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## PRIMARY ELECTIONS to decide fate of levies, candidates

Key Peninsula voters will have several important topics to consider during the Sept. 19 primary elections. Voters are asked to approve two separate levy "lid lifts" as well as narrow down a competitive list of state House and Senate candidates for Legislative District 26.

Both the Key Peninsula Fire District and the Pierce County Library System are asking voters for additional levies to restore their funding that has been decreased due to the 1 percent tax increase cap that resulted from initiative 747.

A total of eight candidates are on the ballot for three local legislative races. Rep. Derek Kilmer, Democrat, and Republicans Jim Hines and former state Rep. Lois McMahan are in the running for the state Senate seat vacated by Republican Bob Oke.

Incumbent Rep. Patricia Lantz, Democrat, is challenged by Republican Beckie Krantz for House Position 1; Democrat Larry Seaquist is running against

Republicans Trent England and Ron Boehme for Position 2.

Following the August ruling by an appeals court against a "top 2 primary" system in which voters could have voted for their top two candidates regardless of party affiliation, voters in the Sept. 19 elections must use the "choose a party" system that has been in effect since September 2004. The system means voters must choose one party's ballot and vote for one candidate on that ballot.

The Key Peninsula Community Council also has elections scheduled for September; the Community Council elections are not affiliated with the Pierce County system.

**For elections coverage, see pages 12-17. For community council candidate statements, see pages 18-19.**



## Metro Parks Board commissioner resigns

By Chris Fitzgerald  
KP News

Key Peninsula Metro Park District Board Commissioner and Vice President Jerry Schick, whose term was due to expire at the end of 2009, resigned "effective immediately" on Aug. 6, according to his letter received at the KPMPD post office box in time for presentation at the regular meeting of Aug. 15. Parks Director Scott Gallacher indicated to the Key Peninsula News the resignation came as a surprise with no forewarning.

Schick's letter was addressed both to the commissioners and "fellow citizens," and expressed frustration. He wrote, "I do not believe what I and others envisioned for our park district can or will be achieved." He referenced an "absence or disregard of fundamental and proper practices, policies, and procedures," and consistent enforcement of the same. Schick did not respond to a request by KP News for clarification of the allegations.

The letter stated, "(Lack of) funding... significantly restricts our park district from achieving... requisite goals and objectives (and) the ability to properly and effectively maintain or improve existing park assets."

KPMPD President Paula DeMoss was not present at the meeting, with an excused absence; Secretary Kip Clinton, acting as president, and Commissioners Carl Ridley and Ross Bishoff briefly discussed the letter and concluded they had no option but to accept it.

Bishoff said, "We are regretful to accept the resignation." Ridley noted, "We don't always know the reasons a person's life (takes the direction it does)."

Gallacher issued a statement to the KP News on behalf of the board: "The Key Peninsula Metro Park District would like to thank Commissioner Schick for his commitment to the community and park district."

"Commissioner Schick was very involved and instrumental in many day to day operations of the district early on and was an advocate for policy development.

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## Opportunity or concern?

### Key Pen beaches prime spots for geoduck harvesting

By Chris Fitzgerald  
KP News

Taylor Shellfish Farms in Shelton, the largest aquaculture grower in Washington state, farms 9,000 acres of owned and leased private tidelands in Puget Sound and Willapa Bay. Their new \$3.5 million, 22,000-square-foot processing plant "provides capacity for growth," according to owner Bill Taylor.

"Geoduck is a very sustainable product," Taylor said. "The same beds are in as good or better condition than when we began (farming them). No chemicals are used. Clean water is more a function of society than shellfish farming."



Photo by Chris Fitzgerald  
Geoduck harvesting in North Bay.

Yet, he acknowledges, "We don't know anything specifically about growing geoducks." His family's shellfish business is 110 years old, so they "just assume it works." "Clam planting/harvesting rotations may actually improve and 'open up' the beach, letting it breathe, like aerating your yard," he said.

Taylor Shellfish is investigating state-  
(See GEODUCKS, Page 29)

(See PARKS, Page 27)

# Planning Board to complete KP transportation element

By Chris Fitzgerald  
KP News

The Key Peninsula Community Planning Board will conduct a final review of its transportation project recommendations at the Sept. 6 meeting. Of 34 proposed projects on the third revised draft, only four are considered "premier priority."

Two of the four concern State Route 302 and fall under the jurisdiction of Washington State Department of Transportation; they call for "improving existing alignment, intersections, and paved shoulder and/or construct new northern route," affecting Key Peninsula Highway N to 94th Avenue NW, and 94th Avenue NW to State Route 16; cost of these to be determined. A third project would widen existing lanes and paved shoulders from the intersection of Olson Drive/Cramer Road to SR-302 (Elgin-Clifton Road), at a cost in 2006 dollars of \$6.3 million. The fourth in this most urgently needed category is construction of the missing segment of 186th Avenue KPN, including the widening of existing lanes, and adding a roadside path or trail, at a cost of \$6.6 million.

The remaining projects include six intersection improvements, none of which are expected to receive funding any time soon. Fire District 16 Division Chief Chuck West, a member of the planning board, has said several key intersections have extreme limited visibility, making them dangerous for drivers and hazardous for large emergency vehicles turning onto the roadway or against traffic. Despite his consistent input, none of those intersections are slated for immediate modification.

Included in the transportation section

The next meetings for the Community Planning Board are scheduled for Wednesday, Sept. 6, and Wednesday, Sept. 18, at 7 p.m. at the Key Center Library. Facilities and Services is the current topic. Members of the general public are encouraged to attend. See [www.piersecountywa.org/landuse](http://www.piersecountywa.org/landuse).

of the comprehensive plan are discussions and proposed projects for nonmotorized uses. Most of these 14 projects call for widening or adding paved shoulders for walking. In discussing walkways, the Americans with Disabilities Act creates an additional layer of consideration. Mike Galizio, transportation planner with Pierce County, reminded the board through a memorandum that "further clarification regarding the definitions of 'roadside paths' and 'roadside trails' may be necessary." Roadside paths must be paved "walkways," in compliance with ADA, whereas roadside trails are "generally regarded as multi-use facilities for pedestrians, bicyclists, and other users (e.g. equestrians)."

Throughout the entire comprehensive planning process, county guest speakers have reiterated the lack of funding in county coffers, which are now at least \$20 million underbudgeted and 20 years behind in projects.

Nonmotorized paths or trails have been hotly debated during transportation meetings. Those described in the transportation plan are basic, intended to provide walking and/or bicycle/equestrian throughways along roads now traveled at a pedestrian's (and school children's) physical risk. If only these 14 pedestrian-friendly projects were undertaken, the cost would be nearly \$40 million.

# 'Are you ready?' Emergency Preparedness series coming to Key Peninsula

By Irene Torres  
KP News

A series of emergency preparedness forums, sponsored in part by the Key Peninsula Community Council, will be held for the public this fall. The sessions will include presentations by Fire District 16, the American Red Cross, and Pierce County's PC-NET. Each agency will discuss its role in a local disaster, and PC-NET will also make presentations on neighborhood emergency preparedness.

Fire District 16 is involved in local, countywide and statewide plans to handle emergency situations that arise. Each plan is designed to expand, depending on the need, under the umbrella of the Gig Harbor/ Key Peninsula regional "Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan" that is being developed for the area.

Part of that planning involves a series of presentations to overview the Key Peninsula Emergency Preparedness Plan. The Key Peninsula Community Council's Safety Committee has organized community meetings to get the message out at the local level. Fire District 16 Assistant Chief Chuck West, who is a member of the Safety Committee, said, "We want our citizens to be ready for local disasters... from a few days without power... to the big earthquake."

"We have a great 'Incident Management System' that starts with the smallest calls... where we set up a command structure. That structure expands to manage every incident, ranging from a car accident to the World Trade Center disaster — using common terminology and practices. Local planning basically is a way of listing the resources we have here and setting a

## 'Emergency Preparedness: What You Need to Know'

Sept. 21, Minter Creek Elementary  
Oct. 4, Vaughn Elementary  
Oct. 19, Key Peninsula Middle School  
Nov. 1, Evergreen Elementary

The events will be held from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. and include door prizes. Admission is free, and public is invited.

The sessions are presented by the Key Peninsula Community Council, Pierce County Fire District 16, American Red Cross Mount Rainier Chapter, Peninsula School District, Pierce County Sheriff's Department, and the Safe Streets Campaign.

process for coordination. If I need heavy equipment to move something in an emergency, I can start with my local resources. If I don't find what I need, I call the county. If I need to move a whole hillside fast (such as a landslide), I call the state for multiple resources. If I need more, I call FEMA."

Only after exhausting local resources can the fire district call the next up the line.

West added, "We are listed as a resource on the state plan and regularly respond to wildland fires as part of a 'wildland strike team' to other areas. We have responded as far as Montana. We also send resources more locally to water rescue incidents with neighboring agencies."

In addition to the three participating agencies, the emergency preparedness forums are presented in collaboration with Safe Streets, Peninsula School District, and Pierce County Sheriff's Department.

Informational booths and displays are also planned.

"We have a lot of new people in the community who need to be ready. They need to understand that the fire department will be focused on the life safety problems first and may not be able to help with the simple stuff right away," West said.

## Peninsula KEY NEWS

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# Open discussion forums feature topic of peace

By Danna Webster  
KP News

A new organization was initiated Aug. 11 by Key Peninsula residents. The group, called Key Peacemakers, is dedicated to dialogue, debate, education and activism, with the focus on the subject of peace.

About 20 community members gathered for the first meeting of Key Peacemakers, conducted by the organization's steering committee members Martha Konicek, Dory Myers and Betty McChord. Konicek opened the meeting by expressing her personal goal, which is "creating peace personally, environmentally, locally, and globally," and asked for the audience to share their interests on the subject of peace. There was a common theme expressed with regard to war and the Middle East conflicts. People shared a need to go beyond their own living room to express their opinions and concerns about these matters.

Beyond that common focus, the group was asked about their individual issues and interests. After everyone had



Photo by Danna Webster

First meeting of the Key Peacemakers held in August had good turnout. The steering committee (l-r, Betty McChord, Dory Myers, Martha Konicek) encouraged an open discussion on the topic of peace.

shared their interests, backgrounds, experiences and positions, a broad list of global, national and local issues was generated. The list included: the Cuban embargo, the war in Iraq, health care, immigration, electoral college,

terrorism, the homeless, high school education, the United Nations, and peacemaker training.

As the dialogue became lively, some speakers were cautious about expressing their personal positions on issues, and a need for ground rules was recognized. It was agreed that finding a trainer in communication strategies should become a priority. The peacemaker goal especially supports the training idea. It is the group organizers' intention to assure that the group has a way of sharing passions and concerns, of building concerns with each other, and of providing a forum for community exchange, according to Konicek.

"We were pleased," Myers said after the meeting. "For one thing, without too much publicity and mostly by word of mouth, nearly 20 people attended — people we already knew and some people we never met before. And each person in the room expressed themselves, in a feeling and thinking way, as

## September 'Key Peacemakers' events

Friday, Sept. 15, at 7 p.m. at the Key Center Library, the Key Peacemakers present a program on civic communication with John Campbell and Brooke Quigley. Civic communication is public thinking about matters of common concern. Strategies for promoting dialog, making disagreement productive, and building civic friendship will be discussed — essential and significant to making a democracy work.

Friday, Sept. 22 at 7 p.m., a showing of the documentary film "Peace Patriots" is scheduled.

Saturday, Sept. 23, the Key Peacemakers will sponsor a rally to celebrate the International Day of Peace. Gather at noon in Key Center, at the corner lot next to O'Callahan's Pub and across from the liquor store, for a short walk through Key Center with signs, music, and songs. Walkers should provide their own signs.

to their own concerns and interests."

A movie and a rally were scheduled for the Peacemakers in September. After the suggestion for training, a meeting with a specialist in civic communication was added to the schedule. This strategy meeting will focus on "how to hold your own ground and still arrive at a peaceful solution," according to Myers.

As the first meeting of the Key Peacemakers ended, conversations continued among participants strolling out of the library into the summer evening. It was reminiscent of historians' accounts of Key Peninsula evenings about 100 years ago, when communities presented lecturers and debates on the topics of current events.

## Peninsula KEY NEWS

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A nonprofit organization staffed partially by volunteers, we appreciate the community's support in helping us grow and improve!

## Key Peninsula News to reveal new look

The Key Peninsula News has continued to grow and evolve since its relaunch in 2003. The October issue will introduce a new look that will make our newspaper even more attractive and reader friendly

— as well as explain other changes intended to enhance the quality of news coverage we provide.

Watch for the October edition of the Key Peninsula News in your mailbox

## Editorial

### Effective geoduck-farming discussion requires balance

Discussions about geoduck farming on the Key Peninsula have been growing in recent years, as this burgeoning industry becomes more visible on area beaches. The Key Peninsula is a prime area for this relatively new aquaculture — and the concerns it brings along will continue to grow.

What may be missing in the discussions between supporters — property owners who would like to lease their beaches to second-party businesses for raising and harvesting geoducks — and opposition groups formed by neighbors and environmental activists is the question of balance. Where does one draw the line between controlling a neighbor's private property, and making sure far-reaching environmental consequences are considered?

On one hand, it's the NIMBY (not in my back yard) spirit that dominates many other Key Pen debates, ranging from the creation of trails to logging and developing properties. On the other hand, as even those in the geoduck industry acknowledge, there is insufficient science to show the farming's long-term impacts on the beaches and their habitat. Anecdotal evidence suggests the industry is sustainable, yet there are no exact standards each grower is required to practice.

The debate has attracted the attention of local politicians at the county and state level. As Pierce County Councilman Terry Lee puts it, among the biggest challenges in creating good public policy is the balance between the rights and interests of property owners and the environmental impacts, while creating a "scientific baseline" for industry standards.

While some state lawmakers have expressed interest in implementing a regulatory mechanism that would help protect shorelines, they, too, must find a balance in making sure future generations can enjoy the beautiful Puget Sound, while allowing for economic benefits and protecting property rights.

A compromise is possible — but it will require property owners, environmental groups and citizens working together, not against each other.

## Letters to the Editor

### Fair board thanks volunteers, departing director

The Board of Directors for the Key Peninsula Community Fair would like to offer our sincere thanks to all the people who helped make the 2006 fair a success. Volunteers gave their time and energy during the hottest weekend on record, to bring about an event the entire peninsula can be proud of. The fair's success is due to the great efforts of our neighbors.

The board would like to extend appreciation to our Fair Director Mary Graves for a job well done. Graves took the KPCF to a new dimension this year. She helped bring about fresh ideas and offered new events for young and old alike. Graves was instrumental in the success of the 2006 Key Peninsula Community Fair. It is, therefore, with regret that we announce her departure. Graves will be unable to participate in the 2007 event due to personal commitments.

The 2007 fair will move forward with the help of our community. We will look for support and involvement throughout the coming year. If you're interested in becoming involved, positions will be available to help design and implement next year's event. Please call 884-4386 or send inquiries to KP Fair Association, P.O. Box 520, Wauna, WA 98395.

*Pamela Libstaff*

*President, Key Peninsula Community Fair*

### Animal Emergency Clinic helps in tough situation

On behalf of the Lake Minterwood community, I wanted to extend a big thank you to the Animal Emergency Clinic, located at 5608 S. Durango, in Tacoma.

My son noticed a large bald eagle struggling in the water at our park, and came home to tell me about it. I called a friend, who went down and looked at it. We decided to call a vet to get the Department of Wildlife on the phone. Finally, an officer came out in a truck and a Good Samaritan helped him get the bald eagle into a crate. The officer delivered it to the Animal Emergency Clinic that works with P.A.W.S. (paws.org). Both of these organizations should be commended on the wonderful outreach program they offer. They took in the eagle, assessed its situation, then P.A.W.S. came in and took it from there.

Unfortunately, the eagle did not survive the injuries. They suspect that the eagle

had possibly been shot in the leg at one time and had compensated by overusing the other leg. When that leg gave out, the animal hopped around on its wing tips, damaging its chest from falling down so much, and ended up in the lake.

It's not the first time we have had a majestic bald eagle shot at our lake. Shame on you, whoever you are!

*Diana Nole*

*Lake Minterwood*

### Golf fund-raiser a success

The KPCS/Ty Hardin fund-raiser on July 29 at Horseshoe Lake Golf Course was a success. Thanks to all the golfers, sponsors and donors, and Jamie Leary's "hole in one." All the proceeds went to the Key Peninsula Community Services Food Bank and Senior Center.

These funds will certainly help all of us at KPCS to assist many of our local citizens in their time of need. Thank you to platinum sponsor Geneva Foundation; gold sponsor Peninsula Markets; silver sponsors McMorgan & Co. Hardin & Nelson, Wurtz and Associates, Larry Hagen family, Washington Capital Management; cart sponsors Home Country Store, Welfare and Pension Administrators, Key Center Auto, Moreland and Sons, Key Center Shell, JED's Good Stuff, The Pettibon Institute, Brick Layers Local No. 1, Trillium Creek Winery, Teresa Ives, C2C Enterprises, Ferguson Co., Horseshoe Lake Men's Club, LuLu's Homeport, and to numerous businesses who provided gift certificates and items for raffles and prizes.

The KPCS board, staff and many volunteers say thank you!

*Larry Hagen,*

*event chairman and KPCS Vice President;*

*Ty Hardin, Pat Meduokus, Gary Stevenson,*

*Natalie STours and Bud Ulrich,*

*Golf Committee members*

### Geoduck farms are good stewards of the land

I have been a real estate property appraiser for over 40 years and I am also the author of "Appraising Waterfront Properties." Since the early '80s I have had the opportunity to appraise many properties with second class tidelands that have given the property owner the possibility of various types of fish management and shellfish farming. This includes herring pens, clams, mussels, oysters and geoduck. I have observed these operations in Jefferson, Kitsap, Lewis, Mason, Pierce and Thurston counties and found these operations are good stewards of the land as well as good neighbors. It only makes

good sense to avoid any contamination or deterioration of the shoreline and habitat, as this is in their own best interest as well as the neighbors' and public's. The PVC pipes used for the initial juvenile period are seldom seen, and then for only a short time in the summer minus tides.

From what I am reading in your publication as well as the Peninsula Gateway and the Tacoma News Tribune, it appears there are some NIMBAs (not in my backyard) that appear to be uninformed. It would be my suggestion that those desiring a good understanding of the shellfish operations start with the July 30, 2006 Tacoma News Tribune and read the article by Robin Downey with Pacific Coast Shellfish Growers Association.

There is another answer to this situation for people such as Richard Kuntz. If he wants to control his neighbors' property and their economic future, then he should be willing to pay for it. The answer is really quite simple, Mr. Kuntz, provide annually the income that would have been produced by the shellfish operation to Ona Reinke, Orrin Soeurs and Joel Erickson. As long as Mr. Kuntz and others are willing to take on this financial obligation, the property owner has incentive to forego any future shellfish operation.

It should also be noted that I do not know any of the parties involved in the various articles that have appeared in the Key Peninsula News.

*James Vincent Lutteri, IFAS, Adriatic Inc.*

*Lakeway*

### Commissioner Bosch calls for levy support

Recently, the board of fire commissioners passed a resolution to place two ballot measures before the local citizens. They did not raise taxes, but instead gave voters the opportunity to decide what level of emergency service they want. The two Lid-Lift Levy measures would only return your fire department to the level of revenue allowed by state law and what the voters have approved in the past. The additional cost to the average Key Peninsula family would be about the price of one hamburger and fries per month. All revenue collected stays here in the community to provide local citizens with highly trained and professional emergency personnel.

Over the last 10 years, the population on the Key Peninsula has increased substantially, with the "call volume" doubling during this time period. Yet, the

(See LETTERS, Page 5)

## (From LETTERS, Page 4)

department's emergency shift personnel remains at the same level as 1997. This higher demand for emergency service has outpaced the department's resources. That is why your board has committed to hiring at least seven additional emergency shift personnel with the passage of both ballot measures. This will result in an additional ambulance staffed with emergency personnel on duty 24 hours a day, seven days a week. At present, all too often we must call in neighboring districts to help with transports. This can add many precious minutes for emergency personnel to arrive at a scene of a seriously ill or injured patient. When it's our loved one suffering, every second counts!

Please join me, my family and your neighbors in supporting our fire department.

*James Bosch,  
KPPD Commissioner*

### Commissioner Yanity opposes fire levy

When I campaigned and asked the people of the Key Peninsula to elect me fire commissioner, I was told the drug use and lack of physical fitness were the most

important problems so I made them my priority. That is why I am opposed to any tax increases until there is a drug testing policy and a "comprehensive" program for physical fitness in place in this fire district. My fellow commissioners and the firefighters union think nothing new is what is good for the department.

On Dec. 14, 2004, the commissioners and the union signed the present union contract and it states, "The parties agree to co-implement a mandatory, non-punitive physical fitness program." The present program is, the firefighters will be physically active one hour of each shift. This is not a physical fitness program by any responsible person or agency.

Our present drug program is an after the fact farce. I pledge to do my best to implement a comprehensive drug prevention-treatment program so the problems of the past will be discovered or prevented before they become the mess we have experienced and that continues to haunt us.

I am trying to convince my fellow commissioners and the union to implement the "Fire Service Joint Labor Management Wellness-Fitness Initiative" developed and adopted by the International Association of Fire Chiefs and The International Association of Fire Fighters.

We seem to be able to come up with the money to repair our four-wheeled equipment but when our two-legged equipment needs repair, we can't even agree it is broken. I think this stand will be the ruin of our fire department if we don't demand change to correct these problems.

*Allen A. Yanity  
KPPD Commissioner*

### Residents should be involved with fire district

In my 40 years of being involved with the Key Peninsula Fire Department, I held every position except chief as a volunteer; as a paid staff member I held all positions except chief but was an interim chief; and later was a elected commissioner for six years, serving as chairman of the board twice.

In that many years I never saw the cohesiveness that exists among the staff today, excluding the Board of Commissioners. To start with, you have some of the best young men and women in the world working for you. The Key Peninsula Fire Department is the largest public entity totally located within the boundaries of the Key Peninsula. Your property taxes provide the majority of the funds that keep it operating and your attendance at the board meetings would greatly influence the way your taxes are spent.

You have a chief now who is a team player with a natural ability to manage and work with people. He is not one to open his mouth without his brain engaged. He understands budgets and when he assigns a detail to staff, he expects it to be done right without his interference. I predict before he hangs up his helmet, he will be known as one of the great chiefs of not only the district, but county and state.

There was an article about the department in the paper about the amount of money the proposed Lid Lift Levy would furnish the department and what the department would receive without the lid

lift. The debate was between Commissioner Yanity and the department administrator Christina Bosch. All I can say, Mr. Yanity, Christina is more aware of tax laws, department budget, investments, collection rates, and assessed values than the county auditor or treasurer.

I also know that the department responds to more calls in a day than received in a month when I went to work in 1976. Most people in the community believe they are protected by the services provided by the department. This is because of the quality and quantity of service provided by a few. Things get really tight when they are on two ambulance transports at the same time. It depends on the emergency; these two transports could require six firefighters to be unable to respond to another emergency for two hours, thus requiring help from neighboring departments.

The fact of the matter is that they need more on-duty personnel. The lid lift would help take care of this for years to come if properly budgeted.

It's your department, Key Peninsula community members. Get involved.

*Fred Ramsdell*

*Former Lakeway resident and fire commissioner*

### Fire district needs additional funding

We see a proliferation of roadside signs urging responsibility before new taxes. Well, we already have the responsibility. Fire District 16 is responsible for emergency medical assistance for people on the Key Peninsula. But they are getting more calls for help than they can handle.

Recently they were calling on District 5 for help two or three times a day, now it's two or three times a week. They need the additional funding to hire more help to meet the needs of the increasing population on the Key Peninsula.

*Marty Marcus and Ann Waldo*

*Homer*

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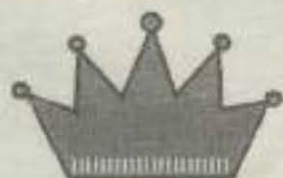


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## Community House brings entertaining summer events to the Peninsula

By Danna Webster  
KP News

This summer, two excellent events served as fund-raisers for the Key Peninsula Community Services (KPCS). These events earned a few thousand dollars for the benefit of the KPCS, which sustains a food bank for local citizens and provides luncheons and activities for seniors. Annually, KPCS also presents food baskets during the Christmas holiday for those in need.

In July, the second annual Ty Hardin Charity Golf Classic hosted 10 four-man teams in a "Four Person Scramble" tournament. And in August, the annual Old Timers' Day logging show and family festival was held at the Longbranch Improvement Club. It is the goal of KPCS to make each event better every year, according to Linda Hubbard, executive director.

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KP News

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# Community House brings entertaining summer events to the Peninsula

By Danna Webster  
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# A day at the faire

By Stephanie Galindo  
KP News

What more could one ask for than a whole day of great shopping, adventure, entertainment, good food, cold drinks, and even an education in medieval life — all for only \$10 or \$12?

A day at the Renaissance Faire began with the line at the gate, where the queen's entourage joined the populace to engage in lively banter with the pirates and gentle folk up on the battlements. Minstrels sang and played a variety of strange instruments, magicians entertained the crowd with their illusions, the infamous Pickle Wench carted out her ice-cold pickles, and bold knights strolled by, seeking favor for the tournaments later that day.

Cannons fired, the smoke drifted by, the

gate opened and the faire began!

Once inside, children were captivated by seven staging areas with fire jugglers, storytellers, magicians, gypsies, faeries, dancers, music, theatrical comedy, a faire-wide scavenger hunt for fairy-tale friends, archery practice, and live, melee-style sword fighting lessons. Youth wandered about in fairy wings, masks and costumes (available for rent), and contemplated a nip of cold Sarsaparilla with a big turkey leg for lunch.

More than 70 merchants attracted curious shoppers, some manufacturing their goods right there on the spot using traditional medieval equipment — such as Rainier Metal Craft spinning fine quality silver, pewter, brass and copper wares.

The stadium filled quickly for the phenomenal Cavallo Equestrian Arts performance, as skilled combatants

demonstrated full-speed hard-hitting jousting, precision maneuvers with lance and spear, amazing acrobatics, and competition on horseback with real swords to "capture the flag."

Farther afield, the charming, harmonious, (and "slightly" risqué) Thryce Wycked Wenches, and the rowdy Pirates ... ahem... mercenaries... of the good ship Emerald Rose commandeered the Ale House for an hour of tall tales spun in song. While the wenches bragged of their close encounters in town, the pirates loudly and vigorously protested their innocence of numerous alleged crimes against the crown. Even Her Majesty, Mary Stewart, Queen of Scotland, enjoyed the choice of icy ales, ciders or mead. One couldn't ask for more robust and high spirited entertainment, with crowd participation, too.

And then there was the dessert: ice cream, fresh crepes, locally made fudge, spiced nuts, and peanut brittle. And to think — faire patrons get to do it all again next year! What bliss!



Above, the lovely Blue Fairy graces the fairgrounds.

Below, a pirate and his colorful parrots. Photos by Stephanie Galindo



Left, Xena, the Warrior Princess, stepping out for a day at the faire.

Below, Her Majesty, Mary Stewart, Queen of Scotland and Brittany, stops at the gates of Holy Glen Shire during her "royal progress." Photos by Stephanie Galindo

## Portraits of faire patrons

A young lady of the Eton family (below) was recognized by Queen Mary in the Children's Knighting Ceremony. Her sister (right) and family members watched the ceremony over lunch.

Photos by Stephanie Galindo





Left, the knights of Cavello Equestrian Arts are granted favors (roses) from members of Her Majesty's Court. This particular knight, Olissio Zoppe, who has apparently gained great favor with a lady, hails from two of the largest circus families in Italy — seven and eight generations of performers on each side of his family. He and his brothers have performed with the Cirque de Soleil and Circus Maximus.

Above, "Fratelli" is an acrobatic celebration of the beauty of rider and horse, combining sheer daring with visionary artistry.

Below left, a very skilled lady aims to catch one of three rings on the tip of her lance. Below right, target competition at close range with a javelin. Photos by Karen Hale

Below left, a wood nymph peeks through the shrubbery by the Troll Bridge. Below right, Captain Splinter eyes the crowd from the battlements as the gate to Holy Glen Shire is opened in the morning. Photos by Stephanie Galindo



Below left, two knights engage in a trial by sword on horseback during the tournament games, fighting to "capture the flag" and the gauntlet.

Below, two knights in a full-speed joust. Photos by Stephanie Galindo





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# Mission: Possible

## Kenya humanitarian trip takes twist

By Rodika Tollefson  
KP News

When Mark Plummer and his son Shane were getting ready earlier this year to leave for Kenya to install a septic system for an orphanage, they were prepared for the unknown. The two Key Pen residents knew all work in the village was done with hand tools and getting materials was far removed from the American experience of a quick trip to the hardware store.

The two were part of a group that traveled to Kenya this summer; many group members were from Hawaii, others from Washington state. Part of the group focused on the sanitation project at an orphanage school in the village of Kapiyo, while others taught or provided medical help.

Mark, who owns Vaughn-based site development and construction company Earth Crafters Inc., and Shane, who works for his father, told the KP News before leaving that their job while in Kenya would be to improvise. But they weren't quite prepared for the news their group received upon arrival: The well system they thought had been hooked up was not.

Shifting gears, their first step was to raise about \$5,000 on the spot in order to buy a well pump, parts, and a generator (the power company wanted \$10,000 to bring electricity to the village, so they opted for the generator). The task was achieved by calling back home to raise funds, and by members of the humanitarian team donating their own money.

"We worked like madmen to hook up the pumps," Shane Plummer said.

Finding the extra funds was maybe the easiest part. "No materials except the word 'pipe' are the same," said Don Burlingame, a Port Orchard resident who got his friend Mark Plummer involved in the trip.

Burlingame, who works in Hawaii, had visited the village the year before to help build the orphanage and work on the well system. The village uses contaminated water sources for their drinking water, has no electricity or sanitation, and no regular source of income.

Although that trip was a success, Burlingame saw a much greater need for continuous involvement, and



Photo courtesy Earth Crafters

The villagers gather around as the well is run for the first time. For more photos, visit the KP News Website at [www.keypennews.com](http://www.keypennews.com).



Photo courtesy Earth Crafters

Members of the group, including Mark Plummer, give children ringworm medicine. Ringworm is a widespread disease in Kenya.

planned to return to build the septic system, and eventually hopes to see a medical facility there.

"The need is beyond your imagination," he said.

Everything was done by hand — including crushing rock to make gravel and digging the ditches for the holding tank; the dump truck was a flatbed truck where the workers "shoveled in and out."

To find the needed parts for the well hookup and septic, Burlingame spent several days shopping for many hours.

Bartering is a big part of the African culture that helps build relationships — which in Kenya take priority over work, schedules and other elements that drive the American culture. When all else failed, the local workers hired for the group had to make materials.

"Here, you buy (pipe) connectors; there, you make the connectors," Mark Plummer said.

The American team hired one or two dozen locals each day, at \$5 per day (much higher than average wage) to work on the project, which also brought

### To learn more

If you'd like to learn more about the Kenya humanitarian project, visit the Earth Crafters Inc. Website at [www.earthcraftersinc.com](http://www.earthcraftersinc.com), and follow the "projects" link.

a much-needed cash influx into the village.

It may be difficult to imagine how the group pulled it off, but the most unbelievable part was what happened when the water started to run.

"(The running water) was the happiest moment in the village," Shane said. Women broke into dancing and singing; people came all night long with buckets, and kids skipped school to get water — causing the well to be closed during the school day. A big celebration involved six hours worth of speeches and a feast that included the butchering of two bulls, four goats, and two sheep, with about 3,000 people coming to the orphanage on foot from as far as 10 miles away. The orphanage was the first in the village of more than 30,000 residents to have electricity. The 2,500-gallon water tank is large enough to supply water for the entire village, and a spigot was installed outside the compound that is controlled from the inside.

The group returned to the United States at the end of July after two and a half weeks. Although it took a few days to "get back to reality" and "our way of life," one thing they knew right away: They would need to go back. The septic system, which was installed, still needs to be hooked up, and much more work can be done to help the village. They envision setting up education programs, and some villagers have expressed interest in learning entrepreneurial skills.

The group is working closely with Fred Outa, a Kenyan orphan raised and educated by American missionaries. Outa has returned to Kapiyo, and has been the driving force to help bring a better life to his native village. The orphanage is one of his projects. Once the American team builds a planned bathroom, Outa will teach the children showering and personal hygiene, a habit that is not part of their culture.

"Fred's concept is that every time you try to teach something anti-cultural like sanitation, the best way to do it is through the young people," Mark said.

The goal is to take another small team to the village in February, if enough funds are raised. "There are plenty of things to do," Shane said. "We hope to make it ongoing."

## Terry Lee runs unopposed

By William C. Dietz  
KP News



Pierce County Council member for the 7th District Terry Lee is running for reelection in November.

"As a member of the University Place City Council, I have to say that he's been very responsive," said Jean Brooks, Pierce County Democratic Party chair, about Lee, who is a Republican. "I do believe he's done a fine job as county councilman. Of course if we had a candidate running against him, I would support that candidate. But it would be a tough race!"

This statement stands in marked contrast to the often-bitter partisanship visible in national politics over the last few years. But Brooks' comments are consistent with the story that KP News published about Lee in February. Lee

has built a solid reputation for providing constituent services.

When asked about the fact that he's running unopposed, Lee replied, "I had hoped that would be the case. Campaigning takes a lot of time I would normally use to do my regular job."

Lee believes meaningful campaigning starts "the moment you enter office."

"I think you build true support over the long haul a little bit at a time," he said. "And I don't really have a political agenda. It's about serving the community for me."

Given the fact that Lee is going to serve a second term, KP News asked the politician to identify what he believes to be the top three issues he plans to work on. The ones that immediately came to his mind were geoduck/shellfish farming, an update to the Shoreline Master Plan due in 2011, and acquisition of the Tacoma Narrows Airport by the county.

According to Lee, one of the most challenging aspects of creating good public policy where shellfish farming is concerned is balancing the interests of private landowners with the impact on the environment, and finding a way to establish what he calls a "scientific baseline." That means real, verifiable data about

what does, and does not, occur when various forms of aquaculture are practiced — something Lee hopes to learn more about during the months ahead.

Lee also has a keen interest in the Shoreline Master Plan, which was written in 1975 as a result of the 1972 Shoreline Management Act, and is currently used to help manage Pierce County's 179 miles of shoreline. Most of that falls into his district. In fact, the councilman is so interested in the new version of the plan that he has requested the update be completed by 2008 instead of 2011 so he can be involved before his second term expires. A \$600,000 study will be conducted in order to come up with recommendations regarding docks, boat lifts, floats, building setbacks, and protection of environmentally sensitive lands such as salt water marshes and estuaries.

Of particular interest to those who live in the Gig Harbor area is the possibility that Pierce County will find the means to acquire the Tacoma Narrows Airport.

"We have been able to limit the obnoxious effects of living around the airport," Lee said. "Now Tacoma wants to get rid of it... I want to see Pierce

County take it over rather than a private owner that would be driven by the bottom line. Another thing is that it (the airport) comes with 650-acres of land, which provides a wonderful opportunity for biking and equestrian trails. If Pierce County were to take over, we could encourage a lot of low impact uses.

"I think my job is going to be more challenging when they open the new (Tacoma Narrows) Bridge," Lee said. "It's going to be a challenge to protect the quality of life we all value over here."



### Longbranch Community Church

[www.leeworship.org](http://www.leeworship.org)

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# Library system asks for levy 'lid lift'

By Rodika Tollefson  
KP News

The Pierce County Library System Board of Trustees is asking voters in September to increase the library's levy rate, lifting a "lid" imposed by Initiative 747 that limits property tax increases to 1 percent every year.

Proposition 1, if passed, would increase the levy collection by 8 cents per \$1,000 of assessed property per year, or \$27 for an average home assessed at \$244,000. The levy proposal will be placed on the Sept. 19 primary election ballot.

"Citizens deserve more from Pierce County Library," said J.J. McCament, chair of the library's Board of Trustees. "Thousands of people have told us about the services they value, want and need. Those services include hours convenient for commuters, a wider selection of books and materials, support for their



children's reading and homework, and better overall services and up-to-date technology for customers."

The current library levy is 40 cents per \$1,000 assessed property values. Although the library system is entitled to collect up to 50 cents per \$1,000, due to the 1 percent cap, the amount collected per \$1,000 has actually been decreasing.

"The use of the library on the Key Peninsula went up 30 percent in three years," said Margaret Campbell, president of the Friends of Key Center Library. "The demands are up, and revenues, in essence, are falling."

Campbell said the library system has cut all the costs it could. For example, books are no longer mended, a rural

branch was closed, the phone renewal line was closed and some clerical staff was reduced. She said if the levy lid lift does not pass, the library will be short half a million dollars. She said the board has come up with a priority list of things patrons would like to see implemented, and found that another 8 cents per \$1,000 valuation (versus the full 10 cents it could ask for) will pay for those service for the next few years.

The restored funding will pay, among other things, for expanded hours, including Monday hours at all branches, Sunday hours at several branches including the Gig Harbor library used by many Key Pen residents, reduced wait time by one-third for high-demand materials, expanded children's and teen services, and technology improvements. Specifically at the Key Center branch, in addition to Monday hours, a new computer terminal may be added for public use and a youth librarian will be scheduled one day a week, Campbell said.

The Piece County Library System lags behind nearly all similar size systems in Western Washington, and it has cut more than \$1 million in operations and services since 2002, according to the board. More information regarding the levy can be found online at [www.yesforlibraries.org](http://www.yesforlibraries.org).

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# FD-16 levy lid lift focused on adding personnel

By Irene Torres  
KP News

The Key Peninsula Fire Department will be asking voters in September to support a "levy lid" lift that would allow the department to collect more money than currently allowed by Initiative 747, which caps the yearly increase in property taxes at 1 percent.

Properties on the Key Peninsula were valued at more than \$1.5 billion in 2006. With values increasing 22 percent, as estimated by the Pierce County assessor, these same properties will be valued at more than \$1.9 billion in 2007. Because of the limitations imposed by I-747, taxes for fire districts are limited to \$1.50 per \$1,000 in property value, with a 1 percent increase per year. Collection on 2006 assessments decreased to \$1.25 per \$1,000. In 2007 that amount will be lowered to \$1.07, without an adjustment for property value increases.

**"I strongly encourage people to become informed ... then vote their conscience."**

-Mike Riegler, FD-16

Standards for staffing and response times are mandated by the National Fire Protection Act, which has been adopted into Washington state law. To provide adequate response to fire and ambulance calls, FD-16 officials say optimal staffing would be five career firefighters per shift, including two advanced life support ambulances for the Key Peninsula. Funding these positions needs a vote of the people to sustain staffing levels through 2012.

FD-16 Capt. Mike Riegler, who chairs the fund-raising committee supporting the levy lid lift measure, said the department's call volume has increased 15 percent over last year. He anticipates that rise to continue, requiring more mutual aid from Gig Harbor, Mason or Kitsap counties, unless resources are available locally.

"In heart attacks, time is muscle... For every minute a fire burns, it doubles in size... so response time is critical in saving lives and property," Riegler said.

Regarding a campaign against the levy that centers around the district's fitness for duty policies, Riegler said the department has policies in place to address issues of fitness for duty, and those policies, as well as the department's budget, are available for public inspection upon request. (For details, see previous coverage of the levy in The June and July issues of Key Peninsula News, available at [www.keypennews.com](http://www.keypennews.com) by following the archives link.)

"I strongly encourage people to become informed, to find the facts, then vote their conscience," Riegler said.

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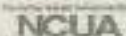
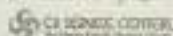
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# New League of Women Voters unit to address KP traffic

By Rodika Tollefson  
 KP News

A group of Gig Harbor and Key Peninsula residents is spearheading efforts to create a local chapter of the League of Women Voters. Several organizational meetings were held last spring to get the Gig Harbor-Key Peninsula unit of the Tacoma-Pierce County League of Women Voters off the ground.

At its September meeting, the unit will address plans for issues the group would like to tackle. One of the group's study topics includes the traffic situation in the Purdy area at the interchange between State Route 16 and State Route 302. The topic was proposed by Lakelaw resident Mary Mazur, one of the group's members.

Mazur said she had attended several meetings of the Key Peninsula Planning Board, where SR-302 safety and the Purdy bottleneck were topics of discussion.

**"I felt that (SR-302 safety at the Purdy bottleneck) would be a good study topic of concern not only to people on the Key Peninsula, but also in Gig Harbor"**

— Mary Mazur  
 League of Women Voters

"I felt that would be a good study topic (for the League unit), of concern not only to people on the Key Peninsula but also in Gig Harbor," she said. "I felt local support or knowledge about it is important."

The issue has been accepted by the unit as a topic of study for the next year, which means a subcommittee will examine what has already been addressed, what are proposed possibilities, and what may be good solutions. Once the study is concluded, the unit will educate the local public on what can be

**If you'd like to attend**

The Sept. 14 meeting will be held from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Gig Harbor Visitor and Volunteer Information Center at 3125 Judson Street in Gig Harbor. Judson Street is in the downtown area, in front of the GH Post Office.

For information, contact Mary Mazur at 884-1061.

done with regard to local action, and mobilize public opinion once a solution is proposed, Mazur said.

The League of Women Voters is a nationwide, nonpartisan political organization whose mission is to encourage "the informed and active participation of citizens in government, and influence public policy through education and advocacy."

"The League believes that democratic government depends on informed and active participation of citizens at all levels," said Mazur, who was active in the organization when she lived in other parts of the country.

"The League program consists of governmental issues that League members chose for study and action... After consensus on an adopted issue is reached by the members of the organization at the local, state or national level, action is taken to influence people in the community and the government," she said.

The organization does not endorse nor oppose political parties or candidates, although it may sponsor public meetings for candidates from all parties. Public education is a major focus of the group.

The Gig Harbor/Key Peninsula unit is one of five that are part of the Pierce County chapter. Each unit works on local, countywide, statewide and nationwide issues. Current study-discussion topics include the voting process as well as the Pierce County Library System.

The meetings are currently held in Gig Harbor; however, future meetings may be held on the Key Peninsula if enough local residents express interest in membership. Despite its name, the League welcomes men as well.

## Eight candidates part of 26th Legislative District races

The Key Peninsula News asked each of the 26th Legislative District candidates in the primary races the following two questions:

**Question 1:** What three legislative issues will most affect the Key Peninsula during your term in office?

**Question 2:** What transportation solutions would you propose for the Key Peninsula area?

### State Senate

#### Jim Hines, Republican

**Question 1:** 1) Public safety: The Key has struggled for several years with the meth issue. While advances have been made in this area, we can still advocate for continued improvements. As the citizen leader behind the push for "Jessica's Law," it is also my intention to continue to work for freedom in our communities for children and families who worry about sex predators. Besides "Jessica's Law," all level 3 sex offenders should be monitored via GPS.

2) Property taxes: With the recent ruling that overturns I-747, citizens may pay yet higher property taxes. We are taxing people out of their homes and this is unacceptable. We must immediately bring back protections for property owners, and seek further ways to limit property taxes.

3) Education: Citizens deserve excellence in education. We must adapt and embrace an aggressive approach to core learning and rigorous standards. We must also resist the temptation to always evaluate education based on inputs (more public money) versus outputs.

**Question 2:** It all starts with the Purdy Bridge interchange area that will need to be changed/fixed in the very near future. We cannot afford to add to the backup that grows worse with each passing day. Further, because growth will continue to add pressure to our roads, we should plan to widen and/or add lanes to State Route 302.

#### Derek Kilmer, Democrat

**Question 1:** 1) Strong schools: As a former Communities in Schools board member, I've worked to establish after-school programs for Key Peninsula kids. As your senator, I'll fight to ensure education is our top priority, so our kids are prepared for success and our employers get the educated workers they need.

2) Affordable housing: We must ensure folks can afford to live on the Key Peninsula. That requires creating more good local jobs, lowering property taxes, improving the efficiency and predictability of building permitting, and ensuring planning for affordable housing options. See my plan at [www.derekkilmer.com](http://www.derekkilmer.com).

3) Healthcare costs: While serving food at Key Peninsula Community Services, I had a woman explain that she cuts her pills in half because her finances are so tight. This issue affects families and businesses on the Key Peninsula. I plan to improve access to healthcare by creating purchasing pools for small businesses and using the state's purchasing power to buy prescription drugs in bulk to lower costs for seniors. I'll also continue my efforts to ensure we get a new hospital.

**Question 2:** We must improve State Route 302 safety. As your representative, I've shown I can deliver. I secured funding for design of a new corridor on to the Key Peninsula. As senator, I'll work to secure funding for additional safety improvements, for construction of the new corridor, and for a traffic light at Lake Kathryn Village.

I'll also continue fighting to lower Tacoma Narrows Bridge tolls. This year, I passed a law to enable a discount for commuters during the first year the bridge is open. For two years in a row, I've passed a bill from the House to save bridge users \$40 million to \$50 million in tolls by exempting the project from the sales tax. As your senator, I will fight to get it signed into law.

#### Lois McMahan, Republican

**Question 1:** 1) The first bill I plan to introduce in the state Senate (not because of importance but because of the time issue) is to stop the DOT from reconfiguring the present Narrows Bridge from four lanes to three. Our district is going to pay for the bulk of

the cost of the new bridge, and we should have at least one more lane to choose from. If they have to have an HOV lane, and it seems they do, it had better be a fourth lane, not a third.

2) Because of opposition from therapists and child advocates, we were not able to get what we needed when we worked on my HB-2400 to get tougher sentences for sex crimes against children in 2004. Those people were putting their jobs ahead of the children. As far as I am concerned, one child is worth more than all those jobs put together. I am determined to go back and pass legislation that will have tougher sentences on these crimes, whether the perpetrator is a relative or not, or whether they are in trusted positions, such as coaches, teachers, or clergy.

3) I plan to introduce changes to the Washington State Constitution that would allow Proposition 13 (CA)-type reforms. I would like to see your property values frozen at the time of purchase (retroactive to 1990 when taxes started to escalate), so people can plan for their future and (especially those on fixed incomes) aren't forced from their homes because of taxes.

**Question 2:** There is a desperate need to do something about State Route 302. As the area grows, the traffic will just get worse. It has already reached crisis proportions in the Wauna/Purdy area.

I suggest taking the highway to SR-16 by whatever route would displace the least number of homes. Maybe following the Power Line Road would be the best solution and then across the west end of Burley Lagoon and so on to SR-16. I will be interested to learn of the results of the study on this issue to see what makes the most sense.



KILMER



McMAHAN

### State House, Position 1

#### Beckie Krantz, Republican

**Question 1:** 1) Community safety: We have begun the process of cracking down on the meth problem and the attendant crime. But we must expand that effort to include the problem of car theft, chop shops and overall property crimes. In addition, I favor passage of a true "Jessica's Law" to safeguard our children against dangerous predators. Finally, I would further strengthen DUI laws.

2) Land use regulation and eminent domain: Land is one of the greatest assets an individual can have. Increasingly, government restricts how citizens can use the very land they own. I will seek to limit this government encroachment. In addition, I favor just compensation to land owners when restrictions unreasonably impair one's ability to benefit from property ownership.

3) Economic issues: I-601, the citizens' initiative to control state spending, saved taxpayers some \$1 billion when it was in effect. My opponent voted to overturn this measure. A consequence is rapidly increasing state spending and upward pressure on various taxes and fees. Citizens in Key Peninsula are feeling the weight of taxation in their lives. A particular issue at this time is property taxes. These taxes are a crushing burden for many, but particularly those on fixed incomes. Some are even being forced to consider selling their longtime homes. We cannot stand for this. The Legislature must be ready to step up to the plate and pass a 1 percent limit on property tax increases.

**Question 2:** At the top is better traffic flow — with safety in mind — along Highway 302. One of the reasons Dino Rossi has endorsed me is that I favor the



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"Priorities of Government" approach to state spending. Education is one top priority. Transportation is another. Clearly, dollars must go to the Key Peninsula transportation infrastructure.

### Pat Lantz, Democrat

**Question 1:** 1) Education: Taking big steps to provide the tools needed to assure every student, at every level, on the Key Peninsula has the chance to succeed. Using the newly created Department of Early Learning to give children educational opportunities well before kindergarten by building on the successful programs already opening doors to the very young and their families on the Peninsula. Leading the effort to drive

dollars into middle school math and science curriculum so that KPMS can do even better with its NASA program. Making certain that every Peninsula High School student has the help needed to meet WASL

#### LANTZ

standards. Investing in our teachers and recognizing their high level of professionalism.

2) Safe and secure Key Peninsula: Assuring that law enforcement and prosecutors have what's required to protect children and neighborhoods from illegal drugs, especially meth, and that new tough sentences for sex predators and repeat drunk drivers are enforced. Working with IMPact to expand legal and physical protection for victims of domestic violence. Helping low-income families with transportation and housing needs, including assistance in paying heating bills.

3) Finding answers to the critical issues concerning geoduck farming: Taking the lead with citizens groups, shoreline and tideland owners, Department of Natural Resources and other state and federal agencies, shellfish growers, ecologists, and

other scientists to determine the environmental consequences of the new industry. Sponsoring legislation based on objective science that will provide a regulatory mechanism to protect Puget Sound and its shorelines while respecting property rights and economic opportunity. Working closely with Pierce County Councilman Terry Lee.

**Question 2:** Continuing to demand a fair toll on the Narrows Bridge. Maintaining close scrutiny of the \$5 million design study of SR-302 and mounting pressure to fund its construction.

### State House, Position 2

#### Ron Boehme, Republican

**Question 1:** My three top priorities that will affect all the people in our district are tax relief, championing youth and families, and putting people's interests first. I will fight for no new or increase in taxes, restoring the 1 percent property tax cap, abolishing the death tax, and creating jobs by reforming the B&O tax and L&I while removing crippling regulations. I will champion youth and family issues including maintaining and strengthening our DOMA laws and fighting for a true "Jessica's Law"-plus that will protect our kids from sex predators.

I will serve our interests by funding education first, bringing back health providers through less legislative mandates, relieving congestion with more general use lanes on the bridge, and compensating homeowners who are impacted by the Growth Management Act.

**Question 2:** This answer depends on whether Key Peninsula residents want to remain a relatively rural community or

entertain serious population and job growth. If the residents vote for growth, then we must enlarge the Purdy access infrastructure and possibly build another permanent structure across the Sound that would allow a second point of access. If the desire is to limit growth, then some private ferry services should be encouraged to give limited but more varied access to the beautiful Key Peninsula. I am not in favor of state-run ferries, as a 1992 state DOT study showed that it would be cost-effective to build fixed infrastructure across the Sound with dramatically lower labor and capital replacement/maintenance costs compared to the existing ferry system.

#### Trent England, Republican

**Question 1:** 1) Reigning in government: Too many of our legislators have forgotten how to say "No" to every new program or regulation that comes along. All of us suffer when government tries to do too much and winds up doing it all poorly. We need to fund the priorities of government first, remembering always that it is the people's money we are spending. Key Peninsula residents, like all Washingtonians, will benefit from a more focused and efficient state government and a lower tax and regulatory burden.

2) Education: As a father of three kids as well as a former student in the Peninsula School District, I believe education is our most critical investment in the future. We must focus on fundamentals and on the basic elements of education: teachers and curriculum, rather than imagining up new and expensive programs to cover over for past systemic failures.

3) Public safety: Keeping us safe is a primary function of government. I want to continue the good work that has been done going after drug manufacturers and

distributors while increasing our efforts to solve property crimes that often plague our rural communities. I am also dedicated to ensuring the success of the new hospital at Gig Harbor North.

**Question 2:** We must develop and begin to implement a long-range plan for State Route 302, including a major overhaul of the Purdy Bridge or re-routing of traffic into Purdy by a different route. A key focus of mine will be alleviating the choke points of our transportation system, which not only burden all of us, but also increase response time for emergency services.

#### Larry Seaquist, Democrat

**Question 1:** I greatly admire the unique sense of community shared by Key Peninsula citizens. I will work hard to support and encourage the many local organizations and citizens who do so much to create KP's special climate. Overall, my top priorities are:

1) Accountable government: We need to make sure that our tax dollars are getting the concrete results that we need and expect. I will work hard to improve budget discipline in Olympia.

2) Educated success: Good as our school system is, we can do better. I will work to keep reforming our total education system we need for our families and businesses to flourish. My special priority is working to reduce our student dropout rate.

3) Healthy Washington: We have a health care emergency. Costs are outrunning results, and too many go without necessary care or medicines. Starting with making sure that 100 percent of our children have coverage, I will work to make "healthy

Washington" a main source of our state's economic success.

**Question 2:** We all recognize the near-term need to solve the Purdy Spit bottleneck problem and to continue to improve State Route 302 and the arterials. I will work to push those projects high on the funding priorities of the state and the county.

We must think also about the long term. Key Peninsula is a very attractive place to live. As more people move here, we must continue to upgrade our road network within an overall rural development plan. But just building roads will not safeguard KP's special qualities for future generations. We also need better electronic highways so clean, high-tech businesses can locate here and so that more people can telecommute to work from their home computers.



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## Key Peninsula Community Council elections Sept. 9

The Key Peninsula Community Council will hold its elections on Saturday, Sept. 9. Polling stations will be open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the following locations: Peninsula Market in Lake Kathryn and Key Center, 76 gas station on Wright-Bliss Road, and Home Country Store in Home.

Registered Community Council members will receive ballots in the mail, and may vote in person or by mail. Mailed ballots must be postmarked by Sept. 7. All Key Peninsula residents or property owners age 18 and older are eligible to register, and those who wish to become members may register and vote on Sept. 9. The Key Peninsula Community Council's voting process is not affiliated with the Pierce County elections system, which means those interested in voting for Community Council candidates must register separately with the council.

The ballots will be counted shortly after the polls close at Fire District 16 headquarters in Key Center. The results will be certified at the next council meeting on Sept. 12. For information, call 884-0557.

### AREA 1

T. Neil Bender

T. Neil Bender was student body president both at Harbor Ridge Middle School and Peninsula High School, as well as vice president of the Washington State University's fraternity group. He grew up and has lived on the Key Peninsula his entire life, except for time spent obtaining a public relations/communications degree at WSU, and plans to live here for the rest of his life. Bender's interests include promoting community involvement while recognizing growth potential in the area; supporting local fire and emergency services; focusing efforts toward neighborhood watch groups and community events; and promoting food and clothing drives for the less fortunate residents.

### David Figuracion (incumbent)

David Figuracion is a past member of Kitsap County Long Term Care Alliance and Safety Committee Northwest Medical Specialties. He believes that "community involvement is what makes America, America." He feels that keeping the community active, safe and livable means having citizens who are active members

both in and out of the community.

Figuracion says the key to being a part of Pierce County yet be apart brings unique challenges and that the Community Council is a great way to deal with those challenges.

### D'Arcy M. Figuracion

D'Arcy M. Figuracion has lived on the Key Peninsula with her husband and her son for one and a half years. She finds the Key Pen community a wonderful place to live. She believes it is important to be an active member of the community in order to continue to make Key Peninsula a safe, friendly, and livable place. Figuracion's experience includes many years of working on committees. She would like to be a part of the Community Council and doing what she can to keep the quality of life and to improve the community for all Key Peninsula citizens.

### AREA 2

Barbara Trotter (incumbent)

Barbara Trotter has chaired the council's Human Services Committee for two years. She created and is the co-adviser of the Key Peninsula Youth Council, a

group of 14 students from Key Peninsula Middle School and Peninsula High School. The Youth Council has monthly meetings and has spent most of its first year getting organized, electing officers, creating a mission statement and goals, and entering into a partnership with the Safe Streets organization as part of its Youth Leading Change program.

Trotter has been an active member of the Key Peninsula community for 25 years, and is a past member of the Peninsula School District Board of Directors, including one year as president. She has chaired or co-chaired three school levy campaigns, and has served as president of the parent groups at Vaughn Elementary, KP Middle School and Peninsula High School.

### AREA 3

Keith Hillstrom

Keith Hillstrom has been a resident on the Key Peninsula since 1985. He has owned local business Peninsula Iron since 1995, and is interested in fostering a successful business environment without sacrificing the rural lifestyle. Hillstrom has been president of Glen Cove Maintenance Association, a residential community of 122 lots on Cramer Road.

(See COUNCIL, Page 19)



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(From COUNCIL, Page 18)

and is a current member of Key Peninsula Business Association. He has previously coached with the KP Little League.

#### Lance McMillan

Lance McMillan hopes to better inform members of the local community on matters of interest, and to assist in providing county and state administration with clear guidance on what the concerns of Key Peninsula residents and property owners are. He believes his talents in planning and organizational management can be of considerable value in helping the KPC fulfill its goals.

McMillan has been attending council meetings on a regular basis for over a year, and is currently serving on the Communications Committee as assistant chairman. He is involved in founding and training a Neighborhood Emergency Preparedness team under the auspices of the PEP-C organization. He is a contributing member of the Key Peninsula and Lakebay writers groups.

#### Arlene Williams (incumbent)

Arlene Williams would like to continue with the mission of the council "to maintain and improve the quality of life on the

Key Peninsula." She would like to see the council facilitate more forums on items of interest to residents of the KP and also to become more actively involved in helping determine the direction of growth and development on the Peninsula. She believes that as much as people may wish to avoid urban sprawl, growth and change are facts of life, but with an active council membership, growth can be turned in the direction that speaks to the concerns of KP residents and landowners.

Williams moved to Key Peninsula in 1996. She has served on the Key Peninsula Community Council's Organizing Committee before becoming a member of the Board of Directors. She has also volunteered with the Children's Home Society for several years.

#### AREA 4

##### Jeff Harris (incumbent)

Jeff Harris hopes to help improve the quality of life on the Key Peninsula through the leadership of the KPC and in collaboration with other organizations. He is a council board member and president since 2004, vice president of the Key Peninsula Business Association in 2005-06 and member of the Key Peninsula Comprehensive Planning Board.

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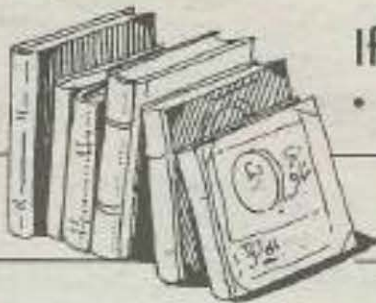
### WHY? If LID LIFT LEVY PASSES:

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### If LID LIFT LEVY DOES NOT PASS:

- Key Center Library will not be able to maintain its present level of services to you.



**PLEASE VOTE YES ON SEPT. 19TH**

## Sept. 8 — Skate Night begins at Civic Center

Friday Night Skate will begin Sept. 8 from 6:30 to 9 p.m. Skate Night costs \$1 per person and is for kindergarten to eighth grade students.

### Other Civic Center news:

The Civic Center board is seeking a secretary. Anyone interested should contact Jena at 884-3456. The time commitment is about five to six hours per month. The board is a very interesting community-oriented group of people. The meetings are short, to the point, and fun. Volunteer even if you are only interested in being a board member. The center has many committees to choose from and many activities during the year. Next month there will be a survey canvassing everyone on "What you feel we should be doing" to better serve the community.

For a list of the different committees or to find out what's happening, visit the Website at [www.kpciviccenter.org](http://www.kpciviccenter.org). The 2006 Executive Committee members for the Civic Center are Phil Bauer, president; Loyd Miller, first vice president; Bruce Macdonald, second vice president; Ed Taylor, treasurer; secretary (open position); Ben Thompson, at large; Bill Fors, at large; Betty Kelley, past president; and Jena Henak, facility coordinator. If a phone number is needed for any of the executive committee members, call Jena at 884-3456, Monday-Friday from 1:15 to 6 p.m.

## Sept. 9 — Co-ed Softball League Championship

On Saturday, Sept. 9, eight teams from KP Metro Parks Summer Co-ed Softball League start to battle in the end of season tournament. Teams in the league are Gig Harbor Vets, Blondie's Bar & Grill, O'Callahan's, Old Man & Kids, Minter Vet Players, Bayside Animal Lodge, Pacific Tractor & Excavating and Pyramid Concrete.

## Sept. 9 — Plein aire 'paint-in'

Artists in the Key Peninsula and Gig Harbor area are invited to join a plein aire "paint-in" at the Lind family farm on Sept. 9, from 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Lind farm, a property protected by a conservation easement between the Linds and the local land trust, is located at 17619 24th St. in Home and can be found by driving toward Home and turning right on 8th, which becomes 24th. Open fields, a pond, and rustic outbuildings, as well as the adjacent pioneer Home cemetery (also a Great Peninsula Conservancy-protected property) will be available for inspiration. This event is sponsored by Two Waters Arts Alliance and the Great Peninsula Conservancy and will be canceled in the event of rain. All artists are welcome and should bring art supplies, a sack lunch and creative enthusiasm. For information, contact the Great Peninsula Conservancy at 360-373-3500, Two Waters at 884-3869 or Nan Feagin at 549-2358.

## Sept. 9 — Garage Sale at Lutheran Church

Saturday, Sept. 9, a garage sale will be held at McColley Hall on the corner of KP Highway and Lackey Road. Good, clean merchandise, furniture, art pieces, clothing, kitchenware, children's toys, books and miscellaneous items. For information, call Ruth Matthews at 884-9806, or the church office at 884-3312.

## Sept. 10 — Fuchsia Society's Garden Tour

In lieu of the regular First Thursday meeting, the Lakebay Fuchsia Society will hold its annual garden tour of members' gardens on Sunday, Sept. 10. Gardens this year will be in the Port Orchard area. Call Ginnie at 884-9744.

## Sept. 12 — Bayshore Garden Club

The Bayshore Garden Club will meet at 1 p.m. on Sept. 12 at the Longbranch Fire Station. Erna Dunn will be the hostess. The theme will be "Gardening on the Key Peninsula." Horticulture will be discussed by Doris Boudreau; the design will be by Francine Minor. For info, call Sylvia Retherford, 884-2487.

## Sept. 14 — New caregiver support group meets

A new support group for caregivers will meet Sept. 14 at the Key Center Library from 7 to 9 p.m. All caregivers are welcome to come and share, relax, make new friends, and just talk with people who are experiencing the same daily difficulties and joys. Beginning in October, the group will meet on the third Thursday of each month. Questions? Call Peg Wyhe, 884-9265.

## Sept. 21 — KP Senior Society anniversary

On Sept. 21, the Key Peninsula Senior Society's 27th anniversary will be celebrated with an international themed

luncheon. Bring a favorite "foreign" dish to share with other nice people. The Key Peninsula Senior Society meets every Thursday at the Key Peninsula Civic Center. Each week a potluck lunch is shared at noon. Different card games are played and bingo is played monthly. Special celebrations also occur monthly usually in a holiday theme. If there is no holiday to observe, there is always another reason to have a party! Call 884-5052 or 884-4981.

## Sept. 25 — Normanna Male Chorus

The 40-member Normanna Male Chorus presents a free concert at Key Peninsula Lutheran Church on Monday, Sept. 25, at 7 p.m. The public is invited. The church is located at the corner of Key Peninsula Highway and Lackey Road.

## Sept. 28 — Adult Softball League sign-up ends

This recreational league for men and women will play on Sundays Oct. 1 through Nov. 4. Teams will play eight games, all double headers for a cost of

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\$225 without umpires and \$325 with umpires. Teams will be taken on a first-come, first-serve basis. A minimum of four teams and a maximum of eight will be accepted with a registration deadline of Sept. 28. For information or to sign up a team contact the park district at 884-9240.

## Oct. 9 — Basketball team registration deadline

The Key Peninsula Metro Park District is accepting team registrations for adult basketball. Teams play a seven-game season plus compete in a season concluding tournament. All games are on Sunday evenings, Oct. 14 to Dec. 10, and will be played at the Key Peninsula Civic Center. Cost is \$425/team. The league will use association officials; league and end of season tournament champions receive individual awards. Individuals without a team may contact KPMPD at 884-9240 and request to be put on a player availability list. Registration dead-

line Oct. 9. Minimum of four teams and a maximum of 12 teams.

## TOPS meets on Mondays

Vaughn TOPS 1019 meets at the fire station near the corner of Wright-Bliss and SR-302 every Monday from 7 to 8 p.m. (weigh-in starts at 6 p.m.). Visit to see if this is the program that will work for you. It is low-cost (\$24 to join with \$5 monthly dues) with no charge to weigh-in. The recent rummage sale, TOPS' major fund-raiser, was a big success with almost 100 percent involvement of the members. The end of September will be the annual fall rally held in Bremerton, where all of Western Washington TOPS groups get together to honor those who have reached goals and won contests. Last month a recently returned member, Donna Kopp, lost 14 pounds. Carole and Sheldon Fancher were welcomed into TOPS recently.

## Volunteer spotlight: Jerry Kozak

Photo and story by Chris Fitzgerald

Jerry Kozak moved to Home over two years ago, 16 years after he fled Poland behind the Berlin Wall. "I ran away from Communism," he says quietly. "I wanted freedom."

That long, dangerous journey brought him to the East Coast. Shortly thereafter, while visiting friends in Washington, he discovered the trees and rolling hills reminiscent of Poland; he was comfortable here.

"I'm still learning new words," he says. "When I lived on the East Coast, accents were difficult."

He knows people listen close, weaving through his Polish accent; he speaks thoughtfully, choosing words with care.

Soon after moving, he saw an ad for firefighter volunteers. A professional firefighter in a large Polish city many years ago, he "was surely missing the fire service."

Forty years old, and keenly aware he was both "an outsider and a foreigner," he decided, "I'm going to try." He passed rigorous testing, becoming a volunteer at Station 3 in Home in August 2004. Living close to the station, he serves his adopted community when his pager sounds. This year, he has participated in every fire except one.

Kozak has owned an auto repair shop in Federal Way for many years. Briefly, he commuted from Sequim after their

Twin Lakes house quickly sold. That was before he saw an online ad for their residence in Home, a place he had never heard of. Here on the peninsula, he and his wife, Paula, fell in love with a fixer on eight wooded acres of quiet and birdsong. They are "never going to move from that house," he says.

"Firefighting is serious business. We are lucky to have good officers in our department who know what they're doing. Confidence in the eyes of another — 100 percent — to do the task (is necessary)," he says. "If you have the heart, and want to do this, (there is a place for more volunteers)."

Fire District 10 Division Chief Chuck West says, "Jerry has definitely made an impression on us. Everybody's impressed with his abilities — although he's kind of hard to understand... He's definitely on our current hiring list."

Kozak says, "For everybody — I appreciate the warm welcome when we moved here. I'd like to say thank you to everyone."



## Pee Wee Youth Indoor Soccer

Pee Wee Sports is a program designed just for the little guys and gals. This class gives youth ages 4-6 (age by Sept. 1) the opportunity to learn and improve their skills and fundamentals of soccer. Scaled down equipment, specialized drills and games will be used to ensure success for all kids. Parent or adult involvement is strongly encouraged during the weekly classes.

Indoor Soccer will run six weeks on Saturday mornings starting Oct. 7 at the Civic Center as follows: 6 year olds, 9-9:50 a.m.; 5 year olds 10-10:50 a.m.; 4 year olds 11-11:50 a.m.

Cost is \$29 per youth. Price includes shirt, certificate and end of program party. There will be a minimum of 10 participants and a maximum of 30 participants per age group.

## Angel Guild donates \$2,200

The Angel Guild Thrift Shop is the end product of hard work by many people. Local donors give their no longer needed items to the group. They are sorted, prepared and go into the shop daily.

Items are sold to faithful customers who come in weekly and sometimes more often. The funds from the merchandise in turn go to different charities on the Key Peninsula. During the month of July, \$1,200 was given to the Red Barn for improvements and another \$1,000 was given to Key Peninsula Community Services for their beautification project for their building. There is going to be a youth center in this building, which is a greatly needed addition to the Key Peninsula.

Angel Guild appreciates the fact that without donors and hard-working Angles, it could not exist. It is a continuous circle of each helping the other, and the Angels say they enjoy being a part of the circle.

To announce your organization's event, email it to [news@keypennews.com](mailto:news@keypennews.com) or submit online at [www.keypennews.com](http://www.keypennews.com). The deadline is the 17th of every month. Please include a contact phone number for verification purposes.

Do you know a worthy volunteer who has been doing great work for the Key Peninsula community? Please let us know so we can consider this person for our ongoing Volunteer Spotlight feature. Please email [news@keypennews.com](mailto:news@keypennews.com) or call 884-4699; include your phone number in case we need more details.

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Photo: Courtesy: Community Impact



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### No Sewers In Sight So Take Care Of Your Septic System

The Key Peninsula Planning Board is winding up the two-year project for review later this year. One of the guidelines they will follow is the recommendation that no new offsite sewage systems will be developed for basic homeowner needs. On site system will continue to be the only way homeowners dispose of household sewage. Since there are no urban growth areas planned for the Peninsula over the next 20 years, there will be no real additional infrastructure common for those areas in the form of sewers.

Pierce County will most likely continue with its O&M (Operation and Maintenance) permits to have more control of sewage disposal. This is primarily a health issue, to make sure offsite contamination is not taking place. The old days of 55-gallon drums and a little drain-pipe are being eliminated. In their place, much more sophisticated systems are being designed and implemented.

In fact, as of January 1, 2003, all on-site systems must be inspected by a certified inspector and reported to the county prior to the sale of any residence on the Key Peninsula. Following the initial inspection, a report is given to the County Health Department for further review.

In most cases, tanks are pumped and inspected and pass the County's review. However, the process is working. In some cases, failing systems are discovered and fixed or even redesigned prior to closing on any sale of the home.

Pierce County offers guidelines to the maintenance of your septic tank and drain field. Here are some do's and do not's:

**DO:** Inspect your tank annually; Install a septic tank filter (outlet filter baffle); Use less water; Direct water from downspouts and roofs away from septic tanks and drain fields; Keep vehicles and heavy equipment off the septic tanks and drain field; Use phosphate free Detergents.

**DON'T:** Do not use a garbage disposal; Do Not use septic tank additives; Do not dispose of solids down drains; Do not put strong chemicals down the drain; do not place - patios, carports, landscape plastic or deep rooted plants over tank or drain field.

If you are thinking of selling your home, ask a REALTOR for help or suggestions in applying for the O&M Permit or any of the above information. Every home that sells needs an O & M Permit.



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# Communities in Schools expands programs

By Kristie Byrd  
Special to KP News

Communities in Schools of Peninsula, which has been offering after-school reading and math programs to students at the local schools, is expanding this fall and has launched a volunteer recruitment campaign.

Last year, CISP had 85 volunteers. This year, the organization is looking for about 35 more. The mentors have a range from mature 11th-grade students, to 80 years plus.

"As a nonprofit organization, we depend on community support from civic groups," said Rochelle Doan, volunteer coordinator. "Gig Harbor Rotary, for example, has not only helped provide financial support, but has brought many volunteers to the program as well. The Angel Guild has been very supportive of our mentoring programs over the past four years."

Other funding comes from individual donations from community members,

To learn more about being a reading or math mentor, contact Communities in Schools of Peninsula at 884-5733, or visit [www.cisnet.org/peninsula](http://www.cisnet.org/peninsula).

foundation grants, and through the annual fund-raising event "Denim to Diamonds."

The mentoring programs offered by CISP are intended to help students who are struggling in areas of reading and math. In 2002, the reading program started at Vaughn Elementary. This fall, reading sessions will be held at Artondale, Evergreen, Harbor Heights, Minter Creek, and Vaughn elementary schools, while math programs are planned at Key Peninsula and Kopachuck middle schools.

"The program I was in was excellent. Throughout every class that I went to, no matter how many times I attended, I can't say that there wasn't one time that I didn't get the help that I needed," said Karli Walker, a former KPMS student and



Photo by Hugh McMillan

Communities in Schools-Peninsula Executive Director Colleen Speer addresses supporters at the annual "Denim to Diamonds" fund-raiser in August.

CISP attendee. "I remember one time we were working on a certain section, and I had no clue what to do. With only one hour from the math help, I got a B-plus on my test. Before I took that test, I couldn't say that I had scored that high before... It (the program) was worth every minute. It was fun, and I learned at the same time."

The program is once a week, for about an hour, at the student's school. Volunteers are paired with students one-on-one whenever possible.

Elementary school reading volunteer Glenda McQueen thinks the program is very worthwhile. Although she has only been volunteering for one year at CISP, she has worked in the district for 27 years, and about 10 of them has been volunteering of some sort or another.

McQueen likes the program best

because she was able to work one-on-one with the students, and she didn't have to do the prep work, like the teachers do. She said it was easy to follow directions, and was pleased by how well it was run.

**"The program I was in was excellent. Throughout every class that I went to, no matter how many times I attended, I can't say that there wasn't one time that I didn't get the help that I needed."**

— Karli Walker, a former KPMS student and CISP attendee

"I think it's important to be involved with kids," she said. "I'm not just a person that they see during the day. They also see I'm concerned about their education. I love reading with and to the kids. It's important that they see parents and other people in community that are concerned for them and their learning."

McQueen said that she would continue to volunteer, and encourages other people to do it. She says volunteering gives a good sense of self-satisfaction by helping others.

"It makes me feel really good beyond what I do in the building," said McQueen, who works at Evergreen Elementary. "The kids thank me for the help and the teachers say it made the kids improve."

Colleen Speer, CISP executive director, said, "We are so grateful to our community members who give their hearts, their talents and their time mentoring students to personal success. Encouraging a young reader and supporting a struggling math student not only helps a young person succeed in school, it paves the way for them to be successful in life."

Kristie Byrd is a freshman at Peninsula High School.



Derek Kilmer is endorsed by:

United States Congressman Norm Dicks, Gig Harbor Mayor Chuck Hunter, Pierce County Executive John Ledenberg, Pierce County Prosecutor Gerry Horne, Pierce County Sheriff's Guild, Key Peninsula Community Council President Jeff Harris, Key Peninsula Civic Leaders Hugh & Jenice McMillan, Key Peninsula Fire Commissioner James A. Boock, Key Peninsula Firefighters, and many more....

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## Former resident brings back family, new business

By Linda Anderson  
KP News

Local residents may have noticed a new van driving around the Peninsula, with big orange paw prints marching across the white paint. The van belongs to Peninsula Paw Spaw, a new service to local residents and their pampered pets. Peninsula Paw Spaw is mobile pet grooming, bringing full service pet care to a person's driveway.

Paw Spaw owner Danielle Young, a Pierce County native, is a former Key Pen resident who returned to the area recently. Young had moved to Wanna with her mother in time to attend Key Peninsula Middle School. Even though the family moved around the Pacific Northwest a bit over the years, they always returned to vacation in this area.

Young learned to groom pets when she was 12 years old as a part of her 4-H experience. As an adult she has more than 10 years of experience in professional pet care, having worked at both Petco and Petsmart. She is certified with the

International Society of Canine Cosmetology and is a member of the National Dog Groomers Association of America, Inc.

Peninsula Paw Spaw is not her first business. Several years ago she traveled with her family to Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., to establish and operate a pet grooming service at a family member's kennel business.

A year ago, with the pet grooming service fully established and others trained to operate that portion of the business, Young and her family eagerly returned to the Key Peninsula and made their home in Lake Holiday. Her 7-year-old son attends Vaughn Elementary School. Young says they returned to the Key Peninsula "because it's beautiful, full of memories, the people are nicer and we enjoy the calmer pace of living out here."

When first returning to the Peninsula, Young considered how to best serve the area in the pet service business. She knew she wanted to have a grooming shop, but considered several issues with regard to pets and the local demographics. Her first



Danielle Young grooms "Skipper," a poodle/terrier mix, in her custom-made van parked outside a customer's home.

Photo by  
Mindi Lallone

consideration was to have a cageless shop.

"It provides a calmer atmosphere for the pets where they are not sitting in a scary kennel cage listening to other nervous and frightened pets barking and crying," she said.

Young noted that because of the rural setting of this Peninsula and the neighboring Kitsap County, mobile service makes more sense and allows her to serve more people and their pets. "Also, the Peninsula has a large population of elderly pet owners and it is difficult for

many of them to load their pets in the car, drive somewhere to drop them off and then have to drive back to retrieve their pets," she said. "Many who cannot do that either have to rely on someone else to do it for them, or deny their pets specialized care."

Young has plans to expand her business to include specialty pet products, which she will also deliver to her customers in addition to her mobile grooming services. For more information regarding Peninsula Paw Spaw, visit [www.penpawspaw.com](http://www.penpawspaw.com).

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## Veteran volunteer celebrates 90th birthday

Nat Knox helped open health care clinic on KP

By Colleen Slater  
KP News

Nat Knox attended the monthly potluck dinner and Bingo gathering at Key Peninsula Sportsmen's Club as usual on July 28, which happened to be her 90th birthday.

Friend and neighbor Pat Greetham organized the annual birthday lunch for Knox with neighbors and special friends the previous day, so Knox had no idea there would be another celebration in her honor.

Over 50 Sportsmen's Club members and friends surprised Knox with a special cake and festive decorations. Surprise guests were Knox's only niece and family, Alice, Jerry, and Kaitlyn Sweeney, from Simi Valley, Calif., and Jennifer Hennesey, niece to Knox's longtime friend Judy Wilson. "Both girls called Nat and Judy aunt," said Greetham, who has been neighbor to Knox for 35 years. Greetham was the mastermind behind the surprise party.

Knox spent 28 years as a U.S. Navy nurse, where she met and befriended Wilson. They served in World War II and the Korean conflict, and retired to their home on the peninsula in 1971.

Knox and Wilson, along with nurse practitioner Jean Broadsack, were instrumental in getting a medical clinic on the peninsula in 1974, and Knox spent most of her retirement years giving to the community she chose as home. She has been active in the Sportsman's Club for 25 years, and is the longest standing member. She was also active in the Key Peninsula VFW and the



Photo by Hugh McMillan

Jennifer Hennesey is about to make a surprise presentation for Nat Knox, who did not expect the celebration.

Cootiettes, attending meetings and making cookies for the veterans they visited regularly. She recently attended the state Cootiette Convention in Tacoma, and spent time making favors and decorations at work parties prior to the occasion.

Hennesey, from Olympia, provided entertainment with a parade of hats she'd made or decorated to set on Knox's head, sharing her memories of each one: a Cootiette Crawl hat, monkey, puppy, lion, pirate hats, a crown and several others. Hennesey said "Aunt Nat" always gave her medical advice, but also had a wonderful sense of humor.

Jim Greetham recalled Knox helping them birth a breached lamb. His daughter, Ann, 6, presented Knox with a handmade book.

Knox, who doesn't dwell on the past, but prefers to live in the present, was surprised by the party, attention and gifts, including a bear dressed in red that sang "God Bless America."

It was a special evening for a special lady who has contributed much to the Key Peninsula and is still giving to her community.

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# Key Peninsula writer's local pursuit leads to 'destination' conference

By Rodika Tollefson  
KP News

Key Peninsula fiction writer Jerry Libstaff wanted to find an avenue for local writers to pursue their literary interests. To help promote writing events on the Key Pen, he created a business called Key Literary Concepts. A poetry program at Camp Easter Seals last year was the result of his efforts.



LIBSTAFF

This year, however, Libstaff's efforts have taken a much wider path.

Through Key Literary Concepts, Libstaff has founded and self-financed what he hopes to be a destination event for writers from around

the region. Hosted at the Alderbrook Resort in Belfair, the Watermark Writers Conference will include workshops from nationally and internationally known writers in various genres, a youth event and a writing contest.

Libstaff said he looked for a venue on the Key Peninsula but could not find one large enough; instead, he has the entire Alderbrook resort reserved for the conference for three days, and hopes attendees make it a destination event.

"The focus is for people who have become somewhat accomplished and are looking to take the next step," he said.

Libstaff has been writing since a young age, ever since he wrote a fictional story about an abused boy for a fifth-grade assignment. The story read so close to a true account that it was followed by a teacher conference. He has done technical writing for a phone company, but missed creative writing. When Libstaff and his wife, Pam, moved to the Key Peninsula in 2002 after living in Bellevue for two decades, he decided it was a good time to get back into writing — novels, screenplays and short stories.

"I moved out here and never looked back," he said. A beach house that was

built in 1948 is his place for inspiration, appropriately called "The Muse."

Libstaff has been an active member of the local arts group Two Waters Arts Alliance, and is its past president. TWAA is the parent of the Key Peninsula Writers Guild, which meets every Saturday at the Key Center Library or other Key Pen locations. Libstaff has participated in the guild's sessions, and has been involved with other groups in Gig Harbor. What he found, he said, was that Gig Harbor writers didn't want to travel to the Key Peninsula.

"I figured if I could put together programs for the Peninsula, I could bring writers here. The conference grew out of that," he said. "It's 700 percent bigger than I expected. It turned into quite a program, bigger than anything I've done."

Libstaff had to learn many of the steps by trial and error. He feels that once the conference is established, it will not take as much energy and he can refocus on bringing literary events to the Key Peninsula.

## Watermark Writers Conference

The conference will be held Sept. 29-Oct. 1. Keynote speaker is best-selling author Robert Fulgum, with presenters including singer/songwriter Greg Greenway, poet Ilya Kaminsky, publishing executive Jan Kardys, syndicated columnist Gordon Kirkland, best-selling author John Nance and literary agent Katharine Sands. A manuscript critique and a writing contest are offered.

Teen writers are invited to attend a Young Writers Program for ages 12 to 18; 40 scholarships will be available for the seminars, led by renowned writing instructor Brad Kirkland who uses a unique teaching tool that starts with the students creating a map of the world in which their characters will live. The map leads to descriptions of the environment and the people who will populate the students' stories, and will guide them through the process of creating believable characters and events.

For information visit [www.watermark-writers.com](http://www.watermark-writers.com), email [info@watermark-writers.com](mailto:info@watermark-writers.com) or call Jerry Libstaff at 261-8769.

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(From PARKS, Page 1)

We thank him for all of his efforts and wish him the best."

To fill the vacancy, guidelines set forth in RCW 42.12 will be followed, allowing the board to appoint someone until the next general election in November 2007. At that time, the appointee would have to run for election to complete the remaining two years of the unexpired term. No special election is needed; no major impact upon the budget will occur.

#### Other KPMPD developments

Commissioners approved a 3 percent cost-of-living salary increase for Gallacher, retroactive to his anniversary date of March 1, a provision made in the district's 2006 budget.

Gallacher resubmitted the landscape plan and site map for Home Park to the county in July. He indicated the next requirement is to install stream buffer boundary signs and file documents with the auditor's office.

In late September, the board expects to begin holding a series of public meetings to rewrite a comprehensive parks plan, and stresses that public input is needed. Clinton said, "It's not just about facilities,



Photo courtesy Scott Gallacher

The AKC agility trials held recently at Volunteer Park brought canine visitors and their friends from as far as Oregon, Idaho and Canada. See more photos at the Key Peninsula News Website at [www.keypennews.com](http://www.keypennews.com)

this is program-based as well." Grant Griffin of Pierce County Parks has offered to review the completed plan before it is submitted for funding requests.

In the first of what the Gig Harbor Kennel Club hopes will be additional AKC Agility Trials held at Volunteer Park, Gallacher reported "a profitable weekend for the park." On the grounds from Aug. 4 through 7, about 300 agility handlers,

their friends, families and onlookers from the local area, Oregon, Idaho and Canada generated \$1,000 in park revenues.

Gig Harbor AKC chapter representative Sue Henley said everyone "was thrilled with the facility at Volunteer Park."

"We were just elated — there was plenty of room to park, place shade tents for the dogs," she said. "The campground was nice, lovely walking trails — and bath-

#### KPMPD board vacancy

Key Peninsula Metro Park District is seeking applications from residents of the Key Peninsula who wish to serve as park district commissioner. Current commissioners will appoint an individual to complete term of Position 4, which will last until the next general election in November 2007. The appointed individual will have to run for the position to complete the unexpired term until 2009. Interested citizens may submit a resume and cover letter to KPMPD, Position No. 4, P.O. BOX 70, Lakebay WA 98349; for questions call 884-9240.

rooms! We certainly hope to return next year."

Previous to "discovering" the Key Peninsula, this AKC event had been held at various area school playfields, and had challenges finding suitable locations.

At those other venues, the club brought in portable bathrooms, had none of the amenities available at Volunteer Park, nor a new service that was arranged this year by Larry Richardson, a club member and employee at the Purdy Women's Correction Center. At the beginning and end of the event, an eight- or nine-person "community crew," comprised of inmates from the prison and overseen by an officer from the facility, assisted with setup and tear-down. Henley said it was a wonderful experience, and everyone appreciated the service.

Henley praised Gallacher, who was officially on vacation that week but maintained a cordial, helpful presence. The AKC regulates the date the Gig Harbor club can run their event, and Henley has put in their request for the same weekend next year. The only conflict may be with the KP Community Fair, if it changes dates again. Gallacher said he should know by Thanksgiving if the park can commit to the club's agility event in 2007.

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## New logo launch for Peninsula School District

The Peninsula School District is pleased to announce the introduction of a new visual identity for its 9,000+ student district.

The Peninsula School District logo depicts the District as one that unites the two peninsulas and presents the words "Peninsula School District" as the most promi-



nent element in the logo design, along with a stylized version of an "S" with a star. The "S" creatively resembles a "G" for Gig Harbor and a "P" for Peninsula coming together to form an "S" for schools. The break in the "S" signifies the two peninsulas. The star symbolizes progressive excellence for all students. Color for the new look is a blue logo image with black Peninsula School District text. The logo was designed by Studio I of Gig Harbor.

## Peninsula School District Transportation

### Welcome Back!

PSD Transportation hopes that you all had a fun summer break and look forward to seeing your children on our buses this fall. Our goal is to make your child's trip to and from school as safe and pleasant as

possible. The driver is in charge of the bus and passengers at all times and may have a seating arrangement. The following are a few of our bus rules that we would like you to read and be aware of when riding on district school buses.

#### Bus Rules

- ✗ Follow driver directions.
- ✗ Stop, look, listen and cross only in front of the bus.
- ✗ Remain seated while the bus is in motion.
- ✗ No bullying or harassing, talk quietly and be courteous to all.
- ✗ Keep bus clean, no eating, drinking or littering on the bus.
- ✗ Keep body parts inside windows and do not throw anything out of the window.
- ✗ Glass and flammable items are not allowed on the bus.
- ✗ Large bulky items are not allowed. All items must fit on a student's lap.
- ✗ All articles must be contained safely. Animals/insects prohibited.

#### Reminder to parents and community:

Have students to bus stop 5 to 7 minutes prior to bus time. It is unlawful to pass a school bus when red lights are flashing. If your child misses the bus, take them to the next stop. Do not let students out of the car and allow them to run up the side of the bus. All bus routes, regular and emergency, will be posted on the district web page [www.psd401.net](http://www.psd401.net). If you have a concern about a stop please contact Craig Sherman, at [shermanc@psd401.net](mailto:shermanc@psd401.net). Include whatever current information you have about the stop and what changes you would like made. We will then notify you in writing of our decision. Any other concerns please contact Annie Bell, at [bella@psd401.net](mailto:bella@psd401.net). If you need to contact someone in Transportation, please call 530-3900 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. Address: 14015 62nd Ave. N.W., Gig Harbor, WA 98342



Superintendent, Terry Bouck

#### Meet the Superintendent

Terry Bouck is from Burien, Washington. He received his undergraduate degree from Central Washington University, his Master's of Education from Central Washington University and his Superintendent's Certificate from Seattle Pacific University. Mr. Bouck started his career with the Tacoma School District as a classroom teacher and went on to become a principal at the middle school level. Prior to his appointment to the position of Superintendent of the Peninsula School District, he served as Superintendent of the American International School in Lagos, Nigeria and as Assistant Superintendent with the Tacoma School District. He is married to Kristina Bouck, a teacher in the South Kitsap School District. The Boucks have five children and four grandchildren. They reside in Gig Harbor.

#### September Events

- 4 No School - Labor Day
- 8 PHS vs. GHHS Varsity Football "Fish Bowl" 7:00 p.m. Roy Anderson Field
- 14 School Board Regular Meeting 6:30 p.m. District Office

#### October Events

- 11 School Board Regular Meeting 6:30 p.m. Harbor Ridge Middle School
- 13 No School
- 14 PHS Auction "Discover Seahawks Treasures"  
For information on donations and reservations, contact Jane Ostercher at 858-6011 or [phsauction06@yahoo.com](mailto:phsauction06@yahoo.com)
- 21 HRMS Dedication 1:00 p.m. Community is Welcomed.
- 24 District Choral Fest Chapel Hill 7:00 p.m.
- 26 School Board Study Session 6:30 p.m. District Office

#### FISH BOWL 2006

Friday, September 8  
PHS Roy Anderson Field  
5:30 p.m. Salmon Bake  
7:00 p.m. Football Game

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Attendance: ..... 530-4428  
Counseling: ..... 530-4431  
Main Office: ..... 530-4400

(From GEODUCKS, Page 1)

owned intertidal leases at multiple locations, including Key Peninsula. They represent the Souers' family Mayo Cove geoduck farm application that is still awaiting a hearing and is the cause of local controversy (see previous story in the August KP News at [www.keypennews.com](http://www.keypennews.com)).

Olympia-based Seattle Shellfish, owned by Jim Gibbons, has "yet to earn a dime" for individuals who invested \$5 million startup dollars 10 years ago, according to Gibbons. Regardless, Gibbons is actively pursuing more leases.

"What the geoduck industry looks for is clean, sandy intertidal lands," he said. "The problem — or opportunity — facing Key Peninsula residents is the fact that most peninsula beaches are sandy, and ideally suited for geoduck farming."

To date, according to Gibbons, geoduck farming occupies only three-quarters of a mile on the Key Peninsula shoreline. To those alarmed about this aquaculture, Gibbons said, "It may seem like rapid growth, but it's nothing compared to what it could be. In terms of trade deficits per item, the first is oil, the second, seafood. We import far more than we produce. I feel good delivering a renewable product (to the market) for export."

He, too, acknowledged the lack of science surrounding this crop. "Anything we (the industry) have is anecdotal. Intertidal geoduck aquaculture has not been analyzed," he said.

Dave Hervey, retired Boeing engineer living on Stretch Island, has leased tidelands to Taylor Shellfish since 1998, experiencing three planting cycles and two harvests. "A farmer has to be a good steward of the land to get a good crop," he said. "And I like the looks of the tubes. (It) shows something is going on here — each farming (crop) method requires different procedures."

Hervey's recently harvested geoduck

*Editor's note: This is part 2 in a series.*

fields are being replanted. During a recent visit to the site, Brian Phipps, Taylor Shellfish Geoduck project manager, noted Hervey's upland beaches, strewn with kayaks, beach equipment, crab pots — evidence of shoreline use and enjoyment. Hervey says his family experiences no negative impact from farming whatsoever.

Taylor, Gibbons, and Phipps all voiced frustration by organized opposition's use of old photos and references to what they term the illegal Purdy Spit geoduck fiasco, which was in the spotlight a few years ago. They say if their industry were permitted to clean up the spit, debris would have been contained and removed. Instead, Pierce County charged itself with cleanup, and accepted no offer to assist, they said. They all agree the site is "still a mess."

Gibbons, Taylor, and Phipps know people don't want to look at planting tubes; the industry is investigating alternatives suitable to aquaculture. And debris is an on-going issue addressed daily.

"Our crews clean up these beaches (whether it's our debris or not)," said Phipps. "We've hauled away hundreds of washed-up tires, truckloads of garbage. We have a lot of equipment in these beds; we definitely want it all back."

Gesturing across the North Bay to houses crowded along the uplands, Phipps wonders aloud about pollutants trickling from yards, gardens, septic systems. "I think anybody who is interested in leasing (or opposes it) should see a farm," he said. "It's not for everybody; people should be able to do what they want with private property."

As Jesse Vincent tended the garden for Dr. Fred McFeeley on a pleasant plot overlooking tidy oyster, clam and geoduck beds below, visible at a relatively high low tide (4 foot minus), Phipps walked by on his way from the beach. McFeeley has been doing business with Taylor Shellfish for four years in shellfish, with geoduck beds planted one

month ago. The beds on his beach are clean, low to the ground, and set with geometric precision. The geoduck are seeded three to a white PVC tube protruding 3 to 5 inches above the sand, covered with black nylon nets held by surface-level rebar hooks to protect the seeds (recognizable geoducks only 1 inch long) from predators. Seaweed has already begun to accumulate; small crabs are present.

McFeeley reports Taylor Shellfish Farms crews regularly check beds; he is pleased with the working relationship. "The world is changing," he said. "Thirty years ago, we wouldn't think of having something like this. We can't go back."

His waterfront along State Route 302 has been in the family since 1932. Most of his neighbors also have some kind of aquaculture on their beaches, and he recalls no opposition to his decision. "It's my land anyway," he said.

After a mid-August meeting with potential lessees and groups opposing geoduck farming on the Key Peninsula, Phipps is hopeful for an amicable compromise.

"I think we worked together well," said Laurie Brauneis of Save Our Shoreline!, one of the opposition groups. "They (Taylor Shellfish) are the largest grower, setting standards for their industry."

Brauneis' group, and several others, spoke with Phipps about farming practices and safety issues. "It's a fairly new industry," she said. "They experimented with materials they hadn't tested, like rubber bands bought at a store." (Phipps acknowledged the error of using rubber bands and individual tube coverings.)

The groups as a whole would like an Environmental Impact Study done on the industry. "Aesthetics and debris are just part of it — there is no science on long-term effects to near-shore habitat," she said. "I can't have a gravel pit on my property, create dust and noise, but that doesn't seem to apply to the beach."

She contends shellfish companies talk about single farms but attempt to acquire leases down a shoreline to consolidate resources and man-hours. Brauneis attended a presentation Gibbons made, and said, "It didn't include the harvest. The topography of the beach goes back to its natural state in two tide cycles, but what about the ground 3 feet down?"

She notes there were no photos of harvest at the recent Taylor Shellfish Farms booth at the Key Peninsula Fair. When asked about this omission, Taylor replied, "I didn't see the booth. Harvest isn't a big part of the process." He said there is a wide range of techniques used to harvest (different) shellfish. "To us, it's no big deal," he said.

## A look at the geoduck harvest

(See [www.keypennews.com](http://www.keypennews.com) for geoduck harvest photos)

On a harvest day in mid-August, a small work boat anchors just outside the beds along the low tide shoreline, its engines switched from gas to diesel fuel, with unexpectedly quiet modified on-board harvest engines. Their sound more resembles an electric box fan moving air at low speed, or a small outboard motor, than something mechanical that is actually "on and working."

At the shore, a long hose connected to a port on the boat's engine is attached to a wand about the size of a vacuum cleaner hose. The working end has a small nozzle, controlled by the harvester's hand. It is a simple device that looks like a garden wand with a lever at the end so the gardener can control how much water sprays out, where, and with what force.

The wet-suited harvester crouches in the shallow shore water, using the wand below the surface, he shoots a short blast of air to raise a geoduck out of its bed in deeper sand. He then retrieves the clam from instantly sandy water. Seeded in rows planted straight with a jig, the harvester continues up this row, or "run," of clams until he reaches the end. The sand of the harvest row opens like a zipper on a jacket before the harvester's wand, and closes back like a water skier's wake behind him. The longer the row, the deeper the harvester stands in sand as it stirs up around him.

Significantly, the harvester eventually a few feet deep in a sandy water pit) wears no protective gear — no goggles or headgear, no earplugs. The second person in the two-person team secures the geoduck shells with a thick rubber band and places them in a plastic crate. A slight indentation in the sand, a temporary linear scar the length of the harvested row immediately begins to mend, as wavelets reach back to a higher tide. Within a day, tides have renewed the beach; any geoducks remaining after harvest, and there are many, will either continue to grow, or be dug at another low tide by the owner. A field is harvested only once before it is planted again, if the owner opts to renew the lease.

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*"When Service Counts"*

## From Pioneer Stock Kyle Chapman: Third generation of beach lovers

By Colleen Slater  
KP News

Kyle Chapman has lived a lifetime of summers at his beach north of Herron.

His grandfather, Walter Woodhouse, was a bricklayer who came from England to Troy, NY, when he was 21. He hated Troy. When he heard of the Seattle fire in June 1889, he convinced his four bricklayer brothers they'd have jobs in Seattle because people would want to rebuild with brick, not wood. The brothers and an unmarried sister sold their homes, bought one-way train tickets to Seattle, and arrived by early July.

Woodhouse, who grew up near the industrial city of Birmingham, England, spent six summers, from age 5 or 6, at an uncle's place on the Irish Sea. The tide went out for a mile or so. When he arrived on Puget Sound, he looked for a similar place to spend summers with his family. The first few years, he erected two platforms near Jolly Creek on the Kitsap Peninsula, one for cooking and eating, and one for a sleeping tent.

In 1908, he bought five acres north of Herron, part of an earlier homestead. He built a cabin, where his wife and children spent the summers, and he joined them on weekends. The cabin, 2 feet above high tide, was moved back 50 feet, when Asa Chapman, an engineer, was courting Emma Woodhouse.

The Chapman family rode one of the Mosquito Fleet boats to Home, drove up the North Herron Road as far as the creek, then Asa Chapman walked the beach, retrieved a rowboat and oars, and rowed back to load up food and supplies for their summer stay at the cabin.

Chapman, a bridge and tunnel expert for the railroad, was told in 1933 the company would move him to Chicago for a year if he wanted to continue working for them. The family moved to Illinois, but the children and their mother returned to the Washington cabin each summer.

When Kyle was awarded a scholarship for medical school, his parents gave him \$50 for food each summer, and he rode the train to Tacoma, headed for the beach cabin. "I made 42 round trips between Chicago and Tacoma before I met my wife," he says.

He and Addy, now married 52 years,

were in the same schools from seventh grade through high school, and both attended Northwestern University, but he never really knew her or even learned her name.

Addy taught in a grade school with Chapman's sister-in-law. When Chapman's brother and his wife decided to go on a six-year mission to the Himalayas, many parties were given. Chapman, busy with his hospital work, was invited to all, but went to only one.

Addy didn't plan to go to that party, but had a check for the woman who was her friend. The husband, Kyle's brother, insisted she go in, and introduced her to his mother. When Kyle Chapman approached, his mother said, "Here comes my son Kyle now." Addy realized she knew him. She overcame her shyness enough to greet him with "I'm Addy Whitehouse. Do you remember me?"

Chapman says his brain clicked "seventh grade, eighth, high school," and he said, "I sure do!" They married later that year.

After serving in France with the Air Force, Chapman obtained a position with Virginia Mason Medical Center in Seattle, where they lived until moving to the Key Peninsula in 1986. He and the family spent as much of each summer as possible at the beach, where he eventually built another cabin.

He told Addy before they married that the salt water was his No. 1 love, and she was second. She said as long as it wasn't another woman, it was OK.

On a trip to England they discovered both grandfathers were baptized in Dudley Top Church in Dudley. They have a wedding gift card found in an old photo album, from his great-grandparents to his wife's great uncle.

Chapman, octogenarian physician, still operates a limited medical practice in his home and an office in Seattle. His oldest patient begged him, "I don't want you to quit practicing 'til I'm dead." She turned 101 in February. His next-oldest patient was 100 in June, and works a few hours each week at a Nordstrom's coffee shop in Seattle.

Chapman's oldest daughter told him to never sell the property with the cabin. She has lived in Washington, D.C., for 20 years, but her friends all know her "real home" is at Herron, Wash., as is her father's.



Photo courtesy Kyle Chapman

Asa Chapman and Emma Whitehouse, parents of Kyle Chapman, at the beach cabin soon after their marriage.



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## Obituaries

### Coline Coburn

Coline Gillis was born at Tracy, Minn., on May 14, 1921, to Della May Edwards and Ernest Benjamin Gillis. She grew up in Balaton, Minn., graduated from Mankato State Teachers College in 1941, and taught school three years in Minnesota. On April 5, 1944, she married Dillon Coburn in Rapid City, S.D. She moved to Washington in the summer of 1944 and worked at Boeing while her husband was overseas fighting in World War II.

Upon the birth of her children, she dedicated her life to being a homemaker. The family moved from Malby, Wash., to Longbranch in 1967. Coburn worked as a substitute teacher for 29 years, did volunteer work and was a 4-H leader.

Upon retirement she and Don traveled extensively touring the United States and parts of Canada and spent their winters in Arizona. Coburn was a member of the Longbranch Community Church, where services were held on July 29 followed by burial at the Longbranch cemetery.

She was preceded in death by a brother, Bob Gillis; and three sisters, Grace Merry, Phyllis Lee, and Mary Lou Landre. She is survived by her loving husband of 62 years, Dillon "Don" Coburn; son Dean (Linda) of Longbranch; daughters Kathy (Wes) Marson of Marysville, Barbara of Chelan, Peggy (Mark) Ingraham of Purdy, Terry Ingraham of Tennessee, and Pam (Budd) Murray of Benson, Ariz.; 15 grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren; brother, Neil Gillis; sisters,

Elaine Swingle, Marian Curry, Betty Cyr, Pat Marchand, Lorna Rentko; and numerous friends, nieces and nephews.

All who knew her enjoyed her quick wit and wonderful sense of humor.



COBURN

### SSgt Milford M. "Mel" Oliver

Mel Oliver passed away peacefully at his Key Peninsula home with loved ones by his side on July 21, after a 10-year battle with Parkinson's disease. He was 84. Born in Stanton, Mich., on Aug. 30, 1921, to George W. Oliver and Lozeltha Newell Oliver, he and his four siblings ran the family farm after his father's death in 1935.

At the age of 17, Oliver joined the U.S. Army and fought in World War II and Korea. During his tenure, he was involved in the Battle of the Bulge and rescued soldiers from a burning tank. For his heroic actions, Oliver earned a number of decorations, including a bronze star. After retiring from the military, he worked in law enforcement, as a pastor, and as a lab technician. His hobbies included rock hunting, gemology, camping, and stamp collecting. After retiring from civilian work, he made many guest appearances at area schools showing his rock collection.

He is survived by Donna Oliver, his wife of 37 years; son David Oliver of Gig Harbor; his four daughters and sons-in-law, Eileen and Jim Baumgardt of Durango, Colo., Cristy and Frank Ortman of King City, Ore., Kathy and Eric Collins and Nancy and Chris Kuhuski, all of Gig Harbor; six grandchildren, John Sommer of Little Rock, Ariz.; David Sommer of Renton, Dean



OLIVER

Robertson of Port Townsend, Ashley and Joshua Oliver of Fall River, Wisc.; and Madeline Kuhuski of Gig Harbor; four great-grandchildren, Holly, Joshua, Heather, and Amanda Sommer; numerous other relatives and family friends, and sister-in-law Kate Oliver of Grand Rapids, Mich. He was preceded in death by his parents; siblings, newborn son Byron Oliver, several family friends including Ernest and Evalyn Miller, and all of our brave military personnel who fought in World War II and Korea.

Oliver was a warm, loving man who cared deeply about his family, church and community. He will be missed dearly.

He was interred at Tahoma National Cemetery, with full military honors. A memorial service was held Aug. 6, at Fox Island Alliance Church. Remembrances may be made in his name to the Fox Island Alliance Church Benevolent Fund.

Arrangements by Haven of Rest Funeral Home.

### Thora I. Huff

Thora I. Huff, 90, passed away Aug 2. She was born to John and Mary Caffey on Oct. 21, 1915, in San Angelo, Texas, where she married Frank Huff and lived until 1947. She remained a proud Texan all her life.

Huff was a resident of Lakebay for 58 years. She had enjoyed the wildlife and raising flowers on their Lakebay property. She was a homemaker known for cooking, baking and decorating wedding cakes. Her huckleberry cobbler was a specialty. She was a beautiful person inside and out. As long as she was able to take care of herself, there was never a hair out of place and makeup was beautifully applied.

Huff was a faithful member of the Port Orchard Church of Christ for 58 years. She loved the Lord's church and the people who were a part of it. When she was younger, she was a wonderful ministering servant to the senior saints at the church. Huff was full of hospitality and good deeds, and a great example of a true servant of Jesus.

Family members include: son, Clifford Huff (Dorothy) of Cle Elum; daughter, Carolyn Carpenter (Robert) of Lakebay; six grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, Frank T. Huff, in 1984, and her sister, Lavona Cheatham.

Graveside services were held Aug. 9, at Lakebay Cemetery. A celebration of life was held Aug. 9 at Port Orchard Church of Christ.

Remembrances may be made to Multicare Hospice.

Arrangements by Haven of Rest.

### Ronald K. Bustad

Ronald Kenneth Haldor Bustad was born in Seattle to immigrant parents Haldor T. and Olive R. Bustad on March 11, 1930, and passed away Aug. 12.

His first home was located where the Seattle Center is now. The family moved to Richmond Beach, where he grew up and graduated from Edmonds High School. He served in Korea during the war as a sergeant in Army communications.

His first job (before the war) was as a clerk at Farwest Trading on First Avenue in Seattle and he eventually became president of Farwest Electronics, now part of Bell Electronics.

An entrepreneurial spirit, he was a co-owner of YABA Marina in the 1970s and had interests in a number of different commercial properties. He redeveloped Northrup Business Park in Bellevue, where in 1972 he co-founded SpectraLux Corporation (now in Redmond).

Looking south, he and a partner started developing the Driftwood Point community in Lakebay on Key Peninsula before moving there in semi-retirement in 1994. Seeing the need for a family restaurant and employment opportunities on the peninsula, he opened the New Brookside Restaurant in 2004.

An active member at Newport Covenant Church in Bellevue for 30 years, he continued his church activity at the Lakebay Community Covenant Church.

Bustad is survived by his wife of 54 years, Shirley; their children, Eric Bustad, Ronna Husby (David), Sally Douglass, John Bustad (Holly), Matthew Bustad, David Bustad, and Catherine Bustad (Bob Smith); nine grandchildren and his sister, Marlene Fread.

The service was held Aug. 19 at Lakebay Community Covenant Church.

Donations may be sent to the LCCC Building Fund, PO Box 130, Lakebay, WA 98349.



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- September 8 Spence Brothers Band
- September 15 Loose Gravel
- September 16 Nicole Fomier
- September 29 Billy Farmer Band

No Cover

# Artist Jeanne Crider paints on anything she finds

By Colleen Slater  
KP News

Jeanne Crider paints on anything she finds — rocks, leaves, light bulbs, suitcases — in a studio built as an extension of their home by her husband, Lee. After a couple of years, their insurance company said she had a business, as she sold some products retail. Lee detached the studio with his chain saw. Later, when she stopped the business, it was OK to have a studio attached, and he patched it back together.

"I can teach anyone decorative art," Crider says. "I've never lost a student."

It's a learned art, and she says it's one the student or practicing artist needs to keep learning.

Crider began tole painting over 30 years ago to encourage a friend. "I can't even draw a straight line!" she told her friend. Six months later, she was hooked.

Tole painting became designated as a decorative art, and in 1986, Crider received her Certificate for Decorative Artist, after a competition of 240 people with 22 certificates awarded by the Northwest Pastel Society.

About 15 years ago, she began doing fine art. The difference is decorative art uses someone else's pattern, and fine art is creating something original. Crider used to attend many conventions, with five or six teachers per convention. "I've probably had over 100 different teachers," she notes.

Eventually, she thought it was time to share her knowledge with others, and she not only has classes in her studio, but has taught at conventions herself.

"There's no more satisfaction than

Anyone interested in Crider's fall classes, should call 857-5132 or email her at jcrider324@gmail.com for information.



Jeanne Crider with a Dodge pickup tailgate she is touching up.

Photo by Colleen Slater

seeing a student excited," she says.

Her weekly ongoing classes teach the basics as well as new theories. Some students have returned for as many as 15 years, as a way to continue their artistry and be encouraged.

Crider loves to be different, experimenting with unique items. On camping trips, she picks up the first thing her eye lands on and paints it. She calls this "found art" — "I found it and I painted it." One project was a leaf, and she had to think about that for awhile. When she showed it to her friends and students, everyone else had to try one, too. That turned into a Santa Claus, and her various Santa objects form quite a collection; light bulbs, spoons, rocks, records, CDs. One Santa was a shotgun shell.

Her most fun project occurred in Arizona. "It's a total idle place," she says. She set up her canvas outside to paint scenery. A man stopped to ask if she could paint a bear. Yes, she could. "On a motor home?" She thought she could. He showed her a postcard with a bear in tuckleberries, and she produced it on his motor home,

with plenty of curious and amused onlookers. She spray-painted the back-drop, and Lee had to hold up large pieces of cardboard to prevent the wind carrying paint to other trailers.

She and a small group of friends, "The Thursday Girls," get together each week to paint. "We're hard on each other," she says of their critiques. All are practicing artists, and they have an annual show of their

work at Gig Harbor's Kimball Espresso Gallery in October. This fall the theme will be "Year of the Dogs."

"That doesn't mean we have to paint dogs," she says with a grin. "It might be a dogfish, a hot dog..." There will be some traditional dogs, but there will be another artist or two who, like her, opt to be creative and surprising.

Walls, cupboards and various items in her studio display her work. It's a comfortable space where Crider, artist friends, students and grandchildren love to be.



Photo by Colleen Slater

A full "meal" of rocks, courtesy of Crider's creative touch.

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# Artist Pat Thompson finds tranquility on the Key Pen

By Jerry Libstaff

Art on the Key Peninsula takes many forms. The wealth of talent here is one of our great assets. Pat Thompson is an artist versed in many techniques.

He paints in several media: acrylics, water colors, pastels and inks. His abstract work captures the viewer and his realism is fascinating. He also creates art through landscape and has designed and built a beautiful home.

Thompson remembers his first painting, done with oils at age 12. Although his choices of media have changed over the years, he has never stopped creating. Thompson says, "When I was younger, I was given an option to learn computers or attend the Cornish School of Art. I followed the technical path since it seemed more secure. I've always wished I had chosen to study the arts."



The Genuine  
ARTicle



Pat Thompson in his beautifully inspirational garden.

Thompson now reads and studies constantly; his art education is a personal, ongoing process. It's evident in his huge

private library. The studio he created has an entire wall of art and landscape books. Thompson has taken art classes at the

University of Washington and studied with instructors from Two Waters Arts Alliance on the Key Peninsula. He also belongs to a small art group with several other local artists. The group meets once each month to share their current work. He says, "Getting together with the others brings about inspiration."

The group, known as ArtphArt, is a "positive encouragement to stay active," he says. ArtphArt also attends gallery shows each month to experience other artists' techniques.

Thompson grew up in Seattle but after working in computers and living in the city, he decided to move to the country and start a small farm in Arlington. The work involved in running a small subsistence farm was enormous. He decided he would better spend his time at a large venue with one single focus. He and his wife bought 300 acres in Texas to raise pigs. Three years later, after two Texas fires and back surgery, Thompson returned to the computer business. While there, a co-worker suggested a wonderful subsistence life could be found on a sailboat. Thompson and his wife decided to try the lifestyle and spent the next 10 years cruising the East Coast and the Caribbean.

"It was a wonderful existence; we loved the freedom," he said. However, the desire for a place to call home got stronger and they found themselves back in Washington looking for property near Gig Harbor.

Fifteen years ago, they looked to the Key Peninsula and found their home. Thompson designed the house and developed a landscape that's been featured in newspapers. His property placed in the top 15 landscape designs throughout King, Pierce and Snohomish counties in a contest sponsored by the University of Washington Arboretum Society. A walk through the several garden areas takes one from a Northwest landscape through a flowered tunnel to the tropics, through waterfalls and ponds filled with Koi fish into an inspiring Japanese garden. A flowered gazebo is a gathering place for Thompson's friends. Everywhere, throughout the property, is a sense of peace and tranquility that makes it difficult to leave.

Thompson is currently updating the landscape at the local fire department, where he can be found creating a garden of art for them.

*Jerry Libstaff, a writer who lives in Vaughn, is past president of Two Waters Arts Alliance.*

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## Homeport hosts 'Hoe Down'

By Danna Webster  
KP News

The first annual Homeport Hoe Down starts at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 9. Hoe Down is farmer and gardener speak for "stop working in that garden, stop working in that field— put your hoe down and come to the dance." The bartenders at LuLu's Homeport, Bobbie Tredgen and Wendy McCall, have been planning since May to make this a great community get-together. McCall is a new member of the Homeport team but she brought the idea with her from the Poor Man's Country Inn in Tacoma, where she had created the event. "I figured if it worked there, why not here?" McCall says.

According to McCall, Homeport owner LuLu Smith was a real trooper when it came to the idea and helping. It seemed like an opportunity for her to give back to the community. There will be a lot of giving going on. The hamburgers, hot dogs, music, games and prizes are all free. The High Plains Drifters will entertain from the top of a semi truck trailer; transportation between restaurant and the parking lot will be provided by a hay ride; and there will be prizes for the winners of Needle in the Haystack and Nail the Hoe. The grand prize is a best-kept secret. It will be awarded at 7 p.m. to the winner of the "best dressed hoe" contest. To win this contest, you must retire your hoe from its daily chores and dress it up for the party.

Yvonne Conniff has been the Homeport bookkeeper for 14 years but complained to McCall about the contest as she left work. "I can't get my hoe to put a dress on. She's busy in the garden."

The funding for the Hoe Down was raised by bartenders and customers with car washes, bakery sales and auctions. The game prizes are donations from several Key Center businesses. Cowboy boot raffle tickets earned a fair share of the costs for the event. The goal was \$3,000 and by August there was \$3,118 in the account. All monies earned above the cost will benefit the Children's Christmas Fund at Longbranch. McCall intends to continue selling raffle tickets through the fall to support that fund.

There will be an outdoor beer garden with hay bales for your seating comfort. The restaurant and bar will also be open with Hoe Down specials served inside. Dress up your hoe, put on your dancing shoes and head for Homeport Sept. 9. It will be happening "rain or shine."

## The Tropics Band drops in for Labor Day

The Labor Day Dance at the Longbranch Improvement Club Saturday, Sept. 2, will feature The Tropics Band playing classic Rock 'n Roll. Doors will open at 7:30 p.m., with the music beginning after 8. Tickets can be purchased at the door or before hand at Sunnycrest Nursery, Home Country Store or Filix Bay Marina. Admission is \$10, with a no host bar.

Incoming Improvement Club President Linda Leblanc says, "The LIC is excited to have The Tropics playing on the Peninsula for the first time." The band is a Seattle-area group of three musicians who have played at many locations around the Sound in the last 10 years.

Greg Boehme, lead musician, plays the keyboard, saxophone, flute, and guitar. Greg, who grew up in Port Orchard,



teaches music now at Shoreline High School. Julie Mains, vocalist, interprets the group's Rock 'n Roll and Rhythm & Blues in her own special retro-style. Chad Quist, guitarist, the threesome's newest member, has performed in many of Seattle's premier bands and nationally as well. He has opened for Ray Charles, Steve Miller, Dianne Schuur, Lon Rawls, and Huey Lewis. In 1997, Quist began his association with Big Brother and the Holding Company (of Janis Joplin fame).

The Tropics Band has played a number of years at the outdoor graduation reception concert for 1,500 people

on the University of Washington School of Education campus. For nearly a decade, they've been entertaining Seattle-area audiences with big, high-quality sound in their very danceable music.

The LIC is preparing for the annual Labor Day Dance that attracts a big crowd of fun-loving dancers who come from near and far to enjoy the evening in the atmospheric setting of the Improvement Club. The historic building is at 4312 Key Peninsula Highway in Longbranch. For boaters who tie up at the Filix Bay Marina, bus service will be provided.

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## News briefs

### KPMPD to start park comprehensive planning

Key Peninsula Metro Park District will start holding public meetings in late September to plan the park district's comprehensive park plan. The purpose of the plan is to identify existing recreation resources, determine recreation needs of the residents of the Key Peninsula, and develop strategy for developing additional recreation opportunities for the residents of the Key Peninsula.

Visit [www.keypeninsulaparks.com](http://www.keypeninsulaparks.com) for more details starting Sept. 8.

### Safe Streets helps organize identity theft forum

"Identity theft education, protection and prevention" is the topic of an October forum organized by the Key Peninsula office of Safe Streets in collaboration with the Pierce County Sheriff's Department, CenturyTel, the Gig Harbor Police Department, Washington State Department of Corrections and Ocala Recovery Centers.

The forum will be held in three parts, each focused on a different topic. Part 1, on Oct. 3, will feature state Attorney General Rob McKenna as the guest speaker. He will overview the work being done to address the state's identity theft crisis for residents and businesses. Deputy Richard Folder of the sheriff's department will introduce a new program called Fraud Free Business.

Part 2, on Oct. 10, will feature county sheriff's investigator Allen Myron, who will focus on how criminals target consumers and businesses. Part 3, on Oct. 17, will feature more information on how consumers and businesses can protect themselves.

The forum will be held 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Gig Harbor Civic Center, located at 3510 Grandview Street in Gig Harbor.

### Day care holds open house

"Key to Learning Childcare and Preschool" will hold an open house on Friday, Sept. 8, 7-9 p.m., and Saturday, Sept. 9, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Other hours are available by arrangement.

Helen Macumber, owner and operator of Key to Learning, has been a home childcare provider for 27 years, and has introduced an innovative approach to the preschool program this year.

For address and directions, call 858-5460 or 858-8705.

# Governor receives portrait from Key Pen artist

By Rodika Tollefson  
KP News

Key Peninsula artist Adria Hanson was looking for a creative way to get established in the area. A recent transplant from Kansas, where she owned a successful art gallery with her father, she found a less developed interest in this area in portraits, her specialty.

With the help of her husband, Derek, she came up with an idea: paint a portrait of Gov. Christine Gregoire, and present it to her as a gift. The idea worked well for a NASA artist Derek Hanson represented. While trying to get established, the artist painted a portrait of Montana's governor, and it was well received.

Hanson decided to paint the oil portrait as a demonstration tool for her art students. When the portrait was finished, she contacted Gregoire's secretary — and only a week later received a reply, asking if she wanted to present it in person in Olympia.

"She really liked it," Hanson said. "She gave me a hug and was sincerely

thankful... She is super kind, more than I expected."

They talked for about 10 minutes about things ranging from education, Gig Harbor, and the governor's new dog, to Washington state in general. Hanson, who is a Republican, said in art, politics is out of the way. She left the governor a business card, in case she decides to select her to paint her official portrait that will be hung in the Capitol.

Hanson has been painting since she was a young girl. Her mother, who was a hobby artist, let her play with paints since about age 9. Hanson has tried different techniques and mediums but has been drawn to portraits in recent years. Her Key Peninsula studio is filled with a variety of beautiful portraits done using real people and photographs for inspiration.

"I'm blessed with being able to look at a photograph of a person and be able to draw them," she said. "When you capture someone on canvas, you capture more than their picture — you have to capture their look and the sparkle in their eye."

Hanson grew up in Kansas, where she



Photo courtesy Derek Hanson  
Adria Hanson with Gov. Christine Gregoire and the portrait.

returned to study art in college. She moved to the Key Peninsula a couple of years ago after getting married to Derek, who is a firefighter at Boeing. With a degree in fine arts and a minor in anthropology and archaeology, she traveled the world in her 20s, including Italy, Egypt, England, France, and Israel. Italy was especially inspirational, "being surrounded by

masters everywhere."

"Your mind will change when you travel," she said. "It has changed me. I feel more grounded."

In her studio, she keeps many of her early works displayed to help her grow as an artist. "I like to know where I've come from... and to see how much better I've become," she said.

Hanson, for whom art is the only professional pursuit, teaches at Harbor Montessori and has several private students of all ages. She continues to pursue galleries that appreciate portraits so she can have a public display, and in the meantime, she has started to paint some landscapes.

"The mountains and the water have inspired me," she said.

## See Adria Hanson's work

The works of Adria Hanson and her students will be exhibited Sept. 19 to Nov. 17 at Tacoma Community Center. An opening reception for the exhibit, "Following Tradition: Master and Students," will be held Sept. 21 from 5 to 9 p.m. The exhibit hours are Monday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Tacoma Community Center is located at 1323 S. Yakima 2nd floor in Tacoma.

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## Published photo sends reader down Memory Lane

The upper right hand corner on the last page of the June Key Peninsula News shows a photo of Arnold and Christine Gilbert of Longbranch with a wagon full of plants they purchased at the Lakebay Fuchsia Society's annual plant sale. Key Pen resident Frank Shirley provided the following story upon seeing the photo.

"The wagon has a 40-year history. Purchased in Ann Arbor, Mich., the wagon served to carry my two oldest boys around the neighborhood. In 1969, the wagon moved to Ft. Collins, Colo., where another brother joined the family.

"By 1973, the wagon had moved to Vaughn, where it really began to get a workout. Riding down our dirt driveway with stones and holes began to wear on the steering. Leaving it out in the rain began to decay the floor of the box. Eventually, the floor rotted out and a piece of plywood was substituted for the box. Later, a back rest was nailed to the plywood by the older boys and the

wagon was again racing down the driveway. The steering was loosened even more.

"As the boys grew older, the wagon was replaced by a go-kart and then cars. I had cut another piece of plywood to replace the floor of the box but a warped side made it difficult. I put some weight on the box so the side would bend back into place and waited. The box and the beat-up wagon were forgotten under the front porch for about 15 years.

"This spring I looked at the old wagon. It was just the thing to help move plants around for the Fuchsia Society's plant sale. I partially straightened the warped side of the box, held the side in place with a cross brace, and after removing the old plywood, placed the box back on the chassis.

"The wagon with its loose wheels and steering was ready to go. The wagon even made the Key Peninsula News. Now if I can just find a place to keep it in the garage!"



Photo by Mindi LaRose

This photo of Arnold and Christine Gilbert at the Lakebay Fuchsia Society annual plant sale was published in the Key Peninsula News in June, stirring some memories for the owner of the wagon, Frank Shirley.

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# Walk and improve the environment

EnviroCorps, a nonprofit organization that helps maintain publicly-accessible lands such as parks and public roads, has received a \$200 capacity-building grant from the Hayes Family Fund of The Greater Tacoma Community Foundation. Through the purchase of tools and safety equipment, the grant will help EnviroCorps make litter patrol efforts on the Gig Harbor and Key Peninsulas safer and more enjoyable.

EnviroCorps strives to meet the needs of volunteers who have an interest in getting exercise while performing a community service. The program is especially good for retired people who enjoy walking for an hour a day but need a little incentive. Individuals who can devote seven to 14 hours a month patrolling local roads for litter are encouraged to contact Vernon Young at 265-6162 or email info@envirocorps.org.

EnviroCorps maintains a Website at [www.envirocorps.org](http://www.envirocorps.org) where people can sign up for a variety of volunteer opportunities designed for self-starters who like to work independently and set their own schedule.

The Greater Tacoma Community Foundation (GTCF) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to enriching the quality of life in the Greater Tacoma region. GTCF provides a flexible way for citizens to improve their community through charitable giving. Community grants are awarded based on the interest of the donor or through an openly competitive process that addresses the changing needs of the community. For more information about the foundation, visit [www.tacomafoundation.org](http://www.tacomafoundation.org) or call (253) 383-5622.

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# Out & About



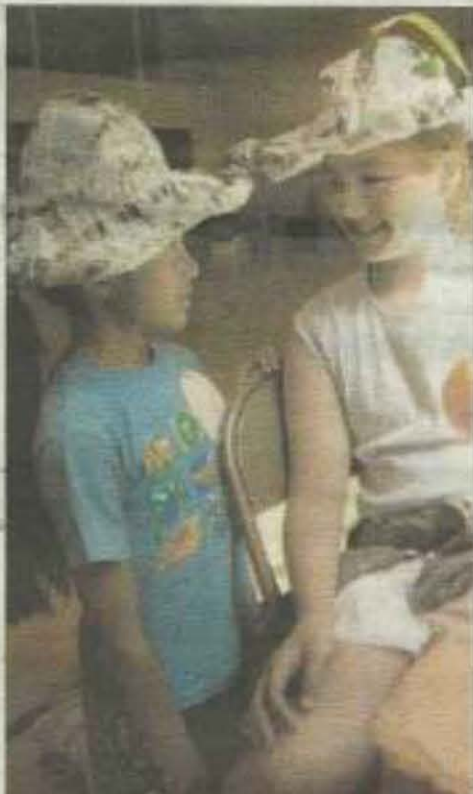
These orcas were in a pod of five that spent an entire day swimming up and down Case Inlet, giving boaters an amazing show. *Photo courtesy Kris Allen*



Above, Mary Rose Breskovich, Peninsula High School 12th grader, takes her photo card and heads into the auditorium to get her yearbook picture taken during the PHS School Registration Week. School starts Aug. 31. *Photo by Mindi LaRose*

Far left, Ellie and Jessalyn model hats made from newspapers and feathers under guidance of 4H club volunteers during "Camp Glad U-R HERE" sponsored by Children's Home Society/Key Peninsula Family Resource Center, which joined forces with the Two Waters Arts Alliance and 4H to provide fun summer activities.

Left, at Key Peninsula Middle School, as the Gig Harbor Kiwanis Club staged its ninth annual "Gear Up For School" project to provide kids clothing and school supplies for the opening of the new school year, Kiwanis volunteer Jennifer Frederick helps Evergreen Elementary second grader Breanna Martin select the perfect backpack to carry her school supplies. *Photos by Hugh McMillan*



Peninsula School District incoming Superintendent Terry Bouck introduces his wife, Kristy, and thanks CenturyTel and the community for welcoming him. CenturyTel held a reception in his honor to celebrate his new position. Attendees included Pierce County Councilman Terry Lee, former Gig Harbor Mayor Gretchen Wilbert, Key Peninsula resident Keith Stiles, and many others. *Photo by Mindi LaRose*



Left, On a mid-August Saturday in Purdy, motorists waiting for the light to change are greeted by Key Peninsula career firefighter Gary Way and other firefighters who sought support for Jerry Lewis' annual telethon for the Muscular Dystrophy Association's quest for a cure for the dreaded disease. *Photo by Hugh McMillan*

To see more Out & About photos, visit our Website at [www.keypennews.com](http://www.keypennews.com) and follow the Photo Gallery link. See more of your neighbors out and about, Key Peninsula scenes and happenings. The online gallery features only Website exclusive photos!