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KP man battling leukemia is friend, pastor to many

By Scott Turner, KP News

If anyone can make lemonade out of sour lemons, it's Bill Ketts.

The 56-year-old Vaughn resident — known to many as Pastor Bill — was diagnosed in April with acute myloid leukemia, a type of blood cancer that “goes everywhere in your body,” he said.

Bill and his wife, Tracy, own Blue Willow Lavender Farm, where they grow more than 4,200 lavender plants.

The 15-acre farm is part of the popular Key Peninsula Farm Tour, and, until he had to step down because of his illness, Bill was president of the farm tour council.

The Kettses will celebrate their 36th wedding anniversary this month. They moved to the Key Peninsula from California in July 2008.

“I was the pastor of a church and Tracy and I were both teaching at a Christian school, and our family was all there in California,” Bill recalled.

But one of his best friends, Bill Walsh, had been trying for several years to coax

(See **Ketts**, Page 4)



Photo by Scott Turner, KP News

Key Peninsula resident Bill Ketts spends a happy moment recently at St. Joseph Medical Center. Ketts said his faith has him centered and focused as he goes through the steps of finding a proper bone-marrow donor to help get his leukemia into remission.

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Key Peninsula’s free clinic has moved to Key Center

By Hugh McMillan, KP News

The Key Free Clinic recently moved to the Key Peninsula Health Center in Key Center, located in the same building as the KP Branch of the Pierce County Library.

For folks without insurance or those without access to care for other reasons, the clinic provides primary medical services free of charge the second and fourth Thursday of each month.

“We have a stock of some medications and also connect patients with Project Access for specialty care,” said Jessica Schlicher, Key Free Clinic volunteer medical doctor and board member. “We can refer to St. Anthony Medical Center for lab work when needed,” she said.

Patients are welcomed to arrive between 5 to 5:30 p.m., on each clinic day and are seen in order of arrival. Similar to organizations around the state, the KFC does not prescribe controlled

substances.

“It is a wonderful opportunity to serve our neighbors on the Key, and hopefully together, we can make sure everyone knows we are here,” Schlicher said.

“It is heartwarming to see so many volunteer nurses and doctors coming together to take care of our neighbors. We hope the community will continue to support the mission of the Key Free Clinic as we grow it into the future.”

Also providing volunteer medical service is Schlicher’s husband, Doctor Nathan Schlicher.

“The free clinic reflects our values as a community that we need to take care of each other. It is a privilege to volunteer as one of the doctors and take care of our neighbors who are struggling with access to care,” he said.

The clinic is located at 8903 Key Peninsula Highway, in Key Center. For information, call (253) 509-8881 or (253) 208-6329.

KP swap meet, annual garage sale team up for combined event

KP News staff report

Two local events that began separately at about the same time are joining forces for a day on June 7.

On that date, the Key Peninsula swap meet that takes place every Saturday and Sunday and Key Pen Parks' annual community garage sale collaborate in one big event at Lake Kathryn Village, the site of the swap meet.

According to Stephanie Zampini, the Lakebay resident who coordinates the swap meet, the meet began about four years ago at Drive Thru Feed.

In 2012 it moved to its current location and now draws about 15 vendors every weekend. Their wares range from jewelry, dolls and woodcarvings to plant starts and "odds and ends," she said. "We have a lot of great, really different items at decent prices and it's a very friendly atmosphere. Everybody really gets along," Zampini said.

Jessica Smeall, recreation coordinator for Key Pen Parks, said that the community garage sale began in 2011, with goals similar to the swap meet's.

"We wanted to offer a space and time for people to bring their wares to the park and sell them to the com-



Photo by Ed Johnson, KP News

Stephanie Zampini, coordinator of the weekly swap meet at Lake Kathryn Village, shows off her wares including hanging geraniums, wind chimes and jewelry.

community," Smeall said.

"But when the swap meet started up in Lake Kathryn Village we decided we didn't want to compete with them, we wanted to work with them and support them. So this

year we're teaming up and having our sale on one of the days of their swap meet."

Smeall anticipates that there may be as many 40 garage sale vendors, based on last year's participation.

The vendor fee is \$15 for the day, two thirds of which will go to Key Pen Parks' middle school volunteering program called People All Love to Serve — or PALS, Smeall explained.

"We'll also have our own booth with marketing materials and give-aways and information about our summer schedule," she added.

Garage sale vendors are welcome to return on Sunday to the swap meet, Zampini said. "They can just pay \$20 for the whole weekend." The fee helps pay for site rental, Sani-cans, advertising and other incidentals.

Swap meet organizers also are looking ahead to other summertime events. "We'll be having Christmas in July and we're also planning something special for August," Zampini said.

To sign up for the swap meet, call (253) 884-9469. To sign up for KeyPen Parks garage sale, go to keypennews.com or call Smeall at (253) 884-9240 extension 22.

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KEY PENINSULA NEWS

www.keypennews.com

Unsolicited submissions deadline including press releases: 15th of each month prior to publication

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Key Peninsula News is published monthly by the Key Peninsula News publishing board in Vaughn, Washington. The Key Peninsula Civic center Association is the non-profit parent organization. Copyright 2014 with all rights reserved. Reproduction of editorial or graphic contents in any manner without permission is prohibited. Annual subscriptions (12 issues) are available for \$30.00 and are mailed first class. Copies are mailed presort standard to residents and post office box holders of the Key Peninsula. Single copies are available at the newspaper office in the basement of the Civic Center annex and at various distribution points located on the Key Peninsula. Approximately 19,000 people live in the distribution area.

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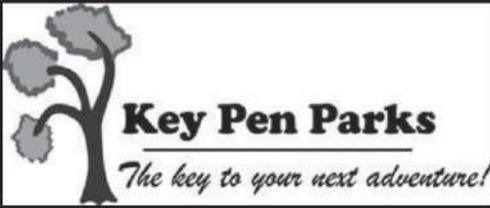
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2. The objective of Key Peninsula News is to support and create community by reporting news and features and providing a forum for local information. News and editorial coverage focuses on the Key Peninsula and immediately adjacent areas within Fire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

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

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

JUNE 2014



Key Pen Parks PROGRAM GUIDE

Recreation Coordinator: Jess Smeall, jessica@keypenparks.com 253-884-9240 x22

REGISTER ONLINE: www.keypenparks.com

Saturday, June 14th

Summer Camps

Week long specialty programs

ECO ADVENTURE: INSECT SAFARI
 Explore the world of bugs through fun games & activities. Includes a visit from "The Insect Safari," with live and collected insects from around the world.
Dates: July 7-11 **Time:** 1:00pm-4:00pm
Ages: 5-9 **Fee:** \$69 **Location:** Volunteer Park
Instructors: Key Pen Parks Staff & Insect Safari

PeeWee ECO ADVENTURE
 Our beginning nature program will foster a love for the wilderness, ecosystems, water, and the natural world—with lots of learning through fun games & experiments.
Dates: July 14-18 **Time:** 9:30am-12:00pm
Ages: 4-7 **Fee:** \$59 **Location:** Volunteer Park
Instructors: Key Pen Parks Staff & Insect Safari

YOGA & MEDITATION - a calming practice for youth
Dates: July 21-25 **Time:** 9:00am-10:00am
Ages: 7-12 **Fee:** \$49 **Location:** Volunteer Park
Instructor: Theresa Glasscock

ECO ADVENTURE: WILD WATER
 Every day of camp will feature a visit to a site with a natural water source to explore: Puget Sound, creeks & lakes!
Dates: July 21-25 **Time:** 10:00am-4:00pm
Ages: 8-12 **Fee:** \$109 **Location:** meets at Volunteer Park
Instructors: Pierce County Enviro Educators, Staff

ECO ADVENTURE: FARM TOUR
 Starts at a permaculture wonderland & forest, then to Blue Willow Lavender, Gentle Giant, Cape-E & Kaukiki Farms!
Dates: Aug 4-8 **Time:** 9:30am-4:00pm
Ages: 8-12 **Fee:** \$109 **Location:** meets at Volunteer Park
Instructors: Pierce County Enviro Educators, Staff, Farmers

LEGO: Superhero Academy
 Join Bricks 4 Kidz instructors in a superhero Lego adventure!
Dates: Aug 11-15 **Time:** 9:30am-12:30pm
Ages: 5-7 **Fee:** \$135 **Location:** Volunteer Park

LEGO: Angry Birdies & Bad Piglets
 A creatively themed Lego camp with Bricks 4 Kidz! CATAPULT!
Dates: Aug 11-15 **Time:** 1:30pm-4:30pm
Ages: 8-12 **Fee:** \$135 **Location:** Volunteer Park
 At LEGO Camps with Bricks 4 Kidz, the "models" are designed for different skill levels, appropriate for all ages and abilities, even the motorized models!

LOOK FOR TEEN HIKES: WEEK OF JULY 28TH



Celebrate the start of summer with a Fun Run that supports your school! \$5 from every registration goes to your school of choice. Also, the school that registers the most kids into the FREE KIDS DASH or KIDS MILER (new this year) wins a Huge Trophy. Finisher ribbons for all, and medals by age and gender. Get your friends and family together and sign up for the 3rd Annual PenLight Summer Fun Run!
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 \$12 for tech shirt (shirt order deadline is 6/2)
 \$5 from each adult 5K
 registration donated to your school of choice!

Key Pen Parks
 REGISTER ONLINE:
www.keypenparks.com
 REGISTER BY PHONE:
 253-884-9240 X22

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:
 8:15am - Check in
 9:00am - 5K Race
 9:45am - Kids Dash (K-2)
 10:00am - Kids Dash (3rd-5th)
 10:15am - Kids Miler (3rd-8th)
 10:45am - Awards!

Upcoming Meetings:
 Mon. June 9th - Park Board Meeting at 7pm
 @ Volunteer Park, PUBLIC IS WELCOME & INVITED!

Are you a contractor, consultant, or vendor? If you are interested in doing business with Key Pen Parks, contact Scott at scottg@keypenparks.com.

Join us on **JUNE 7TH** for the **PARKS DAY at KP Swap Meet!**
\$15 for a seller's booth
 Lots of new & used good for sale!
 9am-3pm in Lake Katherine Village

FITNESS CAMP
SUMMER 1 SESSION
Instructor: Shannon Reichl **Ages:** 16+
Location: Volunteer Park (indoor & outdoor)
Day: Tues & Thurs **Time:** 6-7pm
Dates: June 24 - July 31
Fee: \$30 for 1 class/week, \$60 for 2
Join mid-session and we will prorate the fee!
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Location: Behind SunnyCrest Nursery in Key Center (92nd St KPN)
 To reserve a plot: online or call 884-9240 x22

(From **Ketts**, Page 1)

the couple to move to Washington and do something with the land Walsh owned on the Peninsula. He even had a house that Bill and Tracy could live in.

"His goal was for me to move up here and be a minister," Ketts said. "After four years of prayer, we knew that we were supposed to pull up our stakes and move to Vaughn."

The couple hit the ground running.

"We just started pulling up grass to make a place for the lavender. Some might call it serendipitous, but we know it was directed by the Lord that we should do this.

"The groove and focus of my life was that people would know Jesus Christ. And that's what's getting me through today. I had no visible means of support — only a friend who has three houses on this property and one of them is empty and he wanted me to live in it. There was no arrangement or anything," he said.

Ketts calls the lavender farm his "holly ruse." It's the context for his ministry and the house church he calls Grace Fellowship of Key Peninsula.

"We're just followers of Jesus. We're part of the church wherever it meets," he said from the bed at St. Joseph's Medical Center in

Tacoma that has been his pulpit since April.

Ketts recently began his second round of chemotherapy after a bone-marrow biopsy in May came back positive. "That means that my bone marrow is still producing cancerous cells after the first round of chemo," he wrote in a blog post to his friends.

His doctors acknowledge that Ketts is very ill, but his spirit is not the least bit dampened and he continually reminds people of his many blessings.

"When you have given your life to the Lord, there's nothing to be afraid of," he said. "I believe in walking in faith."

He's in line for a bone-marrow transplant, which is essential to putting his cancer into remission.

He's already "living on other people's blood," he said, because he's had so many blood transfusions.

And he encourages people to get screened as bone marrow donors or to give blood whenever possible because fresh blood is always needed.

"You don't donate to me or any particular person," he emphasized, "You donate it to the pool and everybody gets help."

In many ways his work as a pastor has been a dress rehearsal for his current situation.

"I have been on the other side of the bed

Want to help?

Community members wishing to support Bill and Tracy Ketts during this time of Bill's hospitalization can make donations at any Sound Credit Union branch to the Tracy Ketts account.

for many years, holding people's hands and guiding them, helping them go home to be with Jesus and walking them through the issues of their life and through the grieving," he said.

He continues to preach the Gospel twice a week via the Internet from his room on the 10th floor of St. Joe's that has "the best view in Tacoma." "I can see Mount Rainier out of one window and the Cascades out of the other," he said, beaming a smile.

Every Thursday and Sunday, Tracy Ketts and friends set up a big-screen TV in Vaughn "and we all gather around and Bill meets with us on FaceTime and we have conversations with him," Tracy Ketts said of her husband's weekly services.

The Kettses have become well-liked members of the community, said Dana Webster,

president of the Key Peninsula Community Council.

"It began with them bringing their Blue Willow Lavender Farm to the community. It's become a conversation point. They've made it so beautiful and now KP has our own lavender festival that's competitive with Sequim," Webster said.

"And right from the start, they were very much out meeting people in the community. Bill is someone who becomes a positive person in your life and you're glad he's there and you're glad he's your neighbor because of the integrity he brings to the relationship.

"He looks at this illness as a blessing and a good thing, and that's an inspiration to us all," Webster said.

The community has opened an account for the Kettsets at Sound Credit Union, she added.

"I know that my eternal home is secure," Bill said. "If someone has to get cancer, I'm a good one to get it because my head and heart are in the right place because I'm just a follower of Jesus and so it's all good.

"God has been very gracious to me and I have decided to not decide anything again — to let God decide everything for me. He's the way, the truth and the light," he said, gazing out across Tacoma.

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PSD board to place capital bond and contingent levy on August ballot

Following the loss of the four-year levy last November, the Peninsula School District has asked the community for input regarding its needs for voter-approved funding. After many meetings with stakeholders and community groups as well as by feedback via email, phone and letters, the board of directors formulated a new plan.

As a result of all the input, the board voted to place two propositions on the Aug. 5 ballot.

One is for a \$60 million bond, which will cost property owners 92 cents per assessed \$1,000 in property values. The second proposition is for a five-year, \$55.9 million levy. The levy is contingent and if the bond passes, it will be reduced to cover only technology needs.

“After hearing from the public, the propositions were designed so that the passage of both measures would fund long-term capital projects,” said PSD Superintendent Chuck Cuzzetto. “Passage of both measures would allow for rates less than \$1 per \$1,000 of assessed value and provide for stable funding and rates in the future.”

The proposed capital projects list includes:

- A new elementary school in Gig Harbor North to help reduce overcrowding at Purdy Elementary and address population growth;
- The replacement of Artondale Elementary, which has been dilapidating;
- Health, safety and security up-

grades, including electronic door access;

- Key Peninsula Middle School modernization, including improved fire flow, upgrading mechanical systems and exterior/interior improvements;
- Upgrades or replacement of turf fields at Gig Harbor and Peninsula high schools and other sites.

Additionally, the bond would pay for middle school science classrooms and the levy would pay for technology upgrades, including the replacement of outdated student computers.

The capital projects are part of the district’s 30-year capital facility plans. The district plans to leverage partnerships and state matching funds in order to maximize its investment.

Graduation Dates for 2014

Community Transition Program

4 to 6 p.m. on Wednesday, June 11
Chapel Hill Presbyterian Church

Gig Harbor High School

Noon on Sunday, June 15
Tacoma Dome

Henderson Bay High School

7 p.m. on Friday June 13
Cheney Family Branch of the Boys & Girls Club in Gig Harbor

Peninsula High School

3 p.m. on Sunday June 15
Tacoma Dome

Redistricting Committee

We had an overwhelming response from parents interested in participating in the boundary revision and redistricting process. A working group has been formed with representatives and alternates from elementary schools, community members, and district staff to do the bulk of the work around analyzing the data and creating redistricting options. The charge to the committee is to develop redistricting options, share with the public and make final recommendations to the School Board. They are expected to provide two separate recommendations: one with a new elementary school in the Gig Harbor North area, and one with no new elementary school. The timeline for the committee is to create options for public review starting in late June and July, with adjustments to be made during August based on public feedback. Final recommendations are expected to go to the Board of Directors in the September/October timeframe. Redistricting plans will be for the 2015-2016 school year.

August 5 Election

Click on the blue “Facility Planning” button at www.psd401.net to review the materials presented at the most recent community meetings. Please check back often, as new information will be added right up to the election.



Key Peninsula Middle School is among the buildings that would receive capital improvements with the bond or levy financing.

Suicide Prevention Coalition - Eighteen months ago, the District partnered with a number of community leaders to convene a coalition that would address a concern about youth suicide in our community. The coalition has continued to meet monthly and has been busy working to achieve several goals: 1) develop a resource list of behavioral health providers; and 2) provide education and training to youth, parents, educators and community advocates in recognizing and referring at-risk youth and their families to help.

With the financial assistance of the Franciscan Foundation, the Greater Tacoma Community Foundation, Mid-day Rotary and Harbor Hope Network, and with the volunteer support of many coalition members, the resource guide has been produced and is available on-line at www.ghkpsuicideprevention.org. Additionally, the community now has five trainers who are able to deliver a three-hour suicide awareness training at no cost to the participants.

If you are interested in helping to organize training, please contact Katy O'Neill at katymcessy@gmail.com. Wouldn't it be great if everyone in Gig Harbor and the Key Peninsula knew how to recognize when a young person was in distress, what to say and where to go for help?

Nondiscrimination Statement The Peninsula School District does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, honorably discharged veteran or military status, sexual orientation including gender expression or identity, the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. Inquiries regarding compliance and/or grievance procedures may be directed to the District's Title IX and Compliance Officer, Dan Gregory, at (253) 530-1009, email gregoryd@psd401.net or the Section 504 and ADA Coordinator, Sean Whalen, at (253) 530-1080, email whalens@psd401.net. Mailing address: 14015 62nd Ave. NW, Gig Harbor, WA 98332.

Peninsula Views

Turn off the tube and take opportunity to be healthy

We are facing an epidemic. It affects our brains, our bodies, our immune systems and our ability to be productive members of society. It is a drain on the nation, and destructive to our children. Yet we rarely hear about it, perhaps because the epidemic has numbed our minds to its very presence.

I'm talking about television, and its modern variants of electronic entertainment.

A typical American home has its TV on for eight hours a day. Babies spend an average of 90 minutes a day in front of screen entertainment. For those in the 8-18 age range, the number skyrockets to over seven hours a day.

Kids spend 10 times as much time watching television or using a computer than they do playing outside. Perhaps worst of all, after spending all that time immersed in an electronic world, the average youth today spends less than five minutes per week in meaningful conversation with their parents.

Time spent consuming electronic media leads to weight gain, lowered self-esteem and behavioral and learning problems. It normalizes violence and unhealthy anger. It takes away the ability to think deeply and critically. It turns us into consumers. Many Americans are so connected to their electronic media that they fit the definition of clinical addiction. Electronics have all but destroyed our ability to connect with other people in a personal way.

We are the most technologically advanced culture in history, yet we have become an emotionally regressed society. Reality TV turns everything into entertainment, be it our neighbors' personal issues or the grief of families struck by tragedy far away. We don't so much live life as sit in our chairs, munching on pop-

Dan Whitmarsh
Writing by Faith



corn while watching a false version of life play out on our screens.

We are blessed to live in a place where there are so many better options. Summer is on the way, making this a perfect opportunity to break ourselves of this unhealthy habit. National Screen-Free Week was in May, but we can still take time away from electronic entertainment, engaging in healthier pursuits.

Invite your neighbors over for a game night. Take a walk in a park, through the woods or along the shoreline. Ride your bike. Visit the library. Start a book club. Go camping. Enjoy live music at one of the local music jams. Ride the ferry to Seattle. Attend a local fair or festival. Visit some of our KP farms, stores and coffee stands. Go fishing. Throw a neighborhood block party. Volunteer for a non-profit. Go to church. Practice prayer or meditation. Go on a date. Watch the sunset at the Herron Island Ferry dock. Have a conversation while your family eats dinner together. Take a road trip. Make your own movie. Attend live theater. Learn the songs of our local birds. Try out geocaching. Fly a kite.

The possibilities are endless, and they are all better for you than filling endless hours with electronic entertainment. If it's too much to go cold turkey, cut out a few hours a week to try out something new. You'll be happier and healthier for the effort.

Dan Whitmarsh is Pastor of Lakebay Community Church. He can be reached at dan@lakebaycovenant.net.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Article on medicinal marijuana was poorly conceived

To the editor,

I must take issue with your very poor article, "KP medical marijuana community faces state smokescreen," by Peter Ruble, in May's KP News. It's obvious his interview with Mr. Hetterscheidt happened months before print, seeing as the House Bill referred to had already been thrown out for some time.

Is it too much to expect objective reporting from any journalist or publication?

Your worst offense (and I don't use the word lightly here) was the setting up of

an illegal scene, showing cannabis smoking in a vehicle parked outside a dispensary, for the article's accompanying photograph. Nowhere is it mentioned, by the way, that the parking lot pictured is in front of a completely different dispensary than the one featured in this article.

Mr. Ruble should be ashamed of himself for misleading the public, misquoting the person he interviewed, encouraging illegal behavior for sensationalism, and for just plain shoddy journalism.

Lorraine Thompson
Home

Key Peninsula proving to be vibrant, interesting place

To the editor,

I am so impressed with the variety of programs and activities on the Key Peninsula. There seems to be something for everyone, from Peewee soccer players to singing seniors and those in-between.

The KP News provides a wonderful rundown each month on the offerings of our schools, parks department, library, churches and clubs, as well as news about

our local agencies that cannot be found elsewhere.

This is a vibrant, interesting community that is starting to feel like paradise. My thanks to the dedicated people of the various organizations who work so hard to create that effect.

Marsha Williams
Wanna

Letters Policy

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In search of the KP Bigfoot

If you know where to look there's a place on Herron Hill that's been touched by a bit of magic.

Among the mounds of mystical mayhem stands a proud wooden likeness of the legendary Bigfoot.

The life-sized statue is the property of Allen Godbey, who allows it to grace his mother Barbara's secret garden.

Eight years ago, a friend of Godbey wanted a Bigfoot statue. Godbey happened to have another friend who was artistically handy with a chainsaw.

One day the three of them got together with a large chunk of tree. Over the next 12 hours, Godbey watched in awe as raw wood was turned into a work of art. Three years later Godbey's friend passed away leaving the Bigfoot statue, now known as "Bob," to Godbey. Bob has resided in his mother's secret garden ever since.

Finding a statue of a Bigfoot on the Pen is a bit unusual. Finding an owner of a Bigfoot statue who has had an actual Bigfoot experience is rare, indeed.

One day 23 years ago, a young Godbey and a friend were out hunting whitetail deer in the remote hills above Eatonville. After climbing to the top of Watch Mountain, they were both suddenly amazed by the absolute stillness at the summit. No animals of any kind were visible, neither the chirp of a bird nor the buzz of an insect broke the eerie silence.

The duo proceeded back down the mountain the way they had come, when they began smelling a great stench, unlike any they had ever encountered before. Godbey described it as a, "Lingering foul

Steven Whitford Words of Whit



fetid odor. Once you've smelled it, you'll never forget it!"

Suddenly in a clear cut approximately 150 yards away a Bigfoot sat up and began to walk around. Godbey and his friend were at first stunned and frightened, but they stayed put and watched the creature for about a half an hour.

Later the same day as they were driving down the mountain a Bigfoot popped up by the road and ran alongside of them for about a mile. When they finally reached the bottom of the hill, Godbey spotted three Bigfoot in a clearing approximately 60 feet away. Godbey estimated their height ranged from six feet to nine feet tall and their weight was probably between 260 and 300 pounds. The tallest of the three sported grayish hair and appeared to be a dominant alpha male, he said.

The sight and sounds of the Bigfoot raised the hair on Godbey's arms and gave him goose bumps, which coincidentally reappear every time Godbey relates his story.

"This is the classic symptom of those people who have had a Bigfoot encounter," according to John Flanders, local Bigfoot expert. It might be easy for the average reader to discount such a story as pure fabrication or fancy, but this author knows better — from personal experience, but that's next months story.

Summertime, the KP Livin' is Easy

James Allyn, Key Peninsula Civic Center Association, Caretaker

Allyn has been the Key Peninsula Civic Center's caretaker since August 2009

CIVIC CENTER CORNER

It's June! As months go by on the calendar, you may notice June has some rather unique qualities.

For instance, no months start on the same day of the week of June in either common or leap years. This month and May are the only two months to have this property. June always ends on the same day of the week as March in all years.

June is known for remembrances, commencements and baseball. On the 6th many will remember D-Day (when the Allied Forces landed at Normandy in 1944). Saturday the 14th will see Flag Day, with Father's Day following on Sunday the 15th. We will see High School graduation ceremonies (HBHS 6/13; PHS & GHHS 6/15), and the Mariners will play the Tigers, Yankees, Braves, Rays, Rangers, Padres, Royals, Red Sox, Indians and Astros.

Skate Night at the Civic Center will close out the regular season on June 20. We'd like to thank our dedicated staff (Troy, Jennifer, Sherri, Haley and Kip) as well as the many volunteers who keep it all going (special thanks to Junior, Dale, Sheryl and Colleen).

This is the month when summer officially begins so there should be hot dogs on a grill somewhere. And once again, we've come to that joyous place on the calendar marking the unofficial start of outdoor living season, bringing the usual flurry of picnics, politicians and preliminary advertising for 4th of July Weekend sales.

Independence Day is just around the corner... and that means fireworks—lots of fireworks!

As in the past, the Key Peninsula Civic Center fireworks stand will be conveniently located off of the Key Peninsula Hwy at the Food Market in Key Center. We will begin selling on June 28 and hope you will consider supporting this effort as you make your plans.

Often, family fireworks acquisitions are focused on the delicate balance between safety and sanity for the parents, and noise, flash and sparkle for the kids. Without diminishing the importance of

striking that balance, we would like you to also consider who you support with your purchases.

We are one of the few fireworks resellers on the Peninsula directly benefiting the Key Peninsula Community. Buying fireworks from vendors representing local groups and agencies keeps the local economy stronger by keeping more of your dollars here on the Key Peninsula.

Of course, we hope the local spot you choose is ours. The Key Peninsula Civic Center is a private non-profit and does not receive any tax dollars to keep our doors open and available to the public.

We rely on fundraisers, rentals, and special events to provide the community with the programs and services hosted here at the Center, including Skate Night, Club Cosmic, Indoor Park, Little Buddies, WIC Clinic, meeting space for the Boy Scouts, dance, taekwondo and tennis classes, workshops, and more.

This summer you'll see the Backpacks 4 Kids' Summer Lunch program return, as well as new organizations using the facility, including the NW Spay & Neuter van and Key Peninsula Barter.

Children's Home Society, KP News, Two Waters Arts Alliance, and the KP Historical Society Museum all rely on the Civic Center for office and museum space. The Center is also home to the Fresh Food Revolution Co-op, Historic Vaughn Bay Church, Key Peninsula Baptist Church, Key Peninsula Lions, and the Key Peninsula Senior Society.

As the summer season arrives, there is a lot going on at the Key Peninsula Civic Center; check out our website and our calendar at www.kpciviccenter.org. We hope to see you soon.

Do you want to help out around the KP Civic Center? Join our "Friend of the Key Peninsula Civic Center" list.

Register online at: <http://bit.ly/FriendsOfKPCivicCenter>

We promise, no Board meetings!

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The Key Peninsula Civic Center is a 501(c)(3), private non-profit. We rely on rentals, fundraisers, and donations to keep our doors open, and our rentals affordable for the community. Thank you for your support!



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PHS principal moving to greener pastures

By Scott Turner, KP News

When the doors at Peninsula High School open again in September, a familiar face will be missing from the campus.

After 7 years as principal (13 years at PHS), Tim Winter is leaving PHS to take over as superintendent of the Clarkston School District, which is located on the Washington side of the Snake River south of Spokane.

"It's just across from Idaho," Winter said.

He'll be responsible for managing Clarkston's seven public schools, with a total student population of about 2,200.

By comparison, PHS has approximately 1,400 students.

"It's been an amazing experience being here at Peninsula," Winter said. "One of the best things has been the people — the students, the staff, the parents and the people in the community.

"It's a great place to live and work and raise a family and there hasn't been a single day when I've not looked forward to coming to work. And when you can spend your time with about 1,400 high school kids, that makes for a pretty exciting day," he said.

He'll miss the friends he's made in Gig Harbor and on the Key Peninsula, he said. "But I think change is part of life. We're always going to miss things, but we'll come back and visit."

His first day on the new job is July 1.

Being in Clarkston will be something of a homecoming for Winter and his wife. He taught there for four years in the late 1990s.

"We love the community and Eastern Washington," he said. "And it's an opportunity to stretch myself and to grow professionally."

Winter hopes to be remembered "as someone who really cares about people and relations and that we've had a lot of success here," he said.

"Our success is measured in test scores and also in the quality of student who leaves our building after four years. I think the perception of the community is that PHS is a place where kids want to come and they feel like a part of something bigger than just themselves," Winter added.

PHS Assistant Principal Melissa McNeish called Winter a natural servant-leader.

"He is the most thoughtful, caring, passionate, intelligent, inspiring, fun and relational leader I have ever worked with. He values people and empowers them to be their best self, to 'be awesome' and be part of a team with a vision," she said.

"He's a 'we' person, not an 'I' person. We'll miss him tremendously."

According to Winter, the Peninsula School District is currently getting input from the PHS staff "to learn what they want the new principal to be like."

When the district has reviewed all the staff input, a job search for Winter's replacement will begin.

"Our work is not finished," McNeish said, "and Tim's influence will continue on as we strive to be the most awesome school in the country."

Tolls increase July 1 on Narrows Bridge

New toll rates for the Tacoma Narrows Bridge take effect at midnight on July 1. The change reflects the next rate increases approved by the Washington State Transportation Commission to ensure the bridge generates enough revenue to cover costs required under law, including maintenance, operations and debt payments.

Rates will increase for all toll categories. The Good To Go! pass rate will increase from \$4.25 to \$4.50, cash tolls from \$5.25 to \$5.50, and Pay By Mail from \$6.25 to \$6.50.

The transportation commission scheduled the July rate increase in May 2013, as

part of a two-year phased increase. The commission reviewed Tacoma Narrows Bridge traffic and revenue data this past fall and winter to verify the increase is needed to cover operational costs and debt payments.

According to a recent WSDOT report, the bridge was financed such that debt payments were low in the early years and rise over time. This means tolls must continue to increase to pay back construction debt. The debt is scheduled to be paid off in 2030.

For information, visit wstc.wa.gov/ or wsdot.wa.gov/Tolling/TNB/Tolling/tnbtollrates.htm.

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\$10 Registration fee
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July 13th Motorcycle Show
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July 12th Service Equine Rescue Benefit Home Show
\$30 Registration Fee - \$45 after July 10th
www.keyfair.org/sershow



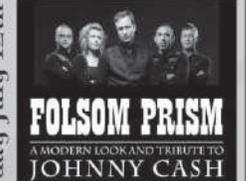
Hyperflite FLYING DISCS
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Registration is free July 13th
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ON THE MAIN STAGE

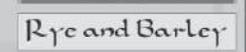
Friday July 11th



Saturday July 12th



Sunday July 13th



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The power to be...

County plan updates coming

By Rick Sorrels, KP News

Your life and property are controlled by laws set in place by Pierce County government. The Pierce County Comprehensive Plan, the Key Peninsula Community Plan, and the Pierce County Shoreline Plan are being amended.

Pierce County Comprehensive Plan

A comprehensive plan for all of Pierce County is required by state statutes, which require periodic review and revision. The current update must be completed by June 30, 2015.

In addition to land use planning, the plan also covers housing, parks and open space, community health and wellbeing, environmentally sensitive areas, historic preservation and public services and facilities.

According to data, growth is the primary driving factor. For every five people currently living in unincorporated Pierce County, there will be one more by 2030. The Key Peninsula is growing at an even faster rate.

Pierce County has labeled its community plan update process "Realize 2030," and will be gathering input from citizens, and its sub-components through the end of 2014. The theme for the public forums in May and June is "How will Pierce County prepare for an additional 75,000 residents by 2030." A forum took place at the KP Civic Center on May 29. The next one will be on June 17 from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m., at the Gig Harbor Civic Center, 3510 Grandview St., Gig Harbor. For information, visit piercecounitywa.org/realize2030.

Key Peninsula Community Plan

A subcomponent of the Pierce County Comprehensive Plan is the Key Peninsula Community Plan, which identifies the specialized needs and requirements of the KP

For example, the KP has no incorporated city where businesses are normally located, so other provisions must be made for commercial uses in order to accommodate the needs of KP residents.

The Key Peninsula Advisory Commission (KPAC) will be gathering citizen comments and making recommendations for updates. Public comment is welcome on the KP Community Plan and its amendments at the KPAC meeting on June 18 at 6:30 p.m., at the Key Center Library.

Pierce County Shoreline Plan

Shoreline use is a special subject, with its own separate plan, and of vital concern to KP residents, because the shorelines of the Key and Gig Harbor peninsulas comprise the majority of all of Pierce County's shoreline.

The review process has included heated discussions regarding water access and restrictions, docks and piers, geoduck harvesting, setbacks, open space, bulkheads, permitting costs and returning established usage back to its natural conditions.

A well-attended public hearing for the Pierce County Council's Community Development Committee took place at the Peninsula High School auditorium on April 3. Many amendments are being considered. The next local public hearing will also take place at the PHS auditorium, on July 17, at 5:30 p.m., 14105 Purdy Drive NW, Gig Harbor.

Amendments are scheduled for a vote by the County Council on July 21 at 1:30 p.m., in the council chambers, room 1045 of the City-County Building, 930 Tacoma Ave. S, Tacoma.

Public comments are encouraged. For information, see piercecounitywa.gov/shoreline, or contact Debby Hyde, Planning and Land Services, 798-7110, dhyde@co.pierce.wa.us.



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BRIEFS

Community News Briefs

KP Parks to add more walking trails

Last month, Ed Robison, chairman of Land and Improvements for the Key Peninsula Metropolitan Park District, announced a five-year agreement with Pierce County that will allow the park district to build and maintain trails through 55 of the 72 acres that now house the Pierce County Solid Waste Transfer Station off the Key Peninsula Highway.

The remaining 17 acres will be cordoned off for a buffer and for use by the transfer station.

According to a recent press release, Scott Gallacher, Key Pen Parks executive director, said the property is adjacent to the well-used 20-acre Volunteer Park.

Much of the transfer station site is a wetland. Commission Vice President Mark Michel, trails chairman for the district, said, "We'll use particular care in building trails."

The public, through surveys and meetings, has stated its No. 1 priority for the district is trails, "so we're being responsive to that," said commission President Bill Trandum, who noted the agreement has been in the works for about four years.

The park district will reimburse the county for about \$4,500 in legal and administrative costs, and will pay the county \$1,000 per year for use of the property. The five-year term of the

agreement is renewable.

It affords a future opportunity for the public to access additional land on the Key Peninsula and natural preserves.

He added the park district is in the process of developing trail plans that will need to be approved by the county. He hopes to start working on building trails in the fall.

For information, contact Bill Trandum at 253-405-1842 or btrandum@keypenparks.com.

Professional center features art

Key Peninsula Health and Professional Center located in the library building in Key Center has an open invitation for all local artists to display their work.

The theme for the current exhibit, "Your Vision of Spring," will continue through June.

A unique variety of art including textiles, resin, watercolors, collage, Japanese brush and dyes on silk light up the walls throughout the center in a array of textures and colors by Kathy Barrett, Barbara Haugaad, Dale Loy, Didi Johnson, Margo Macdonald, Laura Mosley, Sheri Olsen, Bev Pedersen, Carl Schulz and Carolyn Wiley.

This is a non-judged show and all Key Peninsula artists are encouraged to participate in the display, which is still accepting creations.

The center encourages the many talented artists to use this facility to show their work to the public and will continue to do so after this unique sampling is over.

If you would like to add your art to the exhibition,

contact Bev Pedersen at 858-2277. Key Peninsula Health and Professional Center is located at 8903 Key Peninsula Highway N. Lakebay.

What's new at the KP museum?

The display case in the VFW room, adjacent to the KP Historical Society Museum at the KP Civic Center, holds a new exhibit of military uniforms, photos, stories and memorabilia of some KP veterans.

According to organizers, this is planned to be a rotating exhibit, featuring other veterans, too.

A model of the Carl Lorenz steamship "Sophia," handcrafted by Kelson Mills of Vaughn, is on display in the museum. The first boat built at Lorenz's Lakebay home, named for his mother, was one of the "Mosquito Fleet" boats that plied Puget Sound waters prior to the construction of bridges and improved roads.

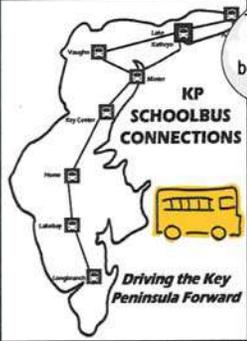
KPHS officers elected in March are Judy Mills, president; Bob Whitman, vice-president; Darcie Long, secretary and Cathy Williams, treasurer.

Planned summer events include evening presentations at Penrose Park, beginning June 21; historic three-hour cruises around McNeil Island on "My Girl" on July 26 and 27; and a presentation by author Justin Wadland on his new book, "Trying Home," in August.

The museum is open, free admittance, Tuesdays and Saturdays, 1-4 p.m., or by appointment. For information, call 888-3246.

KP SCHOOL BUS CONNECTS

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AN INNOVATIVE TRANSPORTATION PROJECT



Tuesdays during the summer beginning June 24

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KP COMMUNITY COUNCIL is a partner with the PENINSULA SCHOOL DISTRICT.
User's Guides available at: The Mustard Seed Project office, the Library,
and the KPCS/Food Bank

Route: KP SUMMER AM

- 9:00 am EVERGREEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
- 9:04 am LAKE DR KS @ 24TH ST KS SUNNY SIDE OF LAKE
- 9:05 am 21ST ST KS @ 193RD AV KS PARK SHELTER SHADY SIDE OF LAKE
- 9:10 am KPCS SENIOR CTR/FOOD BANK
- 9:11 am KEY PENINSULA HWY N @ HOME GAS STATION
- 9:16 am VOLUNTEER PARK
- 9:19 am FOOD MARKET @ KEY CENTER
- 9:22 am WRIGHT BLISS RD KN @ 104TH STCT KN
- 9:24 am 4 CORNERS/DRIVE THRU FEED
- 9:26 am SR302 KN @ 150TH AV KN LAKE HOLIDAY
- 9:27 am SR302 KN @ 140TH AV KN LAKE OF THE WOODS
- 9:29 am 11818 SR302 KN RAVENSARA OFF ROAD (OFF ROAD)
- 9:32 am LAKE KATHRYN SHOPPING CENTER @ COSTLESS
- 9:38 am PURDY PARK & RIDE
- 9:40 am PENINSULA HIGH SCHOOL
- 10:57 am PENINSULA HIGH SCHOOL
- 10:59 am PURDY PARK & RIDE
- 11:05 am LAKE KATHRYN SHOPPING CENTER
- 11:08 am 11615 SR 302 WINDEMERE REALTY
- 11:10 am SR302 KN @ 140TH AV KN LAKE OF THE WOODS
- 11:11 am SR302 KN @ 150TH AV KN LAKE HOLIDAY
- 11:13 am 4 CORNERS/DRIVE THRU FEED
- 11:15 am WRIGHT BLISS RD KN @ 104TH STCT KN
- 11:18 am FOOD MARKET @ KEY CENTER
- 11:21 am VOLUNTEER PARK
- 11:26 am KEY PENINSULA HWY N @ HOME GAS STATION
- 11:27 am KPCS SENIOR CTR/FOOD BANK
- 11:31 am LAKE DR KS @ 24TH ST KS SUNNY SIDE OF LAKE
- 11:33 am 21ST ST KS @ 193RD AV KS PARK SHELTER SHADY SIDE OF LAKE
- 11:37 am KPCS SENIOR CTR/FOOD BANK
- 11:38 am KEY PENINSULA HWY N @ HOME GAS STATION
- 11:43 am VOLUNTEER PARK
- 11:46 am FOOD MARKET @ KEY CENTER
- 11:47 am KEY PENINSULA HWY N @ MINTERWOOD DR KN
- 11:51 am 11818 SR302 KN RAVENSARA (OFF ROAD)
- 11:54 am LAKE KATHRYN SHOPPING CENTER
- 12:00 pm PURDY PARK & RIDE NO Intersection
- 12:02 pm PENINSULA HIGH SCHOOL

Route: KP SUMMER PM

- 4:40 PM PENINSULA HIGH SCHOOL
- 4:45 pm PURDY PARK & RIDE
- 4:50 pm LAKE KATHRYN SHOPPING CENTER
- STOPS BEYOND THIS POINT BASED UPON PASSENGER REQUEST
- 4:53 pm 11615 SR 302 WINDEMERE REALTY
- 4:56 pm SR302 KN @ 140TH AV KN LAKE OF THE WOODS
- 4:57 pm SR302 KN @ 150TH AVE KN LAKE HOLIDAY
- 5:00 pm 4 CORNERS/DRIVE THRU FEED
- 5:02 pm WRIGHT BLISS RD KN @ 104TH STCT KN
- 5:05 pm FOOD MARKET @ KEY CENTER
- 5:09 pm VOLUNTEER PARK
- 5:14 pm KEY PENINSULA HWY N @ HOME GAS STATION
- 5:14 pm KPCS SENIOR CTR/FOOD BANK
- 5:18 pm LAKE DR KS @ 24TH ST KS SUNNY SIDE OF LAKE
- 5:20 pm 21ST ST KS @ 193RD AV KS PAK SHELTER SHADY SIDE OF LAKE
- 5:24 pm KEY PENINSULA HWY S @ 17TH STCT KS EVERGREEN ELEM

COMMUNITY PAGES

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

JUNE 1

Concert

Come enjoy an afternoon of free music during the Peninsula Youth Orchestra's annual Spring Concert, 3 p.m., at the Milt S. Boyd Auditorium at Peninsula High School, 14105 Purdy Drive. The orchestra also is signing up string musicians with one or more years of experience for the annual String Camp in August. For information or to sign up, call (253) 534-5384 or go online to harborpyo.org.

JUNE 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

Bloodmobile

The bloodmobile is at Albertson's 11:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

JUNE 3 and 17

Senior shopping

The senior van meets at the KP Community Services at 9 a.m., and returns between 3 and 5 p.m., to give seniors an opportunity to go grocery shopping and attend any scheduled Gig Harbor doctor's appointments; a "Dutch" lunch is included. 884-4440.

JUNE 5

LeMay presentation

"America's Road Trips" Series with Bob Rezza, from the LeMay-America's Car Museum, is at 7 p.m., at the KC Library. This free program is sponsored by the Friends of the Key Center Library.

Fuchsia meeting

The Lakebay Fuchsia Society will meet at 7 p.m., at the fire station in Key Center. Ginnie, 884-9744.

Band practice

Down Home Band will resume practice for the summer season at 7 p.m., at the Key Medical Center, 15610 - 89th St. The band is open to all community members who play or used to play an instrument. Show up or call 884-9221.

JUNE 5, 12, 19, 26

GED help

Teens through adults get free help from educators who tutor in English, reading and

To submit an event

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

writing, mathematics, sci-ences, and social studies. Help is for GED or college prep. Sessions are 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., at the Key Center Library. This event requires registration and an appointment. 548-3309.

JUNE 6, 13, 20, 27

Skate Night

Skate Night is hosted at the KP Civic Center 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. June 20 is Luau Night. No more skate nights af-ter June 27 until fall. kpciviccenter@centurytel.net.

JUNE 7

CPR class

The Key Peninsula Fire Dept. hosts a "Friends & Family CPR" class 8 a.m. to noon at the fire station in Key Center. 884-2222.

Junk sale

The annual Junk in Your Trunk sale at Volunter Park features trash and treasures and is a great way to sell one's stuff. Keypenparks.com 884-9240.

JUNE 9-11

PSD levy/bond meetings

Peninsula School Board special meeting to discuss the levy/bond measures on the August ballot, and also the budget for the 2014/15 school year, June 9 at Gig Harbor Library, 6 to 8 p.m.; June 10 at Henderson Bay High School Commons, 6 to 8 p.m.; Red Barn on the KP (Key Pen Hwy at 84th Street), 6 to 8 p.m. For information, call 530-1002.

JUNE 10 and 25

Crochet or knit

The Loving Hearts group knits and crochets for charities and meets on June 10 from 1 to 3 p.m., and on June 25 from 7 to 9 p.m., at WayPoint Church. Yarn donations are al-

ways needed. Virginia, 884-9619.

JUNE 11

Garden club meets

The Bayshore Garden Club meets 1 p.m., at the fire station in Longbranch. Francine, 569-1381.

KP Council

KPC hosts Chuck Cuzzetto, Superintendent of Peninsula School District, who will present facts about both the proposed school bond and levy measures on the Aug. 5 ballot during the 7 p.m., meeting at the fire station in Key Center. 884-6455.

JUNE 12 and 26

Free clinic

Non-emergency medical care for KP residents without any medical insurance is provided 5:30 to 8 p.m., at Key Peninsula Health and Professional Center in Key Center. 884-2234.

JUNE 13

Teen fun

Last Club Cosmic for high school kids until fall is 9 p.m. to midnight at KP Civic Center. 884-3456.

JUNE 14

Ashes meet

The Ashes support group for Fire District 16 meets 10:30 a.m., at the fire station in Key Center. 884-3771.

Museum tour

"America's Road Trips" Series - LeMay-America's Car Museum Tour including the new "Route 66" exhibit is at 10 a.m., at the car museum, Tacoma Dome parking lot. Cost, \$10 a person for the tour; buy your tickets at Key Center Library, 548-3309. Parking is \$5/car. This program is sponsored by the Friends of the Key Center Library.

Fun run

PenLight's Summer Fun Run takes place at 360 Trails Park beginning at 9 a.m. This includes a 5K run/walk, a mile race for grades 3-8, and a free kids' dash for grades K-8. Cost of \$5 from each registration goes to the PTA

of your local school of choice, including homeschool. Keypenparks.com.

JUNE 15

Sunday bluegrass jam

Bluegrass Gospel Jam session is hosted at Longbranch Church (16518 46th St. KPS) 6 to 8:30 p.m., for all acoustic instruments, ages, and skill levels. Everyone is welcome to play, sing, or simply listen. Bring music stand and finger food to share; music and beverages are provided. (253)4 92-4177.

JUNE 19

WorkSource help

Adults learn how to advertise their abilities by selling themselves and detailing their skills to employers at 11 a.m., at the KC Library. Prepare an effective professional profile statement and learn the benefits of social media. At 2 p.m., adults learn the benefits of pre-interview prep work and how to respond to a potential employer's questions with the Interview Survival handout. Pre-registration is required for both events which are sponsored by WorkSource and Pierce County Library System. 548-3309.

JUNE 21

Penrose Park presentation

Stories of the early campers from the Puget Salish People to the family of Dr. Penrose will be presented in three sessions at the park by the KP Historical society. The first session is June 1 starting at 8 p.m. Others will be July 19 at 8 p.m., and Aug. 16 at 7 p.m. 888-3246.

JUNE 24

4-H meeting

The 4-H Guinea Pig group meets 6:30 p.m., in the Civic Center Library (upstairs). Nanette, (360) 981-5292.

JUNE 27

Science fun

Alex Zerbe shows all ages how science works through juggling and other activities at 11 a.m., at the Key Center Library. 548-3309

(See **Community**, Page 13)

PUBLIC MEETINGS

KP Veterans

June 2 and 16, 7 p.m., at McColley Hall/KP Lutheran Church; 884-4407 or 884-9852, kpveterans.net.

KP Lions' dinner and program

June 4 and 18, 5:30 p.m., in VFW Room, KP Civic Center; 853-2721.

Peninsula School District Board

June 5 and 19, 6 p.m., at Discovery Elementary Gym.

KP Civic Center Association Board

June 12, 7 p.m., in Whitmore Room, KP Civic Center; kpciviccenter.org.

Key Pen Parks

June 9 and 23, 7 p.m., at Volunteer Park; keypenparks.com.

Key Peninsula Fire Department

June 10 and 24, 5 p.m., in meeting room, fire station in Key Center; keypeninsulafire.org.

Key Peninsula Council

June 11, 7 p.m., PSD levy/bond information at fire station in Key Center; kpcouncil.org.

KP LUAC (Land Use Advisory Commission)

June 18, 6:30 p.m., at the KC Library; chuck-west@hotmail.com.

LIC

June 18, regular potluck, 7 p.m., at Longbranch Improvement Club; 884-6022 longbranchimprovementclub.org.

KP Citizens against Crime

June 19, 7 p.m., at fire station in Key Center; kpcitizensagainstcrime.org.

KP Farm Council

June 23, 6:30 p.m., at fire station in Home; bkett@hotmail.com.

WEEKLY EVENTS

MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS & FRIDAYS

Community walk

Free walking for exercise 9 to 11 a.m., in the KP Civic Center gym. 884-3456.

Senior exercise class

The S.A.I.L. program, taught by Marilyn Perks, meets 10 to 11 a.m., at the KP Community Services in Lakebay. Participants must register with Marilyn, 884-4440.

TUESDAYS

Story times

Summer stories for babies (ages 0-24 months) at 10 a.m., and stories and crafts for toddlers (ages 3-6 years) at 11 a.m., at the KC Library runs all summer starting June 24. 548-3309.

Sing

The Key Singers practices are taking a break from practicing until September. Watch for their performances at local events. 884-5615.

Swim

Family swims are 5 to 6 p.m., followed by an adult lap from 6 to 7 p.m., at Easter Seals Camp Stand by Me. 884-2722.

TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS

Preschool play time

The Children's Home Society KP Family Resource Center offers a preschool/toddler indoor park program 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., at the KP Civic Center; \$1 donation suggested. Last indoor park is June 5; it will resume mid-September. Tami, 884-5433.

Senior tai chi club

Senior tai chi meets 9:30 to 10:30 a.m., at the KP Community Services in Lakebay. 884-4440.

(From Community, Page 12)

JUNE 28

KPHS picnic

Key Peninsula Historical Society summer picnic will take place at the home of member Paul Michaels, with his logging collection on display. Members, guests and friends welcome noon to 3 p.m. Bring table service and something to share, beverages provided. 888-3246.

WEDNESDAYS

Writers meet

The Lakebay Writers meet 1:30 to 4 p.m., at the Key Center Library. 884-3931.

Writers' workshop

The Watermark Writers present a free writers' workshop 5 to 8 p.m., in Vaughn. 778-6559.

TUESDAYS & SATURDAYS

KPHS Museum open

The KPHS museum, located at the KP Civic Center in Vaughn, is open Tuesdays and Saturdays, 1 to 4 p.m. 'Forest to Farms - The Land, the People, the Legacy' is this year's display. No admission charge, but monetary donations are welcome. Check us out on Facebook - Key Peninsula Historical Society. 888-3246.

WEDNESDAYS & FRIDAYS

Senior meals

Nutritional meals for seniors ages 60-plus are served at noon at the KP Community Services; a \$2 donation is requested. Guests (ages 50-59) of senior attendees are requested to donate \$2.50. 884-4440.

THURSDAYS

Toastmasters

The Toastmasters meet 8 to 9 a.m., at the Key Center Library. Join the fun and improve your speaking ability.

Seniors' lunch

The Key Peninsula Senior Society meets at 1 p.m., for a potluck, fellowship and games in the Whitmore Room at the KP Civic Center. All are welcome. 884-4981.

Bingo

Free Bingo at the KP Community Services in Home 7 to 9 p.m. 884-4440.

SATURDAYS

Writers' Guild

The Writers' Guild meets the first and third Saturdays 10 a.m. to noon at the KC Library. 884-6455.

Lakebay Jam with 302

Lakebay Jam with 302 is 6:30 to 9 p.m., weather permitting, at the Lakebay Marina. Call 884-3350 or glorypromo@gmail.com.

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Local teams gather and walk as one for a great cause

By Scott Turner, KP News

Three Vaughn Elementary parents and PTA members will lead a team of walkers raising funds for cancer research at this year's Relay for Life walk-a-thon.

Sisters Brandie Madrid and Kristie Hilley and their friend Laurie Brown have been co-captains of Team Vaughn Elementary for about five years.

They took the reins from their friend Kelly Black who got involved after her father died cancer.

"We decided we wanted to step in and keep her team going," Hilley, a Lake Holiday resident, recalled. "And we wanted to have some fun at the same time."

The money raised during the popular relay goes toward cancer research and also things like transportation for patients who need to get to doctor appointments, wigs, "make-over" days and other items "to make patients feel better about themselves," Hilley said.

This year's relay takes place over a 24-hour period starting at 6 p.m., on June 20 at Goodman Middle School.



Photo by Scott Turner, KP News

Team Vaughn members (from left) Laurie Brown, Brandie Madrid, Kristie Hilley and Heather Nighbor were all smiles during a recent team meeting at Vaughn Elementary School.

Teams camp out and spend the night walking, enjoying each other's company and supporting the cause of fighting cancer, Madrid said.

"The goal is to have someone from your

team to be walking the whole night," she said. "Throughout the night there's theme laps and music and movies for kids and lots of other activities. This year's Relay theme is Super Heroes. It's a serious time, but we

always try to make it a fun time, too," she said.

"It's a celebration of life," Hilley added. The Salvation Army brings free soup and hot chocolate in the late night hours, and the Kiwanis provides a free breakfast for all the participants on Saturday morning.

The first lap of the relay is always a Survivors Lap.

Another emotional moment is "the candlelight lap — the luminaria lap," Hilley said. "Everybody gets to decorate a luminaria bag and then all the bags line the track."

The event includes men, women and children and funds go toward research for all types of cancer. All ages are welcome to participate.

According to Nicole Betcher, chair of the Gig Harbor event, the relay was founded 19 years ago by Dr. Gordon Klatt, a Tacoma surgeon.

"It's really a family friendly event and we have a good time," she said.

"Team Vaughn has always really stuck out in my mind because they have so much enthusiasm and joy. They get dressed up for just about every lap and they really get the whole school involved, even the kids," Betcher said.

Betcher lost her grandfather and six of his siblings to cancer. "We want to keep this going until we find the cure," she said.

Susan O'Leary, principal at Vaughn Elementary, thinks that having children involved is a good thing.

"Cancer has no age limit," O'Leary said. "It affects anyone. So for kids to be involved in the fundraising aspect is great. And the actual walking — the physical activity — and being part of something that's so profound is very important."

O'Leary added that a staff member at the school died from cancer last year. "The relay is a huge part of our Key Peninsula community and just about all of our schools are involved in some way."

Like all the other teams, Team Vaughn Elementary is looking for donations.

The Vaughn PTA — of which Brown is a co-president — brings lunch to the school staff and organizes several family fun nights. "Everything is free, but any proceeds we get go to the relay," she said.

"You can donate to any team or just to the relay," Madrid added. "Every little bit helps and the money is really working."

For information, visit relayforlife.org.

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Mentors of the Month

Selected by Communities In Schools of Peninsula

Reading Mentor: Beth Harvey

Beth Harvey has been a reading mentor at Harbor Heights for eight years! Beth was born in Tacoma; she married and moved to Gig Harbor in 1974. Beth is no stranger to the area though; her grandparents lived on a farm in Purdy that she used to visit often as a child. Beth hopes more people get involved with the CISP mentoring program. "I just love the kids!" Beth explained. "I have a one-on-one relationship with them, and I love it!" "Making a difference in their lives is so important to me," she continued. Beth likes to make it fun, she said that "every child needs early reading development; I like to make it fun for them." "I'm not giving up reading with them forever!" Thank you Beth, we hope you are with us forever too!

— Communities In Schools

Math Mentor: Sandy Beachler

Sandy Beachler has been a math mentor with Communities In Schools for three years at Peninsula High School. She is a retired high school math teacher, and moved to the Gig Harbor area 36 years ago with her family. Sandy gives an hour a week to tutor sophomore girls and boys in geometry. "Working with kids is so gratifying and fulfilling, especially when the kids get the 'ah haw' moments of understanding, those are the most wonderful times," she explains. Sandy feels it is a very important duty to promote math and science education to our youth, especially young girls. She was motivated directly by her high school math teacher to pursue a career in education. Sandy finds mentoring so rewarding and is impressed with the quality of teaching at Peninsula High School; she is equally impressed by the students in her classes. "They are so very eager to learn and so respectful, they thank me every day for my help!" We also want to thank you so very much, Sandy, for your dedication to your students.

— Communities In Schools

These dedicated volunteers donate an hour a week to help kids in our community achieve success in reading and math. Can you help too? Call 253-884-5733 to volunteer.

Communities In Schools www.peninsula.ciswa.org
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‘Minter Moves’ brings together community

By Jessica Takehara, KP News

The forecast called for a chance of rain on May 16. Nervous event coordinators watched weather apps and looked skyward all day. Sparse clouds rolled overhead, a slight wind ruffled the grass, but the rain never showed up. It was a perfect evening to be outside; a perfect time for Minter Moves.

As soon as the dismissal bell rang and students were on the buses, volunteers bustled on the playground and field of Minter Creek Elementary. Stations were set up, tents raised, items arranged for the auction and raffle, tables placed, the field prepped for running, and balloons waved to guide families into the event.

The balloons were just one way to notice something was taking place at Minter. The smell of Murph’s BBQ grabbed at hungry stomachs and the freshly made popcorn created an atmosphere of walking at a county fair.

Wisps of cotton candy escaped on the breeze, which made excited Minter kindergarten Brooke Bruno exclaim that “the blue cotton candy is the best!”

After the event opened at 4:30 p.m., a line quickly queued behind the much talked about dunk tank. Principal Ty Robuck started on the drop-away seat and second-grader Greyson Hockmuth was one of the first to send him into the water. Jeff Stafki, Bruce Clarke, and Joran Henderson — all teachers at Minter — also spent time on the “wet seat.”

There were several booths staffed by community businesses and volunteers as well. Key Pen Parks, the YMCA, Kohl’s, State Farm, and others were present. There was face painting, mini putt-putt golf and other family activities. Community volunteer and former Minter parent Tami Miller-Bigelow noted how this “was such a great way to

bring family fun and community together while raising money for the school.”

Part of the fundraising portion of Minter Moves was a raffle and silent auction. Event goers were able to choose from baskets of items donated from Horseshoe Lake, The Family Fun Center, The Seattle Storm and many more. Silent auction items ranged from original art made by Minter students to tickets from the UW Huskies, Rainiers and Seahawks (among others).

Milling through the crowd were Minter teachers, parents, students, and even some distinguished guests. Local medic units brought their truck for young and old alike to climb in to look. The police bomb squad also had a truck on site with all the robotics and gear. The Rainiers mascot Rhubarb slapped high-fives and posed for pictures with excited families.

Students who collected pledges and flat donations spent time burning calories and raising money on the lower field. Red and smiling faces continually moved up and down the hill between the field and playground to use tickets earned running laps at the booths.

According to Maria Finch, PTA president and one of the event coordinators, Minter students ran 286.2 miles at the event. The average number of laps per jogger was 10.45 and fifth grader Finn Padberg had the most laps at 50. Although there are some pledges still outstanding, Finch says the total raised so far is \$9,196.09, which is extremely close to the \$10,000 goal.

After attending the event, Minter secretary Joyce Shinn commented how great the event was and extended a big “thank you to our fabulous Minter Creek Elementary PTA and to all the wonderful, hard-working volunteers and sponsors.” Finch and fellow coordinator Matt Kusche are hoping to make Minter Moves an annual event.



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Who can I contact for more information?
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Legendary Vaughn teacher is retiring

By Hugh McMillan, KP News

Vaughn Elementary School teacher Ernie Donehower is retiring this year. But “Mr. D,” as he is known, plans to volunteer in area schools thereafter.

School Principal Susan O’Leary speaks very highly of the educator.

“Mr. D is an historical figure on the Key. His impact, the significance of his work for this community reaches far beyond our small part of the world. His retirement will leave a hole in our school and our hearts and he will be greatly missed. We are grateful he will continue to volunteer and wish him the best in this next chapter of his life,” O’Leary said.

Donehower said that he’s comfortable talking to kids from elementary level through college, and mentioned that he has been doing “a lot of presentations over the years around the region.”

He has teamed with other Vaughn

teachers like Doug Smith helping his kids blast off rockets each year. When PE teacher Marc Ross got his kids to win state championships, Ernie helped. Ross reciprocated as Ernie staged Native American games and studies.

“I do a lot of storytelling, folk art craft projects, have discussions on geography and culture, examine artifacts, listen to music and language, play games, or perhaps even sing and dance,” Donehower said. “Sometimes I show a video clip to help with understanding. I prefer to immerse the little guys in a particular culture or region, past, present, or perhaps a bit of both,” he said

Student Reaghan Perez wrote, “Thanks Mr. D for all you have done to make our school happy. We love all your fun stories and crafts.”

“Mr. D taught me a lot of lessons,” said Levi Roth. “His stories have lessons, even when he makes them up, and his crafts are



By Hugh McMillan, KP News

During a class session in which Vaughn Elementary teacher Ernie Donehower wrote students’ names in Hawaiian on items the youngsters had fashioned reflecting Hawaiian culture, student Ryan Smith first placed a straw hat on his teacher’s head, then posed with his just signed namepiece in Hawaiian. Donehower is retiring from his position.

amazing.”

“Thanks Mr. D for doing art projects. We love them,” said student Conor Rosenberger. “Some of my favorites were Polynesian blankets, headbands and Native American boxes.”

Jania-Jo Matison said, “Mr. D is a great teacher who told me about places I never knew. He tells great stories about people from all over the world.”

(See Donehower, Page 17)

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(From Donehower, Page 16)

Donehower often had an open door policy with his fellow teachers. He'd often talk to their students classes on particular cultures like Native American, European or Pacific Islands.

"I might tell a lesson tale," he said. "I always tell, rather than read and often bring artifacts into the story. Then we might do a project that reflects and helps cement the learning," he said.

"Mr. D taught me about a lot of things around the world," said Alli Kimball. "He is one of the best teachers I ever met. He always helps with programs from costumes and headbands to movement for our songs."

Ernie didn't start teaching until his 40s. "I was lucky to have worked, lived, traveled and done research from Hawaii and Tahiti, to the north of Africa," he said. "I worked in research as a Pacific Island specialist for the state of Hawaii for 10 years."

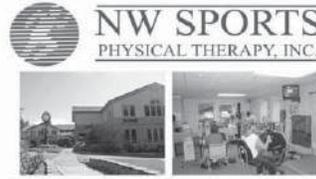
He has a BA in geology from the College of William and Mary in Virginia, an MA in geography from the University of Hawaii and two years at the East-West Center for Technical and Cultural Inter-

change in Honolulu. His BA in education and teaching certificate are from the University of Puget Sound.

"My school and staff embraced concepts of tolerance and diversity and have welcomed all families and students," Donehower said. "Our kids are excited to learn about other people and places. In doing so, they learn about themselves. They know a lot more things connect us into one big human family than separate us. I'm so proud of the kids I see every day treating each other with respect and caring. We have wonderful parents of many backgrounds who give countless volunteer hours to help make the school the best it can be."

"I hope I've opened up the world a bit to my students. As our world shrinks, our children need to be culturally aware and knowledgeable about other places in our country and in the world. If I help them become more aware and have fun doing it, I will have succeeded. If they are stimulated to seek out more on their own as a result of some inspiration in my classroom, then I am thrilled," Donehower said.

On June 9, from 3:45 to 5:15 p.m., the public is welcome to attend a party for Donehower at the school. Refreshments will be served.



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Arts and crafts enthusiasts pack the KP Civic Center

By Karen Lovett, KP News

On May 3, Two Waters Arts Alliance hosted a "Spring Splash" Arts & Crafts workshop in lieu of the Spring Fling Art Show. Nine artists had been planning for months to present a "get down and dirty day" of playing with art.

It proved to be a popular way to spend an afternoon as artists stationed around the room assisted budding students with supplies and an opportunity to experiment with various art techniques.

Local artist Tweed Meyer demonstrated figure drawing as a model posed for Meyer and others willing to try their hand at portrait sketching. Those who preferred to paint still life were provided with a vase of flowers as a subject.

"We wanted to bring the arts for people to play with hands-on art," Meyer said.

Laura Mosley showed her skill in Chinese brush painting. She has been teaching in the area since 1997, one of the first teachers with Two Waters. She studied for 12 years in Los Angeles with master Ning



Photo by, Karen Lovett, KP News

Judy Mills and granddaughters Ruby and Bailey Mills get a lesson on making pins and magnets from Kathy Barrett, right, during an arts and crafts workshop at the Civic Center.

Yeh and other painters he trained to become teachers.

Art was everywhere. Patty Finnegan

was working a paper-art station where she showed paper marbling. She used thinned acrylics, dropped and swirled in carra-

geenan (a derivative of seaweed) to create

(See Art, Page 19)

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Shirley Marie Cromie

Born in Tacoma on Nov. 13, 1928, Cromie was called home to heaven on May 6, 2014.

Cromie was married 54 years to her beloved husband, Thomas R. Cromie. She was blessed with 10 grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

A devoted Christian her entire life, she worked with Northwest Bible Ministries at Camp Woodworth in Lakebay for more than 30 years. She also worked with Joy and Peace Christian Bookstores for nine years, helped with both the Seattle and Tacoma rescue missions, and was a member of the local VFW.

Cromie is survived by her two brothers, Jack (and Ruth) Moore and Floyd (and Marion) Moore and her sister Phyllis (and Art) Forbes. She also is survived by her four children, Thomas (and Dorothy) Cromie, Patricia (and Richard) Tieg, Daniel (and Natalie) Cromie and Joseph (and Jan) Cromie.

A Celebration of Life will take place on Saturday June 7, 2:30 to 5 p.m., at Key Peninsula Lutheran Church, 4213 Lackey Road KPN, Lakebay. Remembrances can be made to Franciscan Hospice House at 2901 Bridgeport Way W, University Place, WA 98466.

(From Art, Page 18)

many beautiful designs.

Kathy Bauer had plenty of dominos to make game-piece jewelry. Boxes of pictures, foam flowers and lady bugs, bits of fabric, colored foil and other various assorted odds and ends covered a table so users could make collage note cards and learn about harmony and texture from

Margo Macdonald.

For three hours, the Key Peninsula Civic Center was abuzz with color and joy. Smiling children, senior citizens and ages in-between clutched creations and purchases from the art boutique that included paintings, jewelry, clay magnets, stained glass, collage cards, drawings and paste paper booklets — just in time for Mother's Day.

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Singers from many communities unit for an evening of 'Joyful Noise'

By Scott Turner, KP News

Some people just love to make a joyful noise.

For Key Peninsula residents Arlene Babbitt and Heather Rogers, music — especially singing — has been an important part of life since they were youngsters.

Both women sang in high school and church choirs and were feeling a need to find a local choral group to be part of.

Enter Jean Kopta and the Joyful Noise Singers. For Kopta, who lives in Port Orchard, music was her job. She taught music at Pacific Lutheran University for 30 years, directed choirs and even sang in the Seattle Opera chorus.

"Music was my entire career in one way or another," she said, "as a singer, a voice teacher, a director — always all at the same time."

About six years ago, at the suggestion of her friend, Shirley Wirthgen, Kopta founded the Joyful Noise Singers.

Wirthgen handles the business end; Kopta does the music part.

"Jean had developed a heart condition and had to move over to this side of the Sound from Seattle to be closer to her son," Wirth-



Photo by Scott Turner, KP News

Joyful Noise Singers founders Shirley Wirthgen, manager; and Jean Kopta, director (right) and the rest of their group are looking forward to sharing their talents at their June 16 concert in Gig Harbor.

gen recalled. "I suggested that we get a choir started and within about six weeks we had 25 people — mainly non-music readers."

The group meets every Thursday afternoon at Harbor Covenant Church in Gig Harbor. They will perform a concert of American popular tunes at the church on June 16.

For both Babbitt and Rogers, being part of the Joyful Noise Singers is a dream come true. "I love to sing and come here (to sing in the group) to continue to be singing," Babbitt

said. "It's really a wonderful group of singers."

Rogers agreed. "I always sing — in the shower, when I'm gardening, all the time," she said, smiling. "Singing is great for the brain, not just for the voice and Jean has such great experience. I just continue to learn and learn and improve," Rogers said.

"I guess I'm just like an old dog that can't quit," Kopta said with a laugh, recalling how the Joyful Noise group got its start.

"It was Christmas and I was just bored. I

Want to go?

The Joyful Noise Singers will perform a concert of American popular songs 7 p.m., June 16, at Harbor Covenant Church in Gig Harbor. The church is located at 5601 Gustafson Drive. Suggested donation is \$5.

realized that I wasn't doing any music and I thought, 'This is weird.'

"I sang at a little function at the (Gig Harbor) YMCA and while I was singing, Shirley was going around getting names of people who might want to be in a choir."

The group started with about a dozen people. "I was thinking we would just do some Christmas carols," Kopta said. "But it's just grown and blossomed."

Today, there are 35 singers in the group from throughout the area. And they have gathered a sizable cadre of fans. "We have 250 people who come to our concerts,"

(See **Joyful**, Page 21)



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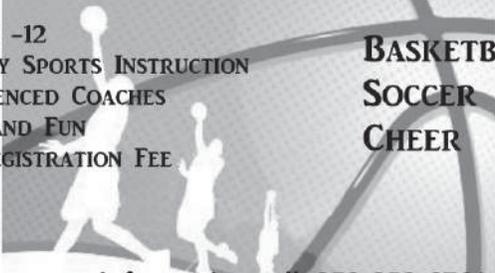
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Vaughn Elementary students take a pioneering field trip back in time

By Peter Ruble, KP News

On May 6, Vaughn Elementary School fourth graders got a chance to travel back in time to 1901 to take classes in an authentic schoolhouse built in 1893 at the Gig Harbor History Museum.

Vaughn school teacher Carolyn Russell helped prepare the students by making sure they were dressed in 1901 regalia. She said it was a great experience for the students to learn about history.

"Many of them have never been to a museum," Russell said.

"It was awesome," said student Josh Voight. "I wish this was my school all the time."

Harbor History Museum volunteer Leanne O'Neil, who played the teacher Miss Bennett, said a great deal of attention was paid to authenticity. There were pictures of President Washington and President Lincoln and a 45-starred American flag. The students used chalk and slates to solve arithmetic and sang period themed songs such as "Skip to My Lou" and "Flies in the Butter-milk." According to O'Neil, the singing aspect lent to the joy of learning during that period, which she believes is somewhat absent today.

"Education has changed so much because of testing," O'Neil said. "We've lost a little bit of the creativity and fun of learning. What we do here is allow kids to imagine and have fun."

O'Neil has an education and theater background, which helps her in her role. She created the persona of Miss Bennett after doing thorough research starting in 2009. She contacted fellow educators and actually spoke to people who had attended the school house. "It needs to be a pioneering school experience," O'Neil said. "I think we need to realize that the past has value and learning from the past is how you create your future."

According to the O'Neil, the dedication to authenticity has led to some misunderstood criticisms. O'Neil had the students recite the pledge of allegiance with the "Bellamy salute." The "Bellamy salute," which was named after American socialist, minister and author Francis Bellamy, involves extending your arm during the recitation. According to O'Neil, this has received some criticism since it resembles the salute used by Adolph Hitler and the Nazis during the Third Reich. This caused President Franklin Delano Roosevelt to replace the Bellamy salute with the hand over the heart gesture in 1942. The words "Under God" were missing from the pledge, which has caused some visitors to claim it was an attempt at political correctness. However, this was how the pledge was written at

the time, according to O'Neil. The words "Under God" were not added until 1954.

O'Neil said the Vaughn students were wonderful in their first time coming to the museum.

"The teachers did a great job preparing them to make sure they were in authentic regalia," said O'Neil.

After class the students got a chance to enjoy period lunches complete with mason glasses, jerky and root beer all wrapped in wax. They had recess at Gig Harbor Bay and Donkey Creek that runs behind the museum. They learned about Captain Charles Wilkes and the history of Gig Harbor.

After recess, the students received lessons in penmanship, reading and botany, which were taught by the school master, "Mr. Jacob," who was played by volunteer Dave Martin.

Martin, who is a retired school teacher, said that he appreciates the higher level of discipline that was evident in 1901. Misbehaving students would have to stand in the corner or place their nose on a dot on the chalkboard just like students did in 1901.

For information about the schoolhouse please visit harborhistorymuseum.org

(From Joyful, Page 20)

Wirthgen said. "We have a real following?"

The June 16 concert will feature many familiar tunes from the 1930s to the 1970s. Kopta thinks it's some of the best music ever written.

"The songs go from 1934 to 1974," Koptka said. "It stops there because the

style of singing and the style of music changed about that time."

For her part, Kopta said, she is "extremely proud" of her singers. "They're all older voices, but I train them. I've given them lots of little tidbits all the way through. I'm extremely proud of them. And I'm amazed."

For information, call Kopta at (253) 857-7786.

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Maritime Gig Festival

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JUNE 9

Public hearing

Gig Harbor City Council will take public comments regarding zoning for recreational marijuana businesses on June 9, at 5:30 p.m., at the City Civic Center, 3510 Grandview St., Gig Harbor.

JUNE 15

Dads' day

Point Defiance Zoo and Aquarium offers half-price general admission for all dads 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. 591-5337.

JUNE 16

Organization help

Adults will learn how to simplify life by de-cluttering and organizing at 6:30 p.m., at the Gig Harbor Library. Beverly Pogue, the Homemaker's Coach and owner of Clear Path Organizing, will host this event sponsored by Friends of the GH Library.

548-3305.

Choir concert

The Joyful Noise Singers present a concert of American popular music directed by Jean Kopta at 7 p.m., at Harbor Covenant Church, 5601 Gustafson Drive NW, Gig Harbor. Suggested donation is \$5. swirthgen@centurytel.net or 853-5827.

JUNE 20-22, 27-29

Musical presented

Paradise Theatre presents "Shrek, the Musical" at 7:30 p.m., on Fridays and Saturdays and at 3 p.m., on Sundays. 852-7929.

JUNE 24

iPad tips

Adults aged 50-plus will get answers to questions about using an iPad and learn

tips to get the most out of it from 2 to 4 p.m., at the Gig Harbor Library. Registration is required. 548-3305.



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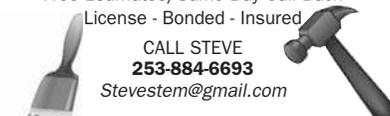
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Out & About

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Photo by Ed Johnson, KP News

A group of Key Peninsula ball players show off their weeding equipment at Volunteer Park during Parks Appreciation Day. They, and many other citizens, were spotted pulling weeds and cleaning up Key Peninsula-area parks.



Photo by Ed Johnson, KP News

An unidentified bagpiper starts the annual "Isle of Honor" Memorial Day celebration at Vaughn Cemetery, May 25. The drizzle didn't seem to dampen the spirits of more than 100 people in attendance. Veterans and community members heard "the roll of honor" — the official announcing of names of local service members who gave their lives in service to their country.



Photo by Ed Johnson, KP News

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Daniel and Andrea Tice and their issue of the KP News hang out with The Little Mermaid in Copenhagen, Denmark.



Photo by Ed Johnson, KP News

The turnout was good for this year's Livable Community Fair, including a plant sale, information booths and entertainment by the Vaughn Elementary Choir.

At left: Peninsula High School teacher Jonathan Bill, right, and his Peninsula High School Knowledge Bowl team members; Brian Garcia, Zoe Humphry, Brendan Greecham and Jeremy Howe, were spotted washing cars in April. They raised about \$3,000 to help cover their transportation costs to compete in Washington, D.C., last month.

Correction

The photographer who shot the April Out & About image of VFW members Bud Natucci, Wally Cornman and Cy Young was misidentified. Holly Hendrick was the photographer who captured the moment. Key Peninsula news apologizes for the error.