KEY CENTER LIBRARY

The Voice Of The Key Peninsula Civic Center

Peninsula KEY NEWS

Vol. 25 Issue 12 Circulation 5,000 | From The Key Peninsula Civic Center | DECEMBER 1998

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Citizen Of The Year Nominations Welcomed

by Hugh McMillan

It's that time of year again. Time to nominate your candidates for Key Peninsula Citizens of the Year.

You doubtless know someone in your neighborhood, place of work, school, church, club, etc. who has gone the extra mile to make life on the Key Peninsula the special thing it is. Now's the time to ensure that they get the recognition none of them seeks but each of them deserves.

Anyone who lives or works or owns property on the Key Peninsula is eligible to be nominated. Only members of the Lions' Club are not eligible. Everyone else is.

Nominations should consist of a letter describing why you feel the person or persons should be recognized. It could be for some one act to better our community or it could be for sustained contributions of volunteer effort over many years. It is essential for the nominee's name, address, and phone number to be included in your letter of nomination.

Your letter may be mailed to Citizens of the Year, P.O. Box 63, Vaughn, WA 98394 or handed to any member of the Key Peninsula Lions' Club **not later than January 15, 1999**. If you write it now, it won't get lost in the holiday rush.

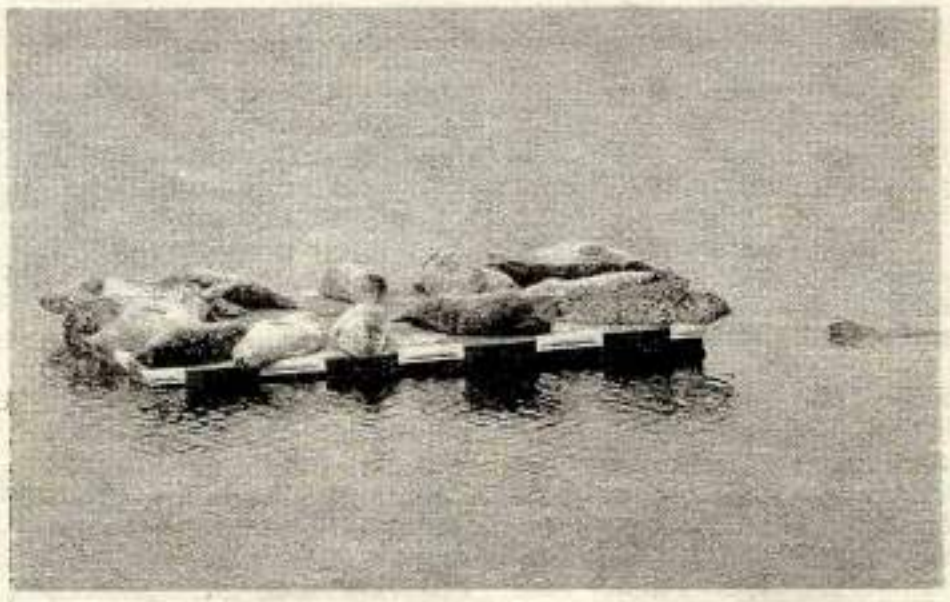
If you have questions, please call **Al Twidt, 884-1038, Rhys Wood, 884-2539, or Hugh McMillan, 884-3319.**

Fire Department To Have Public Hearing

A public hearing will be held December 9th, 1998 at 6:00 PM at the Headquarters Station in Key Center.

This hearing is scheduled to discuss the proposed 1999 budget for the Fire District #16, and also proposed tax levy amount.

All citizens are encouraged to attend this hearing. We would like your input on the spending of your taxpayers dollars for the coming year would be helpful.



It is a given when the swallows come back to Capistrano, Spring is just around the corner. It is also given that when the harbor seals return to Von Geldern Cove, the warm weather is about to disappear. This group was spied a couple of weeks ago, rudely not making room for one of the kids trying to join the seance.

Photo by Hugh McMillan

FRIDAY NIGHT SKATING IS BACK!

6:30 TO 9:00 PM

January 8th 1999

PARENT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Contact: Lila Garrison
253/884-3278
Family Skate on the
1st and 3rd Sunday
Of each month
From 1:00 to 3:00 PM

UNDER MY HAT

by Irene Zimmer
Facility Coordinator

Ah, December! That wonderful month full of the Holiday Spirit to take the edge off of winter's chill. I hope that you and yours have the happiest of holidays.

A great big thank you to all of those who volunteered at Reno Night and helped to make it a real success! We couldn't make it without your support!

The Christmas Bazaar went off without a hitch, thanks to the hard work of Krys Wylie. This is Krys' third year as chairman, and she does a great job! Breakfast was served this year for the first time. Lunch was available too, starting at 11:00 AM. Krys is also chairman of the Spring Festival. Look for the applications for the Festival in January's *Key Peninsula News*.

Indoor Park started up again on November 24th. It had been necessary to postpone its opening because of the construction. The Children's Home Society is in charge of the program again this year. It will be open on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9:30 to 11:30 AM. Remember no drop-offs! This is a program for parents and children, not a day-care facility. Children must be five years old or less. The cost is $1.00 per child. The money is used to purchase new toys and mats for the play area. Coffee is provided for the parents. Please come and join us!

VFW Post 4990 and its Ladies Auxiliary put on their second annual dinner on Thanksgiving Day under the kitchen direction of Eileen Young. **Ray Kiser** of *Pacific Northwest Terminals, Inc.* generously donated all of the food. Thanks to the many volunteers who helped to make the dinner possible. A good time was had by all!

Lila Garrison, our skate manager, has worked hard to get Friday night skating started as up again and she's done it! **January 8th** is the date to remember! Skating will be from **6:30 PM to 9:00 PM** for kids who are 14 years and under. Parents **must come in** and drop the kids off and **come in to pick them up.** Parent volunteers are invited to help. Call Lila at **884-3278** to sign up. There will be a few new rules because of the construction that has been done in the restrooms and skate room. Limited food service will be available.

Hope that you and yours have a safe and happy holiday season! See you next month!

THE FAMILY ROOM

It seems like December arrives earlier and earlier each year, and here it is again. As you prepare for the winter holidays, we hope that you and your family are keeping warm and well-nourished. If you are not, and are in need of services, please call us at **Children's Home Society Family Resource Center, 884-5433**. We can help you locate the resources that are available to meet your needs.

If you are wondering how to make ends meet, how to stretch your strained or non-existent budget to buy gifts and clothing and food for your family, we want to remind you of our Holiday Gift program. This year, the Family Resource Center is coordinating requests for assistance, and donations from the community. If you are in need of gifts or clothing for your children, please call, or come to see us at our office in the Civic Center in Vaughn. There is a simple and confidential sign-up procedure.

If, on the other hand, you want to express your holiday spirit by giving to your neighbors in need, please give us a call. You and your family or organization can sponsor one or more children, or an entire family. What a great way to spread joy during the holiday season!

As you may know, we recently said goodbye to our co-workers, Mike Ryan and Marla Saxer. They have both moved on to other pursuits, and we send our sincere good wishes with them. We invite you to come by and meet our new staff members.

The Fathers' Group continues to meet on Thursday evenings, 6:30 - 8:00 PM at our office. Randy Viers is our facilitator. If you are a Key Peninsula father who would like to get together with others in a comfortable and informal group to discuss the issues of being a dad in the modern world, please call the Family Resource Center for information. There is no cost or obligation.

Also, our Little Buddies program, which brings together elementary school students with students from Peninsula High School one afternoon a week at the KP Civic Center, is gearing up. We are seeking more Buddies, both Little and Big, to join us on Tuesday, December 1st for our first get-together this year. We plan to have a lot of fun together, so please call soon for information.

And the news so many of you have been waiting for: **Indoor Park** will be open at the Civic Center Tuesdays and Thursdays from **9:30 - 11:30 AM**, beginning **Tuesday, November 24**. The cost is $1 per child, and parents supervise their own children. Given the blustery weather we're experiencing, the Indoor Park sounds like an idea whose time has come.

Happy Holidays from the CHS Family Resource Center staff. We look forward to a great new year on the Key Peninsula!

A Halloween Thank You!

The Civic Center and Krys Wylie would like to thank the following people, groups and organizations for their volunteer support during and after the annual Halloween party at the Civic Center.

Lion Members: Austin Miller, Coral Orejro and Cindy Meyers.

Peninsula High School's Key Club coordinator: Carmen Murray, and members: Erin Bourdon, Niki Snyder, Emily Murphy, Casey McBride, Sheila Bowman, Heather Pierce, Anthony Buri, Roy Bowen, Meagan Murray, Allyson Dombeck, Matt Smith, Camille B, Andy Ludlow, Brooke Delee, Mary Francis Buri, Adam Daleo, and Scott Campbell.

TOPS #WA1019 members: Dan and Rosalie Busz, Frankie Johnson, Carol Bischoff, Laura Wizeski and Kate Burkhart.

Children's Home Society members: Mike Ryan and Marla Saxen, as well as Mike Ryan's family Karen Ryan, Patrick Ryan and Lenor Ryan.

Boy Scouts Troop # 220 Scout master: Bill Macaras, and members: Kevin Burhart, Kenny Burhart, Chris Burhart, Ron Moore, Aidan Schauor, Bjorn Karlsen, Anders Karlsen, Matt Macaras, and all the parents who stayed to pitch in a hand.

Camp Fire Kum Kum Ko He Leader: Debra Langley-Boyer, and members: Michelle Boyer, Melissa Boyer, and Alexandria.

Girl Scout Troop #83 Leader: Rene' Stanfill, and members: Cristina Stanfill and Kimberly Stanfill.

Thank you to everyone for all your hard work and help. I would also like to send a special thank you to Irene Zimmer, Cy Young, Crystal Harvey, Stephanie Zampini, Mike Salatino, Sandy McFarlane, and again Bill Macaras. Thank you, all of you, for making Halloween a wonderful event for our children. For any names forgotten or misspelled, forgive me, and thank you and every one who donated candy and baked goods.

The Following Businesses donated raffle items for Halloween that helped to finance the party.....

Key Peninsula Video
Key Center Pizza Plus
Angel Guild
Shear Magic
Home Texaco and Food Mart
Sunnycrest Nursery

Thank you for your continued support!

Second Annual Key Peninsula Pack 200 Cub Scouts' Carnival

by Hugh McMillan

The Second Annual Key Peninsula Cub Scouts' Pack 220 Carnival filled the KP Civic Center Saturday. At least 300 cubs, siblings, parents, scouts, den mothers, and adult scout and cub leaders made up the crowd. The place was bubbling with enthusiasm, fun, laughter, good natured pushing and shoving and a fabulous assortment of kids and adults in delightfully original costumes. The gym and Whitmore room were wall-to-wall people.

A dollar got you 10 tickets, each of which could be exchanged for a chance at a vast array of games. Everybody won a prize at each of them ... whether or not you threw the bean bag in the hole, the ball in the miniature golf cup, got a strike in pop bottle bowling, hit the target with the cork gun air rifle, or any of the other really imaginatively creative challenges.

"There were lots and lots of parents there helping to run the booths along with the cubs," said Jackie Ray, assistant den leader and assistant cub master who, together with Cheryl Archer, also a den leader, organized the event. Of the 14 dens participating, 12 dens each made an original game to be played by those attending.

"Bob Shaw helped with setup, Donna Edge made a lot of phone calls for volunteers, my husband (Lethaniel Ray) helped organize the den leaders, and a big thank you should go to all of the den leaders who put in a lot of work making the games with the boys," said Jackie Ray, "and Della Darbyshire, as always, got us all to volunteer to make it happen.

Regular Board Meeting Minutes October 8, 1998

The meeting was called to order by President Marty Marcus, at 7:30PM. It was MSC to accept the minutes as written. There was no Treasurer's report this month, but one will be mailed out within the week.

We received a letter of resignation from Dave Freeman, First Vice-President, explaining that due to his busy schedule, he could not devote the time to the Center that he felt it deserved. Colleen Slater of the Vaughn Bay Garden Club wrote to inform us that the front garden at the entrance to the Center grounds was the responsibility of the Association to keep up and maintain, but that the Club would still plant new things as often as possible. A letter was received regarding the removal of the basketball hoops, and it was decided that a letter explaining the actions of the Association would be written as well as both letters being published in the paper.

Manager's Report

The boilers and the furnace have been inspected and are up to par. The doors were installed on the 12th and look one hundred percent better. The Reno cards will be mailed out on the 16th of this month, and the cards will be counted the next week.

Group & Program Review

The Children's Home Society starts it's Fathers' Group tonight, and any are welcome. Unfortunately, Mike Ryan has resigned, and will only be here another few short weeks.

The Historical Society has its next potluck/meeting on October 22nd, and will be having a special speaker.

Flavor of Fall brought in approximately the same amount as last year, and a good time was had by all.

The Lakebay Fuchsia Society has been laying the new soil and will be planting a few shrubs for fall.

Reno Night is almost here, and volunteers are still needed.

Halloween is coming together well, everything is in order and the food has been bought. Volunteers are still needed, and suggestions on improvements always a help.

The Christmas Bazaar will be serving pancakes this year for breakfast from 8:30AM - 11:30AM, and so far we've sold approximately 45 tables.

Skate Night will be suspended until after the New Year due to construction.

Old Business

Construction of the bathrooms is finished minus some small items, there are a few things that need to be looked at, but other than that we're almost there. It was decided that Marty would contact Dave Freeman and set up a meeting to bring the Board up to date on construction.

A slate of nominees for the upcoming 1999 elections to the Executive Board will be given at the next regular meeting, and nominees for new Regular Board members will be accepted at that time.

New Business

Tim Kezele asks that everyone make sure to get out and vote for the Park Levy.

The vending machines were given back to the companies, and the Board is unsure on whether replacement would be wise.

Some used round tables were purchased from UPS; due to the amount purchased, it was MSC to sell the excess to the Longbranch Improvement Club.

Hugh McMillan asked that a forum be held at the Center with all political parties present to give each side a chance to air their views. Due to the time constraints that such a request would exceed, it was MSC to deny this request.

This meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Krys Wylie,
Secretary

Key Peninsula Civic Center Executive Committee

Marty Marcus, President
884-2213
Vicky McClung, 1st Vice President
884-1940
Sylvia Hanse, 2nd Vice President
884-3603
Kathy Hale, Treasurer
884-3619
Krys Wylie, Secretary
884-4370
Loyd Miller, At-Large
884-2536
Sandy McFarlane, At-Large
884-2633
Dale Loy, Past President
884-4169

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Mary Keizur CTP
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KEY PENINSULA HEALTH CENTER
8903 Key Peninsula Hwy. N Lakebay

A View From Home

By Marty Marcus

As I sit near the heater, wearing multiple layers and wondering when the next blast of cold wind and rain will hit, it's hard to write about the problem of global warming. Yet the latest evidence reported indicates that 1998 will go into the record books as the warmest year since 1106. So, while the experts (real and self-proclaimed) argue over how serious the problem really is, some facts remain indisputable.

Trees are tremendous storehouses of carbon dioxide. The demise of one tree can result in a ton of carbon dioxide being released into the atmosphere. But the total cessation of logging is obviously not a viable option. Nor is the burning of fossil fuels for the production of electricity or for the operation of motor vehicles about to be brought to a sudden halt.

So, how do we modify the practices that presently result in major increases in the amount of carbon dioxide being released without causing economic chaos? There are a number of approaches being tried, in the United States and in Latin America, some of which might be directly applicable to the Key Peninsula, and others which affect the total global amount of carbon dioxide, but apply only indirectly here.

One idea is to develop large-scale production of other fiber sources such as kenaf and hemp for making paper, saving trees for lumber use only. A related approach is to make more use of recycled paper. In Virginia, a "forest bank" will allow landowners to receive a steady income in return for the careful managing of their trees. In exchange for their timber rights they will be getting annual payments based upon the value of their trees. The "forest bank", operated by the Nature Conservancy, will have a full-time staff and a panel of forestry experts, and will follow timber-cutting methods that will minimize erosion and stream silting. Is this a possible way to protect our salmon streams?

In Vermont and North Carolina, agreements have been reached to manage forest lands in a manner which preserves biodiversity, allows public uses such as hunting, fishing and hiking, promotes the restoration of stands of native trees, while at the same time allowing careful logging.

In Costa Rica, a project in operation for a number of years supplies captive-hatched iguanas to farmers. The iguanas are turned loose to forage in the forests, and are then harvested when they are an appropriate size for human consumption. This produces up to eight times as much meat per acre as burning down the forests and raising cattle on the land, while at the same time leaving the trees to absorb carbon dioxide from the air. Unfortunately, the climate on the Key Peninsula is not suitable for raising iguanas outdoors.

As was pointed out in last month's column, about 75% of the carbon dioxide being released into the atmosphere comes from the burning of fossil fuels, so next month we'll look at some ways that certain electric companies, petroleum companies and others are attempting to ameliorate that problem.

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ASK ABOUT OUR LIFETIME WARRANTY

The Civic Center would like to thank the following people for their help on Reno Night....

Ann Waldo, Marty Marcus, Al Yanity, Henry Stock, Jerry Davis, Ed Taylor, Harvey Bell, Tom Howard, Mary Siedelman, Krys Wylie, Nancy Howard, Mary Ramsdell, Dick Granquist, Barbara Granquist, Fred Ramsdell, Irene Zimmer, Mike Coffin, Sandy McFarlane, Eileen Young, Sylvia Haase, Gina Liebergesell, Alice Tramil, Molly Meyers, Jennifer Clark, Coral Oreiro, Ronnie Dubois, Seniors, Lions, TOPS, Rose Malmgren, Lester Gulseth, Kelly Gulseth, Erma Dunn, Evelyn Stinson, Hugh McMillan, Al Twidt, Stephanie Zampini, Ruth Bramhall, Ann Larson, Kathy Hale, Tim Hale, Phyllis Jardin, DeeDee Kerkes, Claudia Loy, Dale Loy, Sebenna Burgess, Joyce Tovey, Shirley Olson, Dan Busy, Elris Pottorff, Donna Dilga , Jo Sproat, Jim Camp, Tom VanShyke, Jean Martin. Phyllis Veitenhans, Dennis Sutton, Mike Tovey, Mike Marchewitz, Dick Rasmussen, and Don Gabrielson.

T.O.P.S. News

by Julie Higgins

HAPPY HOLIDAYS to all of you from all of us at TOPS 1019 Vaughn. Don't you just love this time of year? Warm cozy fires, hot steamy drinks, warm fuzzy sweaters, family gatherings, friends, and delicious, tempting smells. Most of us just expect to gain a few pounds over the holidays. Not at T.O.P.S.! We not only have plans to lose, but also have contests, strategies, yummy lowfat recipes, and incentives to help us reach our goals. We are currently having a Holiday Challenge that runs through December 29th. Members are challenged to lose 10# over the holidays with gift certificates, special charms, and awards awarded to successful members. We also have buddies for the holidays to encourage and support each other. There are special programs to help you get through all the parties, dinners and special events without widening the waistline. We also have our annual Christmas party with its fun ornament exchange and lowfat potluck where every food choice is a good choice. Too bad all of our parties won't have this selection of good for you, great tasting food. Give yourself a gift for life! Come on down to the Key Peninsula Civic Center on Tuesday night at 7:00 PM and get a head start on your new year resolution.

What a great month for our T.O.P.S. members. Eleven members lost a total of 45 pounds. Betty Ostoyich, our best loser, lost a total of 23 1/4 # just last month! Weigh to go down! Congratulations to Pauline Longley who reached her goal and is now on her 13 week journey to K.O.P.S. We are so proud of you! A special thanks to all our members who volunteer their time and talents to support our group and make our group a great place to be losing weight. Keep up the good work and keep coming back!

KEY PENINSULA NEWS

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1. The *KEY PENINSULA NEWS* is a community newspaper owned and published by the KEY PENINSULA CIVIC CENTER ASSOCIATION, a non-profit Washington Corporation with main offices in Vaughn, Washington. The name, goodwill, and any copyright assets that may exist pertaining to the NEWS are among the financial assets of the KEY PENINSULA CIVIC CENTER ASSOCIATION.
2. The primary purpose of the NEWS is to serve as the communication means between the KPCCA Board (and its activities) and the residents of the Key Peninsula, generally corresponding with the defined geographical area of Pierce County Fire District 16.
3. The secondary purpose of the NEWS is to serve as a communication means between the KPCCA member organization and the residents of the same area.
4. The NEWS shall be entirely free of political bias, and shall advocate no particular religious point of view. Further, its service will be open to all local organizations and residents, subject to the availability of space and generally accepted good taste and legal considerations.

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

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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 letters for length, and content and no religious or political material will be printed. Mail letters to: P. O. Box 3, Vaughn, WA 98394.

BUSINESS / PROFESSIONAL GROUPS

KP Business Assoc.	Dec. 4 - 7:30 AM	Home Port Rest.
	Dec. 18 - Noon	Horseshoe Lake Rest.
Fire Fighters Assoc	Dec. 22 - 7:00 PM	Key Center Fire Sta.

CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS

Ashes	Dec. 3 - 10:30 AM	Key Center Fire Station
Boy Scout Troop #220	Thursdays - 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM - KPCCA VFW Rm.	
Cootiettes	3rd Thursday - 7:00 PM	KPCC/Whitmore Rm.
KPCCA Exec. Board	Dec. 7 - 7:30 PM	Civic Center
KPCCA Board	Dec. 10 - 7:30 PM (Potluck)	KPCC/Whitmore Rm.
KPCS Board	2nd Monday - 10:00 AM	Comm. House - Home
KPHC Board	4th Thursday - 7:30 PM	Health Center
KP Lions Club	1st & 3rd Wed. - 6:30 PM	KPCC/Whitmore Rm.
VFW & Auxiliary	2nd & 4th Mon.-7:00 PM	CC/VFW Room/WM Rm.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Adult Literacy Classes -	Call for Appointment **851-6552** - Gig Harbor	
Angel Guild	Dec. 21 - 10:00 AM	Brones Rm./KC Library
Cancer Support Group	3rd Thursday - 1:00 PM	Brones Rm./KC Library

Children's Home Society Family Resource Center - Monday through Thursday, 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM, Key Peninsula Civic Center, Lower Level - Call: **884-5433**
Food Bank - Tues. through Fri., 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM Comm. House - Home
Hot Lunch for Seniors on Wednesdays at Noon - Community House - Home
Also food & clothing assistance. For More Information, call **884-4440, 884-4514**, or **857-4780.**
Immunizations (FREE) Thursday, 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM at ***Urgent Care***, Gig Har.
Key Center Library 884-2242 - HOURS: Tuesday & Wednesday 1 - 8 PM, Thursday & Friday 1 - 6 PM, Saturday Noon - 4 PM

KP Baptist Bible Study	Wednesday - 7:00PM - 8:30 P	KP Civic Center
KP Baptist AWANA	Wednesday - 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM	KP Civic Center
Overeaters Anonymous	Wednesday - 7:30 PM	St. Nicholas Church
Parenting Network	Dec. 1, 8, 15 - 6:30 PM	CHS - Civic Center
Positive Fathering	Thursdays - 6:30 PM	CHS - Civic Center
Seniors Exercise Program	Tues. & Thurs. - 8:30 to 9 PM	Comm. House - Home

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

PUBLIC MEETINGS

KP Fire Commissioners	Dec. 9 - 7:00 PM	Key Center Fire Sta.
	Dec. 21 - 4:00 PM	Key Center Fire Sta.
KP Parks & Rec.	2nd Monday - 7:00 PM	Volunteer Park Annex

SELF-HELP GROUPS

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

Peninsula ALANON –	King of Grace Lutheran Church,	Purdy – Tuesday 1:30 PM
Caregivers Support	Dec. 10 - 7:00 PM	Brones Rm./KC Library
Grandparents Group	Dec. 5 - 1:00 to 3:00 PM	Brones Rm./KC Library

Contact Norma at **884-2205** for more information.
T.O.P.S. Tuesday Evening-Weigh-in 6:15 PM - Meeting at 7:00 PM - Civic Center

SOCIAL & HOBBY GROUPS

Bayshore Garden Club	Dec. 18 - Meeting	Longbranch Improvement
Cancer Support Group	3rd Tuesday - 1 - 3 PM	Brones Rm./KC Library
KP Historical Society	1st Thursday - 7:30 PM	KP Historical Museum.

MUSEUM OPEN Thursday and Saturday from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM

LB Improvement Club	Dec. 16 - 7:00 PM	Longbranch Improvement
Peninsula Neighbors	Dec. 8 - 10:00 AM	Longbranch Improvement
Lakebay Fuchsia Society	Dec. 3 - 7:00 PM	Brones Rm./KC Library
Ruth Circle Meeting	Dec. 21 - 10:00 AM	Bible Study, lunch and meeting at 12:00 Noon at the Longbranch Church
Senior Society Luncheon	Thursdays - Noon	KPCC/Whitmore Room
Vaughn Bay Garden Club	Dec. - Call **884-5403** for more information.	

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

A Closer Look At...

The Vaughn Civic Center

by Krys Wylie

A non- profit organization, the Civic Center caters to the whole community with both the events it sponsors and with the activities that occur throughout the year from its rentals. Events such as Pioneer Day, the various Bazaars, Halloween and Easter, as well as the weekly activities like dog obedience, Yoga, dance and weight management, to name a few. All of these events are put on for the sole purpose of giving the community surrounding the Center a place to meet others, broaden their horizons, have fun and participate with others of similar likes and ages in varying activities throughout the year.

The need of the community and its growth throughout the last few years has been readily apparent, and is one reason for the construction you see today, which unfortunately has put a damper on a few of the more popular activities geared towards our children; Skate night and Indoor Park. Indoor Park will be starting back up this month because of the high demand, and likewise Skate night will be coming back in all likelihood in January.

Some of the items that the Center is hoping to improve on over the next few years, and has already started the process on, are the bathrooms, new and larger storage areas, a new coat of paint as well as new windows, new lighting and carpeting, upstairs storage for the renters. A new design for the stage, which is a priority with the Center, due to the high demand for theater out here, especially children's theater. The theater design itself would include a more spacious stage, dressing room area and good lighting. The bathrooms are close to being finished, and the Skate room is a close second, they both look spectacular and if you have the time you should come down and tour the new additions and see how your donation dollars are improving these lovely facilities.

All of the items listed above do take money, and in an effort to improve the Center and give the community both a better place to meet at and more variety in events, the Center unfortunately has to put other things aside for short periods of time. Please have patience, and if you can help in any way, please contact **Irene Zimmer**, the Center Manager at **884-3456**.

Tax Tips

by R. Marvin Keizur CTP

Deadbeat Dads (and Moms) beware. If a newly proposed regulation is adopted, the Treasury Offset Program would be expanded to intercept more tax refunds and other Federal payments due taxpayers owing child support starting January 1, 1999. The new proposal would mean not only income tax refunds could be used to satisfy such debt, but also vendor, salary, and retirement payments made by the federal government.

Now may be the time to convert an IRA to a Roth IRA because the market is down, you'll have less income to report to the conversion – when the market recovers you eventually will have more funds in your Roth to withdraw tax-free. Check with your tax preparer about converting deductible and non-deductible IRA's.

Living And Learning On The Key Peninsula

Key Peninsula Historical Society

Did you miss our booth at the Key Peninsula's Civic Center Bazaar? Still looking for a great Christmas gift? One that won't break, go out of style and mails easily? The Historical Society's book, *Early Days of the Key Peninsula* is the answer to your problem. For the last minute shopper call **Tim Kezele** at **884-4538**. The book has already sold over 320 copies and is sure to please even the most difficult person on your Christmas list.

Even though the museum is going to be closed for two months. We are still very busy rearranging and adding to the museum's expanding collection. New projects include a new sign, a kitchen and living room display, and additional display areas.

Hope you all have a **Merry Christmas** and remember the Key Peninsula Historical society and Museum in 1999.

Remember the museum is closed all of December and will open Thursday, February 4th, 1999.

PEP-C Barrels

For over a year, PEP-C (Gig Harbor-Key Peninsulas Emergency Preparedness Committee) has made blue, plastic barrels available for sale to the public as containers for emergency water supplies.

During October's "Sound Shake" event, Marsh Allen, PEP-C's Chair for emergency water supply preparations, discovered that 48 of the barrels were missing. They had been stored at the parking area of the Gig Harbor fire station on Kimball Drive.

PEP-C, a non-profit, all volunteer organization dedicated to preparing the peninsulas to survive a major calamity - like an earthquake - sells the barrels for $10 for a 55 gallon barrel and $5 for a 15 gallon one, or free to those with chits from their food banks. All proceeds support PEP-C's efforts to prepare for impending emergencies. Just to recover the cost of this loss, PEP-C will have to sell 150 barrels.

Please call **851-3843, 851-2236, 884-3319** or **857-3700** if you can tell PEP-C what happened to the 48 barrels. They are needed to help prepare our communities to survive an emergency. Your call can be anonymous.

PEP-C has no barrels left to meet the communities' needs and a resupply is not anticipated before January 1999. When they are available, notification will appear in this paper and on **KGHP-FM, 89.9** and **89.3**.

Vaughn Bay Garden Club

A Christmas potluck at noon and gift exchange will be held for the December 16 meeting of the Vaughn Bay Garden Club at the home of Jean Kesterson.

At the November meeting, Frank Mead demonstrated how to make holiday wreaths, using materials easily available locally. Phyllis Anker was the lucky winner of the wreath, with another presented to hostess Joy Rakes.

The Club does not meet in January.

Anyone interested in joining the group may call **884-5403**.

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Pets And Christmas

The Christmas season is a time of goodwill, celebration, family get-together and sometimes, travel. As pet owners, we should be aware that the season also brings with it special concerns and problems for out pets. The following are just a few.

Travel - If your pet travels with you, be sure to take any prescription medication it may need for its particular medical problem. If your pet gets car sick, talk with your veterinarian about what can be given to prevent this from happening during your trip. Always provide plenty of water, if out of town use bottled water. Make frequent stops for your pet to eliminate. If he uses your car as a bathroom, it could make for a long and miserable trip.

If you plan to have your pet fly with you to your destination, you will need to have a health certificate issued as well as proof of current rabies vaccination. The health certificate must be issued and authorized by your veterinarian and usually must be issued no more than 10 days before your expected travel date. It's best to check with your airlines for their requirements.

Christmas Trees - Dogs and cats love tinsel and Christmas tree light bulbs. If your pet is allowed to get near the tree, hang these decorations beyond their reach. If ingested, they can lead to severe gastrointestinal disease.

Be aware, as well, that many dogs and some cats find the water that the tree is submerged in is tasty. While not necessarily toxic, ingesting it could also lead to gastrointestinal irritation.

Christmas Presents - Avoid giving your pet Christmas presents such as candies and especially chocolate, as they can cause serious illness and in the case of chocolate, death if ingested in large quantities. Keep pies, cakes and assorted Christmas candies out of your pet's reach even if you have no intentions of offering your pet these morsels as gifts because they can prove to be too tempting to unsupervised pets.

Avoid giving pets as Christmas presents unless a lot of thought and preparation went into this decision. All too often, impulse pet purchasing and giving pets as Christmas presents leads to post-seasonal frustration if the pet and intended owner are mismatched due to inadequate planning.

Keep these thoughts in mind during the holidays and your pet will enjoy a safe and fun Christmas season, and hopefully you will also.

Season's Greetings,
Jeffrey W. Irwin, DVM

Winter Fest For Birds - A Scandinavian Tradition

Winter Feat is for the birds ---- literally.

In observance of a Scandinavian traditions the holidays will also offer the second annual treat for Gig Harbor's area birds.

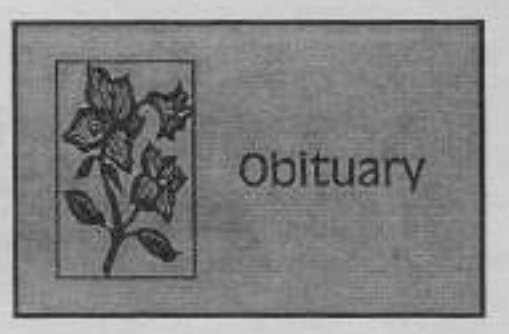
From 11:00 AM through 3:00 PM, Saturday, December 19, Wild Birds Unlimited will spread a table filled with goodies for the birds at Gig Harbor City Park, located off Vernhardson Street near Crescent Creek. participants roll the pine cones in peanut butter, then bird seed, and tie a string at the top of the cone for hanging on the tree. Orange slices are also used. Although pine cones will be provided, you may bring your own.

The edible offerings will be spread on and around a Douglas fir tree planted by Eagle Scout, Bred Neville.

Small white lights will adorn the tree and glow each evening from sundown until midnight throughout the winter.

Scandinavian music will be playing and seasonal songs sung by all.

This is a community celebration sponsored by the City of Gig Harbor, Gig Harbor Key Peninsula Cultural Arts Commission, and Wild Birds Unlimited and offered free to area residents.



Bessie "Bobbie" Oneita Buckell

Bessie "Bobbie" Oneita Buckell, 69, a lifetime-Lakebay area resident, died November 16, 1998. She was born in Tacoma, November 19, 1928. Bobbie was a retired nurse and loved caring for her community. She was a member of the Vaughn Community Church.

Family members include: her husband, Robert, Lakebay; daughter, Terry Moore (Gregg), Twisp; sons: Randy (Cindy), Redmond; and Bruce (Pam), Vaughn; 5 grandchildren; 2 great-grandchildren.

Memorial Services were held on Saturday, November 21 at Vaughn Community Church. Interment at Vaughn Bay Cemetery. Remembrances may be made to Alzheimer's Association Of Puget Sound, 120 Northgate Plaza #316, Seattle, WA 98125.

Arrangements by Haven of Rest.

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KP Parks Expand By 224 Acres

Organizer Nancy Lind addresses those attending the dedication ceremony at Key Peninsula Park and Recreation Boards newly acquired Rocky Creek Natural Area. ***Photo by Hugh McMillan***

by Hugh McMillan

A gathering of some 50 people at the site of the Key peninsula Park and Recreation District's latest acquisition, 224 acres of wooded land, was attended by, among others, Pierce County Executive Doug Sutherland and County Council Chair Karen Biskey. It took place Saturday, October 24, in on-again, off-again sprinkles. Lots of speeches emphasized that the area will remain essentially natural. Hence, its name: the Rocky Creek Natural Area.

"We will clear trails for walking," said dedication organizer, Nancy Lind, of Home. Also planned are an equestrian trail, cleaning up and planting of shade trees at the creek's bed, and whatever has to be done to enhance the return of salmon.

The land was obtained on a ten year lease from Pierce County for $1.00 per year.

Volunteer groups have been working on trail improvements for several weeks. The Earth Service Corps, headed by Jason Madeiros of YMCA Camp Seymour is organizing a group of high school students to do a trail clearing project in the park on Martin Luther King Day, January 19. If you are interested in being a part of this project, please call Park Chairman **Fred Ramsdell, 884-4834**, or **Nancy Lind, 884-3347**.

INDOOR PARK IS BACK!

Bring your toddlers to play in a safe, warm environment. Play area with toys provided for children five years and under for $1.00 per child. Coffee provided for the parents. Tuesday & Thursday 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM

Key Peninsula Park District News

The Park District Levy has passed with approximately 62% of the voters in favor. Thank you to all voters who exercised their right to vote.

The restrooms at Volunteer Park will be closed December 1, 1998, for the winter. The restrooms are not heated or insulated, thus requiring that the water pipes be drained. Without water, the toilets cannot be flushed and there is no water to wash your hands.

The gate will be locked, but you can park outside and come in to play and exercise yourself or your dog. Please pick up after yourself and play safely.

Work on the trails and the stream are continuing at Rocky Creek Natural Area with the help of volunteers. If you wish to volunteer or offer suggestions, please call **Fred Ramsdell** at **884-4834**.

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Charles & Joan Fiano
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Burton Wells
Henry & Peggy Schmidt
Leon & Mary Hill
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Deborah Brewczynski
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Warren & Martha Medak
Robert & Nancy Lind
Leonard & Leona Winters
Robert & Bessie Buckell
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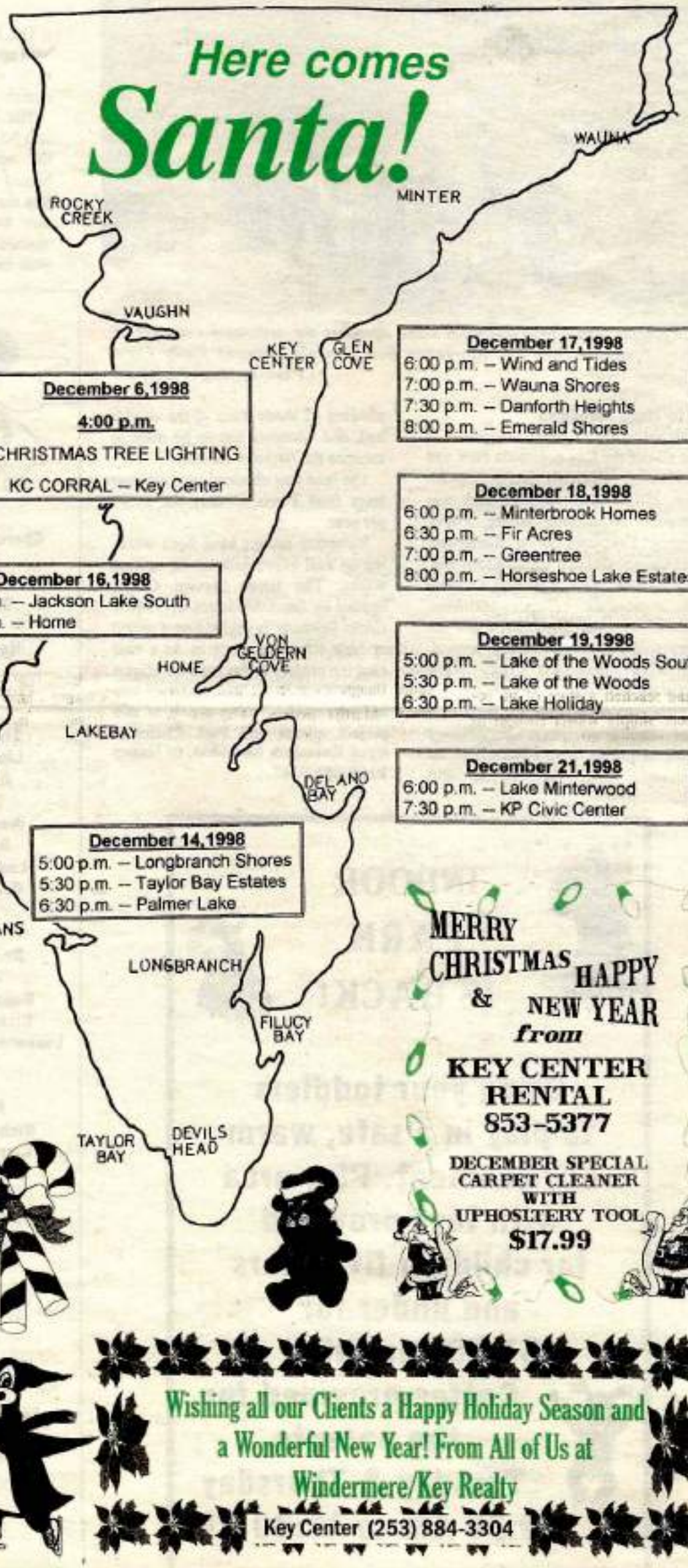
Frank Garratt, Jr.
Dr. & Mrs. Frank Shirley

Here comes Santa!



December 17,1998
6:00 p.m. – Wind and Tides
7:00 p.m. – Wauna Shores
7:30 p.m. – Danforth Heights
8:00 p.m. – Emerald Shores

December 6,1998
4:00 p.m.
CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING
KC CORRAL – Key Center

December 18,1998
6:00 p.m. – Minterbrook Homes
6:30 p.m. – Fir Acres
7:00 p.m. – Greentree
8:00 p.m. – Horseshoe Lake Estates

December 16,1998
5:30 p.m. – Jackson Lake South
6:30 p.m. – Home

December 19,1998
5:00 p.m. – Lake of the Woods South
5:30 p.m. – Lake of the Woods
6:30 p.m. – Lake Holiday

December 21,1998
6:00 p.m. – Lake Minterwood
7:30 p.m. – KP Civic Center

December 14,1998
5:00 p.m. – Longbranch Shores
5:30 p.m. – Taylor Bay Estates
6:30 p.m. – Palmer Lake

Key Peninsula Business Association Members

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Angel Guild
ATB Services
Bayside Animal Lodge
Capitol Lumber, Inc.
Charbonneau Construction Company
Close to Home Espresso
Country Gardens Florist
Custom Camera Design, Inc.
Gig Harbor/Peninsula Chamber of Commerce
Homeport Restaurant & Lounge
Horseshoe Lake Golf Course & Restaurant
Key Bank
Key Bank (Purdy)
Key Central Plaza Association
Key Peninsula Civic Center
Key Peninsula Fire District 16
Key Peninsula Health Center
Lakebay Marina
Local Motive Catering
Longbranch Storage
Myr-Mar Accounting Service, Inc.
Peninsula Gateway
Peninsula Light Company
Peninsula Parks Council
Peninsula School District
Plantaetcetera
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Fire Training Has Historic Significance

Photo by Hugh McMillan

by Hugh McMillan

An historic piece of Key Peninsula disappeared Saturday, October 31. It was known as the Pohl house and stood directly across the waters of Filucy Bay from another bit of history, the Far Away mansion. Four generations of Pohls lived in the place. When the last of them had moved away or died, the two story structure began to decay through lack of use.

With its purchase in 1996 by David Somerville, the new owner realized that it had reached a state of no return. There simply wasn't enough to consider salvaging. With that, it was made available to the Key Peninsula Fire Department for a live fire training mission.

"The only way you learn how to fight fires," said officer in charge of the training, Captain Tracy Lyon, "is to be right in it."

"No amount of classroom work, video viewing, or theorizing can bring your skills up as well as live fire in a real structure," said Fire Chief Gary Franz.

More than 30 Key Peninsula Firefighters participated in the training which began at, in fire service terms, 0800 hrs at District Headquarters in Key Center. Teams were designated and assigned tasks. Then, a convoy of fire engines, ambulances, tenders (tankers) and related equipment proceeded to the site.

"How come ya' got all that equipment here?" a skeptical citizen asked. "Because, if the department is called to a real emergency, response will be immediate," he was told.

Mike and Terry Arledge, who are related to the original owners and were frequent visitors in, "the good old days," said, "the house originally was a type of boarding house used by the shippers as a foul weather layover during their supply runs from Tacoma to the Longbranch, Lakebay area." Terry added that, "it was also a layover for Foss tugs working the area whenever sea conditions or fatigue dictated."

The Arledge couple explained that, "Henry and Anna Pohl bought the house and acreage at the turn of the century. They farmed the property and their children, Henry Jr., Elizabeth, Gretchen, and Martha were born there. Henry Sr. added the front rooms, the upper bedrooms, and the second chimney for wood heat. They incorporated the original chimney into the kitchen where it was used with a wood-burning cook stove."

"Henry Jr. passed away as a young man," said the Arledges, "and the older daughters married and moved away. Martha married Thomas W. Arledge and remained in the area. They had two sons, Raymond and S. W. 'Bud' Arledge.

"After Henry Sr. died in the late 1950's, Anna made clear that she intended to spend the rest of her days in the family home. Her daughters cared for her there until she too died in the mid 1970's. She left the property to be divided between her two Arledge grandsons.

"As Raymond had joined the Catholic Church and become a priest, his portion was set up in a trust to St. Martin's College in Lacey, WA.

"Martha Pohl Arledge also spent her last days in the family home and passed away there in the mid 1980's.

"The family continued to visit the home and Raymond would spend his vacations there. But the house was gradually becoming too old to repair."

Mike remembered spending summers at the home sleeping on the veranda in a sleeping bag. "The quake of 1962 (sic) moved the house off its wooden foundations," said Mike. "We spent weeks jacking it up and placing heavy beams under it to save it," he said.

"The Catholic Church decided to sell the property and be relieved of the rising taxes on waterfront land. Proceeds of the sale are endowed to a scholarship fund at St. Martins College in Anna Pohl's name," said Terry Arledge.

And now, the house is gone. It served four generations of Pohls and Key Peninsula's Firefighters well.

Custom Camera Design Company Relocated To Kitsap County

by Rob Home

Sometime in early 1999 the largest private employer on the Key Peninsula will close its doors and move to their new plant which will be constructed on Port of Bremerton property across State Route 3 from Bremerton National Airport. In this move the Key Peninsula will lose a total local business budget of over 2.3 million dollars and about 150 jobs. Unfortunately for our community these jobs lost are in the lower and minimum wage levels where community-based employment opportunities are sorely needed on the Peninsula.

Custom Camera Design Company has operated their business on the former "KJ Feed Company" property on the Key Peninsula Highway North in Key Center at 84th Street (Silverbow Road) since 1993. The primary activity at the plant (now about 6500 square feet) has been the recycling of "disposable" cameras with new film & batteries as well as new packaging. Most of the packaging is made to custom order for publicity, marketing or special events. Custom Camera Design was the only privately held business in Pierce County to be listed for three years in a row among the top 100 fastest growing businesses by the Puget Sound Business Journal. Notably there were many such listings for companies in Thurston, King, and Kitsap Counties.

The company wanted to remain at Key Center and expand the square footage of their plant to accommodate their growth. However, the bureaucratic delays and expenses of development permits at the Pierce County Department of Planning and Land Services (PALS) became too burdensome for the company to reasonably pursue.

At the same time that Custom Camera Company was experiencing costly and exasperating bureaucratic requirements and delays and confusion at PALS, the Port of Bremerton was wooing the company (and the jobs, budget, taxes, etc.) to Kitsap County, promising such benefits as fast and inexpensive permit processing, very inexpensive lease rates on the land, and loads of encouragement and support for the move to Kitsap from citizens, Chamber and business groups as well as from the Port and the Kitsap County Department of Community Development.

According to Robert Waye, President of Custom Camera Design, "Kitsap County, Port of Bremerton, and Economic Development Council officials and the overall spirit of cooperation have been incredible. After our initial building plan review was completed in less than a week, I began to see a level of commitment being demonstrated by Kitsap County at which I am still amazed."

The future of the site and existing 6500 square foot building is uncertain at this point in time. The Pierce County Department of Planning and Land Services and the Pierce County Council permit processes continue to frustrate, baffle and stall most worthwhile commercial endeavors on the Key Peninsula and elsewhere in the rural Pierce County areas. It appears that Pierce County Government policies and permit processes do not promote or support the establishment of community-based employment opportunities and availability of business goods and services in the rural centers around the County. This is really quite puzzling to most Peninsula residents who are tired of driving up and down to shop, eat, or visit the doctor and commute to work across the Purdy Bridge and the Narrows Bridge.

The 6500 square foot Custom Camera plant building is now for sale on a site of nearly 7 acres. the present zoning if RAC (Rural Activities Center) and allows for a variety of commercial uses. There have already been numerous inquiries by prospective buyers who are looking at the site for future business developments. Some of the interest in the site has come from freight and contracting companies; mid-sized retail grocery chains, mechanical shop (auto and motorcycle); even the Peninsula School District considered the possibility of an extension facility in the area for one of their alternative education programs.

The Key Peninsula certainly hopes that some business develops on the Custom Camera Design site and will be as productive and environmentally responsible and beneficial to the community as the Custom Camera Design Company has been. The Custom Camera Design move to Kitsap County is obviously a loss to the community; but the move does leave the door open for securing another business in the future on the Custom Camera Design site which will be as productive or even more productive for our community. We can only hope that our elected and professional public servants in Pierce County Government become more sensitive to and more supportive of the increasing needs of rural Pierce County (more particularly the Key Peninsula) for expanded levels of locally available goods and services and, perhaps most importantly, the need for more community-based employment opportunities.

The swinging jazz ensemble, PEARL DJANGO, WILL PERFORM AT THE Key Center Library, Wednesday, December 9th at 7:30 PM. This free program is sponsored by the Angel Guild and the Friends of the Key Center Library.

The dominant musical influences that now characterize the band have been those of Django Reinhardt, Gypsy guitar legend and the Quintette of the Hot Club of France; and the guitar stylings of Charlie Christian, Freddie Green, and Steve Jordan from the big band swing era.

Pearl Django began by playing the clubs and cafes of Tacoma. The group has since acquired an international reputation with the release of three CDs, a fourth on the way, and European tours.

The performers include Neil Anderson and Dudley Hill on guitar, Rick Lepannen on bass, and Michael Gray, violin.

The Pierce County Library and all branch libraries will be closed December 24th and 25th, and January 1st, 1999.

Santa's Secret Workshop

Evergreen Elementary PTA would like to invite the community to join them for Santa's Secret Workshop on Saturday, December 5th, 1998 from 9:00 AM until 2:00 PM at Evergreen Elementary School.

There will be refreshments, pictures with Santa and shopping for the entire family at very reasonable prices. Evergreen Elementary School is located 4 ½ miles past the Home Country Store on the right. We look forward to seeing you there.

December Events at Grace Presbyterian

"Guess What I've Seen?", a Family Carol Fest, will be presented on Sunday, December 13 at 3:00 PM at Grace Presbyterian Church. Included will be choir anthems, drama and coflgregational singing. Fellowship and refreshments will follow the service.

A festive Christmas Brunch is being planned following the service on December 20 at 10:30 AM.

On Christmas Eve, a participatory worship service will include "A Walk to Bethlehem".

All are welcome to attend. The church meets at Miracle Ranch on Horseshoe Lake, Sidney Road. For further information, call **Pastor Jim Christianson, 857-7284.**

Minter Creek Elementary

Minter Holiday Arts & Crafts Festival

It's time, once again, for our Children's Holiday Gift Shop. The shop will be held during the Minter Holiday Arts & Crafts Festival on Saturday, December 12th. The gift shop is a great opportunity for your child to come and purchase inexpensive items for their gift giving. Items from the gift show will range in price from 25 cents to $8.00. Please look for information in your child's Friday folder along with a savings box that they can use to begin saving their pennies for their holiday shopping. If you have any questions, please contact **Pam Drolette, 857-2935.**

Merry Christmas

Cougar Corner

by Ginger Donnelly

the KPMS PTSA welcomes you back to Cougar Corner, where we hope to provide you with the latest exciting news from Key Peninsula Middle School. For those of you who have never been to our school or have elementary aged children who will attend KPMS, we encourage you to explore for yourself the environment that is part of shaping the future of our community.

Often, as in any rural community, a lack of familiarity can lead itself to a fear of what might be. In our society, some of that fear is well deserved when we see national headlines depicting youth as violent and uncontrollable. The good news is that KPMS has a lot to offer each student in this community, and that can be improved ten-fold by becoming a more active part in improving the education and opportunity your community provides. The KPMS PTSA welcomes your participation. We are proud of our most excellent students and could rave for pages, but here are just a few of the exciting things going on at KPMS:

Swing Club meets every Friday in the KPMS Commons at 2:45 PM until 4:30 PM. We are dancing to the latest hits doing both the single and the triple Lindy. It's free and all are welcome.

The ASB have started a canned food drive for their holiday giving program. Already over 1,500 cans have been collected for distribution in our community.

KMPS is the only Middle School that currently has an operating Honors Program for its students. Many of our students fell into the top 3% in testing, making them eligible to take the SAT's as well as John Hopkins University class credit to be taken at UW this summer.

Three of our musical students have been chosen for Peninsula Music Festivals Junior High Honor Band. Congratulations to Liz Mann, Anders Karlson, and Tim Roe.

The ASB have started a school beautification program and have a "Change for Change" collection to help improve the schools outward appearance as well as a litter patrol.

KPMS has three study groups after school, as well as Home Arts Club, Computer Club and Jazz Band.

"Holiday Lights" the concert by the Key Peninsula Choir will be Monday, December 14th, in the KPMS commons. It's FREE.

The next KPMS PTSA meeting is Wednesday, December 16th, at 6:30 PM at the KPMS Library. Membership is $10. Scholarships available. Don't just talk about change, be a part of it.

Donations Needed

The Meistersingers are procuring donations for an auction to be held early '99. Donations are also needed for an upcoming raffle beginning December 1. The proceeds from the auction and raffle will help members of the choir with the costs surrounding a west-coast tour this spring and an international trip next year. All donations made to the CAC-Meistersingers are tax deductible. For financial contributions, please make checks payable to:

CAC - Meistersingers and mail to: Meistersingers, c/o Gig Harbor Key Peninsula Cultural Arts Commission, 11107 Hallstrom Drive NW, Gig Harbor, WA. 98332.

For additional information on how to make donations or to hire the choir for a performance, please contact **Karen Teel at 857-5371.**

Mon. - Thurs., 6:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Fri. - 6:00 AM - 5:30 PM
Sat. - 7:30 AM - 5:00 PM
Sun. - 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM
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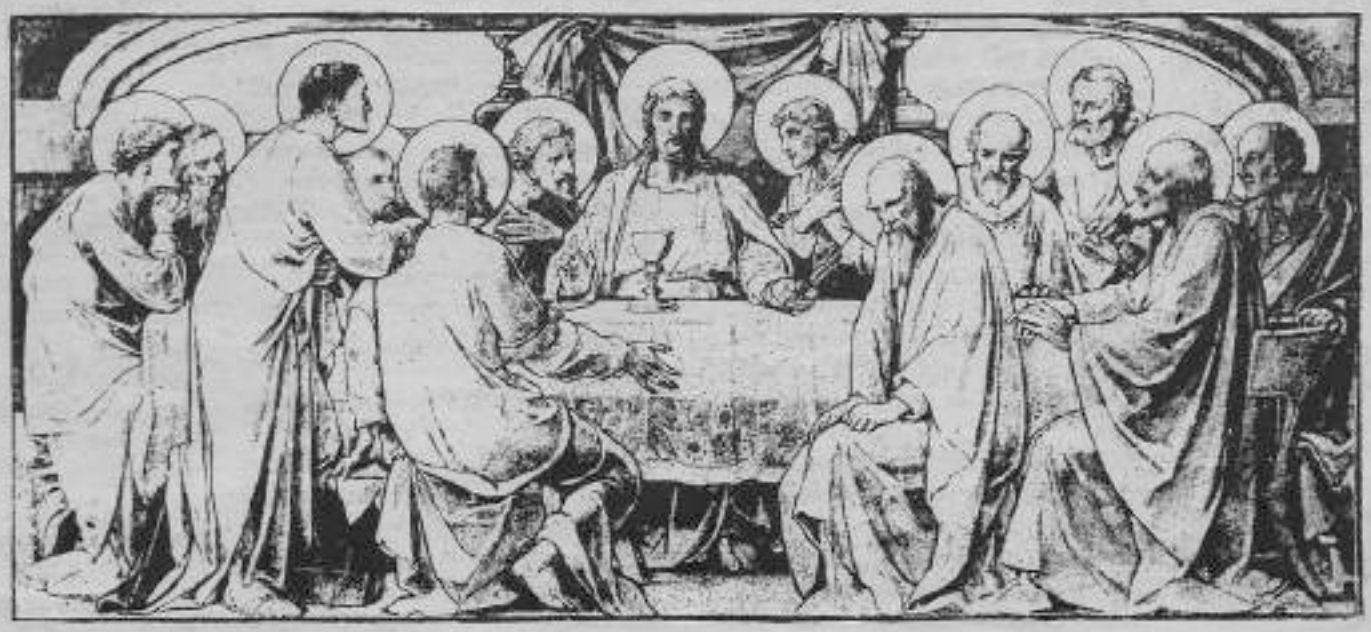
Now that your kids can name the nine reindeer shouldn't they be able to name the twelve apostles?

To help your children discover some of the most unforgettable characters they'll ever meet, join us each Sunday as we read from the greatest story ever told.



Key Peninsula Lutheran Church

at the corner of Key Peninsula Highway & Lackey Road

Sunday School for all ages 9:15 am

Worship 10:30 am

Christmas Eve Worship 6:30 pm & 10:30 pm

Christmas Day 10:30 am

TO YOUR HEALTH

by
William F. Roes, MD

This year, along with a record number of flu shots, we had an increasing number of requests for pneumonia shots. I haven't written about them before, and it struck me there are some things that are worth knowing about them.

The pneumonia vaccine, or more accurately the pneumococcal vaccine, was released in 1977, and later revised to the one we now use. It currently protects against 23 strains of Strep Pneumoniae, a bacteria that causes pneumonia, meningitis, and some other serious infections. Although S. Pneumoniae is the most common cause of bacterial pneumonia, it is not the only bacteria that causes pneumonia, which can also be caused by viral and other non-bacterial organisms. In a nutshell, the vaccine is effective against one type of pneumonia, but does not prevent all types of pneumonia.

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

Finally we want to wish you all a Merry Christmas and the best New Year possible.

KP Lions Check Brownies Eyes

by Hugh McMillan

At their regular meeting, the Key Peninsula Lions were joined by nine Brownies under the care of Cyndy Myers. The girls, with KP Lions-sponsored Troop 88, were the vital part of the meeting's program for the evening, a demonstration of the club's new PhotoScreener.

Lion Austin Miller, chairman of the PhotoScreener program, explained that, "We intend to test the vision of every child in the Peninsula School District with this device. We'll take it to Mason and Kitsap schools as well if they ask". The PhotoScreener will determine in a fraction of a second whether a child needs medical care for a vision problem.

During the demonstration, Miller dimmed the lights in the room, "so that the pupils of the girls' eyes will open wide," he explained. He then took flash shots of each of the girls' eyes. "We did a check of each of our nine girls in less than ten minutes," Miller said, "so, you see, it's not unreasonable to believe that we can cover the whole school district." The tests were with the written permission of the girls' parents.

Photo by Hugh McMillan

Members of Chief Kitsap of Bremerton and Gig Harbor Lions Clubs were there for the demonstration as well.

A Special Christmas Story

by Colleen Slater

Something wakened me and I lay very still, listening. I could see light under the door but the bedroom was very dark. I wondered if it was midnight yet.

No voices came from the living room, just little noises that I couldn't identify. Was it really Santa? I didn't think there was a real Santa, but I couldn't disprove it. I was 7 years old. Did I dare peek?

My brothers and sisters slept soundly as I crept out of bed and to the door. I tried to look through the keyhole but all I could see were the branches of the Christmas tree and the organ on the opposite side of the room. The rustling noises were out of sight.

I opened the door. It hadn't made a sound, but when I peered around the doorframe, my mother was smiling at me. She touched her fingers to her lips and motioned me to come out. I quietly closed the door and went to sit beside her.

She was surrounded with brightly wrapped packages and piles of mysterious boxes. Christmas wrap and ribbons lay all over the floor.

"I thought Santa was out here," I whispered Mama didn't say anything, just smiled and continued to wrap a box. I glanced at the table where we had put out milk and cookies for Santa. Only one cookie was left and the milk was half gone.

"Was he here already?" I asked, inspecting the packages under the tree more closely. "Did you see him?" I turned to my mother again. She set the package down and pressed on a bow. I looked at the tag.

"To Terry from Santa." But my mother had wrapped it. I crawled over to the tree and read some more tags. There was a package for me "from Santa" with the same wrapping paper. I turned back to my mother. She was watching me, a smile on her lips. I crawled back to her.

"Are you Santa, Mama?"

"What do you think?" she asked softly.

I looked back at the packages under the tree then at the package in front of her. I nodded. She reached over and drew me close.

"Are you disappointed?"

I shook my head slowly. No, I wasn't disappointed. I was glad to know the truth.

"Would you like to help me wrap some?"

We didn't talk again until all of the gifts were wrapped and under the tree and the wrapping paper and ribbons put away. Mama then led me to the table and gave me the glass of milk and cookie.

"This is your treat for being Santa's helper," she said, "but Santa's helpers have to know how to keep secrets."

"What kind of secrets?" I asked in wonder, nibbling on the cookie.

"Some children still believe in Santa. Your little brother and sisters do. I don't want them to know until they're ready, like you were tonight. Can you keep that secret?" I think that was the first awareness I had about growing up. I could be trusted with a grown up secret. I returned to bed very happy.

In the morning when we opened our gifts and the other children talked about Santa, I looked at my mother and she winked at me. I rubbed my hand across the top of the beautiful music box "from Santa." It was special to me, even more so now, knowing that my mother had lovingly chosen it herself. Watching the delight of my younger siblings, I thought that being a helper was much more exciting than believing in Santa Claus.

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The times for yoga classes are 10:00 to 11:30 AM on Wednesday, November 11th, through December 16th, 1998, at the Key Peninsula Civic Center in Vaughn. The instructor is Diane DeMars and the cost is $48.00

Please call Diane at 857-9031 for more information and to reserve a spot.

THE LAW COLUMN

by Michael Misner

Now, the great state of Washington says that if you own a chunk of land and it's 1963 and you invite your troops over to watch Frank Broyles and the 'Hogs beat Darrell Royal and the Horns', you first have to so some things.

To begin with, if you know that the hole that your cousin Earl dug in the front yard last week with half a case of C-4 hasn't been fixed, you are required to fill it before your friends come over. Or, if you don't fill it, you are at least required to tell them where the hole is so they don't fall in it and bust up one of their legs. That's one of those common law principles old Cane Hog learned in law school.

On the other hand, the law also says that if you got yourself a couple of 16 year old no-accounts walking home as night is falling with a bowling bag in one hand and a Swisher Sweet in the other and they don't have any business being where they are, well sir, then that same common law says those boys are simple trespassers and you don't owe them anything.

That was then and they were us – me and old Cane Hog, taking his shortcut home after a day of bowling down by the freeway.

Maybe because it was getting dark and we were both tired that he missed has landfall and forgot where to turn. Or maybe it was because he was hungry and was thinking about peach cobbler and fried chicken that we got lost. Whatever it was, old Hog missed a turn or two in his shortcut home and we found ourselves in the dark, in the cat-tails, up to our knees in mud on the shores of Phantom Lake toting a dead-weight bowling ball with one hand and chewing on a couple of nickel cigars.

It was as we were trying to get free of the muck and out of the reeds that a low growl stopped us dead in our tracks.

"That there is a big ol' dog" Hog whispered as the hair on the back of my neck started to rise. "We best be on our way right about now." I was turning in my Chuck Taylor black low-cuts and heading up a small rise when I hears, "Now boys, whatch y'all doing in my swamp?"

Bellevue in those days wasn't all yuppies and little kids being raised by au pairs. Much of it was still full of trees and bogs and every now and then you'd stumble on a place that civilization hadn't cleaned out and it could be dark and dangerous. Sort of like the place where we happened to be at that moment.

"We're lost, sir" I said, trying not to sound like a criminal.

"Nah, you ain't lost," he said, "what you are is trespassers and I think yer after my hens. That's why you got them ca[illegible] in your hands. Now, old Rex her[illegible]ell, he don't like trespassers or chicken thieves. Would y'all like me call the cops or would you rather have me turn Rex loose so that he can show you to the end of my property?"

Now I was flat scared. I knew I was either going to jail or I was going to get killed by this mangy mutt.

Not old Hog. He sort of shifted his weight a bit and quietly said, "...And how would y'all like to have that funny lookin' dog of yours take a close look at this here little bowling ball I got from my grandpa?"

That's it, I thought, he just got us killed.

When he got mad, there just was no stopping him. "Mister," he continued, "I'm cold and I'm wet and I'm hungry and right about now, dead dog would taste jist about as good as anything my old ma has waiting for me in her kitchen."

Maybe it was the way he said it, or maybe it was the sight from the old boy's flashlight shining on a six-foot two inch hillbilly from Arkansas standing in the swamp with a cheap cig clenched in this teeth and a 16 pound chicken killing bowling ball in his right hand that did it. Whatever it was, it worked.

The old boy tightened Rex's leash and said, "Now, why don't you boys go back the way you came and there'll be no trouble."

Whereupon old Hog said, "Now, why don't you go back the way you came and you get to keep your stupid lookin' dog? Me and my little Yankee friend here will be on our way in no time."

For the next hour we just walked without saying a word. As we entered his folks' front yard, I started to speak when he stopped me saying, "We was trespassers and therefore we was outlaws, but we twarnt lost and that'll be the end of it."

It has been 36 years since that night and the little swamp is now a county park. To this day Hog still does that little tippy toe, three-step dance to the foul line with that beat up old ball, but he won't ever, and I mean ever, admit he was lost as sin.

Merry Christmas

Angel Notes

by Frankie Johnson

It just doesn't seem possible, but here we are looking Christmas in the face already. The thrift store started to stock holiday items right after Halloween. And as usual, there are great bargains to be found. I overheard some of our Angels complaining about the abundance of discards we've had lately. This is a good complaint! Actually not in a negative way. It is sometimes overwhelming and that is how we like it. Thank you all who leave your good discards on our back porch.

The Angel Guild has been funding the after school bus for KPMS for awhile. This month we received a very welcome thank you note from Sandy Major, who is a Title One teacher at the middle school. Sandy wrote "Children learn so many life lessons through participation in sports and club activities. The struggling readers and math students I work with really benefit from the program. The partnership of the Angel Guild with KMPS is a fine example for our students of how communities SHOULD work together." Other recent donations went to our local library for more shelves, we voted to give $1400 to the Civic Center for new skates, and $200 to help with the Christmas party at the Longbranch Improvement Club to be held Dec 13th for all kids on the Peninsula. We also voted to provide three scholarships to three students at Peninsula High School of $2000 each to be awarded at the end of the school year. All profits from the Angel Guild thrift store go right back into our own community.

We wish to thank some of our special Angels and husbands of Angels for work above the normal expectations. Elsie and Rob Vezzani, Molly and Paul Holmes and Jean Redler saw that there was gravel to be spread in our area outback between the sorting shed and our back door, and they took care of it promptly. Nell Blanchard volunteered to repaint the store sign after Bonnie Stinson's husband Jeff and their sons took it down. Mary Krumbein's husband will refurbish the sandwich sign for our special sales.

Speaking of special sales, there will be a BAG sale on December 23,1998. All clothing, puzzles and stuffed toys will be sold by how much you can fit into a bag. That should be a fun day to shop. After the sale, we will be closed to refurbish the store and spend the holidays with our families. We will open all fresh and ready for 1999 On Wednesday Jan.6,1999.

Have a wonderful holiday season and many thanks from your ANGEL GUILD.

VETERAN'S VOICES

By Eileen Young

It's here again, that jolly Ho! Ho! season. Are you ready?

Silly question, who among us is ever ready and one wonders why when we have had 364 day to get with it!

We hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving. We enjoyed the food, friendship and all the folks who turned out to work and eat the food available at that special VFW dinner. To all who participated to make the day memorable, thank you.

A big thank you is also due to the fine folks who helped dry our flags on Veterans day, then showed up to fold and store them. To Cathy and Tim Hale for purchasing the pizza and to Irene Zimmer for cooking same, we enjoyed ourselves while working. We have decided that if the flags get wet again, we all are available for eats and drying! Such fun.

The Trees of Sharing are in both Walt's stores and it is hoped all who read this column will "take a card" and help a veteran this holiday season. Gifts go to Retsil and American Lake. The ladies auxiliary purchases a gift for each of the folks in Rocky Bay Health Care Center so as you can see, no one is left out. We will also be making a contribution to the Food Bank for Christmas baskets for families in our community.

Junior essay first place winners were presented with their awards in a special ceremony at the Civic Center, November 23rd. Chairman Dee Bea Blum presented certificates and special awards to each winner. Second and third place winners will be presented their awards at the schools at a later date.

See you in the New Year, have a joyous Christmas season, be good to one another and remember, of all the things you wear, your expression is the most important.

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MacNamara Fire

Key Peninsula Fire Chief Gary Franz tells KIRO Channel 7 reporter Michelle Millman, about the tragic fire at Lake Minterwood, which claimed the life of 42 year old Bill McNamara and his dog, Gordy, October 28th. Faulty wiring in a wall heater is suspected cause of the fire, according to pierce County Sheriff's Detective Sergeant Ben Benson. For further information contact Key Peninsula Fire Department at 884-2222. ***Photo by Hugh McMillan***

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Call Stephanie Carter at 884-4699

DECEMBER 1998

		1 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM WIC 9:30 AM Indoor Park 3:00 PM CHS Little Buddies 6:00 PM T.O.P.S.	*2* 10:00 AM Yoga 6:30 PM AWANA 6:30 PM Lions Club 7:00 PM Bible Study	*3* 9:30 AM Indoor Park 12:00 PM Seniors 6:00 PM Boy Scouts 7:00 PM Boating Advisory Board 7:00 PM Karate	*4* 6:00 PM Soccer Awards Banquet	*5* Historical Museum closed until February 1999 6:00 PM Lake Minterwood Party!
6 9:00 AM KP Baptist Church 5:00 PM Friendship Dinner 6:30 PM Outreach Bible Fellowship	*7* 7:00 PM Karate 7:30 PM KPCCA Exec. Comm.	*8* 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM WIC 9:30 AM Indoor Park 3:00 PM CHS Little Buddies 6:00 PM T.O.P.S.	*9* 9:30 AM Healthy Families 10:00 AM Yoga 6:30 PM AWANA 7:00 PM Bible Study	*10* 9:30 AM Indoor Park 12:00 PM Seniors 6:00 PM Boy Scouts 6:30 PM KPCCA Board Potluck 7:00 PM Karate	*11*	*12*
13 9:00 AM KP Baptist Church 5:00 PM Friendship Dinner 6:30 PM Outreach Bible Fellowship	*14* 6:00 PM Karate Christmas Party! 7:00 PM VFW	*15* 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM WIC 9:30 AM Indoor Park 3:00 PM CHS Little Buddies 6:00 PM T.O.P.S. 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Minter Mutts Party	*16* 10:00 AM Yoga 6:30 PM AWANA 6:30 PM Lions Club 7:00 PM Bible Study	*17* 9:30 AM Indoor Park 12:00 PM Seniors 5:00 PM CAC Citizens Patrol 6:00 PM Boy Scouts 7:00 PM Karate 7:30 PM Cootiettes	*18*	*19* 3:00 PM Narrows Pony Club
20 9:00 AM KP Baptist Church 5:00 PM Friendship Dinner 6:30 PM Outreach Bible Fellowship	*21* 7:00 PM Karate	*22* 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM WIC 3:00 PM CHS Little Buddies 6:00 PM T.O.P.S.	*23* 10:00 AM Yoga	*24* CHRISTMAS EVE!	*25* CHRISTMAS DAY!	*26*
27 9:00 AM KP Baptist Church 5:00 PM Friendship Dinner 6:30 PM Outreach Bible Fellowship	*28* 7:00 PM Karate 7:00 PM VFW	*29* 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM WIC 9:30 AM Indoor Park 3:00 PM CHS Little Buddies 6:00 PM T.O.P.S.	*30* 10:00 AM Yoga 6:30 PM AWANA 7:00 PM Bible Study	*31* HAPPY NEW YEAR!		

Developments At Key Peninsula Community Services

by Hugh McMillan

"Thanks to the generosity of many people and organizations, we now have a generator which will keep our building totally operational in case of a power outage," said Marge Adams, manager of the Key Peninsula Community Services/ Food Bank.

"People can come here to keep warm and get something to eat. They can bring their sleeping bags and mattresses and sleep here at night as well," she added.

Adams was referring to a new 57 KW, propane-powered electrical generator recently installed at KPCS' Community House in Home at the confluence of Hoff Road and the KP highway. The biggest contribution came from the Employees Community Fund of Boeing, $24,000. This covered the cost of the generator, its installation, a 500 gallon propane tank, a chain link fence and razor wire coil and an alarm system to dissuade folk from making unwanted visits to the equipment compound.

The Gig Harbor-Key Peninsula Emergency Preparedness Committee has long advised that, while a bare minimum of three days of supplies should be on hand at all homes and facilities in areas on the eastern side of the Tacoma Narrows, those of us on this side better be prepared for a minimum of seven days, preferably three weeks. We will be cut off.

KPCS' generator burns seven gallons of propane an hour. That amounts to 168 gallons a day, or 504 for three days. That is not enough capacity.

Accordingly, the Center's board hopes to acquire another tank. It requests the assistance of any interested parties. "We'd be happy with a second hand tank," said Adams.

Another bit of good news is the newly laid asphalt parking area to the rear of the facility. The Cheney Foundation made this possible with a grant of $13,000. "Now we'll be able to provide a lot more parking for the various meetings which are held here, most importantly for the weekly Wednesday free lunches," said Adams.

If you have questions or advice for the KPCS board or staff, please drop by for a cup of coffee and a chat. Or call **884-4440** Tuesday through Friday, 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

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