



In this issue

◀
Museum
of Puget
Sound
filled with
wonders,
page 24



▲
Mercy Flight missions,
page 20

News

- 'Sloop John B' towed away .2
- Community Council elections .5
- 144th Street: A continuation .6
- Salmon bake to be dedicated .7
- Sunnycrest wins show award .11
- Pilots visit KPMS12
- Show & Tell13
- Camp Woodworth turns 60 .21
- Talent calls25
- Hobo spider warning26
- From pioneer stock27
- A low tide story30
- The Genuine ARTicle32
- Out & About36

Sections

- Peninsula Views4
- Business7
- Schools12
- Community Works18
- People & Lifestyles20
- Arts & Recreation30



Devin and
Cynthia Kimura
look over the
plans for their
business' new
location on the
Key Peninsula.

Photo by
Mindi LaRose

Online retailer moves to the Key Peninsula

By William C. Dietz
KP News

Online retailer Artbeads.com purchased the building located just south of the Shell gas station and Key Center Auto Repair on the Key Peninsula Highway for \$1.375 million and plans to move there in September.

According to the company's Website, "Artbeads.com was established in 1999 as an online bead store specializing in handmade sterling silver beads from Bali and India." They have since added beads from many other countries, and they cater to "individual bead artists as well as bead stores and professional designers."

The business, which presently

employs approximately 45 employees, outgrew its previous location on Wollochet Drive NW in Gig Harbor. Devin Kimura and his wife, Cynthia, own the online retailer.

Devin Kimura says, "First of all we have outgrown our present business location, and being an online business, staying in Gig Harbor doesn't really make sense given the high cost of land, parking, and everything else. We had considered Kitsap County, but thanks to the support we got from the Pierce County Economic Development Board, we decided that we wanted to stay in Pierce County... They made sure we were in contact with all the right people. And also the

(See **MOVE**, Page 15)

Keep rural character or add more jobs?

Conflicting questions at Key Pen
planning board's table

By Rodika Tollefson
KP News

Like many rural areas, the Key Peninsula depends largely on nearby cities for its jobs. And most people who are lured to the area by its beauty and peacefulness don't

mind — the commute is the price they are willing to pay for their small piece of tranquility.

But as the Key Peninsula population continues to grow, so does the pressure to bring more services and jobs to the area.

The local business community says the imbalance between housing and jobs is a

(See **GROWTH**, Page 33)

The Habitat partnership is a hand up

By Danna Webster
KP News

Two more Habitat for Humanity families are coming to the Key Peninsula community and the only thing they had in common before the Habitat partnership was their grit and determination to have a better life.

The groundbreaking ceremony for the Habitat houses was held June 26; first, in Lake of the Woods for the Manibusan family home; and second, at Palmer Lake for Bonnie Malone's family home.

The Manibusans left their family, friends and culture in Guam and came to the United States determined to find better education for their four children and better employment for the father, Gerald.

"Schooling in Guam is not really a priority. No buses; no textbooks," Gerald Manibusan explains. His son asked if it was possible to go to the States.

"Are you sure you want to do this?" Manibusan asked him. His son was sure. The decision was made that night and he told his wife, Juanita. He gave a two-week notice at work and left in January.

"I thought — my kids are not happy. I need to do something. I'm a man that takes my chances. I'm not afraid to give it a try," Manibusan says.

After two months, his resolve began to weaken and he called Juanita, homesick

(See **HABITAT**, Page 28)



Photo by Mindi LaRose

The beauty of the Key Pen can be used as an economic development advantage by building a resort, some residents say.

What ever happened to...

'John B' mystery remains unsolved after removal

Editor's note: The Key Pen News first reported on this story in October 2004, and followed up to find out "what ever happened to" the vessel. Thanks to an alert resident, we were able to capture the removal in action. Do you want to learn "what ever happened to..." a person or issue we previously covered? Let us know and we'll try to find out. Call 884-4699 or email news@keypennews.com; please leave your name and contact in case we need clarification.

By Rodika Tollefson
KP News

"Sloop John B," whose hull showed up in extreme low tides in Dutcher's Cove last year, was lifted off the bottom of the water in June and later dismantled. But the mystery of the boat's origin or its owner remained unsolved.

According to the Department of Natural Resources and the contractor that removed the sailboat, whoever saw the boat to its final destination stripped any identifying parts off it — leaving little doubt it was scuttled.

"Nothing indicated that the placement was by accident," said Rick Mraz, coordinator of the Derelict Vessel Removal Program with the DNR. The sea valve was open (to make for easy sinking), no significant belongings (not even mattresses) were left onboard, and some of the windows were knocked down. The boat had significant marine growth on it when it was lifted and towed away by Black Water Marine, the contractor that won the DNR bid.

Mraz said people who scuttle boats usually go to great lengths to grind the



Photo by Frank Slater

A crew from Kirkland-based Black Water Marine is removing a derelict vessel that was first spotted in Dutcher's Cove during low tide in the summer of 2003.

hull ID, which is similar to a VIN on cars, and take other measures to make sure the boat's owner remains unknown. In cases when the owner is identified, he or she is sent the bill for the removal.

The vessel, nicknamed "Sloop John B" by Key Pen resident Bill Trandum, after a song by "The Kingston Trio" (later re-released by "The Beach Boys"), was placed last fall on the removal list as a category 2 priority, which means it posed a direct threat to human health or safety. The sunken

hull was only visible in minus 3-foot tides, said Trandum, who spotted it and sent a photo of the hull sticking out of the water to DNR.

Since the derelict vessel program was created in 2003, following a 2002 bill passed by the state Legislature, 91 vessels have been removed, although Mraz did not know how many of those were removed by cooperating owners and how many boats had IDs. The program is funded by a \$2 fee added to the annual vessel registration fees, and \$5 added to the fee for obtaining a

The story of the 'real' Sloop John B

According to a little Internet research provided by KP resident Bill Trandum, "John B Sails" is a traditional sea chantey of the Bahamas. It's the story of the grounding of the ship off Nassau. The wreck was excavated in 1926. Carl Sandburg published the chantey as a poem called "The John B Sails" in 1927. Also in 1927, a man named Alfred George Wathall did a modern arrangement for radio station WGN. The arrangement became popular in folk circles. "The Kingston Trio" took their version from "The Weavers." Al Jardine brought the song to the "Beach Boys."

To read the original KP News story (or to follow a link to the lyrics or download the song), go to the October archive link at www.keypennews.com.

foreign vessel ID document. The funding is limited every year, and the vessels are removed based on priorities.

Where did the boat officially known in DNR files as "Derelict Vessel KP04-008" come from? One story goes that John B may have been the same 50-foot boat that was anchored for a couple of years off Dutcher's Cove and washed ashore in 2002 after a storm set it loose; it was beached on a side for a while but disappeared one night. The real story and name of John B — and its owner — are unlikely to ever wash up, at least not publicly.

As another Beach Boys song goes, "They may not ever solve the mystery." But that's a song for another time.

Lantz, Kilmer open Gig Harbor office

Local state Reps. Pat Lantz and Derek Kilmer opened a district office in Gig Harbor to provide a local headquarters where constituents can meet with them face-to-face.

Their full-time legislative assistants will staff the office Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. The office can be reached by calling **858-6716**.

Peninsula KEY NEWS

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New group tackles rental concerns on the Key Pen

By Rodika Tollefson
KP News

Nearly a year ago, a group of local citizens representing various interests got together for a crime prevention task force. The group has initiated several projects since then, including a methamphetamine education forum and an anti-meth club at Peninsula High School. Under the direction of Safe Streets Community Mobilization Specialist Dennis Taylor, the group's latest task is to create a landlord association on the Key Peninsula.

Taylor said he realized the need while trying to organize neighborhood groups. "What we discovered as we

worked with them is that a lot of problems are rentals," he said.

What that means is that the landlords are either not aware of things like illegal drug activities on their property or are part of the problem. Taylor said the idea of organizing a group geared toward landlords got a little more fire after Lt. Larry Bauer, Pierce County Sheriff's Peninsula Detachment's new chief, came on board.

A small group is in the beginning stages of organizing the association and is considering various concepts for how it could work and what its role would be. Bauer as well as Judi Holly with the Pierce County Neighborhood Action Team Program are among those sitting together at the table to

discuss how the association could be shaped. Currently, the committee includes representatives from several local developments and private landlords, but Taylor is hoping for more participation.

"To have safe communities... we need to work cooperatively together," Bauer told the group at a recent meeting. "Getting (the association) started and organized is a tremendous step."

Some of the association's roles could be to educate landlords on issues like methamphetamine and domestic violence, share information, train on controlling the quality of tenants and network. The possibilities of creating a chapter of an existing landlord association are being discussed.

"I think it will improve the community, the more we come together," said Penny Gazabat, one of the organizers. Gazabat, a landlord who says she has been fortunate with tenants, is also on the committee to represent the interests of domestic violence victims. She says many landlords have misconceptions about domestic violence and her goal is to provide training so they can try and help the victim, not make matters worse.

Taylor said he hopes the association will be in place by mid-fall. The group will meet at 3 p.m. at the Key Center Library on Wednesday, July 6, and the first Tuesday of the month after that. For more information, contact Dennis Taylor at 884-7899.

News briefs

Project to cause detours

A salmon restoration project between July 15 and mid-August will interrupt traffic patterns on 118th Street off State Route 302.

Detour signs will be posted. The

project will repair culverts to allow for fish passage upstream at Little Minter and Minter creeks.

MPD changes meeting days

Key Peninsula Metro Park District regular schedule meetings will be changing to the second and fourth

Mondays of every month beginning Monday, July 25. Meetings are held at 7:30 p.m. at the park office at the KP Sports Center and Fairgrounds (Volunteer Park).

KPPRD files for dissolution

Key Peninsula Parks and Recreation District commissioners voted in June to

dissolve the district. A petition for dissolution was filed on June 14 with Pierce County Superior Court.

Commissioners agreed that KPPRD, created by voters in 1972, "no longer serves any meaningful purpose," following the approval by voters to create the Key Peninsula Metropolitan Park District.



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Editorial

If we zone it, will they come?

Many Key Pen residents who choose to live in the area because they love the beauty, the slow pace and the country lifestyle are willing to pay the price: having to commute farther to work, shop and get needed services.

Only a small group of residents are fortunate enough to work locally. The rewards of being able to do that are more than economic. Sure, saving on gas and time is very nice, but so is the ability to get to know — and serve — your own community.

Those who like the Key Pen's remoteness say Gig Harbor is close enough for their shopping, dry cleaning and car washing. They say allowing too much commercial development is like bringing the city life to a place that resembles a national park. The business community, on the other hand, says we have an imbalance between housing and jobs, and hopes to see that change. Some areas should be zoned to make them more attractive to certain businesses to locate here and bring along family-wage jobs, the business leaders say.

The upcoming relocation of Gig Harbor's online retailer Artbeads.com to the KP illustrates a trend likely to grow. More companies that do not need extensive infrastructure and are looking for an affordable, not to mention beautiful, area to put up shop will find the peninsula attractive, especially if it has appropriately zoned areas that don't require years of waiting for rezoning and extra permits.

Should we welcome the idea and encourage commercial activity to bloom? It's the question the KP Community Planning Board is trying to answer. Anyone who has a stake in what the community will be like in the next 20 years should be sharing their views with the board. We as residents are the experts on our community, and the board needs our expertise to make the right decisions.

More to mourn after Memorial Day weekend

By Dr. Maggie Hood, Calista Wiebusch
Special to KP News

Like most Puget Sound residents, we look forward to another summer filled with outdoor activities like picnics and swimming. But, for us, there is also a sense of dread as this season approaches.

Along with the long summer days, we know there will be senseless deaths due to drowning. This year the bad news came quickly. Five people died in Western Washington waters over the Memorial Day weekend, including two who were not yet teen-agers.

According to a report issued last year by the Washington State Department of Health's Child Death Review Committee, drowning was the second leading cause of death in children ages 0-17, with an average of 27 drownings each year.

In response to these annual, and often preventable, tragedies, a coalition of hospitals, fire departments, public health offices and nonprofit organizations joined forces to form the Washington State Drowning Prevention Network. This network, of which Mary Bridge Children's Hospital & Health Center is a member, works year-round to inform Washingtonians about the risks of our waters and identify ways to be safer.

The network has narrowed its tips to prevent drowning into three easy-to-remember categories: Know the water. Know your limits. Wear a life jacket.

Know the water

The cold hard fact is that cold water

kills — and in Washington, cold water is the norm. Even with beautiful, 90-degree weather, many lakes and rivers here are cold enough to cause hypothermia. When that happens, victims lose judgment, muscle control and are unable to swim.

Two years ago, a local 19-year-old boy drowned this way. His grandmother says he was an excellent swimmer and athlete, but because he had very little body fat, he was unable to swim or float when hypothermia set in at Lake Tapps. This lake is also dangerous because the water is murky and it is difficult to find a drowning victim once he or she goes under. Even Washington's rivers are more dangerous this year because the water is higher and cold currents are running faster.

Knowing the water also means knowing the depth of water before jumping or diving in. Make sure it is at least 10 to 12 feet deep and never dive or jump into unfamiliar or shallow water. Death is not the only consequence of improper water safety. Permanent brain and spine injuries will alter a victim's life forever.

Know your limits

Most people know how well they can swim based on what they can do in a swimming pool. But swimming in rivers and lakes is harder than swimming in a pool. The majority of drownings occur in open waters, and often victims drown when they are too tired to make it back to shore.

If you don't swim well, find someone to teach you and learn to float and tread water. Even if you're a good swimmer, rest or stay out of the water when you are tired. Also, do not use alcohol or drugs while swimming, boating or diving. The weather, water and boat movement heightens alcohol's effects.

Wear a life jacket

Life jackets save lives, but not unless

they are worn and fit properly. The Mary Bridge Center for Childhood Safety regularly offers life jacket fittings and sales through its office and at community events. Local sporting goods stores should also be able to provide proper life jacket fittings and stylish options.

Of course, the life jacket conversation is usually met with the loudest moans and groans from teen-agers. Sadly, there is no magical way to convince a teen-ager to wear a life jacket, particularly when he or she is among friends and trying to impress others.

We can talk about how life jackets are available in stylish designs and are not as bulky as they once were. We can talk about the startling 65 deaths in a three-year period that resulted when youngsters did not wear life jackets. Yet we all know teenagers believe they are impervious to harm.

As parents, we must give our children and teens information that will help save their lives. As healthcare professionals who see too many teen drownings each year, we challenge teen-agers to be leaders. Teens who make wearing a life jacket a cool thing to do will save the lives of their friends through their actions.

This past Memorial Day weekend, we mourn the lives of five senseless deaths that could have been prevented. We will continue to dread the likely drowning victims that will cross our path over the course of the 2005 summer. But we're hopeful that enough people — especially teens — will take precautions to know the water, know their limits and wear a life jacket.

Dr. Maggie Hood is the medical director for Mary Bridge Children's Hospital & Health Center and Calista Wiebusch is the supervisor of the Mary Bridge Center for Childhood Safety. Both are part of MultiCare Health System.



HOOD



WIEBUSCH

Letters to the Editor

An open invitation for a sky diving adventure

Well, for 25 years I've been called "Silly Helen" by my day care children. I'm sure many of their parents (and my family) figure it's more like "crazy Helen." I guess now I'm going to prove them correct.

Most people try to slip into "official"

senior citizen status kind of quietly. But not me! I have decided to fulfill my life-long dream of sky diving! I'm jumping feet first into my 62nd birthday in a big, exciting way. I plan to do it tandem style — so I don't have to be in charge of anything. Just jump out and let gravity and the person strapped to my back do all the work.

If you are interested in doing it also — that would be wonderful! Just call me for details. It will be on Saturday, July 9, at 1

p.m. I will be jumping at Blue Skies Skydiving Adventures at the Bremerton National Airport, 8651 SW St. Highway 3, Port Orchard (their number is 360-674-7106).

I invite all my former and present day care children and their parents to come and watch. Anyone else who would like to come is invited also. So if you've ever wanted to tell me to go take a "flying leap," now's the time!

Bring a picnic lunch and cold bever-

ages. My 41-year-old son, Steve, and my 23-year-old twin granddaughters, Marcie and Jennifer, are also going to jump. There could be a time delay for weather conditions and other people jumping. So sunscreen, food and drinks and some lawn chairs would be smart to bring.

Call and let me know if you're coming or have questions. I can hardly wait for July 9!

Helen Macumber; Wauna (858-3460)

Searching for answers

Landlocked residents feel ignored

Editor's note: This is an installment in a series of articles taking a look at the landlocked situation of the residents who live off 144th Street. To read previous articles, go to our Website at www.keypennews.com.

By Rodika Tollefson
KP News

Max and JoAnn Aikins did what many people do when they buy a house — sinking savings, borrowed funds, or in their case, pensions, into it. Max, who used to build FHA houses, knew his way around permits. There was one thing about their property that wasn't ideal, but they were willing to deal with it for a time.

"When we bought out here, we were told (our road) was a county road and when there was enough population, it would be developed," he says. "We were willing to build and sit it out."

That was in 1969. The road, known on maps as 144th and in many documents as Pole Line Road, is a utility right-of-way used by Tacoma Power. It has long been used by residents for access — illegally, according to the utility. Today, residents whose only access to their property is through this road are unable to do any work that requires county permits.

"I'm a little upset because we were told it (road development) would happen," Joann Aikins says. "Everything we had, we poured into it (our house). Our home is not worth the value we put into it."

The Aikinses say all the documents they have seemed to indicate 144th was a legal road, and they even purchased additional land to have legal access to their home off 144th (see previous story, June 2005). The couple is among several dozen property owners who are unable to remodel,

expand, build and in some cases repair their homes.

"There are so many families affected by this, how can they (county officials) turn their back on us?" says Doug Sherman, who obtained a permit to build his home in 1993, but after it lapsed was not able to renew it. He no longer can develop an adjacent property he originally bought with the intent to develop later. "A lot of people who moved here, myself included, were not made aware of this."

Harv Ennis says he was aware that there was an easement on the road when he purchased the property in 1978 but didn't see a red flag until four or five years ago, when he received a significant reduction in taxes. "They said there is no more building permits and the county reduced the taxes," he says. "That was the first official word."

A look back

A lawsuit in 1923 condemned portions of private properties alongside the road in order to develop the power line that stretches from Tacoma to the Cushman Dam. Since then, citizens continued to buy and sell land and homes that used the road as the only access; a school bus picked up children along the road until the utility asked the school district to discontinue the practice in 1976; and the residents petitioned the county multiple times, and sued it at least once in the 1970s, to try to make it maintain the road.

Letters between Pierce County and City of Tacoma's Department of Public Utilities and internal memos dated between 1969 and 1973 indicate ongoing discussions between the two entities about the possibility of giving the county a right-of-way on 144th for building a road.

June 5, 1969; from Light Division Superintendent J.D. Cockrell to County Engineer William Thornton: "Light Division engineers have studied the matter to determine the portion of the transmission line right of way which might be available for use by the County as part of the County Road right of way...we are forwarding one set of prints...showing in green the proposed easement."

June 7, 1973; from Director of Utilities A.J. Benedetti to Thornton, by now a Public Works director: "The Light Division has indicated a willingness to pay all costs to reconstruct (three timber bridges) to minimum county standards, and to furnish right-of-way from its existing transmission line properties if Pierce County will assume and pay all other costs of construction and maintenance and agrees to hold the city harmless for any liability caused by or arising out of construction, maintenance and use of the roadway and bridges."

By 1975, Thornton wrote to a landowner that "City Light has not made a proposal to Pierce County that Pierce County is willing to accept."

County easement off the table

The county had considered building a new road north of the transmission road, but the efforts did not succeed because "the land owners in the area wanted large sums of money for those rights of way," Thornton told the county Board of Commissioners in 1971, and recommended that the county not take over the existing road nor grade or surface it. However, in 1973 the county purchased a 60-foot-wide easement for a public road from at least one resident.

When the discussions stalled three

decades ago, it appeared one of the reasons was the county's unwillingness to pay the costs to bring the road to county standards. Last year, Pierce County Councilman Terry Lee expressed a similar sentiment, saying the county did not even have money to spend on roads with much bigger traffic.

But Tacoma Power Superintendent Steve Klein says he's not sure the easement option "even existed." "I don't know that it ever had any momentum," he says.

In the last few months, Lee and other county officials have been discussing possible solutions with Tacoma Power — ones that don't involve using 144th. "I think the people involved in (discussions) are the ones who can solve the problem," he says. "The good news is the county is committed to solving this and I didn't get that sense before."

Some residents are not so sure. Tacoma Power plans to install electronic gates along the road in the near future, and there is likely to be a catch: Only residents who will sign a release of liability will get access, and even if they do, they will still not be able to get permits. Some residents told the KP News they are not willing to sign anything giving away the rights they feel they had when they purchased their homes. There are other problems too: Not all neighbors are cooperating, and have created several groups that are taking different approaches.

"We are all just kind of stuck," says Tina Lott. "We are caught in a loophole, and we feel we're being strong-armed by Tacoma Power."

Next month: The question of maps — and why some landowners believe 144th was a county road; also a look at what's on the discussion table.

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Salmon bake dedicated to John Petersen

By Colleen Slater
KP News

John Petersen, who died this spring, became involved in the Longbranch Community Church some 30 years ago, after moving to the Key Peninsula with his family.



PETERSEN

He was one of the "movers and shakers" in the church, presiding as president for several years, and helping get remodeling done in the '80s, as well as more recent exterior improvements.

One of his visions was a salmon bake to raise money for a new keyboard in 2001.

The event included entertainment, rummage and plant sale, and a raffle. It was so successful, the congregation agreed to do it the next year.

Salmon Bake tickets

The Salmon Bake will be at the Longbranch Improvement Club on July 23, from 2 to 6 p.m. Tickets for age 12 and over are \$10 in advance, or \$12 at the event. Children 7 to 12 pay \$5 each, 6 and under are free. Tickets are available at the Longbranch Marina, Home Store, Sunnycrest Nursery in Key Center, Charboneau Construction & Supply in Minter, Coast Hardware at Lake Kathryn, or by contacting Ruth Bramhall at 857-5184. Event chairman Glen Ehrhardt is still seeking interested volunteers from the community to help in various ways; he can be reached at 884-6382.

Petersen chaired the event the last four years.

Attendees came from out of the area, even out-of-state, and it has become an annual affair for many local families.

Previous year's profits helped fund the church's Helping Hands program, I.M.Pact dinners and the food bank at the Key Peninsula Community Services, and Jason Nightingale's Word Sower Ministry.

This year's fifth annual Salmon Bake will be a memorial for Petersen, known by many different nicknames, including Pete and Mr. Pete. This year the volun-

teers' T-shirts will include a subtitle of "for Pete's sake."

The event will again feature Chef Oliver Coldeen and his famous salmon, corn-on-the-cob, potato salad, bread, hot dogs for kids and nonsalmon eaters, and strawberry shortcake for dessert.

As usual, there will be an auction, raffle items, rummage and plant sale, arts and crafts for the children, and Al Hazelquist will entertain with his accordion throughout the event.

Last year 550 tickets were sold, and pre-sales are already in progress.

Penlight wins national award

Peninsula Light Company (Penlight) received an Award of Excellence (first place) for its 2004 Wind & Wine video at the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's (NRECA) Connect® 2005 Conference and Expo. NRECA sponsors the annual luncheon to recognize utilities that exceed expectations in communicating with their customers about programs and services and to celebrate successful project leaders and their work.

Penlight's DVD on the 2004 Wind & Wine tour won first place in the Best Video or DVD category. Penlight's video captures the fun and learning experienced by those who participate in the yearly tour of alternative power sources and wineries in Eastern Washington. Penlight also won an Award of Merit (second place) for its photo titled "Junior Lineman" in the Best Photo category.

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Jane Dough pizza gives back to the community

By Paula Moore
KP News

Almost two years ago, in August 2003, Sandy Ercegovic and Susan Hoefle decided to buy John Dough Pizza on 134th Street in the Key Center area. Why? Because they knew first hand how hard it was for area teen-agers to find jobs. This included their own three boys. Their sons Nick Ercegovic, Cisco Hoefle, both seniors at PHS, and Taylor Hoefle all work at the business they renamed as Jane Dough Pizza.

The idea grew to giving opportunities for employing other young men. Most of the crew are friends of their sons. There are now two girls working for them as well. Some of the young people learn how to make the "secret" dough recipe, how to whirl it above their heads, and finish with baking a delicious pizza. Others become the drivers.

This venture has been so successful,

they purchased and opened a store in Purdy in July 2004. Hoefle works full time in the stores and Ercegovic fills in part time, as she has a full-time job in the office at Peninsula High School.

The business was the start of a vision for both of them. Ercegovic, a Lake Holiday resident for 13 years, and Hoefle, who has lived in the area about 10 years, felt they would like to give something back to their community. Both were already involved in volunteering at the local schools, particularly in the reading programs. That involvement grew into the "Read for Pizza" program at Evergreen Elementary. Students who read a certain amount of new books determined by their teachers receive a certificate for a free small pizza. This resulted in giving away a total of 75 pizzas.

That business principle led them to giving discounts to Vaughn, Minter, and Evergreen schools for parties and carnivals.



Left to right, Jane Dough's Nick Ercegovic, Sandy Ercegovic (owner), Mike Christensen, Taylor Hoefle, Susan Hoefle (owner) and Levi Spunaugle; not pictured is Cisco Hoefle. *Photo by Mindi LaRose*

at the school, and to PHS Boosters.

They contributed to a young lady trying to earn money for a trip, and sponsored a family in need by supplying dinners for a month and collecting money for Christmas 2003 and 2004. The crew at the store donated gifts they bought for the families.

Currently the women are working with an animal shelter for spay/neuter/immunization for low-income pet owners by donating gift certificates: a free pizza slice for every dog or cat owner as an incentive for immunizations. The next project being considered is a "senior feed" to help the community outreach at the Civic Center.

Their business attitude is that they wanted people to know they cared and were an involved part of the Key Peninsula.

Ercegovic said, "Both Susan and I think it is important that a business give back to the community, not just take from it."

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Windermere

Civic Center staff would like to hear from everyone who attended the Friday Night Skating this year, or those who didn't attend but would have liked to. This survey will help improve the program for next year.



Please return it to the Civic Center office (attach add'l sheets as needed).
Call 884-3456 with any questions.

1. Did you participate in Skate Night this year? About how often? If not, why not?
2. What did you like about Skate Night?
3. What would make Skate Night a better experience for you?
4. Would you participate in a Family Skate Night on Sunday afternoon if it were offered?
5. Any other comments, suggestions, ideas, questions?

Optional: Please add your name and contact number (phone, email) for follow-up, if you wish.



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“In the Heart of the Key Peninsula”

We've heard from many residents of the Key Peninsula during the past month with complaints about the news they received from the Pierce County Tax Assessor's office. The new tax assessed evaluations came out in early June, and in many cases the assessed value of your home went up by 40% - we've heard of at least one that doubled in value! The questions we are hearing are: Is this raise happening all over the Key Peninsula? and is this evaluation really true? In both cases, the answer is yes!!

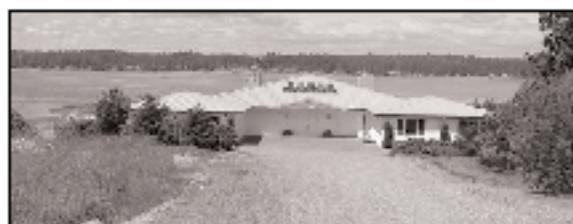
There seems to have been a blanket increase across the whole peninsula (although we don't hear from the ones whose evaluation stayed the same). Pierce County appears to have taken the opportunity of increased real estate activity and sharply rising prices to bring everyone's evaluation up to market value, which is what our assessed value is supposed to be. It comes as a shock when they raise that much in one year, but many of us have not been anywhere near market value for some time. And, in most cases when we (as agents) are asked to do a CMA (Comparative Market Analysis) on your homes that market value is still higher or right at your assessed value.

So, if you want to protest your evaluation, it's best to ask yourself first - Would I sell my home or property for the amount of the new assessed value? In most cases, the answer is No! I would want to sell for a higher amount!



Community Service Day

On Friday, June 17, all 13 agents in the Windermere/Key Realty office took the day off to work at Volunteer Park (Key Peninsula Sports Center). And work we did - painting the main building and sanding and painting several picnic tables. Under the direction of Scott Callacher, Park Director, and with the help of lunch from First American Title Co., we worked all day, had a great time and the building looks great.



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2+ bry lake view home in quiet community that offers fishing, rowing and swimming in lake. Meticulous inside and out! You will find a wonderland of roses, flowering trees, shrubs front and back and shaded back deck for BBQ's and a tool shed in back yard too! MLS 25085569



PORT ORCHARD \$240,000

If you love space, you are going to love this home! Spacious living room has vaulted ceilings and wood stove insert, nice dining room, oak kitchen nook, family room, and great master w/full bath and walk-in closet. Newer features include roof and furnace. The 2-car garage has large storage area above. Enjoy a nice yard with mature landscaping, fire pit, even a fort! Close in to freeway for commuters! MLS 25084614



TOWN OF HOME \$279,500

Enjoy this beautiful setting of a wide-open wonderful yard in a lush setting with the privacy of trees, all on 1.7 acres. Home has propane stove in living room, open kitchen and dining area. You can relax on a large patio and deck and keep busy in the detached 2-car garage w/shop, carport attached. MLS 25081649



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Music and fun marks salon move



Photo by Mindi LaRose

Peninsula Hair Design owner Andrea Davis (on the left) celebrates the move and expansion of her salon with live music and hors d'oeuvres at an open house in June. The salon moved from the corner of State Route 302 and 94th and is now next to the 76 gas station off SR-302. The expanded location will accommodate another tanning bed, an additional stylist and a nail technician.

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Nursery wins best in show

By Rodika Tollefson
KP News

When Claudia Loy was asked by a friend to design a garden for the first Point Defiance Flower and Garden Show, she agreed, if reluctantly. It was a way for the owner of Key Center's Sunnycrest Nursery to support the first show, and a way to bring a little piece of the Key Peninsula to the other side of the Tacoma Narrows Bridge.

By the time the show was over, "A Timeless Beach Retreat," Sunnycrest's grand marquee display, was awarded "best in show" by the Tacoma Garden Club among 14 gardens.

The garden was inspired by life on the Key Pen, "where nature's unspoiled beauty, clear bright light and miles of waterfront create fulfilling, unmatched opportunities for work and play," according to the garden's promotional brochure. "The positive, nourishing environment of Key Peninsula supports talented artists, designers, builders and growers who have contributed to this garden."

Loy's goal was to promote the peninsula, so she worked with local talent—from builder John Carlson, who built the beach house, to artist Beverly Pedersen, who painted the artsy umbrella.

"Every project we do requires certain imagination and creativity," said Carlson, owner of Carlson Builders, Inc., a local company that grew from carpentry work done by a one-person crew to building custom homes and remodeling in Kitsap, Mason and West Pierce counties. For this project, the design involved panels that can be easily assembled, or disassembled and transported with a pickup truck.

After months of planning, thousands of dollars of expenses, and many hours by friends and volunteers, the gorgeous setup was a hit at the show, hosted at Point Defiance Park in Tacoma in honor of the park's centennial and attended by about 9,500 people. Loy had to focus on the bulk of the design in April — one of the shop's busiest months. The uncooperative weather didn't allow all the plants to bloom as hoped, but anyone who saw the end result would not have guessed

"It definitely shows what a class act we have here on the Key Peninsula."

-John Carlson, builder

how stressful and time-consuming the process was.

"I had an excellent crew. It was fun," Loy said. "People said they had an emotional connection (to the garden) and it had soul."

From businesses selling material at cost and donating labor, to members of the Bayshore Garden Club volunteering as docents, to many community members who contributed time — "A Timeless Beach Retreat" came together in the spirit of the Key Pen.

"It definitely shows what a class act we have here on the Key Peninsula," Carlson said.



Photo by Rodika Tollefson

Sunnycrest's display garden included a water feature, plants that are easy to care for and are resistant to deer and drought, as well as an artistic flavor.



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KPMS students learn why pilots want to fly forever

By Danna Webster
KP News

The first year of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Explorer program at KPMS closed with an all-star pilot panel presentation. Four remarkable men came to share their stories from careers in aviation.

During the lunch break, eighth grader Micah Shelley summed up the experience, "I can't believe half of them (the stories). They're crazy! Though, I know they are true."

For Micah, and all the class members, the NASA Explorer program was an eighth-grade elective. "I was excited that NASA had recognized this school. So I kind of wanted to be a part of it," he said of his reason for choosing the class. Because of his experiences in the course, he has signed up for the aviation class at Peninsula High School. One of the pilots on the panel, Lt. Col. Curtis Scott, is the instructor. Micah isn't certain that he can get into the aviation class as a freshman but the NASA class has greatly influenced him. "I really liked this. I've been considering, because of this class, to become a pilot," he said.

Principal Dennis Nugent is proud that KPMS is one of only 50 schools chosen in the United States last year for the NASA program. Several KPMS students and teachers have traveled across the country to various states to participate in NASA projects.

The NASA Explorer program was awarded to the school through the grant writing efforts of the science teacher instructor Kareen Borders, and will continue at KPMS for two more years.

Superintendent Jim Coolican, a retired Marine, attended the presentation and expressed his appreciation for the panel. Coolican asked the pilots to reflect back on aviation and how it has changed over those years, then look into the future and tell the students what opportunities will be available for them.

"We almost envy what could happen for these youngsters," Capt. William Metzger said. "It's almost mind-boggling. You're looking at four fossils who started in aviation when we thought it was quite advanced. We flew faster, higher and were doing things unheard of when we were youngsters... We were dinosaurs in our prime time relative to today."

Metzger flew an F-8 Crusader aircraft and was shot down on a combat mission over North Vietnam in 1967. He crashed and was captured. The shrapnel from the

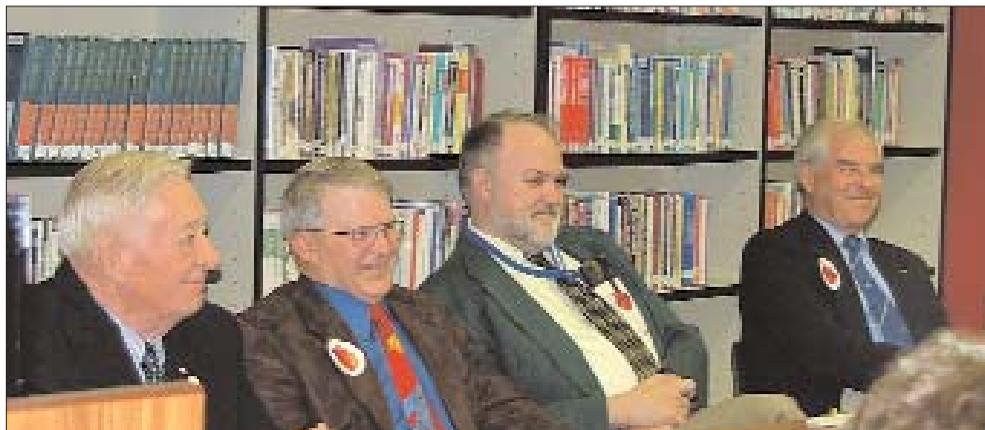


Photo by Danna Webster

Left to right, Col. Donald Sorlie, Lt. Col. Curtis Scott, Dr. Richard Newman and Capt. William Metzger share their aviation experiences with students at KP Middle School.

explosion in the cockpit ripped open his left arm and left leg, and his right leg was broken. His wounds were neglected by the Vietnamese but his prison cellmate helped him heal. He was a prisoner of war for six years and received 15 medals including the Silver Star, Legion of Merit, Distinguished Flying Cross, three Bronze Stars and two Purple Hearts.

Metzger told the students about the importance of choice. He and his fellow prisoners were determined, he said: "We were going to choose our fate and not let our captors dictate our fate... We survived because we decided we were going to take advantage of the choice we had."

He applied the importance of choice to the students. "So many people, especially young people, give their choice to others," he said. "People who are losers... have given up choices." He told the students their future is exciting and full of opportunities and that they should keep in mind, as they go forward, that "with the opportunities available, you've got to work to have as many choices as you can for all these opportunities."

Dr. Richard Newman answered next. He thought there would not be great changes in the future because the greatest thing about aviation has always remained the same. "The thrill is still there," he said. He didn't think the students would see rogue aircraft flying through the city like in Star Wars. He predicted a need for greater intelligence requirements for the navigational systems. He said that currently pilots have to learn 14 computers on the flight deck of their aircraft, then change to a different aircraft, and learn it all over again. But the enjoyment and the thrill of flying are still there. He had a suggestion for the students: "Just learn to fly for fun, and, if you're lucky, you can move into the

field."

Newman is a former flight test pilot. The highest he ever flew was 95,000 feet and he described the quiet due to the fact that the engine shuts off. He said to start the engine again, he let the nose drop and at about 35,000 feet, the air started the engine for him. Newman now works for the Flight Aviation Administration and is currently evaluating the Boeing 787. He has written numerous publications including a basic reference text. He told a story about his longest flight but it wasn't in a flight test plane. It was in a small two-seater aircraft and he was lost over the Caribbean. The flight lasted six and a half hours. He said the type of flying he was doing was called dead reckoning.

"Dead reckoning is when you have to be right or you're dead," he explained. By dead reckoning he located Crooked Island, landed (out of fuel) safely, and earned the nickname "Gringo Loco." The lesson he shared with the students was that "one of life's great pleasures is knowing where you are."

Lt. Col. Curtis Scott said the biggest change in the future will be more computerization. "Miniaturization of computers is going to change everything," he said. "Right now we're at the limit of what a human can do. The airplane can do more."

Scott served in Korea and in Vietnam, where he was assigned to special forces and flew the Combat Talon MC-130Es. His squadron were all-terrain, all-weather, go anywhere at night, low-level specialists.

To answer why he likes to fly, Scott asked a question back. "How many of you like to be in control of what you're doing?" Hands went up from every table. He continued with his answer, "As a pilot, you're in control... Huge power. [You can

say to yourself,] 'I know what I can do and I'm not afraid.'" Scott described pilot categories studied in his high school aviation class. He assured the students that even with all the advances in computerization, the human pilot will always be necessary. He said for a pilot and a co-pilot there is "nothing so satisfying as seeing another face and knowing they can do things the computer doesn't have the flexibility or capability of doing." And he added that there will always be a need for pilots on the commercial side. "Passengers aren't going to get on an airplane without a human pilot," he predicted.

The fourth and final response to the superintendent's question was from Col. Donald Sorlie. He told the students that he can reflect back to being a Charles Lindbergh fan. He said that in the last "60 to 70 years, advances in aviation have gone ballistic. I think advances will continue in ages coming. If you want to get into aviation, stay with education. Point your thoughts toward that [career]."

Sorlie was a fighter pilot in the Air Force and served in World War II, Korea and Vietnam. He was selected as a test pilot for the NASA research vehicles called the "lifting bodies fleet" flown from 1963 to 1975 that demonstrated the ability of pilots to maneuver and safely land a wingless vehicle. This led to the development of today's space shuttle craft. Sorlie showed models of the lifting bodies and why they deserved their "bathtub" nickname. Sorlie affirmed that the early flight tests were conducted at the end of a tow rope attached to a hopped-up Pontiac convertible that was capable of speeds up to 120 mph. He said he is a "dyed in the wool fighter pilot," but a favorite memory occurred in a U-2, cruising at 65,000 feet one night. From the cockpit, he could see the lights of Los Angeles and the lights of San Diego just by turning his head.

After the presentation, Sorlie commented on the KPMS program. "I'm surprised they have a program like this in middle school," he said. "I'm impressed... They really have a good program going... These are probably some of the brightest kids in the whole school."

The students formally thanked the pilots for taking the time to visit KPMS and hoped they had a good time. They acknowledged the service of these men with this tribute, "We know that some of you have fought for our freedom through the years and as a class we would like to thank you for your service to our country."

Show & Tell



Photo by Hugh McMillan

Evergreen Elementary preschoolers visit Fire District 16 firefighters. The tykes took turns using a fire hose, checked out fire engines, and did other fun things.



Evergreen Elementary's last Reading is Fundamental of the year features the theme "Growing with Books and Seeds."

Photo courtesy of Robin Roe



Photo by Mindi LaRose

Marvin Jackson of Cascade Regional Blood Services collects blood from Peninsula High School junior student Lisa Hart. The visit to collect blood donations was part of student Jana Guffey's senior project.

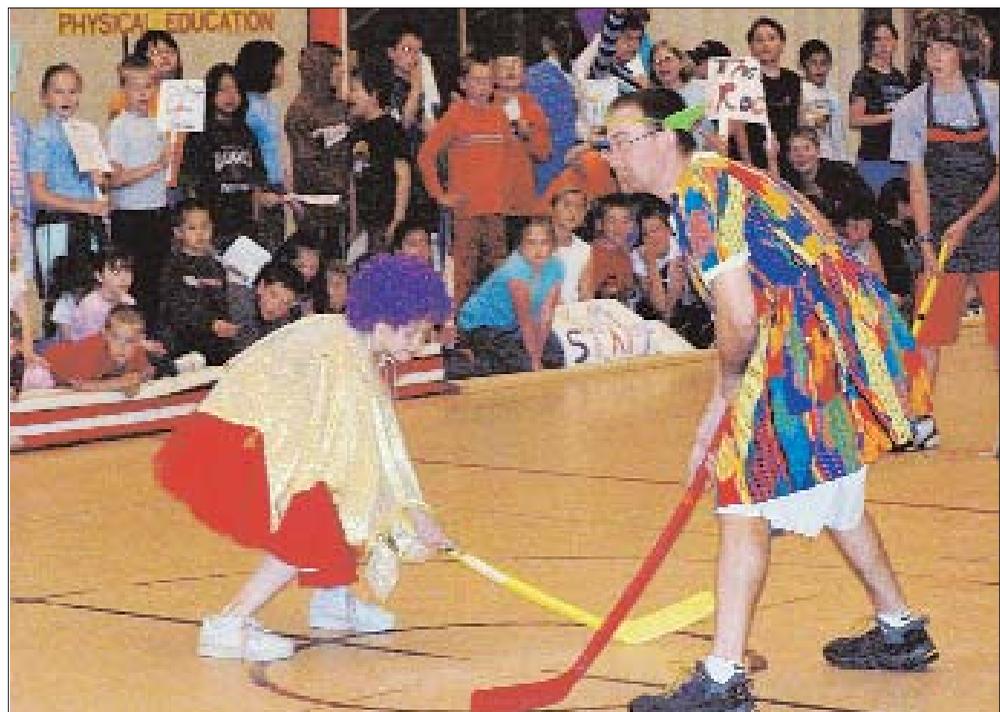


Photo by Mindi LaRose

Minter Creek Elementary fifth-grade teacher Jeff Stafki and student Alexandra Cuffe engage in a very high-spirited game of "hockey," an annual school tradition. Shane Knecht is in the background.

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Checkmate! Students produce a unique play



Photo by Rodika Tollefson

A game of chess is expected to be played at Peninsula High School next year, but don't jump to conclusions. It's not chess club members holding the match—it's members of Andrea Kurtz's English class. The sophomore students are part of a play-writing workshop by local playwright Carrie Ann Lee. The play, "Chess in the Park," was written by Lee using the pattern of two championship games between American Bobby Fisher and Russian Boris Spassky in 1972. (Fisher became world champion). The play is a drama that shows a nonviolent way to solve a conflict between a group of teen-agers attending a high school prom, according to Lee. The students will continue to work on the show during the summer, and hope to send the script to play-writing contests next year. Pictured in the photo, Carrie Ann Lee directs the students as they pose for photos that will accompany their contest entries.



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(From **MOVE**, Page 1)

building fits well with our business model — a large warehouse-style flex-space. A small retail component will be added at an undetermined future date.”

The building, which previously belonged to Brian Overland, owner and CEO of Storage Tech, will continue to house that business as well. Rather than store actual documents, the way it originally did, Storage Tech now stores them electronically.

“As the focus changed from dry to electronic storage, we don’t need as many people working in the warehouse,” Overland says. “We need a small number of employees with the right technical skills.” Which is why Storage Tech plans to lease back approximately 40 percent of the available space and remain where it is.

In addition to the building in which both companies will be housed, Artbeads.com bought an adjoining 2.3-acre parcel of land, which is included in the total purchase price of \$1.375 million.

But in order for the two firms to utilize the existing structure, some changes will have to be made. “It’s what they call a cold shell,” Kimura says. “It



Photo by Mindi LaRose

Dwight Haynes of Storage Tech LLC helps move his company to another location in the building after the sale to Artbeads.com.

wasn’t finished with a heating system. We’ll be adding administration offices upstairs. The remainder of our operation will be on the lower level.”

When asked about the possibility of making improvements to the septic system, Kimura says, “I think we’ll be fine... We’re going to monitor usage. We’ll expand if need be.”

Expansion may be necessary if the company continues to grow, not just for

the building that Artbeads.com is moving into, but surrounding businesses as well. Kim Marvik, vice president of Colliers International who brokered the sale, says, “He (Kimura) hopes to grow to perhaps 90 or 100 employees within the next three years. I believe it will impact our area. That particular facility has been sitting unoccupied since construction. The employee base will require services and

While researching this story, KP News discovered that a number of individuals and organizations worked cooperatively to ensure that Artbeads.com stayed in Pierce County and ultimately moved to the peninsula. They included: State Rep. Derek Kilmer; Kevin Clegg, economic development specialist for Pierce County; David Nishimura, business retention and recruitment specialist for Tacoma/Pierce County; and Joe Phillips, special assistant to Pierce County Executive John Ladenburg.

there might be some retail added to the building in the future.”

Kimura says of his present employees and their reaction to the move, “Everybody’s excited. We have a lot of employees who live out in Lakebay, Home, and Key Center. We have some employees coming from Silverdale, Bremerton, and Port Orchard, too. The drive will be easier for them.”

As for the possibility of adding even more employees in the future, Kimura says, “Oh, definitely. We hope to create quite a few new jobs in the area. We will focus hiring on the Key Peninsula... The whole area is great — and has a lot of potential for growth.”

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Saluting our HEROES

Keeping the nation free & safe

A tribute to our local soldiers



MINTER

By Linda Anderson
Special to KP News

As we move from celebrating veterans at Memorial Day to celebrating our freedom on Independence Day, we must recognize the many men and women who put their lives on the line to serve our country. We salute them — and their families. These are the stories of some of Key Peninsula's heroes in uniform.



WHITTEMORE

Danny Ainsley

Danny Ainsley, 21, returned from overseas deployment March 31. "I feel really good about having served in Iraq with my unit," Pfc. Ainsley said. "It was the best and the worst time of my life."

Coming from a military family (father was in the Army, grandfather in the Air Force, uncle in the Marines and cousin Dawn currently serving with the Army overseas), Ainsley was proud to take a year off from college when his Army National Guard unit Bravo 161 was called to active duty. A saw gunner in the weapons section, Ainsley enlisted in the Army National Guard March 20, 2003, and plans to return to studying for his criminal justice degree later this year.

During his time in Iraq, he enjoyed being able to work with the Iraqi children, promoting good will and giving them hope for their future. "There is important work to be done, and we are proud of Danny's choice to serve. The 13 months he was overseas were definitely the longest months of our lives," said his mother, Sherrie.

She added, referring to herself and her husband, retired Maj. Dan Ainsley, a veteran pilot from the Vietnam conflict: "We are relieved to have him home safely and are proud that Danny grew up with his own sense of patriotism."



ROMINE



SCHLUETER



HANSON



SICOTTE

Editor's note: As we celebrate the birth of our nation, the KP News is proud to recognize local military service men and women. Linda Anderson is a "military mom" who interviewed the soldiers and their families on behalf of KP News.

Matt DeAtley

Matt DeAtley is off on a new adventure as a new Army recruit. He recently left his position as a volunteer firefighter for the Key Peninsula Fire District 16 to enlist. A graduate of Peninsula High School, DeAtley is eager to serve his country and contribute to the war efforts in Iraq. While a resident volunteer, he was attending Bates Technical College and was able to take advantage of the training and skills available with the fire department to prepare for his military service.

Jason Minter

Jason Minter, 19, pre-enlisted in the Army while awaiting his 2004 graduation from Peninsula High School. Minter says he joined the Army to serve his country and it seemed like the place to get a good start in his adult life.

Following boot camp, Minter was attached to Fort Lewis, which enabled him to spend precious time with his family and friends on the Key Peninsula. As an infantryman, Pvt. Minter has honed his marksman skills to receive "the second highest marks in his company of over 300 men and women," according to his father, Barry Minter.

"I am very proud of Jason's accomplishments and that he was willing to serve his country," Barry Minter said.

Growing up, Minter was an active member of the youth group at Lakebay Community Church. When his enlistment is up, he plans to use the skills he is learning in the Army and his love of working on automobiles to pursue an automotive degree at Wyoming Technical College.

His unit is currently in training for deployment overseas in June of 2006.

Doug and Dorene Paterson said about their son: "We are very proud of Jason; he worked hard to prepare physically for joining the Army and as a result graduated from basic training in

the top five of his platoon. The Army seems to have been a good choice for him and he is making plans for his future and continued education once he is discharged. As parents, we are concerned for his safety and pray for him continually. He is never far from our thoughts or our hearts."

Craig Hanson

Infantry Platoon Sgt. Craig Hanson, 36, returned from Iraq in March with his unit of Bravo Company, 161st Infantry.

"We're so glad to have him back home safely," Jennie Hanson says, referring to herself and her two children, ages 10 and 5. Out of high school in 1986, Hanson enlisted in the Marine Corps, where he served for five years, including in the first Gulf War. He then made the decision to join the Washington National Guard, to serve his home state as part of an infantry unit-duty he could not get in the other branch.

Hanson was also an instructor in an Officers Candidate School. His time overseas involved two months of special training and 12 months in Iraq. Now back on reserve status and attached to the National Guard unit in Kent, he works his civilian job as a pipe fitter.

One of the greatest needs that Hanson has found in our area is support service for the spouses and other family members of military personnel. Resources for such support can be obtained from the Army and Navy, both of which have active bases in our area.

Heidi Romine

Yeoman Heidi Romine enlisted in the Navy in 2003. Her first assignment was on the USS Bonhomme Richard in the Persian Gulf. Several months after the Iraqi invasion, the ship returned to San Diego. She is currently serving on the USS Nassau in Virginia and expects to deploy again to the Middle East later this year.

"Proud and scared" were the comments of her mother, Pamela Libstaff, when talking about her daughter's impending deployment to Iraq.

Romine comes from a military family. Her

(See **HEROES**, Page 17)

"It was the best and the worst time of my life."

-Pfc. Danny Ainsley

"I am very proud of Jason's accomplishments and that he was willing to serve his country."

-Barry Minter, father

"My training will be a great foundation for my civilian career in law enforcement."

-Pfc. Ericka Schlueter

Saluting our HEROES

(From **HEROES**, Page 16)

mother served in the Navy, her father was career Navy, her stepfather was in the Air Force. Her husband has recently completed his tour of duty and returned to civilian life. Romine's parents, Jerry and Pamela Libstaff, moved their family to the Key Peninsula several years ago and are active with the Civic Center, Two Waters Arts Alliance, the Key Pen Fair and other community activities.

When asked why his daughter joined the Navy, Libstaff said that out of high school she was working three jobs and "going nowhere."

"Offering college opportunities and specialized training, the military seemed to Heidi to be just what she needed," he said. "Now she loves her job and is already considering her reenlistment possibilities."

Ericka Schlueter

Pfc. Ericka Schlueter, 20, expects to leave for active duty on July 27.

"I am really excited about the opportunities I will have to train for my future career and to serve my country," says the 18-year resident of the Key Peninsula and graduate of Peninsula High School who recently moved to Gig Harbor to be near her civilian job.

Schlueter is a recent enlistee in the Army, currently doing Reserve training locally. Her first active duty station will be Fort Leonard Wood in New Jersey. There, she will continue her training to serve

A special ceremony at the Vaughn Cemetery on Memorial Day weekend honors veterans.



Photo by Hugh McMillan

IN MEMORIAM

As we honor those who are serving in the military, we also pause to remember those who have died in that service. Zech West, 22, 3rd class hull tech, served aboard the USS Emory Land as a welder. The ship was stationed out of Italy during the start of operation Iraqi Freedom.

Upon graduation from Peninsula High School, West felt as though his life needed direction and was contemplating enlistment when the Sept. 11, 2001, attack came. He proceeded with his enlistment and turned out to be a leader among his peers.



"I was real proud of my son serving his country and turning into a fine man," said Key Peninsula Fire District 16 Battalion Chief Chuck West. When asked about other family members in the military, West reported that there were many military servicemen before Zech, including Benjamin West, who was the second man killed in the Revolutionary War.

Sadly, while on leave to get married last year, Zech West and his new bride were killed in a motor vehicle accident while returning from their honeymoon. West is also survived by his mother, Sandy, who works at the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard in Bremerton, brother Alex and sister Lilly, all of the Key Peninsula.



**ZECH
WEST**

with the military police. Her active duty unit is scheduled to deploy overseas after the holidays.

When asked about her future plans, Schlueter said, "My training will be a great foundation for my civilian career in law enforcement." She is looking forward to seeing new places and "being all that she can be." Schlueter, who recently received a black belt in karate, plans to return to the area and join a local police department.

Anthony Sicotte

Anthony Sicotte, 21, is currently serving with the Army Stryker Brigade, 73rd Engineer Company in Iraq.

Pvt. Sicotte was home on leave recently. When asked what he would say about his tour of duty in Iraq, he quoted the company's motto: "Let us try."

His mother, Carol Sicotte of Lakebay, says that her son's focus while home on leave was to worry about his comrades-in-arms over there. Such a habit is part of the camaraderie that develops when a group works closely together and depends on one another for their very

lives.

Sicotte, a Peninsula High graduate, said he enlisted because he was ready and willing to fight for his country and he saw benefits of military service that would improve his life. One of the skills Sicotte has been honing in the military will prepare him for civilian work with heavy equipment operations.

His father, David Sicotte, who also served in the Army, said, "As parents, my wife and I go through many emotional ups and downs. When the media reports things that happen over there, it's often 24 hours or more before we hear from our son to know he is OK. We've developed a love-hate relationship with the telephone — wanting to hear from Anthony but wondering what the news might be."

Aaron Young

Following his 2002 graduation from Peninsula High School, Aaron Young enlisted in the Air Force, seeking training that would prepare him for his career plans in the area of law enforcement. Airman Young has served an overseas billet and is currently stationed at Fairchild Air Force Base in Eastern Washington, where he lives with his bride, Cassie. They will celebrate their first anniversary in August. "He's a great guy," says former PHS classmate Ann Gohrick. "He will make us all proud in his service to his country."

Christopher Whittemore

Christopher Whittemore, Peninsula High School graduate, serves in the Marine Corps. There is no way to prepare for the day you learn your child will deploy to a combat area. All you can do is be proud and pray for his safety. And proud I was when my son, Lance Cpl. Whittemore, 29, said of his impending deployment, "There is a job to do and

someone's got to go do it."

Chris, who attended Peninsula High School and was active in the Lakebay Community Church youth group, is the stepson of former Air Force Drill Sgt. Philip Anderson of Lakebay and son of retired Petty Officer Timothy Whittemore of Paradise, Calif. He comes from a long line of military men. They include his paternal grandfather, who served in the Navy during the attack on Pearl Harbor, sustaining injuries while pulling several of his comrades to safety from a burning airplane hangar. Whittemore's maternal grandfather was stationed with the Army in Whittier, Alaska, during the Korean War.

Philip Anderson said, "I'm very proud of my son serving our country. Knowing that he is deploying to a war zone only increases my prayer time." Timothy Whittemore added: "I am very proud of Chris and I'm constantly praying for him and that the conflict will end soon."

When Chris was 5 years old he saw a recruiting poster for the Marines and grew up wanting to stand tall in that dress uniform. After high school he eagerly enlisted, serving overseas, in Hawaii and in Texas. He is currently assigned to the CAAT (Combined Anti-Armor Team) White Weapons Company at Twenty Nine Palms, Calif., where he lives with his wife, Tina. He expects deployment to Iraq by summer's end. Of that prospect, his wife says, "I am very proud of Chris, and also terrified."

Linda Anderson is a freelance writer and speaker who lives in Lakebay.

Salute KP soldiers

Do you know anyone who is active in the military or has recently returned from serving overseas? Please let us know so we can give them recognition. Email news@keypennews.com or call 884-4699. Please leave us your name and contact information.

Community Planning Board sets July meetings at new location

The next meetings for the Economic Development Committee for the Pierce County-Key Peninsula Community Planning Board are scheduled for the first and fourth Wednesdays in July. The dates are July 6 and July 27. Meetings are held at 7 p.m. in the Key Peninsula Library, located at 8905 Key Peninsula Hwy in Key Center.

The Community Planning Board is working on policy development for the Key Peninsula Community Plan regarding the Economic Development. Members of the general public are encouraged to attend the meetings. For more information, see www.piercecoun.tywa.org/landuse.

ASHES holds annual rummage sale

Key Peninsula Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary (ASHES) is having its annual rummage sale July 30 at the Key Center Fire Station from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

If you have good useable items that need to find a home, donations are welcome and can be dropped off at the fire station on Friday, July 29.

The Firefighters Association will also be serving their famous pancake breakfast from 7:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. so come on down and fill your tummy and then shop for treasures. For information call 884-3771, 884-4834 or the fire station at 884-2222.

News from TOPS#WA1325, Lakebay

We would like to invite you to come check out our weight loss support (TOPS). We meet every Tuesday morning at 9 a.m. in the McColley Hall at the Key

Peninsula Lutheran Church. The church location is at the corner of Key Peninsula Highway and Lackey Road. We weigh privately while other members socialize and have a cup of coffee or tea, until the meeting starts at 9:30 a.m.

We enjoy ourselves by playing a couple of games each week. Then we have some sort of program to help us reach our goals. We try to encourage all our members to succeed in reaching their goal weight. The fees for membership are \$20 a year and \$5 a month for dues. Couples can join with one paying \$20 and their spouse pays only \$10 for the year then \$5 each per month for dues. Anyone, ages 7 to infinity, looking for a weight loss support group can come join TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly).

We want to congratulate our newest members: Donna Chapman, Monika Suhr, and Heather Williams.

For more information, please call Gloria at 884-2554 or Jonda at 884-1335.

—By Gloria Bowman

Angel Guild is ready for summertime

Summer is coming. Check at Angel Guild Thrift Shop for shorts, jeans, swimsuits and camping gear. We have it all. We have lots of good pots and pans for the camp stove or camp fire. Towels, shoes, jackets for cool times and hats and caps for sun shades. Shop Angel Guild first. We have the best prices in the area. New stock is put into the shop daily. It pays to check us out frequently. We have special sales, one-day sales, and two-for-one sales. Angel Guild has two new members. We are delighted to welcome Linda Young and Trish Wheeler. We always need new members. If you have some free time to invest in fun, fulfilling project, come into the shop, leave your name and phone number. You will be contacted. In the last week of August, we are going to be closed for our annual renovation

and clean up. Prior to that we will be having a bag sale. Mark your calendars for this big event. There will be bargains by the bagful.

—By Betty Barkubein

Motorcycle club seeks riders

The Gig Harbor Gold Wing Road Riders Association is seeking motorcycle riders. Riders can own any brand of street motorcycle and be a member of the group. Safety training is offered through participation in practicing riding skills, learning how to ride in a group, first aid and CPR training. The group rides are planned to fit the skill level of the riders. Riding season is from March through October.

Out of 33 persons on our roster, 11 of them live on the Key Peninsula, and some of them are our most active members. We draw people from the KP area and we have raised funds for the Key Peninsula Community Services Center in the past.

On Sunday, Aug. 7, Chapter G will be co-sponsoring a ride with Chapter F in Tacoma that will benefit local food banks. A portion of the proceeds will be given to the KP Food Bank.

Chapter G of GWRRA meets every 3rd Sat. of the month, at the Cottesmore Café, 2909 14th Ave. N W. Breakfast is at 8:30 a.m. The meeting is at 9 a.m. For more information contact Gale Brian Nickel at 253-265-2874.

Home Social Club meeting in July

The annual meeting for the Home Social Club is scheduled for July 14, at 7 p.m. in the Home Fire Station. Discussion topics will include the community's future and community representation to the planning board.

Contact: Nancy Lind at 884-3347 or nancyind2000@yahoo.com.

The Bloodmobile will be in Purdy in July

The Bloodmobile will visit the Key Peninsula and Gig Harbor in July. The Key Peninsula visit will be on the second floor of the Peninsula Light Co. building, 13315 Goodnough Drive NW. That visit is scheduled for Tuesday, July 12, from 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Those interested in donating blood, and in the other locations may call Cascade Regional Blood Services at 383-2553 or see www.cascade-bloodcenter.org.

SAVE Thrift Store schedules special event

Where will you be on Saturday, July 9? Mark your calendar to take a swing through Purdy and stop at the SAVE Thrift Store for "Customer & Donor Appreciation Day." Cookies and punch will be served all day to thank the community for its support. Money raised at SAVE goes toward the scholarship program and activity groups at Peninsula High School.

Merchandise includes high quality used clothing for all ages, shoes, books, toys and games, house wares, jewelry, craft items and much more. Frequent sales make the already low prices even more attractive. Shoppers are invited to sign up for regular email notification of special sale dates.

Donations are gladly accepted during business hours. Space prohibits our taking furniture and large appliances, but anything else, in working order, is welcomed.

SAVE Thrift Store is owned and operated by the Peninsula Hawks Scholarship Fund. It is open daily (except Wednesday & Sunday) from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. throughout the year. The location is on Purdy Lane, just below the high school.

If you are looking for an opportunity to

(See **EVENTS**, Page 19)

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Autumn on the Key
A special section of KP News

Don't miss your chance to announce your fall home and garden and back to school specials, services and events to more than 8,000 households.

Deadline is August 1.

Call Karen Hale at 253-858-8623 to reserve a space!

'Spring' cleanup



June was a busy month for local residents and community supporters, who came from other areas to help make the Key Pen more beautiful. We caught up with a few of the crews of volunteers.

Left, Lori Deacon and Cindy Baldwin paint a building at Volunteer Park. The two women were part of a volunteer crew from Windermere Key Realty that spruced up the park in June. *Photo by Frank Slater*



Middle, Tim Kezele and Kathleen Degginger help beautify the Civic Center grounds during an "Earth Day" cleanup in June. The cleanup was originally planned in April but was rained out. *Photo by Frank Slater*

Right, a three-person crew from Home Depot spend their day off at Vaughn Elementary to landscape. Nancy Williams of Gig Harbor (left) coordinated the team, which also included Key Pen residents and Vaughn parents Jennifer Haines (right) and Darrin Tollefson (not pictured). They later moved to KP Middle School for more work.

Photo by Rodika Tollefson



Volunteer spotlight: Phil Bauer

Story and photo by Danna Webster

The Key Peninsula Fair Board, Two Waters Art Alliance, Winter Aerobic swim classes at Camp Easter Seal, Key Peninsula News, and the KP Civic Center Association all know that Phil Bauer has a magic wand he waves over insurmountable jobs and, poof, they're done.

Currently, most of Bauer's volunteer efforts revolve around the KP Civic Center. As president of the executive board, he led the charge to solve the insurance fee issue that nearly sank the association budget. Now Bauer's attention has turned to the preservation of the Civic Center building, support of the businesses and organizations that use and work in the facility, and the addition of activities in the building. Bauer believes the KP needs a recreation center, youth camps and an after-school activity center. He hopes to see the Civic Center building have a full-use calendar, five days a week, and a busy events calendar, like weddings and parties, for weekends. The board is developing a brochure for the KP Fair inviting more



BAUER

participation from the community.

The first jobs for the center focus on building improvements. "We need a lot of up-grades for the facility and maintenance," Bauer says, and adds that the maintenance work and skills of Loyd Miller, executive board vice president, is a critical ingredient to the association's success. "Without Loyd, we wouldn't be operating in the black."

Bauer is also quick to praise the work of Ed Taylor, treasurer, and Jena Henak, the center's administrative assistant, and expresses gratitude for their contributions. Bauer adds his compliments to the KP News, "which is just fabulous and is operating in the black." The Civic Center is the parent organization for the KP News. Bauer works the last weekend of every month on the bundling and mailing distribution of the paper to more than 7,500 households.

He looks ahead at fund-raising events coming up: the Fourth of July fireworks sale; the "Blues, Brews and Brats" Oktoberfest, and his gratitude list grows long for all those volunteers who work on behalf of the Civic Center.

"We live in a wonderful community," he says of the community at large. "The longer I live here, the more I realize it."

(From EVENTS, Page 18)

serve the community through volunteering, SAVE is a wonderful, fun place to spend a few hours each week or month. Cashiers, stockers, sorters and pricers are always needed. Please drop by the store or call 857-2800 for more information.

—By Marsha Williams

The Bayshore Garden Club is meeting July 1

The Bayshore Garden Club will meet at the Longbranch Fire Station at 1 p.m. on July 1. The hostess is Dorothy Rome and the presenters are: Peg Robertson, theme

program; Dolores Argabright, horticulture; and Dorothy Rome, design. There will be work on the Fire Station garden after the meeting. For more information call Sylvia Retherford at 884-2487.

Get your calendar of events online!

They Key Peninsula News now has an online calendar. Events listed in each month's issue as well as additional ones, are posted in a list that can be conveniently printed and posted on your fridge or board. Check it out at www.keypennews.com. The list is updated once a month.

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Two Waters
ARTS ALLIANCE

'Angel' pilot delivers people, supplies

By Colleen Slater
KP News

Take a beautiful, clear summer day, an experienced pilot, and a '77 Cessna 180, and one thinks of someone out for fun.

Flying is fun for Tom Howard of Vaughn. He and wife, Nancy, fly to remote Idaho for a camping trip, or to California to visit her family.

At 19, Howard joined the Navy and became a fighter pilot, flying to and from an aircraft carrier in Vietnam.

"I made 110 takeoffs," he says. "I got a few holes (in the plane)." But he never had to parachute out.

After five years of that, he flew commercial airplanes for American Airlines for 35 years.

When he realized retirement could mean no more flying, he became involved in smaller planes, first with a friend, and eventually in his own plane.

About five years ago, he joined Angel Flight West, an organization of volunteers who donate their time to assist people in medical need. People who cannot afford commercial transportation, or for health reasons cannot use it, are transported to



Left, Tom Howard with friend Dave Stratford in Idaho. Right, Howard in his cockpit at the Bremerton National Airport.

Photos courtesy of Tom Howard



and from hospitals.

Some flights are made for other compelling reasons.

After the Sept. 11 attacks, when commercial air traffic was grounded and airports were closed, Angel Flight volunteers were allowed to fly. Firefighters, families of victims, Red Cross personnel, medical supplies were all carried by Angel pilots. Protective booties for search and rescue dogs were among the supplies.

Angel Flight West serves 11 Western states plus Alaska and Hawaii. More than 1,600 members fly nearly 3,000 flights each year. It is part of a nationwide organization, Angel Flight America, which has become the largest charitable air carrier in the

country. Ground volunteers, called Earth Angels, coordinators, donors and the media contribute support as well as the pilots who give of their time and airplanes.

Pilots check the needed flights in their area, and sign up for those they are willing and able to do.

Howard has done several flights while visiting in California. Nancy often accompanies him as assistant. He does most of his in the summer, as his plane is not equipped for de-icing, and safety is a paramount concern.

On a perfect flying day in June, Howard boards his plane at the Bremerton National Airport, straps on his kneepad that has a checklist, and goes through the

steps — check the weather, carburetor heat, ignition, prop control, radios, GPS, lock doors, lock seats. Instruments are free. He's set for take-off.

Bremerton has no tower, so each pilot announces his departure on the radio for others in the vicinity.

A short hop to the Tacoma Narrows Airport in Gig Harbor to pick up his passenger, and they're off to fly south to Pearson Airport in Vancouver, Wash.

The mountains are out: Rainier, Adams, St. Helens, Hood, Jefferson, and, nearly back home, Baker.

Flying along the western Key Peninsula coastline, he revs the engine to let certain friends and his wife know it's his plane over their heads.

Mission accomplished for Angel Flight, and Howard has enjoyed another beautiful day in the air.



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"Man does not cease to play because he grows old, he grows old because he ceases to play." (author unknown)

Camp Woodworth celebrates 60 years

By Colleen Slater
KP News

Camp Woodworth, the only camp of Northwest Bible Ministries of Tacoma, will celebrate 60 years of existence on July 30. The special event will also be the 75th anniversary of Northwest Bible Ministries.

The camp has 10 acres with 440 feet of waterfront just north of South Head on the Key Peninsula. Harold Woodworth donated the property in 1945.

Sailing, kayaking, canoeing, rowing, swimming, field sports, group games, arts and crafts, music, survival skills and more are all part of the Woodworth camp experience. Separate summer camps are offered for girls and boys. Staff to camper ratio is about 1:5.

Stuart Curry, camp director, is a level 2 National Archery Association member, and archery is a standard camp offering.

A family "Creation Camp" is offered in August, with Don Chittick as guest

speaker.

Activities for kids will include digging for dinosaur eggs.

A few other specialty camps are offered each year, including "father and son" weekends. Woodworth is also available for guest groups who rent the facility for a weekend or weeklong event.

The focus at Woodworth is character building and relationships with God, and Curry is adept at using "teachable moments" as they occur. One huge rock was moved a considerable distance by about 50 kids one year. After the boulder was in place, Curry noted it was like Romans 12:4,5 in the Bible.

The 5,000-square-foot gymnasium contains pool and ping-pong tables, indoor archery targets, and a small organ. A large meeting room at the end of the building was remodeled to include a small kitchen and a bathroom. A volunteer nurse, who brings her adopted and



One of first camps in 1940s.

Photo courtesy Camp Woodworth

earned a degree in camp management from a college in Pennsylvania. His field of expertise was horses; no horses are at this camp.

"Dealing with horses has much to do with managing a camp," he says. "Horses need to be fed each day, they need to be trained each day, and they need shelter... We feed the campers each day; we give them training each day; and we give them shelter."

"I do everything at camp, but I can't do it all without volunteers," he adds. "It's God" who provides volunteers, funding, and whatever else is needed, he says.

The Jeff Sweet Memorial Fund, established in memory of a former Key Peninsula resident, helps provide scholarships for campers with financial needs.

Curry feels blessed to be able to operate this camp and live in such a lovely spot with his family. He encourages all former campers and staff to attend the special anniversary celebration and barbecue on July 30.

For more information about the celebration, camps, to volunteer or to donate, call Curry at 884-2365.

foster children to camps, occupies the room when she's there.

Although about 50 percent of his staff each year return after working or camping there, Curry is always on the lookout for more people to help.

Except for the cooks, who are all women, including Curry's mother-in-law, the boys' camp staff are all male, and the girls' camp staff are all female.

This is Curry's seventh summer as camp director, and he has instigated many changes. The gymnasium was constructed in the '70s, and most of the other structures were in place long before that. Curry has started a fund for new buildings. His own home on the grounds is in need of a new roof and other repairs.

Curry attended Bible College, then

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Congratulations, graduates!

The second annual graduation ceremony for Key Peninsula GED classes on June 21 at the KP Civic Center celebrates the sacrifices and successes of the students.

*Photo by Danna Webster***Obituary****Billy Reece**

Billy Reece died unexpectedly from a seizure in his sleep on June 7. He will be sadly missed by all who knew him and enjoyed his friendship. He was a great son, friend, sound mixer and manager. He will be missed in the music industry of the Seattle/Tacoma area.

Reece is survived by his parents Mike and Marty Reece, brothers Michael and James, many family members and friends throughout the area. Mike and Marty were former owners of KP Video on the Key Peninsula and have provided much support for our community, through coaching and sponsoring events in the past.

Community members who would like to support this family in need with donations for Billy's burial fund could contribute at Sound Credit Union.

A Poem for Billy

You died on a gloomy day in June.
It was as if the earth was as sad as we were.

In the days to follow, it left us sad,
wondering why you were taken so young.

I guess God in his great wisdom, needs
you more than we do.

We buried you on a beautiful sunny day.

I could feel the sky was smiling
because your smiling face went home
to God.

We all gathered together laughed,
cried, remembered how much fun you
were to have around and how loved you
were by all who knew you!

We felt your presence as you looked
down at us all, smiling your contagious
smile.

Your job here on earth may be done,
but when you got to heaven,
God got you started doing your thing
making those who have passed before
you smile and laugh!

We know you're doing your ultimate
dream job of doing concerts in heaven,
preparing for the day when we join you
and have "The Big Rock Concert in the
Sky."

So this is "Bye for Now" to our great
friend Billy Reece.

We will always love you and remember
you!

Until we meet again, our love we send
to you!

Your Aunt Carolyn Roncevic

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Museum of Puget Sound stores maritime treasures

By Paula Moore
KP News

Many old timers in our area may remember the Puget Sound Museum that is on Stretch Island, just east of Allyn. The museum, in the old winery, has been a fixture for the past 20 years. However, many newcomers will have missed the joy of browsing through it. It is a must-see for children, as it is a hands-on museum.

Charles W. Somers, who prefers to be called Bill, grew up on the land where the old winery sits. In 1872, Lambert B. Evans planted the first grapes. Bill's dad bought the land in 1918 and started the winery in 1933. They continued to produce wine for 32 years until 1965, when they closed the winery. Somers kept some of the memorabilia in a small room at the museum.

When Somers was 18, he began to work summers on the "Hyak," one of the steamers that was part of the

"My love is a passion. Once you get salt water in your veins, you never get rid of it."

-Charles W. "Bill" Somers

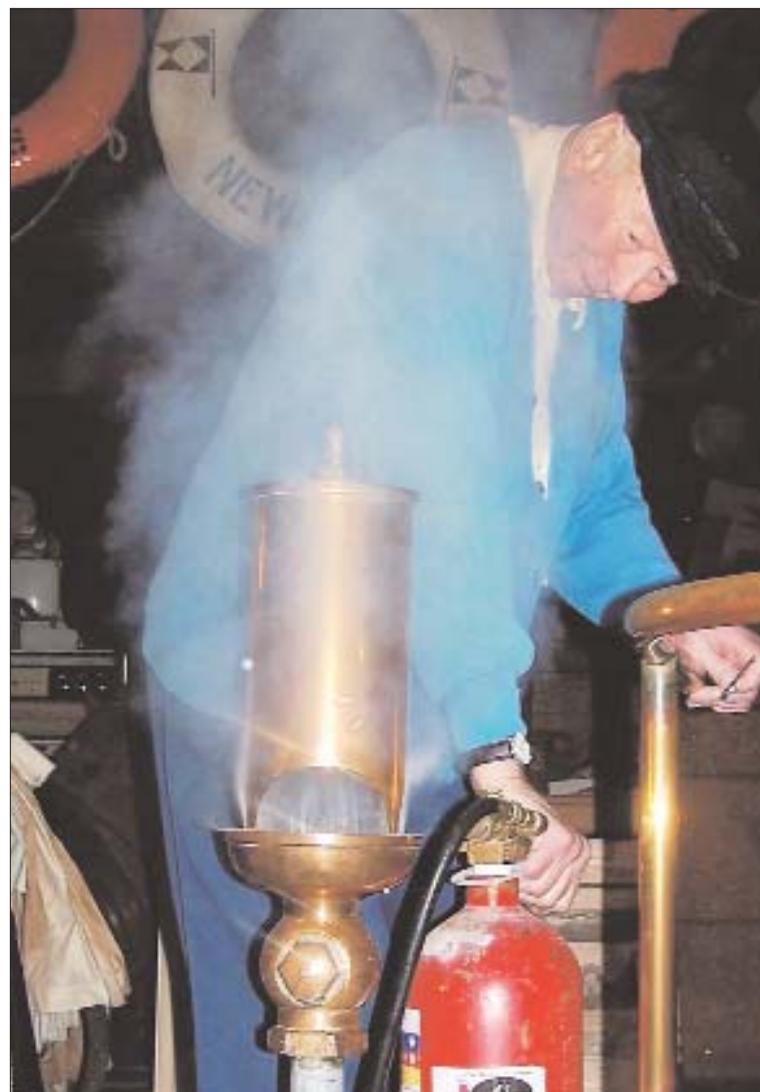
Mosquito Fleet that ran from Seattle to Poulsbo. He continued to work for three summers while earning his degree in business administration. Somers can trace his love for the Puget Sound and the Mosquito Fleet to the summers he worked on the "Hyak."

"My love is a passion. Once you get salt water in your veins, you never get rid of it," he says.

After closing the winery, Somers collected maritime memorabilia for 40 years. In 1984, he opened the Museum of Puget Sound. Somers says, "I have collected for 40 years and showed for 20."

The museum is free although donations are solicited to help run it. The 12,000-square-foot building is just crammed full of all kinds of maritime fixtures, lamps, foghorns, brass binnacles, and marvelous pictures. Somers, who is 94 and walks with the aid of a walker, takes visitors all over the building. "I love to do it. It keeps me young," he says.

When the Seattle Museum of History and Industry closed an exhibit, Somers was able to buy all the pictures of the Mosquito Fleet. The steamers that ferried people and freight from the ferry terminal Coleman Dock in Seattle all over the Sound were named by a journalist, who said the small boats scurrying all over the place looked like a



Left, The 1904 steam whistle from the Virginia IV is one of the museum's artifacts. The boat was known as "Tyrus" at the time.

Bottom left, Somers demonstrates the Navy-type signaling search light used in World War II on the steam ship "Victoria" operated for Alaska Steam Ship Co. The light sends Morse code and is powered by a 1,000-watt bulb (a message can be seen for 25 miles).

Photos by
Mindi LaRose



bunch of mosquitoes. These pictures along with their informative descriptions make a real impact as they give museum visitors an idea of our historical maritime past.

Somers says the lighted shadow boxes are the most popular part of the museum. They, along with 50 or more models built and donated by various people, are instructive in their attention to the miniature details.

Children will enjoy being able to sound foghorns, send a telegraph message to the engine room, and turn

the 8-foot wooden steering wheel of the steamer Defiance that ran from Gig Harbor to Point Defiance in Tacoma. They can even see and hear a big, red lobster sing and dance for them.

There aren't any picnic tables, but Somers says people are welcome to bring a lunch and blanket and spend a while enjoying the beautiful scenery. There is also a portable restroom available. However, Somers asks visitors to pick up their litter to help keep the museum and its land clean for others to enjoy.

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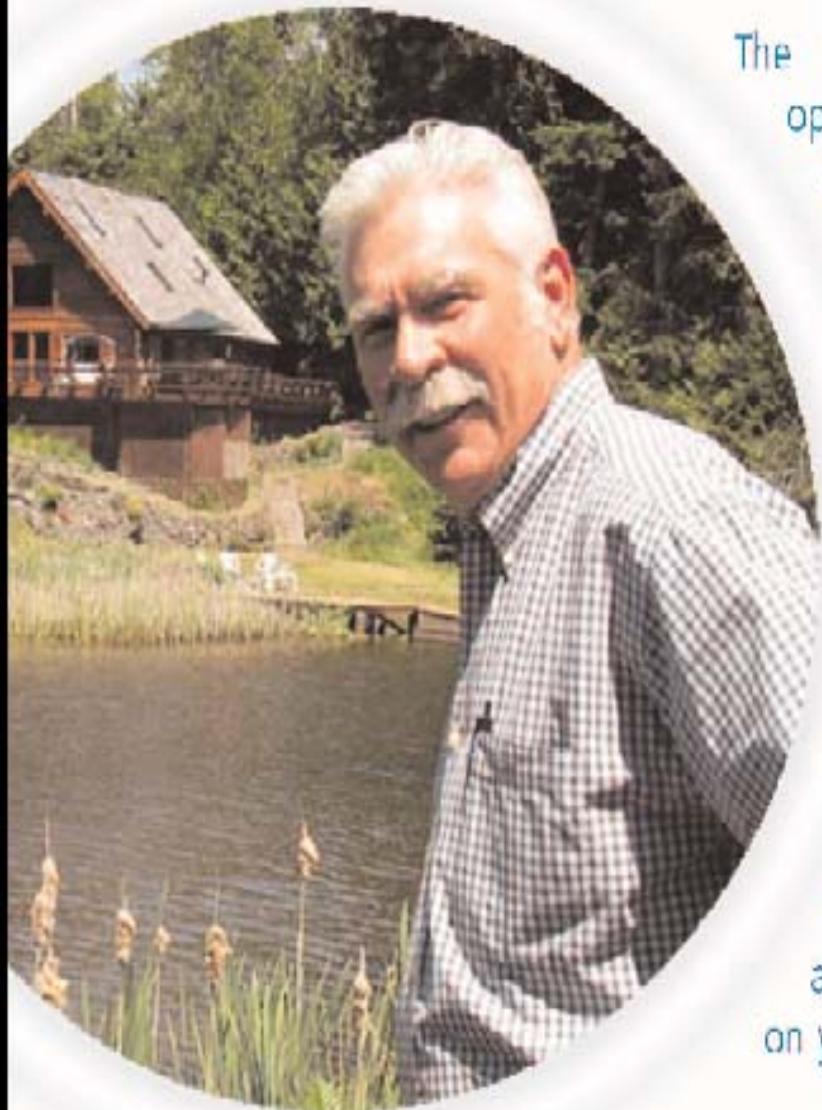
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Talent calls

For songwriters/performers

A new event planned for Sept. 3 in Gig Harbor invites all budding amateur songwriters to enter into a competition. The songwriting competition is open to all who write and perform original music and are not signed to a major recording or publishing deal. Contestants will be judged on composition, vocal delivery, timing, length, pitch and overall performance.

Gig Folk Fest staff along with a panel of industry pros will select first, second and third prize winners. Winners must be willing to travel to Gig Harbor to perform on the festival main stage. One of the folk fest organizers is Key Peninsula resident and talented singer Dan Wilson, owner of All Star Guitar shop in Gig Harbor. Wilson can be heard singing at the Tides Tavern in Gig Harbor and hosting a talent show on the KGHP radio station, among other places.

To submit an entry, send a cassette or CD with a \$10 entry fee per entry (to Songwriter Competition, 3226 Harborview Drive, Suite 8, Gig Harbor WA 98335. Limit 5 songs per person; deadline is Aug. 1. Find more information at www.gigharborfolkfestival.com.

Winners will be notified by Aug. 15 and will be posted online. The first prize is Tacoma DR14C & Studio Recording time; second and third places also have prizes.

Festival organizers are seeking sponsors for the festival as well. For information on the Gig Harbor Folk Festival, contact Steve Lundquist at 265-1240, or Dan or May Wilson at 853-5610.

For writers

The Peninsula Writers' Association invites writers to enter its first-ever Short Story and Poetry Contest. A total of \$1,000 in cash or gift certificates plus publication will be awarded to the winners. Deadline is July 15; entry fee is \$12 per short story (limit 2,500 words) or poem (limit 3 pages). Please send unpublished work only. Send entry and entry fee to: Peninsula Writers' Association; PMB # 153; 3110 Judson Street; Gig Harbor WA 98335.

Entries from those under the age of 18 who live within the boundaries of the Peninsula School District need not include an entry fee.

The top three entries will be published in the Peninsula Gateway, and on the Peninsula Writers' Association Website. For details or to get an entry form, see www.peninsulawritersassociation.org.

Hobo Spider sighted on Key Peninsula

By Karen Hale
KP News

A poison spider bite could take a person's life, but in the case of Key Pen resident Nancy Nelson, it probably helped save it.

Nelson was working in her yard one crisp February day in 2004 when she felt like she had been bitten by something on her thumb. She had no concerns at that time of year about any bugs under the bushes, so she wasn't wearing gardening gloves.

Cleaning out the dead leaves around her hydrangea bush, she didn't see immediately what bit her, but when she looked, she recognized a spider that she had seen only twice before in Gig Harbor while on job sites with her husband. She knew it was a different spider, but didn't think much else about it.

However, within three hours her hand and arm swelled so badly she went to Harrison Hospital, as the Benadryl she took to reduce the swelling wasn't working. Once at the hospital, she was asked 10 questions about what happened,



Photo courtesy of Cooperative Extension of Washington State University

A sexually mature male *Tegenaria agrestis*.

and the hospital staff decided her symptoms were the result of a spider bite.

The Nelsons went through a lot after that bite. Nancy took massive doses of penicillin and Benadryl at the hospital. During the ensuing days, she kept feeling bad, and returned two days later. It was discovered she had an allergic reaction to the penicillin, and this accounted for her inability to breathe. All the side effects were due to the medications given to counteract the spider bite. Except her headache.

The Nelsons did some research on the spider they saw and have come to the

conclusion that the culprit was a "Hobo" spider.

Tegenaria agrestis, the aggressive house spider or "Hobo" spider, is now becoming a common spider in the Pacific Northwest. It has been called a "Hobo" since 1994 for its ability to travel to different places and adapt. This spider doesn't seem to like it too hot or too cold, but the climates in the Northwest, especially Utah, it likes.

According to "The Hobo Spider Story" by research toxinologist Darwin Vest (www.hobospider.org), "on May 31, 1996, the Hobo spider became the third spider to be officially placed on the venomous spider list of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (Atlanta, Georgia, U.S.A.)." Since this species, called a medically implicated spider due to its venom and its effects, is new to the United States, it is still being widely studied.

This spider looks like a large brown spider with chevrons on its abdomen. The males are longer and narrower than the females and they weave funnel shaped webs. They like wood piles and basements.

The Hobo spider is in the family of spiders that cause necrotic arachnidism, which means that the flesh in the area of the bite dies. Many cases of spider bites have been misidentified as Brown Recluse spider bites as well as the non-aggressive *Tegenaria duellica*, or brown house spider, which is non-necrotic but looks similar to the Hobo.

The Hobo spider was introduced to the United States prior to the 1930s in Seattle. It is believed eggs in lumber or similar cargo brought the spider and it has since spread to southern British Columbia to the north and Western Montana to the east. It has clusters in Colorado and goes

Find out more

If you see funnel webs around your house, that can be one indication of Hobos. Hobos are not the only spider to make funnel webs, but if you see one, be cautious. You can collect the specimen and have it identified if you are concerned. Contact the WSU Extension in Puyallup for more information at 253-445-4545.

If you have been bitten by a spider and within a short period of time can tell that something more is happening to the area than just a swollen nodule, collect the specimen and get to the hospital.

Sources used for this article included:

"Distribution of the Medically-implicated Hobo Spider (Araneae:Agelinae) and a Benign Congener, *Tegenaria duellica*, in the United States and Canada" by the Department of Entomology, U of CA Riverside, published 2003 by the Entomological Society of America.

"The Hobo Spider Website" by Darwin K. Vest, www.hobospider.org

"Insect Answers: Spiders," published by the WSU Cooperative Extension, reprinted 1997.

Art Antonelli at the WSU Extension, Puyallup.

as far south as Oregon. Statistics taken in 2001 and published in 2003 indicate the two largest populations correctly identified were in Utah (511) and Idaho (221). Washington had 98, sixth highest out of 10 states affected.

Because of the confusion of misidentification between the Hobo and the Brown Recluse as well as the ordinary brown house spider, statistics can be misleading. Many people think they have an infestation of Hobos or Brown Recluse, when they don't. Identification needs to be done by an expert to be sure.

Nancy Nelson had an ending to her story that may sound unbelievable. After her bite, trip to the hospital and ensuing return trip for counteracting drugs to the penicillin reaction, it was discovered during one of her tests that she had a serious brain tumor. She was referred to neurosurgeons immediately and had surgery in Seattle at Harborview Hospital as soon as it was possible. Her postoperative life is compromised as the surgery was quite serious, but she's doing OK.

That was a spider bite that may have saved her life.

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From Pioneer Stock

Jesse White: A teller of tales

By Colleen Slater
KP News

Jesse White has many stories to tell of his life and that of his forebears on the lower Key Peninsula.

His great-grandfather, Carl Campen, came from Denmark, lived in Nebraska awhile, and arrived in Allyn in 1903. His wife didn't like that area, as it was too far to the store, so he traded that property for acreage and a house at Herron.

Campen became postmaster at Herron, and rowed out to a Mosquito Fleet boat to collect mail and groceries, and to ship out eggs, grapes, berries, holly and walnuts from local people. Campen and son-in-law Jesse Porter set out to log their land holdings at Herron. They used Clydesdales for hauling the logs out.

Porter had a Rumley steam tractor that burned straw, and at one point, sparks set the woods on fire. In those days, such fires burned until they went out, and White's mother had to go through the burned area to school at Home. She rode a horse, and covered herself and the horse with



Photo courtesy Kay (White) Kolves
Jesse White's great-grandparents Campen

water-soaked blankets to avoid hot embers and smoke inhalation.

Porter was a barber, had a store at Home, then at the Longbranch dock, and later at Cole's Corner. In Longbranch, he

barbered, repaired radios, sold candy, ice cream, cigarettes, tobacco, and had two pool tables. He also had several tables and chairs where neighborhood men gathered in the evening to play cards. White recalls standing on a milk crate about age 7 to watch his grandfather measure out candy.

Grandma Porter, who lived to be 103, helped cook her own 100th birthday dinner, and was "sharp as a tack" until the day she died, White says. She mixed her own blend of tobacco, and as a boy, he helped her roll her cigarettes.

Grandpa Porter's brother, Ollie, also a barber, lived in Tacoma. In his huge building, he had two large steam boilers, and sold baths for 15 cents. A shave cost a nickel.

"Uncle Ollie owned most of McKinley Hill," says White. He bought up houses in the depression, and had apartments above a Safeway store and gas station there.

White recalls his uncle's television set, with a large magnifying glass with red, blue and green strips across it to make "color TV."

The Porter brothers both played baseball in Tacoma in 1903.

White was born in David Dadisman's concrete house. His father is listed as midwife on the birth certificate. The doctor had been a Chicago surgeon who

Do you know a Key Pen resident who is from pioneer stock? We'd love to share his or her story. Let us know by calling 884-4699 or emailing news@keypen-news.com.

lost his license there.

He couldn't legally charge for his services, but suggested patients could pay something on his Home warehouse account in lieu of cash payment. White's father managed the warehouse, and said the doctor had a good credit on his account.

The summer before he was a Peninsula High School senior, White and his friend, Grant Larson, logged 20 acres he'd inherited of his grandfather's Herron property. They got a contract to cut 150 utility poles 100 feet long. They felled, peeled, hauled the logs to the water and made rafts. They had two bulldozers and a '36 log truck without brakes. They earned \$11,000 that summer. White bought a '30 Ford coupe.

He operated big rigs at the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard in Bremerton, worked at Boeing Co. on experimental planes in the '70s, and retired as an auto mechanic and detailer.

Jesse White has a lot of memories (some not for print, he says) of his life on the Key Peninsula and nearby areas.



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(From **HABITAT**, Page 1)

and wanting to return. She told him to try a little longer.

"I really thank the Lord above," Manibusan says, explaining where he got the strength to stay a little longer. "He helped me a lot... I talked to him a lot."

Manibusan got a job and sent for his family. They settled in Tumwater, paid \$650 a month in rent and acquired a pickup truck. There wasn't room in the pickup for all the children and Juanita established a schedule for shuttling the kids to their schools. Gerald got a new job for Pierce County in Tacoma. His work started at 9 a.m. Juanita shuttled him to work at 6 a.m. and returned to Tumwater in time to get all the kids to school.

Since January, their vehicles improved (from the pickup, to a four-door sedan, to a van); employment improved; and now they are building a house. Some family friends can't believe what they have done in less than one year. Juanita tells them, "There's so much out there. If you want it, you go out and find it."

Juanita says it is not easy for their teenager, who wants what all teen-agers want. But the family values are clear, "Our heritage... family comes first. We make the best of what we have. If we can have it, we will ... concentrate on our own house," she says. So far, the house is keeping all the children happy.

It was a long, hard day when Juanita took her house application to Habitat for Humanity. She found out about it online and knew it was her opportunity. That day, she had to "get my kids early; get all documents ready early; stand in line and pray and hope they're going to accept you and that everything is in order."

The Manibusans' family partner, Pamela Inveen, saw them as they worked on their application at the Key Center Library. She remembers noticing them, thinking they were special, and that maybe they would get a home. "They are a great family," she says and expresses her belief about opportunities. "You're in charge of your own destiny."

Which is exactly what Juanita believes. She tells her children as she sends them off to school, "I can't sit there in school with you for six hours. [It's up to you] if you decide the right path; or you don't."

The entire family is happy with the chances they took and the choice they made to seek new opportunities. They are making plans for their first barbecue in their new home.

"Every day I thank Habitat because I know I would never have gotten this opportunity back home," Juanita says. "Wow! I'm building my own house."



The Malones

Bonnie Malone's family home will be in Palmer Lake. Her partner, Angi Hebard, knows what getting a Habitat home is like from the inside out. She celebrated her first anniversary in her Habitat home last November.

"The whole thing is kind of intimidating," Hebard says.

"I'm the go-between for you and Habitat," she tells Malone recently as they meet at a coffee shop. She recommends taking lots of pictures and already has a photo album to give to Malone. "You can gradually learn how it all goes together. You are going to meet the most interesting people in this organization. It's just awesome," she tells her.

Bonnie Malone moved from her hometown near Westport and started a new life in a half-way house in Tacoma. She says the other women in the half-way house had such terrible problems that she realized, "I wasn't half as bad [off]... but I didn't have my kids." Malone has four children, ages 18, 17, 12 and 4.

Since her move, she has enrolled at TCC and has three quarters to finish; she has participated in the TCC work study program for two years. She now rents a house and has a landlord whom she "loves to death." But the rent and the electricity take all the money she makes.

"Now I'm self-sufficient," she says. "I'm

Photos by Danna Webster

Top, the Manibusan family of Guam at the groundbreaking for their future home in June.

Left, Bonnie Malone, whose family will live in Palmer Lake, and their Habitat partner, Angi Hebard.

almost finished with my school." Her major is human services and she wants to work in programs dedicated to reuniting families. Becoming self-sufficient is the major change in her life and she credits her religious faith. "I always have been raised in a church atmosphere, and I never felt I had a relationship with God. But now I do. I have a relationship with God today."

Hebard explains the 500 work hours that Malone must contribute before she can buy her home. She can work 300 hours building on her own home; but 200 hours must go for somebody else. That is part of the partnership with Habitat.

While Hebard's house was being built, she lived in Allyn, went to school and worked. "I would quit work; go there and sweep," she tells Malone. The work included picking up nails, sweeping, and making lots of "L's" (corner braces).

Both women admit to having trouble with nails. They can't figure out how some people can hammer in a nail in three hits when neither of them can even count the number of times it takes them to sink the nail. They agree to a simple truth about the hammering job: Bend the nail; pull it out; straighten ... start again. Determination will get the job done, they say. Just as determination made them Habitat families.

It takes many hands to build a Habitat House

By Danna Webster

Last November, the Tacoma affiliate of Habitat for Humanity built its 100th house. By the year 2000, Habitat International affiliates had built 100,000 houses in the United States and worldwide and expect to hit 200,000 in a few more years.

Habitat was started in 1975 in Georgia by founder Millard Fuller. Jimmy Carter became involved after leaving his presidency. "Every year he and Roslyn go out and pound. [They] don't want to spend their time being dignitaries," says Bob DeLaney, member of the Gig Harbor/Key Peninsula Habitat Chapter.

The creation of "chapters" is new to the Habitat organization. The GH/KP Chapter is one of the first in the nation. The chapter uses volunteers, subcontractors, and suppliers closely associated with the area. The chapter received a kick-start from the Russell Family Foundation. At her death, Jane Russell asked that memorial donations be made to Habitat. "That was enough for a new house," DeLaney says.

The chapter partners with families who live in substandard housing. They find a property, raise funds to buy it, recruit volunteers, and build the houses. In December 2002, the chapter completed its the first home in Vaughn. They have since built one in Lake Minterwood and two in Wauna.

Groups and organizations are important Habitat volunteers. Each year one house is a "Building on Faith House" that churches help fund. They have also received group volunteer help from Starbucks in North Gig Harbor, Key Bank, and Windermere Real Estate/Key Realty. For the last two completed houses, Metropolitan Furniture gave the family a substantial donation of furniture; and the landscaping was done by the people from Home Depot who had worked on the site and returned to complete the yard just for the sheer love of doing it.

The family must donate 500 work hours before they can buy their home and commit to a contract agreement with the Habitat organization. Their interest-free mortgage payment goes into the Habitat fund for more houses.

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All-Day Kindergarten Provides Expanded Opportunities for Students and Teachers

Thanks to voter-approved Initiative 728, the Peninsula School District has been offering full-day kindergarten at several schools while also focusing on district-wide class-size reduction. About 80 percent of I-728 funds are spent in those areas.

'We think early education has the greatest effect on a child's educational career and we want to make sure every child has an early start,' says PSD Human Resources Director Chuck Cuzzetto.

'We have put our emphasis in the area where voters have anticipated us doing it.'

Gail Mitchell, who has taught kindergarten at Evergreen Elementary for 11 years, says the additional time her students receive in the full-time program is already showing results.

'It is really great for the kids,' she said. 'I see them



Gail Mitchell's kindergarten class at Evergreen Elementary is enjoying a song during music class with teacher Teri Hammon. The all-day K students experience music four times per week.

connecting their new skills with their work, because we have the extra time to build those connections.'

Mitchell's students read and write every day as well as attend a physical fitness class and music or art. The expanded day affords more time for math and hands-on activities.

'Some students already have met their year-end goals by January,' she said, adding that the children get additional benefits from the social interaction. 'I enjoy having them all day because they're learning social skills and bonding more with the other kids,' she said.

A pilot program launched in 2003-04 to offer tuition-free all-day programs to low-income families was expanded this year in the district. At Evergreen, grants allow all families to enroll in all-day K at no charge.

Did you know

For the past six years, PSD high school students have posted the highest test scores of any Pierce County First Class school district (over 2,000 students).

At a glance

The Middle School Mix-it-Up Summit was held at beautiful Camp Colman on the Key Peninsula on May 26. Leadership students met with a cross-section of their peers from all four middle schools, with high school student leaders from Peninsula and Gig Harbor High Schools. Small teams shared experiences and brainstormed ideas to help all students and their families feel welcome at their school.

Swim on in

- GHHS Pool is closed for renovation.
- PHS Pool Office hours are Monday - Friday 5-8:30 pm 857-3533



Summer School Principal Ron Witter works as a special education teacher at Discovery Elementary during the regular school year.

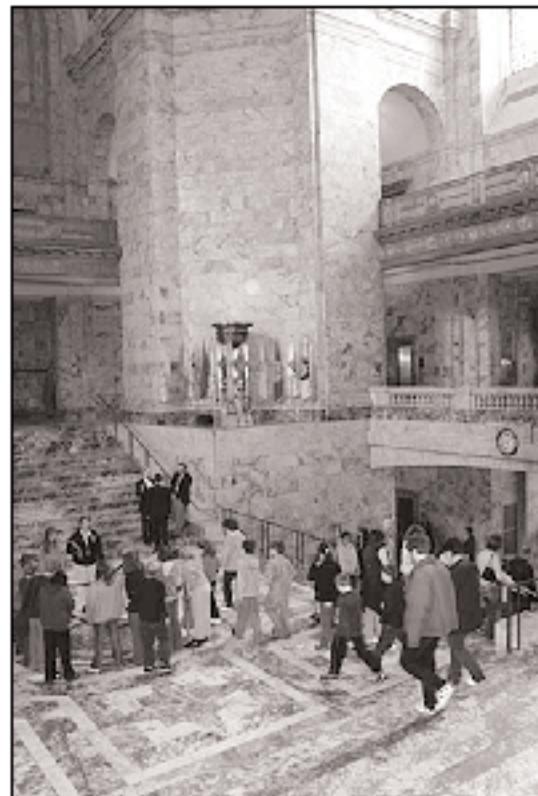
Summer School

High School Classes begin on July 5, 2005. High School classes are designed for students who will be in the 9th grade or beyond during the 2005-2006 school year. Jump Start classes begin on August 1, 2005. Jump Start classes are designed for students who will be in grades 1 through 8 during the 2005-2006 school year. For more information: www.ss.peninsula.wednet.edu or Ron Witter, Summer School Administrator 858-5629 or by email at witter@peninsula.wednet.edu

Photos of the month



Heather Buxton explains to judge Dalen Harrison of Rainier Pacific Bank the benefits of the team's "product," a futuristic multi-media system, in an effort to attract Harrison's "investment" at the trade fair during Business Week 2005 hosted by Henderson Bay High School.



Vaughn Elementary fifth grade students during a trip to the state Capitol in April. The trip included a tour and a visit in the legislative chambers during the session. Photo by Hugh McMillan

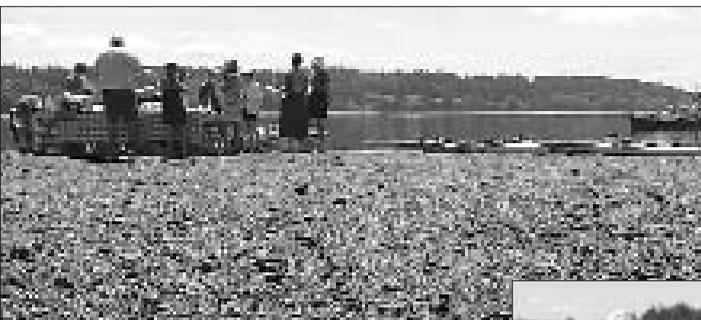
Summer's low tide is celebrated

Story and photos by Danna Webster

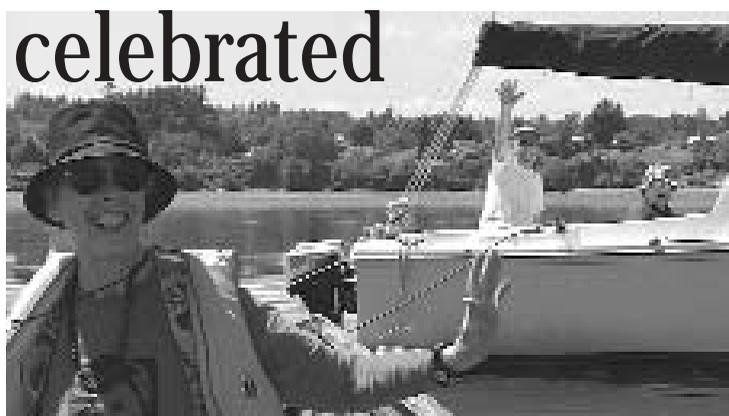
Wyckoff Shoal is located between Penrose Point and Filucy Bay in Carr Inlet.

On June 23, at 10:50 a.m., a large island began to emerge at Wyckoff Shoal.

It had been one year since this island had seen the light of day. By 2 o'clock that afternoon, the tide began its return and the island returned to its underwater domain.



As the tide receded to the lowest tide of the year, minus 4 feet, people began to arrive by sailboat, motorboat, dory, tugboat, kayak and canoe (above). They came to admire the delicate short life of an island that exists for only a few short hours each year. Some brought nets and took rock crab bounty (right), many brought cameras, and one group brought a tea party.



Curt Melhoff, of Tacoma, and his son, Karl, were there to see it.



A team of ladies who row the Sea Scouts' "Verite" gig on Commencement Bay rowed to the once-a-year island for "High Tea at Low Tide." Friends of the ladies arrived aboard Tugboat Joe and a couple of motorcraft, and that's where the table and chairs were stowed.

Correction

Due to a printing press error, two stories in the KP News June issue were published with certain capital letters missing. We apologize to our readers. To read the two stories as they should have appeared ("Skateboards may roll in Key Peninsula parks" and "LIC marks boating season opening"), please visit www.keypennews.com; the stories are posted on the front page until the July issue is published online, and can be found in the June 2005 archive section after that time.

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Things to do in July

The Key Peninsula will bustle with activities for young and old in July. Check out some of these events and enjoy the sunshine! For more activities, see the Community Works section on page 18.

Family time with movie night

Under the stars of the Key Peninsula come hear movie stars Will Smith, Robert De Niro, Renee Zellweger, and Jack Black as they do the voices for "Shark Tale." In this whale of a tale, fast-talking Oscar is a little fish who ends up at the scene of the crime when the son of a shark mob boss is killed. Claiming to be a "shark slayer," Oscar takes on all the trappings of fame but when his title is challenged he finds that his little white lie has landed him in hot water. He enlists the help of the shark boss' son, Lenny, who happens to secretly be a vegetarian, and together they try to make sure that both of their futures aren't all washed up.

To find out what happens, bring the family to the Key Peninsula Sports Complex and Fairgrounds (Volunteer Park) on July 8. Grab your blanket, a lawn chair and your favorite movie munchies and enjoy an outdoor movie shown on the big screen. The movie will start at dusk (8:30-9 p.m.). Suggested donation \$1 per person plus one can of food. Concessions will be available. Questions? Contact 884-9240.

Volksmarch is on July 9-10

The Key Peninsula Lions Club will host a Volksmarch on the Key Pen on July 9 and 10. The walk starts between 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. (both days) and finishes at 4 p.m. The distance is 10 km (6.2 miles) and the event is held rain or shine.

Walk briefly on hard top country road from Start/Finish point to dirt trails in primeval forests in the park. The well-cleared trails meander up and down gentle hills through dense forests with a variety of trees, bushes and beaches along Puget Sound. Trails are not suited for wheelchairs or strollers. The Start/Finish registration desk will be set up on the Ulsch property, where walkers may park at no charge. State parks require a \$5 parking fee. Water and restroom available as well as cold drinks and snack food.

The walk is free, AVA credit participants pay the customary fees.

Adventures for teens

Youth 12-15 grab your sunscreen, towel, shades and suit to ride the rides at

Enchanted Village and Wild Waves. You can slide down the slides, fast or slow, play in the wave pool, cruise the Conga River, cure your adrenaline craving on the Timber Hawk or the Log Ride, or just lay out in the sun. Don't forget to bring money for lunch or a sack lunch. Fee includes admission, transportation, parking and staff supervision. Thursday, July 21, from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.; \$39. Minimum of 12, departs from Volunteer Park.

If skating is more of your thing, go grind it up on a tour to Milltown Commons. This skate park in Milton is 10,000 square feet and features a 9-foot deep end, the death doorway, a clamshell and hips galore; plus there are over 200 blocks of real pool coping to grind and a separate street section. On this trip, you will be skating at your own risk and helmets are mandatory. Please bring snacks, sun block, a water bottle, and money. Fee includes transportation staff supervision, and lunch limit of \$6. Wednesday, July 27, from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.; \$29. Departs from Volunteer Park.

Enjoy the glory of lavender fest

Claudia Loy and the Sunnycrest Nursery are once again booking a bus to visit the lavender fields of Sequim. The Sequim Lavender Festival is an annual event filled with gardens, arts, entertainment, food and shopping.

If you have never joined this group, then you are really missing an opportunity to see a lovely part of the state where the sun shines, the mountains glow, and the fragrance of lavender fills the air.

A large coach-style bus leaves from Sunnycrest's parking lot in Key Center at 8 a.m., stops at Purdy Park and Ride, then on to Sequim. The tour will visit three lavender farms, some different from previous trips. Purple Haze will be on the stop because it is a "do not miss" garden. There will be time to visit the street fair and/or take a walk downtown to visit the shops. The bus returns at approximately 5 p.m.

Stop by Sunnycrest Nursery to get your ticket or call Claudia and reserve your spot, 884-3937 or 884-4169; \$45.00 per person includes bus, garden admission, lunch and refreshments.

Gardeners and farmers get ready for the KP Fair

The KP Fair will feature local gardeners and farmers in the Flora-culture and Horticulture Show this August.



Photo by Hugh McMillan

The August Key Pen fair is one of the year's most fun family events. Preparations are in full swing in July to make the event a success.

Professional judges will evaluate the entries. The flower show will have entries from "A," asters to "Z," zinnias and include: dahlias, roses, sunflowers, snapdragons, marigolds, begonias, geraniums, and hydrangea. Farm products will include vegetables, fruits and berries. From local crops there may be squash, potatoes, corn, tomatoes (red, yellow and cherry), broccoli, cucumbers, radishes, peppers, beans, cabbage, blueberries, ever-bearing raspberries and strawberries, huckleberries, cherries, figs and peaches.

Two Youth Divisions will be judged for "The Largest Weed" and "Dress Your Vegetable" entries. The Youth Division is divided into Junior (ages 1-6 years), Intermediate (ages 7-12 years), and Advanced (ages 13-17).

Last year's "Best of Show" in Flora-culture went to Donna White with her Grand Champion, recurved, burgundy dahlia. Elementary student Branden Kohfeld took a blue ribbon for his rose entry; in horticulture, Branden won a blue ribbon for his sunflower-head entry.

Application deadline is Aug. 12. Application requests and information available from Sharon Miller, assistant superintendent of the shows, at 884-2536 or by email at sm2011@harbornet.com.

Fair needs volunteers and vendors

Just in time for the August Key Peninsula Community Fair, Aug. 19-21, the fair board welcomed new board members to the organization. President Pam Libstaff says, "This year's Board of Directors is truly excited about the upcoming fair. We're

working to make this the best community fair yet."

Joining the team are Chet Young as treasurer, Bek Ashby from North Bay Mortgage and Debra McElroy, an agent with REUSA Real Estate. McElroy will help Libstaff with new vendor recruitment.

Libstaff says, "This year we encourage more local businesses to participate. A booth at the fair will introduce you to the community. We're inviting local retailers, arts and crafts people and others to be part of the fun."

If you're interested in participating in this annual community event by volunteering or getting a booth, contact Libstaff at 884-5934.

July is festival time west of KP

Two major festivals are scheduled in July across Case Inlet. Allyn Day is Saturday, July 16, and the Grapeview Water Festival is Saturday, July 30.

Both festivals occur along beautiful waterfront shorelines and present local artists, food, and fun activities for the family. Allyn Day, featuring a salmon bake and a regional breweries beer garden, is held at the Port of Allyn park grounds on Highway 3 in downtown Allyn. The Grapeview Water Festival, featuring live music, golf on the water and a kids' fishing derby, is held at Fair Harbor on the Grapeview Loop road, just outside the Allyn city limits. Contact the Port of Allyn at 360-275-2430.

Kayak rentals available in Allyn

A new kayak rental business is opening in Allyn, north of Lennard K's restaurant. North Bay Water Sports will be open for Allyn Day, July 16. The owners hope to open the weekend before on July 9. Kayak rental is \$15/hr. for singles and \$20/hr. for doubles. For information contact 360-801-1064.

'Ride around Puget Sound' is scheduled for August

RAPSody is a two-day bicycle ride with a one-day option scheduled for Aug. 27-28. The challenging 165-mile loop route begins and ends at Tacoma Community College, with an overnight stay in Shelton. Ferry trips to/from Vashon Island are at the beginning of the ride. The route circles the Key Peninsula passing through Port Orchard, Allyn, and Shelton. Registration for the ride closes Aug. 12 or when the 1,000 rider limit is reached. All proceeds are donated to the Bicycle Alliance of Washington. For information contact Molly at 206-577-6999 and for registration contact Betty at 857-5658 or visit www.rapsodybikeride.com.

Artist plans to open a studio and gallery

By Jerry Libstaff

Experiencing the paintings of Adria Hanson is like visiting a museum in Rome.

Her portraits follow the Renaissance tradition with awe-inspiring reality. She seeks to find "the perfect skin tones" in her work. She often creates in the style of William Bouguereau, a classical French master from the 19th

century. Hanson's study of form and technique are instilled with timeless tradition. Her figures come to life and capture not only human anatomy but subtle nuances of her subject's personality as well.

Her themes are derived from commission work, photographs and magazine shots. When she paints a portrait, she makes it her own. Though Hanson would love to choose subjects from the

street, she says, "We are not a rude society; (we) push aside the temptation to stare. My work reveals what is seen in a passing glance...moments that are hard to savor...These are the moments we should set aside and inspect."

She received a bachelor of fine arts degree in studio art from the University of Oklahoma. There, she studied old-master painting techniques intermingled with contemporary American style. While at the university, she was able to take time to study in Florence, Italy. She has since traveled to France, Israel, Jordan, Egypt and the Virgin Islands to study the arts and other cultures.

"The mediums I most work with are oil, acrylic, and ceramic glazing on tile. Portraits are most often painted in oil on canvas or linen. Landscapes are both oil and acrylic, painted on canvas and as wall murals. Ceramic tiles are of Italian



HANSON



The Genuine ARTICLE

design, both portraits and landscapes. They can be framed as separate pieces or adhered to a wall as a tile-mural."

For two years Hanson co-owned a contemporary and traditional art gallery in Kansas called The Studio Gallery. She featured many well-known artists as well as her own work. She brought the experience with her to Washington. Hanson and her husband are about to open a new studio and gallery in their home on the Key Peninsula. She plans an open studio party in August to celebrate.

Hanson has lived on the Key Peninsula for less than a year and she says she "loves it here; the area is inspiring." Since relocating, she finds she paints more landscapes.

She says, "Color draws me, attracts my eye. I want to engage it, capture it on canvas. I also love the symbolism of still lifes. I'm fascinated by scenes from the Bible as well as nature's gifts."

Hanson does commission work and offers art classes on the Peninsula. Two acrylic painting classes are scheduled in August through Two Waters Arts

Two Waters Arts Alliance July Classes

July 9 - Precious Metal Clay with Cheryl Gleason
July 9 - Composition and Perspective - Balance Your Painting with Carolyn Scott Arnold
July 12 - Glass Bead Making with Brynn Rydell
July 23 - Watercolor Exploration, Playtime with Carolyn Scott Arnold
For information, call 884-2029 or e-mail brynnfoss@harbornet.com.

Alliance. She also offers private classes in oil painting, oil and acrylic portraiture, beginning drawing and acrylic still life.

Hanson has recently signed on as an art instructor at Gig Harbor Montessori.

You can see examples of Adria Hanson's work on her Website at www.thestudiogallery.us.

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

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(From **GROWTH**, Page 1)

problem. Some residents disagree. The Key Peninsula Community Planning Board is looking to find the happy medium.

"One thing affects another. If development were to happen such that jobs for all residents are created on the Key Peninsula, the character of the community will be very different from what it is," says Rob Allen, economic development specialist for Pierce County. "The trick is to find the balance — what's the appropriate mix?"

One of the KP planning board's communitywide goals says, "Providing employment opportunities for local residents is a community priority." Another says that "commercial activities in rural centers should provide the basic goods, services, and employment needed by local residents." Part of the board's vision statement is to "promote a small town, socially connected community dominated by a rural landscape" and "preserve the characteristics of the community..."

Within this framework, the group will create a vision of how the Key Pen will look in the next 20 years, and how much development it should encourage.

The numbers vs. 'the experts'

Pierce County estimates show that 387 firms are located on the Key Peninsula and employ about 1,270 people. More than 70 percent of residents commute 30 or more minutes to get to work. Roughly 14 percent of the residents who are in the workforce are self-employed (compared to 6 percent in the county).

"We think jobs for residents out here are a quality of life issue, and there aren't many jobs for the family wage earner. We're also concerned that everyone who lives here has to commute and puts a strain on transportation. We consider that an imbalance between jobs and housing," says Ed Taylor, owner of the Westwynd Motel in Purdy and member of the Key Peninsula Business Association. Taylor chaired a KPBA committee that submitted the business association's position on economic development to a recent meeting of the planning board.

The KPBA's statement says there will be an eventual need for thousands of jobs, and "enough property should be designated for commercial uses." Providing areas for administrative and professional offices on or near roads feeding into the planned State Route 302 corridor is one of the suggestions. That may suit the local needs well, since nearly one-third of the local population is estimated to work in management, professional and related occupations, and another 23 percent in

sales and office jobs.

Providing a large area for future development of senior housing, another priority outlined by the KPBA, is also backed up by statistics. While only 10 percent of the Key Pen's population was 65 years or older in 2000, according to the U.S. Census, by 2020 another 27 percent of residents will be in that age category.

Yet statistics are not necessarily the biggest ingredient when it comes to planning the area's future economic development. "The people who live in the community are the experts on the community," says Allen, who has been guiding the KP Community Planning Board through the economic development element. "They know better than anyone else what their community is and what it should be."

A good portion of Key Pen residents seem to agree with the KPBA. A survey done in conjunction with the planning board's work shows that 59 percent of the respondents would like more KP employment opportunities, and 42 percent feel more commercial property should be made available for professional and retail businesses. The need is there too — 77 percent of the respondents said they purchased the majority of their commercial goods outside the area. However, nearly half of the respondents said they were satisfied with how far they had to travel to get those services.

The board meetings have generated a wide interest, and Allen says this participation is one of the Key Peninsula's strengths in creating the future vision. "I am constantly amazed at the number" of people who come to the meetings, he said. "The fact that the business community was willing to come out and make a presentation ... speaks to the involvement and the desire for self-determination."

The challenges

Not everyone wants to see office buildings and more retail pop up on this side of the Purdy Bridge. One resident posed this question to the board: "Why do you want to bring the city here?"

"Nine out of 10 Washingtonians don't know where the Key Peninsula is and we like it that way," Pat Latshaw said at a recent meeting.

That doesn't sit well with one of the KPBA suggestions: creating a destination resort on the waterfront. The idea of bringing more tourists is attractive for business owners, and certainly fits the concept of economic development, of bringing in more money than flows out. On the other hand, more tourists means more traffic on already problem roads, and more pressure on services like first aid that are already

KP community planning

For information about the Key Peninsula Planning Board, including a list of members, the work program, agendas, maps, and an opportunity to provide input, go to www.piercecoun-tywa.org/landuse or call 798-2700. The meetings are twice a month, at 7 p.m., and the new location is the Key Center Library. The July meeting dates are 6 and 27.

Next month: We take a look at issues of land use.

stretched to the max.

"Some say, 'Get out of the way and let economic development happen,' and others say Gig Harbor North is close enough," is how resident Judy Austin, who has attended subcommittee meetings regularly, sums up the dilemma.

KP population is expected to grow to 19,800 in year 2020, based on Office of Financial Management estimates (the county's numbers are slightly more conservative). The increased residential base puts more pressure on local services such as schools and fire districts, yet provides much less tax revenue to support those services than commercial use would.

"Our tax base is being really restrictive but as people move out here, they want more service," says Jim Bosch, a Fire District 16 commissioner who is on the 15-member planning board. At this rate, the fire district will not be able to handle population growth, he says.

In fact, the district's 2004 budget showed a less than 2 percent increase in revenues from 2003, and a 12 percent increase in expenditures (a big part is due to Initiative 747). The district's projections show an additional 69 service calls per year through 2012; from 1994 to 2013, that's about double the number of calls.

"Homes bring patients and costs, and commercial (use) brings money," Bosch

says.

On the other hand, as Allen stated, providing too much commercial development would alter the community character, and preserving the character including its "unique marine attributes, history of each distinct community and agricultural and forest lands" is one of the plan's objectives. And even providing more commercial development may not be as easy, because geographical limitations narrow the market for some industries. People will only be willing to cross the Purdy Bridge for certain things, which means some retail and professional services may not have a sufficient customer base.

"There is potential conflict" between jobs and maintaining rural character, and "the community has to come to grips with it," Allen says.

The Key Peninsula Community Plan is intended to do just that, find the right balance, and outline the current conditions and the desired ones along with specific actions and recommendations.

"Successful rural communities use tools, like comprehensive planning, to attract or retain the kind of business that makes sense for the area," says a document by the state Community, Trade and Economic Development Department titled "Keeping the Rural Vision: Protecting and Planning for Rural Development." The document is one of the references used by the planning board sub-committee on economic development and land use as it looks to formulate the next element of the plan.

Will the Key Pen become a successful rural community? Time will tell. If the diverse group that has been engaging in spirited, if not heated, discussions continues to participate in the process, chances are good that the planning board members will find that right mix between jobs, development, and preserving natural beauty and character. Board members say they are ready to listen, and to use the diversity to create the right plan.

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Out & About



Top, Pierce County Councilman Terry Lee and Rep. Derek Kilmer are among the group of friends and community leaders who wish Cristi Watson farewell at a party at Blondie's in late May. Watson, former executive director of KP Community Services, moved to Oregon to be with her family. *Photo by Hugh McMillan*

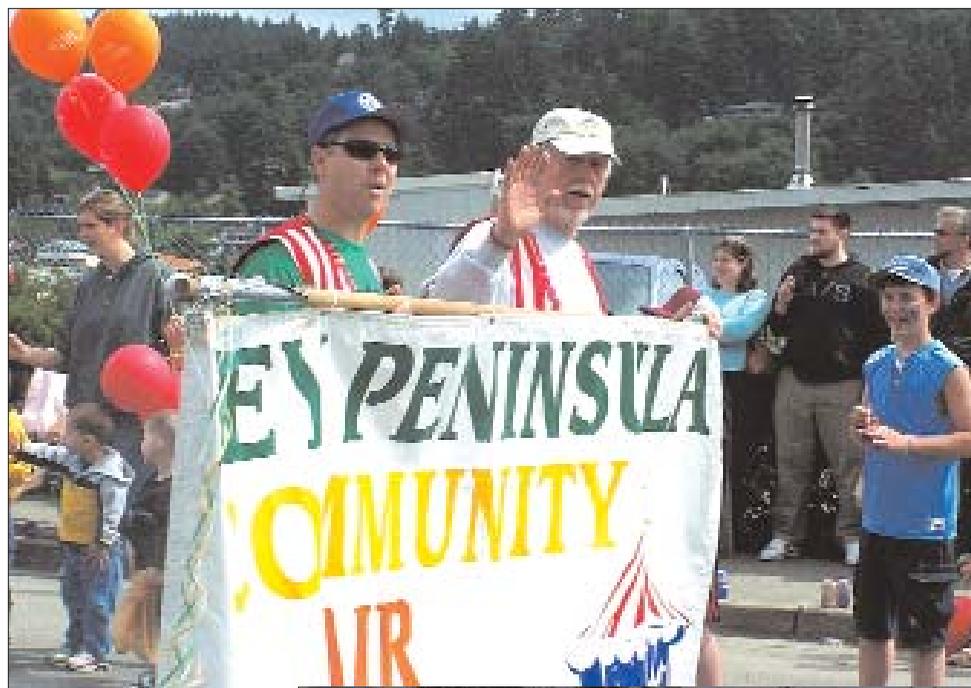
Above, This mobile home in the Horseshoe Lake Estates was destroyed by a fire in late June. The cause was under investigation at press time. *Photo by Frank Slater*



Left, Helen Macumber, owner of Key to Learning Child Care, recently surprised her day care kids with a Rainbow Monster Castle Big Toy. Left to right, bottom row: Cameo Bonner, Helen Macumber, Cinnamon Hoover; top row: Kaitlyn Bean and Micahl Dean.

Photo courtesy of Lisa Bonner

Right, Children's author and Key Pen resident Renee Riva shares her book at a signing party at the Civic Center. *Photo by Karen Hale*



Gig Harbor' Maritime Gig parade in June had a little Key Pen flavor, with the KP Fair and Miracle Ranch, pictured here, among the local participants.

Photos by Mindi LaRose and Rodika Tollefson



Wauna resident Alexis Perron, 4, is the second place winner of the 4th annual fishing derby at Sylvia Lake in Gig Harbor. Alexis' grandparents, Marlene and Chuck Hoffman, are former Vaughn residents who now live in Sylvia Lake. Dad Jason Perron is helping her. *Photo courtesy of Jami Perron*

Below, an eagle spotted recently during a boat ride on Rocky Bay. *Photo courtesy of David LaRose*

