



Treats for Tweets
Special section page 3

KEY PENINSULA NEWS

The voice of the Key Peninsula



Holiday section
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Inside

News

- Recognizing Terry Lee's work for KP2
- Neighbors share winter preparations4

Sections

- Peninsula Views6
- Business7
- Faith8
- News Briefs17
- Community Works18-19
- Obituary notices22
- Out & About24
- Holiday sectioncenter 1-8

KPMS bus involved in collision

By Danna Webster, KP News



Photo by Danna Webster, KP News

Pierce County Sheriff deputies and the State Patrol assisted the traffic flow on the Key Pen Highway while injured students and drivers were transported to St. Anthony's hospital.

Shortly after 11 a.m. on Nov. 18, School Bus 47 from Key Peninsula Middle School was involved in an accident. It was an early dismissal day and students were being transported home. The accident occurred south of the Shell station on Key Pen Highway. Thirty-four students were on the bus. Six students were transported to St. Anthony hospital for evaluation and injuries were reported as minor. Emergency medic units also transported the school bus driver and the two drivers of the other vehicles involved. Division Chief of Operations Guy Allen at Key Peninsula Fire District 16 reported that he had not received an official hospital report but no one was admitted into the hospital and most went home quickly.

First on the scene were an engine and Medic Unit from FD 16. They received the call at 11:20 a.m. and were on the scene in nine minutes. The Key Peninsula units were assisted by medic units from

South Kitsap and Gig Harbor. Key Pen highway was cleared of the accident and open to traffic at 1:24 p.m. after the state patrol investigation.

FD 16 Division Chief Chuck West reported from the scene his appreciation for the back up assistance from South Kitsap and Gig Harbor. They needed all their vehicles to transport the six students and three drivers to the hospital.

Peninsula School District officials were also on the scene. Division Chief Allen said, "The school district was very responsive. Administration was there in the first 20 minutes and they had another bus in route to transport the other students." Amy Nelson, Director of Assessment and Accountability for Peninsula School District said the parents of students transported to the hospital were contacted immediately and then all of the parents of the other student passengers were contacted. "Our concern is for the safety

(See **Bus**, Page 3)

Report wind damage

The Pierce County Emergency Operations Center is collecting damage information from homeowners and business owners affected by last November's windstorm. Residents and business owners in Pierce County that suffered damage should call the Department of Emergency Management at 1-866-798-6363 (toll free).

Callers should have the following information available: Name and address of affected property, type of insurance (homeowners), a description of damage, even if uninsured, a personal estimate of uninsured losses, estimates of the fair market value of the damaged home or business.

(See **Weather**, Page 3)

McNeil Island facility to close

By Marsha Hart, KP News

McNeil Island Corrections Center has been downsized from medium to minimum security, and by April 1 the Department of Corrections will close the doors.

The 515 offenders who are currently housed there will be moved to one of 12 remaining prisons within the system, and the 245 staff members are hoping to be moved as well.

"The impact this will have on the staff and their families is enormous,"

said Secretary Eldon Vail. "We will do all we possibly can to find them positions elsewhere in the agency. It's a talented group of people so we want to retain as many as we can."

Mike Sanders, fire chief for McNeil Island, recently moved to the Key Peninsula from his home on McNeil. He lived in a rental home owned by the state, he said.

"To be eligible you had to be on an emergency response team, so

(See **McNeil**, Page 2)

KP association recognize Terry Lee's stewardship

By Danna Webster, KP News

The Key Peninsula Business Association honored the public service of Councilman Terry Lee at the Nov. 19 meeting. KPBA past-president, Jud Morris, presented Lee with a certificate of appreciation which featured the Tip O'Neill quote that "All politics is local." Lee was the guest speaker for the occasion and he outlined some accomplishments made for the Key Peninsula over his past eight years in office.

The history was not only for the members of the KPBA but also for the incoming District Councilman Stan Flemming who was present for the meeting. Lee said he took office with the intent to work for the Key Peninsula to get county services that were deserved. "There was a huge demand for public service and I tried to direct as much as possible to the Key Peninsula," he said. It was his intent to provide enough well-deserved service from Pierce County to at least stop the talk about "the Key Peninsula succeeding from Pierce County to Kitsap."

One of Lee's first targets for change was the fact that Key Pen had no Sheriff's deputies on duty between the hours of 3 and 7 a.m. The Key Peninsula and Gig Harbor now have 18 deputies who provide 24/7 coverage. He said he worked hard to have the Sheriff's dispatch office established in Purdy and has continued to work to get the county road shop built on the Key Peninsula. "The road shop is designed and ready to go," he said, and cautioned KP residents to be watchdogs



Hugh McMillan, KP News

Terry Lee accepts the "key to the Key" during the KP Community Council meeting in November.

over the project. Once the Elk Plain road shop is sold, Key Pen should get the new shop.

"Make sure the money doesn't get lost," he said. In his address to KPBA, Lee gave a thorough overview of important issues for Key Pen from the Longbranch wharf demolition to a new interchange for SR-302.

Earlier in November, the Key Peninsula Community Council conducted an appreciation salute for Lee. The KPC directors took turns reciting from a list of over 30 of his accomplishments that benefited the Key Peninsula. The Executive Board presented Lee with "the key to the Key," a large gold plated key mounted on a plaque. Lee said he was very moved to receive the key to the Key and expressed his appreciation for the recognition from both boards of the KPBA and KPC.



The prison on McNeil Island has been in place before Washington received statehood. The facility is slated to close in 2011.

Courtesy photo, KP News

(From McNeil, Page 1)

if there are riots or maintenance, they needed someone to respond in a hurry to take care of them instead of waiting for a boat," Sanders said.

He was given until the first of the year to vacate the property, as were the other families who live in about 40 residential homes there.

"No one will be living in the residential houses after the first of the year," he said.

As for fire coverage, Sanders said the department provides 24/7 coverage and the seven fire staff stay at the station when they are on shift.

The closure of McNeil is expected to save DOC \$6.3 million each year by closing the prison. The agency must reduce spending by nearly \$53 million.

"This will save the most money without compromising the safety of our staff, the offenders and the public," Vail

said. "The budget crisis is causing us to make some of the most painful decisions in our agency's history."

The Department of Social and Health Services, which operates the nearby Special Commitment Center, will assume the costs to operate the ferries, barges and fire boats to the island.

"The staff members there have heard for years that it was too expensive to operate on an island, yet they continued to do outstanding work," Vail said. "It's simply the victim of a historic budget crisis."

In 1981 the state signed a lease with the federal government to take over the federal penitentiary that had been closed in 1976. DOC has operated the prison since 1981.

McNeil is the third prison to close in the state this year. DOC closed two minimum-security prisons earlier this year, Ahtanum View Corrections Center in Yakima and Pine Lodge Corrections Center for Women near Spokane.

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2. The objective of Key Peninsula News is to support and create community by reporting news and features and providing a forum for local information. News and editorial coverage focuses on the Key Peninsula and immediately adjacent areas within Fire District 16.

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

(From **Bus**, Page 1)

of our students and contacting parents," Nelson said and noted that PSD updated their website about the incident immediately.

According to Allen, the school bus stopped for traffic and a pickup truck following the bus was unable to stop. The

pickup truck pulled into the southbound lane to avoid collision with the bus. The southbound lane was occupied by an oncoming van. The pickup tried to correct back and collided with the van and the rear of the bus at the same time.

The accident is under investigation by the Fire District, Pierce County Sheriff, and State Patrol.

(From **Weather**, Page 1)

It is not necessary at this point for property owners to have a contractor's estimate. The findings from this assessment will be used by the Governor to request a possible disaster declaration and federal disaster assistance from the President. This process could take up to couple of weeks or more. Federal disaster assistance, if and when it becomes avail-

able, only covers uninsured losses.

Among the immediate steps that individuals and families impacted by the windstorm should take, include: Call your insurance agent to check on your coverage. Keep detailed records of all cleanup and repair costs, including photographs. When the time comes to make repairs, be aware of local permit requirements and do a thorough check of potential contractors.

Correction

In the November 2010 edition of the KP News, in the story "Farmers Market ends with questions, no answers," a quote in the article was mistakenly attributed to

Dorne Webster. The KP News regrets the error. The Farmers Market in Key Center is open on Sundays April through September.

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Age: K-5th
Location: Key Peninsula Civic Center Gym
Day/Date: Session # 1 12/20, 21, 22, 23
Session # 2 12/27, 28, 29, 30
Time: 9:00-4:00 pm
Fees: \$100 (each session, if registering for all four days)
\$30 (per day, registered before 12/10)
\$35 (per day, registered after 12/10)
Min/Max: 15/30 per session

Note: A separate camp registration form will need to accompany your fee. You can obtain this form by visiting our website, calling, or stopping by the park office.

4 on 4 Men's Rec. Basketball League
This is a non-refereed, organize your own team call your own fouls, full court, no trophies, no standings league! Score will be kept on the scoreboard. Games will be on Sundays evenings starting January 16th. Teams will be taken on a first-come, first-served basis.

Ages: 18 +
Location: KPMS Gym
Day/Date: Sundays, 1/16-3/6
Time: No games will start prior to 4 pm
Fee: \$197 per team
Min/Max: 4/8 teams

Note: Deadline to register 1/14

Basketball Skills Clinic
Key Pen Parks is offering coed Basketball Skills Clinics for youth in Pre-Kindergarten through 3rd grade. Program focus is on basketball skill development (dribbling, passing, and shooting). Parent involvement is required. Scaled down equipment, specialized drills and games will be used to ensure success for all participants.

Ages: 4-8
Location: KPMS Gym
Day/Date: Saturdays, 1/15-2/19


Sess #1 9:00-9:50am (age 7-8)	Sess #2 10:00-10:50am (age 6)
Sess #3 11:00-11:50am (age 5)	Sess #4 12:00-12:50pm (age 4)

Fee: \$45
Min/Max: 10/20 per age group

Note: Deadline to register 1/12. Sessions may be combined based on numbers

For more information contact Key Pen Parks at 253-884-9240 or chad@keypenparks.com

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Winter could pack a punch

Pierce County Emergency Management searched back 55 years to find a similar set-up for this coming winter. A strong La Nina, with cooler ocean temperatures, will result in a much colder winter, increased precipitation, low-land snow, and significant wind storms.



Claudia Jones, Vaughn
"Filled propane tank. Emergency kits and batteries all set up. Keeping gas tanks full."



Denise Doering-Burmark, Lakebay
"Bin full of safety and weather supplies. Water, propane. I'm ready."



Shaun Rose, Longbranch
"Cut some wood, cleaned the gutters, swept the roof."



Heather Mora, Vaughn
"Stocked up on lots of food. Winterized pipes. Board games so the kids have something to do."



Ray Perry, Anacortes
"Nothing. Got gas for the generator. Stocking non-perishable foods."



Ed Kuhl, Lake of the Woods
"Not really a lot. Got to find a propane tank for my gas fireplace."

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School District to Implement Long-Range Facilities Plan

The Peninsula School District Board of Directors recently approved a 30-year plan for the upgrade and maintenance of all district facilities. The plan will be implemented in several stages and will include several major school renovations.

“Rather than doing a bond to do short term fixes, the idea is to look at what the district’s needs will be over the next 30 years,” says Deputy Superintendent Chuck Cuzzetto.

The goal would be to finance the plan with voter-approved general obligation bonds and proceed with the projects in four phases.

The first phase would entail a \$78 million bond and include the first phase of Gig Harbor High School renovations and the next phase of improvements at Peninsula High School, Key Peninsula Middle School water flow and athletic facilities upgrades, the modernization of the transportation facility and Artondale Elementary, among other things. Some funds would be set aside for the purchase of land for a future elementary school site.

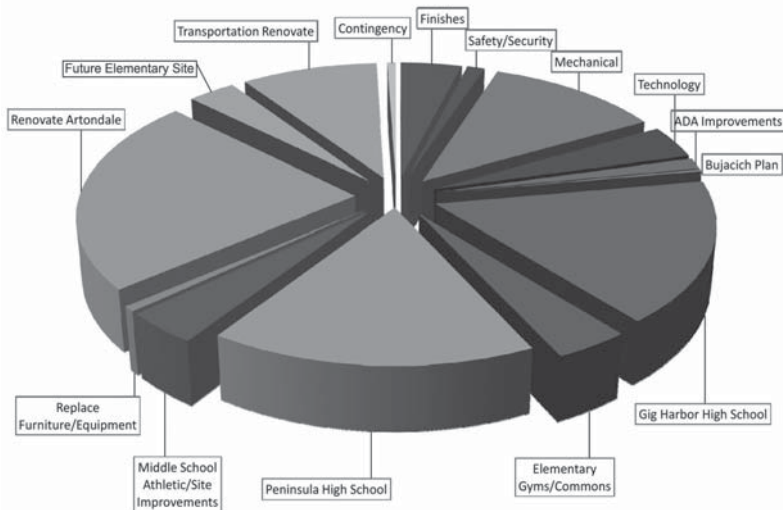
The long-range facilities plan is the culmination of several years of work by committees from the district and the community.

“In 2003, when the last bond was passed for \$45 million, it was all the money the district has spent in 20 years on maintaining buildings and updating their educational soundness,” says Superintendent Terry Bouck. “Our focus now is on safety, essential repairs and replacements in a systematic way.”

One of the goals of the long-range plan is to protect the community’s investment in the district facilities. “The buildings we modernized with the 2003 bond will be old 30 years from now — we need to make sure we protect the community’s assets and have quality educational facilities for our students.”

The plan calls for projects such as the replacement of roofs, siding and carpeting; the installation of security cameras for safety; and technology upgrades. The board voted to place a capital bond issue on the ballot in February 2011.

“We think it’s critical to start on a funding mechanism now,” Bouck says.



December Events

- 7 Parent Council Meeting District Office 9:30 a.m.-12 noon
- 9 School Board Meeting District Office 6:00 p.m.
- 20-31 No school—Winter break

January Events

- 4 Parent Council Meeting District Office 9:30 a.m.-12 noon
- 17 No School—Martin Luther King, Jr. Day observed
- 18 Superintendent Forum at Key Peninsula Middle School Library 6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m.
- 27 School Board Meeting Discovery Elementary School Library 6:00 p.m.

District Calendar

Winter delivers a lot of musical performances from all of our schools. Please log on to our website to view December and January events in your neighborhood: www.psd401.net

Board Member Retires

Jill Guernsey has retired from the PSD School Board after ten years of dedicated service to our students, staff, parents and community. With fond memories and heartfelt wishes, fellow board members and district staff honored Jill at her final board meeting on Tuesday, November 16, 2010.

Communications Task Force

The Peninsula School District plans to improve all aspects of communication. To accomplish this we are seeking your help in defining our “strategic communication” goals and priorities. Please use the following link to access our survey and provide your feedback: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/pubsurvey>

This just in...

The state’s End of Course (EOC) testing for students in grades 8-10 enrolled in Algebra and/or Geometry has been scheduled for June 6-8. There will be no late start, teacher collaboration on Wednesday, June 8.

Peninsula Views

EDITORIAL

Prepare for a long winter

Those who were living on the Key Peninsula in 1996 remember the ice storm that paralyzed the area. If predictions are correct, this winter could be worse, and it is a good idea to prepare now.

A day or so without power is bad enough, but that storm left some in the dark and cold for more than a week. With no access to television news, the local radio station, 89.9 KGHP, which operates from the campus of Peninsula High School, kept residents connected and informed.

When others were stuck in their driveways, somehow Keith Stiles and a small crew were able to make it to the radio station and provide local news about the effects of the storm. Stiles, who was the engineer for the station at the time, was one of the people who helped get the station started. He retired and was acting as advisor for the station when he died in October.

The station is always in a precarious position when the state budget is tight. The station relies on the school district for funding.

Locals believe it is a lifeline when old man winter gets grumpy. Reports of downed trees, roads that were closed, and then opened, calls for 4-wheel drive vehicles, and information of where to go for a warm meal gave residents a lifeline.

In those situations we realize that human beings really are designed to help one another. If you don't know your neighbors, it's a good idea to introduce yourself now, because stories of the winter of 1996 include a lot of neighbor helping neighbor. The elderly, sick and those with small children could need an extra hand if things get as bad as predicted.

Many tell of how the neighbor with the generator hosted other families in the neighborhood for a few days, or gave them the opportunity to have a hot shower. Others helped shovel out driveways and went with chainsaws to clear trees that had fallen across roadways.

After living through it, residents realized the importance of knowing neighbors and reaching out to lend a hand or ask for help.

Stock up on supplies, such as fresh water, non-perishable foods, batteries, blankets and candles. Don't use outdoor grills inside as they produce carbon monoxide.

Two official designated shelters are the Key Peninsula Lutheran and Chapel Hill Presbyterian Church in Gig Harbor.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Keith Stiles a best friend of KC Library

Keith Stiles will indeed be missed by this community. Thank you for the sensitive coverage of his death and the many accomplishments of his life.

The Key Center Library was one of Keith's great enthusiasms. At his heartfelt request the Friends of the Library used the many donations made in memory of his wife Lee to have a custom cabinet built with a plaque engraved in her honor. It was Keith's wish that donations in his memory be given to the Friends. We have been made aware that, although this was stated in several obituaries, no address or other contact information was given. We wish to find a special project to honor Keith. Would you please publish the following for those who wish to join us in this endeavor?

Memorial remembrances for Keith Stiles can be sent to Friends of the Key Center Library 8905 Key Peninsula Highway N., Lakebay, WA 98349.

Thank you.

*Mary M. Watson President,
Friends of the Key Center Library*

Thank you for a clean park

I am sending this letter to express my appreciation to everyone who keeps our little park in Home so clean and attractive to anyone who enjoys visiting the park.

I drive by the park almost every day and have observed how many people enjoy going there on nice days. So many parents with small children use the park and my heart is filled with happiness as I watch the parents and children laughing and having so much fun. This is exactly how it should be!

What a wonderful addition to our community this park is! I hope that our

community takes good care of it so that children and their parents can enjoy it for many years to come.

Please give a big Thank You to all the volunteers and others who have given their time and skills in making the park possible. Keep up the excellent work in keeping our little park clean and safe for all to enjoy.

Jeane Myers-Murray, Lakebay

Apple Health important for all

The Washington State Department of Human Services has decided to end subsidized health insurance coverage for approximately 27,000 children from Apple Health for Kids. This simply cannot happen. Yes, times are tough for Washington families, but Apple Health for Kids has been doing what it is meant to do; protecting our children in difficult economic times.

Washington State has been a leader in the effort to provide all children with health care. Our legislators have shown great leadership in fighting to make sure families would have an insurance option for their children when they really needed it. We must not falter now. Washington State must not turn away from the policies that have made health care coverage for children one of the best in the nation. Apple Health for Kids has been a lifeline for many families facing difficult economic times. With so many parents struggling to make ends meet during this recession, Apple Health for Kids ensures that children won't lose health coverage if jobs or employment benefits are lost.

Lost health care for many of these children will result in a further loss of educational opportunity; simply stated, sick children don't learn. These situations are problems for all of society, not just those most directly affected. For every dollar spent on children's health care, \$16 are saved. In the long run, Apple Health is not only about health care coverage, but also about raising healthier citizens.

Vicki Biggs, Lakebay

Success is in the bag

By Kevin Reed, KP News

Local craftsperson Donna Daily has been making waterproof and stain-resistant tote bags in Lakebay since 2007 and selling them through her company, Tote It Around. She coupled her artistic drive to her appreciation for creating things that have functional value and can be used over and over again. Bags are usually made from oilcloth, vinyl, or cotton canvas.

"The oilcloth is great because I've been involved in the water for the last seven years at Camp Easter Seal," Daily said. "I started making them for wet bathing suits and things I was going to use it for."

Then she noticed people bringing their own bags to grocery stores. "So I started making them bigger so you can go for groceries with reusable totes." The materials and double-stitched design makes them both durable and fashionable. "If you have paints in there, or sand, or anything that would be hard to clean up, they dry out well, wash easily, and don't absorb water or stains like juice or paint."

Daily makes the bags in a shop at her

home. There are several sizes and she uses templates to minimize wasted material. Each year she listens to her customers and improves the design to match their needs. As a result much of her growing business is from returning customers.

Her business doubled in 2008, and since then has been growing at a pace that she can keep up with and do special orders. She has a regular booth at the Key Peninsula Farmer's Market and regularly sets up at craft shows. Her skills have led to some unusual orders. She's made a number of different-sized waterproof covers for Pierce County Libraries that go over pallets of books being moved in the rain between locations.

Daily likes to donate bags to the community as well. She regularly donates her bags for non-profit auctions such as spay and neuter programs, schools raising money, Special Olympics, Two Waters Arts Alliance, or Outdoors for All, among others.

Tote It Around has totes at Sunnycrest in Key Center and the Tacoma Art Museum.

For more information contact her directly at toteitaround.com.

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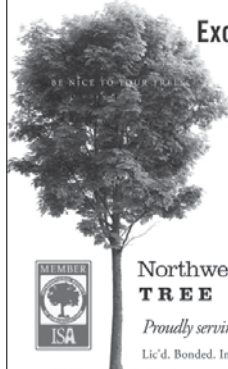
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REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

VOLUNTEER PARK CONCESSIONAIRE

Key Pen Parks is requesting proposals for the furnishing of all operations, staffing and equipment necessary to provide food concessions at Volunteer Park for 2011. It is Key Pen Parks' intent to seek a private or non-profit entity.

For more information, contact Key Pen Parks at
253-884-9240

or
www.keypenparks.com
or e-mail
answers@keypenparks.com

Proposals are due
January 31, 2011.



Key Pen Parks

The key to your next adventure!

Don't forget the little things during the Holidays

Merry Christmas, one and all! I hope this finds you well and enjoying these early days of Advent. Life can be busy as we prepare for Christmas celebrations, the arrival of family, the wrapping of gifts and decoration of our homes. In all the craziness, it's often easy to miss the little things that can bring so much joy to our lives.

To that end, I offer you my Christmas gift: an opportunity to slow down, to ponder, to reflect, to remember once again how amazing life can be – especially for those of us fortunate enough to live here on the KP. It's the gift of a little bit of literature, three poems for winter. Enjoy!

1. Christmas

Those who humbug my Christmas entirely miss the point. Choosing not to celebrate ignores that every tree is now a Christmas tree – the noble fir forming this grand cathedral, the cedar flecked in yellow branch, the holly bejeweled in crimson berry. Music of the season surrounds us in the seagull's cello cry, the piccolo sparrow, the coyote's trumpet lullaby.

This is all Christmas – the sky itself alight with baubles cast in childlike whimsy, far grander than any trinket ever hung from holiday bough.

You say "I don't do Christmas," but it envelops you.

So then celebrate, in your way, but join me and rejoice the same. Already you've been gifted the greatest of all – Emmanuel! – and with him all promise of peace and hope and joy. Christmastime is here.

Join in the merry song.

2. Monday, Penrose Point

High upon a madrona the kingfisher waits, his charismatic call anchoring sea and sky alike. An old man he perches proudly, darting eye under unkempt brow. Across the bay light long hid emerges, the coy surprise of golden branch, shy dance of mirth



Dan Whitmarsh
Writing by Faith

emerging the evergreen backdrop. Behind, sky crossed in vapor trail snow; beneath, smoke's veil gently rising; and closest comes the cut of slicing water, a Christmas goose coming to rest her tired journey. Deep within, I am called home.

3: Three Episodes (for Cameron and Emma)

Today the sun shone brightly; our walk along this wooded path converged, you and I, unexpected company beneath the golden maple canopy. Tonight the rain washed in; indoors we shelter, fire and spirit to keep us warm. Up the drive a man shivers, sleeping the cold night in his car.

The Mustard Seed Project

We're building an elder-friendly Key Peninsula where our friends & neighbors can age in place.

We thank our incredible volunteers for their generous year-round gifts of time and energy!!

**Happy Holidays from all of us at
The Mustard Seed Project.**

We wish you peace and joy in 2011

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A man and a woman are shopping in a mall. The woman is in the foreground, wearing a dark blue plaid jacket, looking at something the man is pointing at. The man is wearing a light-colored jacket over a blue shirt. They are carrying several shopping bags: a brown paper bag, a light green bag, and a red bag. The background is blurred, showing other people in the mall.

Holiday Greetings
from



Miracle on 9th Street

By Faith Rhodes
Special to the KP News

In 1947 "Miracle on 34th Street" won the Academy Award for Best Original Story. The story begins when Kris Kringle attends the annual Thanksgiving Day parade and takes over as Santa Clause, he stands apart from others in both his firm belief in the spirit of Christmas and his firm contention that he is actually Santa himself.

In the movie Kris Kringle quotes "Oh, Christmas isn't just a day, it's a frame of mind... and that's what's been changing. That's why I'm glad I'm here, maybe I can do something about it." We have our own

"Miracle on 9th Street" (17015 9th St. CT KP) right here in KP land: the Key Peninsula Community Services, Food Bank and Senior Services.

Much like the elves of the North Pole, these tireless volunteers, numbering over 70 helpers, give of their hearts and soul in harmony with the true spirit of giving. The organization provides outreach every week of the year, not just in December.

Brett Higgins, Food Bank Manager says, "What I am really seeing right now is a great increase in demand for our services for food, utility bill help and housing." Higgins adds, "With all Food Banks in the county seeing the same increases it is

General Stats	
Households Served	277
Total People Fed	829
Meals Provided	7461

Income Groups by HUD Standards				# of Clients
Low	32	11.55%	122	
Very Low	80	32.13%	277	
Extra Low	154	55.90%	424	
Other	2	0.72%	6	

New Clients			
0-2 Years	8	0.97%	
3-18	41	4.95%	
19-54	81	9.77%	
55+	19	2.29%	
New Households Served	59	21.30%	

Ages Groups Served			
0-2 Years	34	4.10%	
3-18	265	31.97%	
19-54	412	49.70%	
55+	130	15.68%	

Housing	
Owners/ Buying	98 35.38%
Renters	147 53.07%
Homeless	32 11.55%

Family Types	
2 Parent	70 25.27%
Single parent Female	28 10.11%
Single Parent Male	7 2.53%
Grandparents w/Kids	5 1.81%
Adults Only	72 25.96%
1 Person	73 26.35%
Mixed w/Kids	22 7.94%

Income Sources	
Food Stamps	267 32.21%
AFDC - TANF	43 7.93%
SSI	80 14.76%
Social Security	61 11.25%
Pension	12 2.21%
General Assistance	2 0.37%
Unemployment	30 5.54%
Employed	83 15.31%
Other Incomes	34 6.27%
No Income	248 45.39%

Family Sizes Served	
Family of 1	75 27.08%
Family of 2	66 23.83%
Family of 3	42 15.16%
Family of 4	30 10.83%
Family of 5	31 11.19%
Family of 6	21 7.58%
Family of 7	5 1.81%
Family of 8	4 1.44%
Family of 9	2 0.72%
Family of 10	1 0.36%
Family of 11	0 0.00%
Family of 12	0 0.00%

Households by Zip Code	
	83 22.74%
	150 54.15%
	29 10.47%
	11 3.97%
	0 0.00%
Homeless	32 11.55%
Out of Area	0 0.00%

Commodities Served	
Households	274
# in Households	818

Statistics Courtesy of the KP Community Services



Photo by Faith Rhodes, Special to the KP News

Shawna Owen helps sort food donations for the shelves at Key Peninsula Community Services Food Bank and Senior Services.

very tough to keep our shelves stocked as we did before the recession." He points out that, "Food donations from the warehouse and local stores are way down and demand is up and increasing rapidly."

This article was not designed as a fund drive; however, the need for community assistance is growing at an alarming rate. Higgins states, "We do have many good donors to our program but since I started in early 2009 we have seen a 344 percent jump in families served during a typical

month; it is hard to keep up."

Penny Gazabat, Executive Director Key Peninsula Community Services, said, "Out of all the statistics we gauge, one of the most alarming is the category of New Clients for the age bracket of 19-54 years of age that shows nearly a 10 percent increase over the past year. This represents a working age bracket that is clearly affected by unemployment and all signs indicate that these numbers will increase dramatically."



Photo courtesy of Ed Taylor, Special to the KP News

It's nice to remember our outdoor friends during the winter season.

Treats for the tweets make for some sweet winter bird watching

By Sharon Hicks

As Christmas comes around it's heartwarming to remember our outdoor feathered friends as well as family pets. A nice tree outside can be hung with edible treats in the form of Christmas ornaments as well as glass and pewter ones in the shape of birds and outdoor animals of all kinds. Wild Birds Unlimited in Gig Harbor has a variety of miniature shaped trees, socks, wreaths, snowmen and different shaped houses all covered with different kinds of seeds for various birds of our area. You can make your own in abundance by taking a pinecone, covering it with bark butter and applying your own seed mixture. Also available is a special treat called Birdacious Buggberry Blend that comes in a block and is just what it implies if you can tolerate the squirmy worms. One of the shaped ornaments is adorned with this mixture. For squirrels and small creatures, you can use rendered beef suet covered with ground, roasted peanuts. Birds do not like corn or oatmeal, so save it for the ground animals.

Large dog treats for hanging on an indoor tree can be made with a simple recipe using a dog-shaped cookie cutter. For smaller dogs, just roll the dough into a log and slice it thin before baking.

Gourmet Canine Treats:

- 1 ½ Tbsp. olive or vegetable oil
- 1 cup warm water or canned chicken broth
- 1 cup whole wheat flour
- ¾ cup all purpose flour
- ½ cup grated cheese or ¼ cup peanut butter

Mix oil and water/broth; stir in other ingredients and mix thoroughly, then roll into a log and refrigerate for one hour. Either slice thin or roll between waxed paper and cut into shapes. Before baking use a skewer or chopstick to make a small hole for ribbon to go through. Bake at 300 degrees for 50-60 min.

— Purdy —

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(need NOT be present to win)

2010 Family Holiday Traditions

By Colleen Slater

Pumpkin pies and turkeys for Thanksgiving began the holiday season in many places, including the Key Peninsula. Some families trace their favorite traditions back for uncounted generations in other countries, but many modern families create their own, whether blending two or more families or adopting a totally new way to celebrate special days of the season.

Marianne McColley reported on a favorite if "sporadic" Thanksgiving tradition, the "family reserving several rooms at a motel on the Oregon Coast in Lincoln City, gathering to give thanks for the "groaning board" that confronts one and all. Appetizers in one room, Monsieur Turkey and his edible amis in the second, and the punkin (apple, cherry, pecan) pies in yet another. We don't do this every year, but often enough so that it's a McColley tradition, enjoying one another's company as we watch the ocean; wonderful whether calm or turbulent. Quite a group this year as we now have spouses of grandkids and their folks! Of course, the two wonderful Under-Fives will be there too, reminding us that it's been a little while since we had sand in our shoes for Thanksgiving?"

Phyllis Henry's family carries on one of her favorite traditions: "When I was a child, Santa came several times before Christmas



Courtesy photo, KP News

Christmas spiders bring their own unique touch to tree decor.

to check to make sure we were being good. I'd hang the long brown stocking I'd worn to school that day over the iron headboard on my bed, and during the night Santa would look in on me and then drop an orange or a walnut or a caramel into the stocking. I often imagined him lurking outside my second story window waiting for me to go to sleep so he could slip in and fill my stocking.

I introduced the same Santa visits to my children, but they hung up decorated Christmas stockings instead of their dirty ones. Each night for three or four nights before Christmas Santa put candy or small toys or notes into the stockings. As the children grew older, they started delivering treats to each other. Now with all the children in their 50s, the tradition continues. Little gifts appear in the stockings, gifts such as nail clippers, flashlights, tiny bottles of shampoo, inexpensive

earrings, socks, pens, and so forth, with lots of joke gifts too. I especially liked the year my son-in-law, a big strong hunter, freaked out when his stocking was filled with small plastic spiders. Cruel, I guess, but we didn't know he was frightened by spiders."

Frank Slater's family traditions included a trip to the woods to find a White Pine to set up and decorate on Christmas Eve Day. Decorations included real candles in special holders. The candles were lit only when the family could sit and enjoy them, with most of the house lights off. They lit the candles on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, any evening company was there or they just felt like doing it, on his mother's birthday, Dec. 29, and again on New Year's Eve. A fresh White Pine, kept in water, won't burn, but just char if the open flame gets too close to the needles.

We've carried on that tradition in our family, but often added singing carols in the candle glow. The youngest children have the privilege of blowing out candles they can reach, including those on higher branches, if the child is small enough to be picked up by an adult.

Kay Pinter tells the Legend of the Christmas Spiders.

A long time ago a mother in Germany was cleaning her house for Christmas. The spiders fled up to the attic to escape the vigorous sweeping and dusting. That night when

the house became quiet, the spiders slowly crept back down and saw a beautiful tree. They were excited as they scurried up the trunk and out along each branch of this new tree inside the house. They happily climbed among the glittering beauty. But, alas! by the time they were through climbing, the tree was completely shrouded in their grey spider webs. When Santa Claus came with gifts for the children and saw the tree covered with spider webs, he smiled at how happy the spiders must have been, but he knew how heartbroken the good mother would be if she saw the tree covered with dusty grey webs. He turned the webs to silver and gold. The tree sparkled and shimmered and was even more beautiful than before.

"That's why we have tinsel on our tree," says Pinter, and every tree should have a Christmas spider in its branches.

Jeweled ornament spiders and copies of this legend will be available at the Key Peninsula Lutheran Church Hands and Hearts Christmas Bazaar on Dec. 4 from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Add a new tradition to your celebration.

Whether you observe Chanukah, St. Lucia Day, Winter Solstice, Christmas, Kwanza, or none of the above, everyone can find something to celebrate with special foods and decorations and activities this time of year, unless you're the original Scrooge reincarnated.

Mosquito Fleet Cuisine on the Peninsula

By Sharon Hicks

Chef Dorne Webster recently migrated from Colorado to the Key Peninsula where he has family. He brought with him a repertoire of expertise in culinary skills with 27 years of chef experience in the food and beverage industry ranging into the highest of rankings - Keystone Ski Resort in the Rocky Mountains and Maui, where he spent two and a half years.

Webster started his own business this summer as owner of Mosquito Fleet Cuisine where he says he "works best at working

and planning with a client" with a tray of vegetables and cheese nearby. They discuss the theme, whether it be cocktails and hors d'oeuvres, a private party for 50, or a simple three-course meal, all done in the client's home.

In culinary school, Dorne was artistic in cooking, from Mediterranean to classic French cuisine using the highest end ingredients. A very noble, developed-to-feed-kings private golf resort is the Castle Pines Convention Resort in Colorado where Webster worked to become the Black Swan of haute cuisine. Using this

degree, he was honored to be sent to Pebble Beach as a guest chef and has cooked for many well-known celebrities at various times in his career.

Some may recognize Dorne from the Farmers Market in Key Center this past summer as he cooked on the spot and presented various dishes from local farm grown fresh foods and wines. He also prepared a delicate cuisine for Flavor of Fall in September.

Webster says his fondest cuisine is using abalone, truffles, fine wines and liquors, as they bring out the artist in him.



Courtesy photo, KP News

Chef Dorne Webster brings his wealth of culinary artistry to the key Peninsula with his business, Mosquito Fleet Cuisine.

Green Gifts for the Holidays

By Irene Torres

Holiday shopping can be overwhelming with so many products on store shelves. Wise gift-givers who choose to buy environmentally safe, smart presents for loved ones find it a challenge.

Here are some ideas:

Give local: Local charities need support, now more than ever. Two examples, the KP Community Services and KP Children's Home Society will put your gift to good work in the community. Churches and civic organizations, including the KP Civic Center, food banks, veterans' organizations, libraries, and other deserving charities work hard all year to make a difference in our community.

Green toys: "Green Living For Dummies" is just one of many book-guides that can help shoppers look for the right gift. Its authors suggest choosing toys made from natural materials, made from solid wood, and those with non-toxic finishes. They advise avoiding plastics that contain PVC. They recommend stuffed toys made from organic cotton and natural fabrics. Choosing durable toys prevents unnecessary landfill waste. Toys that don't require batteries can be solar-powered. One online source for alternative energy-powered toys is www.fatbraintoy.com. A source for dolls is www.naturaldolls.com. A step ahead from the ant farm of yesterday, there is the Geo-Safari Bug Scene Investigator and a Glow-in-the-Dark Solar System. Sources are Ladybug Land and the Big Bug Magnifier from (800) LIVEBUGS. Books on endangered species can help children and adults learn about the protection of at-risk animals. For animal lovers, consider making a donation to an animal shelter in their name.

Give a tree: The Arbor Day Foundation has 'Give-a-Tree' cards, for every card purchased they will plant a tree. www.arborday.org/bestideas.

Shop local: Not only does buying local products from local businesses help your neighbors, it reduces transportation costs and fuel-emissions. Edible gifts, including local jams, jellies, mustards (www.themustardseedproject.org), honey and other products are readily available examples. A paperwhite amaryllis bulb always brings holiday cheer. Another idea is a contribution to save honeybees, to ensure the supply of honey. Contributions made in the gift-recipient's name may be made to www.helpthehoneybees.com, to www.thehoneybeeproject.com, and to www.honeybeeconservation.org. The fruit bat has its own protection agency: The Bat Conservation Trust.

Visit www.batcon.org or www.nwf.org for ideas.

Recycle: Flea market and yard sale finds can be repurposed. Surplus wallpaper and paper goods can be used for wrapping and gift tags. Tin canisters can be filled and re-used, and don't require wrapping. Consider vintage tea towels, doilies, table covers, etc., or use a scarf as giftwrap. Costume jewelry from thrift shops can lend a hint of elegance to any wrapped package. A brooch to pin the fabric wrapping will eliminate the need for tape.

Home products: Low-flow shower heads, solar-powered devices, low-energy light bulbs, energy-efficient appliances, and organic products are a few examples that reduce carbon footprint and encourage conservation.

Event Tickets: Rather than giving hard good presents, consider giving tickets to concerts, plays, sporting events, and local fundraisers.

A labor of love: A coupon for window-washing, snow shoveling, housecleaning, lawn-mowing, a homecooked meal, or any number of household chores would be welcomed by seniors and others. Your time can be a most treasured gift. Other welcome gifts include certificates for an oil change, car wash, or gas card. A visit to a local spa for a pedicure, massage, and aromatherapy can ease holiday stress, and would be appreciated by many.

Encourage gardening: Consider books, seed catalogs, seed packets, potted plants, garden baskets, gloves and other items for the green-thumb in your family. Another idea is a seed bomb, a packet of wildflower seeds that can be spread and enjoyed for years to come: www.jaysonhomeandgarden.com.

Arrange a 'staycation': A farm tour or a stay-near-home vacation can give your family a chance to see the neighborhood in ways they may never have seen it. This 'experience' gift is becoming popular. More information is available online at www.agntourism_world.com or www.homestay-web.com. Environmentally-conscious lodging is a growing trend: www.Greenhotels.com for those who decide to travel for the holidays.

Natural decorations: Dried orange slices, cranberries, holly berries, evergreen boughs, and other natural items can make a beautiful wreath and be one less plastic product entering a landfill.

A new car: For a big-ticket holiday, give a 'smart' car, a hybrid or other fuel-efficient vehicle.

For other ideas see "The Everything Green Living Book" by Diane Gow McDilda, 2007. It is available at www.everything.com and at the Key Center Library.



Colleen Slater, KP News

Winter's Coat

Nothing says Happy Holidays quite like a dusting of snow.

FISH Food Bank toy drive under way

The Fish Food Bank Christmas Toy Drive is in full swing. Donations for children of all ages are needed, and all donations stay in the Gig Harbor / Key Peninsula area. The charity has served the community for more than 20 years. Roughly 50 percent of their collections reach the Key Peninsula, with the other half going to Gig Harbor.

The organization is looking for unwrapped toys, monetary donations, and some volunteers. While toys are needed for kids of all ages, their greatest challenge is providing for teenage children.

When buying for this event, the charity asks you to consider purchasing gifts for children ages 13 to 17. As an example, gifts for girls in this age group might include gift cards from local stores, bath and scented lotion sets, perfume, popular DVD movies, music CDs, board games, knitted scarves, hats, gloves and socks, age-appropriate books, hoodies and coats. Gifts for boys in this age range might include gift cards from local stores, game balls, board games, age appropriate books and DVD movies, music CDs, warm hats, scarves, gloves and socks, hoodies and coats.

This year the organization has set up donation bins for toys, and donation boxes for monetary gifts at various locations. Monetary donations help to purchase gift cards for the children and supplies for this event.

Drop boxes for monetary donations can be found at Kelly's Café & Espresso; Seasons On The Bay; Gig Harbor Beads; Wild Birds Unlimited; Ace Hardware (Thrifty Shopping Center); Birdnest Gallery & Framing; Marina Bay Salon; Natural Cleaners; Harbor Nail; 9 Essential Day Spa; the UPS Store on Point Fosdick Drive; and Sav-On Pharmacy in Albertsons. Donations can also be mailed in directly. Specify funds should go to the toy drive and mail them to PO Box 154, Gig Harbor, 98335.

There are decorated donation bins for toys at Video HQ; Gam-etag; and Gig Harbor Beads. The main office is located at 6617 38th Ave, Gig Harbor, though space is limited at that location. For large volumes of toys, please contact Patricia at 884-5599, and arrangements will be made to drop toys at a designated storage unit.

You can keep in touch with the effort through the group's Facebook page.

Annual lunch and auction benefits Mary Bridge

Over 100 members and guests enjoyed the annual Dr. Penrose Orthopedic Guild lunch and auction in November.

A delightful salad lunch prepared by chef Joni Welch, with delicious Tiramisu created by Carolyn Whitson and Willie Robinson for dessert wowed the diners.

Joyce Fischlin at the keyboard and Pat Constantino on flute played Christmas music as background as guests browsed tables and signed their names for silent auction items.

Thirteen members brought their own tablecloths, dishes and centerpieces to set the festive tables, so each one was different and special. A few centerpieces were auctioned off, as well as some big ticket items like the Bluenose model schooner donated by Lakebay Nautical, an Adirondack chair, a Tom Torrens' bell, and a gourmet dinner for eight.

Homemade jams, jellies, baked goods and one of a kind ornaments were for sale as well as a wide variety of silent auction

items. New this year was a 5-item raffle that included a jar of bills totaling over \$30.

The Guild took in \$8,500 that benefits Mary Bridge Orthopedic Hospital in Tacoma.

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Courtesy photo, KP News

A guest considers a colorful afghan at the lunch and auction event.

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DOUBLE MIXUP PUZZLE: What Do We Celebrate?

By Rick Sorrels

ADULT MIXUP PUZZLE -- History mind twister.

Reshuffle the made up words to create the answer to the clues, then reshuffle the marked letters to answer the question.
Clue: ORIGINAL PLACE NAMES on or near the KP. Answers are on page 21.

1. Original name for the city of Port Orchard. A major road carries this name.

D Y S N E Y

2. For the city of Belfair. A major road carries this name.

N O F L I C T

3. For Glencove. Named after one of Wilke's crewmen.

S C H A L B

4. For town where SiFi writer Frank Herbert spent his childhood growing up. Ocean going vessels used to load milled lumber at its pier.

B L U R E Y

5. For town that a fishhatchery was named after. Two creeks and a bay also carry this name.

R E N T I M

6. For town that was located across the street from the fishhatchery. A railroad terminated there.

G L E I N

7. For the place where a Shell station and auto repair operate today. Named after the person who built them.

J D S

Reshuffle the highlighted letters to answer the question:
WHAT IS THE REAL REASON FOR THE SEASON?

YOUTH MIXUP PUZZLE

Reshuffle the made up words to create the answer to the clues, then reshuffle the marked letters to answer the question.
Clue: The names of Santa's eight original reindeer.

E N V I X

D U P I C

T O C E M

N O D D E R

C A N D E R

S H A D E R

C R A P N E R

N I B L E T Z

Reshuffle the highlighted letters to answer the question: WHAT IS THE PERCEIVED REASON FOR THE SEASON?

S



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Color this page to your hearts desire and then send it to:

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It will be available at www.kpba.org within the "photo gallery" section

They will also be displayed at the retail businesses on the list.

We will be bringing Santa to the following areas, on the designated days, between 6-8pm* (weather permitting)... Listen for our sleigh bells to signal our arrival!!!

Sun, December 5

Tree lighting in Key Center
 Lake Minterwood

Wed, December 8

Wind and Tides
 Green Tree
 Emerald Shores
 Bel Mar

Fri, December 10

Skate Night at the Civic Center

Sat, December 11

Volunteer Park (5-6:30pm)
 Jackson Lake
 Home

Mon, December 13

Lake of the Woods
 Bel Ridge

Wed, December 15

Palmer Lake
 Whiteman Road
 Taylor Bay

Fri, December 17

Lake Holiday

Sat, December 18

Horseshoe Lake
 Cristofon Heights

Sun, December 19

Joemma Beach Farms
 Hoff Road

*Due to Weather and Reindeer Games, exact times are not possible.

BRIEFS

News

Monastery temporarily closed

Last month we reported that the Cat Tuong Monastery was open to anyone on Tuesday nights for meditation training with Brother Dang. Unknown to us at the time we ran the piece, Brother Dang soon went on an extended travel trip to last a number of months. A chain now locks visitors out of the driveway. We apologize for any inconvenience as a result of the original story. The reporter did not know of the upcoming travel or the plans to lock the monastery. People interested in learning when or if the Tuesday night sessions will continue can contact Brother Dang at tambuttv@yahoo.com.

Salatino Christmas Dinner

The annual Salatino Christmas Dinner will be held at the Key Peninsula Civic Center on Christmas Day. Interested persons who would normally be alone for the Holi-

days should contact Joyce at 851-4556 for details to attend. Monetary donations are welcome from the public to purchase personalized gifts for the attendees.

KPCCA holds election

The Key Peninsula Civic Center Association elected new members to serve on the Board and the Executive Committee Nov. 11. Executive committee members of the Key Peninsula Civic Center Association serve one-year terms, and board members serve a staggered two-year term.

Bruce Macdonald was re-elected as President, Mark Roberts was elected as first Vice President and Loyd Miller is the second Vice President. Phil Bauer will serve as Past President, Irene Torres was elected as Secretary, Doug Austin as Treasurer, Patricia Medveckus as first Member at Large, Matt Kennedy as second Member at Large and Peggy Gablehouse serves in Human Resources.

Board Members re-elected include Sylvia

Haase, Claudia Loy, Dale Loy, Patricia Medveckus, Loyd Miller, Sharon Miller, Jeff Nelson, Mark Roberts, Doug Austin, Phil Bauer and Peggy Gablehouse. Glen Pszczola assumed the Board membership position for Boy Scout Troop 220.

The new Board and Executive Committee member terms become effective at the conclusion of the Dec. 9 KPCCA Board meeting.

Columnists for 2011

The KP News was happy to receive seven submissions for the 2011 columnist selection. Our selection committee carefully read over each entry and selected Tracy Butzko, Gayle Herman and Rick Sorrels as the rotating columnists for 2011.

KP News thanks each of the people who submitted proposals and examples of their writing. Each year we choose a new group of columnists, and encourage everyone who is interested in contributing to the KP News to submit for the selection.

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The Key Peninsula
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wishes to thank all of our
donors, volunteers, and
community members for
your support in 2010.

May your holidays
be festive, and
your New Year
be bright.



COMMUNITY WORKS

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

Enroll now! Key Peninsula residents are able to complete a basic skills education for college entrance or a GED. Classes meet Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9:30-11:30 a.m. at the Home Fire Station. Evening classes on Tuesday and Thursday from 6:30-8:30 p.m. are now available at the TCC Gig Harbor Campus. For information, registration and orientation call Tracy Clark, 253-460-2356.

Dec. 1–21

Trees of sharing

The KP Veterans Institute sponsors Trees of Sharing, gifts for veterans, at both Key Peninsula Markets and Community House.

Dec. 2

Chanukah begins and lasts for eight days.

Dec. 4

Christmas bazaar

Key Peninsula Lutheran Church will be holding their annual "Hand and Hearts Christmas Bazaar" from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Featured will be affordable gifts of hand-made crafts and household decor items as well as the popular array of Scandinavian and other holiday baked goods. The proceeds from this event benefit the Community Meal Program. Kay, 884-3466.

Dec. 4

SAVE open house

SAVE Thrift Store in Purdy hosts its holiday open house from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Shop for holiday décor, tree trimmings,

gifts, festive apparel and the entire inventory at low prices. Profits at SAVE Thrift Store benefit the Peninsula Hawks Scholarship Fund. SAVE is just below Peninsula HS in Purdy. 857-2800.

Dec. 4

Holiday concert

The Friends of the Key Center Library host a free holiday concert at 2 p.m. in the library. Madrigalia, a 5-member group of Seattle-based singers, will be performing Christmas and other madrigals. Donations of non-perishables or cash to the KP Food Bank are encouraged. 884-2242.

Dec. 4 & 5

Eagles Bazaar

Gig Harbor Eagles Annual Holiday Bazaar, Sat. 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Sun. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., free admission and parking, 4425 Burnham Drive NW, Gig Harbor.

Dec. 5

Tree lighting

The Key Peninsula annual festivities and tree lighting ceremony begins at 4 p.m. at the Key Center Corral. This event is free and sponsored by the KP Business Association. Jud, 884-5433.

Dec. 6, 13, 20, 27

Bloodmobile

The bloodmobile is at Albertson's from 11:30 a.m.-7 p.m. It's at Peninsula High School on Dec. 14 from 8 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Dec. 7

Fair association meets

The public is invited to the Fair Association meeting at 6:30 p.m. at the Roadhouse Restaurant. The fair association is seeking community input and ideas to make KeyFest and the Key's Got Talent a continuing success. 253-444-3547 or www.keyfair.org.

Dec. 8

Knit or crochet

Loving Hearts meet from 1-3 p.m. and again from 7-9 p.m. on Dec. 16 at the Way-Point Church. New members are welcome to attend and make projects for non-profits in the community. lovingheartsonkp@aol.com or Virginia, 884-9619.

Dec. 10

Winter camp deadline

KP Parks is hosting an indoor Winter Break Camp for K-5th graders on Monday-Thursdays from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. in the KP Civic Center Gym. Session one is from Dec. 20-23. Session two is from Dec. 27-30. Fee is \$100/session or \$30/day if registered before 12/10; fee is \$35/day for those registering after 12/10. Only 15-30 are allowed per session. Obtain a camp registration form by stopping by the KP Park Office, calling 884-9240, or at www.keypenparks.com.

Dec. 11

Gingerbread houses

Children may make gingerbread houses at 2 p.m. at the Key Center Library. Must be registered before this free event sponsored by the Friends of the Library; to register, call 884-2242.

Dec. 12

Christmas concert

The Key Singers present their annual free Christmas Concert at 3 p.m. at the KP Lutheran Church. Non-perishable food or checks/cash for the KP food bank donations are appreciated. 884-5615.

Dec. 13

Shopping trip

KP Parks hosts a day trip to historic Gilman Village in Issaquah from 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Gilman Village has 40 specialty shops and restaurants. Cost is \$23 plus lunch and shopping money. The first 5-10 folks to register will go leaving from

Volunteer Park. Call Chad, 884-9240 or chad@keypenparks.com.

Dec. 18

Christmas program

The Wonder of Christmas, a free musical program celebrating the birth of Christ, will be presented at 3 p.m. at the Key Peninsula Lutheran Church. Donations for the Back Pack program are appreciated.

Dec. 18-19

Orchestra plays

The Gig Harbor Peninsula Civic Orchestra hosts a free performance at 7 p.m. at Peninsula High School. 858-3016.

Dec. 21

Winter solstice – the shortest day of the year.

Dec. 26

Boxing Day

Celebrated in England, and some other countries such as Canada, Australia, New Zealand.

Dec. 26

Kwanza begins and lasts through Jan. 1.

Dec. 28

Teen time

Teen time is held from 3:30-5 p.m. at the Key Center Library. 884-2242.

Jan. 6

Deadline

The deadline to register 4-9 year olds for KP Parks' Ballet 101 is today. Classes will be held for 6-15 students on Tuesdays, Jan. 11-Feb. 15 from 4:30-5:30 p.m. in the Whitmore Room at the KP Civic Center. Cost is \$48; ballet slippers are required. Register with Chad, 884-9240 or chad@keypenparks.com.

(See Community, Page 13)

To submit an event

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

(From **Community**, Page 12)

Jan. 8 Mountain men and women

“Mountain Men and Women of the Fur Trade” will be presented as a family event at 2 p.m. at the Key Center Library. Learn about black powder guns, leather fringes and the legendary summer rendezvous of the trappers. This is part of the Second Saturday events planned at the library. 884-2242.

Jan. 11 Registration deadline

Tumbling for 4-9 year olds will be held for 6-15 students on Thursdays, Jan. 13-Feb. 17 from 4:30-5:30 p.m. in the Whitmore Room at KP Civic Center. Cost is \$48 and sweat pants, tights

DECEMBER PUBLIC MEETINGS

KP Community Fair Association

Dec. 7, 6 p.m. in Roadhouse Restaurant VIP room.

KP Community Council

Dec. 8, 6:30 p.m. at Key Center Library.

Peninsula School District Board

Dec. 9, 6 p.m. regular meeting at district office.

KP Civic Center Board

Dec. 9, 7 p.m. in Whitmore Room, KPCC.

KP Metro Parks

Dec. 13, 7:30 p.m. at Volunteer Park Annex.

Fire District 16

Dec. 14, 28, 3 p.m. in meeting room, Key Center Fire Station.

LIC

Christmas Dinner meeting, Dec. 15, 6:30 p.m. Longbranch Improvement Club.

and gym shoes are needed. Register with Chad 884 9240 or chad@keypenparks.com.

Jan. 12 Kids' basketball

KP Parks offers coed basketball skills clinics for pre-k to third grade kids on Saturdays, Jan. 15 to Feb. 19, at the KP

Middle School. Cost is \$45 and parent involvement is required. For more information or to register, call Chad, 884-9240 or chad@keypenparks.com.

Jan. 14 Men's basketball

KP Parks sponsors a non-refereed, organize your own team, full-court,

no trophies or standings, and call your own fouls 4-on-4 recreational men's basketball league. Games will be on Sunday evenings (after 4 p.m.) from Jan. 16-March 6 at the KP Middle School gym. Four to eight teams will be taken on a first-come, first served basis at a cost of \$197/team. Register by Jan. 14 with Chad, 884-9240 or chad@keypenparks.com.

OFF THE KEY

Dec. 1 Menorah lighting

The free Gig Harbor Menorah lighting will be held at Uptown on Pt. Fosdick Drive at 6 p.m. Kristin, 851-4557.

Dec. 3-12 “Annie”

Paradise Theatre presents “Annie” on weekends at 9911 Burnham Drive NW. Call 851-PLAY for information or tickets or go to www.paradisetheatre.org.

Dec. 4 Burley bazaar

The Burley Community Club hosts their annual Holiday Arts & Crafts Bazaar from 9 a.m.-7 p.m. at the Burley Community Club, 14853 Burley Avenue. Indoor and outdoor vendors, visits with Santa (bring your camera) treat bags for kids, baked goods, food, raffle prizes and live caroling by the Burley-Glenwood Elementary School Choir from 2-2:30 p.m. are part of the bazaar. Donations to the local food bank are appreciated. Jane, 857-8809, burleyclub@gmail.com or www.burleycommunityclub.org

Dec. 4 Tree lighting

Gig Harbor begins the holidays with the tree lighting, carolers, refreshments and festive fun at 5 p.m. at Skansie Park. 857-4842

Dec. 4 & 5 Nativity scene

Walk or drive through recreated Bethlehem from 5-8 p.m. at the Discovery Baptist Church (4902 Gustafson Drive NW, Gig Harbor). This free event has a nativity scene with live animals and a cast of 200. Refreshments are available. 858-8990 or www.discoverybaptist.org

Dec. 4-5 Tidefest

Shop in Gig Harbor while listening to the sounds of the holidays during the annual arts and crafts fair. 851-6131

Dec. 5 Chorus performs

The Peninsula Community Chorus presents a free Community Chorus Holiday Concert at 3 p.m. at the Memorial Chapel of Chapel Hill Presbyterian Church, 7700 Skansie Avenue. 858 9446 or www.peninsulachorus.org

Dec. 5 Tree Lighting

Fox Island's tree lighting at 6 p.m. has refreshments, a live concert, and Santa at Nichols Community Center. Free, but a non-perishable food donation for FISH is appreciated. 549-2701

Dec. 10-12

Candlelight celebration

Celebrate the historic downtown waterfront of Gig Harbor where shops stay open to begin the shopping season. Friday, 6-8 p.m. Saturday, noon-8 p.m. and Sunday, 1-4 p.m. 253-514-0071

Dec. 11 Boat parade

Enjoy the Gig Harbor Yacht Club's beautiful lighted and decorated nautical display at Gig Harbor Bay beginning at 5:00 p.m. 857-7779

Dec. 17 Free movie

The Gig Harbor Welcome Club hosts “Horse Whisperer” at 10 a.m. at the Galaxy Uptown Theatre.

Dec. 18-19 Santa photos

Bring your camera for a free photo with Santa at the Beach Basket Christmas Shop from 1-5 p.m. Kids get a candy cane and an ornament. Kim, 858-9639

Dec. 25 Breakfast buffet

The Inn at Gig Harbor hosts a special Christmas breakfast buffet from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Reservations are required; 858-1111.

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GIG HARBOR \$190,000
Nice, well maintained home featuring 3 bedroom, 2 baths & 1664 square feet. Built in 2006, this rambler sits on 1.33 acres with an attached 2 car garage.
Dottie Mazza
253-857-3304 #29 107936



LAKE MINTERWOOD \$279,500
Like new home with new appliances. Great community of above average quality homes, near schools, Little League fields, Hospital & YMCA. 2000+ square feet home with 3 bedroom & 2.25 baths.
Bill Poch
253-857-3304 #114005



KEY PENINSULA NORTH \$299,950
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LAKEWOOD \$349,000
Rare investment opportunity! Prime location with terrific visibility & traffic count. Shy 1 acre with 137 ft frontage. 2 houses & garage rented should cover payments while working on future development. Too many possibilities to mention.
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FILUCY BAY \$436,000
Affordable waterfront! Breathtaking views of Mt Rainier. Guest quarters over the garage features a large deck with views of Pitt & Drayton Passage. 50 feet of waterfront with your own pebble beach.
Dallas Amidon
253-857-3304 #117362



GIG HARBOR \$450,000
What incredible opportunities this commercial property offers! Rent the commercial building; an opportunity to have 2 shops & rent out the large 2 story home in back or live in the house yourself & start your own business. The ideas are endless here!
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253-857-3304 #87888



LAKE OF THE WOODS \$40,000
Located at the end of the cul-de-sac you'll find this great .34 ac lot. Water, power, 6 bedroom gravity septic in the ground & fenced on 2 sides is all ready for your mobile or stick built home. Cement pad ready for the garage. Beach rights to quiet private lake.
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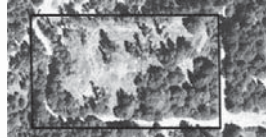
LAKE HOLIDAY \$79,950
Partial view of lake near the club house & boat ramp. Cleared for year round or recreational home. Potable water will be available in future. 8 minutes to Purdy.

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Double Mix-Up Puzzle solution

Adult puzzle

1. SYDNEY was the original name for Port Orchard. Sidney Road goes from Horseshoe Lake to Port Orchard.

2. Elgin-Clifton Road ran between the towns of Elgin and Clifton. **CLIFTON**, in Mason County was renamed Belfair.

3. **BALCH'S** Cove was named after a crewman on the Wilkes Expedition which surveyed the Sound in 1841. Balch's Cove was later renamed Glencove.

4. Dune author Frank Herbert was born in Tacoma. His family moved to a farm in **BURLEY** in 1928 when Herbert was 8 years old. The Burley Lagoon has silted up quite a bit since its use by ocean going vessels.

5. A town, a fishhatchery, two creeks, a bay, and a lagoon were all named **MINTER**.

6. The town of **ELGIN** was located where Creviston Road crosses Minter Creek. A railroad carried logs from Port Orchard onto a pier in Minter Lagoon where ocean going vessels were loaded.

7. In 1986, along the 13700 block of Key Pen Hwy, Don and Cheri Maestro

built the gas station (currently Shell), the convenience store, and what was originally a tire store, which since became an equipment rental, and then auto repair facilities. Oldtimes still refer to it as **DJ'S**

Youth puzzle

Santa's Reindeer: **VIXEN, COMET, DANCER, PRANCER, CUPID, DONDER, DASHER, BLITZEN**. Rudolph was a late arrival, not one of the original eight.

Adults recognize that the "Reason for the Season" is **JESUS BIRTHDAY**.

Children think mostly of **SANTA VISIT**, and of course candy and toys.

The greatest benefit of the season is arguably the general cheerfulness and camaraderie amongst friends, relatives, and even strangers.

More Key Peninsula history can be learned from past issues of the KP News, which is available online, and from the KP Historical Society and Museum which is located behind the Civic Center in Vaughn.

Keller Williams Realty
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Key Peninsula Family Resource Center
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Keller Williams Realty Culture Chairperson

FredAngus@kw.com email

or

253-853-2584 Direct Office

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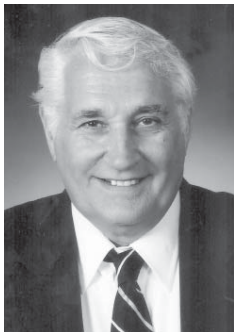
253-884-1300

Rick Stout

Richard G. "Rick" Stout passed away Nov. 11 at the age of 78 from cancer. He was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force and U.S. Army, was a second term Key Peninsula Fire Commissioner, long time member of the VFW District 4 and worked 18 years in civil service as a medic with Madigan Hospital's emergency room.

He is survived by his wife of 54 years, Maureen McNiff Stout and their children, Dennis, Michael, Stephen, Thomas, Paul, and daughter Katrina.

Stout moved his family to the Key Peninsula in 1976. He was committed to



the Key Pen community. He was a volunteer firefighter with the Key Peninsula Fire Department and became a battalion chief before his retirement.

He was a Fourth Degree Knight of the Knights of Columbus, 10-year member of the Elks, a former KP Lions Club member and trailblazer with the KP Lions annual Volksmarch.

He was serving his second term as fire commissioner at the time of his death.

He will be missed by all.

Services for Stout were held at St. Nicholas Church in Gig Harbor on Nov. 27.

Dean Ennis

Dean Arthur Ennis March 31, 1955-Nov. 15, 2010

Dean Arthur Ennis, 55 of Wauna, Wash. passed away at home Monday Nov. 15, 2010 following a recent stroke.

Dean was born March 31, 1955 in Tacoma, Wash. He graduated from Bethel High School in 1973. Two years later he married the love of his life Carolyn. They have two children, Christopher Dean and Abbey Rose.

Dean had a huge heart, a great smile and hug for everyone. Whenever you needed anything he was always there to help. He enjoyed life and wanted everyone around him to enjoy life as much as he did. He enjoyed rock and roll and lived life loud.



He was a dedicated husband, father, brother, uncle, son, and friend.

He is survived by his wife of 35 years, Carolyn, his children Christopher Dean and Abbey Rose, his parents Harvey and Donna Ennis, his siblings Cheryl Ennis, Jami Robson and Jess (and Lyn) Ennis. The memorial service took place Nov. 26 at the

Gig Harbor Golf Club, 6909 Artondale Dr. NW, Gig Harbor.

A memorial fund for his family has been established at US Bank.

Thank you to every friend, every member of his family and extended family and all those who were part of the circle of smiles in his life. We shall all miss him.

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Photo courtesy of Al Prante

The Narrows Strut Busters Local Chapter (founded in Gig Harbor and representing West Puget Sound members from the Tacoma Narrows Bridge to Hood Canal) Turkey Hunters Care Coordinator Bruce Buckell and Chapter President Al Prante loaded the pickup with turkeys to donate to area food banks in time for the holidays. Turkey hunters deliver to area food banks as part of the National Wild Turkey Federation's Turkey Hunters Care Program on Nov. 13. The group delivered 156 turkeys (more than \$2,400 worth) to five food banks in the communities of Gig Harbor, Port Orchard, Bremerton, Belfair, and on the Key Peninsula.



Photo by Hugh McMillan, KP News

4515: A swirl of costumed kids and adults at one of many activities offering treats at the Longbranch Improvement Club's annual "Trunk or Treat" funfest.

KP News 'Where in the World'



Courtesy photo

This photo was taken in front of the 22nd HRC in Joint Base Balad, Iraq.

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Ted Olinger of Vaughn was crowned the new Chili King Nov. 13 as part of the Key Peninsula Civic Center Association's 3rd Annual Winter Warm Up Chili Cook-off. Jud Morris was Master of Ceremonies, and Peninsula Lions Club members served as judges. Penny Grant, of Gig Harbor, took 2nd Place and Lisa Pinks, of Lakebay, came in at 3rd Place. Each winner received a round of applause, cash prize, and certificate to commemorate the event.

Photo by Danna Webster, KP News