



KEY PENINSULA NEWS



Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Wauna, WA
98395
Permit No. 2
BOX HOLDER

www.keypennews.org

THE VOICE OF THE KEY PENINSULA

May 2019 Vol. 46 No. 5

County, State and Federal Authorities Take Action at Lakebay Marina

The Department of Natural Resources, U.S. Coast Guard, Washington State Labor & Industries and Pierce County all descended on the historic facility in April after building and safety code violations, numerous boat sinkings and years of complaints by neighbors.

LISA BRYAN, KP NEWS

Unresolved electrical code violations prompted the Washington State Labor and Industries Electrical Inspection Division to shut off electricity to Lakebay Marina April 11, leaving moorage and upland tenants without power. The disruption triggered a chain reaction from multiple agencies that threatens the continued operation of the marina.

L&I issued notices of non-compliance for hazardous conditions January 7, 2019 to marina owner Mark Scott, and reposted April 1, 2019, citing 44 known safety violations.

“The move to cut off power was neither sudden nor without warning,” wrote Ty Booth, senior planner for Pierce County Planning and Land Use in an April 11 email provided to KP News. “The owner was given ample time to address problems but did nothing.”

Pierce County Building officials inspected the marina, along with Code Enforcement and Health Department officials, and placed a “Restricted Use” placard at the entrance April 16 that reads “Unsafe to Occupy Do Not Enter,” citing a lack of power, water and sewage disposal. Access to the premises will require county permission that will only be granted for the removal of belongings when authorized by a permit to begin repairs.

An estimated 10 to 15 people reside on property owned by Scott, according to tenants. That number has suddenly dropped as some moorage tenants have left, such as a man with critical medical needs who has

moved to a motel, according to fellow live-board Lucas Jackson. Since 2018, Scott has attempted to evict several other residents.

The Washington State Department of Natural Resources, which leases the aquatic lands under the marina to Scott, also weighed in.

“As of April 15, 2019, DNR has placed the owner of the facility in default of his aquatic lands lease.

The owner of the marina will be given 30 days to correct the serious issues that currently exist. Should the owner be unable to correct these items identified in the default letter in that period, his lease will be terminated,” according to an email from the

Commissioner of Public Lands Hilary Franz, who directs the Washington State Department of Natural Resources.

“DNR will continue to act in partnership with other state and local entities to abate the impacts,” Franz wrote. “As the agency responsible for 2.6 million acres of aquatic lands and with the continued decline of forage fish, salmon and our local killer whales, I believe this situation required swift and decisive action.”

In the April 15 Notice of Default, obtained by KP News, the agency advises Scott he must correct all deficiencies cited by L&I and have power restored to the marina. “DNR is deeply concerned that

you have been aware of, and have failed to address, these egregious unsafe conditions for at least three months.” Scott must also satisfy each of six additional defaults cited in their notice.

Scott responded to a request for comment in an email to KP News, stating “I’m currently working with L&I and DNR to resolve the problems.”

“AS THE AGENCY RESPONSIBLE FOR 2.6 MILLION ACRES OF AQUATIC LANDS AND WITH THE CONTINUED DECLINE OF FORAGE FISH, SALMON AND OUR LOCAL KILLER WHALES, I BELIEVE THIS SITUATION REQUIRED SWIFT AND DECISIVE ACTION.”

U.S. Coast Guard members boarded every vessel moored at Lakebay Marina April 17 to deliver or post a Notice of Federal Interest, informing vessel owners they have been identified as a potential responsible party for a pollution incident involving the potential or actual

discharge of oil, and release of hazardous substances or materials that have occurred or may occur there. If ordered to comply, failure to remedy could result in civil penalties of up to \$50,000 per day and punitive damages.

“Let me tell you, this is a scary piece of paper,” Jackson said. “The Coast Guard has the right to board any vessel on the water; they mean business.”

Jackson has been living on his wooden boat with his girlfriend and son at the marina since August 2018. He contends that residents at the marina are “good people with jobs—boat owners, not transients.”

CONTINUED PAGE 3



Life after FB4K: Karen Jorgenson and husband, David, will be devoting time to their Vaughn garden. *Photo: Richard Miller, KP News*

Karen Jorgenson is Citizen of the Year

The volunteer executive director of Food Backpacks 4 Kids has been helping children on the KP and beyond for decades.

TED OLINGER, KP NEWS

Karen Jorgenson received the 35th annual Key Peninsula Lions Club Citizen of the Year Award for 2018 during a standing-room-only celebration at the KP Civic Center March 30.

The 18-year Vaughn resident has served as the volunteer executive director of Food Backpacks 4 Kids since it was founded 10 years ago. She will retire at the end of June.

The award is sponsored by the KP Lions Club, which solicits nominations from the community for anyone whose work—professional or volunteer—deserves recognition for its impact on the Key Peninsula.

The annual celebration is open to the public, but the award recipient is chosen through secret ballots cast by Lions Club members. “It was a very tight race,” said club President Hal Wolverton. “I can’t even begin to describe the caliber of the nominees we had this year.”

“When I looked at the roster, I was just overwhelmed by all the wonderful things that are happening on the peninsula,” Jorgenson said. (See “35th Annual Citizen of the Year Award Nominees,” KP News, March 2019). “I was very surprised that I was given the award.”

CONTINUED PAGE 3



Lakebay Marina on a rainy afternoon in mid-April with the sunken vessel Skittigate on the far right. *Photo: Chris Konieczny, KP News*

Here's What I Think About That

LISA BRYAN,
EXECUTIVE EDITOR, KP NEWS

The official opening day of boating season, the KP Livable Community Fair, the Lakebay Fuchsia Society's annual sale, Mother's Day, Veteran's Aisle of Honor, Memorial Day - it's all about to begin. Classic big leaf maples are still unfurling, flowering dogwoods stand out against a backdrop of conifers, while heady lilac blossoms spill over old country fences. Everything smells fresh and new. There's an undeniable feeling of energy in spring time and May kicks it up into high gear.

The Washington legislature has also been busy. Lawmakers went into overdrive to pass a \$52.4 billion new two-year state budget, sent along with remaining legislation for the Governor's signature. Legislators worked well into the night throughout the weekend to find the middle ground necessary to pass a bill lifting the lid on school levy caps to achieve funding necessary to prevent layoffs of teachers and staff in many districts statewide. Once that sticking point was resolved, remaining bills rushed through votes, completing their mission on time and adjourning the legislative session as scheduled on April 28, just minutes before midnight deadline.

Several Key Peninsula organizations with capital improvement projects already approved for state grant funds secured their actual funding with the passage of the state's budget. Individual projects may now move forward to become a reality.

Topping the local list is \$2,427,000 to enhance Minter Creek Hatchery; \$500,000 awarded to The Mustard Seed Project's Key Peninsula assisted living senior housing project; \$497,800 awarded to Key Pen Parks' splash pad project at Gateway Park; and

\$250,000 will go toward capital improvements at YMCA Camp Colman.

Second-term legislator Rep. Michelle Caldier R-Port Orchard, sponsored fewer bills as compared to her 26th district colleagues, but she achieved passage of four bills signed into law by Governor Jay Inslee.

HB 1198, written by Caldier, requires that patients be notified of health providers sanctioned for sexual misconduct. The bill, signed into law by Governor Jay Inslee, will take effect Oct. 1, 2019.

The second-term representative was also successful with HB 1934, allowing deployed members of the U.S. Armed Forces to renew their concealed pistol licenses without returning to Washington state to do so. Signed into law April 25, the bill directs law enforcement agencies to implement a CPL renewal process by Oct. 1, 2019 that allows mail or online renewal for resident Washington military men and women serving out of state.

Caldier introduced and was the primary sponsor for HB 1016, which requires hospitals to notify a rape victim within two hours of their arrival if they have no rape kits nor a provider on staff trained in sexual assault examinations. Caldier's original bill would have imposed civil penalties of \$2,000 for hospitals that do not comply. The Senate amended the bill to remove the penalties. Caldier reluctantly accepted the Senate amendment, which she said "basically stripped the enforcement part of the policy, but I agreed to concur, because the policy itself is still sound and needed."

Caldier credited Sen. Emily Randall, D-Bremerton, for trying to keep the bipartisan measure intact. The amended bill awaits Governor Inslee's signature.

"I was proud to partner with Representative Caldier to make a difference for survivors of sexual assault," Randall said. "We worked hard in the Senate to keep the penalty clause in the bill and shift the burden off the survivors who are already dealing with incredible trauma. Unfortunately, the desire to protect hospitals from civil penalties was stronger than the desire to protect survivors from unnecessary red tape. But we're not giving up - we'll keep standing alongside survivors next year and in every session to come."

Randall also achieved some legislative success with SB

5723 to increase safety for pedestrians, cyclists and other roadway users. The bill was supported by Caldier in the House. It sits waiting on the governor's desk for signature.

In Randall's sponsorship of SB 5800 addressing the issue of college homelessness, the first-term legislator found support from both Caldier and Rep. Jesse Young, R-Gig Harbor. The bill awaits the Governor's signature.

Young sponsored HB 2182 April 24 but voted for companion bill SB 6025, which concerns maintaining the privacy of citizens who voluntarily participated in the bump-stock buy-back program from disclosure of personal information through future public records request.



ANNUAL
APPEAL
FOR
DONATIONS

Inserted into this newspaper is a gold donation envelope from the Key Peninsula Civic Center. We ask that you consider making a monetary donation to help with the costs of operating this facility, which serves so many individuals and organizations in our community.

Your donation supports ongoing maintenance and improvements at the Key Peninsula Civic Center, as well as our many popular events and programs. Your contributions help us to keep rental rates low, and pride in our community high.

This springtime donation request supports the Civic Center facility and programs. In the fall, you'll receive a green donation envelope for contributions to support the KP News - our award-winning local newspaper, delivered free of charge each month to every household on the Key Peninsula.

Word around the neighborhood is that the KP Civic Center plays an important role in the lives we lead here on the peninsula. We hope you feel the same and that you will consider making a financial contribution to support this beloved institution.

THANK YOU!!!

The KP News invites community information, concerns or complaints at editor@keypennews.org or 253-884-4699. You're also invited to post public meetings or events on our online calendar at keypennews.org. Entries received by the 15th of the month will be printed in the next edition.



253-884-4699

editor@keypennews.org

17010 S. Vaughn Rd NW / PO Box 3,
Vaughn, WA 98394

EXECUTIVE EDITOR: Lisa Bryan

ASSOCIATE EDITOR: Ted Olinger

STAFF CONTRIBUTORS: Krisa Bruemmer, Matthew Dean, Alice Kinerk, Joseph Pentheroudakis, Sara Thompson, Carolyn Wiley

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHERS: Ed Johnson, Chris Konieczny, Richard Miller, David Zeigler

COMMUNITY CALENDAR EDITOR: Merry Kogut

COLUMNISTS: Meredith Browand, Nancyrose Houston, Ed Johnson, Dawn Kinzel, Emily Randall

WEBMASTER/SOCIAL MEDIA: Joseph Pentheroudakis

OPERATIONS/PRODUCTION DESIGN: Tim Heitzman

AD SALES: Christina Welsh kpnads@keypennews.org

DISTRIBUTION: James Allyn, Phil Bauer, Norm Brones, Bill Dietz, Bruce Macdonald, Ted Ralston, Frank Slater, Bob Wilkins

PUBLISHING BOARD: Sara Thompson, president, Bruce Macdonald, John Nichols, Frank Slater, Bob Wilkins

Copyright 2019 Key Peninsula News, all rights reserved. Published by the Key Peninsula Civic Center Association, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation. Mailed to Key Peninsula residents and post office box holders, single copies available at local distribution points.

Support your newspaper: The Key Peninsula News is made possible by advertisers, donors and subscribers; annual subscriptions are \$30 for delivery by first class mail. **Share your thoughts:** Signed letters to the editor published as space allows. Please include a daytime phone number for verification. Key Peninsula News reserves the right to edit all submissions. Deadline is 15th of month before publication. Mail to P.O. Box 3, Vaughn, WA 98394 or email editor@keypennews.org. Visit www.keypennews.org or www.facebook.com/KeyPenNews.

CITIZEN OF THE YEAR FROM PAGE 1

“It’s so well-deserved,” said Laurel Shultz, program director of Communities in Schools of Peninsula. “I can’t say enough about Karen. She’s a doer, she’s innovative and kind, and one of the most generous individuals I’ve ever met.”

FB4K came together out of a group of community church members who met in the fall of 2008 to work together to address some of the community’s most pressing needs. One of the attendees knew of a food backpack program in Belfair.

“We all thought that would be a wonderful thing to do in our community,” Jorgenson said. “There’s all kinds of research on this. If the kids are hungry, they’re not going to learn, and if they’re not getting the right kinds of foods, their brains aren’t going to grow to the point where they have the ability to learn.”

“We all had our churches start collecting food and then we had to decide where we were going to do this and who was going to run it, and I said, ‘Our church has space where we can pack the backpacks, but I’m not going to be in charge!’” she said.

She’s still in charge.

Food was packed initially at the Key Peninsula Lutheran Church in Lakebay, but the program soon spread.

“We packed nine backpacks in March of 2009,” Jorgenson said. “By the end of the year we had 45 kids a week and the next year we had 500.”

Each backpack contains up to eight pounds of food to supplement a family of four for a weekend, or about 3,000 pounds each week, including snacks, fruits and vegetables, and ingredients for meals together with recipes on how to prepare them, depending on available funds.

“We didn’t like the idea of just one child in the family having food to eat for a weekend, so we put in enough food to supplement a family of four,” Jorgenson said. “We’re just about the only backpack program in the country that feeds the whole family.”

After the backpacks are packed, they are delivered to the schools by volunteers and later distributed to students.

“Right now, we’re serving 400 backpacks a week,” Jorgenson said. “Last year we also put in food pantries in the high schools and middle schools, so that the kids can have grab-and-go foods and have access all during the week. That’s added another 100 kids, so now we’re feeding over 500.”

FB4K has expanded not just with back-

packs but by distributing sack lunches at Key Pen Parks during the summer, giving away crockpots to families (together with recipes and ingredients) and partnering with CISP to stock school food pantries and assist its summer literacy program where students get a hot lunch with a three-hour reading lesson at every elementary school on the KP, and Harbor Heights and Discovery in Gig Harbor.

“It’s been a wonderful evolution over time,” said Shultz. “They started on the Key Peninsula and now serve kids on the Gig Harbor peninsula. I was at the meeting at Children’s Home Society where Karen brought up their crockpot program in front of United Way, and now they are

“I WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN ABLE TO DO THIS JOB WITHOUT ALL OF THE VOLUNTEERS AND ESPECIALLY MY HUSBAND, DAVID, OF 54 YEARS.”

taking that on and doing crockpot programs, so that idea spread from the Key Peninsula to serve all of Pierce County, which is really remarkable.”

FB4K is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit with an annual budget of \$300,000, 46 percent of which comes from individual donors. It has one paid employee, a part-time office administrator, and 75 volunteers.

“We have such wonderful people in the community giving us support and I think that’s because we have a fabulous board, we are transparent, we are honest, we are trustworthy. It’s neighbors helping neighbors,” Jorgenson said. “I would not have been able to do this job without all of the volunteers and especially my husband, David, of 54 years.”

But the couple has been working to help children for almost all of their lives together.

Jorgenson is a licensed social worker who taught child development and psychology at colleges and universities in Michigan and Ohio. She was the first foster parent recruiter and trainer in Nevada, and went on to create therapeutic foster care programs in eight different states. “It was up to me to develop the training curriculum and recruit everybody,” she said. “I would go in and recruit the foster parents, train the foster parents, license them and then hire a director to help run the program before I went on to the next state,” she said.

Jorgenson later served as executive director of the National Foster Parent Association for 10 years.

She and her husband have four daughters, two of whom they adopted. They fostered more children than Jorgenson can remember—literally.

“How many children? This goes way

back. I don’t know. The very first foster child we had was 14 and she came in and out of our lives many times. Years later, I got an email at the NFPA office saying ‘I’m looking for my mom and you’re doing the kind of work she would be doing: Are you my mother?’ She’d caught up with us again and we flew her out to visit. When she got back home, she talked to her husband and then she called us and said, ‘I need my mom and dad back in my life, will you adopt me?’ And so, at the age of 52 we adopted her.”

Jorgenson leaves her post at the end of June. She will be succeeded by Richard Miller, a KP resident and science and art teacher at Key Peninsula Middle School (and contributor to KP News).

About retirement, Jorgenson said, “I am going to create a butterfly and hummingbird sanctuary in my backyard. I’m still growing things.”

Jorgenson’s backyard spans 3 acres.

FB4K will be celebrating its 10th anniversary May 18 at the Inn at Gig Harbor from 4:30 to 6 p.m. Tickets are available at brownpapertickets.com.

FB4K can be reached at 253-857-7401 or info@foodbackpacks4kids.org. For more information, go to foodbackpacks4kids.org.

LAKEBAY MARINA FROM PAGE 1

He and his girlfriend have stable jobs in Key Center and Glen Cove. “It’s so hard to find a rental house,” he said. “We’ve really liked living close to our work and being part of the community.”

After word of the power shut-off made the rounds, people in the community including marina neighbors responded kindly, according to Jackson. “We also have a tight group living down here and people are looking out for each other and being helpful,” he said.

For the time being, gas-powered generators run through the night. Not everyone in the neighborhood appreciates the continued trouble.

“We are living among all this natural beauty, but there is this one guy who refuses to play by the rules, demonstrates an extreme lack of consideration for the fragile marine environment or the neighboring homeowners, tax-paying citizens who share Mayo Cove,” said a neighbor who spoke to KP News on condition of anonymity. “We’ve been complaining for years, doing everything they tell us to do but nothing seems to stop Mr. Scott.”

See “Code Violations May Bring Criminal Charges for Lakebay Marina Owner,” KP News, April 2019 and “Winter Moorage: Another Sinking at Lakebay Marina,” KP News, March 2019.

Join us! Community Volunteer Network
Senior Ride Program | Key Senior
Information Center | Assisted Living Project
Support Groups, Forums and Classes



Supporting Seniors Every Day.

JOIN OUR ENRICHING CLASSES AND EVENTS

**Poetry & Prose
Open Mic/Recital**

Come share words that have touched you, written by others or yourself. All ages welcome.
May 3 from 2-3 pm

Painting Self Portraits

Intergenerational art class with TWAA’s Adria Hanson,
Tuesdays, May 7-28 from 1-2 pm

**Thinking Thursday:
Trivial Pursuit**

Bring a favorite board game to share. May 16 from 10-11 am

VOLUNTEER NOW

Support older adults on the Key Peninsula in your spare time. We need drivers for medical appointments, lawn mowing & yard care



www.themustardseedproject.org
Follow us on Facebook!

Free Flower for Moms on Sunday May 12

Celebrate Spring!

Gift ideas to make your Mother's Day special

• *Floral and plant custom arrangements*

from our Florist shop just in time for Mom. Order early for best selection and delivery.

• *Custom gift baskets* for the mom who loves to garden. Soaps, gloves, tools topped with a bow.

• *Hanging Basket Extravaganza* 10% off on Mothers Day! Beautiful collection of Fuchsias, Begonias and sun-loving baskets to brighten your Mom's day.

• *Huge selection of Annual and Perennial flowers* to bring your garden to life!



May Savings

25% OFF MAY 15-25

LILIES, ROSES,
WEIGELA,
SPIREA & DEUTZIAS
ALL IN GORGEOUS
BLOOM NOW

ONLINE IN MAY

How-to classes on
Hanging Baskets,
Spring Containers and
unique Mother's Day
arrangements at
sunnycrestnursery.com


SUNNYCREST NURSERY
FLORIST & DECOR

IN KEY CENTER OPEN MON-SAT 9 to 5:30 SUNDAY 11 to 4 253 884-3937
www.sunnycrestnursery.com



AdobeStock



Murder Charges Dropped in Longbranch Deaths

LISA BRYAN, KP NEWS

Cory Nathan Mason, 28, was released from Pierce County jail April 1 after nearly 14 months in custody awaiting trial for two counts of second-degree murder. Mason shot and killed Beth Hamlin-Slawson, 25, and her husband Lukas Slawson, 35, in the early morning hours of Feb. 3, 2018, at the home of Beth's parents in the 5500 block of Whiteman Road SW in Longbranch.

Mason said he acted in self-defense. ("Parents Killed in Longbranch Double Homicide," KP News, March 2018).

The shooting occurred at 2:30 a.m. outside the home where Mason lived with his 18-year-old girlfriend and her parents, also the parents of Beth Hamlin-Slawson, according to prosecuting attorney Kawyne A. Lund's motion and order for dismissal filed with the Superior Court for Pierce County.

"Washington law on self-defense provides a killing is justified if a defendant reasonably feared imminent death or great personal injury at the time of the killing," Lund wrote in the court document. "A defendant is entitled to act on what he perceives and at the time believes in good faith and on reasonable grounds, that he or another is in actual danger, even if afterward it was learned he was mistaken as to the extent of danger."

According to the prosecutor's office, the confrontation began after a heated exchange of social media messages between Mason and Beth over the purchase of a gun and alleged abuse by Mason of his girlfriend, Beth's younger sister. The KP News is not naming the sister since she may be the victim of domestic violence.

Beth and her husband, Lukas, drove to the residence and unexpectedly encountered Mason in a car driven by Beth's mother, Lisa Hamlin.

They aggressively tailgated the car to Lisa's home, according to prosecutors. A time-stamped surveillance video showed both vehicles rapidly pulling into the driveway and Beth running from her car to the car Mason was in, and confronting him with a sledgehammer.

Lisa immediately got out and attempted to restrain her daughter as she beat the car with the sledgehammer. While the women

struggled, Mason moved to the driver's seat and drove the car about 50 feet away.

At the same time, Beth's husband produced a pistol and fired at least 10 shots at the front and back of another vehicle, a pickup truck belonging to Mason.

When Mason got out of Lisa's car, he was immediately confronted again by Beth, who had broken free of her mother's grasp but lost the sledgehammer. Mason drew his own pistol and shot her once in the chest.

The surveillance video showed about 15 seconds between Mason moving the car and shooting Beth.

Given the darkness, the speed of events, Beth's aggressive focus on Mason, and the fact that Mason was in the car when she was disarmed while Lukas was firing his weapon, the prosecutor's office concluded it could not show beyond a reasonable doubt that Mason was unaware Beth was unarmed at the time he shot her.

Mason can be heard in the background of a 911 call after the incident, saying to a witness, "Did you not hear the gunshots shooting at us? Oh my God! Thought Beth was the one shooting!"

The video also showed Lukas moving toward Mason after Mason shot Beth. The video is distorted by the glare of the car's headlights, but Lukas can be seen pointing his gun at Mason.

Mason's girlfriend, Beth's sister, told prosecutors she was afraid Lukas was going to shoot Mason and stood in front of Mason to protect him.

The video then shows Lukas running toward the house with an apparent gunshot wound to the chest. Mason later said he shot Lukas in self-defense. The medical examiner's report described Lukas's injury "as a 'contact type' wound, indicating the two men were close at the time of the shot."

"Based on the precipitate actions that led to this chaotic incident, it was reasonable for (Mason) to believe he was being attacked with a sledgehammer and that the gunfire was directed at him. Given the available evidence, the state cannot disprove self-defense, and dismissal of these criminal charges is appropriate," according to a statement issued by the Pierce County Prosecutor's Office April 2.



The winning club with 2018 Vaulting Horse of the Year Indiana Jones IV. The stunning trophy remains with the club before passing to next year's winner. Inset: Genna Downen practicing with Indy.

Photos: Chris Konieczny, KPNews

Local Vaulting Team Earns National Honors

CAROLYN WILEY, KP NEWS

Nationally ranked equestrian vaulter Genevieve Downen is a 13-year old from Longbranch better known as Genna to her teammates, the Harbor View Vaulters, who train and practice on Key Peninsula. The seventh-grader earned the American Vaulting Association National Bronze for her first-place bronze highpoint score in 2018. Teammate Isabella Fetters, a 15-year old from Port Orchard came in just behind Genna for the year, winning third place bronze highpoint. Awards were presented at the association's annual symposium at Enterprise, Nevada, in March 2019.

The highpoint award is determined by averaging the top three scores earned by vaulters and their horses in regional competitions with teams from Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana.

Equestrian vaulting is a combination of gymnastics and dance with handstands, flips, splits, spins and arabesques all performed on horseback. The horse is trained to move in circles around a handler who holds a long rein, called a lunge line, to gently communicate with the horse—when to walk, trot, lope or canter at a gait suited to the rider's skill level—as if the handler was riding the horse.

Each competitor completes a series of

compulsory exercises and a freestyle section where they perform individualized routines that are choreographed to music. Execution and form are evaluated on a 0-10 scale.

Genna said she prefers compulsory to freestyle, because “I feel more stable and there is less chance of falling off. But I am working to build my confidence.”

Indiana Jones IV, Genna's partner in competition, was named the 2018 American Vaulting Association Horse of the Year, also earning regional highpoint and national bronze highpoint awards.

“Coach Lori has such a bond with Indy, the trust he has with her is exceptional,” said parent volunteer Dan Fuller, also an experienced handler for the club.

“Indy is a 21-year-old Percheron thoroughbred cross who has been vaulting with us for the last seven years,” said Lori Robison, coach and owner of Four Winds Riding Center in Wauna. “He's one special and very loved horse; it's a pretty great gig

being a vaulting horse.”

The Harbor View Vaulters team practices year-round at Four Winds, with members coming from as far as Poulsbo and Snoqualmie. Several parents called it

testimony to the value in Robison's training, coaching, and the good attitude she inspires. The parents go the distance to support their children's dedication to a sport many hope will become an Olympic event.

When his daughter Jane, 14, expressed interest in vaulting, Jon Eidukas of Snoqualmie said, “My wife and I looked at

each other and said, ‘What? Standing on the back of a horse while it's moving? Isn't that dangerous?’ But we did our research and found it's statistically safer than many other sports.”

“Our family first learned about vaulting during the KP Farm Tour,” said Anna Downen, Genna's mother. “We didn't have time to see all the farms, but Genna loves horses so we thought we would visit Four

Winds and let her pet a horse.”

Impressed enough that she wanted to take riding lessons, Genna began vaulting at age 10. She's set a goal of qualifying for the Junior World Games when she reaches the 14-18 age group and hopes to ride in the World Equestrian Games when she is 19.

Genna estimated she spends about 13 hours a week practicing at the stable and at home she is “on the barrel every time I'm free.”

She said dance and martial arts training helped her develop body control and core strength. She said her core strength was developed in taekwondo, and she recently earned her black belt. Her father, Mark Downen, is a taekwondo instructor at the Tom Taylor YMCA in Gig Harbor.

“My goal for 2019 is to have fun, not worry about competition, and create a solid freestyle that scores well,” Genna said. “What is so cool is that I have a chance to do something that is kind of cool—it is different. I am doing something that most people don't get to do.”

In April the team completed their first fundraiser of the year, a fiber and leather drive. On the weekend of May 10 and 11, they will have a rummage sale at Four Winds in the hopes the team will be headed to St. Louis, Missouri, for the next national competition.



Meredith Browand

KEY ISSUES



Reclaiming Mother's Day

Mother's Day 2019 marks the 111th anniversary of Anna Jarvis creating the holiday to honor her own mother and acknowledge the profound role of mothers in our culture.

The first Mother's Day was celebrated May 10, 1908 at Andrews Methodist Episcopal Church and featured 500 white carnations, enough for everyone in attendance, as a way to honor mothers. The holiday was established as a national holiday by Congress in 1914 and companies began the work of institutionalizing Mother's Day as a commercial opportunity.

This commercialization of the celebration of mothers ultimately made Jarvis regret the holiday she worked to create. She declared in a 1920 press release that the companies profiting from the commercialization of Mother's Day to be "charlatans, bandits, pirates, racketeers, kidnappers, and termites that would undermine with their greed one of the finest, noblest and truest movements and celebrations."

There's no denying that Mother's Day remains a highly commercialized holiday: over 113 million cards are exchanged annually and it is second only to Christmas for gift giving. Cards and gifts are great ways to celebrate the holiday but we shouldn't limit ourselves in the ways we honor mothers. Perhaps 2019 is the year that we all discover new ways to celebrate Mother's Day that both honor Anna Jarvis's original intentions and lift up mothers in our community.

Celebrate a single mom Mother's Day can be a difficult day for single moms that don't have a spouse or significant other to spearhead the celebration. A gift card to a local restaurant, a bouquet of flowers, or an invitation to your family's Mother's Day meal are all ways to celebrate a single mom and the mothering that she undertakes alone.

Support an organization that serves mothers There are many organizations in our local community that support and serve mothers in a variety of ways including support groups for new moms, domestic violence shelters and nutrition assistance. A financial donation or the commitment of your time to one of these organizations can help further the mission of serving mothers and honoring their work.

Advocate for a cause that impacts mothers Mothers in our community are significantly affected by issues such as the gender wage gap, lack of affordable childcare and the rising cost of healthcare. Choosing to advo-

cate for an issue that affects mothers is one way to celebrate Mother's Day that will have an impact on our entire community.

Do something for Mother Earth This Mother's Day let's not forget Mother Earth and the role her natural beauty and resources play in our lives. The Key Peninsula is home to beautiful beaches, abundant woodlands, and a wide variety of animal species. We can help preserve our natural world through simple acts such as collecting litter we see on the beaches, planting a tree, or reducing overall energy usage at home.

Meredith Browand is a mother and an activist who lives in Purdy. She gave birth to her third child in March.

Emily Randall

FROM THE LEGISLATURE



Insure All Washingtonians

It's time we covered all Washingtonians.

When I talk to our neighbors in Lakebay, Lake Holiday and Vaughn, I hear over and over that you are worried about health care costs.

Whether it's high premiums and deductibles, limited networks that don't include your family doctors, plans that don't cover the care you need, family members who are out of work and can't afford coverage on the individual market, or the nagging worry that you'll lose your care if you lose your job—it's hard to avoid the stress caused by our broken system.

I take those concerns to heart because my family has been there.

In 1993, when my sister Olivia was born with microcephaly, we didn't know how long she'd live—or how we'd pay for the care she needed to stay alive. Even though my dad worked at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard and had good health coverage, it wouldn't come close to covering Olivia's needs.

When the Legislature expanded Medicaid that same year, we felt a huge burden lifted. We could focus on keeping Olivia healthy and home with us, instead of worrying we'd lose our home. It didn't solve all our problems, but it did pay for the specialists Olivia saw in Tacoma and Seattle, her many expensive medications, her feeding tube and supplies, her wheelchairs—the care we needed to help her live her fullest, healthiest life. For our family—and for Olivia—Medicaid was a lifesaver.

Ours wasn't the only family to benefit. After that 1993 expansion, 100,000 more Washingtonians were covered by Medicaid in 1994 than had been in 1992.

We have a lot to be proud of in our state's history of expanding care. Since 2012, when Washington again expanded Medicaid as part of the Affordable Care Act, 600,000 more people have gained coverage. The uninsured rate in our state decreased from 14 percent to 5.5 percent by 2017.

That's a huge improvement—changing hundreds of thousands of lives for the better. It means more of us are able to afford checkups, to fill prescriptions for asthma medicine, and to get preventive treatment from our doctors instead of waiting until it's so bad we have to go to the emergency room.

But we haven't done enough. There are still nearly half a million Washingtonians without health care coverage. And many families that do have insurance avoid going to the doctor because their premiums and deductibles are so high.

Given the urgency of this problem, I'm supporting immediate action while also working to establish a long-term solution.

Both houses of the Legislature this year have passed a version of our new Cascade Care health plan, which would create a public option for health care coverage. This plan would offer a good benefit package at an affordable price. And it would be available for any Washingtonian to buy into, without affecting those who already have health care through their employers or through Medicare or Medicaid.

This would make good health care more easily accessible and provide some healthy competition for private health care plans.

But just making care more accessible won't address everyone's needs. And no family—regardless of their income or financial situation—should go bankrupt or lose their home because they have a child born with special needs, are diagnosed with cancer, or get into a car accident.

That's why I introduced a Pathway to Universal Health Care this year. This bill isn't intended just to send a message or to check a box. It's about taking concrete steps to prepare us for a future where we cover all Washingtonians.

The Pathway bill would bring all the stakeholders into one room—from patients to physicians, health care workers to employers, insurance carriers and hospitals—to hash out a specific plan to provide that coverage. That would put us in position for the next milestone in our proud history of leading the nation in health care coverage: the day we make worries about losing health care a thing of the past.

Sen. Emily Randall, D-Bremerton, represents the 26th Legislative District.

Ed Johnson

GUEST COLUMNIST



On the List

We had a little get together in our community in April at The Mustard Seed Project's Crandall Center in Key Center. It was advertised as an "open mic" reading.

I attended to get some pictures for the newspaper and to enjoy listening to the work of some of the rather large number of writers who call this peninsula home. I assumed it would be people reading their own compositions. I was surprised.

At the door, I was stopped by Ian and his clipboard. Ian was about nine years old and tasked with having people sign his clipboard as they came in. "You have to sign it," he stated. What I saw was a column for names that looked suspiciously like a performance list. I tried to explain I had no plans to read anything, but was only permitted entry after a nice lady nearby explained to Ian that he only needed to get names from people who were going to read something to the audience.

That audience was only about five or six people when I arrived, but the room was full by the time the show got going. While half of the attendees were in their early teens or younger, I thought they would certainly get something out of hearing the grownups read their own work.

But then each of these young 'uns walked to the front of the room and recited works ranging from Shel Silverstein to e e cummings. Some read things they had composed and many performed as well as their elders.

It occurred to me that I had a poem memorized that I could contribute. I tracked Ian down and asked to put my name at the bottom of the list. He was skeptical, but complied.

There were too many readers to remember them all, but the highlight of the afternoon was the woman who announced that she was going to recite "The Owl and the Pussycat," and added that she wasn't sure she could remember it all. She got several lines into the poem before she had to ask for help and from there on out it was a community project. Different people offered the next needed line, and there were a couple of discussions on what rhymed with what, but we got through it.

When my turn came, I described how my sixth-grade language arts teacher had assigned my class to memorize a 14-line poem to recite. I had stood in front of the class and electrified them with the first 14 lines of "The Midnight Ride of Paul

Revere” by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow. When I finished, the teacher looked at me suspiciously and asked if I was going to finish the poem. He had meant for us to memorize a sonnet but I’d only heard the 14 lines part, so that’s all of Revere’s Ride that I’d memorized.

After the success of that first performance, the Poetry and Prose Open Mic hosted by Erin Schanne of the Living Well Project of Key Peninsula and Jerry Libstaff of Watermark Writers will now be a regular event at the Crandall Center on the first Friday of every month from 2 to 3 p.m.

It looks like I’ll finally be finishing that poem. Or memorizing a sonnet.

Ed Johnson lives near Wauna.

Nancyrose Houston NATURE OVERLOOKED



In Praise of Stinging Nettles

Until last year, my relationship with *Urtica dioica*, commonly known as stinging nettle, was less than positive. I got to know stinging nettle as a summer camper, learning to avoid its long stalk and heart-shaped leaves after some unpleasant encounters. However, my true antagonism toward the plant blossomed when I became a camp counselor. It was not just me dealing with my own pain, but handling lessons and activities gone awry when a camper (or two, or three) decided to walk into a nettle patch.

Later, a coworker told me and the rest of the staff that the plant was actually highly nutritious, and we taught campers the party trick of folding it up, rubbing off the spikes, and eating it without hurting oneself. But overall, the plant was an annoyance, ruining “Counselor Hunt” and other games that required running through the woods, and I wished it out of camp.

I have been converted since then. A trip to the naturopath last spring to figure out how to survive working at camp again with my terrible allergies sent me running to buy nettle pills. But since nettles abound here on the Key Peninsula, I have begun to collect and cook them myself, with an incredible reduction in allergy symptoms.

Stinging nettles are high in vitamins A, C, D and K, and in iron, calcium and protein. In fact, stinging nettles contain four times more vitamin C than oranges by weight, and a serving of only 100 grams contains 48 percent of your daily calcium needs.

Nettles have been used in traditional medicine throughout the world for many years, and our ancestors were wise: double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled trials have found that nettles help with allergies, diabetes, prostate gland enlargement and more.

The best time to collect nettles is while the plants are still young, which is usually late March or early April. This is perfect for allergy sufferers like me because this is when our woes begin. Young plants are the best for harvesting because their stinging hairs, known as trichomes, have not developed yet. These trichomes, found on the leaves and stems of nettles, are like tiny hypodermic needles. Brushing up against the plant causes the tip to break off, piercing the skin and injecting the biochemicals such as histamine and serotonin that cause the itchy pain.

Different cultures around the world have different plant remedies for the sting of nettles. Most people here in the Pacific Northwest have heard that rubbing the spores of the underside of sword fern fronds helps the pain. I’m not sure how much it helps or why, but I find that the placebo effect is good enough for most campers. Antihistamine creams can also help with the pain.

Ready to harvest? Make sure that you wear gloves. If you use scissors to clip the tops off the plants evenly, you can stimulate growth and maintain your own nettle garden in your yard. Nettles can even be transplanted. My brother dug some up and planted them at our house in Seattle. New growth at the top of the plants can be eaten fresh throughout the summer, while the lower, pokier leaves are better for drying or cooking. They taste fresh and leafy, like spinach with a hint of cucumber. My favorite recipes so far have been soups and tea, but I am excited to get more creative.

You can also collect nettles now and freeze them for use throughout the year, since it is best not to eat the mature plants after they have flowered in late spring. Just plunge the nettles in boiling water for two to four minutes, stems and all, to rid them of their pesky needles. Then rinse them in cold water, drain as much of the water as possible, and chop the nettles into small pieces as you would chard or kale. Store them in freezer bags or containers and you can easily add them to recipes all year—soups, pesto, pasta sauce, stir fries, omelets—you name it.

Nancyrose Houston is the Outdoor Environmental Education Director at Sound View Camp.

Dawn Kinzel GUEST COLUMNIST



Confessions of a Newbie Farmer

I gave birth to our fourth child on a Monday. On Friday we moved to the Key Peninsula. So began our crazy, exciting farming adventure on the Key.

I have heard the agrarian adventure always begins with chickens and I’m beginning to believe it. Before the hens came into our lives, we were a pretty normal suburban family. Sure, I converted part of our backyard to a cornfield one year, but on the whole we were model citizens. Until one of our “ladies” started crowing. Not good for neighborly relations.

A more rural lifestyle started to look appealing. We ended up cutting our mortgage in half and gaining 5 acres by moving out here. It wasn’t in time to save the rooster, but we had been bitten by the farming bug.

We came with a dream in our family heart. Here we would grow our own food—healthy vegetables with no chemicals; medicinal herbs fresh from the ground; our chickens, of course, for eggs and meat; and a cow. There must be a cow.

Plan B. The cow idea was the first to go. Yes, we had 5 acres, but four of them were on a slope and part of that was marsh six months of the year.

Moving to the country of course would also mean we’d need protection from cougars, bears, Bigfoot, and all sorts of affiliated wildlife. Enter King, the Livestock Guardian Dog (LGD). He would protect my small brood of children and keep away spooky night creatures. One problem. An LGD needs something other than chickens and children to guard or he will get bored, heaven forbid.

Plan C. We got the dog a goat to guard. Well, make that two goats, because you can never have just one or it gets lonely. So, two goats. That would work because we ditched the cow but could still have lovely, fresh raw milk and, surely, they would be happy to eat up our overgrown blackberries.

Now to get down to growing things. Being a new mama again, I wanted to keep my outside work close to the house. Only problem was the house is on a hillside cutaway; in other words, bedrock. The dirt is as hard as a hammer in the summer, and the rest of the year you get an oozy, soggy mess sticking to your boots. Nothing would grow.

Plan D. Raised beds and a greenhouse. As frugality is my first, last and middle name, I cut some free pallets in half, formed them into a u-shaped bed complete with chicken wire fence and voila, a keyhole garden! Not that it grew much. The tomato seedlings in the greenhouse were stunted since our greenhouse didn’t do too well in the snow and the knee-high vents were too low to do any good when it was hot.

Meanwhile, King the LGD was, again, getting bored. The goats were not interesting enough to just look at, so he started chasing them. Not what an LGD is supposed to do. We got him a puppy friend. Baron joined us and soon outgrew his adopted brother. Now we have two Great Pyrenees the size of polar bears and two lazy goats, all because I wanted something to go “woof” in the night.

The chickens are hanging in there. What a relief that roosters are welcome in the country. We were all set to have table meat. One problem: We had never actually culled a bird. We’ve managed to get it done, but butchering is still a bit too far for us to go. The dogs have been eating well.

So, in the past year and a half we’ve produced a gallon of damaged tomatoes, enough chamomile for two cups of tea, lots of eggs (before the chickens went on strike in December), a few handfuls of peas and first-class dogfood. The goats are now pregnant, after freeloading for a year and not doing much damage to the blackberries.

Shortly after we moved here, we joined a food co-op that asked for the name of my farm during registration. Feeling a little full of myself, I entered the name, “Harmony Hill.” When I went to pick up my food, a dear woman asked, “Oh yes, Harmony Hill. What do you grow?” I glanced at the baby on my hip and the three others cavorting around me. I looked her straight in the eye and said, “Children.”

Dawn Kinzel lives in Vaughn.

Letters to the Editor

WE NEED HOPE

Neighbors, I have heard misinformation being spread around the community, on Facebook and here in letters to the editor, and feel that someone needs to counter the false narrative.

Hope Recovery Center is planned to be a quality-run, nonprofit, alcohol and drug treatment center similar to Olalla treatment center but without the detox element. Hope is not going to be a medical facility. It is

CONTINUED PAGE 8

LETTERS, FROM PAGE 7

intended to provide a tranquil environment where people can reflect on life and work to save their family in a quiet, rural space. They would like to help people beyond the normal insurance cut-off and teach the individual how to transition back into society.

The story that the zoning isn't right is a lie. The county has already approved the location and now seeks a public review to set the conditions of the Conditional Use Permit. "Conditions" would be things like requiring a natural buffer. No change to the zoning is required. The No on HRC group has filed an appeal, delaying the public hearing.

Rural-10 designation allows schools, churches, fire stations, camps and many other uses. HRC will not open the door to commercial uses in the R-10 like you are being told. HRC needs to be in a quiet, rural, tree-lined area, not in a high traffic zone.

HRC is not planned to be a government-run methadone clinic. They will not take violent offenders from the prison system and set them free in the community, like the elderly woman I met with last week was told. They will, however, take you if the court orders you into treatment for your DUI.

We seem to "have a failure to communicate," or maybe it's just a failure to listen. We are having a game of "pass the gossip" and it is getting more outlandish the more it goes unchecked. But the truth will prevail. Hope is needed here.

Chuck West, Lakebay resident and one of the authors of the KP Community Plan

YOU CAN'T STOP GROWTH

To all of you who want to protect the Key Peninsula from Hope Recovery Center:

HRC would be taking up very little space, water and roadway compared to what is already happening on the KP.

Haven't you noticed all the logging going on? Haven't you seen all the new houses being built? All of this means more and more people moving to the KP in search of more affordable housing. Their children will only add to the classroom sizes. How many more can our present kindergarten through high school classes handle? And our main roads can hardly handle the traffic now.

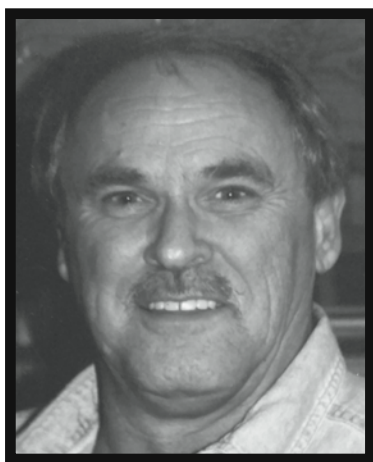
You can't stop growth from happening. In the not so distant future, there will be the need for another school or two. Perhaps another fire station, a larger grocery store such as Fred Meyer, more gas stations and to top this list—a new post office with lots of parking to replace the already too small building in Home. Key Center and Lake Kathryn already have some of these services in or near them. Where do you think these services will go? They will need acreage and water and lots of both.

There will also be a need for more doctor offices, perhaps an urgent care facility, and more restaurants too. These businesses may be able to get set up at Lake Kathryn, if there's room. Either way they will need water and add to traffic.

At my age I may not get to see these changes, but they are coming. Why not protect the peninsula from growth? Your energy could be put to better use than protecting it from a needed facility like HRC.

Kathleen Best, Lakebay

OBITUARIES



Wally Lorisch

Wally Lorisch died peacefully March 17 with his wife Karen, son Nick and daughter Amie holding his hand. He was an amazing man that made it clear how important his family was to him and how much he loved his life. He was 70 years old.

A resident of Lakebay, Wally was born to Henry and Helene Lorisch in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He graduated from Sammamish High School in Bellevue and pursued an education in architecture at Highline Community College and the honors program at University of Washington. His need to be hands-on was so great that he chose to be a finish carpenter, one of the best in his field.

Wally enlisted in the U.S. Airforce in 1971 and was honorably discharged in 1977. He was based at McChord Air Force Base as a jet engine mechanic and part of the 62nd OMS. He loved animals and was an avid hiker, camper, boater and outdoorsman. His love of life was undeniable. He was a goof and a kid at heart.

Wally is survived by his wife Karen of 49 years, daughter Amie of Portland, Oregon, son Nick of Bellevue, granddaughter Kai of Portland; his brother Henry Lorisch and his wife Kay of Sequim, as well as "Sidney the Cat." He also leaves behind a wonderful, loving extended family.

A memorial service is scheduled for 2

p.m., May 11 at Acacia Funeral Home, 14951 Bothell Way NE in Seattle, followed by a reception in Sammamish. All are welcome to attend. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests a contribution to the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals or your choice of any animal-related cause.



Delores C. Rose

Delores "Dee" Rose died peacefully at home surrounded by her loving family Nov. 17, 2018. She was 88 years old.

Born and raised in Seattle, Dee was the oldest of four children. She met Don, the love of her life, and they married in 1960. The couple moved to California for a year but returned to the Key Peninsula where Don grew up. Together they raised five children in the same house where they spent the rest of their lives.

Dee was a character with the perfect balance of charm and wit. She loved her family with her whole heart and would do anything and everything for them. Before retiring in 1983 to travel with her husband, she spent many years dispatching for Fire District 16 from her dining room. She had her desk in the corner, covered with radios and telephones. She took great pride in this and was known as "The Voice" by neighboring departments.

Dee was a wonderful artist, using oil and a palette knife, creating many pieces her family will cherish always. A friend to anyone, Dee loved people. She always had a pot of coffee on and a spot at her kitchen table for friends and family. She loved cooking and always had something freshly baked on her counter.

Dee and Don enjoyed camping trips to Lake Curlew with their children and grandchildren and road trips to Arizona and Reno. They loved bingo at BJ's in Fife, where they made many friends and spent many years yelling "BINGO!" There were holiday dinners, barbecues and poker games around the kitchen table. She lived a very full life and knew love so deeply; her family will miss her every day of our lives.

Dee was preceded in death by her husband Don, parents Donald and Maydell Elzey,

brother Donald Elzey, daughter Dore Lutz and grandson Wesley Collins. She is survived by her daughters and sons-in-law, Cheri Fenton (Russ), Cindy Moore (Pat), Glenda Pestana (Pat); son Terry Rose (David Blouse); and grandchildren, Dan Lutz (Seana), Asia Cook, Seth Collins, Jennie Geier (Aaron), Whitney Erickson (Eric), Donald Moore, Tanner Lemon (Nicole) and Jesse Lemon; her brother Carl Elzey (Vicki), sister Toni Anker, 10 great-grandchildren, one great-great-granddaughter and numerous nieces and nephews. Thank you to Mom's special friend JoAnn for everything.

A private celebration will occur in late spring.

ADVOCATE/ REPRESENTATIVE

SOCIAL SECURITY
DISABILITY

Helping disabled clients since 1992
96% approval rate 2006-2018

MISSION POSSIBLE
EMPLOYMENT SERVICES, INC.



360-798-2920
www.mpes.net

*The Difference is
Personal Service*

A FUN FAMILY NIGHT
FOR ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOL KIDS

Key Peninsula Civic Center



May 3 NO Skate Night
May 10 Skate Night + Dodgeball
May 17 Skate Night
May 24 NO Skate Night
May 31 Skate Night + Dodgeball
Skate 6-9 pm Dodgeball 9-10:30 pm


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

Kids \$5 / Parents free

www.facebook.com/KPCC.SkateNight

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

HOME
EXCAVATING & DOZING



NATURE TRAILS,
BEACH ACCESS,
SITE CLEARING & PREP.,
LOGGING,
ROCK WALLS & STEPS,
DRAINAGE SYSTEMS,
ROAD GRADING,
DEMOLITION,
STUMP REMOVAL,
GRAVEL &
TOPSOIL DELIVERIES,
& MUCH MORE.


DIFFICULT JOBS ARE OUR SPECIALTY!

(253)884-5798

**VETERANS
AISLE OF HONOR**

**FREE SHUTTLE
SERVICE**

Park at Vaughn Elementary School for free bus shuttle every ten minutes starting at 11:30. Busses will shuttle back after the ceremony.



**KP
SCHOOL BUS
CONNECTS**

Call **253-884-BUSS**

A partnership of the KP Community Council, Puget Sound Educational School District and the Peninsula School District.

What better endorsement than I choose to live here on the Key Peninsula.

jo jensen



Decades of experience and knowledge to help you buy or sell real estate. We add fun to the whole process – Mom and son provide you with maximum customer service.

Matt Means **jo jensen**
253-307-0260 253-853-8153
MattMeans.com jojensen.com




Come join us in honoring our veterans

AISLE of HONOR

Sunday May 26 1pm Vaughn Bay Cemetery

Park at Vaughn Elementary with free shuttle bus to cemetery provided by KP Bus Connect

Reported to be the largest Aisle of Honor west of the Mississippi

New KP Beekeepers Group Joins State Association

KRISA BRUEMMER, KP NEWS

The Key Peninsula Beekeepers, a new local group started by Key Peninsula resident and Journeyman Beekeeper Dave Leger, has joined the Washington State Beekeepers Association, classifying them as a nonprofit organization.

Since the group's formation in June 2018, membership has risen to more than 50 beekeepers, with an average of 20 attendees at monthly meetings. "It kind of snowballed on me," said Leger, who had not anticipated such a high level of interest. "I was just trying to meet everybody that lives close to my house and have a meeting here at the library, and then there was this huge demand for beekeeping education."

During their March meeting, beekeepers expressed concerns about recent losses. Scott Sherman, who worked with his dad to raise 50 hives in the early 1980s and has been beekeeping on his own for five years, had only one out of four hives survive the winter.

"I think it was really hard because of how warm it was in January," Leger said. "The bees get active too early and they eat up a lot of their food reserves. And then when we had that bad cold spell with all that snow, they had to kind of shut back down again."

Leger is enthusiastic about working with the Washington State Beekeepers Association, which will provide a level of consistency for education and training. "There's a big loss of bees for people that actually know how to keep bees. If you're losing half or 70 percent of your bees and you know what you're doing, it's really hard for the person that's just going in and buying a package and sticking it in the box," Leger explained. "Eventually we'll have a network of people, all learning the same material from WASBA, all teaching the same material, and everyone on the same page."

Through WASBA, the Key Peninsula Beekeepers will have the opportunity to work their way through certifications for Beginning Beekeepers, Apprentice, Journeyman and Master Beekeepers.

As more KP beekeepers achieve certification and move up through the beekeeping ranks, they will pay it forward by mentoring less experienced beekeepers.

"The ideal thing is for those people who graduate the class to keep bees for a year and then start teaching and mentoring," Leger said.

Leger's fruit trees have tripled in their production during his four seasons of beekeeping. He attributes much of his success to meticulous mite control. "You talk to anyone that's had bees for a long

time, it used to be that you could just stick the bees in the box and go collect the honey and you didn't have to worry about mites. But it's not like that anymore."

The KP Beekeepers group is interested in pollination as well as honey, with members who keep both honeybees and mason bees. Mason bees do not make honey, but they are efficient pollinators and popular among fruit tree owners. Dianne Everson, who teaches a class on mason bees at Sunnycrest Nursery, presented the group with mason bee basics at their March meeting.

"A mason bee is built like a hair brush," Everson said. "It's like a big hair suit on this bee. So, the mason bee, if it lands somewhere that has pollen, and then lands on another plant, there's a 95 percent possibility of that pollen going down and hitting the ovaries."



Dave Leger confidently inspects this honeybee hive frame without donning the iconic beekeeper's suit. Photo: Chris Konieczny, KP News

While honeybees are more sedate and "can end up falling in love with one apple tree," Everson said, "mason bees are erratically flying all over your property. They'll run into your head. They'll try and go up your nose."

In addition to being easy to keep, another benefit of mason bees is that they don't have the same mite that attacks honeybees.

On Saturday, May 11 at noon, Leger will present at the Key Peninsula Library's "All About Honey Bees!" event. Following Leger's talk, there will be honeybee crafts and a presentation for children.

The Key Peninsula Beekeepers meets on the fourth Thursday of the month at 6 p.m. at the Key Center fire station. For more information, go to keypeninsulabeekeepers.com.

THRIVE YOUR WAY



KAISER
PERMANENTE®

Now serving members
in Gig Harbor.

Kaiser Permanente
Gig Harbor Medical Office
5216 Point Fosdick Dr. NW
Suite 102
Gig Harbor, WA 98335
253-530-6900

kp.org/wa/gigharbor

©Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Washington

In March, Angel Guild awarded \$8,500 to:

Key Peninsula Cooperative Preschool	\$900
YMCA Camp Coleman	\$2,500
Easter Seals Camp Stand By Me	\$2,600
The Mustard Seed Project SAIL Program	\$2,500



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



Oliver Lystad
General Manager/Lead Estimator
Vaughn, WA 98394

Patios - Driveways - Stairs
Retaining Walls - All Finishes

Licensed Bonded Insured LYSTAC*89180


**Residential
Commercial
Building & Remodeling
Concrete
Flatwork & Foundation**

C 253.255.7012
oliver@lystadconstruction.com
www.lystadconstruction.com

Windermere Key is looking for more *great* agents.


If you enjoy helping people, know the local market, are devoted to satisfaction and service and want to be part of the winning Windermere team, call today.

Selling, buying or just looking, make us your personal connection for real estate.



Windermere Key Realty 253-857-3304 11615 State Route 302
LARGEST IN THE AREA, BIGGEST IN THE REGION

Our new board room seats up to eight and is available as a courtesy for local community service organization meetings. Call Rob for your free reservation.




We work for you, not Wall Street.

Mark Christel
253-432-4637
www.markchristel.com
LPL Financial Member
FINRA/SIPC


Have you ever wondered who your financial advisor really works for, you or the firm? Our goal is your success as an investor. We work strictly for you. And we are backed by the strength and reliability of LPL Financial, the largest independent broker/dealer in the nation.* We focus on one bottom line: yours.
Please call to learn more and schedule a free consultation.

LPL Financial
STOCKS • BONDS • MUTUAL FUNDS • IRAs
*As reported by Financial Planning magazine, June 1996-2016, based on total revenue
114315 62nd Ave NW Gig Harbor, WA 98332

Todd Rosenbach
253-884-4787
www.toddrosenbach.com
LPL Financial Member
FINRA/SIPC

Pregnant? You are not alone.

We provide services
at no cost to you.



Care Net
OF PUGET SOUND
1-800-NOT-ALONE
WWW.CARENETPS.ORG



Longbranch Community Church

www.longbranchchurch.net
Come and join us Sunday mornings
Worship Service and
Children's Church 10:30
Adult Bible Study 9:00
16518 46th St KPS, Longbranch
253 884-9339
God's Blessing to You - Pastor John Day

WAYPOINT north south

ONE CHURCH...TWO LOCATIONS

WAYPOINT NORTH
meets at 12719 134th Ave NW Sundays @ 9am, 10:45am & 6pm


WAYPOINT SOUTH
meets at Evergreen Elementary Sundays @ 10am



AREFIT
CHANGE YOUR BODY. CHANGE YOUR MIND.
CHANGE YOUR LIFE.

Free Women's Exercise Class Tuesdays 6:30pm & Thursdays 10am Great for all shapes, sizes and fitness levels	Five17 Youth Group 6-12th grade Mondays 6:30pm Get more info at five17.com	FREE VBS Save the Dates! July 15-19th Ages 4yrs - 6th grade (entering in the fall)
--	---	---

Free childcare is provided for MOPS & classes • Questions? Email the church - office@waypoint-church.org



GIG HARBOR | KEY PENINSULA
**SUICIDE PREVENTION
COALITION**

Survivors of Suicide group meets the first Thursday each month at 5:30 pm at the Boys and Girls Club in Gig Harbor. Anyone is welcome to join us. Contact Bob Anderson at (253)753-3013 or bobtanderson@me.com

FEATURE YOUR EVENT HERE

Click on "Submit an Event" at keypennews.org and fill out the form. Send questions or updates to editor@keypennews.org or call 253-884-4699.

MAY 3

POETRY & PROSE—OPEN MIC / RECITAL
2-3 p.m. Young and old share words that have touched their hearts, minds or spirits with poetry, nursery rhyme, literature, theatrical production or scripture. Original work welcome. Free for all ages. The Mustard Seed Project. 253-884-9814

MAY 3-4

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY BOOK SALE
11 a.m.-5 p.m. Find a treasure and support programs at your local library. Join the Friends of the Library and receive free entry in one of our raffles. Key Center Library. 253-548-3309

MAY 4

LIVABLE COMMUNITY FAIR
10 a.m.-3 p.m. Exhibitors share community services and activities. Free music all day by the Bluegrass Minstrels, KP Middle School and Vaughn Elementary. Imagination Playground, Bookmobile, and Touch a Truck. Lakebay Fuchsia Society Mother's Day plant sale. KP Civic Center. 253-884-3456

MAY 7 & 14 / MAY 21 & 28

PAINTING SELF PORTRAITS
1-2 p.m. Local adults join children from the KP Homeschoolers Co-Op for a class on painting self-portraits. Instructor: Adria Hanson of TWAA. \$20 fee per adult includes materials. The Mustard Seed Project. Register at 253-884-9814.

MAY 9

WORKSHOP FOR WATER SYSTEMS
6-7:30 p.m. Free Small Water Systems 101 for Group B system managers by Tacoma-Pierce Co. Health Dept. Raffle for free water testing. Snacks provided. KP Community office, Suite D, Key Center Corral. RSVP to mharris@tpchd.org or 253-798-7683.

MAY 10-12

MOM AND ME CAMP
6 p.m. May 10 to 11 a.m. May 12. A wonderful way for moms/aunts/grandmas and kids to get away for the weekend and learn new things. Ages 13+ \$60. Ages 6-12, \$45. Sound View Camp, 8515 Key Pen Hwy SW, Longbranch. 253-884-9202

MAY 11

ALL ABOUT HONEY BEES
12-4 p.m. Adults learn about beekeeping
12-1 p.m. Preschoolers program 1:30-2:30 p.m. Family crafts 3-4 p.m. Key Center Library. 253-548-3309

MAY 16

THINKING THURSDAY
10-11 a.m. Trivial Pursuit—bring your favorite board game to share. Free. The Mustard Seed Project. 253-884-9814

MAY 18

LAKEBAY CEMETERY CLEANUP
10 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Cleanup and maintenance followed by a noon meeting. Bring a lunch and yard tools (rakes, long-handled pruning shears, pruning saw, gloves) and something to sit on. 11 Cornwall Rd. SW. Earl Short at Bentnail50@outlook.com or 253-884-4608

MAY 18

DOUG MACLEOD AT BLEND
7-9 p.m. Tickets for the famous bluesman are \$20, limited to 50 people: 8914 Key Peninsula Highway NW in Key Center. www.blendwineshop.com or 253-884-9688

MAY 19

SINGERS SPRING CONCERT
3-4:30 p.m. Key Singers annual spring concert, "Never Let Go of Your Dream." Selections from serious to silly, classical and modern, including special presentations. Cabaret seating, light refreshments, \$6 donation. McColley Hall, KP Lutheran Church, 4213 Lackey Road. 253-884-5615

MAY 20

HARBOR WILDWATCH AT THE BEACH
11 a.m.-3 p.m. Drop in to visit our monitoring site midway up the Purdy Sand Spit, near the lone madrone tree. Public parking at west end of the spit but it's closer to park along the road. Lindsey@harborwildwatch.org. 253-514-0187

MAY 21

GROW A HEALTHY PASTURE
6-8 p.m. Pierce Conservation District offers tips for a healthy pasture. Learn how effective pasture management can be good for your livestock, the environment and your wallet. RSVP at www.pierccd.org or call Paul Borne at 253-845-9770 ext. 105. Gambrel Farm, 6719 Key Pen Hwy NW.

MAY 24-27

SING 'N JAM FAMILY CAMP
6 p.m. May 24 to 11 a.m. May 27. Perfect for the family that loves the outdoors and music. \$120 (ages 13+), \$80 (ages 6-12), 5

and under free. Sound View Camp, 8515 Key Peninsula Highway SW, Longbranch. info@soundviewcamp.com. 253-884-9202

OFF THE KEY**MAY 9**

ARMED FORCES RADIO HISTORY
6-7 p.m. Audio historian and broadcaster John Jensen on entertaining the troops in wartime. Harbor History Museum, 4121 Harborview Drive, Gig Harbor. \$5 or free for museum members. RSVPs are encouraged as seating is limited. 253-858-6722

MAY 11

DAN O'SULLIVAN CONCERT
6-10 p.m. Dan is a tremendous songwriter, singer and musician who thrives in intimate venues. Potluck 6 p.m. Concert 7 p.m. Suggested donation \$20. Olalla Community Club, 12970 Olalla Valley Road SE, Olalla. www.olallahouse.org

MAY 15

RESTORING ICONIC SPECIES
5:30-7 p.m. Puget Sound Restoration Fund biologist Stuart Ryan presents a three-part restoration discussion on Olympia oysters, Pinto abalone and Bull kelp in Puget Sound at Harbor WildWatch's Cocktails & Fishtales science social. Must be 21+. Gig Harbor Brewing, 3155 Harborview Drive. lindsey@harborwildwatch.org. 253-514-0187

MAY 16

FREE HISTORY
3-8 p.m. Free admission to Washington State History Museum on third Thursdays. Enjoy exhibitions and a Scholarly Selections lecture. For more information, receptionist@wshs.wa.gov, www.washingtonhistory.org/events or 253-272-3500.

MAY 18

FB4K 10TH ANNIVERSARY
4:30-6 p.m. Food Backpacks 4 Kids celebrates its 10th year alleviating child hunger in the community. Please join this gala celebration at the Inn at Gig Harbor with live music, hors d'oeuvres, raffle and silent auction. Tickets at brownpapertickets.com/event/4198080. info@foodbackpacks4kids.org or 253-857-7401

MAY 21

HARBOR WILDWATCH AT KOPACHUCK
11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Visit our monitoring site between two large boulders exposed during low tide at Kopachuck State Park. Discover Pass required. lindsey@harborwildwatch.org or 253-514-0187

MAY 22

CELEBRATE EMS WEEK
Practice your CPR Skills at Key Center Fire Station Open House 1-3 p.m.

MAY 24

FIRST RESPONDERS LUNCH
Celebrate the people who arrive to help you first. Key Center Fire Station 12-2 p.m.

THROUGH MAY 26

UNLOCKING MCNEIL'S PAST
McNeil Island, the place and the prison that opened 143 years ago. Washington State History Museum. 1-888-BE-THERE. www.washingtonhistory.org 253-884-9202

WEEKLYEVENTS**WEEKDAYS**

SAIL EXERCISE CLASSES FOR 65+
Mon 1:30-2:30 p.m./Wed & Fri 9:30-10:30 a.m. at The Mustard Seed Project. Help to improve balance and mobility and prevent falls. Any fitness level—you can even participate sitting down. \$70/15 class or \$5/drop-in. Pre-registration required. Limited scholarships. info@themustardseedproject.org or 253-884-9814

SENIOR EXERCISE CLASSES

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

MONDAYS & FRIDAYS**PLAY TO LEARN**

10-11:30 a.m. Free for children (ages 6 and under) and adults to play together. Individual play, fun group activities, songs and a group circle time. Drop-in program, please join us. Michelle at 253-530-1097 or harrisonm@psd401.net. No class May 24 or 27.

TUESDAYS**STORYTIMES**

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

LOVING HEARTS

Knit or crochet for charity. First Tuesday of the month 11 a.m.-1 p.m.; other Tuesdays 1-3 p.m. WayPoint Church, 12719 134th Avenue NW. Yarn donations are very much appreciated. Virginia at 253-884-9619 or lovingheartsonkp@gmail.com

TOPS

Take Off Pounds Sensibly is an affordable wellness education organization. Attend first TOPS meeting free and without obligation. Weigh-in 8:35-9:25 a.m. at Key

Peninsula Lutheran Church, 4213 Lackey Road NW. marcgrubb1990@yahoo.com

OASIS YOUTH CENTER

Are you a queer or questioning youth age 14 to 24 in the Key Peninsula area? Oasis Youth Center is here for you Tuesdays 3-6 p.m. at the KP Civic Center. Games, new friends, learning and snacks. www.oasisyouthcenter.org, oasis@oasisyouthcenter.org or 253-671-2838

KEY SINGERS REHEARSALS

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

TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS

PRESCHOOL PLAYTIME

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

SENIOR TAI CHI

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

TUESDAYS & SATURDAYS

KP HISTORICAL MUSEUM OPEN

Museum at the civic center is open 1-4 p.m. Free admission. 253-888-3246. www.keypeninsulamuseum.org

WEDNESDAYS

READY SET GO!

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

LAKEBAY WRITERS

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

KP YOUTH COUNCIL

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

BLEND HOOKERS AND TINKERS

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

WEDNESDAYS & FRIDAYS

SENIOR MEALS

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

THURSDAYS

TOASTMASTERS

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

FREE WOMEN'S EXERCISE

REFIT is a fitness experience designed to engage the heart as a muscle and a soul. Childcare provided. 10-11 a.m. at WayPoint Church, 12719 134th Avenue NW. waypoint-church.org or 253-853-7878

SENIORS LUNCH

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

FRIDAYS

GENTLE YOGA SERIES

8-9 a.m. An eight-week Gentle Yoga series for older adults: yogic philosophy, range of motion, building strength and balance, breathing techniques and relaxation. \$80/series or \$12/drop-in. Instructor: Lisa Dunham. The Mustard Seed Project. Register at 253-884-9814.

TRIPLE P PARENTING CLASSES

Children's Home Society of Washington partners with the Tacoma Pierce County Health Department to provide classes and assistance with basic food and health insurance applications. Sign up at KP Community office, Suite D, KC Corral, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. 253-432-4948 or 253-884-5433.

MONTHLY MEETINGS

May 1 & 15, KP Lions Club, 6 p.m., Key Center fire station. 253-853-2721

May 2, Lakebay Fuchsia Society, 1 p.m. at the KP Civic Center to set up plants for sale. Myvanway Shirley 253-884-2283

May 2, Survivors of Suicide, 5:30-7 p.m. Boys and Girls Club, Gig Harbor. Bob Anderson at 253-753-3013 or bobtanderson@me.com

May 2, 26th Legislative District Democrats, 6:30 p.m. social, 7 p.m. meeting. Public invited. Givens Community Center, 1026 Sidney Road, Port Orchard. 26thdemocrats@gmail.com

May 4, Writers Guild, 10 a.m., KP Community Council office, Suite D, Key Center Corral. 253-884-6455

May 6 & 20, KP Veterans group, 7 p.m., KP Lutheran Church, 4213 Lackey Road NW. Veterans, military service members and families with children 16 and older are welcome. 253-225-5130

May 7, KP Historical Society board, 11 a.m., in the museum at KP Civic Center. All are welcome. 253-888-3246

May 7 & 17, Key Peninsula Business Association May 7 at 6:30 p.m. at Blend Wine Shop; May 17 at noon at El Sombrero. www.kpba.org/about; kpbusinessassociation@gmail.com or 253-312-1006

May 7 & 21, West of the Narrows Depression and Bipolar Support Group-Lakebay Group, 5:30-6:30 p.m., KP Lutheran Church, 4213 Lackey Road NW, Kimberly 253-753-4270 or dbsalakebay@gmail.com

May 8, Bayshore Garden Club, 10 a.m., Longbranch fire station. Wendy, 253-332-4883

May 8, Peninsula Emergency Preparedness Coalition, 10 a.m., Gig Harbor Fire District Headquarters, 10222 Bujacich Road NW, Gig Harbor. www.PEP-C.org, curtesscott45@gmail.com, 253-380-7240

May 8, KP Community Council, 7 p.m., Key Center fire station. 253-432-4948

May 9, Ashes support group for Fire District 16, 10:30 a.m., Key Center fire station. 253-884-3771

May 9, Peninsula School District board, 6 p.m., district office in Purdy. 253-530-1000

May 9, KP Civic Center Assn. board, 7 p.m., Whitmore Room, KP Civic Center. www.kpciviccenter.org, 253-884-3456

May 13, KP Parks commission, 7:30 p.m., Volunteer Park office. 253-884-9240

May 14 & 28, KP fire commission, 5-7 p.m., at Key Center fire station. www.keypeninsulafire.org or 253-884-2222

May 15, Key Peninsula Advisory Commission, 6:30 p.m. KP Civic Center, reviews applications for proposed developments and makes recommendations to Pierce County. Verify details at www.piercecountywa.gov/5937/Key-Peninsula-Advisory-Commission

May 16, KP Citizens Against Crime, 7 p.m. Meet with Pierce County Sheriff to discuss what's happening in our community. Key Center fire station. doloresstarr@centurytel.net or 253-884-3105

May 16, Key Peninsula Emergency Preparation, 7 p.m. Whitmore Room, KP Civic Center, 253-686-7904 or gablehouse@aol.com (Put E Prep in the subject line)

May 17, Two Waters Arts Alliance, 1 p.m., board welcomes artists and art lovers to join its meeting, VFW Room, KP Civic Center. www.twowaters.org 253-884-1163

May 18, Key Peninsula Caregivers Support Group, 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m. at The Mustard Seed Project. Please call Debra Jamerson before attending. 360-621-1110

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



Angel Guild Thrift Shop

Open 10-4
Tuesday to Saturday in the Key Center Corral 253 884-9333
Donations: Tue-Sat, 9:30 to 3:30
P.O. Box 703, Vaughn WA 98394

May 19, Bluegrass Gospel Jam Session, 6-8:30 p.m. For all acoustic instruments, ages and skill levels to play, sing or just listen. Bring music stand and finger food to share, music and beverages are provided. Longbranch Church, 16518 46th Street SW. 253-884-9339

May 20, KP Democrats, 7 p.m., Home fire station, johnpatkelly@aol.com

May 23, Book discussion group meets the fourth Thursday of the month 11 a.m. at the Key Center Library. Book list available at the library; speak to a librarian for more information. 253-548-3309.

May 27, KP Farm Council planning meeting, 6 p.m., KP Community Council office, KC Corral, Suite D, 253-432-4948 or email keycouncil@gmail.com; visit kpfarmtour.com.

May 27, Relatives Raising Kids Support, 6-7:30 p.m. Grandparents and relatives raising children meet at Evergreen Elementary. Potluck dinner and childcare provided. Call Lori at CHSW at 253-884-5433 or 253-391-0144.

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



Our food bank provided 61,632 nutritious meals in 2018

Last year, 386 children and 1,076 adults ate healthy meals from 2,604 food baskets provided by KP Community Services.

In just a few hours a week, you can make a difference in your community. To volunteer call 253 884-4440.

**KEY PENINSULA
COMMUNITY
SERVICES**

FOOD BANK/SENIOR CENTER

The Longbranch Community Church

presents our 8th Annual

Longbranch Bluegrass & BBQ Festival

Saturday June 29 Noon to 4

Longbranch Improvement Club 4312 Key Peninsula Hwy S. Longbranch, WA
Everything's FREE (even the Food!) as a blessing to our community



Josie Toney & Reed Stutz
From Berklee College of Music Boston



The Day Brothers



Join us for
**Chef Oliver's
famous BBQ sandwiches**

Face painting, activities for kids
and Jam Circle



Shuttle to and from the festival,
hourly from 11:30 to 4:30.
Pickup @ the Civic Center, KP Community Center
and Longbranch Marina

Fair Delano on the Sound: The Story of the Delano Beach Resort

JOSEPH PENTHEROUDAKIS, KP NEWS

The beach at Delano Bay south of Penrose Point State Park extends in a graceful curve for nearly a mile. At low tide the water can peel back away from the shore for almost a quarter of a mile, exposing smooth, seemingly boundless tidal sand flats to the delight of gulls, crows or the occasional human visitor drawn to the view.

It is on the gently sloping shores of the bay that was to bear their name that Captain George Delano and his wife Edith decided to settle in 1887. It is also where they would build the storied Delano Beach Resort and Hotel, which operated from 1891 to 1948.

Settling on land must have been a difficult decision for Delano. Born in Maine in 1852, he had gone to sea at 13, eventually rising to captain and commanding merchant ships that sailed trade routes around the world. His wife, Edith H. Weeks Delano, also born in Maine, would often join him on those trips, an experience that must have become challenging once their daughter Virginia was born in 1882.

On the night of Jan. 30, 1887, the Austria, a merchant ship with Capt. Delano in charge, was caught in a powerful storm a few miles south of Cape Flattery off Washington's Pacific coast. The ship's three masts, no match for the gale, quickly snapped and the Austria ran aground on a reef not far from shore. Fortunately, Edith and 4-year-old Virginia had not accompanied Capt. Delano on this trip. Members of the local Ozette tribe rescued the crew and helped salvage what was left of the ship, later sold at auction.

As captain, George Delano had a financial interest in the Austria. Even after the insurance payment, however, Delano was ruined. Although he would eventually go back to sea, settling on land now must have seemed like a sensible decision.

For reasons history does not record, a few months earlier Edith Delano had bought 145 acres of waterfront property on Carr Inlet in the future Delano Bay. That was where the Delanos settled and built their first house, which was completed in 1888.

In the summer of 1889 the Delanos, assisted by local fishermen and cooks, organized an enormously successful Indian-style clambake on the beach for a large group of visitors. Edith came from a long

line of innkeepers in Maine; entertaining was in her blood. According to the family, the success of the clambake, combined with Edith's background and the increasing interest in summer hotels and resorts in the Sound, led to the couple's decision to start a resort on Delano Beach.

Two years later, in the summer of 1891, the 20-room Hotel Delano (later the Delano Beach Resort and Hotel) opened for business. Guest cottages surrounded the hotel; their number would eventually grow to 24.

The resort complex occupied about 40 acres. The grounds included pastures, a barn, orchards and chicken coops that provided fresh eggs. Several Jersey cows gave fresh milk and cream. Other supplies came from local farmers.

There were Chinese cooks, Filipino dining room servers, and housekeeping staff drawn from the surrounding area. Notably, according to family history Edith Delano did not hire anyone from Home Colony, the peaceful community of free thinkers established nearby in 1896, fearing their "communist" views.

The open dining room seated 100 with tables topped daily with vases full of flowers freshly cut from the hotel's English gardens. From the covered porch on clear days, guests could see the top of snow-capped Mount Rainier over South Head, the narrow arm of land at the south end of the beach.

"The best hotel in the state," newspaper ads would later boast. "Fair Delano on the Sound! Renowned for delicious eats, geoduck soup (Delano style), an Epicurean delight. Warmest bathing beach on Sound. Dancing pavilion, tennis court, boating and fishing."

A baseball diamond, a croquet field and a putting green were also available. The accommodations may not have been luxurious, although the hotel did include indoor plumbing, but in the summer months guests probably did not spend too much time inside.

Before roads and cars, guests and visitors arrived on the Mosquito Fleet's steamers or by private pleasure boats. In 1905 an 830-foot long pier with a floating dock at the end replaced the floating dock at the beach; it extended past the shallow part of the beach at low tide, allowing ships to dock at any time. Some of the pilings can still be seen at low tide.

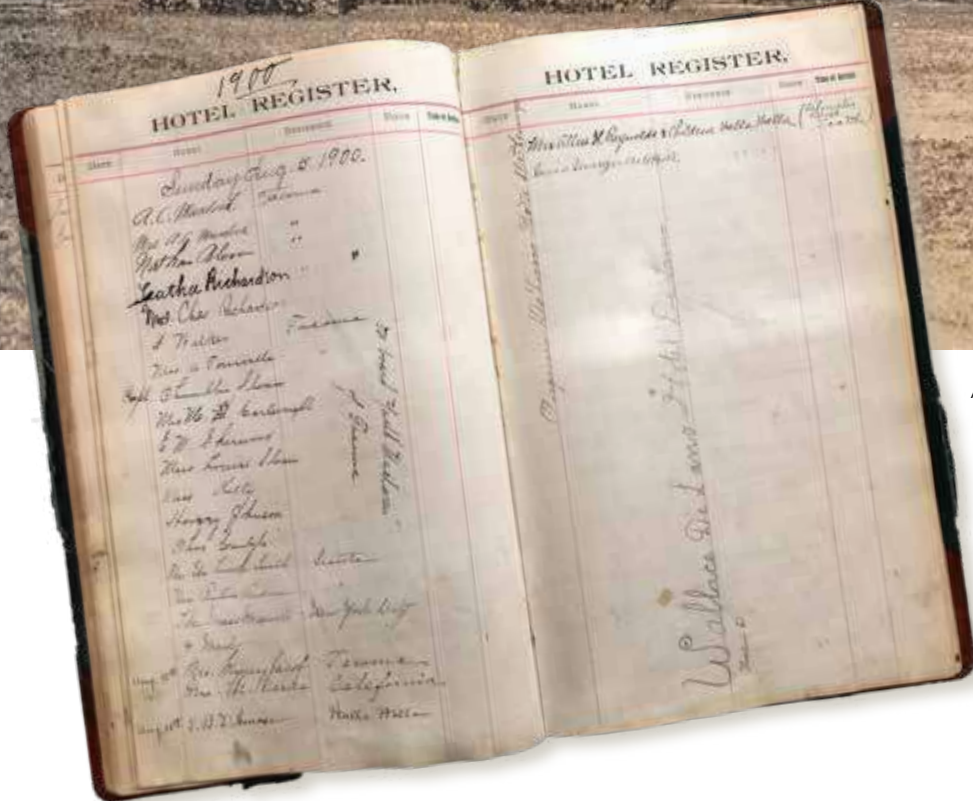
The crossing from Tacoma by commercial steamer could easily take three to



Above: The Delano Hotel ca. 1900.

Collection of Laurie W. Austin

Left: Delano Hotel guest register, August 1900. Samuel Penrose's signature is at bottom left. The Delanos' 9-year-old son Wallace and 17-year-old daughter Virginia enjoyed signing their names on the register.
Collection of Key Peninsula Historical Society.
Photo: Joseph Pentheroudakis, KP News



four hours, since the ships made several stops along the way; a trip from Seattle added three hours. Edith would always greet new arrivals at the dock, and many of the guests would join her.

Hotel registers still in the family's collection show that most guests came from Tacoma, but visitors from Seattle and points beyond were not uncommon. A notable guest in August 1900 was Samuel L. B. Penrose, early president of Whitman College in Walla Walla. In October 1901 Penrose bought the 6.75 acres that the Delanos owned at Prospect Point, the northeast tip of what is now Penrose Point State Park.

George went back to sea in 1894 and died in Portland in 1913. The resort operated without interruption every summer for several decades under Edith's stewardship, surviving (at times barely) downturns in the economy and the disruptions caused by world events.

Following Edith's death at 70 in 1932,

her daughter Virginia Slocum, who lived in Portland, hired managers and caretakers to operate the resort. In 1948 the property was leased and later sold to the Ollar family; the Ollars closed the hotel but continued to rent a few of the cottages. The old hotel fell into disrepair and was demolished in 1972.

In 1973 the property was acquired by Stan and Marlene Granberg. Guest registers show they rented the remaining cottages until 1976. In 1979 the Granbergs donated the compound to The Church of Christ, which owns and operates the Delano Bay Christian Camp to this day. The current camp lodge and dining hall stand on the site of the old hotel, offering the same unspoiled views as the original Delano Hotel.

Several descendants of George and Edith Delano continue to own property on Delano Beach, as do a few families who had once been guests at the resort. A handful of the waterfront cottages and some of the resort's outbuildings still

stand on the camp's grounds, reminders of the unbroken strands of our connection to the past.

Many thanks to Laurie W. Austin, Cathy Williams and the Key Peninsula Historical Society for their assistance with research for this article.

With the help of our friends, we're investing in the Key Peninsula community's future.

www.longbranchfoundation.org or Facebook page

Find the best local artists, creators and makers at Peninsula Marketplace in Gig Harbor.

We invite you to EXPLORE our indoor shopping pavilion located in Gig Harbor. We offer a great selection of local ARTISANS including jewelry, antiques, plants, garden art, woodworking, decorative arts and more.

Buy Direct from talented local creators and makers in a fun and relaxing environment. We're always adding great artisans, creators and makers to our market, get details online.

Come shop Saturdays from 9am to 3pm in our pet- and wheelchair-friendly indoor market. There's even live music! Like us on Facebook.



Peninsula Marketplace

Saturday Market

"Where Master Makers Gather"

OPEN Saturdays 9 to 3

5503 Wollochet Dr NW in Gig Harbor

www.peninsula-marketplace.com

We have qualified buyers ready to buy

Your one & only local real estate experts.

We cover waterfront properties, homes, acreage and farms. When it's time for a new beginning, call Bernie, Gina, Brandon or Donna, your local real estate experts.

NEW BEGINNINGS REAL ESTATE, LLC.

call 253 **858-7053**

in Key Center at 9121 KP Hwy (at the light)

Bernie 253-514-0659 Gina 253-549-5009

Brandon 253-432-2223

Donna/Designated Broker 253-606-8480

Rental property professionally managed by local experts.

Property management for owners and renters. We handle it all for you.

Looking to rent? See what we have at dkpropmgmt.com

DK Property Management, LLC.

call 253 **884-2076**

in Key Center at 9121 KP Hwy (at the light)

Qualified renters ready to move in now

PLUS FREE SHUTTLES FOR AISLE OF HONOR MAY 26

Welcome aboard! KP SCHOOL BUS CONNECTS



KP Bus Connects
Key Center,
Lake Kathryn,
Volunteer Park,
KPCS & Food
Bank, local stops,
Peninsula
High School
and Purdy
Park & Ride

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

EVERGREEN TUES & THURS AM

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

EVERGREEN WEDNESDAY AM

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

VAUGHN TUES & THURS AM

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

VAUGHN WEDNESDAY AM

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

TUESDAY & THURSDAY MIDDAY

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

TUES, WED & THURS PM

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

FREE COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION FOR ALL AGES

PLEASE ALLOW ±10 MINUTES YOUTH UNDER 12 MUST BE WITH ADULT NO BIKES
A partnership with the KP Community Council, Puget Sound Educational Service District and the Peninsula School District.

*Wishing all the Moms a special day
from the team at Glen Cove Repair*



253 884-1838

COMPLETE AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR/MAINTENANCE
15312 92ND ST NW UP THE HILL IN KEY CENTER
OWNERS: ERIC, MANUELA & MATHEW MORELAND



Drive Thru Feed on The Key

A complete selection of livestock feeds including XCel, Payback, Equis, Scratch and Peck, Haystack and Earth First brands

- ✓ Call for details on tax exemptions for qualified farm businesses.
- ✓ Bulk pricing on 1 ton or more
- ✓ Delivery available for additional fee
- ✓ **Free Delivery** of 1 ton or more Olympus Wood Stove pellets
- ✓ **Online store coming soon** Order online for pickup or delivery
- ✓ **Haystack Orchard pellets** Buy one, get one 25% off while supplies last

Rewards bonus 10% off after 10 visits



Call (253) 303-1260

www.drivethrufeedonthekey.com

Open Mon-Sat 9am to 6pm, Sun 10-4
Veteran family owned and operated
On Facebook@drivethrufeedonthekey
Drive Thru at 16915 121st St. NW/Hwy 302



VAUGHN ELEMENTARY FIFTH-GRADER WINS HEALTHIEST CHOICE AWARD

Future Chefs Competition Fires Up Students

ALICE KINERK, KP NEWS

On a recent Saturday afternoon, 30 talented fourth- and fifth-graders gathered to cook up healthy Mexican meals in the Peninsula High School kitchen. The recipes, which students created themselves, had been selected as finalists for the annual Sodexo Future Chefs Competition.

The event is part of a national cooking contest for children sponsored by the food service provider Sodexo. This year's theme was "Fiesta Fit." The contest, now in its eighth year, was developed with the goal of getting kids excited about cooking and eating healthy food. Themes from years past included healthy Asian meals, breakfasts and snacks.

Katie Walters, Sodexo general manager for the Peninsula School District, was in charge of reviewing recipes submitted and selecting finalists. "We had over 50 recipes submitted this year," Walters said. "We try to select at least one and as many as three students from each of the elementary schools."

While all students selected to cook at the high school received a participation medal and a chef's coat and hat, additional prizes were awarded in categories such as Best Table Presentation and Most Kid-Friendly.

Perla Torres-Alcantar, a fifth-grader from Vaughn Elementary School, took home the Healthiest Choice prize with her recipe for Calabazas con Queso, a cheesy zucchini dish.

The entree is not a new one for Perla, whose family counts it among their dinner time favorites. "When I was little, I started by warming up tortillas. Then I got more interested, learning how to make beans, how to make rice," she said. Watching the TV show "Master Chef" with her family

helped her get excited about cooking.

With Perla being the first in her family born in the United States, traditional foods help the family feel connected to their history in Mexico.

"I have to cook twice a day. I try to cook things from Mexico," Perla's mother, Cristina Alcantar, said. "I ask them every day, 'What do you want to eat today?'"

"'Enchiladas, gorditas, pozole.' Every day (they) say the same thing," Alcantar said, adding that spaghetti is among the family's favorite meals too.

At the event, Perla had help from Walters, who collected the ingredients and scaled up family-size recipes to make 30 to 50 samples for judges and guests.

Vaughn Elementary lunch lead Mindy Relaford played assistant chef by chopping the zucchini and peppers for Perla beforehand.

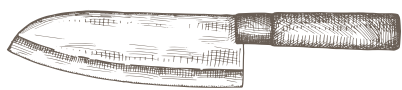
"These kids did great! The recipes they brought were probably the most difficult we have had, and they accomplished more than most adults could do in the time-frame given," said Kim Kaija, lunch lead for Minter Creek Elementary School. "We could only assist them; they did all the work. I am so proud of all of them," Kaija said.

Vaughn Elementary Principal Lillian Page also had high praise for Perla.

"Perla is an amazing student. She always has a smile and comes to school excited to learn," Page said.

Perla offered counsel for beginners in the kitchen: "When you first cook it comes out as a mess," she said. "But once you practice, and you do it several times, you get better."

The young cook is intent on continuing to get better in the kitchen herself. "In the future I would like to learn how to cook enchiladas and tamales," Perla said.



KPCooks



Perla Torres-Alcantar, fifth-grader at Vaughn Elementary with her award-winning entree at the competition March 23. Photo: Marcia Harris

Calabazas Con Queso

- Oil
- 1/2 onion, sliced
- 3 zucchini squash, diced or cubed
- 4 half bell peppers (yellow, green, red, orange), thinly sliced
- 1 block of cheddar (to taste), shredded
- 1 tomato, chopped
- Salt

Heat about 2 tablespoons of oil in a pan. Add sliced onion in pan and heat until clear. Next, add chopped tomato. Add thin sliced bell pepper. Add zucchini. Sprinkle with cheese to taste.

Cover and put on low until zucchini is tender and cheese is melted.

SPRING SAVINGS



FIGARO'S PIZZA

9023 KEY PENINSULA HWY
IN LAKEBAY
(253) 432-4919



SAVE \$3
ON A LARGE
12-TOPPING
CLASSIC PIZZA

May not be combined with other offers. No cash value. Coupon code 0515. Valid through 6/30/19.

FIGARO'S PIZZA

SAVE \$5
ON ANY TWO
EXTRA LARGE PIZZAS

Limit two at this price. May not be combined with other offers. No cash value. Valid through 6/30/19.

FIGARO'S PIZZA

EXTRA LARGE PIZZA
FOR THE PRICE OF A LARGE

Limit one at this price. May not be combined with other offers. No cash value. Valid through 6/30/19.

FIGARO'S PIZZA

REAL CHEESE
NO FILLERS
NO MSG

ORDER
ONLINE
FIGAROS.COM

Ask us about delivery

LOWEST RX PRICES IN AREA WE MAIL PRESCRIPTIONS

MOM

We Love Our Moms!

ALL GARDEN DÉCOR 20% OFF IN MAY

Store 9am-8pm, Sat 'til 7pm, Sun 'til 6pm, 253 857-7944
Pharmacy 9am-7pm, Sat 'til 6pm, 253 857-7797 costlesspurdy.com

PURDY
COSTLESS
PHARMACY

May 2019
www.keypenparks.com
253 884-9240



Key Pen Parks

The key to your next adventure!



Mom & Me Tea

A time for women to enjoy with the little princess in their life...
Mothers, Grandmothers, Aunts, Friends and Neighbors...

Register
Now
Online



Saturday, May 11, 2019
11 am to 12:30 pm

At the Key Peninsula Civic Center

\$25 for 1 child & 1 adult. \$5 each additional child.
For more info and to purchase tickets, please visit
www.keypenparks.com

Help shape the future of your local parks and open spaces with Key Pen Parks. Do you have ideas on what you'd like to see for parks and recreation on the Key Peninsula? We'd love to hear them!

Key Pen Parks is hosting an open house **Wednesday, May 15, 2019** at 6:30 p.m. at KPMS to hear what you would like for future possible park projects. Your feedback will help Key Pen Parks update our comprehensive Parks & Recreation Plan. The Plan will guide our efforts to provide high quality, community-driven parks, trails and recreational opportunities across the Key Peninsula.

Your attendance is valuable! You'll hear more about the plan update and you'll have a chance to share your thoughts about local park and outdoor recreation opportunities.

You can also ask any questions you may have about current projects. We will have light refreshments. Please join us!

HELP WANTED, HIRING NOW ♦ SEASONAL PARK LABOR

Perform routine maintenance of park buildings, facilities and grounds during a 40-hour work week for six months. Position description and job application on www.keypenparks.com, or pick up an application at the park office during regular business hours. This position will close when filled.

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



The teams for Dalby Sisters Productions and Sisters Cinema shared the spotlight with Richard Miller (left) in the winners' circle March 24. Photo: Tom Collins

KP Filmmakers Win Big in Gig Harbor Film Challenge

Key Peninsula elementary, middle and high school students took home top awards from the Gig Harbor Film Festival—some for the second year in a row.

MATTHEW DEAN, KP NEWS

The Gig Harbor Film Festival held its annual 72 Hour Film Competition March 24, with teams and participants from the Key Peninsula earning top awards.

Winners from the Key Peninsula included Sisters Cinema for Best Director and Best Actress, Dalby Sisters Productions for Best Film (age 13 and under category), and Calm River Productions for Best Technical Achievement.

The 72 Hour Film Competition was part of GHFF's schedule for several years but was spun off from the main festival into its own event in 2016. This year's competition attracted about 30

"THE ADVICE I WOULD GIVE IS WHEN YOU ARE ACTING, DON'T BE SHY. EVERYONE WILL KNOW YOU ARE SCARED."

teams, mostly from the Gig Harbor and Key Peninsula areas.

With only three days to assemble a five-minute movie, teams were pushed to the limit to finish their projects on time. Each team was required to include a character named Chris, a shot of an apple being thrown, and some variation on the line, "That's not how I would have handled it."

Participants were not allowed to begin working until the competition began on a

Thursday at 6 p.m., which meant writing a script, finding props and locations, and filming and editing the movie before the Sunday 6 p.m. deadline.

"You have to be so fluid and flexible," said Dale Elison of Calm River Productions, whose film "Weekend Getaway" won Best Technical Achievement. "We got kicked out of one house, and we had to go back to our house and pretend we were at different houses shooting all kinds of different scenes," Elison said. Despite the limited amount of time to work with, "Weekend Getaway" was shot

at several locations, included detailed costume changes for the lead actors, and features aerial shots taken from a

camera-equipped drone.

"You have to make sure everything is thought out and prepared, so that everything turns out well in the end," said Amber Dalby, an eighth-grader at Key Peninsula Middle School whose team's film, "Playtime," won the Best Picture award for their age category. Amber and her sister Bonnie felt encouraged to take up moviemaking as a hobby after participating in last year's competition.

“This year, we knew what we were doing, and we were way more prepared.” Even with more experience, the limited time still meant some last-minute fixes needed to be made. “There was one point where one of our props failed, and Bonnie, she actually had to sew the prop back together,” Amber said.

Emma and Annie Stafki of Sisters Cinema won Best Director and Best Actress, respectively, in all age divisions for their film “How Hard Can It Be?” Annie, a fifth-grader at Minter Elementary School, also won Best

Actress last year. “The advice I would give is when you are acting, don’t be shy. Everyone will know you are scared. It’s better to just go out and do it,” Annie said.

“We had to get very creative with the final editing to figure out which scenes to cut to fit it into the five minutes,” said Emma, a freshman at Peninsula High School. Like her sister, this is also her second film trophy: Emma won Best Picture last year in the 13 and under division.

Some teams went short on sleep to make sure their final product was delivered on time. Editors struggled to include the

best parts of the movie while keeping it within the time limit.

“Three days, 15 hours a day, 18 hours a day, to get four-and-a-half-minutes’ worth of movie,” said Richard Miller, a Key Peninsula Middle School teacher and Calm River Productions team member (and KP News contributor). “There’s so much that goes into every scene, the continuity, the costumes...all the moving parts.” Calm River’s production pulled in over a dozen

actors, editors, and even a dedicated hair and makeup technician.

Teams assembled at the Galaxy

Theater in Gig Harbor to watch the completed films on an IMAX screen. Over 400 people attended the final screening and award ceremony March 24.

“It felt like the entire town had turned out in support of their friends, family, neighbors and co-workers who were involved,” said GHFF Executive Director Jenny Wellman. Although this marked the end of the event, teams are brainstorming ideas for the 2020 competition. “Before we had turned it in, the team was already planning next year’s project,” Miller said.

“THREE DAYS, 15 HOURS A DAY, 18 HOURS A DAY, TO GET FOUR-AND-A HALF-MINUTES’ WORTH OF MOVIE,”



**Know what’s below.
Call before you dig!**



\$5.00 Draught Beer All Day
Wine Tasting Event every Friday 5-7pm
Non-Alcoholic beverages are also available

Spend your mornings with us!
(Open @ 8am)



Pour-Over Drip Coffee
Every cup made fresh!
Hot Tea • Hot Chocolate
Pastries (as available)

SATURDAY
May 18th @ 7pm

Award winning
Singer/Songwriter
Doug MacLeod

Seating is limited. **\$20**
Tickets available Cash
at Blend



Peninsula Light Company encourages people to make a free call 10 days before digging to know what’s below.

Installing a mailbox, building a deck, planting a tree and laying a patio are all examples of digging projects that need a call to 811 before starting.

Striking a single line can cause injury, repair costs, fines and inconvenient outages.

Every digging project, no matter how large or small, warrants a call to 811.

Peninsula Light Co.
www.penlight.org

Point in Time: Counting the Homeless of Key Peninsula

Forty-nine counted and volunteers suspect they missed up to another 100.

SARA THOMPSON, KP NEWS

Nine volunteers on the Key Peninsula joined 300 others in Pierce County and thousands across the nation Jan. 25 to participate in the Point-In-Time count to collect data from homeless people.

The PIT count indicated there were 25 people experiencing homelessness on the KP, 24 in Gig Harbor and one on Fox Island.

“Part of the count includes KP with Gig Harbor zip codes, like Wauna, Lake of the Woods. That total count including sheltered and unsheltered is 49,” said RoxAnne Simon, community mobilizer for Safe Streets and a member of the KP Community Council.

Simon estimated that the Key Peninsula team interviewed about 60 people. “We know we counted more than 49,” said Simon. “But 49 as opposed to 1.5, is a start. This is a matter of identifying the need.”

The PIT count, mandated by both the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development since 2005 and the Washington State Department of Commerce, takes place on a single day in January each year. Although Pierce County has conducted the count for over 20 years, 2019 was the first time there were enough volunteers to extend the count to include the Key Peninsula.

Simon had attended regular meetings since October of the Tacoma Pierce County Coalition to End Homelessness, a group of individuals and organizations working to serve people experiencing homelessness.

At those meetings she heard about the PIT count and also learned the KP had never participated. “We were listed in the database as having 1.5 homeless people here, and I knew that wasn’t correct,” she said.

According to Simon, in order to get the resources to provide services, the Key Peninsula needs to confirm there are people experiencing homelessness on the KP and have sufficient information to understand their situation.

For the KP to participate in the count, at least 10 volunteers had to sign up and train. Simon brought information about the count to the community council and began recruiting volunteers through word-of-mouth, the Key Peninsula Business Association and Facebook.

Valeri Knight, Pierce County program specialist with Community Services Programs-Homeless Programs Unit, trained the volunteers across the county. It is not mandatory for homeless individuals to participate in the interviews and the county knows that not all homeless people are identified. Nevertheless, Knight said, the surveys provide critical information about who is experiencing homelessness and why. The data can reveal trends and help providers plan and adjust services.

In 2018, only 1,700 individuals were counted while the county served 10,860, she said. Over the same period, more than 4,023 of those people found permanent housing, a 163 percent increase over 2013 according to the county’s homelessness management information data.

The county acknowledged that the PIT count fluctuates every year due to factors like the weather, but the survey data provides valuable insight. For example, most respondents in 2018 said economic factors or family problems pushed them into homelessness, rather than mental illness or substance abuse, and few respondents came from outside the county.

Those results were echoed in the 2019 findings, released April 8 (see inset).

Volunteers found 1,486 people across the county experiencing homelessness: 629 were living outdoors, in cars or in abandoned buildings, and 857 were in emergency shelters or transitional housing units.

Knight explained that the count includes people who have spent the night in shelters and those who have not. Sheltered homeless were counted through the county database system. Unsheltered people were contacted

in a variety of ways, including tables at meal sites and food banks, street outreach at sites with a high number

of homeless, and at event locations including Project Homeless Connect and REACH Youth Center. Experienced volunteers and county staff also conducted overnight outreach at homeless encampments.

The surveys are administered via a phone app and include questions about where those who are homeless slept the night before, where their last residence was located, what may have contributed to their loss of housing, and any disabilities the individual may have. It also asks how long the individual has been homeless, age and demographics, and whether the person is a veteran or a survivor of domestic violence.

While the rate of homelessness across the county decreased from 2005 to 2013, it has since been growing because of high rents, low vacancy rates and slow wage growth, according to the Washington State Department of Health.

Lisa Larson, who helped coordinate the team, said she participated in the count “because I know there is a need for getting help and resources to those

who are homeless.” Another participant, Irene Torres, agreed. “I wanted to get information so we can get more

resources here,” she said, adding that all the people she spoke with were very open about their situations.

The Key Peninsula team worked from 7 a.m. until 5 p.m. They interviewed people at the food banks and then went to locations that had been identified by KP fire department staff and other sources as sites where homeless people were living.

“We did run out of time and would have liked to reach more people,” said Simon. “It just got too dark to continue. But we’ll do it again next year and we’re going to start early on recruiting people.”

For more information about Pierce County programs to assist the homeless, call 253-682-3401 or go to www.pierce-countywa.gov/3715/Homeless-Programs

2019 PIT COUNT:

CAUSES OF HOMELESSNESS

- 24% due to underemployment or low income
- 15% could not find affordable housing
- 14% were victims of domestic violence
- 9% were evicted
- 8% lost their job
- 7% experienced a family crisis or separation
- 7% reported “other” reason
- 5% experienced health or safety issues
- 4% due to substance abuse
- 4% experienced mental health issues
- 3% had a medical problem

AS OF MID-APRIL, 2,590 PEOPLE ARE HOMELESS IN PIERCE COUNTY

- 53% are people of color
- 45% are members of families with children
- 44% are female
- 8% are veterans
- 7% are unaccompanied youth under 25 years old
- 50% spent less than 43 days in an emergency shelter
- 50% who enrolled in the county rapid rehousing project were housed within 28 days



AdobeStock

‘Unseen Territory’— Helping the Homeless of Key Peninsula

Here's what the Key Peninsula is doing to care for some of the homeless living here.

TED OLINGER, KP NEWS

Homelessness does not have a single face or cause any more than it has a single solution, according to people working on the Key Peninsula to stop it.

The Pierce County one-day Point-in-Time count found 49 people experiencing homelessness on the KP as of Jan. 25, 2019. County officials and community advocates frequently use the term “person experiencing homelessness” instead of “homeless person,” since homelessness has a variety of causes and manifestations, and is often temporary or cyclical.

Evidence suggests KP numbers are higher.

Tracy Stirrett, executive director of Key Peninsula Community Services in Home, estimated her food bank serves 100 different homeless clients each month, about 8 percent of their clientele. “That number is growing,” she said.

The Key Peninsula Bischoff Food Bank, also in Home, has seen similar numbers according to Kimberly Miller, the vice president of its governing board.

“We saw a slight spike in 2008 with the economy tanking but it leveled out to normal, maybe 1.5 to 2 percent (per month) were homeless,” she said. “But this year we’re on track to closer to 10 percent with new client intake.” Bischoff serves about 3,000 people each month.

The nature of the homeless population has also changed, Miller said. “More of them are working poor, having lost their home, living in their car with their kids, driving their house to and from work.”

“We are headed into unseen territory with the homeless population out here on the KP,” she said. “But this community out

here is by far the most supportive that I've ever seen."

Homelessness is often attributed to personal flaws, substance abuse or mental health issues, but according to the PIT count those influences play a small role against a large backdrop of economic factors.

"One of the things we deal with is stigmatization of folks experiencing homelessness," said Sam Miller, an outreach worker for homeless youth on the KP (no relation to Kimberly Miller). "I became homeless due to an addiction. I work well with the population."

Miller visits homeless encampments on the KP with first responders to offer assistance and a safe place to stay.

"We think about homelessness as a single crisis, but what's really happening are a whole bunch of small crises that are creating it," Miller said. "You have a lack of affordable mental health care, the opioid epidemic, a lack of affordable housing, a lack of public transportation."

"Some of these camps, if you didn't know they were there you'd drive right by them," said

"WE ARE HEADED INTO UNSEEN TERRITORY WITH THE HOMELESS POPULATION OUT HERE ON THE KP."

one first responder who spoke to KP News on condition of anonymity. "But we've also had people complain about the mess, people squatting on neighboring property. There are also a lot more people living in their cars, like high school age students, than people realize."

Miller pointed out that KP School Bus Connects is a valuable resource. "There's a Key Peninsula solution that really shows the wherewithal of the community," he said. "But there should be public transportation off the Key Peninsula. There are amazing services here and awesome things going on, but a lot of Pierce County's resources are in Tacoma because that's the population center," he said.

"We probably work directly with at least a dozen homeless families over the course of a year who will come in and ask for basic necessities, like blankets for the car windows, just to keep them warm," said Gina Cabiddu, the program manager at Children's Home Society of Washington Key Peninsula Family Resource Center (CHS).

"We give them resources for rapid housing so they can get out of the elements, but the issue that we run into identifying homeless families is the stigma or shame in it, especially if they have children," she said. "They're really scared that being homeless means the children will be taken away."

In 2018, CHS served over 1,300 unduplicated individuals with over 5,000 different services, she said, including moving people

into emergency or transitional housing.

"Our overview is crisis stabilization and then preventative and educational resources," Cabiddu said. "When I worked for Child Protective Services, I was in the deep end where it took a great deal more money, effort and resources, and it wasn't as successful compared to catching those needs early on and addressing them. I am just very humbled by how much the Key Peninsula and the Gig Harbor area does for our people out here."

Laurel Shultz, the program director at Communities in Schools of Peninsula (CISP), said that in addition to offering supplies, mentors and other services to Peninsula School District students, CISP also currently serves 24 homeless students in the KP and Gig Harbor areas.

"Our core mission is surrounding kids with a community of support and keeping them in school, so—whatever it takes," she said. "There have always been the same

issues of poverty, like limited access to services, but I would say just from what I've seen in the last 12 years (at

CISP) is the intensity has gone up."

In the 2017-18 school year, Peninsula School District assisted approximately 204 homeless students: 166 were doubled-up with friends or relatives; 19 were in shelters in Tacoma or Kitsap County; about 10 were in motels; and at least another 10 were unsheltered, meaning anything from couch-surfing to living in a car or tent. There are an estimated 240 homeless students across the district this year, according to the superintendent's office.

PSD provides assistance through the McKinney-Vento Act, a federal law ensuring homeless students transportation, among other things, to and from school, allowing students to stay in the same school until the end of the year regardless of where a student or family ends up after becoming homeless.

CISP has a presence in eight schools in the district, including every school on the KP and at Peninsula High, where Wendy Wojtanowicz is site coordinator. She estimated that half of the 18 homeless students she works with left their homes voluntarily, but felt they had no other choice.

"Sometimes the parent is either drug or alcohol impacted, or unemployed, or it's just not safe, and sometimes the student will try to find housing just for themselves," she said. "Usually they'll couch-surf with a friend, which doesn't last more than a few weeks."

In other cases, the student is the one who is substance-impacted and can no longer live with their family, and sometimes it's just a teen's behavior that can lead a family to expel their child.

"It's amazing how often that happens," Wojtanowicz said. "A lot of parents think of it as a 'tough love' situation: 'You're going to get kicked out of here and see how good you really had it and come crawling back.' But that's not usually the case."

Wojtanowicz also works with a nonprofit called Harbor Care Center that temporarily shelters homeless teens.

"We have a home on the Key Peninsula that currently houses up to five boys at a time, ages 14 to 18," she said. "The home gives them a break and separate spaces for a little while with the goal of each person getting more skills and mental health assistance and hopefully bringing the family back together. We're trying to

open one for girls."

Students can stay in the home up to 90 days as they work toward goals ranging from family reconciliation to graduating high school and finding a job. About one third will go back to their homes, she said, while the others will move in with host families or attempt to live on their own.

Sometimes Wojtanowicz goes looking for missing students and finds them in undeveloped areas, living in tents. "I've never had an experience where they don't want to be found and don't want help," she said. "They're at a point where they think it's hopeless. It's not that they don't appreciate help, but usually there's depression and they don't know where to start. That's why I'm here full-time at Peninsula High, because people need help walking through the system. We know where to get them plugged in—that's how we're going to solve the problem."



Hugh McMillan, left, with keynote speaker Jud Morris, center, was honored by U.S. Rep. Derek Kilmer, right, and the KP Fire Commission at the Lions Club Citizen of the Year Award celebration March 30 with a bronze plaque bearing his likeness as thanks for his many good works on behalf of the Key Peninsula over more than three decades. McMillan has earned many such honors in the past, including the Gig Harbor Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year Award in 2010; having the occasion of his 90th birthday read into the U.S. Congressional record in 2016; enjoying April 22, 2006 as an official "Hugh McMillan Day" proclaimed by the Pierce County Council; and loaning his name to the Hugh McMillan Award given by the Peninsula School District to deserving volunteers. Photo: Ed Johnson, KP News



18th ANNUAL LIVABLE COMMUNITY FAIR
 Celebrating Local Resource and Service Organizations
May 4th, 2019
10am-3pm
Key Peninsula Civic Center
 17010 S Vaughn Rd NW, Vaughn WA 98394

Free 2019 KP Community Resource Guide!

Free Admission
Live Music
Food & Drinks
Family Fun

Fuchsia Sale
Touch a Fire Truck
Imagination Playground
Bloodmobile

WITH THANKS TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS!

THE LONGBRANCH FOUNDATION
 KEY PENINSULA COMMUNITY SERVICES
 Key Pen Parks
 Peninsula Light Co.
 a mutual corporation since 1925
 The power to be...
 KP School Bus Concessions
 Longbranch Tree & Shrub Care
 MOLINA HEALTHCARE
 Food Market

SKATE NIGHT JOB OPPORTUNITIES!

Skate Night Manager

(Friday nights, 5+ hours per week)
 Experience managing teens, adults, volunteers; and working with kids • Self-motivated, independent, good work ethic and time management • Ability to take ownership and grow the program over time • Strong organization and communication skills

Skate Night Kitchen Manager

(Friday plus shopping, 10+ hours per week)
 Current Washington State Food Worker Card
 • Experience planning menus, shopping, and food preparation • Experience supervising others
 • Good working with teens, kids, and volunteers

Skate Night DJ

(Friday nights, 5+ hours per week)
 Experience with basic sound and light equipment • Excellent knowledge of popular music with kids and teens • Familiarity with Friday Night Skate atmosphere and games



All positions

Background check required • Hourly pay based on experience • Paid training in May and June • Positions begin when Peninsula School District starts back to school in September • No Skate Night during summer break

To apply, submit your résumé and cover letter to: office@kpciviccenter.org

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



ROCK AND SOUL DANCE PARTY
 featuring
C.F.O.
 CHRIS FREIL ORCHESTRA

Saturday May 25th from 8:00 PM - 11:00 PM

BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE LONGBRANCH IMPROVEMENT CLUB
 4312 Key Pen Hwy South, Longbranch, WA | www.licweb.org

Tickets \$15. Available at Blend and Sunnycrest. All ages welcome.



BAYSIDE ANIMAL LODGE, LTD.



Animal Care and Friendly Customer Service Are Our Specialties

Jimmy Sobieck and Ann Morris traded Snowpocalypse for sunny Santa Teresa Costa Rica in February.

It takes more than enthusiasm and diligence to publish the Key Peninsula News. But that's where we start.

Hundreds of hours are spent each month to bring you just 24 pages filled with local news, history, goings-on and colorful photos. Thankfully, we love the work.

We do depend on the community for a lot of support. If you can take a picture or write a story, we'd love your help. And when you can, your contribution keeps the KP News alive and growing. Mail this form with a tax-deductible gift, or subscribe for twelve months of first-class mail delivery for friends and family. Visit our website where you can spread your donation into monthly payments. We'll send a receipt along with our sincere thanks.



Donate online at www.keypennews.com or mail to: KP News, PO Box 3, Vaughn WA 98394

Community support starts here.

\$60 \$120 \$240 \$_____

Your name Please keep my name anonymous

Mailing address

City State Zip

email address

\$30 per U.S. first-class subscription, subscribe online or enclose details on separate piece of paper

CHARBONEAU
JC

Excavating
253-857-5125

TOPSOIL • CRUSHED ROCK • CRUSHED BARK • TRUCKING
STUMP HAULING • LAND CLEARING • DRAINAGE SYSTEMS
SITE PREP • ROAD BUILDING • INSTALL BLOCK WALLS

CHARBONEAU
JC

Construction & Supply
253-857-5125

LANDSCAPE ROCK • CRUSHED GRAVEL • RIVER ROCK
PIT SAND • BEAUTY BARK • TOPSOIL
STEPPING STONES • WALL BLOCK • PAVERS • BRICK
DRIVEWAY CULVERT • DRAIN PIPE AND FITTINGS • MORE...



davideleger@gmail.com
DAVEHH*86409

Dave the Handyman

20321 10th St. SW
Lakebay, WA 98349

David Leger
Call 253-358-6488
Text 352-228-1100



Aspen

Land Surveying LLC

at The Landing in Key Center
(half a block east of the stop light)
253-303-0270 www.aspenland.com

[LEGAL NOTICE]

The property
at 10208 128th Ave. NW,
Gig Harbor, WA 98329
is in probate.

Applebys
Plumbing
**24-Hour
Emergency
Service Repair**
PLUMBING & DRAIN CLEANING
(253) 370-2293
•Hot Water Heaters •Plumbing Services
•Repairs, Repipes, Remodels •Gas Lines
WA Cont. Lic. #APPLEPD077LD

McWILLI'S TREASURES

6706 Key Peninsula HWY SW
Longbranch, WA 98351

- Rocks, Minerals, Gems, & Items made from them
- Tools & Equipment for finding & working with your Treasures, Metal Detectors

Shane McWilliams - Founder
Phone: 253-884-6425
Cell: 253-229-2074
Email: mcwillitreasures@outlook.com

It's easy to eat fresh, eat local.

Just log in and register for your free membership, then shop the best of local food Sunday & Monday, pick up your order Wednesday.



Fresh Food Revolution
LOCAL FOOD ONLINE
www.freshfoodrevolution.org



Close to Home Espresso
Open early every day — Key Center
Mon-Fri 6am-5pm Sat 6:30am-5pm Sun 7am-3pm

Rainier CONSTRUCTION
General Contractors
Licensed/Bonded/Insured
Lic#RAINIC*883KP

Specializing in –

- Site Development & Build
- Custom Design & Remodel
- Complete Home Renovations
- Custom Additions
- Garages & Outbuildings
- Custom Outdoor Living Spaces
- Concrete & Aggregate
- Patios & Decks
- Siding & Roofing

(360) 265-0914
rainierconstructionllc@gmail.com
LIKE us on Facebook and view our photo gallery

FREE ESTIMATES

BROOKSIDE VETERINARY HOSPITAL

Tender Loving Care For All Your Family Pets!



Lisa Woods-Zabari, DVM
Stacey Rutledge, DVM

13701 118th Ave. NW
Gig Harbor, WA 98329

253.857.7302
253.857.7654 Fax

www.brookvet.com



Moran's Portable Restrooms LLC
(360) 994-9544



www.moransportablerestrooms.net
moransportablerestrooms@gmail.com



SUNDAY SCHOOL 9 AM
FELLOWSHIP TIME 10:15-10:30
WORSHIP SERVICE 10:30
COFFEE AND TREATS 11:30-12
WE MEET AT KEY PENINSULA CIVIC CENTER IN VAUGHN
PASTOR THOR WILLIAMS 253 353-2745
WWW.KPBFELLOWSHIP.ORG
FACEBOOK: KEYPENINSULABAPTISTFELLOWSHIP

Equine, Livestock & Residential Fencing Since 1989

Warwick & Janice Bryant



KIWI FENCING COMPANY, Inc.
Custom Farm & Fence Solutions

13108 125th St NW
Gig Harbor WA 98329
www.kiwifencing.com
#KIWIFC1055DA

800-598-3374
253-851-5494
fax 253-851-5550
becky@kiwifencing.com



TOP Sunrise from the shores of Von Geldern Cove looking toward Purdy. *Photo: Ron Cameron* **MIDDLE LEFT** Volunteers of the KP Historical Society hard at work on restoration of the Vaughn Library Hall. *Photo: Jackie Hickey* **CENTER** Three-year-old Violet Bruemmer upon winning the grand prize in her age group at the annual KP Sportsmen's Club Easter Egg Hunt on Jackson Lake. *Photo: Lisa Bryan, KP News* **MIDDLE RIGHT** A female hummingbird in flight. *Photo: Chris Konieczny, KP News* **BOTTOM LEFT** The assembled choirs of PSD high schools and middle schools performed at the Secondary Choral Festival held at Chapel Hill Presbyterian Church March 11, conducted by Dr. J. Edmund Hughes, adjunct professor at the University of Puget Sound. *Photo: Ed Johnson, KP News*