



First day of school in the Peninsula School District
Sept. 4

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Community invited to enjoy 'Play Day'

By Scott Turner, KP News

Exercise is an important component of a healthy, independent life. And for many, having fun while you're exercising makes it so much easier to stick to a regular schedule.

Key Peninsula Parks and KP Community Services and Senior Center are hosting a community Play Day Sept. 23 at Volunteer Park.

"This is our second year having this event," said Jessica Smeall, recreation coordinator with the park district.

"The whole community is invited to come to the park and play together. It's for everybody from kids in strollers up to seniors. We want to inspire people to play and be active and be healthy as long as possible," Smeall said.

Play Day activities will include walking on the paved 400-meter track, playing on

(See Play, Page 4)



Photo by Ed Johnson, KP News

Exercise instructor Marilyn Perks works with a group of students at the KP Community Services and Senior Center. Perks is lending her talents and joining forces with organizers at Key Pen Parks for a "Play Day" — a day of exercise and fun at Volunteer Park.

School levy being placed on November ballot

By Rick Sorrels, KP News

A capital projects levy will appear on the general election ballot in November. The motion was passed unanimously by the Peninsula School District Board of Directors at a special board meeting that took place July 31.

The levy would collect \$50 million. That's \$12.5 million for each of the next four years from property taxes collected on the Key and Gig Harbor peninsulas.

It would cost each property owner an additional \$1.40 per \$1,000 assessed evaluation each of the four years that the levy runs. For a \$250,000 home, that's \$350 per year in additional property taxes.

The money would be used to construct a new elementary school in the Gig Harbor North area (near Borgen Boulevard), where a large number of new homes are currently under construction, and also either renovate or replace Artondale Elementary School, which, according to the district, has some

serious safety concerns.

"There are concerns that, if we have a heavy snow load, the roof at Artondale may be in danger of collapse," said Matt Wilkinson, board member. "If that should happen, it would be a whole lot more costly for us, especially if some children were hurt."

"Our 30-year facilities plan had already identified the population growth, the need for an additional elementary school, et cetera," said Chuck Cuzzetto, PSD superintendent.

"These needs were a frequent topic of discussion at school board meetings. Land purchase for the school closed on July 25. We immediately set a special board meeting for public hearing of the levy issue to get it on the November ballot so that construction could start in 2014," he said.

The meeting conference room was packed to capacity. Public testimony was split between Artondale parents pleading for

(See Levy, Page 4)

Doctors, care workers help families in need

By Hugh McMillan, KP News

Last month's Project Homeless Connect event brought a variety of professional talents and expertise to the Key Peninsula Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, which turned its facility into a center of social, medical, dental and tax preparations activity.

Even hair styling and cutting were offered free to those in need.

Gig Harbor dentist Richard Coyner and Clover Park Technical College dental assistant Anastasiya Mayster treated several patients on Aug. 9. One dental patient, when asked, admitted he hadn't seen a dentist for at least four years.

Key Medical Center's Dr. William Roes and Dr. Dick Coe gave medical advice and treatment to eight needy patients.

"I saw eight of the 22 patients presented to our improvised clinic which was manned

and equipped by the Pierce County Medical Reserve Corps," Coe said.

"Two other physicians took part. I had forgotten, as many of us had, the homeless and impoverished among us. Contrary to popular belief, there wasn't a 'freeloader' in the lot that I saw and spoke to.

"Amazingly, patients I saw had not given up on the system. Their knowledge of how our society is supposed to work was surprisingly sophisticated. They believed they could and would enter or re-enter the middle class," he said.

As proceedings for Project Homeless Connect were coming to an end that Friday, volunteer Allan Boyd of Food Backpacks 4 Kids felt enthused.

"We've had 133 people attend the program, 30 of whom were kids. Among those served by 102 volunteers were 24 medical, 48 dental, and 64 haircuts. Considering that



Hugh McMillan, KP News
With the Pierce County Dental Foundation, Gig Harbor dentist Richard Coyner and Clover Park Technical College dental assistant Anastasiya Mayster treat patient Wayne Washer of Hawaii. Washer was visiting his parents in Gig Harbor.

this is the first time we've conducted this project, I think it's great," Coe said.

The event was scheduled to run from 11

a.m. to 4 p.m., but by 9 a.m., large lines had formed for those hoping to get free dental care, said LDS member Ken Roberts.

"This event provided needed medical, dental and other social services to the homeless, those who are at risk of becoming homeless and those without medical insurance," Roberts said.

Mike Maroney of the Salvation Army brought one of his famous cookers and prepared hot dogs and hamburgers for all in attendance.

Coe said the day was a success.

"I was privileged to make the acquaintance of people ordinarily too busy trying to get themselves and their families sheltered and fed to be at an employment office or otherwise hold themselves out as media-bait," he said. "I plan to be at the next similar event and to continue to do so as long and as often as I am able."

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 Fax: (253) 884-4053
 Email: news@keypennews.com

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Ad sales: Brett Higgins, Wendy Kleven
Bookkeeper: Stephanie Buhrman
Community pages editor: Connie Renz
Production: Christina Hallock, Paige Nader
Webmaster: Brett Higgins
Staff and contributors: Ron Cameron, Ed Johnson, Alice Kinerk, Karen Lovett, Hugh McMillan, Michelle M. Mondeck, Kevin Reed, Colleen Slater,

Frank Slater, Rick Sorrels, Rodika Tollefson, Irene Torres, Ted Velasquez, Danna Webster, Steve Whitford, Dan Whitmarsh, Tom Zimmerman.

Distribution: Vic Renz, Connie Renz, Phil Bauer, Frank Slater, Bill Dietz, Kevin Reed

Guest columnists: Deborah Allen, Cecil Beal, Mee Yeong Saunders and Bill Trandum

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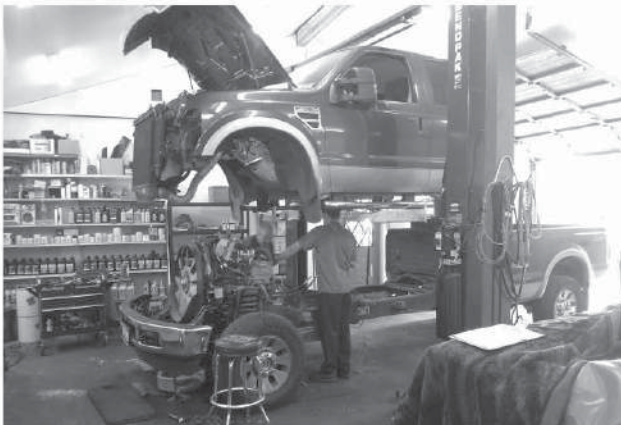


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Want to learn more? You can, at the *Septic Workshop on Saturday, Sept. 14, at the Key Peninsula Civic Center.*

- Enter a raffle for a free septic inspection or tank pumping
- Get discounts on septic services
- Get copies of your system's records
- Learn do's and don'ts for septic system care
- Learn basic homeowner troubleshooting
- See a display of septic system parts

Saturday, Sept. 14, 9:00 a.m. – noon
Key Peninsula Civic Center
17010 South Vaughn Road KPN, Vaughn, WA 98394



(From **Levy**, Page 1)

improvements for their children's school and taxpayers opposed to more taxes.

School district employees and parents are organizing to support the levy vote in November. The committee chair is board member Harlan Gallinger, whose bio can be viewed at psd401.net.

Ken Manning chairs the committee in opposition to the levy. Manning is a commercial fisherman who has lived in Gig Harbor for 58 years and feels that "the levy was rushed, is much too high and that other options need to be explored."

Schools are exempt from the Constitutional limit on how much can be collected from property taxes each year.

Key Peninsula Metropolitan Parks District also has an operations and maintenance levy on the November ballot. The district is not exempt from the Consti-

tutional limit and is expected to lose all of its authorized tax revenue next year due to a "pro-ration" situation, where it is low in the pecking order, with all property tax revenue sent to higher priority municipal governments.

During 2013, the state government approved a law allows small park districts, like Key Pen Parks, to seek voter approval for a temporary levy for funding outside of the Constitutional limit.

There will be two property tax levies on the November ballot, both outside of the Constitutional cap on tax collection. Voters will decide either to limit taxes; or to provide safe schools and parks that remain open.

The pro levy committee can be contacted at harlan.gallinger@gmail.com.

The committee opposing the levy can be contacted at nayonprop1@yahoo.com.

(From **Play**, Page 1)

the playground and participating in balance games.

"A lot of people don't know about the track at Volunteer Park," Smeall said. "It's good for wheelchairs and strollers and just for walking."

For Marilyn Perks, who leads an exercise class three times a week at the senior center, Play Day will be a good opportunity to bring the community together.

Perks has been teaching classes at the center for more than five years. Her classes are based on the S.A.I.L. (Staying Active and Independent for Life) program, she said.

"In our classes, we do 20 minutes of warm-up and aerobics, then 10 minutes of balance activities for fall prevention, then 20 minutes of upper and lower body weights and finally 10 minutes of relaxation," she said.

Perks also is a member of the Peninsula Fall Prevention Coalition, a partnership between St. Anthony Hospital, Key Peninsula Fire Department and several other organizations.

Play Day Sept. 23

Key Pen Parks and KPCS will host a community-wide Play Day on Monday, Sept. 23 from 10 a.m. to noon, at Volunteer Park. The park is located at 5514 KPN, Lakebay. The event is free and all ages are encouraged to attend.

"Last year we had just our S.A.I.L. class in the park and now we've decided to appeal to all ages, because anybody can fall. It doesn't necessarily go with getting old," Perks said.

Smeall said Play Day will be another great family event as well as unique opportunity to get other people and groups coming together for healthy reasons. "We encourage people of all ages to come out and join our multigenerational day of fun," she said.

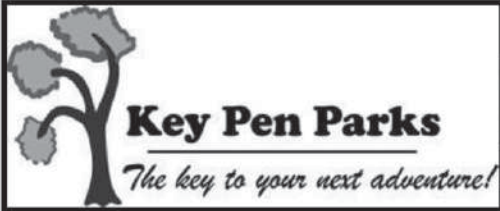
Both Perks and Smeall hope that Play Day will become an annual event.

For information, call Smeall at (253) 854-9240, extension 22.

Correction

Last month, Washington State Park Ranger Janet Shonk was misquoted. She did not say that state parks have their share of problems including drunks, thugs and

deadbeats. Key Peninsula News strives to provide correct information. Send corrections or clarifications to editor@keypennews.com.



SEPTEMBER 2013

Key Pen Parks PROGRAM GUIDE

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

REGISTER ONLINE: www.keypenparks.com

THANK YOU!

Our summer program success is due to these people & organizations:

VOLUNTEERS:

- **Alexa Jones:** Lego Camp, Drum Camp, 2 Eco Camps, Family Fun Nights, Movie Nights
- **Leyla Vanderbank:** Lego Camp, Drum Camp, Eco Camp, Family Fun Night, Movie Nights
- **Dylan Vanderbank:** Lego Camp, Drum Camp, Family Fun Night, Movie Nights
- **Kobe & Eddy Frederick:** Drum Camp, Family Fun Night, Movie Nights
- **Stephanie Vanderbank:** Lego Camp
- **Keith McCune:** Drum Camp
- **Josie Stanley:** Drum Camp
- **SierraRose Nason:** Family Fun Night
- **Andrea Daly:** Family Fun Night
- **Ereka Bishop:** Eco Camp paddler
- **Cliff Reinke:** Eco Camp field trip location
- **Maureen and Greg Sikora:** Eco Camp field trip location to Gentle Giant Farm

ORGANIZATIONS:

- **Children's Home Society/Family Resource Center:** projector for Movie Nights
- **CenturyLink:** sponsorship for Movie Nights
- **Fresh Food Revolution:** Family Fun Nights & new teaching garden at Gateway Park
- **Tacoma Pierce County Health Dept:** Family Fun Nights & Landscaping workshop funding
- **Pierce County Environmental Educators:** Family Fun Night & 2 Eco Camps--couldn't do it without you!
- **KGI Watershed Council:** Family Fun Night & Eco Camp sponsorship/grant funding
- **Longbranch Imp. Club:** Drum Fest/Camp partnership

ALL HALLOWS HARVEST CELEBRATION

Saturday, OCTOBER 12TH 6-8pm

Come join us for a wild and spooky night at Volunteer Park!

- Live music (sing a long style) with Nancy Stewart
- Carve a pumpkin at home and bring it to be judged in a contest!
- Hop on a haunted hay ride
- Come dressed to impress for a costume contest!
- Bring a flashlight for the flashlight hunt for ghoulish goodies!
- This is a **FREE** event!

PLAY DAY

STAY ACTIVE AND INDEPENDANT FOR LIFE!

- Walk and Talk
 - Group exercise
 - Teambuilding games
 - Playground Fun
- Challenge by Choice, all ages welcome!*

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23
10:00AM-12:00PM
AT VOLUNTEER PARK**



Do you want to make a difference?

Park PALS is the program for you!

PALS is a group of middle school volunteers who help at special events for Key Pen Parks. Call Jess for more info: 884-9240 x22, or visit with her at the KPMS Open House on 9/12.

PeeWee

Indoor Soccer

Learn basic soccer skills, confidence on the field, sportsmanship and teamwork.



Ages 4-6

Check our website for more details, location and times still TBA. Program will begin in late fall (mid-Oct – early Nov).

FITNESS CAMP

SUMMER 3 SESSION

Instructor: Shannon Reichl
Location: Volunteer Park
Day: Tues & Thurs **Time:** 6-7pm
Dates: Aug 27 – Oct 3
Fee: \$30 for 1 class/week, \$60 for 2
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- AGILITY TRAINING
 - CORE TRAINING
 - STRENGTH TRAINING
- ALL in a FUN workout!

Peninsula Views

Going out into our world

Shortly after I moved to Lakebay, I was told one of the truisms of this place: People rarely drive south of where they live.

It makes sense — most of the shopping, entertainment and jobs are off the peninsula, so people naturally head that way most of the time. Then, when they come home after a long day of working or shopping or eating, they settle in. And so it is, people who live here never experience any part of the peninsula south of their residence.

Over the years, I've been surprised to meet long time KP residents who have

Dan Whitmarsh
Writing by Faith



never been to Penrose Point, or who didn't realize the Lakebay Marina and Longbranch Marina are two different places. People who get lost driving to the Longbranch Improvement Club. People who have never driven around Home. People who could drive all over Gig Harbor but don't have a clue how to reach

(See Whitmarsh, Page 7)

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Fallout from food bank overflows to local businesses

I am writing to set the record straight regarding last month's article about the food bank changing its hours to appease its neighbors.

As I write, food bank customers are parked sideways, blocking cars in the middle of KP Indoor Garden Store's parking lot. When politely asked to move, my customers received rudeness as a response. This happens regularly.

We support the food bank's cause and have held many food drives in the past for them. However, we have worked hard to build our business and we have customers to serve. We share our small parking lot with neighboring businesses. Many times, there is no parking available.

The food bank chose a location without adequate parking to serve the thousands

of families they serve. They planned poorly and the customers of the neighboring businesses are the ones suffering.

We have attempted multiple compromises. For a short time, O'Callahan's allowed them to use their parking lot and the food bank would shuttle them back and forth; however they are no longer allowed to park there, either. Shortening the hours was another attempt at a compromise (no longer being honored), in an effort to contain the parking frustrations within certain time slots.

As an organization, I would expect the food bank to have planned for their parking needs instead of creating a frustrating problem that affects so many.

Monica Rakowski
KP Indoor Garden Store owner

Fluvium not a word most of us use in our daily conversations

Fluvium is the stuff that mankind, nature and gravity sends down our rivers and streams. Except when there's a flood, nature's contribution is mostly silt, sand, clay, sand, gravel and stones that are carried along by the river or stream current as it rushes or trickles seaward.

And it includes awful stuff as well. Cow pies, horse manure, bear scat, coyote droppings and stuff from failing drain fields. It includes fertilizer, natural and manmade, that washes off farmland, ranches, grazing land, nicely mown yards and even chicken coops into the many drainage ditches that are the water-shedders that feed our year-round streams and creeks. The U.S. Geological Survey has not bothered to name a number of them here on the Key.

Too bad critter habitats must be near fresh water since the critters don't know any better than to leave their scat where a little rain washes it into our streams. Nature gives them iron stomach linings so the presence of a little decayed waste doesn't send them to Dr. Doolittle.

Dogs, cats, rabbits and other household guests add a bit to the stew. So do cars, trucks and buses as they drip or spew oil, antifreeze, brake fluid, transmission oil and de-icer onto the pavement where it also washes into our drainage ditches. They, in turn, feed our creeks and streams, each of which deposits its fluvium in an estuary. The continuous pileup of fluvium generally causes a hump, or delta where the stream enters the bay. That entry place is called an estuary.

William T. Trandum
Winds, Tides & Weathers



Puget Sound has lots of estuaries, most of which are no longer in their natural state because humans build stuff there, like Seattle's Harbor Island where the Duwamish River deposits its fluvium, or the Tacoma Tidelands where the Puyallup River does its dumping. Others, like the Nisqually Delta, have either been partially or mostly returned to their natural state.

The Key Peninsula has many small streams whose fluvia have hardly been interrupted so their mini river deltas make for healthy estuary habitats.

Our estuaries include Minter Bay, Glen Cove, Dutcher Cove, Rocky Bay, Burley Lagoon, Vaughn Bay, Filucy Bay, Blue Heron Lagoon, Taylor Bay, Von Geldern Cove, Herron Landing, Mayo Cove, Thompson Spit and a number of others.

The roughly 20-mile-long, 5-mile-wide Key Peninsula, home to about 17,000 folks, is neatly crisscrossed by streams and creeks and sports numerous healthy unspoiled estuaries.

What a beautiful place to live. Our two waters, Carr and Case inlets, are joined together by Pitt Passage and then Drayton Passage, whose water swirls past Devil's Head, where there are no estuaries.

So much of Puget Sound has been spoiled. Not here though. Our crystal-

(See Trandum, Page 7)

Letters Policy

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(From **Whitmarsh**, Page 6)

Devil's Head.

I'm one of those who is blessed to have a job that keeps me here, and allows — or, in fact, demands that I drive all over this peninsula as I meet with the families who are part of our church. As much as I enjoy those visits, I also cherish the added bonus of experiencing the variety of the community in which we live.

We have lavender farms and wooded parks and secluded coves and restaurants rich with local flavor. We have concerts and fairs and open mics and book readings. We have trails through deep woods and swimming holes full of kids on warm summer days. We have art showings and outdoor movies. We have apple orchards, woodpeckers and a bear or two, if you'll just look for them.

The richness of this place is amazing, and yet so many don't seem to realize it, since they never take the time to explore and experience all that it has to offer.

The greatest assets, of course, are the people. There are artists and authors and pilots and old soldiers. There are natives and transplants. There are college professors, pastors, farmers and computer

programmers. There are even some you might classify as hillbillies out here. If you take a little effort to get outside of your personal circle, you're confronted with an amazing, eclectic, interesting community of people.

You might meet a filmmaker in the parking lot of Joemma Beach. Or maybe you'll meet a cancer survivor holding court in front of Close to Home Espresso. Last week I had a lovely chat with a nurse who makes her home in Kansas City, but heads to Longbranch every summer.

We are surrounded by glory. Sometimes we just need to get outside of our regular routines and experience all that life has to offer, especially life on this wonderful little tract of land we call home. As one who is still discovering new places and wonderful people here on the KP, let me encourage you to head south. Or north. Or any direction you haven't explored yet. Get out and discover the people and places that populate our peninsula. You won't be disappointed.

Dan Whitmarsh is pastor at Lakebay Community Church.

2013 election – issues and candidates

The August primary election saw an abysmal 20 percent voter turnout for Pierce County and 26 percent for the state. For Key Peninsula, the poor turnout is easy to understand. There was nothing of substance on the ballot.

Expect a repeat in November, except for state senator, and two property tax levies. The winner for senator position could well determine whether there will be a Democratic or Republican majority. Leading up to November, expect a lot of money to be spent on propaganda, over which both candidates claim they have no control.

We do have two great candidates for the



Rick Sorrels
The Pragmatic Sophist

job.

Nathan Schlicher (Democrat) is the incumbent, having been appointed in January to fill the vacancy left when Derek Kilmer left for Washington, D.C.

Jan Angel (Republican) is the challenger, serving her fifth year in the State House of

(See **Sorrels**, Page 8)

(From **Trandum**, Page 6)


clear tidal waters are a testimonial to leaving nature alone. Good for us.

When you're watching a lovely sunset over a quiet little estuary, turn to your love and say something like, "fluvium improvium, my darling, let's leave it

alone some more." You'll score romantic points, expand someone's vocabulary and help keep our waters crystal-clear. A win-win win.


Bill Trandum is a retired U.S. Navy captain, a retired sailboat racer, a student of tides, weathers and all things water.

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Friends of Key Center Library
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10 a.m. until 4 p.m.
Saturday, September 14

in the
Brones Meeting Room
Key Center Library



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On Saturday, September 14th
prepare to be mesmerized, transfixed, and unable to prevent yourself from doing silly things on-stage.

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Jim Kellner
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 and opening act, comedian, **Cory Michaelis**
at the Key Peninsula Civic Center
 17010 S. Vaughn Rd KPN, Vaughn

Tickets \$20-25 (includes dinner) **or \$15** (show only)
18+ only ~ limited seating ~ no host bar
 available online, or in person at **Bayside Animal Lodge Ltd., Blend Wine Shop, Sunnycrest Nursery, or the KP Civic Center.**

For more info call 253-884-3456 or visit www.kpciviccenter.org

The Key Peninsula Civic Center is a 501(c)(3), private non-profit. We rely on rentals, fundraisers, and donations to keep our doors open, and our rentals affordable for the community. Thank you for your support!

KP Community Council 10th annual election profiles

KP News staff report

For more than 10 years, the Key Peninsula Community Council (KPCC) has worked to maintain and improve the quality of life on the Key Peninsula.

Monthly programs bring government and public service organization programs together to help influence the well-being of the peninsula. The KPCC keeps the interests of the Key Peninsula highlighted on the agendas of these organizations.

The council supports local efforts like The School Bus Connection project, the KP Farm Tour, the Safe SR-302 project and the middle school/high school youth council. The KPCC shares a partner relationship with the Land Use Advisory Commission as well as links to 15 organizations and commissions.

Each year, the KPCC rotates the director positions on the council by offering an election of half of the positions.

A ballot is included as an insert in this issue of the KP News for your vote for candidates in all four areas.

The 2013 slate has no contested positions, but council members are hoping citizens take time to mark and mail a ballot to show support for the work of the council body.

A spokesperson from the council said that write-in nominations have provided quality directors in past years. For these candidates, include their full name and contact information (phone/email) on the mailer.

If a position remains open after the election, the KPCC board said it will nominate

(See **Council**, Page 9)

(From **Sorrels**, Page 7)

Representatives (winning in three elections), with the previous eight years serving as a Kitsap County commissioner.

Schlicher is a bit of a surprise. He is only 30 years old. He graduated from high school at 14, which was too young to enter medical school, so he finished his Juris Doctorate (law degree) before starting medical school, which he finished by age 23. He is an emergency room physician at St. Anthony Hospital.

He emphasizes that he is not a politician and has not run for elected office before. Even while serving as a state senator, he continues to work a few hours each month in the emergency room.

Angel has name recognition. She has operated various businesses in Pierce and Kitsap counties for 30 years, and served 13 years in elected office. Angel has lived and fought in the political trenches, solving the problems as they develop, making the normal progression from county commissioner to state representative, and now trying for state senator.

Both candidates support schools, education, jobs, business, transportation, law enforcement and safety. Both candidates dislike the partisan strife and obfuscation, with a continuing intension of working "across the aisle."

Neither candidate seems to be a party standard-bearing radical, but rather a more

common sense decider of issues as they develop.

Two main differences are apparent: experience and approach to budget.

Angel wants to find the funding when the laws are passed. Schlicher tends to concentrate on the importance of the issue, leaving the funding for later.

Angel has learned the intricacies of pushing a bill through both Houses, having done so successfully and knowing the inner working of the various levels of state, county and municipal governments.

Schlicher has a lot to learn quickly. Stuff that does not come out of a book, with opponents waiting to trip him at every opportunity. (Politics has become an extreme hard-ball game.) But a "youngster" who can finish off both a JD and an MD by the age of 23 can be no less than brilliant, and may well appeal to an electorate that is sick and tired of Chicago-styled politics, and looking for something "different."

Angel won the straw-vote primary by a wide margin, but Schlicher, who was a complete unknown until his appointment in January, has pulled in good numbers for a relative unknown. Both candidates are crowd-friendly, welcoming contact and questions.

I predict a close race, with lots of outside garbage to confuse issues and the personalities. Lets hope we, and both candidates, can survive through November without any permanent damage.



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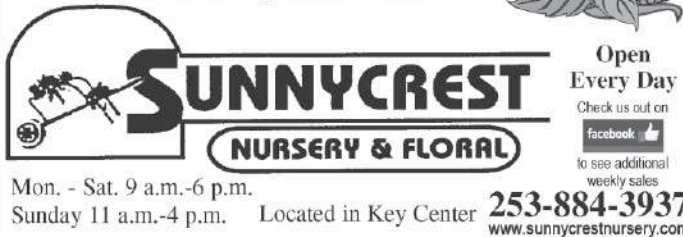


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(From Council, Page 8)

and elect citizens from other areas, and the term will be served with an at-large representative.

Ballots will also be available on Election Day, Sept. 22, at the Key Center Food Market from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Ballots will be counted and recorded at the Key Center Library after 4 p.m. Anyone over age 18 who lives or owns property on the Key Peninsula may vote.

Area 1: No candidates have yet been identified. Members say the council should have representation from the northern Key Peninsula (Wauna and Minter), and names of willing candidates who live in those areas may be written in on the ballot.

Area 2: Audra Garcia

"I came out to the Key Peninsula to start a family and become a member of this community in 2002. It is through my children that I am becoming anchored more securely. Now I feel that I am being pulled to be-



come part of the council in order to promote and protect the community that I have come to love. The concerns of the community are becoming my own. I also want to assist in the development of our community as inevitable changes occur, to help in growing our community into something we can continue to be proud of."

Danna Webster, incumbent

"Nestled between two waters, the Key Peninsula is a beautiful, rustic, rural land with a history of self-reliant individuals willing to help a neighbor when necessary. The Key Peninsula Community Council (KPC) is dedicated to keeping it that way. KPCC works to assure that government and public services respect the interests of our peninsula — top to bottom and sideways. I want to continue serving the Key Peninsula by facilitating the efforts of the KPCC as a council director. I would appreciate the honor of your vote for me on the KPCC ballot."



Area 3: Chuck West, incumbent

Chuck West currently serves as a battal-

ion chief with Key Peninsula Fire Department. He is on the KP Land Use Advisory Commission for Pierce County and helped write the community plan. He is currently on the board for Key Free Clinic, the Peninsula Schools Education Foundation and the Pierce County Flood Control Advisory Committee. West wants to see the vision brought forth in the community plan become a reality.



Area 4: Rion Tisino, MHP, incumbent

"I am dedicated to continue facilitating youth-friendly activities and refer families to resources that will enhance their individualized needs on the Key Peninsula corridor. I have been active on the KP Council for four years. I have recently taken KP Youth Council to the state capital and have facilitated an anti-bullying training program for them."



Source: Key Peninsula Community Council



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Fire department builds new training structure

By Scott Turner, KP News

Key Peninsula firefighters will soon have a new training prop to practice on. And the department built it for a fraction of the price it would normally cost.

According to Anne Nesbit, administrative assistant and volunteer lieutenant with the Key Peninsula Fire Department, the department purchased two shipping containers that are being converted into a two-story building, complete with doors, windows and a staircase.

Nesbit said the idea started about six months ago when two of their members, firefighter Robert Fisher and training chief Hal Wolverton spotted two containers on the peninsula and figured out a way to purchase them and get them to the back of the Key Center station.

"We're always looking at how we can maximize our training without having to spend a lot of money because we're a department that's always minding our

budget.

"If we can create something that our firefighters can practice on — and save some money — we'll do it," Nesbit said.

On the open market, a similar structure would cost "about \$80,000," Nesbit said. "But by doing the work ourselves it will cost us about \$8,000," he said.

Many Key Peninsula businesses, organizations and individual citizens stepped up to help pay for the project, which included purchasing the containers, hauling them to Station 45, pouring a concrete pad for the foundation and stacking one unit on top of the other.

The resulting structure simulates a two story home complete with moveable walls.

"We can create different scenarios, like real smoke from floor to ceiling so we can do search and rescue, practice in a confined space and make a competence course," Nesbit added.

Training exercises also will include wall breaching, ventilation, second-floor ladder access and roof work.

"We don't have any place in the district that we can practice this stuff. We usually have to go to North Bend," she said. "They use live fire. We don't use live fire."

Assistant Fire Chief Guy Allen was quick to point out the benefits of the new training prop.

"It gives us the ability to put a ladder up against the side of a building that our people can actually climb up," he said.

Department members used to do that at some of the stations, but the department suffered some roof damage over the years, Allen said, adding that now "it's kind of taboo" to use the fire stations for training.

"This gives us an opportunity to do all that work. And doing ladder operations — we don't do that very often — so when we have to do that kind of work, we're exposing our people to a lot of hazards and they need to practice that a lot more often," he said.

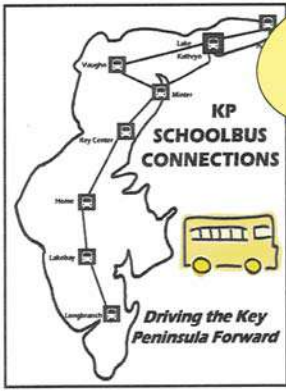
According to Nesbit, there were a

couple of house fires on the Peninsula this summer, and at one of them firefighters "actually went up on the roof," Nesbit said. "We don't usually go up on the roof because of our response time. So having this prop is going to be a very important factor in making our firefighters safer because we'll be able to practice. And by us being safer, the community is safer."

The great thing about the project "is that some of our own guys had the vision that they wanted to create this training prop here so our people could get skills and improve their abilities," Allen said. "And the way the community came together to respond so favorably. This is one of those little projects in the background that has a number of fingers in it — the willingness of multiple people to be proud of their contributions to our community," he said.

The department hopes to have the new training prop finished in early October, hopefully to coincide with the annual farm tour, officials said.

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Development of the Key Pen Parks

By Rick Sorrels, KP News

Now that Key Pen Parks either owns or controls more than 1,200 acres of park land, let's see what they plan to do with it.

Metropolitan park districts, like Key Pen Parks, are required to develop and follow a comprehensive plan that is subject to review and amendment every six years. The plan requires public input, usually accomplished through surveys.

"There are three reasons for the comprehensive plan," said Key Pen Parks Director Scott Gallacher. "To identify what the public (taxpayer) wants, for internal planning purposes and for grant eligibility."

In the initial plan six years ago, the public identified land acquisition and establishing trails as the hot priorities. Since then, park land has increased from 22 acres to 1,233 acres, and trails have increased from none to 11 miles.

The park commissioners aggressively sought and used grant money and "matching funds" to obtain properties for a small fraction of their value. Trails were constructed primarily with volunteer help.

Now, six years later, 340 Key Peninsula residents have responded to a new survey, which will feed into an Amended Comprehensive Plan expected to be adopted in December or January.

The hot priorities now are restrooms, picnic areas/shelters, playgrounds, access points for the trails system, more trails and off-leash dog parks. All of these need capital funds, and the district has essentially no capital funds in its budget due the pending tax pro-

portion problem and expected non receipt of property tax revenue starting in 2014.

The 360 Park, Gateway Park and the Key Central Forest Park must first comply with county development regulations for road access before any improvements can be made to each of these parks.

According to Gallacher, the only improvements allowed would be placement of porta-potties and volunteer help clearing brush for trails. The 360 Park alone would need \$750,000 in road access work on SR-302, which is more than the total park's budget for 2013.

"Grant money might be out there, somewhere," Gallacher said. "But we haven't found it yet."

"With the drop in tax receipts, we have already been forced to use what capital funds we had available for operations and maintenance," Gallacher said. "A vault privy (toilet), without any water supply (like at Home Park) costs \$25,000 each. We will be lucky to be able to place a few porta-potties."

Gallacher said that if the parks levy passes in November, the \$700,000 that it will generate over its one-year life will only restore the operations and maintenance costs to maintain the existing parks in their current state. If the parks levy fails, the existing four full-time staff and two seasonal workers will be severely cut, programs will be cut and the agreement with Kitsap County's Horseshoe Lake Park would likely terminate.

No matter how great the Amended Comprehensive Plan is when approved, it will be shelved until the economy improves with increased property values and home sales.

CAC celebrates 25 years of service

By Hugh McMillan, KP News

Citizens Against Crime (CAC) celebrated its 25th anniversary Aug. 15 with a barbecue and potluck dinner at the home of its president, Cindy Worden.

Pierce County Sheriff's deputies Lt. Gerry Lawrence and Sgt. J. Villahermosa attended the event and shared up-to-date information on local crime, noting that the area has witnessed an increase in burglaries and car prowls.

Villahermosa said that people need to be sure they lock their doors when away from home. That applies as well to vehicles, he

added, noting that unlocked vehicle doors are an invitation to thieves.

"When they cruise through a parking lot trying doors, if the door is locked they simply move on to the next vehicle until they find one unlocked. If they see any valuables such as a lady's purse on the vehicle seat, they smash the window, grab the item and disappear," Villahermosa said.

Worden said all of the CAC meetings are open to the public.

"Anyone interested in joining us, volunteering with us or just visiting to learn what we're about is most welcome," she said.

For information, call (253) 851-2401.

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COMMUNITY PAGES

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

NOW

Swimming

Easter Seals Camp Stand by Me offers adult water aerobics and lap swimming. Call the camp office at 884-2722 to sign up. Swimming is fun and a great way to stay in shape.

PYO registration

The Peninsula Youth Orchestra is registering for the 2013/14 season. There are four orchestra levels, from beginners to advanced, teaching violin, viola, cello and bass, grades 4 through 12. The mission is to seek and train young people to enjoy the many benefits of music making in the context of a string orchestra. The program balances nurture with rigor and compassion with excellence and is open to all. Some scholarships and instrument loans are available. Contact Ric: (253) 534-5384, info@harborpyo.org, harborpyo.org.

Vendors needed

The KP Farm Council seeks vendors and entertainers who want to participate in the KP 2013 Farm Tour on Oct. 5 to contact the council at (253) 225-9030.

SEPT. 1

Auditions

Paradise Theatre hosts auditions for the new season at 2 p.m. Prepare a one-minute Broadway-style song and/or a one-minute monologue. Call or email for a time slot. 851-1921 or vrichards@paradisetheatre.org.

SEPT. 5

Fuchsia group meets

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

SEPT. 5 and 19

Senior shopping

The senior van meets at the KP Community Services at 9 a.m., and returns between 3-5 p.m., and gives

To submit an event

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

seniors an opportunity to go grocery shopping and attend any scheduled Gig Harbor doctor's appointments. Also included is a "Dutch" lunch. 884-4440.

SEPT. 6

KC bloodmobile

The bloodmobile will be at the Food Market at Key Center 3:30 to 6:30 p.m.

SEPT. 6, 13, 20, 27

Skate night

Geared for kids ages 5-13, skate night is 5:30 to 8-30 p.m., at the KP Civic Center. Kids may safely enjoy roller skating, arcade games and concessions. Parents are welcome to attend and visit with others on the observation balcony. kpciviccenter.org or 884-3456.

SEPT. 7

PHS reunion

The classmates, spouses, and friends of Peninsula High School gather for the 11th annual reunion of the first dozen years, the fabulous '50s, at 7 p.m. at the Eagles, 4425 Burnham Drive, Gig Harbor. Bring your yearbooks or photo albums to share memories. No food is served and no cover charge; a hat will be passed to pay for venue rental. Dian, 858-6901.

SEPT. 9, 16, 23, 30

Bloodmobile dates

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

SEPT. 10

Buses resume

The KP School Bus Connect's fall bus schedule begins. For route information, go online to kpcouncil.org

(click on the KP School Bus Connects logo to download a schedule) or call 884-2877.

SEPT. 10 and 25

Crochet or knit

The Loving Hearts group knits and crochets for charities including veterans, babies, backpacks for kids and chemo patients and meet on Sept. 10 from 1 to 3 p.m. and Sept. 25 from 7 to 9 p.m. at WayPoint Church, 12719-134th Ave. KPN. All are welcome. Yarn donations are always needed. lovingheartsonkp@gmail.com or Virginia, 884-9619.

SEPT. 11

Garden club meets

The Bayshore Garden Club meets 1 p.m., at the Longbranch fire station. Francine, (253) 569-1381.

SR-302 meeting

The Washington State Department of Transportation and Pierce County Planning present an update on the SR-302 road construction project at the KP Community Council meeting, open to the public, at 7 p.m. at the KC Fire Station. A project description is available at wsdot.wa.gov/projects/sr302/kphtopurdysafety or hqcustomerservice@wsdot.wa.gov or (360) 705-7438.

SEPT. 12

Ashes meet

The Ashes support group for FD16 meets 10:30 a.m., at the KC fire station. 884-3771.

SEPT. 12 and 26

Key free clinic

Non-emergency medical care for residents without any medical insurance is provided 5:30 to 8 p.m. 884-4440.

SEPT. 12, 17, 26

PSD open houses

KP Middle School hosts open house on Sept. 12; Minter Creek on Sept. 17; and Evergreen and Vaughn on Sept. 26. All open houses begin at 6 p.m.

SEPT. 14

Used book sale

The Friends of Key Center Library host a used book and media sale 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the library. Funds raised pay for free programs. (253) 548-3309.

Septic system workshop

A free workshop sponsored by Pierce County Health Department is hosted 9 a.m. to noon at the KP Civic Center. Jihae Yi at (253) 798-4754 or jiyi@tpchd.org.

Plant a tree

Pierce County Conservation Department asks for volunteers to plant 400 trees and shrubs near Filucy Bay in Longbranch from 9 a.m. to noon. Register at 845-9770 or streamteam@piercecountycd.org.

Hypnotist performs

The Civic Center sponsors a hypnotist for residents ages 18 and older. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., dinner served at 7 p.m., show starts at 8 p.m. Limited seating and no-host bar. Tickets are \$20-25 (includes dinner) or \$15 (show only). Tickets are available at Bayside Animal Lodge Ltd., Blend, Sunnycrest Nursery, or the KP Civic Center. kpciviccenter.org or (253) 884-3456.

SEPT. 15

Sunday bluegrass jam

Bluegrass Gospel Jam session is hosted at Longbranch Church (16518 46th St. KPS) 6 to 8:30 p.m., for all acoustic instruments, ages and skill levels. Everyone is welcome to play, sing or simply listen. Bring music stand and finger food to share; music and beverages are provided. (253) 492-4177.

SEPT. 19

Forum

Mustard Seed's 3rd Thursday Forum is 10 a.m., at the Key Center fire sta-

(See **Community**, Page 13)

(From **Community**, Page 12)

tion. 884-1205.

SEPT. 21

KPHS picnic

The KP Historical Society's fall picnic is at noon at Lakebay Marina. Marina owner Mark Scott will give a presentation on the history, current status and plans of the marina. Members, guests, and others interested in the historical society or the museum are welcome. Bring your own plate service and something to share and a folding chair if needed. 884-2511.

SEPT. 22

KPCC election

The Key Peninsula Community Council Election of Directors takes place. Mail in ballot (enclosed in this issue of KP News) or drop it off at KP Civic Center before 3 p.m., Sept. 22, or vote in-person at the Food Market in Key Center 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. 884-2877 or irenet2211@gmail.com.

SEPT. 23

Play day

KP Parks sponsors a play day, for all ages, from 10 a.m. to noon. Donations for the food bank/senior center are welcome. Jessica@keypenparks.com or 884-9240, extension 22.

SEPT. 24

Math mentoring

Math mentoring, sponsored by Communities In Schools, begins at KPMS

and Evergreen Elementary. Contact Laurel, 884-5733, if interested in mentoring math or reading at these schools or Minter Creek or Purdy.

Key Singers rehearse

Key Singers restart at the KP Lutheran Church, 4213 Lackey Road KPN, at 7 p.m. Voices are needed in every section and rehearsals are for the Christmas show, the Key Singers' gift to the community. Membership dues are \$10 annually, which help pay for rent, music and programs. Rehearsals continue every Tuesday evening until show time in December, with some possible other dates scheduled for various community facilities or events. 884-5615.

SEPT. 26

Book discussion group

All adults are invited to join the Fourth Thursday Book Discussion Group at 11 a.m., at the Key Center Library. Ask at the desk for your copy of the book. This event is sponsored by Friends of the Key Center Library (253) 548-3309.

SEPT. 27

Teen fun

Club Cosmic, for teens grades 8 through 12, is 9 p.m. to midnight. Geared exclusively for teens, this once-a-month event is chock full of DJ battles, dancing, games, including dodge ball (with glow-in-the-dark balls), four square, name that tune, and contests: all for \$5. kpciviccenter.org or 884-3456.

WEEKLY EVENTS

MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, FRIDAYS

Senior exercise class

The S.A.I.L. program, taught by Marilyn Perks, includes aerobics, light weightlifting, stretching and balance techniques 10 to 11 a.m., at the KP Community Services in Lakebay. Participants must register with Marilyn, 884-4440.

TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS

Senior tai chi club

Senior tai chi meets 10 to 11 a.m., at the KP Community Services in Lakebay. 884-4440.

Preschool play time

Beginning Sept. 17, the Children's Home Society KP Family Resource Center offers a preschool/toddler indoor park program 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., at the KP Civic Center. Caregivers must stay with children. Drop-ins are welcome; stay for as long as you wish. A \$1/child donation is suggested. Tami, 884-5433.

WEDNESDAYS

Writers meet

The Lakebay Writers meet 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. at the Key Center Library. 884-3931.

Writers' workshop

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

WEDNESDAYS & FRIDAYS

Senior meals

Nutritional meals for age 60-plus are served at noon at the KP Community Services; a \$2 donation is requested. Guests (ages 50-59) of senior attendees are requested to donate \$2.50. 884-4440.

THURSDAYS

Toastmasters

The Toastmasters meet 8 to 9 a.m., at the KC Library. Join the fun and improve your speaking ability. 3409.toastmasterclubs.org or (253) 740-7891.

Seniors lunch

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

Bingo

Free Bingo at the KP Community Services beginning at 7 p.m. 884-4440.

THURSDAYS & SATURDAYS

Historical Society

"Tall Trees, Tall Men, Tall Tales" is open at the Key Peninsula Historical Society Museum 1 to 4 p.m., or by appointment. Free admission; money donations appreciated. 884-2511 or 884-5403.

SATURDAYS

Writers meet

The Writers' Guild meets 10 a.m. to noon, at the KC Library. 884-6455.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

Key Peninsula Veterans

Sept. 2, 7 p.m., at KP Civic Center; kpveterans.net.

KP Lions' dinner & program

Sept. 4 and 18, 5:30 p.m., in VFW Room, KP Civic Center; 853-2721.

Peninsula School District Board

Sept. 5, 6 p.m., at district office.

Key Pen Parks

Sept. 9, 7 p.m., at Volunteer Park;

keypenparks.com.

KP Community Fair Association

Sept. 10, 6 p.m., in Roadhouse Restaurant VIP room; keyfair.org.

KeyFest

Sept. 10, 6 p.m., at Roadhouse; president@keyfest.org.

Fire District 16

Sept. 10 and 24, 6 p.m., in meeting room, Key Center fire station; keypenin-

sulafire.org.

Key Peninsula Council

Sept. 11, 7 p.m., at KC fire station; kpcouncil.org (see Community Pages for details).

KP Civic Center Association Board

Sept. 12, 7 p.m., in Whitmore Room; kpciviccenter.org.

LIC

Sept. 18, dessert potluck, 6:30 p.m., at Longbranch Improvement Club; 884-6022 longbranchimprovementclub.org.

KP Citizens Against Crime

Sept. 19, 7 p.m., at Home fire station; kpcitizensagainstcrime.org.

KP Farm Council

Sept. 23, 6:30 p.m., at Key Center fire station; dwebsterkp@gmail.com.

MORE CALENDAR

See Off the Key events online at www.keypennews.com



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KP Middle School gets painted by Scouts

By Colleen Slater, KP News

Joseph McGraw, Eagle Scout candidate from Joemma Beach Farms, Lakebay, chose painting some of Key Peninsula Middle School for his Eagle project in August.

“This was my favorite school of elementary, middle school and high school,” McGraw said.

“It’s a starting point for everybody’s life,” he said of middle school.

McGraw, with his crew of Troop 220 Scouts, parents and family members, painted interiors of A wing, C wing and a men’s bathroom, plus two retaining walls and the school name above the entrance.

McGraw, 16, will be a junior at Peninsula High School this year.

“It (the fresh paint) really brightens up the school and makes it more vibrant, which affects the school climate and students’ attitude,” said Assistant Principal Andrea Bowman. “We were really excited because due to limited resources, if he (Joseph) wouldn’t have come in to do this, it wouldn’t have gotten done,” she said.



Photo by Tonya Bryson, KP News

Boy Scouts of America Eagle Scout candidate Joseph McGraw, left, was joined by other scouts and friends Elijah Small, Jacob McGraw, Jacob Hill for some project painting at Key Peninsula Middle school. Pictured in the front row from left are James McGraw, Ebon Small, Jason McGraw, Marcos McGraw, Lanae McGraw, Liah West and Daniel West.

WELCOME TO THE “CIVIC CENTER CORNER”; in future editions, the KP Civic Center and the KP News hope to devote this space in the newspaper to all the most important things happening with, and at, the Civic Center. It is our hope to better keep you informed about the events, celebrations and all the great people who use, run and visit the Civic Center.

We plan to include a calendar of upcoming events, profile the people and organizations that find a home here, and “spotlight” special events. Our mission is to serve the community as best we can, and that includes making sure you know your Civic Center. *For example, did you know:*


More than 5,000 kids attended Skate Night during the 2012-13 school year.

Register online to become a “Friend of the KP Civic Center” and learn about opportunities to volunteer and support the Civic Center: <http://bit.ly/FriendsOfKPCivicCenter>

The Civic Center is a totally self-supporting asset of the Key Peninsula and we succeed only through the hard work of our volunteers and staff, our rental income, our special events and the generosity of the friends and residents of the Key Peninsula. As such, the success of the Civic Center is tied directly to you getting the most out of the Center and all that happens here. We pledge to keep you better informed and we hope you’ll join us in the months and years ahead.

www.kpciviccenter.org • kpciviccenter@centurytel.net • 253-884-3456

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Middle school language arts programs receive national honor

By Alice Kinerk, KP News

Beginning this year, Key Peninsula Middle School and Goodman Middle School will be opening their doors to out-of-district teachers who want to observe excellent language arts instruction at the middle school level.

The schools have been named National SpringBoard Demonstration Schools in recognition of their exemplary use of the SpringBoard curriculum. SpringBoard is the middle school and high school language arts program Peninsula School District (PSD) began using in 2007.

In the years since, students' reading and writing scores have improved on the statewide annual Measure of Student Progress, or MSP, test. The district credits the SpringBoard curriculum, along with hardworking and innovative teachers, for much of that improvement.

The schools earned the honor after teachers and administrators underwent a lengthy application process that included drafting a self-assessment, creating a video, as well as submitting a portfolio providing evidence of the district's instructional leadership, professional development and school environment.

"Our district is known for quality implementation of the program," said Claudia Thompson, academic officer of teaching and learning for PSD.

Now others would like to see exactly what that looks like in the classroom.

"Teachers and districts considering the adoption of SpringBoard may visit our classrooms as we demonstrate, through our teaching, the SpringBoard curriculum. We can show them the curriculum in action," said Vicky Schauer, a language arts teacher at Key Peninsula Middle School.

Peninsula schools benefit as well.

According to the College Board website, the schools each receive financial credit for professional development services; registration and recognition at College Board events, a customized school banner and plaque, inclusion in SpringBoard research and reports, and future opportunities to pilot new

SpringBoard-related programs.

Published by College Board, which also produces the Standardized Achievement Test, or SAT, the SpringBoard program considers what students will need to know in order to be successful upon graduation and then maps the skills they need to master at each grade level in order to get there. The philosophy is that all students should be challenged with tough academic courses that prepare them for college or careers.

"An advantage of SpringBoard is that the skills and strategies build from the sixth grade up, so teachers at each grade level know what students have learned in preparation for the activities of the next level. We can be assured that the students are prepared to meet the rigor of each unit," said Christine Fuller, a language arts teacher at Goodman Middle School.

Accompanying this approach is the need for effective teacher training.

"The professional development offered by SpringBoard is exemplary and ongoing," Thompson said.

At multiple occasions throughout the year, regional SpringBoard trainers meet with PSD teachers to instruct them on the most effective teaching practices within the curriculum.

According to Fuller, trainings also offer valuable collaboration time with teachers at other schools and grade levels.

"Since the adoption of SpringBoard, there has been a more productive dialogue between the teachers in the district regarding the specific lessons and activities. We can support each other through struggles and also share in our successes. Students in each building benefit as they get the very best of the same units in the SpringBoard curriculum," she said.

The schools join both Peninsula and Gig Harbor high schools, which became SpringBoard demonstration schools at the beginning of the 2012-13 school year. The designation lasts for two school years, and then the teachers and administrators must reapply to keep the title.



CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

- 1 Bath (Fr.)
- 5 Explode
- 8 Of the kind of (suf.)
- 12 She (Fr.)
- 13 Jap. apricot
- 14 Para-aminobenzoic acid
- 15 Differ
- 17 Arabian chieftain
- 18 Greek letter
- 19 Tree
- 21 Asbestos (abbr.)
- 22 Burmese knife
- 23 Incessantly
- 25 It. marble
- 29 Tilled land
- 32 Common man
- 33 Siesta
- 35 Adjective-forming (suf.)
- 36 Agave fiber
- 38 Daw
- 40 Soft mineral
- 42 Guido's note (2)

Answers

<p>words)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 43 Noun-forming (suf.) 45 Yarn 47 Hawaiian frigate bird 50 House (Sp.) 52 Em (2 words) 54 Monad 55 Feline 56 South African 57 Senior (Fr.) 58 Donkey (Fr.) 59 Salver 	<p>DOWN</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 "Venerable" monk 2 Settled 3 "Casablanca" characters 4 Nat'l Endowment for the Arts (abbr.) 5 Steal 6 Buddhist sacred mountain
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Figaro's singing sauce hits the KP

By Steve Whitford, KP News

A couple of months ago, Greg Hessler was an unknown student at Fresno State University in California.

After six years of soul searching, he knew what he wanted to do.

Hessler was mentored by Don Stoltz, owner of Key Center Food Market. On June 13, he moved to Washington, knowing he wanted to open a pizza restaurant in Key Center.

Hessler came prepared, fully researched the food franchise options available, and decided that Figaro's Pizza would be a perfect fit for the community.

Figaro's Pizza originated and is based in Salem, Ore., and has been in business for 13 years. It's owned and managed by Roger Burger. Figaro's Pizza has its own unique story of its origin of truth or mythical interpretation.

Figaro was born in the little known Italian village of Melodelicouso to a family of opera singers. His dream in life was to serve pizza at operas. The opera had a strict ban on food so Figaro decided if he couldn't bring pizza to the opera, he would bring opera to his pizza restaurant. People flocked to him to hear him sing arias and make pizza, and hence a legend was born. Figaro's slogan stands today, "flavors that sing."

Hessler said he planning on having 15 part-time employees.

The pizzas are baked in a stone oven and are available unbaked. Orders can be phoned or walked in. A pizza delivery service is being considered as well.

The pizza comes in four sizes, personal pan, a medium, large and extra-large — a whopping 17-inch that comes with up to 18 ounces of cheese and feeds eight to 10 people.

The pizzas are in combos, but Figaro's Pizza caters to the creative cus-



Photo by Steve Whitford, KP News

Greg Hessler, is the General Manager of the new Figaro's Pizza now open up in Key Center.

tommer and offers many different toppings, challenging its customers to make their own creations. There are three different crusts and three different sauces to choose from as well as a gluten-free option.

Besides pizza, Figaro's also offers calzones, salads, breadsticks and chicken wings. Fountain beverages also are available.

According to Hessler, one of the interesting things about the Figaro's franchise is the H.E.L.P. program. H.E.L.P. stands for help education with love and pizza. The charity provides grants based on need and creativity.

The store is located in the Key Center Shopping Center, near the Food Market.

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Ray's Meat Market making friends selling quality meats in Purdy

By Scott Turner, KP News

Every week, Lakebay resident Joanne Johnston makes a stop at Ray's Meat Market in Purdy to stock up on fresh meat.

"The quality of the meat they sell is outstanding. And the health benefits are amazing. I'm an asthmatic and I'm allergic to preservatives. I used to have to buy my beef whole and have it butchered to be sure it was steroid- and hormone-free, and I no longer have to do that," Johnston said.

She also appreciates the good service she always receives at Ray's.

"I know all the staff by name. And I can order all my holiday meats here and they're always ready on time, and they're always of the best quality you're going to get anywhere.

"And if there is a price difference between Ray's and the grocery store, the quality of Ray's meats outweighs that," he said.

The market is now in its third year at the Purdy location, but owner Ray Schumsky has been handling meat since he was a teenager.

"My father had a meat market in Kent," Schumsky said. "I started off down there when I was about 14, grinding hamburger and washing walls."

That was in about 1963.

"I've been doing this now for about 40 years on and off — cutting meat. I've done it all too — everything from wholesale to retail, you name it," he said with a smile.

Schumsky credits his father for the success of his Purdy market.

"I couldn't have learned from a better person. He'd been doing it all his life. One of the things he taught me was how to break down beef and how to cut all the parts. They don't teach that anymore, because everything you get nowadays in the grocery store comes into the store as what they call 'primal cuts' — already broke down. So it's hard to find a meat cutter that even knows how to break a complete steer down," he said.

Schumsky said one of his most important lessons learned was dealing with people in general, and how to properly talk to customers.

"People that came into his store felt like a friend, not just a customer. Everybody was on a first-name basis, as they are here at our store. We treat people like family and it's worked wonders. People come here to shop and they also come here for the experience of a friendly face, a short conversation and



Photo by Scott Turner, KP News

Ray Schumsky, owner of Ray's Meat Market in Purdy, is proud to follow in his father's "old school" butcher ways with customer service being priority No. 1 along with offering the best quality meats available.

an old-school butcher with a 'Cheers'-type atmosphere," he said.

That concept is serving Schumsky well at his Purdy market.

"Considering that we started business in the low part of the economy — in a recession when it was a gamble — we've done quite well. We're not making millions, but we're keeping our head above board," he said, grinning again.

In addition to the all-natural Painted Hills beef that Ray's currently sells, Schumsky said the store will soon offer family-size freezer packs of meat as well.


"It won't be the all-natural beef, but it will be a good quality beef like you'd get at QFC," he said. "It's a more affordable beef that we can cater to the larger families that have three or four kids and want to buy in quantity at a better price."


The cuts "will be absolutely good cuts, and we'll stick with the same cuts we do in our Painted Hills beef," he said. "We want to bring in the larger families that can afford to buy larger packages. But we'll stick with our policy of don't put anything out you wouldn't buy yourself."

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Black Powder Gun Club holds campout on KP

By Colleen Slater, KP News

Members of the Auburn Black Powder Gun Club and friends held a July weekend campout at Vaughn's Gentle Giant Farm.

They set up various tents and shelters decked with 1825-1840 furnishings and implements.

They shot pre-1840 caplock muzzleloaders at targets rather than game. They also went by first names and were in character with a variety of titles.

"Sir Michael," a knighted British army major, arrived to survey the Columbia district of the Hudson Bay Co., to see if the British should claim the area as their own.

His tent befitted a military officer, larger and with added decoration, and included his own hand made furniture of cots, nesting tables and storage cabinets.

Other tents dotted Key Peninsula property occupied by voyageurs, loaded with goods, included handmade furnishings as well as block-printed sheets and Hudson Bay blankets.

Some members of the club planned to



Photo courtesy of Maureen Sikora

Patrick and Karen, "a voyageur" and his wife share a moment during a recent campout at the Gentle Giant Farm.

attend the annual Peninsula Long Rifles Rendezvous at Sequim, where participants attempt to be historically accurate in dress, food and actions.

A campout tends to be a little more relaxed about total accuracy, although they do dress and cook according to the era they represent, said farm owner Maureen

Sikora.

Sir Michael said the daily ration for the military included dried peas, beans and/or corn, a pound of beef, a pound of bread, a pint of rum or brandy, or if those beverages were unavailable, a quart of beer or wine. Beef was "on the hoof," traveling with the army until needed.

Michael, and Karen, wife of a voyageur, shared historical facts about Hudson Bay Co., the Northwest area, people, customs, settlements and conflicts between British and Americans.

Karen wore necklaces of trading beads and explained how they were made. "All trade beads came from Europe," she said.

Her husband, Patrick, demonstrated his banjo made from a polished gourd and gut strings.

It was a fun time for all.

Karen, a Fort Nisqually volunteer and living history presenter, told how most of the voyageurs were illiterate, but physically strong from paddling canoes on the river.

Each canoe group had a "bully," the strongest of the men. If someone from

another group mistreated one of his, the bully located the other bully and they had a real physical battle.

After they fought, they often joined arms and cheerfully proceeded to "share a pint."

"What I like is re-enacting British military history," said Michael, a former history teacher.

He owns copies of many diaries and journals written in the era he portrays.

He noted part of the annual pay was a full "suit" of clothes, meaning trousers, blouse (shirt), jacket and boots.

Karen said the voyageurs' pay included cloth, which the wives appreciated.

She has the annual task of making haggis for the Burns dinner at Fort Nisqually. She needed a sheep's stomach for the casing and someone suggested contacting Maureen Sikora of Gentle Giant Farm.

When asked how soon she could have it, Sikora said, "In about five minutes."

Her visit to the farm and an invitation from Sikora convinced her it would be a great campout for the Black Powder Gun Club.

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Loggers do Old Timers' Day proud

By Hugh McMillan, KP News

The annual Key Peninsula Community Services and Food Bank Old Timers' Day fundraiser packed a crowd at the Longbranch Improvement Club, Aug. 17.

As always, the high point of the festivities was the Old Time Logging Show, with contestants coming from all across Western Washington to compete in logging-type events.

There was choke setting, in which contestants dashed up a swaying log carrying a flexible steel cable for the purpose of swinging it under and around the log.

There was "topping," a challenge where loggers swiftly climbed some 40 feet and used a chain saw to top off six to 10 feet from trees (poles) in the least amount time.

Among challengers were Mark Lucas, racing against his son Kyle Lucas, both from Belfair. Other crowd pleasers included felling a tree (a pole stripped of its branches), and ax throwing from a 20-foot distance at a three-foot diameter target.

Throughout the day's rivalries, competitors jokingly cheered one another along. This was



Photo by Hugh McMillan, KP News

Although the wobbling log caused her to lose balance, Mackenzie Gleffe, of Belfair, doesn't touch the ground and successfully engages the choke during competition at last month's annual Old Timers' Day in Longbranch.

friendly competition of skilled professionals who generously helped anyone who wanted to try.

All proceeds from the show are dedicated to support of the KP Community Services and Food Bank and the Longbranch Improvement Club.

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Patricia B. Heaven

Patricia B. Heaven was born in Manhattan, Kan., on Sept. 22, 1941 and at an early age moved with her family to Everett. She died in her Vaughn home on Aug. 1, 2013 at the age of 71.

While living in Everett, she obtained her bachelor's degree in psychology from the University of Washington, and then was appointed a deputy sheriff in Snohomish County to work as an arson investigator. She interviewed witnesses, victims and potential perpetrators. She also was the first female volunteer firefighter in Kenmore. As a member of the Puget Sound Yacht Club in Seattle, Heaven enjoyed boating in Puget Sound and watching boaters dock their boats before there were DWI laws for boat operation.

She later worked for Group Health Hospital in Redmond, scheduling surgeries. She left Group Health to provide hospice care for Jim Taylor, the brother of her husband, Edward. Jim died at her home of a brain tumor. She also worked for many years as the purchasing agent for the Westwynd Motel in Purdy.



Patricia B. Heaven

After moving to "Wyndsong Cottage" in Vaughn, Pat camped for five years in the house. The home, built in the 1920s, needed major renovation, and it was five years until there were no walls, roofs or

windows made of flapping plastic.

Heaven was a member of the Gallimaufry writers group, a local book club, and the Orthopedic Guild, where she helped raise money for the Mary Bridge Children's Hospital in Tacoma.

When Pat became ill with dementia and diabetic complications, she received home care and hospice care from her husband, son Brian Heaven, daughter in-law Liz Heaven, granddaughter Kimberly Heaven, sisters Mriana Williams and Susannah Henkle and local caregiver Veta Nebel.

Heaven is survived by her husband, Edward Taylor; her uncle Carl Hopt in Boise, Idaho; sisters Duck Fox (Daniel) of Gig Harbor, Susannah Henkle (Jackson) of Arlington, Mriana Williams of Redmond, Judy Hart of Port Orchard and Atsuko Otsuka of Tokyo; sons Alan Heaven of Anacortes, Brian Heaven (Liz) of Vaughn and Dick Taylor (Kate) of Santa Rosa, Calif.

A family memorial service will be held at the Vaughn residence when family and friends can be gathered together.

Carolyn Fyhn

Carolyn Fyhn, 71, died peacefully in her home on July 15, 2013.

Fyhn, a Lakebay resident since 1970, enjoyed crafting, gardening, spending time with her family and spoiling her grandchildren.

Family members include her husband, Mike; daughters, Kim, Penny (Ken) and Tina; son, Kurt (Tina); six grandchildren: Tyler, Josie, Danielle, Karley, Shiann and Josh; and one great-granddaughter, Cora.

Carolyn requested that there be no funeral services.

The Voice of the Key Peninsula

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Bluegrass barbecue bash draws community

By Steve Whitford, KP News

The Longbranch Community Church hosted its second annual bluegrass festival and barbecue on July 27.

The event was orchestrated and emceed by church pastor John Day, who was assisted by a host of volunteers, all working to make the event a success.

Outside, booths were set up to provide numerous services.

Carol Rosebruck and Rondi Amidon sold tickets for the available amenities like the barbecue lunch and strawberry shortcake. Dallas Amidon served the beverage booth while Cat Harold ran the booth providing activities and entertainment for children. Pat Thompson was in charge of parking.

Inside the community center, patrons enjoyed a virtual cornucopia of sights, sounds and smells.

For the ear, first up on stage was a group known as Coyote Hill Bluegrass, who traveled from their home in Oklahoma to perform.

In the back, Ruth Bramhall ran the silent auction, which featured a myriad of folk art that included original paintings, knitted gar-



Photo by Hugh McMillan

Jim Larson, of Longbranch, displays his offerings of hand-crafted jewelry at the last month's annual barbecue fundraiser for the Longbranch Community Church.

ments, antiques, outdoor furniture and other items.

Guests feasted on barbecue pork and chicken sandwiches with a side of coleslaw. Strawberry shortcake was available for dessert.

Next up performing was the Rhythm and Shoes Cloggers, who performed American step dance, a combination of square dance and tap dancing. The group was led by Mike Williams and his wife, Wantona.

The peninsula's own Rusty Roots per-

formed next. Group members were Bill and Lynn Lloyd, Roger Gemelle and Dorene Patterson, who played a number of old favorites. Coppage from Coyote Hill filled in on bass.

They were followed by the Day brothers John and Dan, in a musical reunion. The closing performance reprised Coyote Hill Bluegrass.

Pastor Day said all profits will go to fund the various ministries of the Longbranch Community Church.

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In order to maintain and improve these beautiful courts, the Tennis Club is seeking donations from the community to establish a Reserve Fund, to be managed by the KP Civic Center Association.

If you would like to contribute, your donation check should be made out to KPCCA and mailed to KP Tennis Reserve Fund PO Box 82, Vaughn, WA 98394 or delivered to 17010 S. Vaughn Rd KPN

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Foundation announces education grants

The Education Core Area Board of the Greater Gig Harbor Foundation is currently accepting letters of inquiry (LOI) from local 501(c)3 organizations providing programs and services that help students achieve foundational skills and critical competencies necessary for student success.

According to a GGHF press release, LOI must be submitted by midnight

on Sept. 21, to the Greater Gig Harbor Foundation, 6625 Wagner Way NW, Suite 150, Gig Harbor, WA 98335.

An LOI must be submitted and approved by the Education Cabinet prior to submitting a full grant proposal. Grant awards range from \$400 to \$1,000. Invitations to submit a proposal will be mailed on Sept. 27.

The Greater Gig Harbor Foundation

works collaboratively to build, bridge and enrich the greater Gig Harbor and Key Peninsula region by raising funding, advocating for and providing support to help meet diverse community needs that are essential to sustaining vibrant healthy communities across the peninsulas.

LOI instructions and requirements can be found at gigharborfoundation.org. The phone number is (253) 514-6338.

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Out & About

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Photo by Hugh McMillan, KP News

A pair of bald eagles take flight off a dock on Von Geldern Cove.

Where in the World...

J Matthew Phipps took his copy of the KP News along with him to Mel Fisher's Treasures, in Key West, Fla.

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Photo by Tonya Bryson, KP News

Last month, Paul Clark and about a dozen other Key Peninsula firefighters hosted a community car wash fundraiser to help support the Key Peninsula Volunteer Firefighter Association's funding for training props and firefighter education.



Photo by Hugh McMillan, KP News

The 29th annual KP Lions-sponsored Volksmarch was hosted in July. Here, walkers from Bellevue and Olympia check in at the walk's halfway point. A total of 100 walkers participated in the popular event.