty plate of goodies and was on my way back to the card table when the heel of my shoe caught on something. Looking down, I saw a stocking foot dragging behind me. I stooped to grab the footie and stash it in my pocket.

But when I pulled on the foot, the other leg of my bell-bottoms was yanked up like a puffy Austrian shade. It wasn't a footie, but a pair of pantyhose snaking up one leg and down the other. Subtlety was lost, and I was reduced to snorting giggles as I rolled up the resistant wad of nylon. Both pant legs were riding thigh-high before the effect of static cling was overcome.

Curiously, no further bridge invitations were extended and my favorite bell-bottoms eventually aged out and were relegated to pre-rag-bag grunge wear.

Soon after, while dashing in one Sunday following a morning devoted to the moral instruction of small people, I doffed the church togs without removing the pantyhose and donned my favorite grunge wear. I was eager to resume laying tile in our unfinished basement.

I was well into the job when the phone rang. Expecting a call from my mother, I ran to answer the phone by the patio door. While talking, I stepped outside and assumed a relaxed, one-legged stork stance, leaning against the door jamb and balancing the other foot on my knee.

As I moved to hang up, I realized that the foot of the pantyhose was glued to the pants leg. The wide-leg bell-bottoms added to the instability of that first step as I flung myself away from the wall. There was considerable flailing and cursing during my staggering rush across the patio. No injuries, but I did moon the entire neighborhood.

In retrospect, maybe my treasured calligraphy should read:

*There have been no dragons in my life
Only bell-bottoms and glue on the foot of my
pantyhose.*

I could have coped with dragons.

Carolyn Wiley copes with the changing fashions of life from Longbranch.

Rob Vajko

KEYTHOUGHTS



Caring and Cared For

I will be 59 in May. My mother gave birth to my brother when she was 20 years old, and to me when she was 22. My two sisters followed shortly after that. My mother spent her 20s and 30s getting us dressed, wiping our noses and our tears, getting us breakfast, lunch and dinner, and making sure we got dressed, brushed our teeth and took baths.

My mother is now 80 and it's time for my dad and the four of us, her children, to do those things for her now. Mum (she's British, so it's Mum, not Mom) has Alzheimer's and a slew of other health problems that means she can't do any of those tasks for herself. Most of the time she doesn't even seem to care if we do them for her or not. But we continue to do them so when her time comes she will have lived to the end with dignity.

Caring for aging parents, especially when they reach a point where they can no longer care for themselves, is a difficult, often daunting challenge that many of you have faced or are dealing with as well.

Distance often makes matters even more complicated, especially emotionally. My parents live in Bloomington, Indiana, so I can't just pop in to see them whenever I wish. In this increasingly mobile society, that is becoming the norm rather than the exception. It is difficult not to feel guilty for abandoning them in their time of need. Oftentimes the brunt of the burden of caring for ailing parents falls on one or the other of the siblings; in my case, it's my sister who lives only 15 minutes away, and that can add even more to the feeling of guilt ("I should be doing more to help my sister!").

On top of that, dealing with aging parents can be tricky, even if they are still able to function on their own. A recent study from Penn State University found that 77 percent of adult children labelled their parents as "stubborn." We tend to resist change more and more the older we get and elderly parents can be pretty set in their ways and resistant to change of any kind, even change that would improve their quality of life.

Here are a few tips that I have discovered through this recent challenge:

I can only do what I can do. This might sound obvious but when you are beating yourself up for not doing more you might need to repeat this mantra to yourself over and over again.

Keep your sense of humor. One of the best compliments I got during my visit to Mum recently was from my sister who told me, "Mum hasn't laughed like that in a long time." We can laugh or cry, so we try to laugh.

Remember who they are and what they've been through. There is a tendency with elderly parents to think of them as stubborn children. They aren't—they are adults who've experienced a whole lot in their lives. Honor that life.

Try to put yourself in their shoes. As frustrated as you are, chances are they are even more frustrated and distraught. How will you feel when you lose your independence and mobility?

Accept the situation. It might not be what you or they want but if there is no alternative then there is no alternative. Accepting this is crucial for everyone's well-being.

Rob Vajko lives in Gig Harbor.

Curt Scott

THE LONG VIEW



Just BAM It

Disasters obey Murphy's Law: "Bad things will happen at the worst possible time." That means you must be ready all the time. How do you do that?

Break "all" into manageable chunks and then think, plan and prepare while maintaining a positive mental attitude.

Your car is a good place to start. Most of us spend hours each day driving to and from work, school, play, athletics, or visiting friends and relatives. Therefore, that vehicle becomes a critical storage site for minimum essential survival items—the BAM list.

BAM is the BARe Minimum you need in your car from now on.

Here's why. The greatest natural disaster in the history of the United States—the next Pacific Northwest Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake (the CSZ Big One)—could happen at any time. Seismic experts predict a very powerful, very destructive CSZ Big One—Richter scale 8.0 or higher—will happen. They just don't know when. The destruction to surface infrastructure (roads, bridges, rail, seaports) will be catastrophic. If you're in your car at that moment, what you put in your car can save your life.

The last CSZ Big One happened at 9 a.m. Jan. 26, 1700. The best guesstimate for the CSZ quake's reoccurrence is 300 to 500 years. In other words, we're due. (Note: Seismic experts have varying opinions about CSZ frequency; 300 to 500 years comes from 20 of the largest CSZ quakes over the past 10,000 years.)

The five BAM list items are water, tarp, shovel, warmth and light. With these five items, you will be able to face a very difficult survival experience. The CSZ Big One will shock your world. The BAM items will blunt some of that mental trauma and shift your focus from your plight today to surviving until tomorrow.

Water is critical. Lack of water is a killer. At least one gallon of water for each person per day is a good minimum. A tarp prevents exposure to wind, rain and cold. A shovel is useful as a means of making shelter, making visual "help" signals, finding food, and for defense. You also need something for warmth—a coat, a blanket, a sleeping bag—to retain core body temperature because body heat loss is another killer.

Light sustains the spirit of survival. Darkness can kill the human spirit. After the CSZ Big One hits, no public electricity means lights you're accustomed to seeing will not be on—no street or house lights—and cloud cover may stifle moon and star light. Nights will be very dark and scary. A flashlight, a lantern or a candle will provide light and light can help keep you alive.

In addition to the BAM list, you may want other things. Consider sturdy shoes, food, a first aid kit, medicine, rope, tent stakes, a compass, Ziploc bags, plastic trash bags, paper towels or tissues, and other things. But first get the BAM items in your car.

Curt Scott has a passion for survival and writes from Home.

Vicki Husted Biggs

A SHIFT IN PERSPECTIVE



The Road to Success

What is the name of the ruling dynasty of Monaco? How many legs does a lobster have? Do you love trivia?

My recent trivia night experiences have shown me that a game of trivia is so much more than knowing when the Jamaican Rock Iguana was first considered an endangered species (1944). Trivia nights might be the next successful model for a reimagined United Nations or, on a smaller scale, our community council. They can be a model for collective problem-solving, deductive reasoning, the benefits of risk taking, and cooperation in decision making.

What a happy discovery to learn that groups of strangers gather together to eat, drink and play trivia games in pubs and coffee houses. I have been part of such a gathering over the last several months. We boast a team of about ten people and have won in a field of over 20 teams. What has been the secret to our success and how might we use it as model for community?

While I love trivia games, I realize that I am not very good at them. I rarely know more than one answer in any given round. My teammates often have many more correct answers. However, my one correct answer may be crucial for the win. The lesson here? Every player on a team has value. I release a bit of ego, knowing that my time will come. (Recently it was a multiple-choice question involving the Italian grape variety Barbera.)

Another important lesson from Trivia Night concerns the guidelines needed to complete a successful game. The questions are given in a timed sequence. Each team has a finite amount of time to determine their answers to keep the game moving.

Imagine, if you will, a world where bureaucratic duties are completed within an allotted time frame. A miracle!

During the game, everyone can voice an opinion. The team either goes with a majority agreement on a well-argued answer or the team may opt for one person's intuitive opinion. When the time comes, answers are submitted for good or ill. Either way, everyone had an opportunity for input. Democracy in action.

There is a certain decorum or etiquette. You must respect your teammates. You must not shout out your answers, potentially sabotaging your own efforts. Successful team members learn to take their victory laps at the appropriate times. It is unseemly to laugh at mistakes. On the other hand, having a sense of humor is always helpful. Realizing your place in the grand scheme of things, with humility and a little self-deprecation, generally enhances team-building and your place on the team.

Players must consult with their teammates to reach a conclusion. You may have to admit to your own lack of knowledge in a certain area—reptiles, for example. Yield the floor to members who are experts in this field. In our case, the reptile experts on our team are the 20-something girls. (You should have seen them come to attention when that category was announced.) Any real-world committee benefits when this is the norm for an organization.

By far the most important element of our success is the spirit of inclusiveness on our team. SWAG (Secretly We Are Guessing) is a large team. Many of the teams we compete against are made up of three to six people. We are an age-diverse team of ten with members in their 70s down to middle-agers, and then to early 20-somethings. Each of us brings unique bits of culture, knowledge, intellect, education and life experience to the table. When we realized that this combination was the winning strategy, we were on our way. This is our way of making a bigger tent, or making a larger circle, instead of excluding people who are not the same as us. It has worked every time.

In trivia games, as in life, you never know what is going to come your way. Each round may have a theme or it could be a set of random questions. There is no way to prepare ahead for the question, except to trust yourself and your teammates. The broadest base of players provides the broadest base of knowledge and the best platform for reaching the right answers.

Happy gaming to all.

Vicki Husted Biggs is a longtime social worker who lives in Home.

Letters to the Editor

SCHOOL FUNDING

How about some real school funding reform?

This is for all the parents who were soap-boxing to persuade citizens to approve February's PSD school bond labeled, "For the Kids." Like kids can't learn unless they're in a pretty new building. I believe we all should pay base taxes for education, for education benefits all of us.

I had no children in the school system but I have paid school taxes for over 40 years. Not once has a parent ever thanked me for helping to fund their children's education. Instead of standing on the street corner waving signs, why aren't parents lobbying the state legislature to devise a more equitable and consistent school funding system?

How about a system where we all pay a base amount based on our property values, then individuals who have children in the school system are assessed an additional percentage, and with every additional child your percentage goes up? As they leave the system, your percentage goes down.

This method would provide funds to build or rebuild schools as needed instead of relying on levies and bonds. This funding system would also provide an added tool for parents to calculate what it actually costs to educate their offspring. Taxpayers on fixed incomes and already paying high taxes—and I'm sure some on the brink of losing their properties—have to pay more out of their retirement income so you can save more of yours.

Michael Ouellette, Lakebay

NO HRC

I would like to offer a clarifying statement regarding the position of the No HRC group in light of some of the comments about my opinion column. (See "Keep the KP Rural—No HRC," March 2019.)

We support folks getting the help needed to live healthy, productive, substance-free lives. For many this means treatment from health care professionals trained to provide the care needed to overcome both addiction and mental health issues. This is in no way antithetical to our No HRC stance: We do not object to the stated goals of HRC, we object to the proposed location.

Can we not help those in need while at the same time safeguarding our rural lands and way of life? I think we can.

I often think of The Mustard Seed Project. Once they complete the assisted living facility, folks will have the option of continuing to live in their community while receiving the help needed to live with dignity. In a community where 35 percent of the population is over 65, the services they provide are invaluable.

However, in spite of the growing need of such facilities, The Mustard Seed Project still had to work within the boundaries of the zoning codes. They raised enough funds to purchase land in Key Center in order to comply with KP zoning laws.

We are asking HRC to look to the example set by these dedicated leaders and follow suit.

Caleb Lystad, Lakebay

HRC CONCERNS

My husband and I grew up here, both graduating from Peninsula High School. While life took us away, we recently moved back, purchasing our forever home in Vaughn.

Shortly after we moved back, we learned about the plans of Hope Recovery Center to build a large substance use disorder treatment facility on the KP.

I am absolutely pro-treatment; I've worked in the substance use disorder field for 10 years.

But I have concerns.

- The proposed facility, funded by state insurance, is a 50-bed inpatient treatment center with outpatient resources, including a medicated-assisted treatment, that could encompass up to 33,000 square feet. The current zoning does not permit this type of facility.
- There are two areas on the KP that are zoned for this type of facility: Key Center and Lake Kathryn.
- It goes against the Key Peninsula Community Plan.
- There is not a well system, adequate water source, sewer or septic in place, and I am concerned about the impact those systems would demand.
- As a nonprofit 501(c)(3), HRC would not pay property taxes or would pay a reduced amount.

Build it where it is legally zoned with supporting infrastructure. Otherwise, I will stand alongside my community members who also oppose this plan.

Shanon Bills, Vaughn



Kelly continues to chair the KP Democrats.
Photo: Lisa Bryan, KP News

LD 26 Democrats Remove Chair John Kelly

The longtime local activist barred from Democratic Party activities until 2020.

SARA THOMPSON, KP NEWS

John Kelly was removed from his position as both member and chair of the Legislative District 26 Democrats at a special meeting Nov 1. He had served as chair since 2016 and his term was scheduled to end in December.

Kelly is a longtime Key Peninsula resident and a commissioner-at-large on the Key Pen Parks board.

According to a press release, Kelly had been censured by the group at the October meeting for threatening to endorse a Republican legislative candidate. The censure also cited “behavior perceived to be harassing, abusive or disrespectful” and his “failure to avoid profane, prejudicial, exclusionary, abusive or sexualized language.” The censure noted that Kelly exhibited disruptive behavior despite several months of advice, coaching and counseling by party leaders and colleagues.

“It was a smoke screen, just an opportunistic thing; they just don’t like old-fashioned Democrats,” Kelly told KP News in March. “The main thing that gets me is them wanting to paint me as some kind of harasser of women—I am an equal opportunity harasser. I tell people exactly what I think.”

Evidence was presented at the November meeting of Kelly’s endorsement of Republican legislative candidate Jesse Young through mailers and television advertisements. Kelly left after the presentation without responding to the charge.

Kelly later told the KP News that he had endorsed Jesse Young and filmed an ad supporting him the day after his censure. The ad can be viewed on YouTube.

“I’ve never been a fan of Jesse Young,

but believe me he has done more for the parks than any other legislator we’ve had,” Kelly said. “We’ve got a situation right now where we need a turn lane by Gateway Park before somebody gets hurt or killed, and I really trust that Jesse is the guy to do it.”

Young’s Democratic opponent, Connie FitzPatrick, “was a terrible candidate,” Kelly said. “I’ve got an election myself coming up here in November and I want to tell folks I did what was right for the parks.”

The precinct committee officers voted unanimously to remove Kelly as chair. Since that time, Kelly has been denied membership in LD 26 Democrats and in the State Democratic Party through 2020.

State Chair Tina Podlodowski said, “John Kelly has not been willing to support the principles and goals of the Democratic Party and is not a member.” He has been barred by precinct committee officers in LD 26 from attending any Democratic meetings and events in LD 26 or elsewhere, and he was previously barred from the Pierce County Democrats.

KP Democrats continues to meet monthly at the Home fire station and is led by Kelly.

Luellen Lucid, who now chairs the LD 26 Democrats, said, “The attorney to the state party has told us that ‘Democrat’ is not a trademarked or copyrighted term, so we cannot prevent him from using it even though he and the KP group have no connection to the Democratic Party.”

Kelly said that KP Democrats was established as a grassroots organization and was never intended to be an extension of the Democratic Party. He said that he sees his role as one of trying to be more inclusive of people with views more conservative than those expressed by the LD 26 Democrats.

The LD 26 Democrats, which meets in Port Orchard, is the only official group representing Democrats in the community. “While anyone who wishes to may attend Kelly’s meetings, the Democratic Party is not encouraging our members to attend meetings put on by his group,” Lucid said. “We do encourage our members to attend the KP Community Club meetings.”

Ted Ralston, who helps coordinate the KP Community Club, said, “It was created as an adjunct to the KP Community Council, and as such is non-partisan. It is not a substitute to the group John Kelly leads. It is primarily a gathering for anyone who is interested in civil discussion of topics that have an impact on the KP.” The group currently does not have a regular meeting schedule but will post topics, speakers and times in the KP News events calendar.

KP Community Council Updates Strategic Plan

The KPC has grown into an umbrella organization for numerous efforts to improve life on the Key Peninsula.

SARA THOMPSON, KP NEWS

The Key Peninsula Community Council held a retreat in January to develop a strategic planning framework for the future. The KPC’s scope of work and budget have expanded, and the 14 directors wanted to review the council’s role in the community, its goals and the best way to move forward.

The KPC was established in 2004 following a two-year planning process in response to frustration with lack of attention from Pierce County and a desire to encourage civic involvement. Its purpose, as stated on its website, is “to address, respond to and meet the needs of the community residents by developing partnerships, sponsorships and programs in order to maintain and improve the quality of life on the Key Peninsula.”

The KPC has grown exponentially in recent years, evolving from an all-volunteer organization with a budget that barely covered postage to one with a paid staff member and an office in the KC Corral. Funding comes primarily from grants and rental income.

In 2015 a group of Key Peninsula citizens and representatives from a number of local organizations met to consider how best to connect area resources and people more effectively. They identified three primary issues that affected well-being in this community: hunger, transportation, and health and wellness. Late that year KPC received a grant from the Gary E. Milgard Family Foundation to build an infrastructure to facilitate collaboration and coordination of the various organizations and agencies serving the Key Peninsula.

The KPC now serves in part as an umbrella for programs that include KP Partnership for a Healthy Community, the KP Farm Council, KP School Bus Connects, the Gig Harbor Key Peninsula Suicide Prevention Coalition, and KP Youth Council. Its office provides space for the Tacoma Pierce County Health Department, Safe Streets, Hope Recovery Center and County Councilman Derek Young.

Fourteen Directors from the five census districts on the Key Peninsula serve two-year terms. Each fall the KPC reviews applications and then selects new members in November. Terms are staggered; half of the positions are filled each year.

At the retreat, which was facilitated by

Julie Ann Gustanski, Ph.D., LL.M., and Mary Ellen Hill, MPA, from the Resource Dimensions consulting group, the directors affirmed that the KPC is committed to providing quality programs and services to support maintaining public infrastructure for the benefit of the community, and that it values engagement and participation from all members of the community working together to create policies and plan for the future.

Goals from the retreat include internal matters—clarifying financial procedures and committee structure related to the various programs under the KPC umbrella, assuring sustainable funding, and fine-tuning the mission and vision statements.

Two goals have a more external focus. One is to increase public awareness and have name recognition in the community, largely using the website, social media and the KP News. Kristen Augutziny will chair the workgroup for that goal.

The other goal concerns governance. Jeremy Larcom, KPC President, said a workgroup will look at a number of issues, including self-governance. He noted that Spanaway is considering incorporation to allow for more local control. “We send a lot of money from property taxes and sales taxes away from this community,” he said. “We have to be a squeaky wheel to get some of the things we need, and we want to explore possible options to get more local control.” Don Swensen, a KPC director and chair of the Key Peninsula Land Use Commission, will chair that workgroup. He said they will look at opportunities to advance the community’s relationships at local, state and federal levels. (See “Governance on the Key Peninsula” in this issue).

Hours are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Mon-Fri. Call 253-432-4948, email keypenncouncil@gmail.com, or mail to P.O. Box 13, Vaughn, WA 98394. The KPC conducts public meetings the second Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Key Center fire station.



KPC directors work at their recent planning retreat. Photo: Resource Dimensions

In February, Angel Guild awarded \$13,600 to:

Key Pen Community Services - signage.....	\$500
Key Pen Community Services - food bank.....	\$1,500
Minter Creek Elementary School	\$2,600
Key Pen Family Resource Center	\$4,000
Key Pen Civic Center - Children's Museum.....	\$5,000

Angel Guild Thrift Shop
Tues-Saturday 10 to 4 Key Center Corral 253 884-9333




Zipper merging as practiced at Purdy. Photo: David Zeigler, KP News

New Transportation Bills Could Affect KP Commuters

Bills would mandate better driving habits and prevent Narrows Bridge toll increases.

MATTHEW DEAN, KP NEWS

Two transportation bills introduced in the Washington State House of Representatives may impact KP residents commuting south on Highway 16.

House Bill 1614 aims to teach Washington drivers proper merging techniques, and was inspired by a traffic snarl that lies close to home for KP residents. The bill, introduced by Rep. Chris Gildon (R-Tacoma) and Rep. Jesse Young (R-Gig Harbor), would require “zipper merging” to be taught in driver’s education and require questions on merging techniques on driving tests.

Zipper merging means entering a new lane at the last possible moment, with cars from each lane taking turns, integrating the lanes in a “zipper” motion. This contrasts with what is referred to as “early merging,” where drivers merge into the continuing lane as early as legally possible.

Young said his inspiration for the bill came from the northbound Highway 16 exit onto State Route 302 in Purdy, a space that the Washington State Department of Transportation has designated a “high accident corridor” due to “vehicle queuing.” Shoulder driving is allowed during afternoon commute hours but, according to Young, drivers are having a hard time merging back to a single lane where the shoulder narrows.

“The people that would take the option to go on the shoulder and merge at the merge point were viewed as cutters,” said Young at a House Transportation Committee meeting in late February. “People weren’t using it effectively, and that’s what really generated the idea behind the bill.”

Zipper merging has been endorsed by other states including Minnesota, where a state DOT study determined that the process could reduce the length of a traffic backup by up to 40 percent.

Critics suggest that this ideal scenario is rare. “What makes zipper merges fail more often than not isn’t how they’re designed, but both human selfishness and altruism,” said one typical WSDOT Facebook post. “That one extra car that wants

to shove its way in more often causes a lane to come to a complete stop, which ruins the whole system.”

HB 1614 was referred to the transportation committee where it received a “do pass” recommendation.

Another bill that may affect Key Peninsula residents in the upcoming months is House Bill 1928, a measure to freeze tolls on the Tacoma Narrows Bridge by appropriating state funds. HB 1928 is sponsored in part by Rep. Michelle Caldier (R-Port Orchard).

Because of lower-than-expected traffic levels across the bridge, the state’s Transportation Commission has determined that approximately \$35 million will be required to prevent toll hikes on the bridge until the project is paid off in 2031. If the money can’t be found, a 25-cent toll increase will go into effect July 1 of this year, followed by more toll hikes in the years to come.

This isn’t the first time the House has taken steps to curb toll increases on the Narrows bridge. In 2018, it passed a bill approving loans from the state, limiting toll increases to 25 cents. Since the funds provided were only loans, however, tolls would continue until 2032 to pay off the extra debt. HB 1928 proposes to make up the difference with appropriations instead, which unlike loans do not need to be paid back to the state. This plan would prevent the tolls from lasting longer or growing higher, but would shift the cost to all of Washington, not just Tacoma-area commuters.

“Toll-bearers in our district are bearing quite a burden,” said Rep. Christine Kilduff (D-University Place), one of the bill’s sponsors. Kilduff said the Narrows bridge payment plan was unfair compared to other transportation projects, where the state assumes more of the financial responsibility. “One hundred percent of toll revenues go to pay off the debt on the (Narrows) bridge itself. Other projects, like State Route 520, that figure is around the 72 percent range.”

At press time, HB 1928 is still in Transportation Committee hearings.

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KEY PLAYERS

Phil Bauer

TED OLINGER, KP NEWS

Phil Bauer, 83, has been a staple of Key Peninsula culture for more than 30 years. He served as president and treasurer of the KP Civic Center Association and treasurer of Two Waters Arts Alliance; he volunteered for the KP Fair for a decade; built local Houses for Humanity; strapped on skates to supervise Friday Skate Nigh—and for all these troubles received the KP Citizen of the Year Award in 2006. He's hiked up and down the Cascades and Olympics and paddled a canoe 900 miles on the Mackenzie River to the Arctic Ocean. He also logged 1,600 hours flying five different aircraft in the Vietnam War. He still serves on the civic center board after 20 years and helps distribute the KP News every month.

But you wouldn't know any of that unless you saw him in action, or until you sat down at a local watering hole and pried his story out of him one beer at a time.

The Key Peninsula News recently did just that for this inaugural entry in our new, semi-regular feature, Key Players.

Phil Bauer grew up on a farm in central Iowa, south of Waterloo, raising wheat and corn on 800 acres owned by his grandfather, together with hogs, sheep, and a herd of 100 head of Hereford cattle.

"We were in the tenant house," Bauer said. "My mom and dad were teachers, but we worked that farm. I spent all my young life there. My dad would drop out of teaching and work the farm, then go back to teaching. We were like a lot of people—poor. We lived off of pheasant and rabbits and fish and stuff like that."

Bauer's family left the farm for another small town when he was in junior high but he went to high school in Des Moines and, in 1956, to college at the University of Nebraska in Lincoln.

"Because we were poor I dropped out of college a few times, then I'd go back," he said. "I didn't know what the heck I was going to do. I knew I didn't want to farm."

He graduated with a major in physical education and a minor in English, and then started graduate school. He'd also enrolled in the advanced Reserve Officer

Training Corps. "You had to take two years of ROTC, but if you went into advanced training, you got \$29 a month, which I needed," Bauer said.

"I was in graduate school until the Army called me up in 1961. I got on a train Jan. 22, 1962 and headed out to Fort Benning, Georgia.

"I'll never forget that. Now I'm a really naïve, Midwestern kid. When we went through the outskirts of Birmingham, the abject poverty of the people—talk about wide-eyed. And hearing this George Wallace talking about them, it was just mind-blowing."

Bauer spent 10 weeks in training as a 2nd Lt. infantry officer. He and his class were offered spots in the Ranger, Airborne or flight schools. "We were all college kids, we didn't want anything to do with that," he said. "But about the fourth or fifth week you really get gung-ho. I think on the fifth week I signed up for all three of them.



Phil Bauer at his 80th birthday party in July 2016. Photo: Ted Olinger, KP News

"I went through Ranger school but didn't go through Airborne because I ended up going to flight school at Fort Rucker, Alabama. My first flight in an airplane was my dollar ride in flight school. That's what they call it—you get one free ride and then you're on your way."

After 10 months of training, Bauer was assigned to the 73rd Aviation Co. and on May 31, 1963, deployed to Vietnam as a military advisor. He flew aerial surveillance in a single engine Cessna L-19 Birddog in support of the 9th ARVN Division (Army of the Republic of Vietnam) in Bac Lieu.

"We did a lot of radio relay; following people around; dropping mail; dropping flares at night; marking targets," he said. "It was an interesting tour. Little did I realize what we were getting into." Bauer was one of approximately 16,000 advisors in Vietnam at the time, more than 14 months before the Gulf of Tonkin resolution that led to open war with North Vietnam and the total deployment of 2.7 million Americans.

After a year, Bauer returned to Fort Benning. "I went to helicopter training and got checked out in a Huey, and then right before going back they transferred me over to P-2V school in San Diego."

Bauer returned to Vietnam in 1967 flying the twin engine Lockheed P-2V over the Ho Chi Minh trail on electronic counter measure missions to intercept short

range enemy radio traffic.

"I did that for six months and then ended up going back down to the Mekong Delta to fly some more smaller airplanes, and then into a helicopter unit the last couple months I was there.

"The Huey is the only aircraft I miss flying. They were just great, and they were pretty hard to knock down too. You'd get bullet holes in the main rotor and the mechanics would just put duct tape on them. We got shot at quite a bit.

"There were two wars. There was the air war and there was a ground war, and unless you were a Huey pilot and really down in the weeds, you flew your airplane—and you hung it out during the day, I'm not saying that was safe—but you went back to your unit, your base, your boat at night; had your own bed, your own mess hall, your

own officers' club and your friends, and you were completely divorced from what was really going on. We had no idea what the grunts were doing and obviously they had a terrible, terrible time. And only 10

percent of the people were involved in that; 90 percent had a pretty good deal. I had a pretty vanilla tour.

"And then I got out. I had orders for Fort Hood, Texas, to redeploy back to Vietnam in 10 months in a Cobra (attack helicopter). I said I'm not a killer and I'm not going back. That was the first major decision I ever made, getting out of the Army," Bauer said.

It was the middle of 1968, he'd been on active duty six-and-a-half years and finished as a captain at age 32.

"MY FIRST FLIGHT IN AN AIRPLANE WAS MY DOLLAR RIDE IN FLIGHT SCHOOL."

"THE HUEY IS THE ONLY AIRCRAFT I MISS FLYING... THEY WERE PRETTY HARD TO KNOCK DOWN TOO."

After a miserable stretch of substitute teaching in Los Angeles, Bauer was hired by Western Airlines in September 1968 and flew airliners for 32 years.

“I flew a lot of different airplanes for Western and Delta: 727, 737, 757, 767, 707, 720, DC-10 and L-1011,” Bauer said. “737s up in the mountains in Montana were probably the most fun flying. The approaches were pretty hairy, particularly in bad weather.”

Bauer met his future wife, Kathy, in 1974. “She came into the cockpit while we were waiting to push back and said, ‘You boys need something to drink?’ She was 23 and holy moly was she good looking. We all just stared at her.”

Phil and Kathy were married to other people and had their own families at the time, but maintained a friendship through the years. After their respective divorces, they were married in 1987 and made a new life for themselves on the Key Peninsula a year later.


“I was flying with a guy named Gary Gebo, he lived in Gig Harbor,” Bauer said. “Gary kept telling me for a year he had property available on the water. Ten acres of woods and an old funky beach house south of Vaughn Bay. I didn’t even go in the house. We drove down the driveway and I said, ‘Gary, I’ll buy it.’ ”

That was 1988. Bauer retired from commercial aviation in 2000. “But even before that, I got drafted by the civic center—I think it was Dave Stratford—and I’m still there,” he said.

Bauer was diagnosed with colon cancer in 2015, but after some surgery and a couple rounds of chemotherapy, he said he is in good shape. “I used to talk about airplanes and girls; now it’s all health,” he said. “That’s something old people do, but why would I do that? I’m not old yet.”



Lieutenant Phil Bauer, left, and Lt. Dave Rooks at the 73rd Aviation Co. tent in Bac Lieu, mid-1963. Photo courtesy: Phil Bauer




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Post listings for your event or meeting on our website calendar at keypennews.org. Click on "Submit an Event" and fill out the form, including contact information for verification. Send questions or updates to editor@keypennews.org or call 253-884-4699.

APRIL 2 & 9 / 16 & 23**PAINTING LANDSCAPES & SKY TECHNIQUES IN WATERCOLOR**

1-2 p.m. Adults join children from KP Homeschoolers Co-Op to explore painting with watercolors in two-part class with Adria Hanson of Two Waters Arts Alliance. \$20 per class includes materials. The Mustard Seed Project, 9016 154th Ave. Court NW in upper Key Center. 253-884-9814 to register.

APRIL 2 & 16**FREE SPAY/NEUTER CATS & DOGS**

6:45 a.m.-5 p.m. Arrive by 6:45 a.m. sharp. Key Peninsula Community Services, 17015 9th St. Ct. NW. Pasado's Spay Station. Free for feral/unowned cats and low-income pets. Local volunteers (www.tinyurl.com/KeyPenSpay) will help with pet carrier loans, etc. tinyurl.com/PasadosSpay for income guidelines. 360-793-9393; info@pasadosaf haven.org

APRIL 4**STARTING OR GROWING YOUR FARM**

6:30-8:30 p.m. Key Peninsula Civic Center. Careful use of farm land is crucial to farming vitality and preserving water quality. Learn about laws that affect your farm activities and protect our environment and how Pierce Conservation District can assist you in complying. RSVP at www.pierced.org or call Paul Borne at 253-845-9770 ext. 105.

APRIL 5-6**LOW-COST SPAY/NEUTER CATS & DOGS**

Northwest Spay & Neuter Center, reservations required 253-627-7729. No income restrictions. Drop off 7 a.m. April 5; pick up 9 a.m. April 6. Local volunteers (www.tinyurl.com/KeyPenSpay) will help KP neighbors with cat carrier loans, etc.

APRIL 9**KP COMMUNITY CLUB**

Engage in civil discussion of topics that impact Key Peninsula at this nonpartisan gathering for everyone age 21 and older. 6 p.m. at Blend Wine Shop in Key Center.

APRIL 13**EMILY'S PAPER CRAFTS: HAIKU ORIGAMI CRANES**

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Learn how to write a haiku poem and fold three origami cranes. Ages 8-16. Key Center Library. 253-548-3309; ajackman@piercecoun tylibrary.org

APRIL 17-19**SPRING BREAK CAMP**

Overnight camp for ages 9-14. Learn about the environment and have fun with new and old friends. \$60 per student. 10 a.m. Apr. 17 to 2 p.m. Apr. 19 Sound View Camp-Longbranch, 8515 Key Peninsula Hwy SW. www.soundviewcamp.com; 253-884-9202; info@soundviewcamp.com

APRIL 18**THINKING THURSDAY**

10-11 a.m. Licensed Physical Therapist Ebie Andrew will speak on Healthcare Advocacy for Seniors, followed by group discussion and questions. Free and open to the public. 253-884-9814; The Mustard Seed Project, 9016 154th Avenue Court NW in upper Key Center.

APRIL 20**VERONICA SBERGIA & MAX DEBERNARDI**

7-9 p.m. Blend Wine Shop, Key Center. Tickets are \$20 and seating is limited to 50 people. 253-884-9688; www.blendwineshop.com

APRIL 27**PARKS APPRECIATION DAY**

9 a.m.-12 p.m. Key Peninsula Civic Center. Be part of a major countywide effort with nearly 2,000 other people working in their local parks at the same time. No need to pre-register, simply show up at the civic center, check in with the site leader and start working. Please bring gloves and yard tools. 253-884-3456; www.keypenparks.com

OFF THE KEY WEEKLY EVENTS**APRIL 3****CLIMATE CHANGE IN OUR COMMUNITY**

6-8 p.m. KGI Watershed Council hosts a roundtable discussion on local effects and solutions. Share your experiences and concerns with city, county, business, environmental leaders and local citizens. Hear different perspectives and solutions. Sehmel Homestead Park Pavilion; 10123 78th Ave NW; Gig Harbor. lindsey@harborwildwatch.org or www.piercecoun ty-wa.gov/watersheds; 253-514-0187

APRIL 13**JOHN BATDORF CONCERT**

Potluck 6 p.m., concert 7-10 p.m. Suggested donation \$20. John is an American singer-songwriter with a career spanning four decades. Olalla Community Club, 12970 Olalla Valley Rd. SE. www.olallahouse.org

APRIL 16-19**SPRING BREAK CAMP WITH HARBOR WILDWATCH AND PENMET PARKS**

10 a.m.-4 p.m. Harbor WildWatch four-day camp for ages 7-12, \$150. Learn about wildlife, practice wilderness skills and experience the forest, wetlands and meadow habitats at Sehmel Homestead Park. Bring a waste-free lunch and reusable bottle of water. Space is limited. Register at www.penmetparks.org. 253-514-0187

APRIL 17**THE CONNECTION BETWEEN HABITAT RESTORATION AND SALMON**

5:30-7 p.m. Harbor WildWatch's Cocktails & Fishtales for ages 21+ at Gig Harbor Brewing. Engage with eco-enthusiasts in a lively and social learning experience. Suggested donation \$5. www.harborwildwatch.org, 253-514-0187.

APRIL 18**THIRD THURSDAY**

3-8 p.m. Washington State History Museum. Free admission. Enjoy exhibitions and a free Scholarly Selections lecture too! 253-272-3500; receptionist@wshs.wa.gov; www.washingtonhistory.org/events

THROUGH MAY 26**UNLOCKING MCNEIL'S PAST: THE PRISON, THE PLACE, THE PEOPLE**

McNeil Island the place and the prison that opened 143 years ago. Washington State History Museum. www.washingtonhistory.org or call 1-888-be-there. Schedule and cost: www.washingtonhistory.org

WEEKDAYS**SAIL EXERCISE CLASSES FOR 65+**

Mondays 1:30-2:30 p.m./Wednesdays and Fridays 9:30-10:30 a.m. at The Mustard Seed Project, 9016 154th Avenue Court NW. For those 65+ to help improve balance and mobility, reducing the risk of falls and improving quality of life. Perfect for any fitness level—you can even participate sitting down! \$70/15 class punch or \$5/drop-in. Pre-registration required. Limited scholarships. 253-884-9814 or info@themustardseedproject.org

SENIOR EXERCISE CLASSES

Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 10-11 a.m. and Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9-10 a.m. at KP Community Services. Register with Marilyn Perks at 253-884-4440.

MONDAYS & FRIDAYS**PLAY TO LEARN**

10-11:30 a.m. Mondays: Apr. 8, 15, 22, 29; Fridays: Apr. 12, 26. Free program for children (ages 6 and under) and adults to play together! Individual play, fun group activities, songs, and a group circle time. Drop-in program, please join us. Michelle 253-530-1097 or harrisonm@psd401.net

TUESDAYS**STORYTIMES**

11 a.m. Preschoolers discover books, learn nursery rhymes, sing songs, play with blocks and do arts and crafts at the Key Center Library. 253-548-3309

LOVING HEARTS

Join Loving Hearts to knit or crochet for charity. First Tuesday of the month: 11 a.m.-1 p.m.; all other Tuesdays 1-3 p.m. WayPoint Church, 12719 134th Ave. NW. Yarn donations are needed and very much appreciated. Virginia at 253-884-9619 or lovingheartsonkp@gmail.com

TOPS

Take Off Pounds Sensibly is an affordable wellness education organization; visitors attend their first TOPS meeting free of charge and without obligation. Weigh-in from 8:35-9:25 a.m. at Key Peninsula Lutheran Church, 4213 Lackey Road NW. marcgrubb1990@yahoo.com

OASIS YOUTH CENTER

Are you a queer or questioning youth between the ages of 14 and 24 in the Key Peninsula area? We are bringing Oasis Youth Center to you at our satellite program Tuesdays from 3-6 p.m. at the KP Civic Center. There will be games, new friends, activities, learning and snacks. www.oasisyouthcenter.org, oasis@oasisyouthcenter.org, 253-671-2838

KEY SINGERS REHEARSALS

Rehearsals for KP choral group 7-8:30 p.m. at KP Lutheran Church. All singers welcome. Membership \$10 per year. Marianne: 253-884-5615

TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS**PRESCHOOL PLAYTIME**

Weekly except during school breaks. The Children's Home Society of Washington/KP Family Resource Center offers a preschool/toddler indoor-park program 9:30-11:30 a.m. in the KP Civic Center gym. Caregivers stay with child. Drop-ins welcome; stay as long as you wish. A \$1/child donation is suggested. 253-884-5433

SENIOR TAI CHI

Senior tai chi class, 10:15-11:15 a.m. at KP Community Services in Home. Sign up in advance if you're not already in the class. 253-884-4440

TUESDAYS & SATURDAYS**KP HISTORICAL MUSEUM OPEN**

Key Peninsula Historical Society museum at the civic center is open Tuesdays and Saturdays 1-4 p.m. Free admission. 253-888-3246. www.keypeninsulamuseum.org

WEDNESDAYS**READY SET GO!**

Free Early Learning Program for 3- and 4-year-olds. Limited to 16 children with their parent/caregiver. Focus on kindergarten readiness and lots of fun. KP Civic Center VFW room, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Lori Mertens 253-884-5433.

LAKEBAY WRITERS

A writers' workshop for people who love stories. Share yours; hear others. 1-4 p.m. at Key Center Library. Loren Aikins, 253-884-2785

KP YOUTH COUNCIL

2:30-5 p.m. at the Key Center fire station. Keypercouncil@gmail

BLEND HOOKERS AND TINKERS

Does your fiber diet include skeins of yarn? Join in 5:30-8 p.m. at Blend Wine Shop for a rollicking good time. Bring projects to work on, questions, show-and-tell or hang out with a fabulous group of Key Penners. All skill levels and fiber interests welcome; however, must be 21+ due to location. hannah8ball@gmail.com, 817-929-3943

WEDNESDAYS & FRIDAYS**SENIOR MEALS**

Nutritious meals for ages 60+ are served at noon at KP Community Services; \$2 donation is requested. Guests (ages 50-59) of senior attendees are requested to donate \$2.50. KP Community Services, 17015 9th St. Court SW, Home, 253-884-4440.

THURSDAYS**TOASTMASTERS**

Have fun improving your public speaking ability and leadership skills in the portable building at Waypoint Church, 12719 134th Ave. NW, 8-9 a.m. Guests are welcome to come and observe with no obligation to speak. keypeninsulatoastmasters@gmail.com

SENIORS LUNCH

The KP Senior Society meets at 11 a.m. for a potluck, games and fellowship in the Whitmore Room at the KP Civic Center. All are welcome. 253-884-4981

FRIDAYS**GENTLE YOGA SERIES**

8-9 a.m. An eight-week Gentle Yoga series for older adults. Students will be encouraged to move at their own pace. The focus will be yogic philosophy, range of motion, building strength and balance, breathing techniques and relaxation. \$80/series or \$12/drop-in. Instructor: Lisa Dunham. Limited space. Please call to register in advance: 253-884-9814. The Mustard Seed Project, 9016 154th Ave. Ct NW in upper Key Center.

TRIPLE P PARENTING CLASSES

Children's Home Society of Washington partners with the Tacoma Pierce County Health Department to sign up families for Triple P Parenting classes and provide assistance with basic food and health insurance applications. Representative available at Key Peninsula Community Office, Suite D, KC Corral, Fridays 10 a.m.-2 p.m. 253-432-4948 or 253-884-5433

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Apr. 1 & 15, KP Veterans group, 7 p.m., KP Lutheran Church, 4213 Lackey Rd NW. Veterans, military service members and families with children 16 and older are welcome. 253-225-5130

Apr. 2, KP Historical Society Board Mtg., 11 a.m., in the museum at KP Civic Center. Members, guests, others interested in museum and local history are welcome. 253-888-3246

Apr. 2 & 19, Key Peninsula Business Association business meeting Apr. 2 at 6:30 p.m. at Blend Wine Shop in Key Center; Apr. 19 at noon at El Sombrero. www.kpba.org/about; kpbusinessassociation@gmail.com or 253-312-1006

Apr. 3 & 17, KP Lions Club, 6 p.m., Key Center fire station. 253-853-2721

Apr. 4, Survivors of Suicide, 5:30-7 p.m. Boys and Girls Club, Gig Harbor. Bob Anderson at 253-753-3013 or bobtanderson@me.com

Apr. 4, 26th Legislative District Democrats, 6:30 p.m. social, 7 p.m. meeting. Public invited. Givens Community Center, 1026 Sidney Road, Port Orchard. 26thdemocrats@gmail.com

Apr. 4, Lakebay Fuchsia Society meets the first Thursday of the month at 7 p.m., KP Civic Center. Debbie Cassidy from Sunnycrest Nursery will talk about container plants. Myvanway Shirley 253-884-2283

Apr. 6, Writers Guild, 10 a.m., KP Community Council office, Suite D, at the Key Center Corral. 253-884-6455

Apr. 6 & 20, West of the Narrows Depression and Bipolar Support Group—Lakebay Group, 11:15 a.m.-12:30 p.m., KP Lutheran Church, 4213 Lackey Rd. NW, Kimberly 253-753-4270 or dbsalakebay@gmail.com

Apr. 8, KP Parks Commission, 7:30 p.m., Volunteer Park office. 253-884-9240

Apr. 9 and 23, KP Fire Commission, 5-7 p.m., meets second and fourth Tuesdays at Key Center fire station. www.keypeninsulafire.org or 253-884-2222

Apr. 10, Bayshore Garden Club, 10 a.m., Longbranch fire station. Wendy, 253-332-4883

Apr. 10, Peninsula Emergency Preparedness Coalition, 10 a.m., Gig Harbor Fire District Headquarters, 10222 Bujacich Road NW, Gig Harbor. www.PEP-C.org, curtesscott45@gmail.com, 253-380-7240

Apr. 10, KP Community Council, 7 p.m., Key Center fire station. 253-432-4948

Apr. 11, Ashes support group for Fire District 16, 10:30 a.m., Key Center fire station. 253-884-3771

Apr. 11, Peninsula School District Board, 6 p.m., district office in Purdy. 253-530-1000

Apr. 11, KP Civic Center Assn. board, 7 p.m., Whitmore Room, KP Civic Center. www.kpciviccenter.org, 253-884-3456

Apr. 15, KP Democrats, 7 p.m., Home fire station, johnpatkelly@aol.com

Apr. 17, Key Peninsula Advisory Commission, 6:30 p.m., KP Civic Center, reviews applications for proposed developments and makes recommendations to Pierce County. Verify date, venue, agenda, and check for cancellations at www.piercecountywa.gov/5937/Key-Peninsula-Advisory-Commission

Apr. 18, Key Peninsula Emergency Preparation, 7 p.m. Whitmore Room, KP Civic Center, 253-686-7904 or gablehouse@aol.com (Put E Prep in the subject line)

Apr. 19, Two Waters Arts Alliance board members welcome artists and art lovers to join its meeting, 1 p.m., VFW Room, KP Civic Center. www.twowaters.org 253-884-1163

Apr. 20, Key Peninsula Caregivers Support Group, 10:30 a.m.-noon at The Mustard Seed Project, 9016 154th NW, Key Center. Please call Debra Jamerson before attending. 360-621-1110

Apr. 21, Bluegrass Gospel Jam Session, 6-8:30 p.m. For all acoustic instruments, ages and skill levels to play, sing or just listen. Bring music stand and finger food to share, music and beverages are provided. Longbranch Church, 16518 46th St. SW. 253-884-9339

Apr. 22, Relatives Raising Kids Support, 6-7:30 p.m. Grandparents and relatives raising children meet at Evergreen Elementary. Potluck dinner and child care provided. Call Lori at CHSW at 253-884-5433 or 253-391-0144.

Apr. 22, KP Farm Council planning meeting, 6 p.m., KP Community Council office, KC Corral, Ste D, 253-432-4948 or email keycouncil@gmail.com; visit kpfarmtour.com.

Multiple dates, KP Sportsmen's Club board meets first Thursdays at 9:30 a.m.; general meeting/potluck second Thursdays at 6 p.m.; bingo \$1/card and potluck fourth Fridays at 6 p.m.; Ladies Bunco last Wednesdays at 6 p.m. Bring snacks and \$5 to play. Sportsmen's Clubhouse, 5305 Jackson Lake Road NW, 253-884-6764.

The Community Calendar is brought to you as a public service by the Angels.



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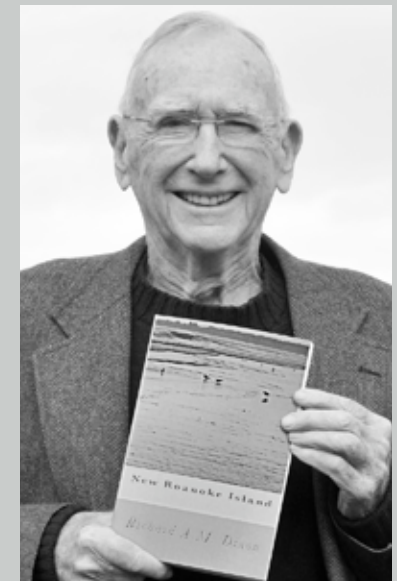
Tuesday to Saturday in the Key Center Corral 253 884-9333

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Dixon's Back!

STRONGER THAN EVER

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www.longbranchchurch.net
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Adult Bible Study 9:00
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www.longbranchfoundation.org or Facebook page

A FUN FAMILY NIGHT
FOR ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOL KIDS

Key Peninsula Civic Center



April 5 Skate Night

Spring Break April 12 & 19
No Skate Night

April 26 Skate Night + Dodgeball
Skate 6-9 pm Dodgeball 9-10:30 pm

Live DJ, Skating, Dancing, Games,
Prizes, Kid-Friendly Burgers, Pizza,
Snacks & Drinks

Kids \$5 / Parents free

www.facebook.com/KPCC.SkateNight

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Middle & High School Youth Group Mondays at WPNorth 6:30-8:30pm



ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

The Longbranch Improvement Club and The Longbranch Foundation

The year 2018 marked another great period of growth and development as we worked to provide needed community resources, preserve our properties and the environment. Highlights from 2018 include:

The Longbranch Improvement Club

Membership: In 2018, LIC membership increased to 231. Visit our website at www.licweb.org for information about membership and other benefits of the LIC. We are 100% volunteer and our members donated more than 5,680 hours in dozens of activities for the LIC and TLF.

Our monthly meetings, open to everyone, include dinner or dessert potluck buffets. Odd numbered months feature programs ranging from local interest to world-wide adventures. You are invited to join our friendly group – meetings are third Wednesdays of the month starting at 6:30 pm.

Buildings and Grounds: In 2018, the LIC applied for its third Pierce County Preservation Grant for restoration work on the large five window sets on the west side of the historic building, to be completed this spring. The trail system was further improved through a grant



from TLF. Future improvements at the clubhouse include insulation and roofing, pending structural review. A new welcoming sign was installed at the north end of the LIC grounds, made possible through individual donations to TLF.

Events and Activities: Events in 2018 included “Suds & Spuds” in March and holiday dances on Memorial Day, Fourth of July and Labor Day weekends. We built a LIC/TLF float for the Home 4th of July parade. The LIC was again part of the Key Peninsula Farm Tour with its Fiber Arts Festival and, for the first

time, our marina was on the tour. We co-hosted, with Evergreen Elementary PTA and local Girl Scouts, approximately 400 kids at “Trunk or Treat” in October. As part of the “Adopt-A-Road” program, LIC members conducted two roadside clean-ups on three miles of KP Highway.

Our “Kids & Christmas” program, in partnership with “Toys for Tots,” delivered on the pledge of a gift for every one of the 150 children attending with the help of local Girl Scouts hosting craft tables to help children make their own ornaments and gifts.

These activities are a rich part of the LIC heritage and we look forward to even greater participation from the community in the years to come. See www.licweb.org for more info.



Marina: The Longbranch Marina has 40 moorage slips ranging from 22’ to 40’, plus a dinghy dock float for visiting boaters. Approximately one-third of the moorage is devoted to guests. In 2018 the marina hosted more than 950 guest moorage overnight visits.

A grant from Washington State was awarded to the Foundation and provided for significant environmental and public safety upgrades. Work began in January 2019.

The marina is open to the public daily from 8 am – 8 pm and you are invited to stop by and enjoy the view and ambience of the facility – bring a sack lunch and stay awhile. The LIC and TLF are committed to making upgrades and improvements to enhance the environment and public safety at this facility, as well as water quality and marine life in Filucy Bay, all for the enjoyment of LIC members and the general public.



The Longbranch Improvement Club

BETTERING OUR COMMUNITY SINCE 1921

The Longbranch Foundation

TLF supported the community for the third year in a row, made possible by generous donations of time and money. Funding comes

from our annual Celebrate fundraiser and every-other-year auction and Super Sale, donations and grants.

Last year, TLF scholarships for local grads, support for local students and community projects included:

- 3 Peninsula High seniors studying physics/astronomy at N. Arizona U; biology at WSU and criminal justice at UW
- 2 college students continuing studies in Chinese/music at PLU; business at WSU



- 8 fifth-graders scholarships to Camp Seymour Environmental Camp
- 6 Evergreen students sponsored to Camp Seymour summer camp thru a grant to CISP
- After School Program grants to Red Barn and Two Waters Arts Alliance
- 2,000 cartons of milk donated to Food Backpacks 4 Kids

TLF is incorporated in Washington as a private, non-profit corporation and recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. Donations are tax deductible to the full extent of the law.

Join us!

The Longbranch Improvement Club is continuing the mission of “Bettering Our Community Since 1921” and joined by The Longbranch Foundation’s commitment of “Investing in the South Key Community.”

We invite everyone to join in our efforts. As we grow and continue improving our support in this community, the credit goes to our members and supporters from the Key Peninsula and surrounding area. **Thank You!**

www.licweb.org www.thelongbranchfoundation.org

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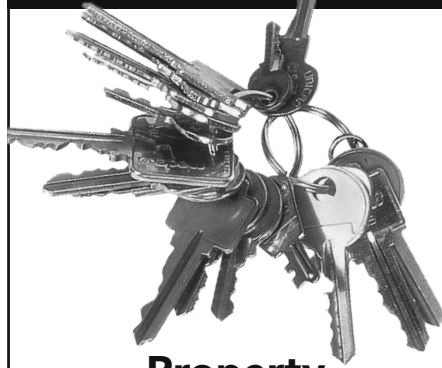
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APRIL 18
MAUNDY THURSDAY
(Remembering the Last Supper)

LONGBRANCH COMMUNITY CHURCH
5:30pm - Supper & Communion Service

APRIL 19
GOOD FRIDAY SERVICES
(Remembering the day Jesus died for our sins)

GRACE EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
3:00pm

LAKEBAY COMMUNITY CHURCH
7:00pm - Tenebrae

WAYPOINT CHURCH
5:00 & 7:00pm

Jesus died...

So we can LIVE!

CELEBRATE



on the key peninsula

EASTER MORNING

(Celebrating the day Jesus rose from the dead)

GRACE EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
2406 McEwan Rd NW, Lakebay, 857-7284
10:30am www.graceepc.org

KEY TO LIFE CHURCH
The Mustard Seed Project 549-9963
10:30am www.keytolifechurch.org

LAKEBAY COMMUNITY CHURCH
11 Cornwall Rd SW, Lakebay, 884-3899
7:00am SUNRISE SERVICE @ Camp Woodworth
9:30am www.lakebaycovenant.net

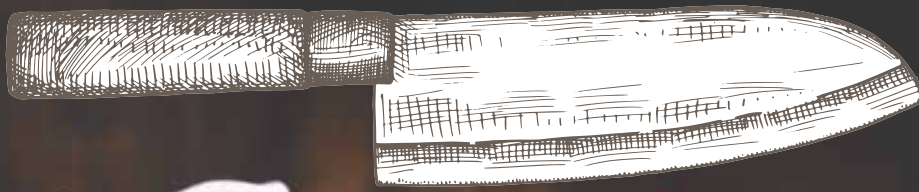
LONGBRANCH COMMUNITY CHURCH
16518 46th Street SW, Longbranch, 884-9339
7:00am SUNRISE SERVICE @ Soundview Camp (free breakfast)
10:30am www.longbranchchurch.net

WAYPOINT CHURCH NORTH/SOUTH
12719 134th Ave NW, Gig Harbor, 853-7878
North 7:30am, 9:00am & 10:45am www.waypoint-church.org
South 10am @ Evergreen Elementary

WELLSPRING FELLOWSHIP
8:00am SUNRISE SERVICE @ Future Church Location 9601 137th Ave NW, Gig Harbor 884-1802
www.wellspringfellowship.net

TWO RENOWNED LOCAL BAKERS OFFER SIMPLY DELICIOUS TREATS FOR YOUR WEEKEND

KPCooks



The Weekend Coffee Break

During the week, our morning routines tend to be rushed and frantic. But weekends offer a different story, the time and space to extend morning moments and savor them.

That's why weekends are such a pleasurable time to bake; no schedule, no expectations. Even when there's a to-do list, you can usually sneak in a few extra moments of peace and quiet. A cup of coffee or a mug of tea and a freshly baked pastry will facilitate any late morning plans, whether it's with the newspaper, a good book, or a much-needed catch up with a friend.

As spring rolls in, so do the occasional moments of sunshine and the promise of longer, warmer days ahead. It's the first time we can walk outside and enjoy that coffee break in the sunshine, watching as the new buds bring life back into the branches, seedlings pushing up from the earth below.

Whether you're enjoying the moment outside or in, take a little time for slowing down this weekend. This month we have two recipes for you to do just that, treats to be enjoyed on your own, with your family or an excuse to invite a friend over. Both recipes pair well with coffee or tea, and whether you have them during a lazy morning or during a break from working in the garden, they're sure to please.

ANNA BRONES

CARDAMOM CURRANT SCONES

THESE SCONES ARE GLUTEN-FREE, AND THEY ARE EASY TO WHIP UP QUICKLY, PERFECT FOR IMPROMPTU COFFEE BREAKS. MAKES 8 SCONES

Scone ingredients:

- 2 cups brown rice flour
- ½ cup ground almonds
- 1 tablespoon baking powder
- 1 teaspoon sea salt
- 2 teaspoons ground cardamom
- 3 tablespoons sugar
- 8 tablespoons coconut oil
- 1 cup milk or non-dairy milk
- 2 eggs
- ¾ cup currants

Preheat the oven to 450°F.

In a large bowl, mix the flour, ground almonds, baking powder, salt, cardamom and sugar. Add the coconut oil and mix until it resembles coarse meal.

Whisk the eggs in a bowl. Set aside about 2 tablespoons of egg in a separate bowl for brushing on top of scones. Mix the rest of eggs together with the milk.

Add the egg and milk mixture to the flour along with the currants. Mix together until dough forms.

Shape the dough into two round balls and place on a greased baking pan, or one lined with a silicone baking mat. Flatten the balls into discs, about half-inch thick. Cut each round into fourths and brush on remaining egg with a pastry brush.

Bake at 450°F for about 15 minutes, until the tops are golden brown. Remove from oven and place on a baking rack to cool.

XOE FREDERICK

CHOCOLATE CHIP MUFFINS

THESE CHOCOLATE MUFFINS ARE A BREEZE TO MAKE AND DON'T EVEN REQUIRE A MIXER. THEY ARE PERFECT FOR BUSY MORNINGS (OR EVEN LAZY ONES!). MAKES 12 STANDARD-SIZE MUFFINS

Muffin ingredients:

- ⅔ cup cocoa powder (Hershey's extra dark is my favorite!)
- 1¾ cup all-purpose flour
- 1¼ cup brown sugar
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- ¾ teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon instant coffee
- 1½ cup chocolate chips
- 2 large eggs, beaten
- ¾ cup milk
- 2 teaspoons white vinegar
- 2 teaspoons vanilla
- ½ cup butter, melted

Preheat oven to 350°F and grease muffin tin or line with paper liners.

Whisk together cocoa, flour, sugar, baking soda, salt and coffee in a large bowl. Stir in chocolate chips and set aside.

Combine eggs, milk, vinegar and vanilla, pour into dry ingredients and stir until moistened, add in melted butter and stir till combined.

Spoon into prepared muffin tins about three-quarters full. Bake for 20 to 25 minutes, until toothpick inserted into center of a muffin comes out clean.

Let rest in muffin tin for five minutes before removing to racks to cool. Serve warm or cooled.

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- Call 253-857-5950 to associate your mobile number with your account.
- To opt-in (after 24 hours), send a text to "857-00". Type "penlight" in the message box, then hit SEND.

During an outage

To notify us of an outage, simply send a text to 857-00, and type "out" in the message box.

This text option will ensure your outage is being reported without tying up the phone lines. If you need assistance call 253-857-5950.



Peninsula Light Co.

a mutual corporation

www.penlight.org



Targeted stretching is just one element of SAIL classes, pictured here at a recent KPCS class.

Photo: Lisa Bryan, KP News

SAIL Fall-Prevention Classes Begin at The Mustard Seed Project

Classes build on an existing program to help older people remain active and independent.

ALICE KINERK, KP NEWS

SAIL, which stands for Stay Active and Independent for Life, is a strength, balance and fitness program designed to reduce the risk of falling for adults age 65 and over.

The program was formed in response to a 2005 study funded by the Washington State Department of Health, which found that participants in such a program improved their balance, mobility skills and leg strength. In addition, seniors who participate in SAIL tend to report a decreased fear of falling, a critical quality-of-life component.

KP Community Services in Home has been providing free SAIL classes for 11 years, but a state-mandated enrollment cap of 20 per class made for a very long waiting list. With The Mustard Seed Project SAIL class beginning in March, significantly more seniors are now able to access SAIL locally.

Barbara Paige, an 86-year old participant, said she is thrilled to have a spot in SAIL at TMSP.

"There wasn't anything for me out here. When this came up, as close as it is for me, it was wonderful," Paige said.

Transportation will be provided to and from the program for those who are unable to drive themselves. The class fee is \$5, but

scholarships are available.

"The whole thing really fits with the mission of The Mustard Seed," said Maureen Reilly, operations director for TMSP. "Keep people in their homes for as long as possible with a good quality of life."

One in four Americans age 65 or older falls each year. In an attempt to reduce their risk, many seniors choose to limit their activities and spend more time at home. But this impacts quality of life and does little to reduce risk, as home is where most falls occur.

Each one-hour class incorporates stretching, warm-up, aerobics, cool-down and strength training. Participants are welcome to complete the class standing or sitting. But SAIL classes offered through

ONE IN FOUR AMERICANS AGE 65 OR OLDER FALLS EACH YEAR.

TMSP go beyond a simple workout. An education component, based partially

on the group's interests and needs, might cover nutrition, foot care, nightlights or other topics.

Prevention Officer Anne Nesbit with the KP Fire Department. gives fall-prevention talks and makes home visits to evaluate a senior's residence for tripping hazards, help declutter living areas, install handrails or help re-arrange furniture to increase safety. Depending on a person's needs, she also ensures that smoke and

carbon monoxide detectors are installed and working.

“They can call me and we can navigate that together,” Nesbit said. “We want our elderly to realize that there are a lot of resources out there, and they are not forgotten.”

Pharmacists with Cost Less Pharmacy in Lake Kathryn also donate their time to the TMSP SAIL program, Reilly said. Seniors can bring medications to a SAIL class to be checked for potentially harmful interactions between multiple prescriptions. There is also an annual vision check.

TMSP board member Lisa Dunham said that socialization with other seniors keeps folks coming back to SAIL.

“People share information. It becomes ‘Yeah, that happened to me too.’ I think that is a very valuable result of coming together in a group,” she said.

Betty Watkinson has been a longtime SAIL participant through KP Community Services. “I went to physical therapy as well, but I got more out of SAIL because of the camaraderie, and the discipline to keep with it,” she said.

The new SAIL classes meet Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at the Crandall Center Building (formerly the Roadhouse Restaurant) in Key Center. All participants begin with a baseline assessment of skills. A release form, signed by a physician, is required.

“I would like people to understand that this is a gift they give themselves,” Reilly said. “It’s a way for them to feel good, feel energized, breathe a little deeper, feel a little more balanced and stable.”



Smiling faces are a familiar sight at this SAIL class at KPCS Senior Center where age groups span three decades. Photo: Lisa Bryan, KP News

Governance on the Key Peninsula

SARA THOMPSON, KP NEWS

The KP Community Council identified transforming governance as a key objective at its strategic planning retreat in January (See “KP Community Council Updates Strategic Plan” in this issue.)

To address this, Don Swensen will chair a Governmental Opportunities Committee. Swensen, who is a KPC director and also chairs the Key Peninsula Land Use Advisory Commission (KPAC), has written a letter to state and county elected officials inviting their input and participation. He wrote:

“As the population south of the Purdy bridge continues to grow, our community will face increasing challenges. These challenges may surface in areas such as transportation, building and zoning issues, water and septic concerns, crime, drug use, etc. With populations increasing all over Pierce County and the county council dealing with some of the busier areas of the county, it might fall to us locally to address these issues in whatever legal ways are available to us.”

The KPC appointed Swensen to guide the process. He plans to establish a group of five to nine people, including KPC directors, community leaders and concerned citizens.

The potential responsibilities Swensen described for the GOC include:

- Advance relationships with county, state and federal representatives and agencies for the purpose of leveraging KPC relationships and entities to bring funding and services to the Key Peninsula and advance the mission of the KPC.
- Find opportunities and serve where applicable in governmental and quasi-governmental organizations, such as KPAC and others.
- Explore options for and the feasibility of self-governance of the Key Peninsula, taking into account such things as structure, economic impacts and public sentiment.
- Develop step-by-step action plans to advance self-governance and let the KP better meet local needs and control its own destiny.
- Report monthly to the KPC.

Swensen is seeking community members interested in joining the GOC.

For more information, contact the KPC office at the Key Center Corral in person, by email at keypencouncil@gmail.com, or by calling 253-432-4948.

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Parks Appreciation Day
Saturday, April 27 from 9 am to noon at Gateway Park, Volunteer Park and Rocky Creek Conservation Area.

Looking for a great, family-friendly outdoor project? This is it! Rain or shine! Bring your gloves, rakes, loppers, clippers, shovels, hand saws, wheel barrows and smiles!

CINEMA UNDER THE STARS 2019

The survey is closed, but thanks to you all who participated! For the 2019 movie schedule and locations, visit "stuff to do" on our website.

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For the latest news see www.keypenparks.com or Facebook page



Make-A-Wish volunteers with Jillian and best friend Angel Reeves celebrate. From left to right, Isabel Echevarria, Jillian, Angel, Claire Goveia. Photo: Trina Flaherty

KP Teen Gets Her Wish

Bone marrow transplant in 2017 leads to recovery from fatal bone marrow disease.

SARA THOMPSON KP NEWS

Make-A-Wish volunteers Claire Goveia and Isabel Echevarria met Jillian Reese, 17, when she was hospitalized last year and were delighted to see her in good health March 9 to present her with her wish—an Xbox, a monitor and a gaming chair—over lunch at Tacoma’s Olive Garden. Jillian’s mother, Trina Flaherty, and best friend Angel Reeves were there to help celebrate.

Following a serious viral infection when she was 4 years old, Jillian had suffered from a low platelet count, which put her at risk for bleeding. By the time she was 16 the problem had progressed to pancytopenia; in addition to not making platelets, her bone marrow was no longer producing red blood cells to carry oxygen or white blood cells to protect from infections. Without treatment the condition would be fatal (see “KP Cares Supports a Family in Need,” KP News, June 2017).

The required treatment, a bone marrow transplant, was completed in August 2017 at Seattle Children’s Hospital. Jillian’s recovery was faster than expected, but still required a hospital stay of two months—one month in preparation for the procedure and one for recovery. After leaving the hospital, she lived in housing provided by Seattle Cancer Care Alliance for three additional months of close follow-up. She finally returned home Dec 1.

“There was still close follow-up, but it was wonderful to sleep in our own beds,” Flaherty said. Because Jillian was on immunosuppressant medications to make sure the donor marrow didn’t have to compete with Jillian’s own cells, Flaherty said they had to “live like hermits,” with limited contact with the outside world, careful attention to

all food preparation, and using bleach to wash the dishes. In June the immunosuppressants were discontinued and life has been back to near normal.

“It’s like having a little kid again,” Flaherty said. “From the time she was four there were so many things she wasn’t allowed to do, so she wants to do everything—things as simple as roller skating. She has a good life now.”

There are still frequent follow-up visits to ensure the transplant is a full success, but if she continues to do well, in September Jillian will have follow-up just once a year; at the five-year mark she won’t need to be seen by SCCA at all.

Jillian has been keeping up with school work through online resources. In the fall, once her immunizations are up to date (she had to start that process from scratch following the transplant) she plans to return to Peninsula High School.

Jillian was referred to Make-a-Wish when she was at Children’s Hospital. Make-a-Wish was founded in the 1980s with the vision to grant the wish of every child diagnosed with a critical illness. It now has local chapters across the country. According to the website, wishes fall into five categories: to go, to meet, to be, to have, and to give. Jillian initially thought about taking a trip of a lifetime, but for various reasons her destinations weren’t feasible, and so she ultimately decided that a gaming system was what she really wanted.

As Flaherty thought about the last year and a half, she had a few thoughts to share. First, she extended her thanks to the Key Peninsula community and to KP Cares in particular. “Without their help we would not have had a home to come back to,” she said. She is looking forward to returning

to work, but the logistics of Jillian’s illness and recovery were a full-time job.

And then, she added, “I encourage everyone to get on the bone marrow donor registry. A stranger from Oregon was a match for Jillian, and she saved Jillian’s life.” The family plans to meet with her to give their thanks in person once Jillian passes her two-year anniversary.

Becoming a Bone Marrow Donor

The National Marrow Donor Program welcomes donors between the ages of 18 and 44.

The first step is to join the registry online at bethematch.org.

Once you join you will be included in patient searches each day. If you are a match you will be contacted to confirm that you are willing to donate, asked to update your health information and participate in additional match testing. You will then be contacted to participate in an information session, have a physical exam and give blood samples. Donation is usually through a non-surgical procedure called PBSC (peripheral blood stem cell) donation. Blood is removed through a needle in one arm and passed through a machine that separates out blood-forming cells. The remaining blood is returned into the other arm.

Fishermen’s Annual Breakfast and Raffle

**Sunday April 28
7:30am to Noon**

\$6 per Person

Children 6 years and under FREE

Yard Sale

**Saturday, April 27
9:00am to 3:00pm
and Sunday, April 28
7:30am to Noon**



**Key Peninsula
Sportsmen’s Club**

3503 Jackson Lake Rd. KPN

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Join our amazing team and give back to your community

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- Light Yard Care
- Friendly Visitors
- Light Chore Assistance
- Handyman for small repairs

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April 2-23, Tuesdays 1-2pm
Painting Landscapes & Sky Techniques in Watercolor with TWAA’s Adria Hanson, \$40 includes supplies

April 5, 2-3pm
Poetry & Prose Recital - Open Mic, free for all ages

April 18, 10-11am
Thinking Thursday: Healthcare Advocacy for Seniors with Ebie Andrew, free for all ages

April 20, 10:30-noon
Caregiver Support Group: Memory Loss, free monthly event



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

KPMS Community Service Program

CAROLYN WILEY, KP NEWS

A Key Peninsula Middle School community service program new this school year offers students a chance to learn how they can make a difference in their community and earn credit for an end-of-year reward.

Jeri Goebel, KPMS principal, commended the school site council for developing this unique program, and for giving KPMS students the power to be creative in deciding how they can make a positive contribution.

First, students must develop a personal plan that is filed with their Cougar Academy (homeroom) teacher for approval. In the current school year approximately 30 percent of KPMS students accepted the challenge. Once approved, their project is started under the supervision of an adult, timesheets are kept, and their project must be completed before the end of April. The supervising adult completes an evaluation form and the student writes a report about their personal reflections on the experience. Students completing their volunteer plan receive a certificate and are qualified to attend the annual end-of-year reward field trip to Wild Waves.

Some students opt to focus on in-school activities that promote school pride and school spirit. Others give their time to nonprofit organizations—one such beneficiary is Food Backpacks 4 Kids. KPMS students help fill the backpacks that are distributed throughout the school district.

Some students return to their former elementary schools. Both Evergreen and Minter Creek Elementary schools have students returning to help in classrooms and after-hours programs. At Minter Creek, Zoe Libner and Kendall Powers are classroom helpers.

“It is really fun to experience something that I would not have had the opportunity to

do if I didn’t volunteer,” Zoe said. “To me, helping people got me to be more instructive, and I see that I can make a difference.”

Betty McCord, Evergreen office manager, said there are about eight KPMS students that help with afterschool programs. One of the returning students is sixth-grader Dylan Shipman, who shows up every day to help with parent pick-up.

Dylan’s main volunteer activity is with Harbor WildWatch. In January he received the HWW Volunteer of the Year award. As a Junior Naturalist he works at public events—usually by the touch tanks or using a clicker to keep count of visitors. He said they call him the “Pro-Clicker.”

“I have 49.5 volunteer hours recorded for Dylan! Dylan takes the Harbor Wild-Watch motto ‘Learn—have fun,’ beyond the beach,” wrote Stena Troyer, HWW science specialist, in an email to KP News. “After an exciting and rare find of a Humboldt



KPMS student Dylan Shipman discovered a rare brittle sea star on a beach walk with specialists from Harbor WildWatch, which awarded him the 2018 Volunteer of the Year for his dedication and commitment. Photo: Carly Vestor, Harbor WildWatch

squid carcass during a beach walk at Sunrise Beach Park (in Gig Harbor), Dylan took the time to research and then write a multiple page report detailing the life history and adaptations of this unique creature. I have yet to meet another student who writes me creature reports just for fun.”

Eighth-grader Alli Kimball began playing softball while she attended Vaughn Elementary. Her community service is as a Little League pitching coach. She is at Volunteer Park two times a week

during the season teaching girls how to pitch. She also plays on the Snohomish Elite Diamonds, a statewide select team.

“I could never have gone as far as I have without the people who helped me,” Alli said about her experience. “I want to help others and I like knowing I’m making a difference.”

Both Dylan and Alli have plans for higher education and agreed that community service “looks good on a college application.”

SPRING BREAK! NO BUS SERVICE APRIL 16, 17 OR 18

Welcome aboard!

KP SCHOOL BUS CONNECTS



253-884-BUSS or
www.kp.council.org

EVERGREEN TUES & THURS AM

- 8:50 Evergreen Elementary School
- 8:59 Palmer Lake public access 24th St SW
- 9:00 Palmer Lake 21st St SW @ 193rd Ave
- 9:05 KPCS Senior Center & Food Bank
- 9:06 Home Gas Station @ KP Hwy N
- 9:10 67th Ave Ct NW @ KP Hwy N
- 9:14 Food Market in Key Center
- 9:15 KP Hwy N @ Minterwood Dr NW
- 9:21 Lake Kathryn Village SR 302 & 92nd Ave NW
- 9:26 Purdy Park & Ride

EVERGREEN WEDNESDAY AM

- 9:50 Evergreen Elementary School
- 9:54 Palmer Lake public access 24th St SW
- 9:55 Palmer Lake 21st St SW @ 193rd Ave
- 10:00 KPCS Senior Center & Food Bank
- 10:01 Home Gas Station @ KP Hwy N
- 10:05 67th Ave Ct NW @ KP Hwy N
- 10:09 Food Market in Key Center
- 10:10 KP Hwy N @ Minterwood Dr NW
- 10:16 Lake Kathryn Village SR 302 & 92nd Ave NW
- 10:21 Purdy Park & Ride

VAUGHN TUES & THURS AM

- 8:50 Vaughn Elementary School
- 8:59 Wright Bliss Road @ Olson Dr NW
- 9:00 Wright Bliss Road @ 104th St Ct NW
- 9:05 Wright Bliss Road @ SR 302/4-Corners
- 9:06 SR 302 @150th Ave/Lake Holiday bus shed
- 9:10 SR302 @ 140th Ave/Lake of the Woods
- 9:14 SR 302 @ Charbonneau Construction
- 9:15 SR 302 @ 92nd Ave NW/Lake Kathryn Village
- 9:21 Purdy Park & Ride

VAUGHN WEDNESDAY AM

- 9:50 Vaughn Elementary School
- 9:51 Wright Bliss Road @ Olson Dr NW
- 9:52 Wright Bliss Road @ 104th St Ct NW
- 9:54 Wright Bliss Road @ SR 302/4-Corners
- 9:57 SR 302 @150th Ave/Lake Holiday bus shed
- 9:59 SR302 @ 140th Ave/Lake of the Woods
- 10:01 SR 302 @ Charbonneau Construction
- 10:04 SR 302 @ 92nd Ave NW/Lake Kathryn Village
- 10:09 Purdy Park & Ride

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TUESDAY & THURSDAY MIDDAY

- 10:33 Peninsula High School
- 10:35 Purdy Park & Ride
- 10:38 Cost Less Pharmacy @ Lake Kathryn Village
- 10:48 SR 302 @ Windermere Realty, near 118th Ave
- 10:50 SR 302 @ 140th Ave/Lake of the Woods
- 10:51 SR 302 @150th Ave/Lake Holiday bus shed
- 10:54 Wright Bliss Road @ SR 302/4-Corners
- 10:56 Wright Bliss Road @ 104th St Ct NW
- 10:58 Wright Bliss Road @ Olson Dr NW
- 11:00 Food Market @ Key Center
- 11:06 KP Hwy N @ 167th Ave Ct NW
- 11:09 Home Gas Station @ KP Hwy N
- 11:12 KPCS Senior Center & Food Bank
- 11:18 Palmer Lake public access 24th St SW
- 11:19 Palmer Lake 21st St SW @ 193rd Ave
- 11:25 Evergreen Elementary School

TUES, WED & THURS PM

- 4:43 Peninsula High School
- 4:45 Purdy Park & Ride
- 4:51 Cost Less Pharmacy @ Lake Kathryn Village
- 4:54 SR 302 @ Windermere Realty, near 118th Ave
- 4:58 SR 302 @150th Ave/Lake Holiday bus shed
- 5:00 Wright Bliss Road @ SR 302/4-Corners
- 5:02 Wright Bliss Road @ 104th St Ct NW
- 5:03 Wright Bliss Road @ Olson Dr NW
- 5:06 Food Market in Key Center
- 5:06 KP Hwy N @ 84th St NW/Red Barn
- 5:10 KP Hwy N @ 167th Ave Ct NW
- 5:14 Home Gas Station @ KP Hwy N
- 5:14 KPCS Senior Center & Food Bank
- 5:19 Palmer Lake public access 24th St SW
- 5:20 Palmer Lake 21st St SW @ 193rd Ave
- 5:24 KP Hwy N @ 17th St Ct SW
- 5:36 KP Hwy N @ 84th St NW/Red Barn

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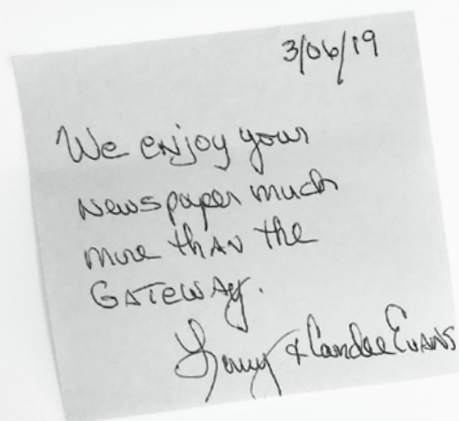


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Martha Taylor and Donna Daily of Lakebay at Borobudur Temple, a 9th-century Mahayana Buddhist temple in Java, Indonesia, March 2018.



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TOP Record breaking temperatures saw sailors out early on Filucy Bay. *Photo: David Zeigler, KP News* **ABOVE LEFT** KP firefighter Evan Aas, left, and firefighter/paramedic Doug Gelsleichter received The Pulse Heart Institute Award in March for fastest door-to-procedure delivery time in 2018. A Palmer Lake patient went into cardiac arrest during transport to Tacoma General, but because the crew recognized and advised the hospital of the severity of the situation only 11 minutes elapsed between arrival and clearing the patient's blocked artery. *Photo: Anne Nesbit* **ABOVE RIGHT** Peninsula Seahawks shortstop Ashley Gonsalves makes the play in a fast-pitch softball game against Spanaway Lake High, but Peninsula lost 10-0. *Photo: Ed Johnson, KP News* **LOWER LEFT** A pair of Sliveloughane dancers performing at the Suds & Spuds party at the Longbranch Improvement Club March 16. *Photo: Ed Johnson, KP News* **ABOVE CENTER** JoAnn Stevens celebrates her 92nd St. Patrick's Day. *Photo: Lisa Bryan, KP News* **ABOVE RIGHT** KP Co-op Preschool children at play after school at Home Park. Back from left: Mason Erwin, Elise Gingerich, Colton Kienast; front from left: Grace Maynard, Addison Phillips. *Photo: Crystalann Kienast*