

### In this issue



Erlene Twidt is KP Citizen  
of the Year **page 2**



A computer  
guru with a  
soft heart  
**page 12**

### News

- KP Council is official . . . . .3
- Garden wins award . . . . .6
- SR-302, part 2 . . . . .7
- Private school to open . . .10
- Burger King on the way . .11
- From pioneer stock . . . .18
- Sustainable living . . . . .19
- KP Seniors meet and play .20
- Spring Fling recap . . . . .25
- Two dances planned . . . .26
- Cootiettes host event . . .28
- Livable Community Fair . .30
- Out & About . . . . .32

### Sections

- Peninsula Views . . . . .4
- Schools . . . . .8
- Business . . . . .11
- Community Works . . . .16
- People & Lifestyles . . .18
- Arts & Recreation . . . .25
- Religion . . . . .31

## Metropolitan Park District: Bringing in needed money, with strings attached

**I**f approved by the voters in May, a metropolitan parks board would have the power to raise taxes and issue limited bonds without taxpayer approval. If not approved, current commissioners say they may close the parks. The voters will decide.

By William C. Dietz and Rodika Tollefson  
KP News

With the failure of the park levy last fall, Key Peninsula Park and Recreation District officials say the park board is left with very few options and could even close doors. With less than \$15,000 left in the bank account at the end of February—and with a pending bill from previous elections for

about \$11,000—the district is running out of money.

Park board Chair Mike Salatino said in February he will work with the county to extend the payment terms, but if the election bill had to be paid immediately, the district might be going out of business.

“In the event metro (the proposed Metropolitan Park District) doesn’t pass and we (the current district) are still here,

all contracts are off and we’re going to have to raise fees,” Salatino told Little League representatives at a February park board meeting.

The creation of a government body called a Metropolitan Park District (MPD), which would receive some of the zoo/trek sales tax that currently goes to the county, has the overwhelming support of the current park board and community members who say that without it the future of Key Peninsula parks is uncertain. Based on population, Key Pen parks would receive an estimated \$100,000 per year from money residents are already paying as part of the sales tax but is now supporting parks programs elsewhere. Thanks to that money, supporters say, the local parks would finally have the financial muscle

(See **PARKS**, Page 22)

## The Jewells of teaching Local family carries passion through generations

By Hugh McMillan  
KP News

The Jewells are well named. They are just that. And our community’s kids are the better for it.

In many cases, this dynamite local family of five sharing careers in teaching has been working side-by-side—literally. John Jewell, artist and retired principal; his wife, Andrea; daughter Laura Stafki; son-in-law Jeff Stafki;

and Andrea’s sister, Judy Watt, occasionally have all been in the same student-filled room at the same time, some as volunteers, some on official duty, assisting one another and the kids in the learning process.

“Every day is uplifting and positive because of the children and the support of families, both ours and the families of the children we serve,”

(See **TEACHERS**, Page 15)



Photo by Rodika Tollefson

The “Jewells” family at the Citizen of the Year Banquet, where John was one of the nominated volunteers: from right, John and his wife, Andrea, with daughter Laura Stafki and son-in-law Jeff.

## KP Middle School selected for NASA project

By KP News staff



Photo by Rodika Tollefson

KPMS science teacher Kareen Borders, seen here with seventh graders, also recently received two grants from the SHOPA Foundation for Education Excellence.

The Key Peninsula Middle School became the first and only school in the state to be selected to participate in the NASA Explorer School program. The three-year program is a partnership between NASA and 50 schools selected from around the country each year.

The program will begin during the 2004-05 school year. KPMS science teacher Kareen Borders said she and the other 49 team leads will fly to Cape Canaveral in Florida in May for a five-day leadership institute and orientation that will officially kick off the program.

According to NASA, during the partnership “the NES teams acquire and use new teaching resources and technology tools using NASA’s unique content, experts and other resources.” Schools may get the chance to “participate in authentic experiences with NASA science and technology; apply NASA science, mathematics, and technology knowledge to real-world issues and problems; and participate in special events and other opportunities.”

The official announcement was made just as the Key Peninsula News was going to press. Read upcoming issues for details on this exciting news.

# Citizen of the Year celebrates volunteer leaders

By Irene Torres  
KP News

Volunteers. They are everywhere on the Key Peninsula. Usually, one or two or three at a time, they seem nearly invisible to the casual observer. But not so on a recent Saturday night at the KP Civic Center. Nearly 50 of them were gathered in a single place. Hosted by the Key Peninsula Lions Club members, and surrounded by their friends, family, and visiting dignitaries, they were honored for their incalculable contributions at the 20th annual Citizen of the Year Banquet.

With pomp and circumstance, Boy Scout Troop 220 presented the colors. The Pledge of Allegiance, the singing of a patriotic song, and an invocation kicked off the celebration. Event Chairman and Master of Ceremonies Hugh McMillan gracefully handled a few minor technicalities with the sound system, while Lions Club President Pat Medveckus juggled selling raffle tickets with arrangements for ample seating and extra table settings to accommodate the buzzing crowd, nearly 220 strong.

Keynote speaker Terry Lee, Key Peninsula's representative on the Pierce

**“The governor was very kind and accommodating. He congratulated me on being named Citizen of the Year and referred to me as ‘the guest of honor.’”**

**-Erlene Twidt, Key Peninsula Citizen of the Year**

County Council, read a letter from Gov. Gary Locke, acknowledging the volunteer spirit on the Key Peninsula. Locke's letter referenced words first spoken by the Rev. Martin Luther King, distinguishing people “who share their special talents to make the world a better place from those who focus on making a living rather than making a life.” Lee's comments included a

summary of several projects in store for the Key Peninsula, and how he is working to secure funding for them.

“Key Peninsula residents no longer have to travel to Tacoma for traffic court appearances, thanks to a partnership with the county and the city of Gig Harbor,” Lee said of one such project. He quipped that he had been the first to appear before a District Court judge in the new decentralized traffic court, for a parking citation. He added, “With law enforcement a priority, there are plans to reassign eight trained deputies to the Gig Harbor and Key Peninsulas when Lakewood's contract with the county for sheriff's services comes to an end.”

Lee encouraged citizens to become involved in Key Peninsula comprehensive planning and the KP Advisory Commission, both efforts in the works, “to be prepared for the ribbon-cutting on the second Tacoma Narrows Bridge and the influx of population and urban development that is inevitable for this vulnerable and accessible community.”

Individuals and groups, including several members of the KP Community Council Organizing Committee and Fire District

16, were nominated as Citizen of the Year. The Lakebay Community Church was well-represented with nominees, and the entire Vaughn Cemetery board and staff were nominated. Seven-year-old Galilee McCarrell won the hearts of the audience when she explained how she had used her allowance to buy gifts for children who would have had no Christmas presents.



KP Citizen of the Year Erlene Twidt visited with Gov. Gary Locke and Rep. Pat Lantz during a bill signing ceremony in Olympia.

*Photo by Hugh McMillan*

The winner of the 2003 Citizen of the Year award, Erlene Twidt, summarized the magnitude of their collective volunteer work in her acceptance: “Don't think that one single person can't make a difference in the quality of life of others. Indeed, they're the only one who can.” (read more of her words on volunteering on page 4)

Twidt told KP News after the ceremony, “I want to thank the Lions Club for providing a venue to validate the important volunteer work being done in this community. I think it is wonderful that they do this without any political ties.”

This amazing woman, who had recently been struggling with health problems, was later invited by Rep. Pat Lantz to attend a ceremony at which Gov. Locke signed three legislative bills into law. The new laws, related to domestic violence prevention and mandatory police training, will become effective in June 2005.

“I was greatly privileged to be able to participate,” said Twidt, who was nominated for Citizen of the Year, among other things, for her longtime involvement with Key Pen-based I.M.Pact in a

fight against domestic violence. “The governor was very kind and accommodating. He congratulated me on being named Citizen of the Year and referred to me as ‘the guest of honor.’ He even demonstrated how to pose and position my plaque for better photographs... It was a wonderful experience.”

At the Civic Center banquet, Lantz was in attendance along with Rep. Lois McMahan, school board officials, and local dignitaries. McMahan said, “I look forward to this event every year.” One attendee commented, “The quality of this event was better than any Citizen of the Year banquet I've attended.”

The delicious dinner was catered and served by Lisa's Deli and volunteer staff, followed by a rousing vote of confidence that they should prepare all future Citizen of the Year banquets. Tracy Manning and volunteers from the Key Center Saloon served refreshments and were seen helping bus tables after the meal. Then those volunteer Boy Scouts returned at the end of the evening and returned the banquet hall to a gymnasium once again.

## Peninsula KEY NEWS

To subscribe, please write,  
call or fax:  
Key Peninsula News  
17010 S. Vaughn Rd.  
P.O. Box 3, Vaughn, WA 98394  
Phone (253) 884-4699  
Fax: (253) 884-4053  
Email news@keypennews.com

Executive editor: Rodika Tollefson  
Ad sales: Karen Hale  
Staff writers: William C. Dietz,  
Hugh McMillan, Colleen Slater,  
Irene Torres, Karen Hale, Danna  
Webster  
Contributors: Debra Katrine  
McElroy, R.R. Whitney  
Distribution: Phil Bauer

Production: September Hyde  
Web master: Paul Pattee  
Publishing Committee chairman:  
Bill Trandum

Submissions deadline: Third  
Monday of each month

www.keypennews.com

Key Peninsula News is published monthly by the Key Peninsula Civic Center Association at the Key Peninsula Civic Center in Vaughn, Washington. Copyright 2003 with all rights reserved. Reproduction of editorial or graphic contents in any manner without permission is prohibited. Annual subscriptions (12 issues) are available for \$20.00 and are mailed first class. Copies are mailed presort standard to residents and post office box holders of the Key Peninsula. Single copies are available at the newspaper office in the basement of the Civic Center annex and at various distribution points located on the Key Peninsula. Approximately 18,000 people live in the distribution area.

### STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, AND OPERATION OF THE KEY PENINSULA NEWS

1. THE KEY PENINSULA NEWS is a community newspaper, owned and published by the KEY PENINSULA CIVIC CENTER ASSOCIATION, a nonprofit, 501-C3, corporation with main offices in Vaughn, Washington. The name, goodwill and any copyright assets that may exist pertaining to the NEWS are among the financial assets of the KEY PENINSULA CIVIC CENTER ASSOCIATION.
2. The objective of Key Peninsula News is to support and create community by reporting news and features and providing a forum for local information. News and editorial coverage focuses on the Key Peninsula and immediately adjacent areas within Fire District 16.

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

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



## HYPNOSIS WORKS!

CHANGE YOUR MIND  
CHANGE YOUR LIFE

- SMOKING & TOBACCO CESSATION
- WEIGHT MANAGEMENT
- RELAXED CHILD BIRTH
- PAIN MANAGEMENT
- STRESS RELIEF

LAUREN SWANEERG -HYPNOTHERAPIST

253-884-9179

# Key Peninsula Community Council is official

## Elections of 14 members planned for summer

By Rodika Tollefson  
KP News

Key Peninsula residents have long felt that despite paying equal share of taxes and other fees, they were not receiving fair services and representation. So when the idea of introducing a unified voice—a community council—was presented, it was not long before dozens of people joined in the grass-roots effort, which has been going strong for more than a year now.

Though the meetings got smaller with time, the momentum has never stopped, and a core group of leaders—many already involved in various other efforts—have carried forward the task of creating a Key Peninsula Community Council. In March, their work was validated, as the organizing committee received the news that the organization was officially incorporated as a nonprofit in the state of Washington.

Much remains to be done—bylaws to be finished, a 501(c)3 exempt status to be

obtained, elections to select the 14 council members to be held. But all in all, the reality of an organized community council is within short months away.

At their March meeting, interim council members were selected. Although no longer an organizing committee but officially called the Key Peninsula Community Council (KPC), the group is not changing its role for now. The main goal is to finalize the birth of the council, and stage elections so the entire community can choose representatives. A needs assessment committee will survey residents and prepare an overview of priorities so the newly elected council can immediately immerse into its work.

“We feel like a large voice and a lot more effective,” said the council’s Joyce Tovey. “We feel we can accomplish a great deal more by speaking with one voice.”

The voice could indeed hold some clout—as organizers point out, if Key Peninsula were an incorporated city, it would be one of the largest in the county (No. 5, slightly larger than Bonney Lake, based on Pierce County figures).

Jeff Harris, who has been the co-chair of the organizing group, says he also envi-

Pen Health Center (Key Center), library, May 8 Livable Community Fair (Civic Center), fire stations, and other locations. Temporary office space for the elections will be at the Health Center.

- You can nominate yourself for a position on the board until May 31. Each census tract area will select one director per 1,000 residents, with a total of 14. All residents will vote on the candidates, and the top vote-getters for each area will become board members.

- Details such as permanent office space and funding for the first year of



Photo by Hugh McMillan

Left to right: Key Pen Middle School students Seth Parshall, Annastasia Gallaher, and Adam Anderson, front, and Richard Sutherland, Nick Mullins, and Justin Allard, back, with their teacher Dave Locey present their progress on the Community Council’s Website. The group has worked on the project after school with help from Ron Stark.

sions strengthening the Key Peninsula itself, by reaching out to North End residents and getting them more involved.

operations are being discussed. The group has raised enough money to cover organizational committee and initial board costs.

- For information, call the KPC hotline at 884-0557 or: Jeff Harris at 884-4697, Joyce Tovey at 884-3304, Dennis Taylor at 884-7899.

### How to get involved

Next Community Council meeting is April 27, at 7 p.m. at the Key Peninsula Middle School.

Geographically, many Wauna residents may see themselves as more associated to Gig Harbor—but they don’t have access to city government services. This would give them a chance to participate, Harris said.

The issues the council will tackle will depend on the newly elected board, but organizers envision focusing on anything from crime fighting to working with the proposed new hospital on an outreach program. The community will be able to bring concerns to the council as well.

If all goes as planned, the new council will begin its work in July. In the meantime, the interim board will launch an intensive outreach campaign to conduct presentations to various local groups, and encourage residents to learn more, join in, and vote.

### In a nutshell:

- As an independent, nongovernmental entity, the Community Council will be funded largely by donations, grants and membership fees. One-time founding memberships of \$50 are accepted until June 30; “Friends of KPC” memberships available on a yearly basis.

- Elections are planned for June 26, with voting place and procedures to be determined. To vote, you do not have to be registered with Pierce County but you must register with the Community Council—registrations available at Key

**20% off for all new students - April only**



## NEW CLASSES

Tae Kwon Do  
Weight Loss

At Civic Center (253-884-3456)  
by Master Jung Un Lee (253-838-8934)

Every Tuesday & Thursday  
Grade school kids: 4:15 p.m. -5:10 p.m.  
Junior High & Above 3:15 p.m. -4:10 p.m.  
Adults (weight loss): 5:20 p.m. -6:20 p.m.

Restaurant Open to Public  
Open 6:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
253-857-3326

Buffalo Headquarters

Horseshoe Lake Golf Course

253-857-3326

Cart Girls in Chaps

www.hlgolf.com

Marshals on Horseback

## Editorial

### Why does news has to be bad news to be told?

Last month, the Key Peninsula — specifically Herron Island— was repeatedly in the media spotlight. The crash of a Cessna 170 with two people on board into Case Inlet brought unwelcome attention to this small, private island.

When Herron was in the news previously, a woman died after falling off the island's ferry dock, said one resident. Last time Key Peninsula itself made it to the evening newscast was when Ace Anderson disappeared without a trace and a massive search was staged.

No camera rolled last year when Vaughn Elementary was the state winner of a contest that brought \$10,000 and the famous Wienermobile to the school—but the school did make headlines prior to that, when a Norwalk-like virus outbreak forced classes to be cancelled for a few days. Not even the visuals of a giant hotdog vehicle strolling through the narrow streets of Vaughn was appealing enough to those hungry newsmen whose sheer job depends on the ability to produce good images. Suppose if Bill Gates were riding in the bowels of the hotdog, or Britney Spears (pop diva if you don't know) delivered the \$10,000 check, the entertainment value of such good news would cause the big-city reporters to stop yawning and get their photographers on the road.

Until then, we here at the Key Peninsula News are stuck picking up the slack. After all, if we didn't cover the good news, who would? We're not allergic to it, as much of the news media is, so we might as well fill the niche.

It helps that we don't have the pressure of rack and subscription sales—you don't even have to pay us, we'll deliver the good news to your mailbox whether

you like it or not (of course we won't turn down contributions; we too have aspirations, like some day paying our volunteer writers and growing so we can deliver the rest of the good news that's left at the end of the month after we run out of space; plus the tax deduction could be handy for you when Uncle Sam comes to collect).

To digress a little, you may have noticed we had recently started mixing in small doses of less happy news—looking at issues that some may view confrontational if not controversial, or issues that shine light on important subjects that may not have any good news in them. It's not because we've run out of positive things to say, but because we recognize that you, our readers, may sometimes want to know the bad news as well.

We won't dwell on it, however; our focus remains much the same so if you don't see a "big" story that's all over the news, it could be simply because there are plenty of sources for finding out the latest, or because — as one hesitant Herron Island resident put it, in declining to comment about the plane crash to the Key Peninsula News—it seems the Key Peninsula only gets publicity when something bad happens.

Got good news? Bring it on.

**Editor's note:** As this issue was heading to press, more bad news broke involving the Key Peninsula, when a local resident was arrested for child rape and pornography involving six very young boys in his foster care. The story has circled the globe as the investigation involved tips from England and Ireland, and has shown us that no community is ever immune from such terrible news. Our hearts go out to the children and the others affected by this unthinkable situation.

From the local realtor from whom we bought our home who lied on every disclosure, to the local roofing contractor who did not do the job he was paid for. Our son's car, when broken down and left overnight, was stripped clean—tires, battery, and even the stock AM radio! Our car while at the Purdy park-and-ride for only a few hours was broken into and cleaned out: sunglasses, coats, everything, and it cost us a broken window.

We purchased a vehicle from a local merchant that lasted less than 10 miles before it threw a rod, and now we have to

# The choice of volunteering

By Erlene Twidt

*Editor's note: The Key Peninsula News asked Erlene Twidt for her comments on volunteering and receiving the Citizen of the Year award. This is what she shared.*

Volunteering is a choice — a willingness to be present to others without pretense or guile. (Park your ego at the door.) I strongly believe that we are all here to help each other. We each have different God-given gifts. To volunteer is to meet the expectation of both God and humans.

You will always find that there is someone who is more educated, has more money, is younger (older), stronger, has more time, or more energy, etc. Those things do not matter because God does not call those who are prepared, God prepares those who are called!

The great thing about volunteering is that you start out thinking that you are doing this because someone needs you, when in fact, you need them.

Volunteering for I.M.Pact Key Peninsula and victims of domestic violence began with a call from my pastor. I was asked to attend a meeting to find out more about a group being formed to do works of benevolence here on the Key Peninsula. In those meetings, involving



several churches, we were informed that hunger and domestic violence were two major problems for this community. The "Community Meal" was established and I.M.Pact members began to do educational presentations on domestic violence both in this area and in several other cities in the United States. These projects have expanded with at least 50 meals a week being served and we now have "I.M.Pact House" that offers a safe place for victims. A sizeable grant from the Geneva Foundation allowed us to open the safe house.

As I learned more about domestic violence and from my past personal experience in my extended family, I decided to also join the "Gig Harbor/Key Peninsula Family Violence Prevention Project" and "Faith Partners Against Family Violence" in Tacoma. These groups share information and support each other when additional workers are needed. The more education we can do, the more people will begin to understand how much domestic violence affects everyone.

I choose to experience life in a circle that only expands and is never broken. I hope that my family and friends admire the woman I have become.

To quote from a recent email from a friend, "Life is not a journey to the grave with the intention of arriving safely in a pretty and well preserved body, but rather to skid in broadside, thoroughly used up, totally worn out, and loudly proclaiming, 'Wow, what a ride!'"

## To submit a letter to the editor

If you'd like to share your views on issues related to the Key Peninsula, write us a letter to the editor or submit a guest column. We welcome your letters as long as they are relevant to the local community. Send 250 words or less to P.O. Box 3, Vaughn WA 98394, email news@keypennews.com, fax to 884-4053 or submit online at www.keypennews.com. Please include phone number for verification purposes.

## Letters to the Editor

### Reader says local merchants need improvements

I just finished reading the March editorial on meth labs. I hate to agree, but at this point I must. Our family moved to the Key Peninsula four years ago from Kent, thinking we were moving to a better community. Not so. We have been fleeced by more scoundrels and thieves since moving here than any other time in our lives.

resolve the problem in court. As we have chosen this area to invest our money and business in, we will continue to try to!

We can change what being "local" to the Peninsula means, but with the stigma of scoundrels active in this area, we can't disagree with the editorial.

Jonathan Josi  
Lakebay

### Reader thanks hair salon

This is a big thank-you to Bayside Cutters Family Hair Salon. I had major

surgery to remove a breast for cancer, and was unable to wash my hair. Some great friends took me to Bayside Cutters. I was treated with great respect and compassion. George took care of me on two occasions.

I will be having two more surgeries in the future, and will return for more hair washings. It's nice to know there is a friendly place I can go in the future and feel comfortable.

Kim Cohen  
Vaughn



## Trump comes to town

By R.R. Whitney

One of the advantages of writing for the Key Peninsula News is that I get to meet celebrities. When Donald Trump came to Key Center to renegotiate a contract for the moss served in the Trump Tower Caesar Salad, I was there to meet him at The Narrows Airport. I hoped he'd bring his helicopter, but he landed in an ordinary twin-engine Beechcraft with no one but a personal assistant and a local pilot. He'd arrived only an hour before at SeaTac on United Airlines.

Trump had come, of course, to strike a better deal with our own local celebrity, "The Moss King"—Hermann Kretchmer ("H.K.") Mossman, who lives and farms a half-mile from the Civic Center in Vaughn. Trump jumped down out of the tiny aircraft cabin and shook my hand. There was a stiff breeze whipping up from the direction of the Sound, but not a hair on his head stirred. Mine stood up as if I'd grabbed the globe of a Van de Graff generator or shaken the hand of God.

Trump, still surprisingly sprightly, is not a man of formalities. He immediately asked if I could take him on a tour of Lake Kathryn Village. "The Western Village" (as it's known to New Yorkers, to distinguish it from Greenwich Village) is an almost mythical place for the residents of the Big Apple. This is because, as Trump informed me, there are no significant lines at the stamp counters of the Wauna Post Office. Some of the lines in Manhattan, especially at Christmas, stretch almost to Miami.

In the Wauna P.O., Trump bought an ordinary coil of first-class stamps, peeled one of them off, and stuck it on an ordinary postcard, which Pam cancelled for him. There were no lines in the building, and in fact there were no other patrons.

"It's unbelievable," The Donald said. "But I suppose if I built Trump Tower West on that vacant site just beyond the parking lot, lines would certainly appear."

"Ah, there's the rub," I said. Trump's assistant, Charlie, looked longingly at the vacant site. Clouds rolled silently overhead like Pacific Ocean breakers. In the Lake Kathryn Coast Hardware, Trump bought a small bag of quarter-inch, stainless-steel bolts from Dave,

"just to show my family that I was actually here."

We headed down the Peninsula. Impulsively, he told me to turn here, and to turn there, and to stop the car so he could fully sense the reality of the place.

"Look at this, Charlie! We're standing on the shores of Glen Cove!"

"Stand here! This is where the parade comes!"

After an hour of touring the Peninsula, and after the Herron Island ferry skipper refused us passage because Trump didn't know anyone on the island, we arrived at Mossman's farm just down the road from Vaughn.

"So this is the source," he said, his voice inflected with wonder. We were standing at the entrance of Mossman's property. Except for a pair of cream-colored chickens, pecking the gravel driveway for something we couldn't discern,

**This is because, as Trump informed me, there are no significant lines at the stamp counters of the Wauna Post Office. Some of the lines in Manhattan, especially at Christmas, stretch almost to Miami.**

there were no signs of life. No one toiled the vast, emerald fields stretching before us. No one was on the roof of the cabin or barn, harvesting moss with putty knives. Nor was anyone in the cleaning shed, preparing the tangy product for shipment to the finest restaurants and hotels in Manhattan, Tokyo, London, or New Delhi.

"Did you think to make an appointment?" I asked.

Trump looked stricken. Charlie looked more stricken. Three crows careened around the crown of a towering Douglas Fir. We proceeded up the walkway and slipped a business card ("Donald Trump, Trump Tower, New York, New York") into the screen door. The door creaked in the breeze on its rusty hinges.

"When you see H.K., tell him I'll be back," Trump said, heading for the car. Cream-colored chickens crossed before us ceremoniously, their streamlined heads bowed and pecking, their concentration absolute.

I promised I would.

*The Local Quill, R. R. Whitney, formerly of Herron Island, now lives in Gig Harbor.*

## Good parks policy Parks must have two election results: MPD and new, effective leadership

By Bill Trandum  
KP News

On May 18 there is a strong probability that voters will approve formation of a Metropolitan Park District (MPD). Citizen support of the MPD proposition centers on the perceived need for park improvements. More importantly, voters and taxpayers want a better system of funding and managing our Key Peninsula parks. Voting "yes" on MPD is a good beginning, but our new MPD will be effective only if we select the right candidates to fill the new positions on the newly created parks commission.

With the increased taxing power and administrative authority of the MPD, we need commissioners who are honest, straightforward, and accommodating to the public. Our MPD commission must be able to establish management policies, create and follow budgets, and, especially, communicate openly, frankly and often with citizens and taxpayers.

Conversely, what we don't need, and

what will ultimately be ruinous to the MPD, is a board that distrusts the public and conducts its business in closed-door sessions with secret dealings and private agendas. An example of this was the present commission's vote to shelve the old Wauna post office issue so that it wouldn't negatively affect the outcome of the MPD vote. In my opinion, this was an ill-conceived effort to sway an election by withholding information from the public. Such actions simply add to the public's distrust and low esteem for some elected officials.

Voters are smart and can deal with complex issues when they are fully informed. Formation of a Metropolitan Park District is a good first step. We must finish the job by electing competent candidates for the new positions on the MPD board. This new leadership will increase the effectiveness and responsiveness of the MPD commission and will provide much-needed direction to the staff of our new parks department.

*Bill Trandum is the chairman of the Key Peninsula News Publishing Committee.*

### TELL US WHAT YOU THINK

***If you live on the Key Peninsula, we'd like to hear from you!***



TACOMA PIERCE COUNTY  
**HEALTH  
DEPARTMENT**  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
HEALTH PROGRAM  
CLEAN WATER HEALTHY  
ENVIRONMENT FOR LIFE

Interested in  
participating in  
a focus group?  
Earning \$25?

Call  
253-798-7674

**Space is limited**

# Youth garden receives national award



*Photo courtesy of Camp Colman*

A YMCA Camp Colman visitor is learning about the benefits of having marigolds among the tomato plants.

*Special to KP News*

The organic garden at YMCA Camp Colman was selected from more than 500 kids' gardening programs nationwide to receive a 2004 Youth Garden Grant from the National Gardening Association. Camp Colman will receive an assortment of garden products donated by leading companies in the lawn and garden industry.

"National Garden Association is proud to support this terrific kids' garden," says Joan White, education program director. "This program was selected because of a demonstrated commitment to actively and creatively engaging youth in the gardening process and to improving the community. In addition, we were able to see from their application that the garden program will be sustained for years to come."

YMCA Camp Colman began the organic garden program in spring of 2003. The garden is quite large and includes a variety of vegetables, fruit trees, berry bushes and flowers. It took scores of volunteer hours to clear the

brush, build an 8-foot-tall fence, construct raised beds, plant the fruit trees, and set out seedlings, organizers say. The project has also received generous support from Sunnycrest Nursery, L'Arche Farm & Gardens, and local farmer Ross Bischoff.

The organic garden is used in Camp Colman's outdoor environmental education programs. School children, family campers, and summer resident campers have the opportunity to learn various facets of gardening, participate in garden chores and taste the fresh produce.

Art programs are also incorporated as the campers create mosaic stepping-stones, paint colorful birdhouses, and construct bright pinwheels.

YMCA Camp Colman welcomes community members to become involved in the garden program. If you would like to volunteer or to learn more about the program and the National Gardening Association grant, please contact Teresa Kpachavi at 884-3844 or send an email to [ymcacolman@aol.com](mailto:ymcacolman@aol.com).



**A.G. EDWARDS.**  
FULLY INVESTED IN OUR CLIENTS.

**CHANGING JOBS OR RETIRING?**

**IT'S TIME TO MAKE AN  
IMPORTANT DECISION ABOUT  
YOUR RETIREMENT PLAN ASSETS.**

A job change or retirement can be a stressful time, and you need to understand your options. The wrong decision about how to handle your retirement plan assets can cost you unnecessary taxes and penalties.

We can help you protect your hard-earned assets. Call today to order your free copy of A.G. Edwards' Information Report.

"Make the Right Choice for Your Retirement Plans"



Bill Trandum  
Financial Consultant  
1146 Broadway, Ste 1330  
Tacoma, WA 98402  
253-799-9325 direct line

## West Sound Landscape Supplies



**We  
Deliver**

**Pavers and Stepping Stones  
Compost and Sawdust  
Fertilizer and Lime  
Flat Rock  
Natural Slate**

**The Peninsula's  
Largest  
Selection of  
Slate & Patio Flagstone  
Concrete Statuaries**



**BARK  
\$10.95  
CU YARD  
PICK UP**

**Barks & Mulches • Animal Bedding Shavings • Topsoil • Fill  
Garden Soil • Red Rock • Sod • Driveway Rock  
Sand & Gravel • Grass Seed**

**6700 BETHEL RD. SE • PORT ORCHARD**  
To reach our mountain of bark take the  
Sedgwick Rd. exit off Highway 16 & head South  
on Bethel Rd. Open M-Sat 9-5 & Sun 10-4

**(253) 857-3378**



**Moreland & Sons**  
Auto & Truck Repair  
Located in Key Center

**Spring Special  
\$69.95**

**Now Offering RV & Trailer  
Repair and Service**

Special includes  
inspection of brakes, belts,  
hoses, ignition system and  
oil change

**Come see us for all  
auto & truck needs**



**15317 KPN Hwy,  
Gig Harbor 98329  
253-884-3431**

# Plan holds some hope for SR-302 fixes

By Rodika Tollefson  
KP News

The 1992 State Route 302 corridor study (see *Key Peninsula News*, March 2004 edition) has pretty much stopped at that—being a study. No more funding from the state has been allocated for major improvements in the near-future, and based on conversation with various state agency representatives, this highway is likely to maintain its status quo without other funding sources.

There is some good news: A few smaller improvements are on the way. A portion of SR-302, between State Route 3 and Elgin-Clifton, will be repaved this year and in 2005 a roundabout will be built there; also in 2005 slope stabilization work will be done in the area of the Victor slide, and a traffic signal may be needed eventually in the area of 94th Street NW (but is pending anchor tenant/developer negotiations).

Still, that work is mostly cosmetic, not addressing traffic congestion or safety on the infamous "Wauna curves." The problem is that Key Peninsula's road plight is not unlike that of any other rural area in the state. While the traffic problem is a

**"The hard part is that highways like this one are not designated as highways of state significance."**

-King Cushman, Puget Sound Regional Council

big deal for residents, the challenges here are small compared to the network overall.

"The hard part is that highways like this one are not designated as highways of state significance," said King Cushman, strategy adviser with the Puget Sound Regional Council, which prioritizes road projects for the region that includes Pierce County, then makes recommendations to the Department of Transportation. "Most highways of state significance are freeways." To make the priority even lower, SR-302 is not considered to have high congestion—an important factor that plays into the funding probability formula.

Cushman says one way to rock the boat is by contacting state and federal legislators, bring the problem to their attention. He says such grass-roots efforts have been successful, as long as there is merit to the case and agencies like DOT are on board. Sen. Bob Oke, who was successful in funding the Burley-Olalla Interchange, says he welcomes such public input and that the Burley-Olalla funding was successful exactly through the same strategy: pressing the issue, educating other colleagues. Of course, it took a few years.

At county level, the picture is just as bleak, with Initiative 776 reducing the transportation budget by about \$5 million per year, according to Pierce County Councilman Terry Lee. But, short of any local grass-roots campaign for lobbying elected representatives, Lee may have the most hopeful answer for the Key Peninsula residents, called RTID, or Regional Transportation Investment District.

The RTID is a coalition of Pierce, King and Snohomish counties, a regional plan that would fund local projects identified as priorities. Establishing a new corridor for SR-302 is one of those potential projects, estimated to cost about \$1.3 million of the total \$12.4 billion, 15-year package.

One possible solution would be to widen existing road in the area of Elgin-

## SR-302 meeting

A meeting to address problems with local roads will be hosted April 6 at 7 p.m. at the Civic Center, with state Sen. Bob Oke, state Rep. Lois McMahon, and Pierce County Councilman Terry Lee as guests.

Clifton to 144th Street NW and build a new corridor from 144th to the area of SE Pine Road off State Route 16. According to RTID estimates, a new corridor would cut congestion time by about an hour and about double the speed of evening commute. Without the new corridor, the study estimates congestion to average three hours a day by 2015, with afternoon travel speeds at 22 mph.

Lee said in February he would continue to push for keeping SR-302 on the RTID plan. In March, the RTID board voted on a \$12.4 billion package, slightly smaller than one proposed a few months ago. The project list would now have to be adjusted, and a final vote on the projects could come as early as April, amidst some reported disagreements within the group on the size of the total funding, between Seattle and the rest of the regions, Sound Transit participation and light-rail funding. But there is one catch to this solution: it's a tri-county measure, with voters in three counties having to agree on a tax increase, which would be a combination of higher sales tax, license fees and other options. The proposal would likely head to the ballot in November.

"The RTID will have to come and pick up those projects (not funded by state)," said Oke. "The thing that worries me about RTID is we're faced with three counties (voting)..." The vote of Seattle residents could also make or break the deal, and there have been long contra-

dicting polls and discussions on whether Seattleites are more likely to approve the RTID funding if light rail were included.

Lee says the RTID proposal would be well thought-out when presented to the public, and says without it there are not many choices left for better local roads.

"The gap created by I-776 at local level is a challenge. Everything is starting to shift backward," he said. It's a gap that once again is not unique to Pierce County, and it seems to only widen the closed circle of transportation woes. "I'm not against initiatives, but people may not understand their full ramifications," said Cushman. "I feel compassion for the DOT and the counties in dealing with their transportation plans when the money may get rerouted after an initiative."

Whether or not these same citizens who gave a resounding yes to these initiatives would like to see their pockets get hit again remains to be seen. Some local residents say they are already paying enough but not seeing any services—take those complaints times three counties and that grass-roots lobbying effort seems easier by comparison.



*Gaye Williams*  
"Always a beautician,  
Sometimes a magician."

884-2003

8912 Key Peninsula Hwy N  
Lakebay, WA 98349



## ANGEL GUILD THRIFT SHOP

**9013 KPHN, Lakebay in the KC Corral**

**Open Wednesday through Saturday  
10:00 AM to 4:00 PM**

**Gently used clothing, shoes, jewelry, appliances, toys, books, linens,  
knick-knacks, and just about anything you can think of  
NEW MERCHANDISE IN SHOP DAILY.**

## Minter Creek Quilt Studio



OPEN HOUSE SAT. APRIL 24TH, 12:00-5:00  
SIGN UP FOR CLASSES

**Specializing in Long-Arm quilting  
Try the long-arm, piecing and fob**

Basic Quilting to Ultra Custom Quilting  
Piecing Classes Available  
Call for Schedule \*\*\* Call for Estimate

Maureen Pjoff 19518 196th St. NW, G.H. 98329  
**253-857-4589**

**10% off for all  
new customers**



## Key Peninsula Livable Community Fair

*"Showcasing people, agencies and organizations  
making the Key Peninsula more livable"*

**Saturday May 8, 2004 • 10:00 – 3:00pm**  
**Key Peninsula Civic Center**  
**17010 South Vaughn Rd**

**Entertainment provided by:**  
**Key Peninsula Middle School Jazz Band**  
**Rhythm-n-Shoes Cloggers**  
**Evergreen Elementary Blues Kids**  
**Quartet Musette with Lorraine Hart**  
**Razzmatazz (PHS Vocal Ensemble)**

**Special Attractions**  
**Rhubarb the Reindeer (Tacoma Rainier's Mascot),**  
**Fire Fighters & Fire Truck,**  
**Sheriff Deputies & Vehicle,**  
**Sheriff & DOC Canine Demonstrations**  
**WOOF-D2 Flying Disc Dogs Demonstration,**  
**Reptiles, Craft Activities**  
**Fish Pond and Key Peninsula Historical Society**

**Over 45 Booth Participants**  
**Pierce County, Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department, Local**  
**Non-profit & Civic Organizations, Peninsula School District**

**Sponsors: Key Peninsula Civic Center, Safe Streets**  
**Campaign, Pierce County, St. Joseph Medical Center,**  
**Pierce Transit, Banner Expression**



2004-2005

St. Joseph Medical Center  
 Part of Franciscan Health System



*Photos by Hugh McMillan*

Evergreen Elementary readers carry their "readers' chain" through the school's hallways.

## Evergreen Elementary had busy month

By Sabra Stratford  
 Evergreen Elementary

March has been full of adventures at Evergreen Elementary school. Thanks to all the volunteers and the local Target store, many literacy activities are happening and Evergreen students are benefiting.

The second Reading Is Fundamental Day was held March 4 in Evergreen's library. The students walked aboard Captain Book's pirate ship to select their free book. The library was decorated with chests filled with gold and jewels, a crow's nest, sailing mast, and a talking parrot. More than 20 volunteers were available to read with children, as 275 students chose a new book to take home.

About 190 people enjoyed the second annual Family Reading Night. Peninsula School District Administrator Dennis Nugent, Principal Jacque Crisman, District Reading Specialist Judi Wilbert, staff members Robin Roe, Rick Gudmunson, Jim Inglebritson, and fireman and dad Bob Clawson chose great read-aloud stories to share with those attending. Every child was invited to choose a free book, and cookies were enjoyed by all. The Evergreen GED

program students helped in the book give-away that was sponsored by Target. It was a clear indicator that literacy is thriving in the Evergreen community.

On March 9 Target employees Marcy Burns, Julia Christman, Krista Ferber, and Cathy Oberts paid a special visit to Evergreen to help the Mitchell kindergartners and the Brozie/Presley first graders celebrate the 100th birthday of Dr. Seuss. It was such fun to have the "Cats in the Hats" read "The Places You'll Go" to the children. Key Peninsula Middle School students made a special trip to Evergreen to join in the celebration. The children also received very cool eyeglasses, hats, bookmarks and doorknob hangers. It was truly a special treat.

Just when you think so many terrific things have taken place, another event came along to top things off. Evergreen PTA members hosted a wonderful auction at the Longbranch Improvement Club. The spaghetti dinner donated by businesses and parents, many wonderful items for silent and oral auction and raffle items earned \$6,000 for Evergreen. Many long hours were logged to make this a successful evening.

### Allyn Knit Shop

14845 31st. State Route 5 (360) 275-4729 Allyn, Washington 98001

Shop Hours:

Monday 10:00 am - 8:00 pm  
 Tues, Thurs, Fri 10:00 am - 5:00 pm  
 Sa & Sun 11:00 am - 4:00 pm  
 Closed Wednesdays





*Photo by Hugh McMillan*

On Friday, March 19, a safe dance was held to the music of a student-oriented DJ at Peninsula High. Pictured here in an incredibly high-flying back flips, are James Hodins in the air and Jonathan Hagen helping from the ground.

# Show & Tell

## Local students learning and having fun



Left, At the March 19 PHS dance, representatives of the Pierce County Sheriff's Department involved students in walking a straight line and piloting wheel-chairs while wearing goggles that threw off their vision, in an effective imitation of what it would be like to drive under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

*Photo by Hugh McMillan*

Far left, One Peninsula Athletic Association (PAA) girls' basketball team, the KPMS Raptors, were joined by their parents at an end-of-season celebration party at Subway. The team's last game of the season ended in an exciting overtime tie. The girls will go on to play Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) spring league basketball.

*Photo by Irene Torres*

## Peninsula Light Company

*Reliable power. Reliable people.*



### Things are looking up!

Notice anything new in your neighborhood? During five years of improvements, we've undergrounded 43.6 miles of overhead cable and replaced 51.9 miles of aging underground cable. We've storm proofed over 504,240 feet of cable, about as far as from here to Seattle!

Our goal is to replace 7 miles of aging underground cable and 10 miles of overhead line each year in order to keep providing reliable, consistent power.



### Improving your quality of life.

We know why our members choose to live here, and we've been listening closely to their needs. Bringing a reliable, affordable power source to our community is our major goal.

So the next time you're out, take the time to look up. We think you'll like what you see.

For more information about this ongoing project, please visit our website at [www.penlight.org](http://www.penlight.org), check our "Lights" newsletter, or call us at (253) 857-5950.

Peninsula Light Co.  
*The power to be...*

# KP residents to open private school

Special to KP News

In September, Learning Key Campus, an independent, non-denominational school for children ages 6-9, will open doors to its first group of students. Using a multi-age classroom setting, the school will offer a strong academic-based curriculum within a supportive and engaging learning environment, organizers say. The curriculum will integrate subjects such as language arts, math, science, environmental studies, social studies, physical education, Spanish, music, community service, the arts, and swimming.

Founders of the new school include longtime Peninsula resident Cyndi Cashman-DiBiase, co-founder of Carpe Diem Primary School and former Annie Wright and Peninsula School District teacher; textbook author Stacy Hagen; para-educator Majda Darling; and former Gig Harbor Cooperative Preschool President Traci Michel.

"As parents living on the Key Peninsula, we want to offer a choice in education for families. Our goal is to create a positive, engaging academic pro-

**"We are confident that the school we are creating will provide an exciting learning experience for our children. ... We are modeling our school on a theme-based, multi-age approach."**

-Stacy Hagen

gram that encourages students to be independent thinkers," Cashman-DiBiase said.

Learning Key Campus will help each child achieve academic excellence through individualized instruction. In order to accomplish this, Learning Key Campus will strive to maintain a 12:1 student-teacher ratio while focusing on each child's unique gifts and abilities.

"We are confident that the school we are creating will provide an exciting learning experience for our children.

## Learn more

Interested families are invited to attend an informational meeting at the Key Peninsula Lutheran Church community building on April 6 at 7 p.m. For more information, call 691-8843 or visit [www.learningkeycampus.com](http://www.learningkeycampus.com)

Cyndi Cashman-DiBiase, co-founder of Carpe Diem Primary School, a successful school on Vashon Island, has been instrumental in developing Learning Key Campus," said Hagen. "We are modeling our school on the similar theme-based, multi-age approach."

Learning Key Campus will be housed in the community building of the Key Peninsula Lutheran Church, located on the corner of Key Peninsula Highway and Lackey Road.

The school welcomes children of any ethnic origin without regard to religious preference. Enrollment in the program is limited to 24 students. Applications are being accepted, and available spaces will be filled on a first come, first served basis.

## DRIVE THROUGH FEED

**Most Convenient Hours**  
11 am - 7 pm

**Also Open**  
**Saturday & Sunday!**

**Deliveries available**

**Zimecterin Horse Wormer on Sale \$9.50 each**

**Enter a drawing for a free saddle**



**CALL JERRY**  
**(253) 884-3386**

## We've Got The Pros For Your Home Mortgage Loan



**Bryan Black**

Mortgage Lender/Broker  
253-858-1000x2222



**Heath Nicholls**

Mortgage Lender/Broker  
253-858-1000x2226



**Julie Wallerich**

Mortgage Lender/Broker  
253-858-1000x2222



**Sarah Cice**

Mortgage Lender/Broker  
253-858-1000x2229



**Tim Bockmann**

Mortgage Lender/Broker  
253-858-1000x2228



**Paul Careaga**

Mortgage Lender/Broker  
253-858-1000x2223



**Golf Savings Bank**

*The Finest in Mortgage Banking*

**Gig Harbor 253-858-1000 800-262-3334**

5790 Soundview Drive, Suite 103 [www.golfsavingsbank.com](http://www.golfsavingsbank.com)



## CS Floors Connie Schick

B&C Enterprises, Inc.

8803 SR 16 NW • Gig Harbor, WA 98332

**253-853-5833**

Hours: Monday thru Friday 9-5, Saturday 10-2



**"THE KEY PENINSULA'S MOST EXPERIENCED FLOOR COVERING DEALER ---**

*Where your Satisfaction is our Top Priority"*

Present this ad and get a free cushion upgrade at no additional charge\*

**CARPET • WOOD • CERAMIC TILE & STONE • VINYL LAMINATE AND SOLID-SURFACE COUNTERTOPS WINDOW TREATMENTS**

\*Inquire for details

# Good news for fast-food fans

## Burger King finally coming

### Other major Lake Kathryn developments promised

By Irene Torres  
KP News

Believe it or not, Burger King has finally applied for a building permit at Lake Kathryn Village. At press time, approval was expected within a couple of weeks, according to Northwestern General Development Corporation Manager Joe Rhea. Rumors about Burger King, Safeway, and other development have surfaced over the past few years, but Rhea told the KP News, "There are lots of things going on, but now isn't the time to get into it," and referred questions to the majority owner, Don Zimmerman of Cost Less Pharmacy, for comment.

Zimmerman reflected on the history of Lake Kathryn Village, on which he and Mike Salatino first collaborated "about 16 or 17 years ago, when we bought acreage from Mr. and Mrs. Easley and removed the stumps from the property."

"At the time, interest rates were 21 per-

cent and we had to wait until they came down." Zimmerman said. "Funding for the original development was secured through the Bank of Hong Kong and Shanghai, and they have been the major lending agency through the duration."

Zimmerman said that "Burger King is imminent," and he hopes it will be built during the good weather this summer. He said there are some "very important developments underway for Lake Kathryn" that have been in the works for quite some time, but the permitting process with the county has been delayed up to six years because of the number of different agencies involved. One hold-up has been a major amendment with the state Department of Transportation and the county Public Works to install a four-way stop at 94th (Elgin-Clifton) at State Route 302, required to address "ingress and egress" conditions.

Cost Less Senior Services, operated by Jeff Hendrickson and Drew Zimmerman, a closed-door pharmacy located in Cost Less Pharmacy, is the strongest tenant in Lake Kathryn Village, according to



Photo by Irene Torres

Representatives of Lake Kathryn Village say a "major" but so far undisclosed development is on the way, preceded by Burger King.

Zimmerman. Cost Less Senior Services has state contracts for prescription services to assisted living facilities, jails, and juvenile detention centers. Together, the two pharmacies employ 30 people, with six drivers delivering prescriptions, and process between 500 and 1,000 prescriptions daily. Zimmerman credits "the nice, loyal people in the community" for Cost Less' success.

Peninsula Market is the most recent

addition to the shopping center, joining David Ahrens' Coast Hardware and veterinarian Jeff Irwin in the core building, and the "new" Wauna Post Office, located on site.

"All the details of future expansion plans are not appropriate to disclose," said Rhea, "because nothing can happen until they sign on the dotted line, and that hasn't happened yet." When it does, Rhea says, "We'll be making an announcement."

## Community Bible Fellowship

Meeting at Key Peninsula Middle School  
5510 Key Peninsula Hwy North, Lakebay

- ✦ Biblical Counseling
- ✦ Warm Fellowship
- ✦ Solid Bible Teaching
- ✦ Informal Worship Atmosphere

**(253) 884-1999**

Youth Ministry Home Fellowship Groups  
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.  
Classes for all ages

Bible Teaching & Worship 10:30 a.m.  
Nursery Care Provided

### Veterans Needed!!! Free Breakfast!!!

Key Peninsula Veterans are needed to socialize and work together with other veterans to preserve our Nation and to assist other veterans in need.

Do you know what your Veterans benefits are?  
Did you know that some of them have gone?  
Remember the days when we served together and how we always stuck up for one another? Well you are needed again!

A special Breakfast is being held on 8 May  
9am to 11am or for us old salts 0900-1100.  
PLACE: The Key Peninsula Sportsmen's Club,  
3503 Jackson Lake Road KPN, Lakebay.

This special invitation is open to all veterans and their spouses or significant other but specifically to those Veterans who have not been or are not currently an active member in the VFW or other Veterans Organizations.

Wait!! Before we go any further!! There is NO charge or obligation or will there be any pressure on anyone to join the VFW or any other Veterans Organization, although some Organizations will have a representative there to discuss various veterans issues and membership with you if desired.

This breakfast is just to say Hi and Welcome Home. It is only designed to bring us back together as a team like we once were. If interested in attending PLEASE RSVP and contact Rick Stout at 253-884-3684 or Jerry Davis at 253-884-3386.

## Bayside Cutters

Family Hair Salon



*Easter Special*  
Kids 12 & under  
**\$10 haircut**

**3 year Anniversary**

25% off perms,  
foils, colors, hair  
straightening

WAXING ALSO AVAILABLE

6602 - 144th St. NW  
Purdy

857-3319

# KC (and owner) demystify computers

By Debra Katrine McElroy  
Special to KP News

In July of 2003, Bill Horwitz, with the support of his wife, Delrene, opened the Key Peninsula's answer to the computer and technology challenged, KC Computer Repair.

Located in the heart of Key Center, KC Computer Repair has answered hundreds of questions and solved countless technical problems ranging from how to turn it on, to how to debug a system plagued by an overwhelming amount of spyware.

A virus attack on your system? Can't find a file? A favorite game not running? Horwitz and his associate, Sheryl Mirenta, have tackled them all.

Horwitz began his journey into computers and programming by taking a vocational class in Great Falls, Mont., in 1970. At that time, computers were big enough to walk into, and there was nothing like a monitor or a mouse. Programming was done by punch cards, 88-column cards that would go into the computer after sorting, and would come out as a printout. This was computer programming in the 1970s. He enrolled in more classes in the '80s to keep up with the trends in the industry.



KC Computer Repair owner Bill Horwitz says he is alive today because of his 17-year-old son, Aaron. Horwitz opened his shop in 2003 with his assistant Sheryl Mirenta (in the photo), and later was joined by his devoted sidekick, KC (through adoption).

*Photo by Rodika Tollefson*

He's been unofficially repairing and putting together computer systems for years for friends and relatives, and decided it was time to start his own business.

KC Computer Repair offers more than basics. They offer personalized service to the community; classes from computer-use and software basics to eBay shopping; and even house calls. The classes usually take about one to three hours each, with additional support for students who require it.

KC Computer Repair has another permanent "worker" who has adopted the same name, KC, who mostly sits on Horwitz's shoulder. "KC usually knows that

when I'm under the table plugging in a tower, to go to the outside of the edge of the table until I'm done. But this one time he didn't do it, and I went to crawl out and squished him between my back and the table and knocked the wind out of him, I guess. I turned to look, and he flew up and then dropped to the floor," Horwitz recounted one unfortunate incident.

"He's a lot more careful now," he added, laughing. A charming member of the staff, KC is a very well cared for and loved cockatiel. Stop by after 3 p.m. Monday through Saturday, and say hi. You won't find a nicer (or funnier) computer guy anywhere.

## Nimrick's Furnishings

Old & New

LOTS OF NEW ITEMS  
INCLUDING YARD & HOME DECOR  
TIME TO THINK SPRING!  
BUT DON'T FORGET OUR  
GREAT ANTIQUES!

Hours: Tue-Sat 10-5, Sun 12-5, Closed Monday

5914 Key Peninsula HWY North  
in Key Center  
(253) 884-3717

## LAKEBAY ROOFING

Pierce, Kitsap, and  
Mason Counties

- RESIDENTIAL •
- RE-ROOFING •

SHAKE • TORCH DOWN • METAL  
COMPOSITION • CEDAR • SHINGLES

FREE ESTIMATES

884-2186 • Tom Roltzen - Owner

UN. ST. CONSTRU. REG. LAKEBA #1570K

# EVERYTHING A Credit Union Should Be.



**SOUND**  
CREDIT UNION

- ◆ Online Bill Payer
- ◆ 24-Hour Account Access
- ◆ VISA Platinum Mileage Card
- ◆ Financial Planning
- ◆ Free Checking
- ◆ First Mortgage Loans
- ◆ Home Equity Loans
- ◆ Auto Loans
- ◆ Youth Savings Programs
- ◆ Money Market Accounts

Key Center Branch  
8920 Key Peninsula Hwy N  
(253) 383-2016 (800) 562-8130  
www.soundcu.com

AUBURN EAST TADOMA DOWNTOWN TADOMA KEY CENTER BIG HARBOR OLYMPIA PARKLAND PUVALLUP WESTBATE

YOUR FINANCIAL PARTNER

## Brookside back in business



*Photo and story by Karen Hale*

After many months of being vacant, the Brookside Restaurant has new owners, Key Peninsula residents Ron and Shirley Bustad. The property was purchased in March, and is in the process of a major overhaul. The building is being repaired and remodeled, with plans to open by May 1 as a family restaurant. The couple will keep the restaurant's name the same. According to Shirley Bustad, the menu has not yet been chosen, but the couple knows it will be a family-style restaurant. The adjacent property was also purchased and will be a nursery at some time in the future, if everything goes as planned.

## DONATE BLOOD TODAY!

### CASCADE REGIONAL BLOOD SERVICES

*is your community blood bank.*

We serve ten local hospitals including Mary Bridge Children's Hospital and Health Center.

Call 1-877-24BLOOD for an appointment, or check [cascadiabloodcenters.org](http://cascadiabloodcenters.org) for a local blood drive schedule or locations and dates for the Bloodmobile.

Thank you for donating.



**CASCADE REGIONAL  
BLOOD SERVICES**  
**BRING IN THIS AD FOR A GIFT**

Tacoma Federal Way, Puyallup, Lakewood, The Peninsula

## LPL Financial Services

We offer a full range of non-proprietary investment products, including:

- Stocks
- IRAs
- Bonds
- Tax-Free Investments
- Mutual Funds

Contact us today for more information or to schedule a consultation.

Todd Rosenbach  
24090 NE State Route 3  
Belfair, WA, 98528  
(360) 275-0699 (253) 380-7420  
[todd.rosenbach@lpl.com](mailto:todd.rosenbach@lpl.com)



Securities offered through  
Linsco/Private Ledger  
Member NASD/SIPC



### FROG CREEK LODGE RETREAT CENTER

15003 64th Street, KPN  
Lakebay, WA 98349  
[www.frogcreeklodge.com](http://www.frogcreeklodge.com)



Frog Creek Lodge is available for day retreats, vacation rental, special events, weddings, and more, and when you rent the facility, it is yours exclusively. Accommodates 25 overnight guests, meeting room holds up to 34.

Some of the amenities you'll enjoy when renting Frog Creek Lodge include:

- 5,000 sq. ft. lodge
- 7 bedrooms, 3 bath
- 500 sq. ft. meeting room
- Full kitchen and dining area
- Three sitting/living rooms
- Yurt for additional sleeping or meeting room
- Two fireplaces
- 10 acres forested land with hiking trails
- Tiered wooden deck with Jacuzzi
- Labyrinth
- Fire pit and secluded drumming circle
- Catering available

Call or email today for reservations or for more information!

253/884.3188 • [frogcreek@earthlink.net](mailto:frogcreek@earthlink.net).



# The Passion Of The Christ Is For You!

The Gospel of Jesus Christ is news, good news: the best and most important news that any human being ever hears.

The Gospel declares the *only way* to know God in peace, love, and joy is *through the reconciling death of Jesus Christ* the risen Lord.

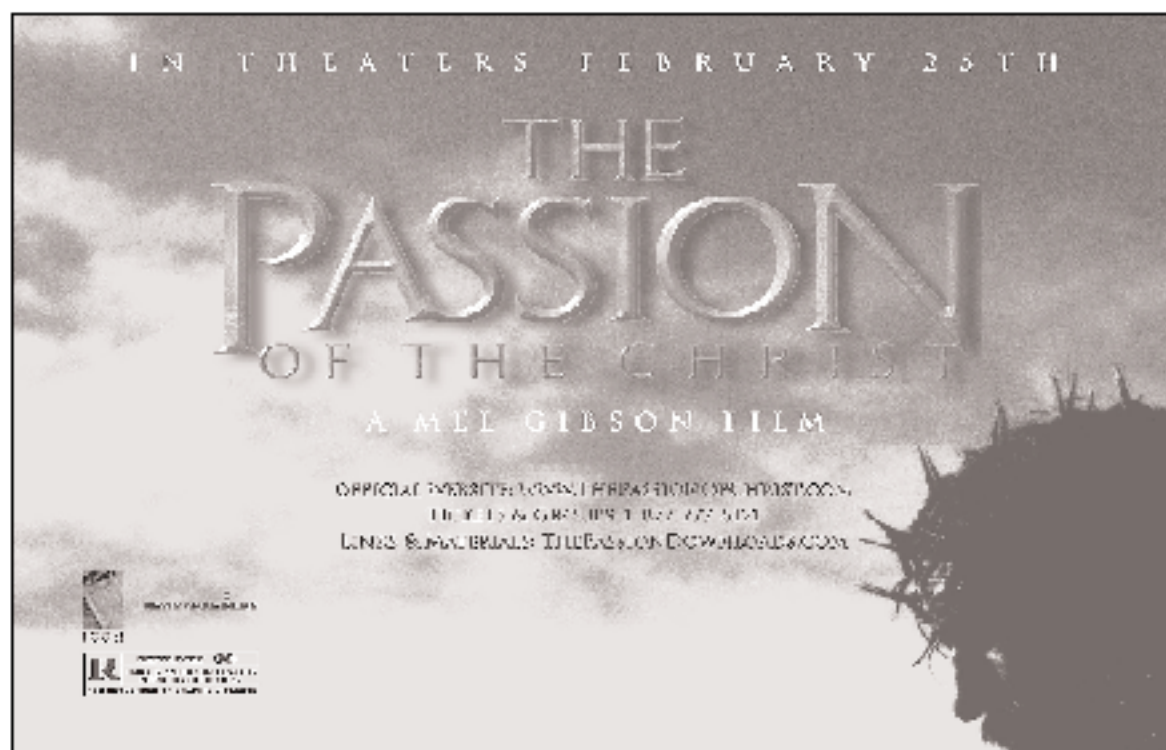
This Gospel is the central message of the Holy Scriptures, and is the true key to understanding them.

This Gospel identifies Jesus Christ, the Messiah of Israel, as the Son of God and God the Son, the second Person of the Holy Trinity, whose incarnation, ministry, death, resurrection, and ascension fulfilled the Father's saving will. His death for sins and his resurrection from the dead were promised beforehand by the prophets and attested by eye witnesses. In God's own time and in God's own way, *Jesus Christ shall return* as glorious Lord and Judge of all. He is now giving the Holy Spirit from the Father to all those who are truly his. The three Persons of the Trinity thus combine in the work of saving sinners.

This Gospel sets forth Jesus Christ as the living Savior, Master, Life, and Hope of all who put their trust in him. It tells us that the eternal destiny of all people depends on whether they are savingly related to Jesus Christ.

This Gospel is the only Gospel: there is no other; and to change its substance is to pervert and indeed destroy it. This Gospel is so simple that small children can understand it, and it is so profound that studies by the wisest theologians will never exhaust its riches.

Excerpts from "The Gospel of Jesus Christ: An Evangelical Celebration"



The Key Peninsula Church Invites You To  
Personally Know  
The Passion Of The Christ In Your Life And To  
Join Us In Worshipping Him At One Of These  
Congregations



**Longbranch Community Church**  
16518-46th St. KPS  
Sundays 11:00  
884-9339

**Lakebay Community Church**  
11 Cornwall Rd KPN,  
Lakebay  
Sundays 10:30  
884-3899

**Lakebay Christian Assembly**  
2406 McEwan Rd. KPN & KP Hwy  
Saturday: 10 am Easter  
Egg Stravaganza for kids  
Sundays 10 am • 253 905-5919

**Key Peninsula Lutheran Church**  
4213 Lackey Rd, KPN, Lakebay  
Sundays 10:30 • Easter  
Breakfast 8am-10am  
884-3312

**Community Bible Fellowship**  
Key Peninsula Middle School  
Sundays 10:30  
884-1999

**Key Pen 7th Day Adventist**  
Civic Center, Vaughn  
Saturdays 10:00  
884-2360

**Key Peninsula Baptist**  
Civic Center, Vaughn  
Sundays 11:00 am  
853-6761

**Vaughn Community Church**  
17616 Hall Road  
Easter 8:30 & 11:00  
Sundays 9:00 & 10:00  
884-2269

**Grace Presbyterian Church**  
Miracle Ranch,  
Sydney Rd SW  
Sunday 11:00  
857-4221

Jesus said,

**"My prayer is for those who will believe in me that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me."**

John 17:20-23

(From **TEACHERS**, Page 1)

Andrea said. With John's almost daily volunteer help and the after-school support of Jeff, who has his own set of elementary kids as a teacher at Minter Creek Elementary, Andrea and Laura have teamed up for six years teaching kindergarten at Vaughn Elementary. As if that weren't enough, Andrea's sister, Judy Watt, a retired teacher, shows up at assessment time to help. They are a real teaching machine.

For Andrea and John Jewell, working together started in 1966, when they did their student teaching at Whittier Elementary in Fircrest. Before student teaching was over, they were dating and in August 1966 they married.

John was born in Brainerd, Minn. "My granddad came from Norway," he said. "My 19-year-old mom and I lived with my grandparents while my dad was overseas in World War II. When my dad was assigned to Fort Lewis, he and mom fell in love with the Puget Sound area and we've been here ever since."

John and Andrea both attended Woodrow Wilson High School in Tacoma, but never met. After John graduated, he attended the University of Puget Sound where he took his masters in education.

Andrea is a Tacoma native who, after graduating from Wilson High, also attended UPS for a bachelor's in education. Again, though on the same campus, John and Andrea never met. They finally did while teaching at Whittier Elementary and the rest, as they say, is history.

Then, after visiting several potential schools, John went for his doctorate at the University of Northern Colorado because of its excellent special education program.

The Jewells' son, John Jr., came along in December of 1969 and daughter Laura in 1972. Thereafter, Andrea was an at-home mom while their two children were small. John Jr. is now a builder and music teacher in Indianola, Wash.

His sister Laura teaches kindergarten at Vaughn Elementary. That is, she did until the following notification came from her dad: "Thought you'd like to know, Laura delivered a 6-pound, 2-ounce baby girl, Emma Jane. She's the most ...beautiful baby in the world who arrived at 12:16 a.m., March 19. The baby swam to her dad at the top of the birth tub doing the dog paddle. Both mom and Emma Jane are healthy and doing fine."

Emma Jane's dad, Jeff Stafki, has taught at Minter Creek Elementary for six years.

Laura and Jeff were in college when they met and were married in 1994. Laura, after living and studying abroad in Italy and Martinique, planned to teach English as a



*Photo by Hugh McMillan*

The two generations of Jewells, side-by-side, teaching kindergartners at Vaughn.

Second Language at the high school or community college level. But, before entering graduate school, she volunteered in her mom's kindergarten classroom at Vaughn Elementary. Here she fell in love with teaching young children and decided to become an elementary school teacher.

After receiving their teaching certificates from Western Washington University in 1997, Jeff and Laura taught together for a year at Olympic View Elementary in Bremerton. Jeff taught music and Laura, kindergarten and first grade. The following year they happily accepted contracts to work in the community where they live. Last year, they both received their masters in science, focused on teaching literacy.

Years ago, John and Andrea bought waterfront vacation property on the Key Peninsula near her parents and moved here permanently in 1995, "because we love it out here," they declared.

John taught fifth and sixth grades, has been a special education director and an elementary school principal. He has a doctorate in education and taught part time for several universities. Andrea taught parenting classes, cooperative preschools, including one at the Washington Corrections Center for Women in Purdy, and kindergarten through third grade at Minter Creek and Vaughn.

She will retire this year after 27 years as a teacher. Her Vaughn Elementary colleagues are not looking forward to this. "She will be sorely missed," is often heard in the school's corridors.

John retired in 1996 after more than 30 years in education, to pursue a sculpting career. His marvelous work, the two children "Balancing the Books," can be seen at the Key Center Library. His sculpture of a

grandmother and child "Sharing" is at City Hall in University Place. He is currently sculpting an eight-foot-tall Meriwether Lewis with his dog Seaman that will be placed in Fort Lewis, which bears his name.

With Andrea's retirement and the arrival of Emma Jane, the teaching team at Vaughn will change next year. Laura intends to teach half-time and Andrea and John plan to help care for the new baby and have more time with their other granddaughters: Alice, 4, and Clara, 1. But, they added, "of course, we plan to continue being a part of kindergarten at Vaughn by volunteering in Laura's classroom."

Andrea's and Laura's classrooms are located next to each other, "so what's happening in one classroom is very similar to what is happening in the other. Throughout the morning children move back and forth," said Andrea. "A typical day starts with early kindergarten arrivals helping prepare both classrooms for the day. The children pitch in getting name tags ready, taking chairs down from the

tables, getting pencils and reading books on the tables, but mostly greeting each other with smiles and plenty of energy."

John says he "is still trying to wake up with his morning coffee, but the kids are going full steam ahead and want to read right now!" So after practicing writing their names on the board, off they go to the reading tables.

They have several parents who drop in and help the children read first thing in the morning. "It makes a huge difference for the children," Andrea said. "Without the volunteers' help, our students just wouldn't make the tremendous progress they experience."

Those dedicated volunteers include Diana Nole and Matt Mills, who help in Andrea's room, and Erica Verfaillie, in Laura's room, every Friday.

Several second and fifth graders come in to be reading coaches to their kindergarten buddies. While John and other volunteers gather up materials and set up tables for the next activity, you can hear the children singing songs, often accompanied by sign language, in both rooms.

The children are eager to share new words they have learned in their reading. These are written on the board. Next, they brainstorm words that rhyme with them. The children are very involved and excited to see how many words they can read in this way. They help by counting the words, saying each word slowly and telling the sounds that they hear in the words. The teacher writes them on the board, and this is what they call "kid writing."

After reading a story, one of the children said, "This would be a good story to make a puppet show." The other children are excited. They plan that they will make puppets after recess and put on shows.

And so it goes. The deft touch of the Jewells infusing our youngsters with a passion for learning. And even though there will be a changing of the guard, count on it, the Jewells will continue to share this passion — if only as volunteers.



## Nature's Renewal



**Holistic Wellness Spa. ~ Key Center ~ 884-6150**

**Therapeutic Massage**

- ~ Relaxing, Deep Tissue, CranioSacral, Reiki, Chakra Balancing ~
- Spa Treatments**
- ~ Aroma Therapy, Skin & Feet Treatments, Herbal Steam cabinet ~
- Nature's Renewal**
- ~ Yoga, Healing, Vision Quests, Holistic healing, Natural Weddings ~

**Laura Huddleston ~ Susan Borys ~ Lisa Carlson**

## Lions Club events

The Key Peninsula Lions Club will host "White Cane Days" on April 30-May 1. Donations will be used to promote Lions' eye health programs.

The Key Peninsula Lions Club will sponsor its annual Volksmarch on July 10 and 11. It will begin at a parking area near Bud Ulsh's home on Ulsh Road. For details contact Hugh McMillan at 884-3319.

## Play bingo at Evergreen

The Evergreen Elementary fifth grade fund-raising committee is sponsoring a Bingo Night on April 30, 7 p.m. in the gym, and public is invited. Bingo is open to ages 10 to 110, but children under 18 must be accompanied by a parent. Come and win great prizes and cash! They will also have Junior Bingo for kids in grades K - 5, open to children who have a parent playing bingo. All proceeds go toward paying for fifth graders to go to camp. Call Marcia at 884-9577 for details.

## Tops #WA 1019, Vaughn holds rummage sale

TOPS #WA 1019, Vaughn had its election of officers for the new year. The group welcomes Fred Davis as the new co-leader, along with returning officers, Joetda Wickline as leader, Jena Henak as treasurer, Mary Johnson as secretary, Frankie Johnson and Louise Harrison as the weight recorders. Their installation was conducted by former member Carol Bishoff, who is now with the Burley chapter.

Three couples are part of the group, and this year TOPS is having a special geared toward new couples: when one person joins or renews annual membership, the spouse joins at half-price, which is \$10.

This year's rummage sale will be held on April 24 from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. in the Whitmore room. The proceeds benefit the rally fund so the group can attend various meetings statewide. TOPS meets every Tuesday in the VFW Room from 6-8 p.m. Weigh-in is from 6-7 p.m. For questions, call 884-3456.

—By Jena Henak

## Writers group welcomes new members

The Key Peninsula writers' group created last fall under the auspices of Two Waters Arts Alliance welcomes local aspiring and published writers to join them for writing and peer critique every Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon. In April and May, the group will meet at the Key Center Library for every session except May 8. For infor-

# KPFD delivers awards



Those present at the dinner who received awards included Monica Wolverton, Hal Wolverton, Ruth Bramhall, Barbara and Dick Granquist, Lindsey Smith, Chief Eric Livingood Nelsen, Guy Allen, Robert Bosch, and Mike Riegle.

Photo and story by Hugh McMillan  
KP News

In March, Key Peninsula's finest met at Miracle Ranch to celebrate the annual Key Peninsula Fire Department Awards Dinner. The first of the awards, Service Pins, were presented by Chief Eric Livingood Nelsen to firefighters Bill Sawaya and Todd Vanskoyk for five years, Dale Heidal and Darrin Marsh for 10, Chuck West for 20, and Gerald Marsh for 30 years. He presented the district's Outstanding Service Award to Local 3152, the district's affiliate with the International Association of Firefighters. The yearly awards were given to Wes Vanslyke, volunteer firefighter; Brian Pearce, rookie firefighter; Jeremiah Stille, resident volunteer firefighter; Robert Fisher, volunteer officer; Hal Wolverton, top trainer.

The Helping Hands Award went to Lindsey Smith, Glen Pszczola, Todd and

Kehli Vanscoyk, Betty Nelsen, Fred and Mary Ramsdell, Hal and Monica Wolverton, Dick and Barbara Granquist, Ruth Bramhall, Robert Bosch, Guy Allen, and Mike Reigle for their successful work on the fire engine levy of 2003. Nelsen also honored members of the district's "Ashes" Auxiliary, Marguerite Bussard, Sharon Cavanaugh, Carrie Durham-Smith, Lois Conn, Dee Dee Kerkes, and Marie Schwenka.

Scott Campbell was recognized as career firefighter and Tom Lique as career officer. The Chief's Award went to firefighter/paramedic Mike Reigle. The Firefighters Association Award went to Lindsey Smith and the Union Recognition Award was accepted by its president, Robert Bosch. The only low point of the evening came with the announcement that Division Chief Tracy Lyon is transferring from the Key Peninsula to the Gig Harbor Fire Department. He will be missed.

mation, call Virginia at 884-2588 or Rodika at 857-6564.

## Church explores '40 days of Purpose'

Throughout history one question has been asked the world over: "What on earth am I here for?" On April 25, the Lakebay Community Church begins 40 Days of Purpose as members explore "The Purpose Driven Life" by Rick Warren. This New York Times No. 1 selling book offers a biblical perspective that has transformed the lives of millions.

Find out how five spiritual principles can help you learn to live a life full of purpose. Join in this spiritual adventure at the 10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship Service and in the

weekly home fellowship groups.

## Blueberry bushes for sale at fund-raiser

The Key Peninsula 7th Day Adventist Church will hold its blueberry sale beginning April 11, Monday through Thursday, 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. at 13108 125th St. Court off Key Peninsula Highway (parking lot of KC Auto Sales). The proceeds go toward the church's building fund. Organizers said they have only about 600 plants this year and expect the sale to end in a couple of weeks—so don't miss your chance. Some raspberry and strawberry plants will also be available.

Church members also invite anyone to come worship with them every Saturday at

10 a.m. at the Civic Center and every Wednesday at 7 p.m. in the same building where the blueberry sale is (13108 125th St. Court). For information, call Corky or Cheri' at 884-2368.

## Shop — Donate — Volunteer

Shop-Donate-Volunteer is the slogan of the SAVE Thrift Store in Purdy. Open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily except Wednesday and Sunday, the shop offers exceptional values in used clothing, shoes, toys, games, housewares, books, jewelry and other assorted items. New arrivals daily means shoppers never know what treasures may await them.

While prices are always low, three days a month are devoted to bag sales. A kids' bag sale is held the first Tuesday of each month. Shoes and clothes for children up to size 12 are sold for \$3 per bag. In April, the children's bag sale is on the 6th.

The middle Saturday of the month — in this case, April 17 — features a \$5 bag sale on clothes and shoes of all sizes. And the Tuesday prior to the last Thursday of the month sees a \$3 bag sale, again for all sizes. In April that falls on the 27th. This final bag sale is followed by Thursday's new selections day when all the wearables in the store have been replaced by fresh merchandise. Besides the designated bag sale days, other items are offered at discounts from 25 to 50 percent off regular prices throughout the month.

The profits go to support the activity groups and the scholarship program at Peninsula High School. If you have never visited the store, it is easy to find. Location is below Peninsula High, 1 ½ blocks north of the Hwy. 302 intersection in Purdy. Donations are accepted during store hours. Community volunteers are always welcomed, too. Please call Kris at 857-2800 if you would like more information.

—By Marsha Williams

## Fishermen's breakfast and yard sale

The annual Fishermen's Breakfast at the Key Peninsula Sportsmen's Club will be held Sunday, April 25 from 7:30 a.m. to Noon. The "all you can eat" breakfast includes pancakes, ham & eggs with lots of fruit juice and great coffee for only \$5. Children under 6 eat free.

The breakfast has been an annual event for many years, and also serves as an opportunity for many of the area's old-timers to meet and reminisce. Raffle tickets will be on sale during the breakfast with a chance to win many wonderful prizes, including a luxurious dollhouse.

Another event scheduled for the same



## Communities in School-Peninsula participates in state conference

Five representatives of Communities In Schools-Peninsula attended an all-day CIS State Conference in Tukwila in March. Delegations from throughout the state split into classes presented by experts on subjects from methods of raising funds, dealing with the media, community support projects, means of expanding public involvement in schools, and a plethora of other supportive subjects.

Among presenters were our local CIS-P Executive Director Colleen Speer; Dexter Reuhl, who was recently appointed to the state CIS board; and Rochelle Doan. The high point of the day was a chance before and after his address to the gathering to have hand to hand, face to face conversation with the founder and still president of CIS, Bill Millikan, an extraordinarily unpretentious, humorous, tough minded, driven proponent of the need for communities to be directly and intimately involved in our schools. Millikan is the author of the best-selling guide to successful child management, "Tough Love."

In the photo: CIS-P treasurer Ed Lazar with Dexter Reuhl, Bill Millikan, Colleen Speer, and Rochelle Doan.



Photo and story by Hugh McMillan

weekend is the club's annual yard sale. The two-day event begins Saturday, April 24, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and continues on Sunday from 7:30 a.m. to 12. Both events will be held at the KP Sportsmen's Club located on Jackson Lake Road in Lakebay.

The Key Peninsula Sportsmen's Club, a nonprofit organization, has been a member of the Pierce County Sportsmen's Council since 1947 and regularly supports the activities of our area's youth. Your participation in this event helps make it possible for local youth to attend summer camp, participate in Little League, and provide other services to our community.

### Spring (and sales) are busting out all over

What a fabulous variety of items we find when we browse the aisles of the Angel Guild Thrift Shop. Each day is a different

shopping experience. This month we have Easter items in every corner of the store and we're almost positive you will be able to find what you need. We love our customers. A special thanks to Mindy for another great "above and beyond" type donation.

We are again asking for people to become Angels and help fill our open spaces. Due to injury and illness we have lost some of our willing workers. If you have a few hours a month to spare and would like to be part of a fun group that likes to work for the good of your community, please contact Bonnie at 884-5983 or Nancy at 857-2321.

At the last meeting, we helped the Key Peninsula Trails group with funds to print its next book, "Kayaking around the Key Peninsula," Peninsula High Band with six scholarships, Minter Creek Elementary PTA with the reading incentives program

Boy Scout Troop 220, and is open to all children of the Key Peninsula from toddlers to 12 years old.

If anyone has plastic Easter eggs, baskets or stuffed animals to donate for the event, please contact Jackie Ray at 857-7667.

### YMCA Camp Colman

YMCA Camp Colman will host a complementary Spring Community Breakfast and Easter Egg Hunt (for children to grade 5) on Saturday, April 10. Breakfast will be served from 9 a.m.-10 a.m. and the egg hunt starts at 10. RSVP by April 7 to 884-5772. Camp Colman is located next to Joemma State Park.

For church Easter services information, see page 31.

and the Key Peninsula Civic Center's replacement purchase of tables and chairs.

Thought for the month: One little smile can fill a whole room with sunshine.

—By Mary Ramsdell

### Bayshore Garden Club

The Bayshore Garden Club will meet at 1 p.m. at the Longbranch Fire Station on April 9. The hostess is Erma Dunn. Peg Robertson will present the Theme Program. Sylvia Retherford will discuss conservation. Ann Waldo will present the design. Call Sylvia at 884-2487.

### TOPS #WA 1325 invites you to get in shape

Do you love winter because warm bulky clothes hide your extra pounds? Do you dread hot weather and unbecoming clothes? Well, how many more days 'til summer? Just enough to make a difference in your weight if you get busy and let T.O.P.S. (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) help you to discover a new you.

Tuesday mornings at 9 a friendly group of men and women meet at the Home Fire Station to get and give encouragement. Over coffee and tea we discuss the successes and problems of the week and weigh in (privately). At 9:30 we have a short meeting and then it is time for the speaker. So far this year we have heard from the man who had lost the most weight in Washington state last year. His experiences were very interesting and the suggestion of drinking a large glass of water before each meal will help all of us manage our meals better. Also we heard the experiences of a woman who lost 100 pounds twice in her life and how TOPS helped her to finally keep it off.

The best losers last month were Gloria Bowman in first place and Ken Pinyard in second. Great job! Watching your success helps us all. So come and join the successful losers at T.O.P.S. #WA 1325, Lakebay.

—By Mary Nelson

### Middle school students wanted for dance night

Middle school students, join your friends for a fun night that include snacks, KUBE 93 DJ, basketball, karaoke and games including Velcro wall and sumo wrestling suits. Sponsored by the Peninsula Recreation Program, the April 9 dance is hosted by the Key Peninsula Middle School from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Cover charge is \$5, and you must be a student from the local middle schools (bring your ASB card). Students who check in will not be allowed to leave before 9 p.m. unless a parent is called and picks them up.

Jackets, purses and backpacks will not be allowed, and school district clothing guidelines must be followed. Call 858-5524.

### RLS Foundation seeks to form local support group

The RLS (Restless Leg Syndrome) Foundation would like to set up a support group in this area if there are 10-12 people interested. There could be 1,500 residents of the Key Peninsula with some form of RLS if the national average of 10 percent applies here. You are also invited to come to a meeting of the Tacoma Area RLS Support Group on Saturday, April 10, from 1:00 to 2:30 pm at the Lakewood Library. For information or questions, call Marian at 253-582-1069 or Marty Marcus at 884-2213. If you need a ride, call Marty.

### Easter family fun on KP



#### Civic Center

The Key Peninsula Civic Center and Boy Scout Troop 220 will hold the annual Easter Egg hunt for residents of the Key Peninsula on Saturday, April 10, at noon at the Civic Center.

The Easter Bunny will hand out candy and treats, and a giant blow-up bunny will be on display for family pictures. Plus, there will be special Easter baskets for children who find the specially stuffed Easter eggs.

The annual event is sponsored by the Peninsula Civic Center and organized by

## From Pioneer Stock Helen Wolniewicz

By Colleen Slater  
KP News

"You have a fine son," the doctor told the woman, "but the girl isn't too good."

Helen Wolniewicz was the girl, twin to Harmon Van Slyke. They celebrated 85th birthdays on Valentine's Day.

Growing up in Vaughn, a stone's throw from where she now lives, Helen and Harmon picked huckleberries to sell at 10 cents per pound. They also picked blackberries until they heard Harriman's boat start up. They'd hurry to the dock with their fresh produce.

Grandma Van Slyke paid them a nickel a bag of bark for her heating stove.

They paid 15 cents each to see movies at the Vaughn Library Hall. Hector Kavario always announced he had "the latest production from Hollywood!"

The twins cleaned up after Amaranth meetings in the Hall. Harm swept and Helen washed dishes, heating the dishpan on the wood stove.

Before she married, Helen was church janitor for a while, earning 25 cents per Sunday. One job was carrying in wood for the pot-bellied stove.

Sunday School picnics and Girl Scout campouts were held at Twanoh State Park. On one occasion Helen sliced the tip of her finger while cutting kindling. The leader quickly boiled salt water, Helen stuck her finger in and fainted. A second time, another faint. The leader fussed, but Helen said if she had to do it again, she'd faint again, so that ended that.

She cleaned upstairs while sister Martha did the downstairs. One day, as Helen sat reading near the stove pipe that went through the floor, she heard Martha say, "Mama, Helen's not doing



Photo courtesy of Helen Wolniewicz

Twins Harmon Van Slyke and Helen Wolniewicz at their 84th birthday on Feb. 14, 2003.

any work. She's upstairs reading those old books!" She's still an avid reader.

Helen once swam across the bay from their home, "just to show I could do it."

They usually swam at Sunshine Beach, but if the tide was out, they went to Carney Lake.

She participated in school sports, and was called "Flea" because she was small until her sophomore year.

The school tennis court was the meeting place for young people in summer. When it became too dark to play, they moved to the Vaughn sandspit for a bonfire, wiener and marshmallow roasting.

Helen's mother sang in church choir and at funerals, her father played fiddle, Martha piano, and Harmon the trumpet. Both siblings sang, but Helen claims she's not the least bit musical.

Helen and Harmon's Class of '37 was first to graduate from the new high school gym. Don Wolniewicz, who dropped out for a year to help his parents, graduated with them.

Don and Helen married the following year and moved to Tacoma. Their "summer shack" at Vaughn was the old Davidson boat shed. Originally her grandfather's property, Helen's dad bought back the land where some of his descendants now live, including Helen and Harmon.

Son Gerry added a bedroom and a bathroom while he lived in the shack. When Don retired in 1975, and said he'd

rather look at water than a hedge, they returned to Vaughn, adding a second bedroom and a garage.

Helen commuted to Tacoma Medical Lab until retiring at 62. Not wishing to sit around the home, she soon had a job at Camp Colman as "handy girl" for a couple of months each spring and fall. Food Manager Katha Neal made superior French bread, which Helen loved, and once she was blamed for taking a piece while it was cooling. Manager Bob Neal later admitted to the crime.

Helen also filled retirement with membership in the Key Peninsula Senior Society, Cootiettes, garden and sportsmen's clubs, and continues to participate in them.

Except for measles and a few aspirin, "I hadn't been sick a day in my life, and hadn't taken any pills" until her heart attack at age 63. So the girl who wasn't "too good" on her start in life proved she's made out just fine.

**"I hadn't been sick a day  
in my life, and hadn't  
taken any pills."**

**-Helen Wolniewicz**



### InStep Dance

Always wanted to learn how to  
dance? Now is your chance.  
InStep Dance is offering dance lessons at  
KPC C Thursday evenings, April 8 - May 13

**6:30 p.m. Rumba, Thursdays**

**\$45 per person per 6-week class session**

*Drop-ins are encouraged.*  
Cost is \$10 per person per class.

**Partners not required**

For information contact Doug Henry,  
884-9236 or KPC C, 884-3456.

## Featured Property of the Month



Gorgeous 290' of no bank waterfront on Bay Lake with 4+ acres. Paved dead end road going in affords a very private setting. Enough clearing to allow spectacular view of the lake yet enough trees for privacy. Enjoy year round living or a summer retreat with eagle watching, boating, fishing, swimming and water-skiing. \$105,000. MLS23021431

*Together We Can Make It Happen!*


**BOB &  
BREEZI**  
 (253) 732-8970  
 bobandbreezi@harbormet.com



## Brookside Veterinary Hospital



### Lisa Woods, DVM

Practice Limited to Small animals,  
Exotics, and Small Ruminants

## (253) 857-7302

MON, TUES, THURS, FRI 8:00 AM - 5:30 PM  
WED 8 AM - NOON, with extended evening hrs 4:30 - 8:00 PM  
SAT 8 AM - NOON Please Call for Appt

**13701 118th AVE NW**  
(1/2 MI West of Purdy Bridge)  
(Around the Corner from Old Location)




**SENIOR  
DISCOUNT**

# Sustainable living on the Key Peninsula

## Making bio-diesel and wind generators

By Karen Hale  
KP News

*Editor's note: This is part 2 in a series highlighting sustainable living and tips from Key Pen resident Ed Bressette.*

Everyone who read about Ed Bressette (see *KP News*, March 2004), now knows he is a man willing to take the time to create ways to live sustainably. This includes taking time to read through the *Little Nickel* for parts for systems as well as, at times, entire systems. Bressette actually bought an entire water system in the box that way, unused. Some might call it "scrounging," but it sure beats paying new prices.

### Bio-diesel

One of Bressette's biggest accomplishments is making bio-diesel, actual diesel gas that can be used in motorized vehicles designed to run on it. Believe it or not, combining cooking oil with methanol and lye makes bio-diesel. Bressette gets a lot of his cooking oil from Lulu's Homeport restaurant and Dexter's in Purdy, or other companies and co-ops off the Peninsula.

Bressette first tried batches in his home blender. Then he progressed to a 5-gallon bucket. Things went so well he kept going and made a tank with a trolling motor for internal stirring in his yard that holds 60 liquid gallons, connected to a storage tank. It has a filtration system and flows into a gas pump. He currently runs his diesel tractor on it, but needs to buy a diesel car! His friends from the Northwest Solar Group come and gas up all the time.

There are many steps to this process that include multiple filterings of byproduct, which mostly happens to be glycerin. This glycerin can be retained and cut into bars for pure glycerin soap, but it comes out



Photo by Rodika Tollefson

Ed Bressette's bio-diesel pump.

dark brown — not very attractive. They would love to sell the soaps, but everyone thinks they are ugly and won't buy.

Another step is knowing length of time for the cooking process and watching for any mechanical failures (hasn't happened yet). It seems to be a complicated process, but when Bressette describes it, it sounds like anyone can do it. The main thing to keep in mind is the amount of chemicals, stirring, time and filtration.

Don't try this at home! Bressette has made sure to inform anyone who asks for information regarding any of his projects before attempting anything alone for the first time. It is truly dangerous in many cases, as you are working with electricity, chemical compounds of many types and heavy parts. There are so many ways to get

hurt, it's too long to list here, but you can call Bressette with any questions, including about the next meeting of the Northwest Solar Group. They love to inform and pass on knowledge, but stress safety above all.

### Wind generators

Another favorite project of Bressette's is his wind generator. There are many different types, but to have an effective one, you need to know the conditions of your area. Bressette checked online and many other sources to determine the actual wind speed average on any given day —not just Washington wind, but Peninsula wind. The contours of the land account for a lot of the various conditions. Bressette has determined that in our area, the average wind speed is only 1 mph! The major variable to that is the fact that most of our wind comes at two times of the year— spring and fall.

This information is not to be found in the national records, either. Bressette now has a wireless weather monitor (can be obtained at Target stores) at home where he can check the conditions at any given time. He was very excited on March 5 at 3:55 p.m. when he discovered his maximum wind speed that day was 11 mph. This is great for charging up the batteries quickly. Bressette also has a wind gauge at the generator so he can calculate the wind speed and how much power was produced at that current speed.

Because of the low wind speeds here, the best type of wind generator to erect is a multi-blade type. The more blades, the better chance you have of catching maximum wind. At a 1 mph average, you need a lot of blades for any feeble movement at all. The more blades you have, the more torque you get and the more power you generate.

The process basically is this: The blades turn in the wind, which creates energy that

is run through the wires to the batteries. The more batteries you have, the more power you can store. (Bressette is currently making an off-building to house the batteries he has and will be adding more.) The batteries charge and store power. They run their power in DC (there are some wind generators that come as AC running units, but most are DC) and are wired to an inverter that then converts the power to AC for use in the home and elsewhere.

Bressette feels the best source of information for any home projects is [www.homepower.com](http://www.homepower.com). It has links to everything you can think of for sustainable projects as well as events in your community.

The Northwest Solar Group is now officially a nonprofit organization and can more quickly designate projects and educational demonstrations as well as printing periodicals —one of their dreams. They believe that the periodicals are the most important part of what they do educationally because they can take people safely through the process of their project from beginning to end: Uninformed experimentation leads to avoidable accidents.

### Find out more

Information about the Northwest Solar Group, including meeting details and upcoming events, is available at [www.nwsolargroup.com](http://www.nwsolargroup.com). The group will have a booth at a community fair at PLU on Saturday, April 3, and will demonstrate how to make batch hot water. With questions, contact Ed Bressette at 884-6225 or [skyenergy1@netzero.net](mailto:skyenergy1@netzero.net).

To learn about making bio-diesel, Bressette recommends the book "From the Fryer to the Fuel Tank, The Complete Guide to Using Vegetable Oil as an Alternative Fuel" by Joshua Tickell.

**"We beat Costco, Wal-Mart & Walgreens!"**

**Purdy**

**COST LESS**

Prescriptions

**"We will beat any competitors price."**

14218 92nd Ave., NW Gig Harbor, WA 98329

**(253) 857-7797**

Call for a price quote.

LOCAL FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED

IF WE DON'T HAVE IT, WE'LL FIND IT!

**GIG HARBOR**

MOTORSPORTS

(FORMERLY MALICH MOTORS)

3818 GRANDVIEW ST.

NO NEED TO CROSS THE BRIDGE - QUALITY PRE-OWNED VEHICLES RIGHT HERE IN THE HARBOR!

**851-8599**

# KP Senior Society: Having a jolly good time

By Colleen Slater  
KP News

Thursday is a special day for many senior citizens around the Peninsula. Members of the Key Peninsula Senior Society and guests gather at the Key Peninsula Civic Center for their weekly potluck, socializing and game playing.

The group originated in 1979 and 10 years later had 100 members. Currently, they average 25 to 27 in attendance.

Virginia Adkisson, who has been a member for 20 years, lives in Silverdale. Her grandfather was the first and only druggist in Vaughn in the early days of the community.

Rose Malmgren, secretary, claims that this group is the best way for retired people to get acquainted in the community. She and husband Walt started coming shortly after moving to the area and soon made friends and found out more about the area. Helen Wolniewicz was elected president in 1986, within a year of her retirement and joining the organization.

A business meeting is held once each



Photo by Colleen Slater

Clockwise from left, Lou and Bob Mauk, Victor and Arminda Doggett are playing "I Buy" Rummy.

month, and run by Robert's Rules of Order, Malmgren notes. Meetings begin with the flag salute, and business includes noting birthdays, attendance and fund-raising.

A monthly party is held with the organization funding meat or main

dish, coffee, napkins and decorations. Chuck Williamson has been chief cook for about 12 years, and Jim Blundell is chief dishwasher.

This year, the usual plant sale will not be held, but president Adkisson is asking for items to be added to her garage

## Join the Senior Society

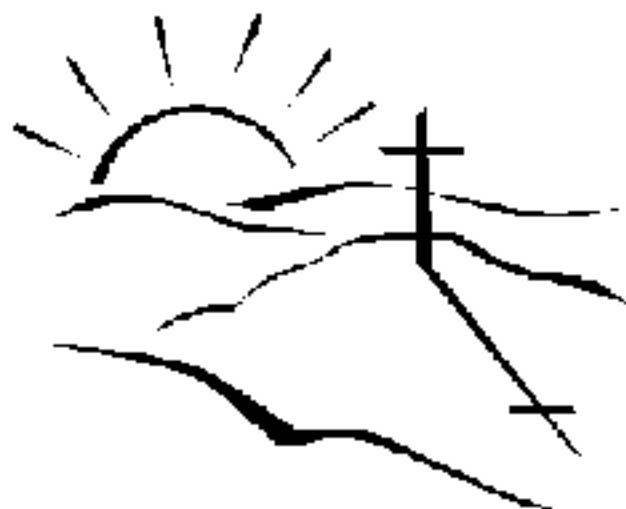
If you are a senior citizen and like food, fellowship, games and humor, or would like to make new friends, the KP Senior Society invites you to join in. Join them every Thursday at noon at the Civic Center for lunch and stay for a game of cards. Rose Malmgren is the contact person at 884-5052.

sale. Members contribute a 25-cent donation each week for coffee, etc.

The group contributes to Community House regularly and subscribes to copies of Senior Scene, which are available at their weekly gatherings.

Jim Nolan, longtime historian and publicity chairman who died in March, is greatly missed and will not be easily replaced.

Some members stay until 4 p.m. on Thursdays to play cards. Although a cribbage board and backgammon are available to the group, the usual game players are for Bridge, Pinochle, and Shanghai Rummy.



## 40 Days of Purpose Begins Sunday, April 25

You are not an accident! You were created by God for a purpose, and until you understand them, life will not make sense. Join us as we begin this Spiritual Journey at our 10:30 am Worship Service.

## We Welcome YOU for Holy Week at Lakebay Community Church

An Evangelical Covenant Church

11 Comwa Road KPS Lakebay 253 984 3899  
(1 Mile South of the Home Bridge)

### April 4 - Palm Sunday

- Sunday School at 9:00 am
- Gathering (Worship in songs and praise) at 10:00 am
- Worship Service at 10:30 am

### April 8 - Maundy Thursday

- Seder Service with Communion at 6:30 pm

### April 9 - Good Friday

- Prayer Vigil with Stations. From 7 am until 7 pm the church will be open for your quiet meditation.

### April 11 - EASTER Sunday

- Sunrise Service 7:30 am at Fenrose Point State Park. Meet on the beach at the Day/Plenic Area. Your parking fee will be paid by the church. Sunrise Service will be held at the church if it is raining.
- Gathering (Worship in songs and praise) at 10:00 am
- Worship Service at 10:30 am

## Obituary

### Ruby Elizabeth Wegner Hatch

Ruby Elizabeth Wegner Hatch, resident of Home since 1946, died Feb. 12, 2004.

She was born in 1913 in Oklahoma and due to her father's military service, moved often, as far away as Panama and the Philippines. She graduated from Pt. Townsend High School in 1926.

While working as a waitress in Seattle, Ruby met her future husband, Robert.

During World War II she worked for Boeing and was the first woman yard master in the Seattle train yards. When Bob returned from the war, they traveled extensively in Mexico before settling in Home. They were married 54 years when Bob passed away in 1997.

Ruby was one of the original members of Bayshore Garden Club, remaining active until her death. She loved flower arrang-



HATCH

ing, gardening and sharing her plants with countless friends. She especially enjoyed participating in the Capitol District Garden Club's activities and flower shows over many decades. Ruby attended Lakebay Community Church since 1952 and regularly drove many children to Sunday School. Her faith was an encouragement to those who knew her.

She was an avid supporter of reading with children, starting her own story time for preschoolers in the 1950s, being one of the original parent volunteers at Evergreen Elementary, the first instructional assistant

there, and continued volunteering until last year. Ruby supported the Evergreen Encouragement Scholarship Fund to help local graduates attend college.

Family members include sister Edie and husband Ken Bushnell, of Gig Harbor; daughters Rebecca Robert and Roberta Hooker with husband Jerry; grandchildren and great-grandchildren; and best friend of 56 years, Edith Pinder of Home.

Ruby's life was celebrated Feb. 28 at the Longbranch Improvement Club. An art display in her honor will be at the Kimball Gallery in Gig Harbor beginning May 24.

**BASEBALL IS HERE  
GET READY**



**BRETT BOONE FROST**  
**\$20.00** INCLUDES HAIRCUT  
Expires April 30, 2004  
See Deanne Sun 11-4, Mon 12-7  
Jim available for haircuts T-F 9-6, Sat 11-4  
**Gentleman Jim & Friends**  
Purdy Shopping Center  
**857-5064**  
Call for appointment

**Patch Wall Co**  
Greg Storzzyk - Owner/Operator  
DRYWALL FINISHING & REPAIRS  
253 381-4060 • 253 851-6117  
Need Help With  
A Drywall Project?  
Crack & Water Damage Repairs  
Specialty Textures  
Acoustic (Popcorn) Removal  
Hanging • Finishing • Priming • Texturing  
LICENSED • BONDED • INSURED • LOCAL  
6 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE • SERVING PUBLIC AND CONTRACTORS

**J SOWARDS**  
**CONSTRUCTION**  
New Construction • Additions/Remodels  
Excavating  
Stump Removal • Utility Trenching • Site Prep  
**253 884-5355 • 206 669-6605**  
LICENSED BONDED INSURED

**PURDY COOPERATIVE PRESCHOOL**  
*Encouraging Young Children and Their Parents to Learn and Grow*



*Now Enrolling:*  
Ages 2-3 Tuesdays 12:30-2:00  
Ages 3-5 Tue & Thur 9-11:30  
Ages 3-5 Mon, Wed & Fri 9-11:30

Call 253.620.4420 to leave a message and reserve your space.

**Serenity Salon**  
**& Consignment Boutique**  
1 Year Anniversary Special  
**25% off**  
All Hair Services & Massage  
Coupon required Offer Ends April 30th.  
11816 SR 302 Key Peninsula Hwy.  
253-851-0009



**Discover Our "Personal" Touch For Pain**

Auto Accidents  
Personal & Work Injuries  
Serving the Key Peninsula  
For Over 23 Years



We Are Open 24/7 For  
Emergencies. We're Here  
When You Need Us Anytime,  
Day or Night!

Dr. Robert B. Campbell, D.C.  
5110 Lacleay Rd. KPN, Vaughn, WA

Call Today 864-2144 For A Free Preliminary Exam and Free Massage for all new patients.  
Christy G. Campbell, LMP Speciality in Injury Treatment, Myofascial Release, Swedish Relaxation,  
Trigger Point Therapy Deep Tissue Massage

Gift Certificates Available

**Nails by Nicole**  
*The Look of Elegance*

Specializing in Pink and White Acrylic Nails  
Fills, Backfills, Gel Nails  
Manicures, Pedicures, and Waxing

1 Year Anniversary  
25% off any service Offer expires 4/30/04.  
Located in Serenity Salon 11816 SR 302 Key Peninsula 253-851-0009



(From **PARKS**, Page 1)

needed to carry out a variety of improvements and programs.

Salatino suggested during a previous conversation with KP News that the MPD would "...provide us with perpetual funding from existing tax revenues already being paid to the county to fund zoo/trek," and the MPD formation committee has maintained that the creation of the district would not raise taxes but simply "recapture sales tax you already pay." However, should residents vote to approve the new district, they will be creating a board that will have the power to impose levies every year without the taxpayers' approval—essentially casting a vote to potentially authorize new taxes.

### Zoo/trek sales tax

From the start, the Key Peninsula Metropolitan Park Formation Committee, led by Chairman Ben Thompson, and with encouragement from the Key Peninsula Parks and Recreation District led by Salatino, have maintained that an MPD would not only provide a stable source of funding but also relieve the Peninsula's taxpayers of the need to pass special levies like the one voters rejected by a narrow margin last September. That notion is based on the fact that an MPD would stand to share in the revenues produced by a county sales tax that is already being collected. "What happens with sales tax for zoos and parks is that one half of the money goes to accredited zoos and parks, and most of the other half goes to parks and recreation, depending on the population a particular area has," said Byron Olson, director of management and budget for the city of Tacoma's MPD. "For example, Tacoma gets about two-sevenths of that, because we have about two-sevenths of the population." Tacoma, in fact, had one of the few MPDs in the state until the Legislature authorized in 2002 for unincorporated areas to form such districts.

However, when asked whether income from the zoo/trek tax was likely to fluctuate with the economy, Olson said, "You bet! You try and forecast as best you can. You work with folks to create an economic forecast based on past history. It fluctuates by year and by month."

That means that a newly formed MPD's yearly anticipated revenue of \$100,000 would largely depend on how well the economy is doing—although on the flip side, an increase in sales tax revenue would potentially increase that income accordingly. The good news is for the time being the economy forecast looks good, according to officials from the county's budget

department, who say they don't anticipate sales tax revenue to be changing dramatically in the near future.

Those who favor creation of an MPD have repeatedly declined to discuss any potential budget that would show what the \$100,000 would pay for (see a budget scenario devised by KP News, related story, "How far could MPD stretch \$100,000?" on p. 23). The committee would only say that it would be up to the newly elected commissioners to decide how such funds would be spent. The new commissioners would be elected concurrently with the creation of the MPD itself—the second part of the ballot will have candidates' names, with the five with the most votes comprising the new board.

### 'No new taxes'?

Another aspect not widely disclosed—until KP News began pressing the committee for answers in February—was the fact that under state law (RCW 35.61.210), the duly elected members of a Metropolitan Park Board would have the power to raise taxes up to 75-cents per-year per \$1,000 worth of assessed property, in addition to the theoretical \$100,000 from the zoo/trek tax, and without specific approval from local taxpayers.

There are limits set by a formula, however, which would currently hold such increases to a maximum of 25 cents per \$1,000 of assessed property value, based on 2004 levy figures. Those limits would change once again in 2005, as each senior taxing district resubmits yearly levy figures. In contrast, taxpayers would have paid only 10 cents per \$1,000 of assessed property values had they approved the KPPRD levy last fall. The MPD board will also have the authority to issue bonds against the levy income without voter approval.

"You have to be careful with how much information you feed to the public," Thompson said in early March in explanation to why the levy authority was not being discussed in promotional literature and public meetings so far. "Just the name is confusing, the very concept is confusing...We're trying to get a message across to the populace and if you make it too complicated, they will not absorb it."

Thompson contended that he didn't think the possibility of new taxes would make the issue more negative—and that "there aren't going to be new taxes as a direct result of the creation of the district." "The information is available to anyone who wants to research it, I certainly don't advocate withholding information," he said.

But this "need to know" approach has left some tentative supporters with unanswered questions. Kym Carpenter, treasurer

### Frugal operation scenario

Wages & benefits <sup>1</sup>	\$32,000
Utilities <sup>1</sup>	\$9,720
Operating supplies <sup>1</sup>	\$7,500
Repairs & maintenance <sup>2</sup>	\$8,645
Insurance <sup>1</sup>	\$3,000
Professional services <sup>1</sup>	\$3,200
Communications <sup>1</sup>	\$500
Miscellaneous <sup>1</sup>	\$6,000
Mower repairs <sup>2</sup>	\$2,000
Elections <sup>3</sup>	\$8,000
Commissioner salaries <sup>4</sup>	\$8,400
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$88,965</b>



### Middle of the road scenario

Wages & benefits <sup>1</sup>	\$32,000
Utilities <sup>1</sup>	\$9,720
Operating supplies <sup>1</sup>	\$7,500
Repairs & maintenance <sup>1</sup>	\$8,645
Insurance <sup>1</sup>	\$3,000
Professional services <sup>1</sup>	\$3,200
Communications <sup>1</sup>	\$500
Miscellaneous <sup>1</sup>	\$6,000
Mower repairs <sup>2</sup>	\$2,000
Elections <sup>3</sup>	\$8,000
Commissioner salaries <sup>4</sup>	\$8,400
Professional manager <sup>5</sup>	\$25,000
Field fertilization <sup>6</sup>	\$3,000
Restroom remodel <sup>2</sup>	\$3,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$120,465</b>

<sup>1</sup> Based on budget figures from the 2003 levy proposal

<sup>2</sup> Based on additional budget items from the 2003 Levy proposal; budget items including a variety of repairs totaled more than \$68,000

<sup>3</sup> Average estimate; cost would incur only during commissioner election or levy/bond proposal as well as for formation election itself.

<sup>4</sup> Based on meeting/work days per month @\$70/day for each commissioner; Commissioners could each receive up to \$6,720/year for a total of \$33,600 (commissioner pay is not mandatory)

<sup>5</sup> Gross approximation based on half-time contract @\$18/hour plus benefits.

<sup>6</sup> Currently not performed but recommended for field performance

Potential budget scenarios compiled by Key Peninsula News (to be used for illustration purposes only and not intended for official MPD use).

er of the local adult softball league, said the league was concerned with not knowing how commissioners will spend the money and whether all the parks would be treated fairly. The softball league together with other Key Pen Sports Center users form the only source of revenue for the park board currently. The MPD committee is relying on these user groups to help generate "yes" votes.

"In my opinion, everything we're doing is for the good of the community and they need to be more upfront," Carpenter said. "My concern is that in a couple of years down the road they will come back with a levy, and people will not like that because they are being told there will not be new taxes."

The fact that an MPD board would be authorized to impose a levy within a few months, without any voter approval, was news to Carpenter. But even with the potential \$100,000—a windfall compared with the current district's projected \$20,000 income—and with the potential additional 75 cent levy, the MPD could come up short and have to ask voters for more. That's because as a junior taxing district, the MPD "would only get the crumbs from the bottom of the pile," in the words of County Assessor-Treasurer Ken Madsen, in a complex formula that sets the limit for all local district levies at \$5.90 per year with

limited allowed increase to the aggregate amount per year (that lid can be "lifted" through the regular voter election process for additional levies or bonds). "It would give them (the MPD) the lowest priority," when it comes to levy assessment, Madsen said.

What that means is other districts—such as fire, library, county roads and county "existing projects"—get first priority on annual levy amounts, based on their individual limit, and all junior districts such as MPDs created after 2002 would be prorated first—which is why currently only 25 cents of the 75 would be available to an MPD before the \$5.90 limit is met.

"The only reason there is any money left for the metropolitan park district is because of the other levies that are not at their maximum amount," said Mae Shepard-Smith with the county's levy office.

Although the MPD formation committee insists there are no immediate taxes to be created and that they are not going after the "17 cents" (the figure used in original discussions and by other media instead of the correct 25 cent), the decision would be made by the new board, not them. In Gig Harbor, a group going through a similar process, in fact, is banking mostly on

(See **PARKS**, Page 23)

# How far could \$100,000 be stretched?

By William C. Dietz and Rodika Tollefson  
KP News

The zoo/trek tax that would be funneled to Key Pen parks, estimated at \$100,000 annually, would bring in a healthy amount of money to allow a local park district function comfortably. It's five times more than the current estimated income from user fees, and about double what last year's failed levy would have brought per year. However, no budget or any suggested direction was being discussed for using that money, as the organizing committee and the current commissioners note that it would be up to the newly elected board to make decisions.

To see how far the tax can be stretched, the Key Peninsula News created a mock budget to reflect a couple of scenarios (see table, p.22). The scenarios are based on the needs the current board identified when it went to the public for money last September, and estimates of the additional costs that would be generated by an MPD. Two things become apparent: The theoretical \$100,000 could be gone very quickly, and while it would capture money already paid by Key Peninsula residents through taxes but used for parks elsewhere, it would also likely cost voters more money, just like a KPPRD levy would have.

"Whenever you are a separate political entity, the county can't do things for free anymore," said Byron Olson, director of management and budget for the city of Tacoma's MPD. "You need to buy insurance, hire an attorney, hire staff, pay for audits, and run elections. So there's a whole bunch of things that are going to cost money."

There are a variety of variables in any anticipated scenario—based on whether the new commissioners will vote themselves a salary, whether they will accept to take over existing county-owned KP parks (Purdy Spit and the Herron Point boat launch), and whether they will propose to hire additional staff such as a professional park manager that had been widely advocated last year by some KPPRD commissioners. And the Purdy Spit Park, though it doesn't cost much to maintain currently, could incur big expenses down the road should the Old Wauna post office building be restored or even demolished.

Although the MPD doesn't have to take over county-owned parks on the Peninsula, the county's expectation is that it will—because the money that the county would receive would now be channeled out of its own income and into the KP district. "The money would normally go to Pierce

County for unincorporated areas," said Councilman Terry Lee. "The county is fine with that because they expect those districts will take over county-owned parks in their areas." Jan Wolcott, director of Pierce County Parks and Recreation, said while the KPMPD would not have to accept the properties, "it seems the justification to become a park district is for local governance—perhaps the local district could do a better job than the county is doing" with those parks, especially "if they are serious about becoming a metro park district."

With basic costs of running the current district at about \$70,000 and another \$60,000 worth of maintenance and improvements the current parks could use (based on figures given to voters during last levy campaign, see graphic), and with the potential added costs of being essentially an incorporated district—it becomes clear why some residents are concerned whether the money would be fairly spent.

The MPD could attract grants and issue bonds—but some grants, such as the Real Estate Excess Tax (REET) that could give KP up to \$150,000 have to be matched—which means if the MPD decides to apply for a \$60,000 REET grant, \$30,000 would need to be matched, likely from the \$100,000 coming in, leaving that much less to spend on operations because the REET grant would be park-specific. Same with the bond, unless the board wants to go to voters for approval (which would increase taxes), they could bond against income—but that means the bond must be paid back out of that same income, reducing the \$100,000 once again.

That suggests that the newly elected board would likely exercise its authority to raise taxes in order to make the needed improvements. If the board authorized the full 25-cents currently available to them, the district would bring in \$299,585 (based on 2004 data) in additional revenue. That would be good news for the parks and the citizens who use them. However, the bad news is that under the terms of this hypothetical example, a family with a house valued at \$200,000 would see their property taxes increase by \$50 per year. A figure that is more than twice the 10 cents per 1,000, or \$20 per year (on a \$200,000 home) that voters rejected last fall.

Olson said this about oversight: "It's just the same as the county, city, or a fire district. The state auditor comes in and audits the entity. So if things were really out of hand, the state would eventually come in, but if voters don't like what's going on then it's up to them to bring new people in."

(From PARKS, Page 22)

that levy to fund a proposed Gig Harbor Metropolitan Park District. And, based on their population count, the zoo/trek tax would bring in \$200,000 a year, with about triple that from the levy based on the current capacity. "In our view, there is money available now and it doesn't make sense not to (collect it)," said Eric Guenther, one of the organizers of the Gig Harbor MPD. "The levy rate is what's on the table...but it's all fluid and will be all decided by the elected board."

## 'Commissioners are key'

Levy or not, Carpenter is uneasy about voting for a sort of an open concept—a district that would receive money, yet no one knows how it will be spent and what parks will be favored until new members are elected. She is one of several residents who express that concern. Which is why, Thomspon said, the new commissioners are the key. Not only would the commissioners have the authority to vote themselves an annual salary of up to \$6,720 but it would also be their responsibility to choose which projects and parks would get the money. That includes the possibility of future parks, including the Purdy Spit, currently owned by the county, but which would be offered to the MPD. If the MPD accepted the ownership of the park, it will wind up deciding the fate of the sometimes-controversial Wauna Post Office historic building.

Pierce County Councilman Terry Lee supports the MPD proposal, and planned to promote it extensively. "Without any money, you don't have much muscle—this will give them the muscle to finance their dreams... and will peel off the reliance on Pierce County and become independent," he said. "I have high hopes the (new) park district commissioners will fairly represent the community." In March, the Pierce County Council approved a resolution to call for an election on the proposed MPD, effectively making the election official.

Tacoma's Olson, who works with MPD

## Key Pen News Forum

The Key Peninsula News, working directly with Councilman Terry Lee and the Pierce County Council, plans to co-host a candidate's forum at the Civic Center tentatively scheduled for May 11 at 6:30 p.m. Details are being worked out and will be published in the May issue. The public will be invited to participate and to ask MPD board candidates questions. Filing period estimated to be April 5-9; call the county at 798-7427.

## Needed Park Improvements

Water Line Extension	\$825.00
Foul Ball Protection	\$4,200.00
Restroom Remodel	\$3,500.00
New Water System	\$20,117.00
Replace Tractor	\$12,500.00
Replace Fencing	\$6,000.00
Mower Repairs	\$2,000.00
Facility Repairs	\$1,200.00
Infield Prep Attachment	\$1,545.00
Rocky Creek Shelter	\$4,500.00
Home Park Shelter	\$4,500.00
	<b>\$60,887.00</b>



Park improvements needed, based on figures presented to voters during the 2003 KPPRD levy campaign.

related issues every day, said while the district has many advantages, creating it "isn't the perfect answer to anything."

"It's not like it's free money," he said. "Once you create one, taxes will go up. Folks need to really understand what they will pay and what services they will receive. It's important to make sure that you don't create false expectations."

Thompson, Salatino and other committee members maintain that without the MPD the future of the Key Peninsula Park is up in the air, and the Sports Center gates may have to be locked come summertime.

"What will Little League and adult organizations do this summer?" Thompson said. "We are offering a dependable method of financing for the foreseeable future. Will it be enough to do everything we want done on the Key Peninsula? No. Will it ever be enough? No. Will it be adequate? Yes. I think we'll have a solvent district. Could it be abused? Yes. You avoid abuse by careful selection of representatives...I think this community will see the benefits and recognize the risks, and they will vote for it."

Based on the crowded committee meetings so far and the outpouring of support, the community indeed sees the benefit. And all that's needed is for a simple majority of those who vote on May 18 to say yes.

But even more important on whether or not the community votes is what comes next—should the metro district be created, the only way for it to be successful is through continued public scrutiny and participation. It would be up to the citizens to elect a well-rounded, well-qualified board that is committed to represent all interests and groups—and up to these same citizens to make sure the elected representatives deliver on their promises.

# COLORS OF SPRING AT SUNNYCREST

Flowering Trees, Shrubs, Perennials and Annuals ...

**COME SEE IT ALL!**

## Clematis - The Queen of Vines

Spring thru Summer Color  
Budded & Blooming

1 gal **\$9.99** reg. \$12.99

Over 20 varieties

Other colorful Vines  
for your garden

- Wisteria
- Honeysuckle
- Passion Vine

## Summer Annuals

- Geraniums
- Petunias
- Marigolds

We will be offering many other new and unusual annuals for your summer containers.

## Garden Veggies

Time to plant from seed or from our redi to plant packs. Tomatoes and other warmth needed veggies arrive mid-April.

## ROSES • AMERICA'S FAVORITE FLOWER

Over 500 Potted Roses arriving  
1st week in April

ALL TIME FAVORITES PLUS  
SEVERAL NEW VARIETIES &  
HARDY ROSES ON OWN  
ROOTSTOCK  
2 GALLON - \$14.99 and up



## EASTER DELIGHTS

for Sunday, April 11th  
From Our Floral Dept ...

- EASTER CENTERPIECES, BASKETS, SPRING BOUQUETS
  - POTS OF EASTER LILIES, TULIPS, DAFFODILS
  - BASKETS BRIMMING WITH PANSIES & PERENNIALS
- CARDS • BALLOONS • GIFTS
- We deliver Key Peninsula & Gig Harbor  
Prompt Delivery Worldwide

## ORGANIC GARDENING SUPPLIES AVAILABLE

- SOILS • SEEDS
- INSECTICIDES
- FERTILIZERS

and yes  
ALTERNATIVES TO  
HERBICIDES

Ask our expert staff what will  
work best for you!



## CLIP, SAVE & WIN

RECEIVE 10% OFF & ENTER TO WIN  
BASKET FILLED WITH PLANTS & GARDEN SUPPLIES  
10% OFF OF ONE TIME PURCHASE • DRAWING HELD  
SATURDAY - APRIL 10TH - 4 P.M.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

COUPON



LOCATED IN KEY CENTER • OPEN EVERY DAY

884-3937

Mon. - Sat. 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

Sunday 11 a.m.-4 p.m.







Photo by Hugh McMillan

Mark Runyan on keyboard, Tom Hume on stringed bass, Ed Seymour with woodwinds, and vocalist Lorraine Hart made the Civic Center come alive with their jazz music at the Spring Fling.

## Arts group dazzles at Spring Fling

By Hugh McMillan  
KP News

The Whitmore room at the Key Peninsula Civic Center glittered with fine art at the second annual Two Waters Arts Alliance' Spring Fling in March. It was a class event with appropriately subdued lighting, impressive displays of water colors and silk painting by Bev Pedersen, plein air painting by Kurt Solmssen, jewelry by Janet Buday, fired glass art by Brynn Rydel, photography by Margo MacDonald, gourd art by Kristen Bottiger and Nancy Howard, sculpting by Tip Toland, and a plethora of other exquisite offerings by serious creators of fine art. All this and tastefully prepared canopies to the accompaniment of subtle soft jazz and blues by Mark Runyan on keyboard, Tom Hume, stringed bass, Ed Seymour, woodwinds, and the top notch vocals of Lorraine Hart made for an evening you should not have missed.

Two Waters, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, has sponsored classes and events to appeal to all ages: the Tacoma Youth Symphony concert series at Evergreen and Minter Elementary schools serving over 1,000 children; Artists in Schools, a collaborative program with the Peninsula School District bringing artists into local classrooms; and various classes including pottery, drumming, felting, Chinese brush painting, beginning and intermediate drawing, tapestry, photography, sculpting,

sumi painting, oil painting and more.

Scholarships are given to those in need. The group offers monthly life drawing, acoustic jam sessions, and a writers group; holds a yearly artists' swap meet and sponsors exhibition and sales opportunities for local artists, as well as free public events like a mask-making workshop for children and adults, and hands-on art activities at the annual Key Peninsula Fair.

TWAA President Kathy Bauer says, "Art is fun! It feeds the soul and makes life interesting." She encourages anyone interested in becoming a part of this exciting group to contact her at 884-9172, Lois Ashley at 884-4253 or write to P.O. BOX 868, Vaughn, WA 98394, or email [twowaters@hotmail.com](mailto:twowaters@hotmail.com). See more online at [twowaters.org](http://twowaters.org).

EXPRESSIONS  
MUSIC LESSONS  
857-3788

Specializing in Beginners  
All ages • All Instruments  
Custom Programs  
24 Years Experience  
[www.expressionsmusic.com](http://www.expressionsmusic.com)  
13720 Purely Dr NW Gig Harbor 98532



## 'Work' and fun, all in the same day

About five dozen Key Peninsula Middle School students, joined by their art teacher Janet Buday and several adults, visited the Tacoma Museum of Glass in March. The trip was fun—but work too. Students had to relate their observations during the trip to a variety of subjects they had studied in class. The school bus trip was funded by a donation of \$350 from local resident Barbara Shoos.

Photo by Hugh McMillan

## Water Quality



"Our community depends on us...we depend on Peninsula Light Company's water services."

-Bob Black

Fire Chief, Gig Harbor Fire District 85

Peninsula Light Co.

WATER SERVICES

The power to be...

If you own a private water system, we have the operating and maintenance solutions you need. The long-term cost and liabilities of operating and maintaining a water system can sometimes be overwhelming:

- Regulatory Compliance
- Financing
- Bookkeeping & Billing
- Emergency Response
- Maintenance
- Water Quality Testing

Peninsula Light Water Services can offer some real advantages in terms of resources, efficiency and local accountability to the people that depend on your water system.

(253) 857-5950  
[www.penlight.org](http://www.penlight.org)

## May Day Dance coming soon

The Civic Center will be hosting a May Day Dance on May 1, with Casanova returning for another round of variety dance music. Casanova, James Blade and Diane Powell, are often featured at resorts, hotels and dance clubs.

A true variety dance act, Casanova moves easily between swing, classic rock, country line dance, Latin, Motown, disco, all with irrepressible dance beats (including authentic ballroom styles) and world-class vocals presented with great stage presence. The band's playlist includes more than 300 songs that pay tribute to Frank Sinatra, Elvis Presley, Patsy Cline, Glenn Miller, Louis Armstrong, Santana, Shania Twain, Jerry Lee Lewis, Alan Jackson, Janet Jackson, The Blues Brothers, Bruce Springsteen and many others.



The dance will start at 8 p.m. with the traditional half-hour, free dance lessons by InStep's Doug Henry at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10 per person, and proceeds benefit the Civic Center. For information, call 884-3456.

## LIC features Contra Dance

Special to KP News

Contra Dance, a form of American folk dancing for people of all ages, will be introduced to the Peninsula the first April weekend, Saturday, April 3, at the Longbranch Improvement Club. Tricia Thompson has organized the evening event and hired the "Home Brew" band to introduce the community to this lively, old-time style of dance.

Everyone is welcome, from singles and couples to children. Doors will open at 7:30 for the workshop that is customary at the beginning of Contra Dances, with the dance following from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Since all the dances are taught by the caller in the workshop and before each dance, no experience is needed. The caller for the dances, Matt Temmel, is helping plan the fun evening.

Admission will be \$7 at the door for the alcohol-free, smoke-free evening. The band is a six-piece group with fiddles, banjo, guitar, mandolin and bass. The people organizing the dance think the historic building "with its wonderful ambience is a great venue for music and dance." The proceeds from the event after expenses will go to the Longbranch Improvement Club on Key Peninsula Highway South for the benefit of the building.

Many people ask, "What is Contra Dance?" The closest comparison is square dancing. Following the caller, the dancer and partner dance a series of figures, or moves, with each other and with another couple for a short time. Then they go on to repeat the same figures

with other dancers in a way somewhat similar to old-time square dancing. The dancers form a set of two parallel lines the length of the hall. Each dance consists of a sequence of moves that ends with the couples having progressed up or down the set.

The caller usually teaches each dance before it begins and leads the dancers in the steps until they become familiar with them. The most common type of movement, a simple, smooth walking step, is easy to manage for all ages. Women may dance with women, children with adults or with children, men with men, all in any possible combination and in changing pairs. It has been said that this is a form of dance where by the end of the evening you may have danced with almost everyone present. The music is usually reels or jigs.

Originating as far back as the 17th century in England and called "country dancing," it became popular in France where it was named "contredans." It also became very popular in North America. From the French came the name we have today, Contra Dance. There are groups of enthusiastic dancers organized in many places in the United States and Canada, for example the Hamilton County Dancers in Ontario, Canada, and groups in California. To find more about the dance form and events across the country, see [www.contradancelinks.com](http://www.contradancelinks.com).

In the South Sound area there are contra dances in Tacoma, Port Orchard, Olympia, and Silverdale. The great thing about Contra Dance is that everyone, regardless of age, can have a wonderful time.



## 'Guys and Dolls'



Photos by Hugh McMillan

The Peninsula High School drama class during a dress rehearsal of "Guys and Dolls," a March 26-27 and April 2-3 production involving about 50 performers. The American classic, first performed on Broadway in the 1950s, was staged at PHS in the Milt Boyd Auditorium. Performing arts supervisor and drama teacher Nancy Wilkinson managed the production, which included dance and songs like "Luck be a Lady Tonight," "Guys and Dolls," and "I'll Know."

### Moreland & Sons

(Formerly Black Forest Automotive)

Complete Automotive Service

- Foreign & Domestic
- Custom Exhausts
- Tires



### Moreland & Sons

15317 KPN Hwy,  
Gig Harbor  
(253) 884-3431

AUTO PARTS  
COME SEE OUR NEW STORE!

(253) 884-3307

Expanded inventory of automotive and truck parts.  
Also stocking performance parts and accessories.  
Located in Downtown Key Center



## Did you know? Bits and Pieces?

That interest rates are still at historic lows.....  
5% for a 30 year fixed.  
You can get an adjusted rate mortgage (ARM)  
as low as 2.8%.

That even a quarter point lower interest rate on  
a \$150,000 house can lower your payment  
by \$25.00 per month.

That the average sales price for a 3 bedroom  
home on the Key Peninsula had climbed to  
\$188,000 at the end of February - up from  
\$177,000 at the end of December.

That there are only 117 active listings on the  
Key Peninsula as of March 14, 2004.

That all these things make now the absolute  
best time to put your house on the market.  
With fewer homes available, prices going up  
and interest rates staying low, there are lots of  
buyers for every home that is well priced. So  
call one of our 12 professional Realtors today  
for an updated market analysis on your home.



## Windermere Real Estate / Key Realty 253-884-3304 "In the Heart of the Key Peninsula"



**ROCKY CREEK AREA. \$155,000**  
Home shows quality of workmanship w/vaulted ceilings &  
F/P. Big 2 car garage/shop. Property is 1.9 acres, land is  
cleared and completely fenced. MLS #24001095. 253-  
884-3304.



**LONGBRANCH HOME. \$137,000**  
Located in gated community with beach access. This three  
bedroom cottage has all the room you need to have  
friends and family visit "the beach house". Large kitchen,  
pantry, deck off living room, view of South Sound. MLS  
#24000545. 253-884-3304.



**OLD FASHIONED CHARM \$325,000**  
A beautiful setting, awesome views, 89' of no-bank  
waterfront, 3 bedroom, 1.75 bath, 1300 sq. ft. Detached  
artist studio and separate shop. Old craftsman styling and  
charm. MLS #23129985.  
253-884-3304.



**LAKEBAY \$69,500**  
Large open floor plan, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, mfg home,  
loads of storage on large lot. Here's your chance to do a  
little painting and gain sweat equity. Quiet area w/beach  
rights, paddle boat, fish and swim, lake stocked w/trout.  
MLS #24029791 253-884-3304.



**GIG HARBOR \$59,000 (Wright Bliss)**  
Approx 5.08 acre. Divided into 2 building lots- approved  
but expired septic design for a 3 bedroom home. Approx  
500 sq ft cabin & a septic system installed without permits.  
Needs well drilled. MLS #24025339. 253-884-3304.



**SURROUNDED BY PUGET SOUND-\$775,000**  
Views of both the Olympic Mts. and Mt. Rainier from  
the decks. Oak floors throughout; newer kitchen; liv rm  
w/propane f/p; French doors; and a 2nd floor Master  
Suite w/sitting rm, office and exercise rm. MLS  
#23144525. 253-884-3304.

- We Need Listings! This is a great time to sell.
- Buyers Available

# Local Cootiettes host Tacoma convention

By Colleen Slater  
KP News

"When the men returned from World War I, they had 'cooties,'" explained Key Peninsula resident Helen Wolniewicz regarding the beginning of the organization called Cootiettes. It began in California when local women went to veterans' hospitals and nursing homes, held sing-alongs, took fruit to military hospitals, and treats to the veterans' homes.

Many of the original groups have disbanded, although there is still a national organization, called the Supreme, and state ones called Grand.

Sharon Rikansrud, originally with the Vaughn PennAnts, joined with her mother, Darlene Kaelin, who served as both local and state president at one time.

On the Peninsula there are two groups, the PennAnts, No. 609, and the Holliettes, No. 670, of Home. The group in Gig Harbor is named Seagulls.

The Holliettes, started in 1986, was the last one formed in the country. "We're



Left to right, Ramona Skjonsberg, Pearl Roberts, Hazel Fenton, and Daisy Mae Harfst in back row; and Gilberta Manwell and Florence Bjornsrud in the front row, some of the original local Cootiettes.

*Photo courtesy of Carmen Fenton*

the baby group," said the only remaining charter member, Ronnie Andrews.

Hazel Fenton organized the Vaughn group in 1956 and led it for several years. Evie Stinson noted that when she joined in 1960, nine women became members at the same time.

Lenore Jameson is the current president of the PennAnts, and Linda Ramsdell leads the Holliettes.

The two Peninsula groups alternate months to take dessert to Retsil Veterans' Home, where they visit, play bingo, then serve coffee and dessert.

Usually, members from both groups go each month.

Members buy annual bars recognizing their service. The \$5 cost is mostly contributed to national scholarships for nurses who have begun their training and need financial assistance.

The 2004 state convention, to be held in Tacoma at the end of April, is hosted this year by the PennAnts. Members have been making ditty bags, favors, and name ribbons for visiting Cootiettes. They will decorate the tables in red, white and blue.

The women wear white pants and blouses, with a red vest. Their "mascot," the "Cootie," closely resembles a ladybug, and some members collect assorted sizes and kinds of them.

These local women have a fine record of service to not only veterans, but to others in need. They enjoy good times together, and although they are willing to laugh about their name, they are proud members of a worthy organization.

**FUJIFILM**

**DIGITAL CAMERA DEVELOPING**

Bring us your Smartmedia, Compact Flash, Memory Stick, Microdrive, Zip or CD's

Full color prints, more economical than home inkjet! We print your digital photos just like film!

Printed on *Especially Great Another Paper*

**Photo Pro** *Film and Digital*

6876 Kimball Drive Gig Harbor 253\*851-3582  
www.photoproimaging.com  
City Center Exit off SR 16 Open 9-7 M-F and 9-5 Sat

**KP Video**

**Movies and Munchies**


12402 134<sup>th</sup> Ave KPN  
253-857-4607

**COUPON SPECIAL**

Two new release movies  
One two liter Pepsi  
One theater pack candy  
Two act II microwave popcorn

**Only \$9.99**

*All movie rentals are for TWO days!*



**CASANOVA**

**James Blade & Diane Powell**

**May 1, 8-11pm**

**Tickets \$10**

**at the Civic Center**

Tickets will be sold at SunnyCrest Nursery and at the Civic Center.

# Classifieds

**APPLEBY PLUMBING & DRAIN**  
Service, Repairs, and Remodels,  
Hot Water Tanks  
253-884-9827

**HOME FEED & GROCERY**  
1809 KPN, Home. 884-2321  
Open 8 AM - 10 PM  
Holidays 10 AM - 6 PM

**WATKINS PRODUCTS** are available, call  
Marvin and Myrtle Keizur at  
884-3566. VISA/MC

**Lost Cat off Wright-Bliss Rd.**  
Long haired, orange, neutered male.  
\$100 reward. Call 253-884-7898.

**WANTED:** Part-time grounds keeper for  
Taylor Bay Beach Club, Inc. Will involve  
mowing, beach cleaning and park area main-  
tenance. Some equipment will be needed.  
This will be a seasonal and negotiated posi-  
tion with the board. The board will entertain  
proposals and a final decision will be made  
at the Saturday, April 17 meeting. Please  
contact either Ken Brown (884-4228) or Don  
Tjossem (884-2581) for details.

**Help Wanted - part time**  
Need experienced Medical Assistant for  
busy, rural medical practice. Send resume  
to: Carla, P O Box 129, Vaughn WA 98394.

**Grant Writer Needed** The Key Peninsula  
Fair Association is in need of someone to  
write grant requests or assist in writing  
grant requests. This is primarily a volunteer  
position, but compensation may be negoti-  
ated. If interested contact Fred Ramsdell at  
884-4834.

To place a classified ad call Karen at 858-8623.

Please join us for worship



**Beth  
Yeshua**  
Messianic  
Congregation

Saturday  
10:30 am

We worship at the  
Gig Harbor Nazarene Church  
7721 Pioneer Way Gig Harbor

(360) 874-6747  
firefood@earthlink.net  
www.godstix.com/beth\_yeshua

**Almost Home  
Boarding Kennel**

Extra Large Kennels  
Personal Attention  
Hours: 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM  
(253) 884-2633  
Sandy & Nancy in Lakebay, WA

**ASPEN LAND SURVEYING**

- Boundary, Topographic and Hydrographic Surveys
- Subdivisions Construction Staking

Free Estimates  
Daniel B. Johnson, PLS

253-857-4265 12904A Purdy Dr. N.W.  
360-874-0228 Gig Harbor, WA 98329  
Fax: 253-857-9265 www.aspenland.com

**Mention This Coupon  
For \$5.00 off  
Purchase of \$20.00  
Parties Plus**

For All Your Party and Event Needs  
NEW 2004 MERCHANDISE OVER  
100 PARTY STYLES AVAILABLE

6820 Kimball Dr Party Supplies - Sales - Event Rentals  
Gig Harbor, WA 98335 (253) 853-6647

**Birch Electric**

253 884-1372  
mobile 253-377-0044 253 549-6916  
P.O. Box 164 Vaughn Washington 98394

**JC CHARBONEAU  
EXCAVATING**

HIGH WORK - GROUND WORK  
ROAD GRADING - DRAINAGE  
CLEARING - RETAINING WALLS  
76' CRANE FOR HIRE  
857-5125  
Lic # GHAR065120NA

Come Celebrate Easter with us!

7:30 a.m. Sunrise Service at  
Vaughn Cemetery  
Breakfast

10:30 a.m. Worship - KP Civic Center (VFW Room)

**He Is Risen Indeed!**  
**HISTORIC VAUGHN BAY CHURCH**  
884-5403  
VFW Room at Key Peninsula Civic Center

(253) 884-2961

**Harbor Furnace**  
Specializing in Service and Repair

TOM WILLIAMS P.O. BOX 368, Lakebay, WA 98149

**Close to Home Espresso**  
Next to Peninsula Market in Key Center

Monday-Thursday: 5:30 AM-5:00 PM  
Friday: 5:30 AM-5:30 PM  
Saturday: 7:00 AM - 5:00 PM  
Sunday: 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

We thank our customers for your patronage!

**Historic  
Vaughn Bay Church**  
A Community Gathering  
Worship Service 10:30 am  
884-5403  
VFW Room  
Key Peninsula Civic Center

**MAKE MORE MONEY  
ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS  
HERE**

LOGO  
BUSINESS NAME  
ADDRESS  
PHONE

**InStep Dance**  
Doug Henry, Instructor

Group Lessons + Private Lessons  
Wedding or Anniversary  
Choreography  
P.O. Box 751 + Vaughn, WA 98394  
253-884-9236

Ralph Fahsholtz

**THE HAY GUY**  
ALFALFA HAY  
& SOME GRASS

253-884-2667 Home

Place your business card in this advertising directory.  
Email sales@keypennews.com or call ad rep  
Karen Hale at 858-8623 for details.

# Key Peninsula Livable Community Fair coming May 8

The Key Peninsula Livable Community Fair is back this year with more participants and more entertainment.

Last year's hit performers, Rhythm-n-Shoes Cloggers, will return along with the Key Peninsula Middle School Jazz Band, the Evergreen Elementary Blues Kids, Quartet Musette with Lorraine Hart and Razzmatazz (Peninsula High School's vocal ensemble). Special attractions will include Rhubarb the Reindeer (Tacoma Rainiers' Mascot), local firefighters with a

fire truck, sheriff's deputies and a patrol vehicle, canine demonstrations, flying disc dogs demonstration, reptiles, craft activities, a fish pond and a historical display.

With the theme of "Showcasing people, agencies and organizations making the Key Peninsula more livable," the May 8 event is organized by Safe Streets and the Key Peninsula Civic Center Association with the help of other sponsors, such as Pierce County, St. Joseph Medical Center,

Pierce Transit, Ravensara Inc., and Banner Expression. More than 45 organizations and agencies will share resources that are available for Key Pen residents, as well as information on how to become involved in the local community, news, events, and other opportunities.

The event will be open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The address is 17010 South Vaughn Road.

For details, call the Civic Center at 884-3456.

## Writers wanted!

Aspiring journalists, writers at heart and experienced professionals interested in volunteering for the local paper are invited to join the Key Peninsula News team.

**Help us deliver the news!**

Call 884-4699 for details or email news@keypennews.com

# Harbor Crafts

**Supplies for:**  
Knitting, crochet, kids' school projects, beading, stenciling, candle making, soap making, leather work, stenciling, wood working, pinecars, and more

**20% off regular purchase price**

(with this ad) valid to 4/30/04

Located near Albertsons 4949 Borgen Blvd #102 853-5111

Mention this ad & receive a Free 2-Liter pop with purchase of large pizza

WE HAVE CHANGED OUR NAME!

## JANE Dough's PIZZA

BEST PIZZA ON THE PEN

**Fresh, Hot, Free Delivery**  
for orders over \$10.00

**Watch for our Grand Opening in Purdy**

**Open: 11:30 am - 9 pm**  
**7 DAYS A WEEK**

Open Daily for Lunch!

853-4300

12402 134th Ave KPN

Place your business card in this advertising directory.  
Email sales@keypennews.com or call ad rep  
Karen Hale at 858-8623 for details.

**MAKE MORE MONEY  
ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS  
HERE**

LOGO  
BUSINESS NAME  
ADDRESS  
PHONE

**Piano Lessons**  
AAS Degree  
18+ yrs Teaching

**Jess Tradewell**  
14111 82nd Ave NW  
Gig Harbor, WA 98329  
253-857-7516



**Website:**  
[www.goodhas.com/jess-tradewell](http://www.goodhas.com/jess-tradewell)

**email:**  
jess-tradewell@vchad.com




**Heartland Landscaping**  
Gig Harbor Since 1983

NYLE WILKEY  
Landscape Specialist  
857-5388


Funds  
Retaining Walls  
Irrigation System

Total Landscape  
Design and Installation  
Quality Pruning & Lawn Care

Over 20 Years Experience

PILEDRIVING  
BACK-HOP  
LOADING

GRAVEL AND FILL DIRT  
LOG SKIDSTEERS  
SITE PREP



**JOHNSON BULLDOZING CO.**  
LAKEWAY, WASHINGTON 98148  
206-884-1100

  
 DAVE JOHNSON  
12331 52nd Street

  
 FRED JOHNSON  
12331 52nd Street

**THE HANDYMAN**

*Specializing in basic remodel, repair and maintenance around the house.*

*Experienced in copies, pipes and all plumbing*

*Replace old decks, fences, doors, windows. Construct farm gates, custom cedar signs and flowerpots to your specifications. Pictures for reference available on request.*

For more info call:  
Home 253-884-1092  
Office 253-884-4592 (884 ILWA)  
Cell 253-255-3017  
ilyapopkov@hotmail.com

**Key Center Shell**

Gas & Grocery  
**OPEN 24 HOURS**



+ Propane Refill  
+ ATM Machine  
+ Drive-Thru Espresso

+ Fresh Deli  
+ Hot Food

**857-5712**

13706 State Highway 302 KPN  
(Near Key Center)

**KEY CENTER AUTO REPAIR**  
**YOUR FULL SERVICE AUTO REPAIR**

TUNE-UPS • SCHEDULED SERVICES • WARRANTIES  
COMPUTER DIAGNOSTICS • AIR CONDITIONING  
BRAKES • EXHAUST • TRANSMISSIONS  
FUEL SYSTEMS • ENGINES  
WHEEL ALIGNMENTS & BALANCING  
ASE CERTIFIED TECHNICIANS

**13712 KPN GIG HARBOR.....253-858-5227**

**COME SHARE GOD'S DAY WITH US!**  
**SINGING-PRAYER-GOD'S WORD**  
EVERY SATURDAY MORNING  
10 AM TO 12 PM  
**KEY PENINSULA 7TH DAY  
ADVENTIST CHURCH**  
AT KEY PENINSULA CIVIC CENTER  
10710 S. Vaughn Rd Vaughn WA  
(253) 884-2360 Genesis 2:1-3 Exodus 20:8

**LAKEBAY CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLY**

**Worship times:** Sunday School 9:30 a.m.  
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

**Vacation Bible School**  
Aug. 11-22 • Grades K-6

2406 McEwan Rd. KPN  
Home, WA

**884-4854**

**Easter services**

**Lakebay Community Church**

Lakebay Community Church welcomes all community members to several Holy Week Services.

The Palm Sunday Worship Service, April 4, begins at 10:30 a.m. with a children's procession. The church will look at historical Jewish roots as they relate to Jesus, in the Maundy Thursday Seder Service with Communion on April 8, 6:30 p.m. in the church Fellowship Hall.

For the Good Friday Prayer Vigil on April 9, the church is open for private devotion from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m., and residents are invited to come to reflect on the passion of Christ, with stations



and devotional material that focus meditation on each step of his journey to the cross.

Easter Sunday, April 11, there will be two worship celebrations. Sunrise Service begins at 7:30 a.m. at Penrose Point State Park.

Meet on the beach at the day/picnic area. The church pays the parking fee for everyone attending this service. In case of rain, the service will be held at the church.

The regular worship service meets at the church at 10:30 a.m. As always, a

special time of song, prayer, and praise in The Gathering will be offered at 10 a.m.

**Historic Vaughn Bay Church**

A Sunrise Service is scheduled at the Vaughn Cemetery on Easter Sunday at 7:30 a.m., with hymn singing and scripture reading included. A breakfast will follow the service and precede the regular worship service at 10:30 a.m.

The congregation meets every Sunday morning in the VFW room at the Key Peninsula Civic Center at Vaughn. On April 4 only, the regular service will begin at 10:00 a.m. All are welcome to come and worship. For more information, call 884-9303 or 884-5403.

**MYR-MAR** WE ARE INCOME TAX EXPERTS!  
Under 10017

- Individual & Corporate Tax Returns
- Monthly Bookkeeping Services Payroll
- Financial Statements
- Business Consulting
- Notary Public
- Fax and Copy Service
- Quickbooks Consulting
- Peachtree Account Care

Evening & Saturday Appointments Available

**Myr-Mar Accounting Service, Inc.**  
884-3666  
Marv & Myrle Keizer, CFP

Make Our New Web Site  
www.MYR-MAR-ACCOUNTINGSERVICES.COM  
www.2000BY2000SERVICES.COM

Key Peninsula Health Center, 8903 K.P. Hwy N, Lakabay

Thinking of selling your home?

**Windermere**

Call Lori Deacon at 253-278-4458

Windermere Key Realty 884-3304 - Located In Key Center

LANDPLANE  
**small stuff**  
custom bobcat work  
RICHARD SATTERTHWAITE  
**253-884-4567**

BUCKET AUGER  
FORK LIFT SMALLSLS197CS

**MBF WELL DRILLING CO.**  
-Licensed/Bonded-  
MBFDR0\*981LO

Betty & Marvin Phone: 253-884-5399  
P.O. Box 390  
Vaughn, WA 98394

**Mountain View Towing**

15125 Key Peninsula Hwy N  
Gig Harbor, WA 98329  
24 Hour Radio Dispatched  
Phone: (253) 864-4398 Fax: (253) 864-1552

**MR. MIKE'S FIX-IT**  
Call Mike Nelson ☎ 253-884-6863

HOME AND BUSINESS REPAIRS

- General handyman repairs
- Door & window repairs
- Locks fixed & changed
- Bathroom & kitchen repairs
- Gutters fixed & cleaned
- Pressure washing
- Emergency Services Available
- Lic. # MRMTKE\*990RD

Technical Editing, Bookkeeping & more

**DEBBIE'S OFFICE AIDE**

17102 141<sup>st</sup> Street KPN Gig Harbor, WA 98329  
Phone: 253-884-6627  
Fax: 253-884-6744 (LAN)  
Cell: 253-225-0119

Debra L. Burk, Owner  
officeaid@comcast.net  
www.officeaidofwa.com

• Full Service Supermarket •

**PENINSULA MARKET**

14220 92nd Ave. N.W.  
Open daily from 8 am to 10 pm

Key Center: 9021 KPN HWY N.  
Open daily from 8 am to 9 pm

**DEE'S Domestic Services**

Paradise is...  
A clean house!  
Laundry folded!  
Dinner in the oven!

Deanne English, 253-884-2556

Pierce County  
Office of the County Council

**TERRY LEE**  
Councilmember, District No. 7

930 Tacoma Avenue South, Room 1046 Tacoma, Washington 98402-2176  
tlee1@co.pierce.wa.us (253) 798-6654 (800) 992-2456 FAX (253) 798-7509

**AMER - A - CLEAN**

HOUSE KEEPING PERSONAL SERVICE WORKING AROUND YOUR SCHEDULE ONE TIME DEEP CLEAN

RENTAL MOVE-IN & MOVE-OUT CONSTRUCTION CLEAN-UPS

WEEKLY BI-WEEKLY 253-884-7931

the beach house  
Lunch & drinks by the sea at purity

\$10 off  
Tuesdays Daily Brd  
Dinner from 5-9 pm  
Dinner includes cold entree & dessert, only \$16.99  
Open Daily  
858-9900

**Studio West Music**

Musical Instruments Music Gear Music Lessons Recording Studio ALBUM COVER DESIGN Master CD

Randy Doss  
3123 56th St. NW # 18 (Next to Inn at Gig Harbor)  
253-851-8230

Place your business card in this advertising directory.  
Email sales@keypenews.com or call ad rep Karen Hale at 858-8623 for details.

# Out & About

Corky and Cheri Stebbins are singing at the Christian Open Mic their church, Key Peninsula 7th Day Adventists, has been hosting every Saturday evening at the Civic Center.

The Open Mic ended in March but the couple hopes to resume it at the end of summer.

*Photo by Rodika Tollefson*



*Photo by Hugh McMillan*

Longbranch's Dorothy Rome cuddles the big bear won in the Evergreen Elementary PTA's raffle by her non-present friend Dolores Argabrite.



*Photo by Irene Torres*

The site of a new development by Cedarland NW near Palmer Lake was quiet at dusk on a March day—but just minutes before, workers were busy moving earth and getting the area ready for new homes.



Left, Artist Tip Toland's installation was among several well-received displays at the Two Waters' Arts Alliance Spring Fling. *Photo by Hugh McMillan*

Right, Before the Citizen of the Year nominees were honored at the banquet sponsored by the Lions Club, there was lots of mingling in the crowd—including, pictured here, Fire District Chief Eric Livingood Nelsen with state Rep. Pat Lantz. *Photo by Rodika Tollefson*

## Spring Preview ...

arts alive  
Classes and events for spring  
to register call 884-3407

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

**Chinese Brush Painting** - The Chinese use ink and various brushes on rice paper to produce the world's most unusual combination of words, pictures, and feelings. Come learn to brush stroke, combine and begin your own artwork.

**Fabric Picking (Quilting)** - Quilting is an age-old pastime for ladies being recognized as a female art form. You will be learning several quilting techniques such as patchwork designs and color & fabric combinations.

**Art Swap Meet** - Bring your art supplies and sell or swap bargains with other artists. This is a one-of-a-kind event for artists to get their art sold.

Classes with all levels of instruction are available. Inland per day, 9:00am-12:00pm.

**Spring Programming Preview - Nauti Lounge! May**

Film Design - April 22  
 Chinese Brush Painting - All Mondays  
 April and May  
 Plain Air Printing - April 13, 18, 24 & 29  
 Sculpting the Head in Clay - April 7, 14, 21, 28 and May 5  
 Japanese Tea Ceremony - April 24  
 Fabric Picking (Quilting) - April 18 & 24  
 Rubber Stamping III - May 1  
 The Art of Drawing - May 4 & 11  
 Framing and Presentation - May 22

**Ongoing Art Sessions**

Life Drawing - 1st Wednesday of each April 2:00pm  
 Writers Workshop - See schedule for details  
 Jane Seaton - Call her for Jane's number 232-2410.

## Country Expressions

**It's Not Just Country Anymore!**

Decorate with

Retro • Tuscan • Primitive-folk • Lodge  
 Nautical-Seaside • Americana • Shabby-chic  
 Romance • Cottage • French • Yard Art • Florals

14701 Purdy Dr. NW, Gig Harbor WA 98332  
**(253) 853-1473**

M-Sat 12-7, Sun 12-5  
 Visit Our Discount Room for More Bargains!