

## What's Inside Your Key Peninsula News



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## Civic Center Welcomes "Winter Visuals"

The Key Peninsula Civic Center will be the locale for the third **Winter Visuals** program on Saturday, February 5, from noon to 5:00 PM. Presented by the Gig Harbor/Key Peninsula Cultural Arts Commission, it will feature artists of many venues, not only displaying their work, but also discussing their processes when they create stained and blown glass, ceramics, metal and wood sculpture, pastels, watercolors, photography, using recycled materials for art, and much more.

The Kitchen will be staffed by members of the Key Peninsula Seniors Society as a fund-raiser for their organization. Admission to this event will again be by donation for adults; children, students and nursing home residents are admitted free. Bringing children and the elderly is encouraged, as they really enjoyed last year's program.

An important aspect of this event is the joining of both visual and performing arts. Alex Fordyce will be playing the piano again, and this year will also play Scottish bagpipes while attired in full Scottish regalia. The wide spectrum of entertainers will also include the Peninsula High School Jazz Ensemble, the Key Singers of Longbranch, and the Gig Harbor Spelemannslag, five families of fiddlers, flutists, and cellists.

New for this year is that some of the artists will be offering classes at the KP Civic Center through the Gig Harbor Center of Tacoma Community College during the college's winter quarter. Registration will be available during the program or by contacting TCC-GHC directly.

For further information please call Shirley Tomasi, Executive Director of CAC, at 851-9462.

See photo of "Raku" pottery to be shown by Christopher Mathie of Vaughn on Page 6 of the KP News.

## Citizen Of The Year

The 16th Annual Key Peninsula Citizens of the Year Awards Banquet will be held at the Key Peninsula Civic Center in Vaughn on Saturday, April 1, 2000. Keynote speaker will be Peninsula School District Superintendent, James Coolican.

Anyone living, working, or owning property on the Key Peninsula is eligible to be a candidate for recognition of voluntary work or contributions of benefit to the KP community. Members of Lions Clubs are not eligible.

Members of the sponsoring Key Peninsula Lions Club encourage you to submit nominations of candidates for recognition as Citizens of the Year. Your brief letter providing the name, address, and telephone number of the person(s) you are nominating and your reason(s) for making the  
See Citizen on Page 2



John Biggs proposes to Vicki Husted

## John And Vicki Take To Each Other On New Year's Eve

by Hugh McMillan

Just before midnight on New Year's Eve, Vicki Husted's number got her to run up the stage of the Longbranch Improvement Club stairs to get "the last and biggest of the evening's raffle prizes."

It was her companion, John Biggs, attorney for the Peninsula School District. In front of 190 tuxedo-and-formal-wearing guests and 10,000 decorative lights, Biggs told Husted, "we've been together three years, I love you, and want you as my life companion ... if you'll have me."

"I will," said an otherwise speechless Husted to the accompanying cheers of a packed house.

Biggs' friend Joe Barrow held out a teddy bear with Santa's hat on the point of which was the ring which shortly found itself on Husted's finger.

The whole thing was collusively engineered by Biggs, Improvement Club President Dick Van Cise and wily Marlis, and Barrow.

What a way to welcome Y2K!

## To Our Readers

We want the KPNews to be an interesting, useful source of information regarding activities and events for the people of the Key Peninsula community. We welcome comments and suggestions from you, and we encourage you to suggest new ideas and submit articles.

Since August, we have bulk-mailed the paper to all the P. O. Box holders and residents in these ZIP code areas: 98329, 98349 (including 98351), 98394 and 98395. We have also mailed, first class, to subscribers outside of these areas. The price of a subscription is \$10 per year—pretty minimal! Please mail subscriptions to *Key Peninsula News*, P.O. Box 3, Vaughn, WA 98394 and enclose your check.

If you live in the ZIP code areas above and have not been receiving the KPNews, please let us know so we can work on it. And if you live outside these areas, or know someone who does and who would be interested, please consider a subscription or a gift subscription.

On another note—The KPNews is a non-profit venture and it must be at least financially self-supporting in order to survive. The KP Civic Center Association provides space and other assistance, but the main source of support is our advertisers. We hope you will patronize them and also tell them you appreciate hearing about them in the KPNews.



# The Center News

by Sandy McFarlane  
and Vicky McClung

Well we seem to have moved into the new millennium without much fanfare. Everything here at the Center is moving in a forward direction without a hitch. We are offering several new programs here that will be exciting and fun for the kids in our community. Tacoma Community College is about to join us with several interesting and fun programs for kids and adults. We are very excited about TCC coming to the Key Peninsula to expand services here. Our aim is to have them develop a large variety of programs that will interest everybody in the community. If you have ideas as to what programs are needed or wanted here please let us know and we will pass the word on to TCC. Elsewhere in the KP News you will find details as to the programs offered or phone us here at the office at 884-3456.

Would you like to learn to belly dance? We now have a class operating on Friday mornings from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. instructed by Carey Cole. Give us a call or just come by on Friday and see for yourself. It sounds

like great fun and probably helpful in meeting that New Year's resolution to lose weight.

We are also going to begin offering a variety of dance classes and movement classes on Wednesday afternoons here at the center. Dallas Dickens will be here on February 12th from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. to register kids for the dance classes. Please come by and talk with her about the classes.

If it sounds like things are really hopping here at the Center it is because they are. The only piece that is missing is you. We would love to have more people coming out to our Board Meetings on the 2nd Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. The only way that the Civic Center can be what the community wants it to be is by your participation. Come out to the meetings and be heard. Let the Executive Committee know what you want to be done at the Center. We need strong community support for the Civic Center to continue to exist in a manner that is of benefit to us.

## K P Historical Society Museum Receives Grant

The Key Peninsula Historical Society would like to thank the Morris Foundation of Gig Harbor for a grant of \$2500. The funds will be used to purchase some new computer equipment for preserving and presenting information on the history of the Key Peninsula.

The Key Peninsula Historical Museum is located in the old library building at the Key Peninsula Civic Center in Vaughn. Museum hours are 1:00 to 4:00 P M on Thursdays and Saturdays and also by calling 884-4538 for an appointment.

## Home Town Forum -- Ask The Sheriff

Do you have any questions you would like to ask the Pierce County Sheriff Department regarding the Key Peninsula community? Any concerns about what is legal or illegal? Crime Watch? Public areas? Private property regulations? Protective services?

The Home Town Meeting is hosting a discussion/question and answer session with a representative of the Pierce County Sheriff's Department at the next meeting in early March.

We would like to submit questions, or specific areas for discussion, to the Department prior to the meeting so that the Sheriff can research any needed background information. Please send written questions to Nancy Lind at PO Box 252, Lakebay, WA 98349. And come to the meeting to be informed.

**Date: Thursday, March 2, 2000, at 7 PM, Location: Home Fire Station, KPN Highway**

## KPCCA Executive Committee 2000

### PRESIDENT:

Dave Stratford  
884-2566

### 1st VICE PRESIDENT:

(Maintenance)

Loyd Miller

884-2536

### 2nd VICE PRESIDENT:

Betty Kelley

884-4126

### TREASURER:

Virginia Liebergesell

884-3603

### SECRETARY:

Kristen Bottiger

884-5420

### AT LARGE:

Shirley Olson

884-2481

### AT LARGE:

Sylvia Haase

884-3603

### PAST PRESIDENT:

Dale Loy

884-4169 or 884-3937



## The Children's Home Society's FAMILY ROOM

We at Children's Home Society are very grateful for the incredible support of the community during our recent Holiday Helper program at the Key Peninsula Family Resource Center in Vaughn. Because of the wonderful generosity of a large number of sponsors and donors, 379 children in 148 families received gifts. No one was turned away, even though there were over 100 more children signed up this year than last.

Our program was kept on track by our beloved Holiday Helper volunteers: Susan Ritchie, Voski Sprague, Michelle Harrison, Joan Ryan, Kim Gebhardt, Renee Kraft and Can Haines. We could not have pulled it off without their help. Many thanks for their hard work, and to "The Shadow," Monica Zimmerman.

Our office served as a sort of community clearinghouse, coordinating donations to local children and families from community organizations, churches and businesses. Collaborators included: the Angel Guild, the St. Vincent Society of St. Nicholas Church, FISH, Key Peninsula Community Services, the Fire District 16 Angel Tree program, CenturyTel, Vaughn Elementary School, Beta Sigma Xi, Costless Pharmacy, 4-H Differences, the GAP, Gig Harbor Eagles Auxiliary, Keller-Williams Realty, Key Center Tavern, Key Peninsula Lutheran Church, Lakebay Community Church, Longbranch Community Church, Mohawk Northern Plastics, Peninsula Gardens, Peninsula Neighbors, Target, TOPS 1019, Windermere Realty and YMCA Camp Seymour. Thank you all.

Many individual sponsors came forward as well (in addition to individual sponsors sent to us by the Angel Tree program). Sincere thanks to: Mr. & Mrs. Jon Arnold, Kristine Barker, Sally Bell, Jennifer Connors, Paul & Rose Davis, Frank & Cindy DiBiase, Mary Ellen Donachie, Marie Ehlke, Marcie Enfield & family, Jeri Garwood, Dana Gibson, Ginger & Denver Gratton, Elaine Gurr, John Heitman, Nancy Hindes, Michael Ketcham, Mark & Reni Runions, Cheryl & Doug Schuelke, Voski & Robert Sprague, and Lynetta Yanity & family.

A number of unexpected donors also came to us this year, bringing unsolicited gifts which made it possible to meet the increased requests for help. Many people simply dropped things off and left, and we probably missed a few, but we want everyone to know that their help was greatly appreciated. Those we are able to thank by name include: Stephanie Crouse, Betty Fifer, Marcie Fisher, Deb Jahn, Dale & Claudia Loy, Sharon Miller, Amy & Scott Olson, Shirley Olson, Stuart Perry, Donna Peterson, Lorraine Reed & family, Susan & Banks Ritchie, Rachel & Devin Rosen, Joan Ryan, Walt & Mike White, Comfort Shoes, Junior Girl Scout Troop 175, the Lions Club, Nissan of Fife, and The News Tribune.

It was a truly amazing process of many, many generous people coming together to

be sure that the children of this community received gifts at the holidays. If we missed anyone, we apologize. We are humbled and very grateful. Many blessings to all in the new year.

Sincerely,

The Staff of Children's Home Society Key Peninsula Family Resource Center

## Time, Treasure, Talent

The Civic Center is blessed to have so many dedicated volunteers who give of their time, talent and treasure. Every Friday night, Lila Garrison and her crew of volunteers put on Friday Night Skate for the children in our community. We appreciate and thank Mr. and Mrs. Lawson, Ed Czebator, Butch Roberts, Sam Dodge, Teacher Kacie, Kimberely Wood, Kelly Wood, Carol Overly, Leslie and Shaun Etheridge, Shane Gray, Carol Ferris and Wendy Glenn.

The security apartment renovation is moving along; Loyd Miller has put in 78 hours of work, followed by Betty Kelley with 66. Other appreciated volunteers are Mike Kelley, Kristin Bottiger, Dale Loy, Arv Meyers, and Lance England. The new storage unit has made steps toward completion, thanks to Mike Salatino, Dave Stratford, Gary Gebo, Larry Hendrickson and the group from Americor, who helped insulate and put up sheetrock. Thanks also to Dave, Betty and Sylvia Haase for doing the security tasks.

The budget committee has a budget in place for the first three months of operation, and we thank Mike Salatino, Gina Liebergesell, Sylvia Haase and Sharon Miller for their work, and we are appreciative of the many extra hours spent by Christie Lyon, Vicky McClung, and Sandy McFarlane in facilitating the new accounting system.

A special thank you to Mike and Joyce Salatino, who put on the special Christmas Dinner every December 25, so that no member of our community will be alone on that day. One hundred people were served and we are grateful for their great gift. Our applause also to the Angel Guild for the donation of ten pair of rollerblades for the skating program.

Ann Waldo and Marty Marcus have volunteered to take over the duties of editor of our newspaper, and we thank them for overseeing that task.

We are always looking for people to assist us with many projects, and if you have some time to donate or a talent to share, we would love to add you name to our list!

From Citizen Page 1

nomination(s) should be mailed to: Citizens of the Year, KP Lions, P.O. Box 63, Vaughn, WA 98394.

Nominations must be submitted on or before February 28, 2000.

Questions? Please call 884-3319, 857-4285, or 884-1038.





# A View From Home

by Marty Marcus

Writing for a newspaper is not always a pleasant task, but I'm beginning to feel that reading a newspaper these days is almost always unpleasant. This column is being written on January 19th, but I seriously doubt that by the time you read this the news about the cutbacks in public transit service will have improved.

I don't happen to be disabled enough to need the services of a shuttle bus, but for those few hundred people who depend upon it, eliminating it or decreasing the area served by it seems unfair. As for Route 113 to Key Center, as more and more people move out here and congestion on State Route 302 and the Key Peninsula Highway gets worse, what we need is better service, not no service.

A recent letter in the Tacoma paper was devoted mostly to the writer's inability to carpool because of the complexity of his work schedule. No one expects everyone to carpool all the time. Not everyone goes somewhere every day, even those of us who are retired stay home some of the time. I occasionally drive to outlying areas to do a program at a school or library, but there's no way I could carpool or use public transit. Can you imagine me trying to get on a bus with a dozen snakes, three turtles and two lizards, plus a bunch of books and other display materials? But I still feel somewhat guilty because I'm sure other drivers see me as just another single-occupant vehicle taking up space on the road.

There are times when one can drive from Purdy past Gig Harbor in six minutes. At other times it takes twenty-six minutes. It's hard to believe that all those drivers in single-occupant vehicles creeping along at less than ten miles per hour have to have the use of their car at work and therefore can't carpool or use public transit.

While the U.S. Department of Transportation is planning to get cities and states to reduce automobile traffic by 25% over the next few years, Washington (this one) seems to be moving in the opposite direction. One of the arguments you hear from some drivers is that they paid for their cars and they should be able to drive them wherever and whenever they want. This is an attitude that totally disregards the individual's responsibility to the community. It ignores the pollution effects—burning one gallon of gasoline puts about ten pounds of carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide and various nitrogen oxides into the air. It ignores the "road rage" incidents, the deaths of some 40,000 people annually in the U.S. in auto accidents, and the billions of dollars in medical costs.

Yes, it's an imposition on one's freedom of movement to have to use public transit, carpools or vanpools, but we aren't going to solve the problem by getting half the population to move to some less crowded state. We might alleviate the problem somewhat by having more people telecommute, but not all jobs involve working at a computer all day.

One thing's for sure: this is not an easy problem to solve. Unfortunately, there are no simplistic "one size fits all" solutions.

## Sheriff Reaffirms Endorsement Of Citizens' Patrol

by Hugh McMillan

A November motion to dissolve Citizens Against Crime's Citizens' Patrol was unanimously defeated by members in attendance at a meeting on January 20 at the Key Peninsula Fire Department's headquarters in Key Center. The motion had been based on its author's erroneous perception that Pierce County Sheriff's Department's support of the patrol was lacking.

Representing Sheriff Mark French, Major Tom Miner reaffirmed that, "the organization has the full endorsement of the Sheriff." He added, "I don't have a vote but I encourage you to continue the patrol. I'm speaking for myself and for Sheriff French."

In December French requested CAC to help him establish a CAC branch in the Greenwater area. Three CAC leaders will accompany him to Greenwater on February 1 for this purpose.

Miner said the Sheriff's Department will create and provide active CAC members a revised and updated training program for the patrol as soon as possible.

In line with this, a review of CAC's protocols will be undertaken by CAC members with Miner and Peninsula Detachment personnel in the near future.

Miner, recently appointed by French to the rank of major, is the Sheriff's Department's Patrol Commander for all Pierce County.

He is no stranger to the peninsulas. He is a Gig Harbor resident and once served as sergeant in charge of the Sheriff's Peninsula Detachment. He has served as K-9 officer and was long the Department's officer in charge of Search and Rescue. He is on the Western Region Board of FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Authority) and has been in charge of training for the Pierce County Department of Emergency Management.

Sgt. Ross Herberholz, in charge of the Sheriff's Peninsula Detachments, said, "Tom (Miner) was one of the first on the scene of the Oklahoma City Federal Building bombing. He directed much of the search and rescue efforts there."

Those interested in joining CAC and/or its Citizens' Patrol should contact 884-3386 or 884-3319.

CAC members and guests will tour the McNeil Island Corrections Center Saturday, February 26. If interested in participating, call 884-3386 or 884-3319.



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Valentine's Day is Monday, February 14

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## ARRIVING IN THE GARDEN CENTER

Primroses, Pansies and a new crop of Perennials.

All the '2000' Seed Racks Territorial - Ed Hume - Burpee

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OPEN EVERYDAY Monday - Saturday 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM Sunday 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM



## KPDCA Board Meeting Minutes January 13th, 2000

The meeting was called to order by the President @ 7:30 pm.

The following motions were seconded and carried.

- \* To accept the December board meeting minutes as written.
- \* To accept the Treasurer's report as given.
- \* To accept Safe Street's use of the facilities.
- \* To keep existing temporary skate employees until further notice.
- \* To accept time change of Board meetings from 7:30 to 7:00 for a six-month trial.
- \* To let the VFW serve Thanksgiving dinner this year at no charge for the use of the facilities.
- \* To let Mike & Joyce Salatino have the annual Christmas dinner this year at no charge for the use of facilities.
- \* To approve \$815 to repair furnace.

**Manager's Report**

Everything going nicely, the calendar is continuing to get filled up. Working hard to become more organized.

**Newspaper Report**

Bob Stackhouse is doing a great job with ads. Thanks Bob! Will present a more detailed report and budget @ next meeting.

**Children's Home Society**- During the holidays, 370 children in 148 families received gifts. Indoor Park continues to stay very popular as well as Little Buddies.

**Scouts**- The eagle on top of their flag is missing, if anyone finds it or knows anything, please let them know. Scouts will be hosting Easter this year at the Center.

**Lions**- Allan Twidt wanted to know about the possibility of use of Center for the Mothers Day Breakfast. The discussion was tabled until the Executive Committee has a chance to find out more about it.

**Building & Grounds**- Loyd Miller reported that the new circuit breaker has been completed. Storeroom almost finished, just need to finish some tape and mud work. The outside will be finished this spring when the weather warms up. Fire Marshall came and inspected the Center.

**New Business**- Ed Taylor represented Gig Harbor/Key Peninsula Chamber of Commerce saying that they have an excess of Tourist Tax dollars to promote tourism on the Key Peninsula. He would like ideas on places of interest on the K.P. for a tour.

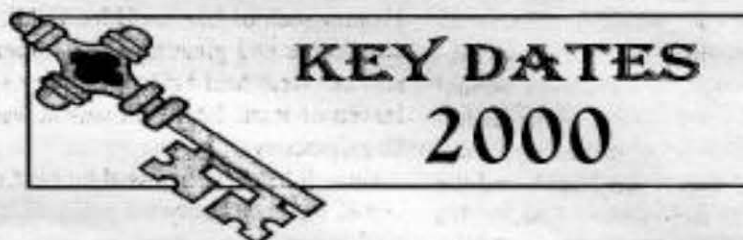
Meeting adjourned. Kristen Bottiger, Secretary

## Applications Available For "Paint Tacoma-Pierce" Beautiful

Applications are now available for low-income seniors and low-income disabled men and women all over Pierce County to get the exteriors of their homes painted at no charge this summer by "Paint Tacoma-Pierce Beautiful". To be eligible, applicants must be at least 60 years of age and/or disabled, meet low-income guidelines, live in Pierce County, and own the home where they live. **The deadline for applications is April 1, so apply now.**

Locations served by this program, now in its 16th year, range from Longbranch all the way up the Key Peninsula and throughout Pierce County. All the work is done by volunteers from churches, service clubs, businesses, unions, schools, local government offices, military bases, etc., using donated paint or material purchased at dealer cost. There is no cost to the homeowner.

"Paint Tacoma-Pierce Beautiful" is a program of Associated Ministries of Tacoma/Pierce County. Individuals may apply for themselves or make referrals for friends, neighbors or relatives. For applications and/or further information call (253) 383-3056, ext. 105, or visit their website at [www.paintbeautiful.org](http://www.paintbeautiful.org).

**BUSINESS / PROFESSIONAL GROUPS**

<b>KP Business Assoc.</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Friday - 7:30 AM	Home Port Rest.
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Friday - Noon	Horseshoe Lake Rest
<b>Fire Fighters Assoc.</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday - 7:00 PM	Key Center Fire Sta.

**CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS**

<b>Amnesty International</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday at 7:00 PM	Key Center Library
<b>Ashes</b>	Jan. 3 - 10:30 AM	Key Center Fire Station
<b>Boy Scout Troop #220</b>	Tuesday-6:00 PM - 8:00 PM	KPCC Whitmore Rm.
<b>Cootiettes</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday at 7:00 PM	KPCC/Whitmore Rm.
<b>KPDCA Exec. Comm.</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Monday - 7:00 PM	Civic Center
<b>KPDCA Board</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday - 7:00 PM	KPCC/Whitmore Rm.
<b>KPCS Board</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday - 10:00 AM	Comm. House - Home
<b>KPHC Board</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday - 7:30 PM	Health Center
<b>KP Lions Club</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wed. - 6:30 PM	KPCC/Whitmore Rm.
<b>VFW &amp; Auxiliary</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Mon. - 7:00 PM	CC/VFW Room/WM Rm.

**COMMUNITY SERVICES**

<b>Adult Literacy Classes</b>	Call for Appointment 851-6552	- Gig Harbor
<b>Angel Guild</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> Monday - 10:00 AM	Brones Rm./KC Library
<b>Cancer Support Group</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday - 1:00 PM	Brones Rm./KC Library
<b>Children's Home Society Family Resource Center</b>	Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM	Key Peninsula Civic Center, Lower Level - Call 884-5433
<b>Food Bank</b>	Tues. through Fri., 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM	Comm. House - Home
<b>Hot Lunch for Seniors</b>	on Wednesdays at Noon	- Community House - Home
		Also food & clothing assistance. For More Information, call 884-4440, 884-4514, or 857-4780.

**Immunizations (FREE)** Thursday, 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM at **Urgent Care**, Gig Harbor.

**The Key Peninsula Well Child Clinic** at the office of Dr. Roes every Tuesday at 9:00 AM.

**Key Center Library 884-2242 - Hours: Tuesday & Wednesday 1 - 8 PM, Thursday & Friday, 1 - 6 PM, Saturday, Noon - 4 PM.**

**KP Baptist Bible Study** Wednesday - 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM KP Civic Center

**Overeaters Anonymous** Wednesday - 7:30 PM St. Nicholas Church

**Seniors Exercise Program** Tues. & Thurs. - 8:30 to 9 PM Comm. House, Home

**There is Hope 12-Step Christian Support Group** Thursdays at 7:00 PM at Lakebay Christian Assembly Church - 253-884-3659.

**WIC (Women, Infants & Children)** Every Tuesday 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM at the Civic Center, in the VFW Room. Call: 884-3835 on Tuesdays for an appointment.

**PUBLIC MEETINGS**

<b>KP Fire Commissioners</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday - 7:00 PM	Key Center Fire Sta.
	Jan. 24 - 4:00 PM	Key Center Fire Sta.
<b>KP Parks &amp; Rec.</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday - 7:00 PM	Volunteer Park Annex

**SELF-HELP GROUPS**

**Alcoholics Anonymous** - Mon. through Fri. 8:00 PM - Sat. & Sun. - 6:00 AM At the Key Peninsula Community Services in Home.

**Peninsula ALANON** - King of Grace Lutheran Church, Purdy - Tuesday 1:30 PM

**Caregivers Support** 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday - 7:00 PM Brones Rm./KC Library

**Grandparents Group** 1<sup>st</sup> Monday - 1:00 to 3:00 PM Brones Rm./KC Library

Contact Norma at 884-2205 for more information.

**T.O.P.S.** Tuesday Evening Weigh-in 6:15 PM - Meeting at 7:00 PM - Civic Center

**T.O.P.S.** Tuesdays at 9:00 AM at Longbranch Improvement Club

**SOCIAL & HOBBY GROUPS**

**Bayshore Garden Club** 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of each month, for more information call Sylvia Retherford at 884-2487. Longbranch Improvement

**Cancer Support Group** 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday - 1 to 3 PM Brones Rm./KC Library

**KP Historical Society** 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday - 7:30 PM KP Historical Museum

**Museum Open Thursday and Saturday from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM.**

**LB Improvement Club** 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday - 7:00 PM Longbranch Improvement

**Peninsula Neighbors** 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday - 7:00 PM Longbranch Fire Station

**Lakebay Fuchsia Society** 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday - 7:00 PM Brones Rm./KC Library

**Ruth Circle Meeting** 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday - 10:00 AM Bible Study, lunch and

Meeting at 12:00 Noon at the Longbranch Church.

**Senior Society Luncheon** Thursdays - Noon KPCC/Whitmore Room

**Vaughn Bay Garden Club** Call 884-5403 for more information.

**NOTE: IF YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR ORGANIZATION LISTED HERE, PLEASE MAIL THE INFORMATION BY THE 20TH OF EACH MONTH TO: KEY DATES, KEY PENINSULA NEWS, P.O. BOX 3, VAUGHN, WA 98394, OR FAX IT TO US AT: 884-4053.**

# KEY PENINSULA NEWS

To Subscribe, Please Write,

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

1. The **KEY PENINSULA NEWS** is a community newspaper owned and published by the **KEY PENINSULA CIVIC CENTER ASSOCIATION**, a non-profit Washington Corporation with main offices in Vaughn, Washington. The name, goodwill, and any copyright assets that may exist pertaining to the **NEWS** are among the financial assets of the **KEY PENINSULA CIVIC CENTER ASSOCIATION**.

2. The primary purpose of the **NEWS** is to serve as the communication means between the **KPDCA Board** (and its activities) and the residents of the Key Peninsula, generally corresponding with the defined geographical area of Pierce County Fire District 16.

3. The secondary purpose of the **NEWS** is to serve as a communication means between the **KPDCA** member organization and the residents of the same area.

4. The **NEWS** shall be entirely free of political bias, and shall advocate no particular religious point of view. Further, its service will be open to all local organizations and residents, subject to the availability of space and generally accepted good taste and legal considerations.

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

EDITOR: Marty Marcus and Ann Waldo

AD SALES: Bob Stackhouse

PRODUCTION: Alice Tramil

STAFF REPORTER &

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER:

Hugh McMillan

NEWSPAPER COMMITTEE:

Ann Waldo - Chair, Marty Marcus,

Hugh McMillan, Alice Tramil, Anne LaCroix,

Bob Stackhouse and Lori Deacon

PROOF-READERS:

Marty Marcus, Ann Waldo

*The opinions expressed herein are the opinions of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the views of the publishers or staff. All letters to the Editor must be signed and include a daytime phone number for verification. No anonymous letters will be published. Submissions are used on a space-available basis and may be edited if used. The Key Peninsula News reserves the right to edit letters for length, and content and no religious or political material will be printed. Mail letters to: P. O. Box 3, Vaughn, WA 98394.*



## Obituary Of Robert M Schottland

Robert M. Schottland, 76, a resident of Vaughn since 1960, passed away Dec. 31, 1999.

Schottland was a graduate of the University of California, Santa Barbara and U.S.C. in Los Angeles. He was a teacher and counselor at Inglewood High School in California.

Upon his retirement from the California school system, Bob moved to Vaughn where he became a very active and involved member of the community. He worked as a substitute teacher for the Peninsula School District for 15 years. Bob used his leadership skills as a member of the Key Peninsula Parks and Recreation Board, and the Key Peninsula Civic Center Board. He served as president of the Civic Center Board and remained very active in the Past Presidents Committee of the same. He was

a member of the Pierce County Citizens Advisory Council, served on the Key Peninsula Health Center Board of Directors and participated on the Citizen Advisory Committee for Peninsula School District #401. He took pride in his ownership of "Button King Enterprises."

Schottland was preceded in death by his wife Nicole and brothers Charles, Edward, and William. He is survived by sister Isabel Hammerman of Laguna Hills, Calif., several nieces and great nephews. Memorial services were held Friday, January 14<sup>th</sup> at Haven of Rest. Interment was at Vaughn Bay Cemetery.

He will be greatly missed by his friends and in the community.

## Past Presidents' Endowment Fund

In 1997, the former presidents of the Key Peninsula Civic Center Association established the Past Presidents' Endowment Fund, in full cooperation with the Civic Center Board. Over the past three years, memorials to several local community members have raised nearly \$ 1000. The necessity of such a fund is becoming more apparent, as the Civic Center's user participation is increasing dramatically. Traditionally, the Civic Center's budget is supported solely by events, program fees and donations. In 1999, events generated 37.22% of the revenue for operating expenses and program fees 22.46%. Capital improvements to the buildings were financed by grants, which generated another 20%. The additional need for long-term secured funds is needed to augment dwindling resources. Since the Civic Center receives NO tax or federal/county funds, the remaining 30% of operating expenses must be raised by direct donations. The Association wishes to ensure the existence of the Civic Center for the long-term future, and an Endowment Fund is the manner in which this can be done. Money in an Endowment Fund can NEVER be spent, only the INTEREST from this fund. Interest from donated funds will be used for operating expenses, programs or capital improvements, as the donor specifies. Should you wish to contribute to this fund, please call the Civic Center office at 884-3456. All donations are tax deductible. Your support is greatly appreciated.



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# Tax Tips



by R. Marvin Keizur CTP

Did you know that you can establish a business, even though it may be a sideline, to create potential tax breaks on your tax return? You could be entitled to a home office deduction and a Keogh Plan, hire your children and your spouse, set up a medical reimbursement plan that can turn all your family's medical expenses into a deductible business expense. Of course your home office must be a set aside exclusively for your business. You, of course, must show a genuine intention to make a profit, keeping accurate records, etc. See an established accounting firm for help in setting up the proper accounts and records.

## Want To Start A Jam Session ??

Just the term excites people who like music. For those fortunate ones with talent to play an instrument, the term can be a magnet. Bring these two groups together and we can have a Jam Session.

We would like to hear from those interested in Blue Grass, Country, Gospel and Folk, all levels of ability, and all ages. To get this Jam Session started call: Harry Haynes at 884-2304.

# The Garden In February

by Sylvia Retherford

The planting season of year 2000 has started. Planting of peas by Washington's birthday has long been the guide for our Puget Sound area but any day in February that seems pleasant to be outdoors, will do. Plant seeds an inch or so deep and an inch apart. Some young plants will be lost and should they be too thick they can always be thinned. Cover your planting with scotch broom branches or some other material to prevent our beautiful friends, the Chinese pheasants, from discovering a new food source.

We prefer peas called Alderman or tall telephone. Some prefer bush peas but they have several problems such as being thieved by our pheasants because they are so low and available. Tall peas do require posts and string or wire for support but they produce several times as many peas in their longer season and the pheasants don't bother them.

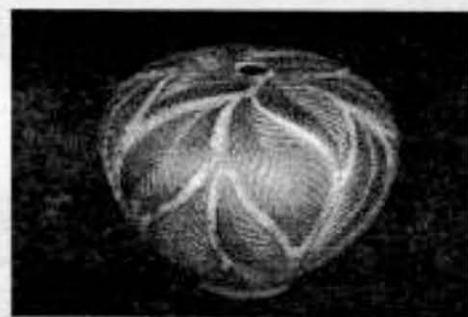
Lettuce can be planted anytime; favored variety is butter crunch. It is similar to bibb types but develops thick juicy green leaves plus a small tight head. It produces both in cool spring weather and well into summer.

A few years ago heads of red radicchio were imported from northern Italy and sold for about five dollars a head. Soon seed became available and it grows easily in our area. Plant now for late spring and summer production. Plant in mid-June for winter use. Pallo Rossa is a good variety for salads.

The seeds mentioned can be purchased locally but it is practical to save some of your own favored varieties. One lettuce or radicchio plant allowed to mature seed will produce enough to use for several years or divide with the neighbors. In composting pea vines in summer, there are always some pods that were missed and can be rescued, dried and saved for next spring's planting. This writer was a child of the 30's depression years and never quite outgrew it.

Plants flowering now include Sarcococca (vanilla bush) with its white flower clusters amid its glossy green leaves filling the air with its fragrance. Nearby a large Daphne odora shrub with green and white striped leaves and pinkish flower clusters also perfume the air. The evergreen vine, Clematis armandi, climbs the porch and tries to out-perfume the other two. All this and the bed of sweet smelling, red and orange wall flowers (Erysimum hieracifolium) is just coming into bloom.

Red, pink and white Hellebores large flowers have no fragrance but are a winter pleasure. Some rhododendrons such as Christmas Cheer are showing pink buds and an occasional blossom.



A sample of the pottery work by Christopher Mathie of Vaughn to be displayed at Winter Visuals, to be held Saturday February 5th at the Key Peninsula Civic Center

## Therapeutic Riding In Spanaway Now

Equest Special Riders will hold its annual meeting on Saturday, February 26, at Serenity Farm clubhouse, 4524 East 200th Street, Spanaway. Observation of horseback riding activity will take place from 9 to 12:30, with the meeting starting at 1 PM.

Equest provides a program similar to the one previously held at Camp Easter Seal on the Key Peninsula. Volunteers help dysfunctional children and adults through recreational horseback riding as well as games designed for muscle exercise, allowing the rider to derive therapy by means of an enjoyable experience. Persons physically or mentally challenged experience a feeling of self-confidence as they gain measured amounts of control over their mount.

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## Dance Lessons for Beginner Students at the Key Peninsula Civic Center

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Family Rates Available

For Registration and/or Information Contact:  
Dallas Dickens, Director / A World of Dance  
(253) 851-8558

Register at the Civic Center on Saturday, February 12th / 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM



# Why Join T.O.P.S. Now?

by Mary Nelson

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

Tuesday mornings at 9:00 a friendly group meets at the Longbranch Improvement Club to get and give encouragement. Over coffee and tea we discuss the successes and problems of the week and weigh in (privately). At 9:30 we have a short meeting and then it is time for the speaker.

One week we heard about fat. She talked about saturated and unsaturated fat, how we gain and lose fat, even how to rid your hamburger meat of fat before you use it.

The contests and games keep up the enthusiasm and the extra money you get if you are a winner makes you doubly suc-

cessful. In fact, one week we had a BLACK-OUT, which means that everyone in the club, lost weight on the same day.

That brings up a point that you should know before you start. Most people, who eat SENSIBLY, discover that there are weeks when they will gain back a quarter pound or more. That's where the encouragement of the group becomes very important.

The best losers last month were **Lisa Locke** in first place and **Dotty Ohnstad** in second. Great job!! Watching your success helps us all.

This month's losers are **Lila Garrison** and **Annie Garrison**. Hurray!! The hard work is really paying off. Keep up the good work.

So come and join the successful losers at T.O.P.S. #WA 1325, Lakebay. One mile south of Evergreen Elementary School on the Key Peninsula Highway, in the Longbranch Improvement Club. See you there.

## Free Income Tax Assistance

Free income tax assistance will be available at the Key Center Fire Station each Tuesday, from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM, beginning February 1st through April 11th. The volunteers are sponsored and trained by AARP and the IRS. The program is for taxpayers of any age, of low to middle income. Those wishing help should bring all of their 1999 income statements and other records including, if possible, a copy of last year's return.

## New To This Area?

Tacoma Newcomer's Club is for you! We cover all of the Pierce County area and some others. We feature monthly luncheons at local sites as well as Socials, Lunch Brunch, Book Discussions, Bridge and other games, as well as outings and other sightseeing out of town. COME! Meet new friends, learn about our area, and enjoy our programs!

Next Luncheon is Thursday, February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2000, at Balsano's Westside Restaurant, 7011 - 276<sup>th</sup> St. W., (Fircrest area), Tacoma. The social is at 11:00 AM, and lunch is at 12:00 noon.

Programs includes information on Pt. Defiance Zoo. For more information call Barbara at 253-752-1009.

## Vaughn Bay Garden Club

The February meeting of the Vaughn Bay Garden Club will be at the home of Rose Malmgren, with Erma Dunn as co-hostess. Kerry Jamison, Master Gardener, will present the program. The club's annual white elephant sale will also be held. For more information, call 884-5403.

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Sunday School: 9:17

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Women's Bible Study - Thurs. 9:30 a.m.

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## VETERAN'S VOICES

By Eileen Young

Hi, sure hope you are all coping with the winter weather, flu season, after holiday blues, the blahs or all of the above. Think spring. I have already sent in my seed order and refuse to believe spring and sunshine are not in our immediate future!

Not much going on during February and March to report but the behind the scenes work of the VFW still goes on.

Our Jr. Vice Commander Gary Helmick, made the trip to Yakima for the Mid Winter convention and ran into eastern Washington weather but assures us he had a most enjoyable time. He had the honor of escorting to dinner the grandmother of District 4's Voice of Democracy winner. The State winner of the Voice of Democracy scholarship was Kenji Crosland of Hadlock Washington. Congratulations to Kenji, District 14 and Post 7498. This worthwhile program received a real boost from George Foreman to the tune of a donation of \$100,000. Thank you George. The Cancer Aid and Research basket from District 4 was won by our own President Roxy and mom Irene Wooldridge. Way to go!!

Speaking of winners, our post winner

of the VOD Derrick Speaks, has been nominated for the Military Order of Foreign Wars Bronze Patrick Henry Medalion Award. This will be presented at Fort Lewis during the Massing of the Colors ceremony February 13th at 3pm. Post 4990 will participate in this ceremony.

A spaghetti dinner will precede the February 14th VFW meeting. For those of you who plan on attending the meeting a small social hour will begin at 6pm with both ladies and mens meetings to follow.

Now for our "CARE CIRCLE", please include the following in your thoughts and prayers, Ernie Shreve, Louie Aguilar, David Rice, Irene Wooldridge and Jerry Davis. We are happy to report Commander Cy is up and around after his knee surgery and Rhys Wood is 100%.

No date yet for the Spring Bazaar but its not too early to start on your craft contributions, will report on time and date later.

Till next month I leave you to wonder why common sense is so uncommon.

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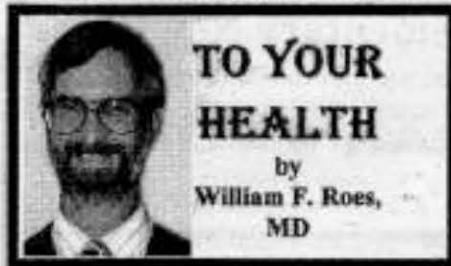
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This year, I'm soliciting topics for discussion from my readers (I'm assuming there are at least two of you out there, hence the plural form). I did receive a request from Martha to write about the Pneumococcal Vaccine, and I agree it's a topic worth revisiting.

The term pneumonia vaccine is really a misnomer as the vaccine is actually only effective against one type of pneumonia that's caused by *Streptococcus pneumoniae*. It was released in 1977, and later revised to the one we now use which protects against 23 strains of *S. pneumoniae*, a bacteria that causes pneumonia, meningitis, and some other serious infections. Although *S. Pneumoniae* is the most common cause of bacterial pneumonia, it is not the only bacteria that causes pneumonia, which can also be caused by viral and other non-bacterial organisms. In a nutshell, the vaccine is effective against one type of pneumonia, but does not prevent all types of pneumonia.

The target population for the pneumococcal vaccine is the same as for the flu vaccine, namely everyone over 65 and those under 65 with chronic diseases. It is indicated in children over 2 years old who have a compromised immune system, sickle cell disease, and those who have had a splenectomy are at particularly high risk of *S.*

*Pneumoniae* infections and need to receive the vaccine. Unlike the flu vaccine, the pneumococcal vaccine does not have to be given yearly - for most people it's once in a lifetime shot. There has been some confusion about who needs repeat doses of the vaccine. The Center for Disease Control has recommended that people who were under 65 when they first received this vaccine and who received it over 5 years ago should receive a booster shot. If you were over 65 when you received the vaccine you usually will not require a booster unless there are special circumstances in your medical history that would suggest it would be beneficial. If you're not sure, getting a booster won't hurt (well maybe just a little sore arm). Also like the flu shot, Medicare will cover its cost. Washington state has one of the highest rates of pneumococcal vaccination in the nation (44%) but that means over half of our seniors aren't protected from this preventable disease. Ask your doctor about it the next time you visit him or her.

If you have a burning topic you'd like me to address in future issues, please call my office at 884-9221, or write a note to me in care of the paper. If I don't get any requests, I'll be left to my own topics and who knows what you'll be forced to read about next month.

BE MY VALENTINE



Valentine's Day Is February 14th

## Angel Notes

by Frankie Johnson

You may have noticed the renovation at the Angel Guild Thrift Shoppe in beautiful downtown Key Center. This did not happen without great time and effort by a few dedicated hard and determined workers. Under the supervision of Bonnie Stinson with her plan for improvement, many Angels and their spouses helped out, but the brunt of the work fell on Bonnie, her husband, Jeff, sons, Jeremy and Jason. Capitol Lumber was a help and John Carlson fixed our doors. We give them all many high fives!!! One of our Angels, Mary Krumbein, wrote new words to Moore's famous poem which explains our days as follows:

Twas the day after Christmas and all through the town  
 Angels are remembering how to sit down.  
 For these hardworking souls it is now time to take  
 An overdue, well deserved and most welcome break.  
 If creatures are stirring down at the shoppe  
 We hope the neighbors will just call a cop.  
 The leftover clothes are not hung with great care  
 Since tomorrow they must all be moved out of there.  
 And Angels will gather, some with their spouses,  
 To repair and repaint with some jokes and some grouses.  
 For all must be ready when the new carpet is laid on Jan 3rd.  
 So now while it's quiet and we are all here  
 We want you all to know it's been a great year!  
 To be an Angel is very hard work Whether sorter or pricer or hauler or clerk.  
 More rapid (rapacious?) than eagles, our customers come  
 and make the time fly and the register hum.  
 To the top of the shelf, to the end of the wall,  
 They're there when we open to make a good haul!  
 Some browse, some buy, and some forget why they came.  
 To help shoppers, clerks go to great length  
 Our Angels all come in industrial strength.  
 Sorters run back and forth with all they can carry  
 Their cheeks are like roses, their noses like a cherry.  
 On Mondays and Tuesdays those jolly old elves  
 Fold things and clean things and fill up the shelves.  
 Admiration and love is their only reward  
 From the grateful members of the Angel Guild board  
 We wish you all good health and good cheer  
 And all that YOU want for this 2000th year.  
 Thank you to all and to all a good night.

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**Minter Creek Elementary News**

**Congratulations** and Thank You to everyone who participated in the Reflections Program! There were some wonderful creations turned in and the judges had a hard time choosing the winners. Mrs. Bence, Mrs. Lemke, and Mr. Southwick did the judging and chose the following:

**Ian McKnight** - K-2 Music, **Chase Baty** - K-2 Literature, **Shelly Culbertson** - 3-5 Literature, **Cody Comer & Taylor Comer** tied - K-2 Visual and **Ariella George** - 3-5 Visual Art.

Congratulations to these budding artists, musicians and writers and good luck at the state competition! You may view the entries on the PTA bulletin board at school.

**Music News from Mrs. Rindo**

The fourth and fifth grade students are beginning a unit on recorders starting January 31<sup>st</sup>. Please have your child bring their recorder to school on the music days. A letter with more information will be coming home soon about prices, etc.

We are running low on Pez candies. If you are able to donate some to the Music Department, we would appreciate it. We now have some new characters that will be reinforcing music concepts: Computer Cat, Instrument Inchworm, Recorder Ralph, Smiling Snowflakes and Stars, and Movement Monkey. Thank you for your continuing support of our music program.

**Kinderfest 2000**

The Peninsula School District will be hosting a "Kinderfest 2000" at Purdy Elementary School on February 5<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon. This is an informational session for parents of incoming Fall 2000 kindergarteners district-wide. The District's half day and full day kindergarten programs will be discussed. There will be sessions with District kindergarten teachers to answer questions. Voter registration will also be available. Please contact Deb Wolfley at 857-8100 for additional information or pick up a brochure at our school office.

**Cougar Corner**

As the 21st Century begins, we find all Key Peninsula Middle School students busy learning and making projects. Each month I will try to bring news of what is happening in and around the classrooms. Second Step, a district wide program for Elementary and Middle schools is taking place in the block classes for the next 16 Fridays. This program is designed to increase social skills, reduce violence, work on problem solving and teach the students how to get along and resist peer pressure.

Wrestling turnout began January 5th. You can watch our wrestlers at KPMS at the scheduled matches: February 3rd with Goodman and February 17th with Kopachuck. We look forward to another championship season.

Cougar Night, co-sponsored by KPMS, Children's Home Society, Communities in Schools and the Health Department, happens one Friday, every other month. On January 14th, Jennifer Bayeur, KPMS coordinator, and other community volunteers organized an evening of fun activities and food. Come join us next time in March!

**Peninsula Schools Still Seeking Board Member For District I**

The Peninsula School District Board of Directors is soliciting letters of interest from residents who are interested in filling the unexpired term representing District I. District I is the Key Peninsula area west of 118th Ave. KPN. A map of the district boundaries is available at the school district office. The only legal qualifications for the position are as follows: the applicant must be a registered voter and a current resident of District I. The term of office will begin as soon as possible and will end with the General Election in November, 2001. The appointee may then apply for election.

The Board will be accepting letters of interest through February 8, 2000. During February, the Board will conduct interviews of the selected applicants and make its final decision by February 29, 2000. The interviews and final selection process will be done in public session.

In addition to the legal qualifications for the position, the Board would like the candidates to meet as many of the following criteria as possible:

- \* Be a committed advocate for public education of all students at all grade levels.
- \* Be a willing and accessible communicator with citizens of our district regarding public education in general and our district in particular.

Interested applicants should deliver their letter of interest and any other pertinent information to the Peninsula School District Office addressed to Superintendent Jim Coolican. Questions can be addressed to the superintendent at 14015 -62nd Avenue NW, Gig Harbor, WA 98332, at (253) 857-3525, or by e-mail at fellink@peninsula.wednet.edu. Year Awards Banquet will be held at the Key Peninsula Civic Center in Vaughn on Saturday, April 1, 2000. Key note speaker will be Peninsula School District Superintendent, James Coolican.

**Having Problems Filing Unemployment Claims?**

Apparently the Employment Security Department's new automated TeleCenter system has been overwhelmed with claims for unemployment benefits, so the department has gone back to also accepting in-person applications at local field offices. Unemployed workers are encouraged to first try calling the TeleCenter. If they have continued difficulty getting through they should visit the nearest office for assistance. The TeleCenter phone number for Tacoma is 396-3500(English), 396-3563(Spanish).

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## Fire Department Raises Burn Permit Fees

by Hugh McMillan

For years, the Key Peninsula Fire Department has accepted responsibility for establishing local burning regulations, issuing burn permits, and managing compliance. In 1998, a citizen brought a legal challenge against the District related to the District's application of these regulations as they applied to burning then being conducted by the citizen. The District prevailed in this challenge sustaining legal and administrative expenses of approximately \$5,600. In the process it discerned some administrative weaknesses in the regulations.

In August, 1999, District officials initiated revision and updating of open burning regulations. All revisions and fee structures were addressed at regular public meetings of the Board of Fire Commissioners. In the last quarter of 1999, the revisions and up datings were completed and resolved to become effective January 1, 2000. The new regulations and fees are now in effect.

"Prior to January 1, 2000," said KPF's Fire Chief, Gary Franz, "the District issued burn permits over the counter. No District personnel pre-inspected any burn sites." "When someone came to our office to get a permit, we verbally explained the rules governing burnings and relied on the integrity and good sense of permit recipients to do the right thing. Unfortunately, we experienced far too many incidents of people doing the wrong thing as soon as they got back to the burn site and started their fires."

When the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency (formerly, Puget Sound Air Pollution Control Authority) declared certain areas off limits to outdoor burning, much of Key Peninsula was exempted from this provision. With this, non-Key Peninsula residents began hauling large quantities of material to the Key Peninsula to be burned.

Henceforth, the District will require pre-fire inspections to ensure that: 1) only approved materials are burned, 2) proper clearances from structures are established, 3) fire protection measures are in place, and 4) all fires in the open are safe for neighbors and as clean as possible for the environment. Failure to take these steps could leave the District open to liability, fines, and substantial legal expenses.

Pre-fire inspections and managing compliance with the new regulations will involve increased payroll, increased equipment operating costs, and lost time of manpower and equipment normally assigned to other District needs. The new fees will generate revenue to help offset these costs. Depending on the amount of revenue generated, the District hopes to be able to place any surplus funds in a reserve account to help pay for equipment to fight wildland-urban interface fires and legal costs such as that noted above.

We believe that a user fee properly assigns the costs on the user, not the taxpayer.

"Most of the permits we issue are to outside contractors who pay no taxes of benefit to our community, yet their burning adversely impacts us and our environment. Land clearing costs money. Disposal of branches and other slash is often paid for from profits of downed trees, which create the waste which can be disposed of in landfills, chipped into mulch or bark, or burned. In any case, there is cost," said Franz.

"Even with our new fee structure, burning is still the least expensive for slash disposal. With the new fees, Key Peninsula residents will derive improved fire protection partly paid for by contractors who burn in our community," Franz added.

The District hopes the new fees will deter some from burning. "Smoke from these fires frequently causes severe discomfort for those with respiratory problems," said Franz, "if we can deter even one contractor from burning, we'll be doing the right thing by our citizens."

"The new regulations do not negatively affect the local citizen wanting to burn yard

slash such as Spring cleanup. So long as fires are smaller than four feet in dimension and burn only natural vegetation, there is no fee and no inspection. The new fees and regulations are directed at the large land clearing fires that historically have caused the majority of our problems," Franz emphasized.

"I think our Board of Fire Commissioners did an excellent job to improve local fire protection and advance public safety. They worked very hard to resolve known problems, assign responsibility where it belongs, and develop a revenue mechanism directed at large users - not the general public," said Franz.

"My hat is off to them for boldly taking measures to benefit the majority of the Key Peninsula citizens whom they are sworn to represent," Franz said.

Anyone wishing to communicate with members of the Board of Fire Commissioners should write, attend a Board meeting, or send e-mail to [keyfire@yahoo.com](mailto:keyfire@yahoo.com).

## Vaughn Auction 2000

Vaughn Elementary School's Auction 2000 sponsored by the Outback Steakhouse, which is being put on by the Vaughn Parent Teacher Association, will be Saturday, March 25, 2000 at the Key Peninsula Civic Center. It will begin at 5:30 pm with dinner provided by the Outback Steakhouse with beverages and dancing at the end of the event.

Ticket sales begin on Monday, January 24. Tables can be reserved for parties of 10 people. The ticket price is \$20.00 per person. Tickets can be purchased from the VPTA office at Vaughn Elementary or you can contact Cheryl Mitchell at 884-9306.

Vaughn Auction 2000 is being held to raise money to purchase new books for Vaughn Elementary's library, to purchase eight new computers for student and community use and to keep Vaughn's computer lab up to date with materials.

Items from many different businesses have been donated along with personal service donations, such as tree pruning, having some burly wrestlers from Peninsula High School working in your yard and a day on a commercial purse seiner during the fall fishery in Puget Sound, just to mention a few.

If you would like to donate any services, new items or cash to the auction or to make a cash donation please contact Marc Ross at 884-5700. Your support is greatly appreciated and the students, parents and staff of Vaughn Elementary thank you.


It will be great fun, with great food for a great cause!

## Parent Party Patrol For Middle School Parents

Key Peninsula and Harbor Ridge Middle Schools are sponsoring a meeting on Tuesday, February 8th, from 7 to 9 PM, at Peninsula High School auditorium. The purpose is to help parents learn what goes on at parties, how to get information you need about a party to which your teen has been invited, and much more, including: what household items kids are "huffing"; why you need to know on Monday what your child will be doing on Friday; the legal risks of teen-age partying; what your homeowner's insurance won't cover; and the pluses of parent networking.

At the meeting a guest panel will include a concerned parent, a State Liquor Control Board agent, a police officer, an insurance company attorney and an emergency room nurse.

This meeting is intended for parents only. Please leave the kids at home!




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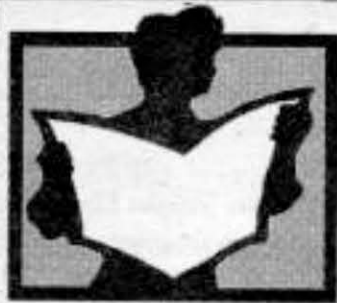


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**YESTERDAY'S  
TEENAGERS!**  
Key Peninsula Senior Society  
by Jim Nolan  
Phone: 851-4847

HOORAY! The first month of the new millennium and the new century has come off rather nicely. We Seniors were still thinking of the CHRISTMAS season, in January when this survey was taken - so here it is: What was the most unusual, silliest, or inappropriate Christmas gift you ever received?? Key Peninsula Seniors gave these answers last month: "My uncle gave my brother and me each, ONE boxing glove." "Patsy, the bird," (she didn't specify what kind). "Boot socks - and I don't ever wear boots." "A young heifer," and we assume he means bovine. "A dancing Santa photo locket." "A hammer." "Nothing I can think of." "A full set of OZ books - and this was the year I turned 87." "A paring knife." "Happy with all." "A hoe handle." "An ironing board cover." "A dog sweater - and I don't have a dog." Other answers included: "???", "I loved everything I ever got." "4 qts. Of 70-30 motor oil."

Apparently most seniors have been relatively pleased with their Christmas gifts in the past.

Next month we'll venture into the field of presidential politics with a Senior Survey on their current choices - so be watching the March 1<sup>st</sup> Issue of the KP News.

A January trip to Lexington, Nebraska was a treat for Marie Schwenka. Lexing-

ton was her hometown and the reason for the visit, her father's 106<sup>th</sup> Birthday. Yes, Jesse Edmisten was 106 years old on January 16<sup>th</sup> and he's doing well, thank you. Marie reports he still plays a sharp game of cards. We all wish him many more years and card games.

Our January 16<sup>th</sup> meeting was a Party Get Together with "bubbly" (cider), a huge Prime Rib, roasted to perfection by Chuck Williamson, lovely table decorations by Virginia Adkisson, a huge cake, and a drawing for two lucky attendees. President Virginia and the board has arranged for "Party" meetings once a month for the following year of 2000, to include: **February 10<sup>th</sup> - Valentines; March 16<sup>th</sup> - St. Patrick's - Irish; April 20<sup>th</sup> - Easter, May 11<sup>th</sup> - Mother's Day; June 15<sup>th</sup> - Father's Day; July 6<sup>th</sup> - Independence Day (4<sup>th</sup> of July Observance); August 17<sup>th</sup> - Picnic; and September 21<sup>st</sup> - Seniors 21<sup>st</sup> Anniversary.**

Plus further special "Party" Thursdays to be announced later on.

Any senior 55 years or over is cordially invited to these or any Thursday Noon meeting at the Civic Center, at no charge. We'd love to have you, and we need you.

## Stores Help Vaughn School

Did you know... Target stores nationwide donate 1% of your total bill to schools designated by you every time you use your guest card.

It's easy as 1, 2, and 3! 1. You call 1-800-316-6142, or stop by any "Take Charge of Education" kiosk at Target stores. 2. Designate Vaughn Elementary as your school of choice for receiving the donation. 3. Then go shopping at any Target store and use your Target Guest Card.

If you would like more information, please call Krys Wylie at 884-4370.

**Krys Wylie, Program Coordinator, Vaughn Elementary PTA.**

## Labels and Box Tops Help Vaughn School

Do you or a family member buy Campbell Soup products or General Mills Cereal and Snack products? Vaughn Elementary is enrolled in the Campbell's Labels For Education. By clipping labels from soup cans and removing the box tops from cereals and snacks, you can help Vaughn Elementary raise needed money for equipment.

Campbell's Labels and General Mills Box Tops can be dropped off at Vaughn Elementary in a bin located in front of the school office at the front door.

If you use any of these items and would like to donate them, or would like more information, please contact Krys Wylie at 884-4370.

**Krys Wylie, Program Coordinator**

## Dance Lessons At KP Civic Center

Parents, are you looking for a new, fun activity for your youngsters? An after school activity right in your local community? Dallas Dickens, owner of "A World of Dance" in Gig Harbor will be offering dance classes for beginning students at Key Peninsula Civic Center.

Classes will be held weekly starting Wednesday, February 16<sup>th</sup>, between 2:30 and 5:30 PM. Family discounts will be offered.

**Pre-Dance/Creative Movement for children ages 3 - 5:** Dance basics, structured creativity, development of rhythm patterns, memorizing song and dance combinations.

**Beginner Tap and Jazz for 6 - 12 years old:** Warm up exercises, basic floor patterns, combinations of dance steps and dance routines.

For registration details and informations please contact Dallas at (253) 851-8558 weekdays. For your convenience, registration will also be held at KPCC on Saturday, Feb. 12<sup>th</sup> from 10 AM to 12 Noon.

## ATTENTION SENIORS!

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Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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6 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM KP BAPTIST CHURCH 3:30 PM IMPACT DINNER 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM FAMILY SKATE	7 7:00 PM EXEC. COMM. MTG. 7:00 PM KARATE	8 7:30 AM WIC 9:30 AM INDOOR PARK 6:00 PM BOY SCOUTS 6:00 PM TOPS 7:00 PM DOG OBEDIENCE	9 6:30 PM AWANA 7:00 PM BIBLE STUDY	10 9:30 AM INDOOR PARK 10:00 AM SENIORS 1:00 PM RELATIVES/CHILDREN 7:00 PM BOARD MTG. 7:00 PM KARATE	11 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM SKATE NIGHT
13 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM KP BAPTIST CHURCH 3:00 PM IMPACT DINNER	14 7:00 PM KARATE 7:00 PM VFW & AUXILIARY	15 7:30 AM WIC 9:30 AM INDOOR PARK 6:00 PM BOY SCOUTS 6:00 PM TOPS 7:00 PM DOG OBEDIENCE	16 6:30 PM AWANA 6:30 PM LIONS 7:00 PM BIBLE STUDY	17 9:30 AM INDOOR PARK 10:00 AM SENIORS 12:00 AM SENIORS 7:00 PM KARATE	18 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM SKATE NIGHT
20 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM KP BAPTIST CHURCH 3:00 PM IMPACT DINNER 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM FAMILY SKATE	21 7:00 PM KARATE	22 7:30 AM WIC 9:30 AM INDOOR PARK 6:00 PM BOY SCOUTS 6:00 PM TOPS 7:00 PM DOG OBEDIENCE	23 10:00 AM TODDLER ART 6:30 PM AWANA 7:00 PM BIBLE STUDY	24 9:30 AM INDOOR PARK 10:00 AM SENIORS 7:00 PM KARATE	25 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM SKATE NIGHT
27 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM KP BAPTIST CHURCH 3:00 PM IMPACT DINNER	28 7:00 PM KARATE 7:00 PM VFW & AUXILIARY	29 7:30 AM WIC 9:30 AM INDOOR PARK 6:00 PM BOY SCOUTS 6:00 PM TOPS 7:00 PM DOG OBEDIENCE			

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**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** with the following skills or interests: birdhouse building and simple woodworking, gardening with children, data entry, resource library organization. Please call soon if this describes you. Children's Home Society Key Peninsula Family Resource Center, 884-5433.

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**A NATUROPATHIC PERSPECTIVE ON DEPRESSION**, its causes and treatments will be discussed by naturopathic physician Ursula Hall on Saturday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, 1:00 PM at the Key Center Library.

Often depression and fatigue occur together. Usually several emotional, spiritual, and physical factors play a role in causing these symptoms. Ursula Hall will discuss how to recognize and deal with these factors so that one is enabled to overcome depression.

**MOUNT RAINIER: mud, lava, and buried forests**, a seismic, volcanic, and environmental history by Department of Natural Resources geologist Patrick Pringle, Saturday, February 26<sup>th</sup>, 1:00 PM at the Key Center Library.

This will be an exciting exploration and virtual field trip. Patrick was previously with the U.S. Geological Survey's Cascades Volcano Observatory, and the public information officer during the eruption of Mount St. Helens. He has studied the volcanic activity and history of the Cascade Range as well as landslides and debris flows, and is author of the book, *Roadside Geology of Mount St. Helens*. He is co-coordinator of the Mount Rainier Decade Volcano dem-

onstration project that is part of the United Nations International Decade of Natural Disaster Reduction, and is currently writing a book on the roadside geology of Mount Rainier.

The Friends of the Key Center Library sponsor these free programs.

One of the Friends' current projects is the silk screen reproduction of one of the stained glass windows designed by Ruth Brockmann for the Key Center Library. The "salmon" window is now available as a tote/book bag for \$10.00.

**Family Storytimes** for all ages will continue each Friday at 10:30 AM through March 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Grace Presbyterian Church**

Grace Presbyterian Church, meeting at Miracle Ranch on Horseshoe Lake, continued an interactive Bible Study. Meeting Monday evenings, the study is based on the previous day's sermon. February 14<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> sessions will be led by Pastor Jim Christianson, continuing to preach from Acts. The final session on February 28<sup>th</sup> will be led by Larry Carlson.

Worship service and Sunday School begins at 10:30 AM each Sunday. All are welcome.

For more information, call 857-7284.

**T.O.P.S. News**

by Frankie Johnson

As the year gets underway, we have many new people coming to see what TOPS is all about. We welcome all who would like a helping support group to cheer you on to better health. January was a busy month with the new members nearly every week and the planned events. On the 14th, Yvonne Hoffman, Washington State Queen Runner-up, spoke to us. She is such a dynamic speaker, it was a pleasure to hear her story of her successful weight loss of 110 pounds. Yvonne had many humorous touches in her talk. We laughed out loud and I just read that a good laugh burns 30 calories! In our TOPS chapter, we do laugh a lot and have a good time at our meetings which are every Tuesday evening at the Civic Center in Vaughn in the VFW room. We had Open House Jan. 25th. If you missed it, feel free to come anytime and we will happily share the TOPS plan to take off pounds sensibly.

Our best for the month of December was Sarah Toterotot in first place. Sarah is a new member and a teen learning better eating habits. Teens are encouraged to get into the program and get off the fast food track. This year TOPS offers free membership to teens who join with an adult sponsor. In second place was Colleen Spezia. You have seen her name in this column many times since she has been consistent in her weight loss and is getting very close to her target. Her son James, also a teen, is also very close to goal. Mother and son have a friendly competition going on.

It is never too late to start on a new regimen to be healthier. You are welcomed and encouraged when you attend TOPS. If you want to talk about it call 884-4102.

**State Auditors Say Fire District 16 Passes Muster**

After looking into allegations of violations of the Open Public Meetings Act and several financial matters, a special audit by

state auditors resulted in a report stating there were no findings of violation of regulations regarding meetings or of any fiscal improprieties. The audit covered the years 1996, 1997 and 1998.

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**Questions & Answers**  
**Financial Focus**

Submitted by Connie R. Rose

**I'm concerned about the future of Social Security but confused about all the retirement-planning information I see. What advice can you give me to best prepare for retirement?**

First, you must have a plan. Most people need 70 percent to 80 percent of their pre-retirement income annually to maintain their standard of living. Then, determine how much you need to set aside today and how you need to invest that money to reach that amount.

Second, start early and invest regularly. The sooner you start, the easier it is to build a large nest egg. In addition, investing regularly rather than trying to figure out the "right time" to invest allows you to even out the ups and downs of the market.

Third, diversify. Every investment carries some type of risk, but rarely do all types of investments rise or fall at the same time. Diversification lessens the impact of a downturn in any one investment area.

Fourth, take advantage of tax deferral. Contribute to your 401(k) plan. Open an IRA, and add to it each year. For additional savings, you might even consider an annuity. You don't have to be a genius to have a secure retirement, but you do have to be disciplined and focused on the long term.

**What special consideration should women have when investing?**

The basic rules of investing apply to men and women alike: start early, invest regularly, understand your objectives and risk tolerance, diversify, stick with quality and focus on the long term.

However, investing is especially vital for women because they generally live longer than men yet typically receive lower Social Security benefits.

One of the best ways for women to prepare for the future is through an employer-sponsored retirement plan. The money is taken out of your paycheck and grows tax deferred until withdrawn. In addition, many companies will match employee contributions — a benefit that can't be beat.

For women who don't work outside the home, an IRA is an excellent option because non-working spouses can contribute \$2,000 annually to an IRA.

Whatever your situation, develop an investment plan and get going. The sooner you start, the better off you'll be.

**Park News** by Nancy Lind

I was elected to the Key Peninsula Park and Recreation District Board last November and Monday, Jan. 1st was my first meeting. I said I would like to get an article to the KP News every month about our Key Peninsula parks. This has been done sporadically in the past. I think it's important to let the community know on a regular basis what is going on with the parks we have and with the people who are the running the show. So this is my first short attempt.

The Board members are Fred Ramsdell, Dick Granquist, Marilyn Tagert, Pat Medveckus and myself. The Board meets once a month on the second Monday, 7:00 pm, at Volunteer Park Annex.

Volunteer Park is one of the KP jewels and right now it's quite quiet, but occasionally you will see some soccer players braving the cold weather. Soon it will be heating up with dog shows, Little League, and the signs of sun and more and more people using it. Drop in sometime to meet the groundskeeper, Dan, and see what a good job he is doing.

Rocky Creek Conservation Area, our newest park, has had several visitors during the winter. Residents used it to walk and jog, students built a trail on Martin Luther King Day, women from the Correction Center are coming out on a monthly basis to work, and Tacoma Power is working with us to get the 4-wheel and motorcycle traffic stopped. Some or out local people are helping us with projects and we are very grateful. Bud Natucci has cleared and bladed the trailhead site; Jeff Charboneau is going to move some concrete blocks to stop the unwanted traffic into the cleared area; salmon groups are working on getting the salmon back; and Pierce County is working with the Friends of Rocky Creek to organize a Children's Water Festival, an environmental awareness event.

Things are coming right along and it's going great.

**Morning on Mayo Cove**

The bay is filled with gentle morning sounds  
Water against pebbles, seabird murmurs abound  
A silent heron treks slowly through cold waters  
Stopping only to gaze at our family of otters.

The Eastern sky ablaze with gold  
Piercing silvery clouds and morning cold  
Steam mystically rising from the sea  
Slowly swept into the forest trees.

Now geese overhead speaking loudly out of turn  
All of these on my senses do burn.

Different but the same each morning when I rise  
A quiet festival of life, a feast for my eyes.

I love this old bay and all that she holds  
For it is heart and soul in me that she molds.

D. Blischke

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# Children's Museum of Tacoma

**Museum Hours:** Tuesday - Saturday, 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM. First Friday of each month is FREE, 10:00 AM - 9:00 PM.

**First Fridays Free:** Visitors can enjoy our new exhibits for free on the first Friday of each month from 10:00 AM to 9:00 PM.

**Winter Workshop:** Tuesday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> the Museum will host Winter Workshops from 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM. Lunch will be provided. Advance reservations required. Cost: \$20 - non-members, \$16 members. Call 253-627-6031 for more information.

**Super Saturday Surprise:** Come down to the Museum the second Saturday of the month, February 12<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM. We will be featuring a guest, activity, or workshop that explores our exhibits in new and exciting ways. The Super Saturday Surprise is free with admission.

**Toddler Tunes:** on Wednesday, February 9<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM toddlers can experience a rousing songfest at the CMT. Toddlers and parents will meet upstairs in the Museum for some playtime, then move downstairs to our "Fish Bowl" room for the songfest. Toddler Tunes is free with admission.

**No Sitter Saturdays:** The CMT and the Tacoma Actors Guild have teamed up to make enjoying the arts downtown easier than ever. Parents can now attend select TAG matinees or just rest up without the worry of finding a sitter. Children are dropped off Saturday, February 26<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 PM and picked up at 4:30 PM. The price is \$9 for the first child and \$7 for additional children in the same family. Reservations must be made with the Museum 48 hours in advance. Show tickets can be purchased through TAG's Box Office by calling 272-2145.

**Toddler Takeover!:** Toddlers are taking over the Museum at new times. The CMT has set aside time especially for toddlers to participate in age appropriate activities. Wednesday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM and Saturday, February 26<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM.

**Festival of Little Hearts:** Join the CMT, the American Heart Association, AK Media/NW and Mary Bridge Children's Hospital for the Festival of Little Hearts on Saturday, February 19<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM in the Temple Theater Ballroom. The event is free and features educational, fun, hands-on activities that will make the whole family healthier! Call Mary Decker at the American Heart Association as 253-272-9595 for more information.

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