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VOL. 42 NO. 10

INSIDE & ONLINE OCTOBER 2013

Online



Two Waters Arts Alliance

- Watching the stars under the stars
- Miracle Ranch changing lives
- Fire District 16 fire reports



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debut film at
local festival

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Communities in Schools program changes kids' lives on the KP

By Scott Turner, KP News

Communities in Schools-Peninsula, better known as CISP, is part of a nationwide organization that's rated as the No.1 dropout prevention organization in the United States.

They do it by working one-on-one with kids who need extra help with reading and math.

On the Key Peninsula, CISP offers reading programs at Vaughn, Minter and Evergreen elementary schools, and math programs at Key Peninsula Middle School and Purdy Elementary, according to Key Peninsula resident Colleen Speer, who has been CISP executive director for 10 years.

In addition to academic tutoring, CISP also presents assemblies about drug and bully prevention, provides school supplies to kids who need them and books for students who don't have home libraries. CISP also sponsors a Smile Mobile for kids who don't have access to dental services.

(See CISP, Page 2)



Photo by Scott Turner, KP News

Linda Shelley, CISP coordinator at Vaughn Elementary School, is proud to be helping local students thrive at school.

KP Farm tour returns, back by popular demand

By Irene Torres, KP News

On Saturday, Oct. 5, kick off the weekend with a Firehouse Pancake Breakfast in Key Center from 8 a.m. to noon.

The Key Peninsula Farm Tour opens at 10 a.m. with ongoing activities at all locations until 4 p.m., when the cows go home. Admission is free. For information visit KPFarmTour.com.

Again this year, the Key Peninsula Gateway Park will serve as the tour information center. At this site there will be an exhibit from the Key Peninsula Historical Society showcasing the "huckleberry era." Also at this location will be the Fresh Food Revolution Co-op and the Key Peninsula Parks and Recreation Foundation. Tours of the greenhouse and garden will be avail-

able, and Bayshore Garden Club and Master Gardeners will offer growing tips. Key Peninsula Parks will give hayrides around the property.

Bea's Flowers will serve hamburgers, corn-on-the cob and soft drinks. Local artist Tweed Meyer will be on location with coloring books for children. Tammy Jacobsen, a local country singer, will entertain. There will be goat tricks by Kuzko, a petting zoo and a dahlia demonstration for care, growing and dividing for storage. Fresh produce and flowers will be for sale.

At the Packleader Farm, there will be many arenas for dog herding and training clinics with the All Breed Herding Club of

(See Farm, Page 4)

(From CISP, Page 1)

"And it's all free for the kids," Speer said. "We basically partner with the schools. We work hand-in-hand with whatever the school district is doing and fill in the gaps. We're here to make sure that kids succeed in school and that they graduate on time."

Most people don't realize that if kids can't read by the third grade, their chances of graduating plummet, she said.

"They've already made that mental shift that they're probably not going to graduate. They might not even make it out of middle school," Speer added.

Speer estimated that in 2012, CISP served more than 4,000 kids with its programs and services.

CISP employs a team of paid program coordinators, who work in the schools writing individualized lesson plans for each student they serve. The coordinators, in turn, oversee teams of carefully screened volunteers who work directly with the students.

Last year, Key Peninsula resident Linda Shelley, the CISP coordinator at Vaughn Elementary, won a national "Unsung Hero" award for her work.

"Linda cares about each kid no matter what issues they're facing. She also cares about their family life and all those kinds of issues," Speer said.

Shelley also has developed a program that brings in high school kids to work with students requiring help.

She has been working with CISP for 10 years. "Because I'm a certified teacher, I do 'pullout programs' where I take kids who are struggling in math and reading," she said.

Shelly works with students on behavior and tries to motivate them, as well as working on their specific skills.

By the time they're in third grade, kids know if they're going to do well in school, she said.

"You can see that because they're not connected to school or to their peers or their teachers.

"They have an attitude thing or they're bullied or they don't fit in. We try to work with them on their behavior and we try to get them connected to a teacher and to their peers. I've seen kids who were pretty isolated go to making friends," she said.

Shelley even does art with the kids four days a week during the lunch break, and she feeds them when they come into her classes. "These are growing 8-, 9- and 10-year-olds and they're hungry. So we feed them. A big part of my budget goes for food for these kids."

She said that many of the kids feel isolated and have low self-esteem. "Kids need an adult they can connect with, that they can feel safe with," Shelley said.

That's where the CISP volunteers come in.

According to Shelley, volunteers work one-on-one with the students on a regular, consistent basis to help them with their reading and math skills. Many are grandparents; some are high school students who en-

joy helping others.

"The consistency is a really important thing," Shelley said. "There are kids who've seemed sullen and withdrawn and they've just blossomed and become beautiful, productive people."

Susan O'Leary, principal at Vaughn Elementary, doesn't know what she'd do without the CISP program.

"It makes a huge difference in our students' education," O'Leary said. "Without that sort of basic-needs support, kids aren't prepared for learning. Sometimes it's food, clothes, counseling. All those basic needs have to be met before kids are ready to learn."

O'Leary said that Shelley and her volunteers help students get to a place "where they can meet standards, and the kids do grow and achieve because of CISP. If CISP were to walk away today, we'd feel a huge hole left," she said.

For information, visit peninsula.cisp.org or call 884-5733.

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Photo of Mount Rainier in the masthead was taken from the dock in Longbranch by Thomas Morgan, a KP News reader and Key Peninsula resident.

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the KEY PENINSULA CIVIC CENTER ASSOCIATION.

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.



Key Pen Parks

The key to your next adventure!

OCTOBER 2013

Key Pen Parks PROGRAM GUIDE

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

REGISTER ONLINE: www.keypenparks.com



HARVEST PARTY

Saturday, OCTOBER 12TH 6-8pm

Come join us for a wild & spooky night at Volunteer Park!



- Live music (sing a long style) with Nancy Stewart
- Carve a pumpkin at home and bring it to be judged in a contest!
- Hop on a haunted hay ride
- Come dressed to impress for a costume contest!
- Bring a flashlight for the flashlight hunt for ghoulish goodies!
- S'mores, hot cocoa and apple cider
- This is a **FREE** event!

THANK YOU!

PLAY DAY

STAY ACTIVE AND INDEPENDANT FOR LIFE!

SPONSORS & VOLUNTEERS:

- Peninsula Fall Prevention Coalition
- Key Peninsula Community Services
- Key Center Library •Century Link
- Sound Credit Union •Serenity Salon
- Olympic Pharmacy •Costco •PenLight
- Marilyn Hartley •Marilyn Perks

Upcoming important dates:

- Budget hearings 10/14, 11/12 at 7:30pm at Volunteer Park
- Draft comprehensive plan for 2014-2019 available on our website 10/28

PeeWee Indoor Soccer

Instructor: Kidz Love Soccer Location: KPMS Gym

Day: Thurs. Dates: Nov 7 – Dec. 19

Fee: \$51

Class	Times	Ages
Tot/Pre-Soccer	4:30-5:05pm	3.5-5 yrs
Soccer 1	5:05-5:50pm	5-6 yrs
Mommy/Daddy & Me Soccer	6:00-6:30pm	2-3.5 yrs



**KiDZ
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Come see our Gateway Park Site during the KP Farm Tour:
Saturday, October 5th 10am-4pm

Do you want to make a difference?

PARK PALS is the program for you!

PALS is a group of middle school volunteers who help at special events for Key Pen Parks. Call Jess for more info: 884-9240 x22.

FALL 2 SESSION

Instructor: Shannon Reichl

Location: Volunteer Park

Day: Tues & Thurs

Time: 6-7pm

Dates: Oct 8 – Nov 14

Fee: \$30 for 1 class/week,
\$60 for 2

Join mid-session and we will prorate the fee!

- AGILITY TRAINING •
- CARDIO TRAINING
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- STRENGTH TRAINING
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(From Farm, Page 1)

Western Washington.

Rocky Bay Equine, a large animal hospital specializing in horses, will offer facility tours. See Thunder and his extreme body paint anatomy makeover by artist and veterinarian Robin Peterson.

Blue Willow Lavender Farm will have demonstrations of lavender de-budding and pruning and will offer lavender starts and pumpkins for sale. There will be a carved-pumpkin wall display and a lavender "hospital." Take a guided tour of the farm, on the hour; vote for your favorite lavender variety and visit the pruned lavender fields and the lavender store; and listen to live music.

At Gentle Giant Meadows Ranch, enjoy a hayride, see the Fort Nisqually Historical Reenactment Group and visit with a Cub Scouts recruitment group. There will be a 4-H Differences dog-

training demo, a petting zoo, a visit from the Mason County Sheriff's Department and staff from Kitsap Veterinary Hospital. Kids can find candy in the haystack, play at the bubble table and watch hatching chicks. Owner Maureen Sikora will have copies of her book, "Gertie and Quest: A True Story," for sale. There also will be vendors and fresh farm produce for sale.

At the Cape-E Farm and Vineyard, tour the vineyard and the gardens or make use of the picnic area. On site will be an artist, musicians, baked goods and coffee. Learn about the Mustard Seed Project, pet farm critters and purchase farm produce.

Trillium Creek Winery will host wine tasting and vineyard tours.

At Creviston Valley Farm, the event center, enjoy hamburgers, hot dogs and corn-on-the cob while listening to live music by Andy Fenton (10 a.m. to

noon), Dr. Roes' Downhome Band (1 p.m.) and Rusty Roots Bluegrass (2 p.m. to closing).

See demonstrations by 4 Winds Riding Center (vaulting and horsehandling/training) with questions and answers. Several vendors will be on site, including Bee Lady's Honey, Key Peninsula Business Association, Key Peninsula Community Council, KPKampers, Goin' Postal, Pierce County Master Gardeners, Pierce County Conservation District, My Mother's Garden and Qberry Farm.

See the Fiber Arts Show at the Longbranch Improvement Club. More than 30 artists and artisans will have their work for show and sale. There will be an antique tractor display and the Sherman family petting zoo. Desserts will be sold.

At Kaukiki Farm, a real working farm, you can learn about hay-harvesting equipment and field irrigation. Watch the Oxford down rams and ewes in the fields with their guardian dogs. There will be fleeces, rovings and wool bats available for sale.

KeyFest a success, planning for next year

KeyFest 2013, the local Key Peninsula community fair and carnival, took place at the new Gateway Park on July 12-14, after a year of planning.

Warm, sunny weather brought out more than 2,500 fairgoers with another 300-500 in vendors, volunteers and staff.

After all expenses are paid, the KeyFest Board should have a small net profit to report, organizer Brandy Ellzey said.

Planning for KeyFest 2014 has already begun, with Peninsula Light Co., again

serving as a presenting sponsor.

The board is working on a revised grounds layout, incorporating a Kid Zone, increasing food selection, presenting more local entertainment and much more.

"We always have room for more volunteers behind the scenes and at the fair itself," Ellzey said.

To find out how you can help, send an email to info@keyfair.org or leave a voicemail at (253) 444-3547.

Do you have a story suggestion or photo to share with your Key Peninsula friends and neighbors? Send it to:

editor@keypennews.com

Key Peninsula Community Services

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KPCS is looking for new Board Members. This is a great way to give back and help us give to our local community. If you are interested, please give us a call @ 253-884-4440

The Key Free Clinic will be open on Oct. 10th & 24th. If you are in need of non-emergency medical care and DO NOT have medical insurance, please feel free to stop in. Hours will be from 5:30 - 8PM.

No appointment needed

The DSHS Mobile Office will be here on Oct. 10th

Each Mobile CSO unit is staffed by experienced financial workers who are able to complete cash, food, and medical interviews, issue EBT cards, and receive documents.



Our annual pledge letter will be in the mail soon! Please take a minute to read it and give if you are able.

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Purdy Elementary students crowd into the commons during lunch.

PSD Greets the School Year with Full House

Purdy Elementary has been the fastest-growing school in the Peninsula School District for the past few years in terms of enrollment. This year, more than 700 students are expected to be enrolled once again, making Purdy the third-largest school in the district, after the two comprehensive high schools.

"Some of our concerns are about assemblies because we are over capacity and about extra supervision when students are getting on buses or are being picked up by parents," said Principal Kristi Rivera. "Even though we're a large school, we're striving to make sure we know each student and each family so we have a close relationship with everyone."

Last year, 746 students were enrolled at Purdy and numbers were expected to be at the same level this school year. The school's capacity is 578 not including the portable classrooms.

Although the staff has created new systems and

procedures to help accommodate the influx — such as holding two assemblies and finding alternative spaces for rainy day recess — the school can no longer accommodate new students.

This year, Purdy is not accepting out-of-district transfers and new local students served by Purdy will be temporarily enrolled at Discovery Elementary.

"That stopped the growth in enrollment but it's not a long-term solution," said Superintendent Chuck Cuzzetto, who explained that a major reason behind the growth has been the residential construction boom in Gig Harbor North.

"Purdy's been growing about a classroom a year for a few years so we've been working on systems to accommodate it. But each year it gets a little more difficult because they're growing in each classroom," he said. "Last year was the tipping point. We're bursting at the seams."

Peninsula Schools Education Foundation - The Foundation is holding its annual fundraiser breakfast on Oct. 3, 2013. The program will feature the Chancellor of the University of Washington/Tacoma, Dr. Debra Friedman, and also teacher grant recipients. Proceeds from the breakfast event help the Foundation fund grants and scholarships. To register, or for additional information, see <http://www.psefnd.org/>.

District Online Calendar - We have implemented a new online calendar system throughout the District. We hope this new calendar system will help eliminate scheduling conflicts between buildings throughout the District. This calendar has the ability for parents and community members to create custom filtered calendars with just the information they'd like. You also have the ability to subscribe to certain types of events and to get e-mail or text message reminders. The new calendar is available through the District website or directly at <http://psd.tandemcal.com>. We encourage you to take a look.

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.

Parent Teacher Conferences

This year, conferences for grades Pre-K through Grade 8 will be held the week of October 14. The purpose for having parent/teacher conferences in October is to create an opportunity for parents and teachers to discuss academic and behavioral goals early in the year. This format also allows for more parents to attend evening conferences thus leading to stronger relationships between teachers and parents whose common goal is the education of their student. Topics for these conferences will include Personal and Social Development, Work Habits, and Goals for the Year (academic and non-academic).

PSD Public Forums: Levy Facts

Superintendent Chuck Cuzzetto will present facts about the November 2013 Capital Projects Levy at the four middle schools. The community is welcome. Meetings are 6:30 to 8 p.m.

- Monday, Oct. 7, Goodman Middle School Library
- Monday, Oct. 14, Kopachuck Middle School Library
- Monday, Oct. 21, Key Peninsula Middle School Library
- Wednesday, Oct. 23, Harbor Ridge Middle School Library

KEY DATES FOR 2013-14

Trimesters/Semesters
1/27 End of 1st Trimester
1/24 End of 1st Semester
3/14 End of 2nd Trimester
6/19 End of 3rd Trimester (last day of school)
6/19 End of 2nd Semester (last day of school)

High School Graduations
6/14 Henderson Bay High School
6/15 Gig Harbor and Peninsula high schools

No Late Start Wednesdays
10/16 3/19 4/30

State Testing Dates

10/16 PSAT (10th and 11th grades)
3/18 Writing State Test (10th - 12th grades)
3/19 Writing State Test (10th - 12th grades)
3/20 Reading State Test (10th - 12th grades)
4/23-5/15 MSP Testing (3rd - 8th grades)

Peninsula Views

A walk on a KP farm and a love for raw milk

It's a sunshiny afternoon when I drive out to visit Christine Schlicht and her eight dairy cows on Christipaul Farm.

To get there, follow Wright-Bliss Road until you see the massive power line transmission towers, then take a left onto 144th Street. Ramrod straight, the full length of the road appears all at once upon turning, a long gray ribbon outlining the gentle hills.

Chris leads me into the barn to meet her newest bovines. Resting in the straw are four young calves. They peer at us with curiosity, as if considering whether or not our visit is worth the effort of rising. After a moment one calf unfolds her spindly legs, front first, then back. She sticks her nose through the wooden slats to suck on my finger like a bottle.

After visiting the calves in the barn we head to the pasture. Chris unhooks the electric fence so we can slip under, and one of the three cows grazing there comes ambling over. Mostly brown but with a white belly, Jada is friendly as a dog, nudging me persistently until I pat her nose. Seeing the attention Jada is getting, two more cows decide to make their way over, and soon Chris and I are surrounded on all sides.

Her arm draped over a cow named Lacey, Chris tells me about the health benefits of raw milk. "It prevents allergies in kids," she said. "They get the probiotics."

The pasteurized milk sold to the masses at the chain grocery of your choice, on the other hand, is polluted with a bevy of artificial hormones folks would be wise to avoid.

"Store-bought milk contains oxytocin,

Alice Kinerk
Farm Facts



pitocin, prostaglandins," she said. "These are hormones they give to pregnant women to induce labor. All of these cross the milk barrier into what we drink."

It gets worse. Factory-farmed cow milk is poured from a "milk pool" in which the milk of hundreds of cows swirls around together, potentially sharing disease. But the milk is then pasteurized, so, as Chris puts it, "no one cares."

For the uninitiated, the taste of raw milk is spectacular.

Imagine if you went your whole life only drinking wine from a discount cardboard box, then someone handed you a glass of 95-point luxury cabernet. Imagine a lifetime slugging back gas station coffee from a lukewarm pump pot, then tasting your first espresso.

I can attest that the milk from Chris' cows is the only milk I have ever enjoyed drinking.

The probiotics Chris mentioned are very much evident in the flavor. It is richer; it is creamier; it contains all the enzymes that would otherwise be destroyed by the rapid heating and cooling pasteurization process.

One glass will ruin you for all else.

For information, visit christipaul farm on Facebook or call (360) 580-7589.

Alice Kinerk is a teacher, mom and avid Key Peninsula gardener.

Letters Policy

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

The 2013 26th District gun debate sees differing opinions

This is about the gun debate in Washington state.

My goal is to address all the gun owners who are not members of the National Rifle Association (NRA).

Jan Angel is an NRA member and a friend to all gun owners. She has and will continue to fight hard for gun owners and their rights granted by the Second Amendment.

Angel knows our struggle, and understands that there is a stark difference between a law-abiding gun owner and a criminal. Gun owners have already seen some radical bills come up this year that focus solely on law-abiding gun owners instead of criminals.

Nathan Schlischer has painted himself as an outsider and not the typical politician. In the gun debate, however, he walks arm in arm in lock step with Washington Cease Fire and Hand Gun Control, Inc.

Schlischer sent me a list of laws he would like to see changed. He said that "domestic violence offenders with a valid restraining order should not have guns."

Sounds sensible, right? I spoke to Pierce County Prosecutor Mark Lindquist, and the conditions and types of restraining orders are very broad and vast. Those with a temporary restraining order do not have to give up their firearms. With a permanent restraining order, there is a hearing, but it all depends on the circumstances and what a judge may order the person who the order is against to do. But Schlischer's statement is very open-ended and too broad in its reach.

He said, "If you fail to secure your gun, and a child gets a hold of it, you're responsible."

sible." There is no excuse for not securing your firearms and educating your children on the dangers of guns and how to respect them. However, his statement is again too broad and far reaching. If citizens allow a law like that, what other areas of your home will get regulated? Accidents happen, but by prosecuting a parent who has just lost a child through his or her own carelessness seems too extreme. If a child falls in a pool or gets a hold of a power tool, falls down stairs, or has an accident that results in death or injury, we don't usually hold the parent or adult criminally responsible.

Schlischer said to "study the issue of gun control from a public health perspective."

This one really chaps my hide. Like we want the health department or the Environmental Protection Agency involved in gun control. If you allow this kind of regulation, ammunition, gun powder and all reloading supplies and equipment will fall under the scrutiny of agencies that are unqualified to administer that kind of regulation.

Schlischer's other concern was that "we need to address mental health."

This one I agree with, but was surprised that being a doctor, this wasn't on the top of his list.

To make this work, you first have to pass

(See **Beal**, Page 8)



Cecil Beal
Gun Sight

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 email to news@keypennews.com.

Keep Key Peninsula Schools Small & Students Safe

- Prevent Overcrowding in Vaughn, Minter Creek, and Evergreen
- Safety Upgrades for All Elementary Schools
- New Sports Fields for Peninsula High School
- Technology Investments to Support Student Learning
- A Fiscally Responsible Approach That Keeps Our Tax Rate the Lowest in Pierce County

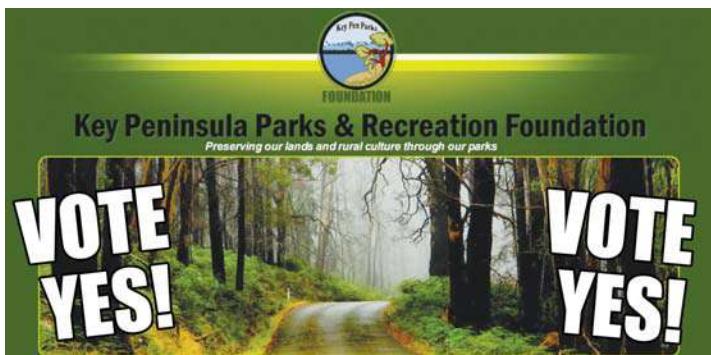
Currently, all elementary schools in the Peninsula School District are overcapacity except ours on the Key Peninsula. Rapid growth in Gig Harbor North is threatening to redistrict students and cause overcrowding in our schools.



Proposition 1 will build a new school to accommodate growth, which will help to keep Key Peninsula schools small. It will also pay for safety upgrades in all elementary schools and new sports fields for Peninsula High School. Prop 1 supports Key Peninsula students.

Vote Yes on Proposition 1!

Paid for by Citizens for Peninsula Schools • PO Box 2184 • Gig Harbor, WA 98335
harlan.gallinger@gmail.com • www.campaignforpeninsulastudents.org • www.facebook.com/campaignforpeninsulastudents



Through no fault of its own, the Key Peninsula Metropolitan Park District faces a possible complete loss of property tax revenue.

KeyPenParks is a Junior Taxing District. Under State Law, senior districts (Pierce County Government, Pierce County Roads, and others) have first claim on tax money when property values and tax revenues decline.

The district needs help now. Why now? There is a time lag before cash comes in from a levy vote. Revenue from this levy vote will arrive in April and November of 2014. Parks has socked away funds for development it can use to help make it through 2014. But 2015 looks terribly bleak.

Without this **one-year** Operations and Maintenance Levy the district would, in 2014 and 2015, stop all new development, then reduce its already meager staff, and greatly reduce the quality of park experience it has worked hard to provide.

Year	2012	2013	2014	2015
County Government	1.37	1.53	1.70	1.80
County Roads	1.88	2.12	2.23	2.25
Fire District	1.18	1.34	1.37	1.41
Library District	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50
KeyPenParks	0.37	0.41	0.10	-0.00
Total	5.30	5.90	5.90	5.90

Your yes vote can help keep these open, clean and safe:

- 360 trails area adjacent to Gateway Park
- 480 acre Key Central Forest north of Key Center-under development
- 58 acre waterfront Maple Hollow Area
- Horseshoe Lake Park open summertime seven days a week,
- Management of the 224 acre Rocky Creek Conservation Area trails
- Cleanup of the Purdy Spit Park owned by Pierce County Parks

KeyPenParks five elected commissioners serve without taking pay they are authorized. All the money goes back to the district, with no tax deduction for them. Commissioners are prohibited by law from telling anyone how to vote, but voted unanimously to do everything in their power to keep up the momentum they and the staff have worked so hard to create.

The Friends of the Parks, a separate Foundation organization asks you to join them.

Please Vote Yes for KeyPenParks.

See our website
www.keypenparksfoundation.org
 E-mail us
info@keypenparksfoundation.org

Mail us
 Key Peninsula Parks & Recreation
 Foundation
 PO Box 188, Lakebay, WA 98349



Into the wild world of books

The first week of school is always exciting, for students and teachers alike.

Perhaps my fondest memory this year at Back-to-School Night, our annual open house event the evening before the first full day of school, was when a fifth-grade girl, new to our school, came into the library with her grandparents.

Her grandfather introduced himself as the young girl walked around the library, eyes wide and mesmerized by the shelves of books. He explained that he and his wife had recently gotten custody of both of their grandchildren.

He said the children had lived in a "rural, remote area up north," and had had a very "poor education" thus far. He smiled broadly, displaying more than a few missing teeth, and with his full beard and worn flannel shirt, I could easily picture him as a gold prospector visiting from the far north of the 1880s.

"At least she loves to read," he said, with a twinkle in his eye. And then the young girl walked over and she asked me, with distinct hopefulness in her voice, "Do you have the Warriors books?"

I immediately knew what she was referring to, as this series of books has been extremely popular now for several years, among both girls and boys. They are a juvenile fantasy series written by Erin Hunter, which is actually a pseudonym for several authors who work together.

The books chronicle four clans of wild cats in their woodland homes, and deal with difficult human issues that children can more easily deal with other than reading "heavy" reality-based literature. For example, storylines include themes such as death, forbidden love, racial and religious intolerance. Books in this series have been nominated for several awards and

Deborah Allen
Read to Me



reached the New York Times bestseller list.

When I gently touched her shoulder and turned her around, right at her eye level was displayed a set of 24 hardcover books.

"You've got the whole series," she said, pulling a copy of "Into the Wild" off the shelf. She held it for a moment, gazing at the illustration on the cover before opening the book and slowly turning the pages.

Wow. When I got up that morning I had no idea that I was going to come face to face with a total stranger — a young girl who reminded me of myself at that age — and a reminder of why it is so very important, still, that children be allowed to discover the magic, the power, the intimacy of books. A book that they can hold, and a book that will hold them.

Her grandfather then said, "Come on, honey, time to go home, tomorrow's a big day," to which she replied, "Heck, grandpa, I set my alarm this morning I'm already ready."

And grandma, grandpa and granddaughter left happy and excited, happy with her new teacher, Mr. Rowe, and thrilled about all of the books that she was going to be able to read.

Yet, no one could have been happier than the school's teacher-librarian (me), thrilled to see the life that a family brings into a school's library, and the endless possibilities that a school can bring into a family's life.

Deborah Allen is a teacher-librarian, and she enjoys reading to children all the time. She can be reached at windmeadowfarm@gmail.com.

(From Beal, Page 6)

a law that states "anyone with a diagnosed mental disease, or lives with a person with a diagnosed mental disease, cannot own a firearm of any kind."

I know that sounds harsh, but if the mother of the Sandy Hook shooter could not have owned firearms, that tragedy would never have happened. The D.C. Navy Yard shooter had mental issues people overlooked before he committed his crimes.

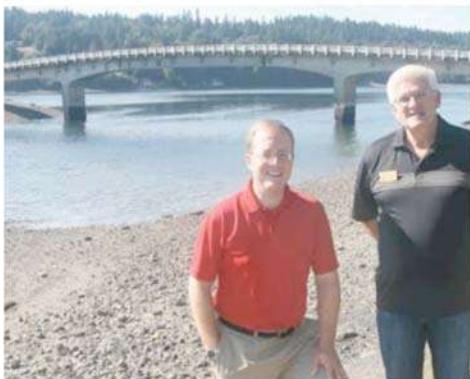
The FBI and BATFE need access to

mental health records so when a background check is performed it covers more than criminal records.

Schlicher talks about reasonable; people agreeing with "some sort" of gun control. I am reasonable, all the gun owners I know are reasonable. When he says "reasonable," he is talking about a fundamental change of the Second Amendment.

Cecil Beal has been involved with firearms through business and collecting most of his life. He can be reached at crmabeal@hotmail.com.

Key Peninsula backs Nathan Schlicher Because Nathan Schlicher backs Key Peninsula.



Nathan strives to solve the SR 302 hazards and welcomes the input of KP residents. He presses WSDOT to make improvements not more studies.



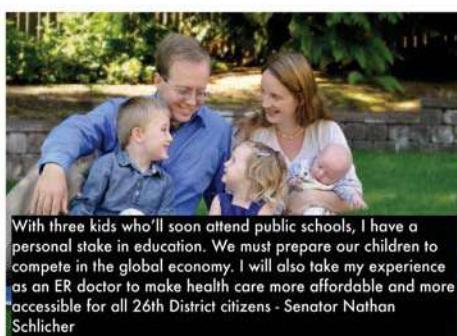
Nathan works to fix the health care issues of the underserved KP community while seeking input from local physician DR Roes.



Nathan supports the local leaders and helps to get the needed resources to the KP community



Nathan serves dinner at the 2013 Key Peninsula Citizens of the Year Banquet



With three kids who'll soon attend public schools, I have a personal stake in education. We must prepare our children to compete in the global economy. I will also take my experience as an ER doctor to make health care more affordable and more accessible for all 26th District citizens - Senator Nathan Schlicher



Army Veteran Sam Woods endorses Nathan because he sees a need to retain a physician in the Senate to work on health care issues.

Why Sen. Schlicher is right for the Key Peninsula:

- Helps small businesses (he is a small businessman).
- Supports targetted tax relief for small business (Senate Bill 5382).
- Voted for the no-new-taxes budget for next biennium (SB 5034).
- Strives for sustainable full funding of education.
- Supports educational and job training opportunities for all.
- Reduced the Narrows Toll Authority administration costs by 20%.
- Refused to accept pay for Special Sessions in Olympia.

Endorsed By
Congressman Derek Kilmer, another friend of the Key Peninsula



We endorse Nathan Schlicher to remain our State Senator because he works with us and our community.

He always puts We The People first.



Paid for by the 26 LD Democrats (PO Box 596 Vaughn, WA 98394) Sen. Schlicher is affiliated with the Democratic Party
(Photos Contributed By Hugh McMillan)

SAVE ENERGY ▶ SAVE MONEY

It's Payback Time! Going Green Rebates



**5 ways to save money on your power bills,
help the environment and get paid for replacing your old...**

► Windows

- Save \$6 per sq. ft. for window replacement (electrically heated homes & \$1000 max. rebate)

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► Refrigerator

- We'll pick-up your old, energy-hungry refrigerator or freezer and send you a check for \$20 (must be working)

► Heat Pump

- Have a qualified contractor install or upgrade your home to a high-efficiency air source heat pump and you may qualify for a rebate of \$400-\$1500

*rebates are subject to change at any time, please contact us for more details



Contact us to learn more **253.857.1516** or
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YMCA's Passion Project teaches career skills to at-risk KP youth

By Scott Turner, KP News

The beginning of the school year marked the start of a new Y-sponsored program series called the Passion Project. The project is directed toward middle- and high-school-age students who have an interest in construction trades, computer repair and programming, filmmaking, auto mechanics, music and the arts.

According to Program Coordinator Dennis Taylor, the Passion Project's mission is to identify, encourage and nurture the dreams, talents and aspirations of students. "I call it their 'passion,'" he said.

Specifically, he said, the project is aimed at students who live on the Key Peninsula who have high-risk factors.

"Maybe they've been in trouble with the law and have court-ordered community service hours. Or maybe they have chronic truancy problems or they've been suspended — anything that's going on in their life that's affected them in a negative way," Taylor said. "We want to guide them in a purposeful direction — that's what the Passion Project is all about."

Taylor himself is a Key Peninsula resident who lives about five minutes from Camp Seymour.

According to Taylor, the project is a work in progress.

In September, the auto mechanics track began. The first session runs for eight weeks.

The computer lab also is underway, but it will soon move to a new location in the Red Barn, which will open up space for at least 10 additional students, Taylor said.

Taylor also plans to start a "coder dojo" club for students who want to learn to program and code computers. "It's patterned after a similar online club that has just started up in Seattle," he said.

In October or November, construction trades classes will get underway with a workshop at Camp Seymour. "We'll have room for 10-15 students in the construction trades track," he said. "It's for students who want to learn basic carpentry skills."

A music track is also in the works with a music career day planned for next April.

"We're looking for students who are

interested in helping us develop the music track and also the filmmaking and arts tracks. We're just starting to work on those tracks," Taylor said.

The arts track will have an international component, based on connections Taylor and his wife made when they visited India earlier this year.

"We hooked up with a nonprofit arts group called Terra Trust and a woman in Bangladesh who's quite a famous tapestry artist," he said. "We want to find a way for our own young people who're interested in the arts to connect with the young women in India."

The Passion Project is an official program of the Tom Taylor YMCA in Gig Harbor. There is no charge for students who want to participate.

"We made a conscious decision for this program to focus exclusively on the Key Peninsula. We're working with the school district and the local schools to identify students who could benefit from it," Taylor said.

"And if students are passionate about things that we aren't covering right now, we'll find a way to offer classes for whatever they want to get involved in as a career goal," he said.

The Passion Project encourages its students to do community service projects for local organizations.

"If a student takes the construction trades courses and does 20 hours of volunteer work for Habitat for Humanity, for instance, we'll give them a fully outfitted tool belt with hammers and squares and other necessary tools," Taylor said.

The program is looking for donations of time and materials from the community.

"We're looking for volunteers who have experience with computers — especially with coding and programming," he said. "Students will need to have adult mentors available during the online coder dojo lessons, someone who can help them through questions they might have."

Community members with filmmaking, art or music backgrounds also would be helpful.

For information, call Dennis Taylor at (253) 255-0407.

Minter Creek watershed study, stakeholders wanted

By Rick Sorrels, KP News

Minter Bay is healthier now. The Washington State Department of Health would now allow the commercial sale of shellfish grown in the outer portion of the bay, but not the inner portion near the fish hatchery, which still tests too high for bacteria.

Puget Sound Partnership, a state organization chartered to restore the health of Puget Sound waters by 2020, has an action plan that both Pierce and Kitsap counties have agreed to support with a stakeholders group to find ways to implement that plan.

According to Barbara Ann Smolko with Pierce County's Waste Water Management, it is too late to save many watersheds.

"The Minter Creek watershed is in better shape, with a lot of valuable biological resources which we can still save," she said.

The Minter Creek watershed extends from the Minter Fish Hatchery north to a point near Albertsons on Sedgwick Road, and from the Lake Katherine shopping center west past the church on 134th Avenue. All rain that falls within this area ends up downhill in Minter Bay.

The three priorities of the action agency, as established by the Puget Sound Partnership, are to prevent pollution from stormwater runoff, to protect and restore habitat, and to restore and reopen shellfish beds.

The state Department of Commerce is tasked with implementing portions of the Growth Management Act and the action agenda. Funding comes from EPA. The action group is tentatively called the Minter Creek Stakeholders Group. Residents, business owners and other interested parties are sought to

provide a balanced input to the process as stakeholders.

There are several local residents already signed on as stakeholders, but only one business owner. From the summary of comments made at the initial meeting hosted on Aug. 27, the attendees appeared not that friendly to business operations.

According to published documents and Heather Ballash, the facilitator provided by the Department of Commerce, the stakeholders group will concentrate on "land use," which according to Ballash, equates to proposing changes to the Pierce and Kitsap County zoning regulations.

By definition, zoning regulations are restrictive in nature, taking away property rights for the common good. A balance of interests between homeowners, commercial business owners, cottage industry owners, animal owners, farm and ranch owners, working folk, retirees, nature lovers, et cetera, may be needed for the process.

Smolko believes the process will not dwell only upon land use. Pierce County spent a lot of time and effort on the Key Peninsula Community Plan and the resulting zoning regulations for the KP, she said.

"It is more likely that zoning changes might be expected for Kitsap County, which has an airport, gravel pit, concrete plant and industrial facilities within the watershed, but nothing has been decided yet. We are just starting the process, which will end with a finished proposal in January or February," she said.

The next meeting for early October has not yet been set.

For information, contact Heather Ballash at (360) 725-3044 or Barbara Ann Smolko at (253) 798-6156.

Business group invites PenLight, community to meeting

A representative from Peninsula Light Co. will speak on its Project Help at the Key Peninsula Business Association's monthly luncheon, hosted from noon to 1 p.m., on Oct. 18 at the El Sombrero res-

taurant in Key Center.

Project Help concerns low-income residents who have trouble paying their electric bills. The public is welcome to attend.

It All Comes with a Cost

Key Peninsula Civic Center Association Board Report

The Key Peninsula Civic Center is proud of the efforts we have made over the past few years keeping our rental rates stable and our costs down. We've even extended deeper discounts to some of the non-profits that were particularly struggling during this slow economic recovery.

But, it has come with a cost. Our reserves have grown low and deferred maintenance/upkeep projects loom. We would like to continue with our policy and keep our rates stable, but it is time we look to our own needs, as well.

The Civic Center is not supported by any tax dollars. From the beginning, in 1955, when the Key Peninsula community set out to

CIVIC CENTER CORNER

purchase Vaughn Union High School, the Civic Center has been 100% funded by the community through facility rentals, donations, and participation in fundraising events and activities.

Would you please consider making a donation to the Civic Center at this time? Your gift will help keep us on firm ground; the added benefit is your generosity passes through to all the people and organizations that utilize the Civic Center, or call it home.

Our address is PO Box 82, Vaughn, WA 98394. Thank you!

Your donation will likely be tax deductible; the KPCCA's Tax ID number is 91-0688963.

Are you a carpenter, plumber, electrician, or other experienced tradesperson? Do like tinkering on projects or gardening?

Are you a grant writer, or have legal expertise?

QR code **Become a Friend of the Key Peninsula Civic Center Center and volunteer with us!**



KPCCA Seeks Board Members, Officers

The Key Peninsula Civic Center Association (KPCCA) is seeking new Board Members and Officers to help guide the organization in 2014. If you would like to assist with special events, work on the Emergency Shelter project, and get involved with this great organization, we welcome you to join the KPCCA Board!

Our annual elections will be held on November 14th. Please contact our business office before November 1st to indicate your interest in joining the KPCCA Board. kpciviccenter@centurytel.net or 253-884-3456.

The KPCCA Board meets on the second Thursday of each month at 7pm.



**www.kpciviccenter.org
kpciviccenter@centurytel.net
253-884-3456**

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!

2013 issues facing voters in November

By Rick Sorrels, KP News

A look at the upcoming November ballot issues:

Peninsula School District Proposition 1: Capital projects levy, collects \$50 million from property taxes over four years for school construction projects.

Pro: Constructs new elementary school and renovates or replaces Artondale Elementary School. Critical need with safety issues and school population overloads.

Con: It adds \$350 per year, for four years, in additional property taxes for a \$250,000 home.

Key Pen Parks Proposition 1: Maintenance and operations property tax levy replaces the existing authorized tax receipts lost due to pro-rationing, collects \$700,000 from property taxes for one year only.

Pro: Replaces authorized tax receipts lost through no fault of Key Pen Parks. Allows doors to stay open and parks to continue operations the same as last

year.

Con: It adds \$98 to the property tax bill for a \$250,000 home, for one year only.

Advisory vote No. 3: Substitute Senate Bill 5444 eliminates an excise tax credit for people who lease public property.

Repeal: Re-establishes tax credit for leasing public land.

Maintain: Affirms legislative action. General fund gains \$2 million over 10 years.

Advisory vote No. 4: Senate Bill 5627 excludes commuter air carriers that operate from a private airfield from the definition of "airplane company." Shifts tax from a property tax to an excise tax.

Repeal: Re-establishes the property tax.

Maintain: Affirms legislative action. General fund reduced by \$500,000 over 10 years.

Advisory vote No. 5: Engrossed Substitute House Bill 1846 is a complicated bill that shifts revenue from a dental service tax to an insurance premium tax.

Repeal: Office of Financial Management unable to calculate amount of reclaimed revenue, if any.

Maintain: Affirms legislative action.

Advisory vote No. 6: Second Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill 1971 eliminates a sale tax exemption for certain cell phone services. The current tax structure is out of date with advances in technology, especially prepaid phone services.

Repeal: Restores \$397 million for enhanced 911 over 10 years.

Maintain: Affirms legislative action.

Advisory vote No. 7: Engrossed House Bill 2075 adjusts estate tax (death tax) calculations for estates more than \$4 million to comply with recent court decisions.

Repeal: Restores \$478 million in tax collections over 10 years.

Maintain: Affirms legislative action.

Source: The above information was extracted from state and county voter guides and from the full text of the legislative bills.

Candidate forum at Key Peninsula Civic Center

By Rick Sorrels, KP News

Candidates running for elective office in November will face off, argue their position and answer questions from the voters on Tuesday, Oct. 8, at the Civic Center in Vaughn, from 7 to 9 p.m. Representatives supporting and opposing the Peninsula School District and the Key Pen Parks levies also will be present.

Nathan Schlicher (incumbent) and Jan Angel (currently a state representative) are competing for votes for state senator.

Frank Grubaugh (incumbent) and Jeremiah Wilder are seeking the same position as a Pierce County Fire District 16 fire commissioner.

Rick Jones (incumbent) and David Olson are running for the same position

(See Forum, Page 13)

Elect Jan Angel State Senate Working for You on the Peninsula!



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- The Mustard Seed Program
- The safety of Hwy. 302
- Keeping small businesses on the Peninsula strong

✓ 40 Years of Business Experience
✓ 30 Years Working and Living in the 26th District

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"It was my honor to help obtain free flu vaccine for our citizens on the Peninsula last winter."

— Jan Angel

Halloween Carnival

October 31st

6pm - 8pm

FREE

 17010 S. Vaughn Rd. KP N

**Carnival games,
Costume &
Carved Pumpkin Contests,
Bounce House, and more!
Prizes for kids of all ages**

www.kpciviccenter.org • 253-884-3456

The KP Civic Center is a 501(c)3 non-profit that creates a more vibrant Key Peninsula community through family, youth, and senior activities, programs, and civic events.

(From **Forum**, Page 12)

on the school board.

Wendy Wojtanowicz and Harlan Gallinger are both unchallenged for the school board positions they each currently hold.

Mark Michel and John Kelly also are unopposed for positions as parks commissioners.

All of the above candidates will be present at the Oct. 8 forum, except for the unchallenged candidates who have not yet confirmed.

Gallinger will also argue for the school levy, where Ken Manning will argue in opposition.

Park commissioner Bill Trandum will argue for the park levy and Bob Richardson will argue against.

Jud Morris will moderate the event, which will start with the representatives briefly presenting their position, followed by questions selected from submittals from the audience, followed by open questions from the audience. Candidates and audience members can remain after for one-on-one discussion.

The candidate forum is jointly presented by the Key Peninsula Community Council, the Key Peninsula Civic Center, the Key Peninsula Business Association and the Key Peninsula News.

One-turn lane drops off SR-302 upgrade list

Pierce County engineer Brian Stacy and project engineer Dean Moon attended the Key Peninsula Community Council meeting in September to give an update on the SR-302 road construction project planned to begin in the spring of 2014.

Recent changes to the project will eliminate the planned left-turn lane at Goodech Drive due to septic and well right-of-way concerns.

According to Washington State Department of Transportation, an estimated \$500,000 won't be spent on that section, but will be applied to another SR-302 project identified as a priority.

A left-turn lane at 118th Avenue is included in the bid package.

For project information, visit wsdot.wa.gov/projects/sr302/kphptopurdysafety/.

55% TAX INCREASE VOTE NO ON PROP 1

Paid for by: Citizens for Responsible School Spending

PO BOX 243, Fox Island, WA 98333

www.nayonprop1.com

Know how and where the \$50 million in new taxes will be spent

- ◆ Build a new school in Gig Harbor North and rebuild Artondale Elementary - \$45 million
- ◆ New turf for Peninsula High School and Gig Harbor High School - \$2 million
- ◆ Upgrades for school safety and technology infrastructure and equipment upgrades - \$3 million

Prop 1 is a bad idea, a rushed plan with unintended consequences plus, don't forget a 55% school tax increase.

Lets invest in our children's learning not just buy bricks and turf.

Vote NO on Prop 1

COMMUNITY PAGES

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

OCT. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

Kids' library time

Baby (0-24 months) Play and Learn takes place 10:15 a.m., and Preschool (ages 3-6) Play and Learn is at 11 a.m., at the Key Center Library. Children must be accompanied by an adult caregiver. (253) 548-3309.

OCT. 2

Levy information

Supporters of Peninsula School District's capital projects levy host an informational meeting 7 p.m., at Vaughn Elementary, 17521 Hall Road KPN, Vaughn.

OCT. 3

Fuchsia group meets

The Lakebay Fuchsia Club meets 7 p.m., at the KC Library. Ginnie, 884-9744.

OCT. 3 and 17

Senior shopping

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

OCT. 4, 11, 18, 25

Story time

Family Story Time for families with preschool-age children is 11 to 11:30 a.m., at the Key Center Library. (253) 548-3309,

Skate night

Geared for kids ages 5-13, skate night is 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., at the KP Civic Cen-

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.

ter. Kids may safely enjoy roller skating, arcade games and concessions. Parents are welcome to attend and visit with others on the observation balcony. Kpciviccenter.org or 884-3456.

OCT. 5

Farm tour

The annual free Key Peninsula Farm Tour is hosted at 11 different farms/venues 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Begin the day at the Key Center Firehouse pancake breakfast from 8 a.m. to noon. 884-6455 or Kpfarmtour.com or facebook.com/KeyPeninsulaHarvestFestandFarmTour.

OCT. 7

4-H club

Cat Tales 4-H Club, for children ages 5-18 years old, holds an informational meeting hosted by Dianna Calhoun at 7 p.m., at the KP Civic Center.

OCT. 7, 14, 21, 28

Bloodmobile dates

The bloodmobile is at Albertsons 11:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

OCT. 8

Election forum

A local election forum from 7 to 9 p.m., at the KP Civic Center. The forum is sponsored by the KP Community Council, KP News, KP Business Association, and the KP Civic Center. 884-2877, 884-6455 or kpcouncil.org,

OCT. 8 and 23

Crochet or knit

The Loving Hearts group knits and crochets for charities including veterans, babies, backpacks for kids and chemo patients and meets on Oct. 8 from 1 to 3 p.m., and Oct. 23 from 7 to 9 p.m., at WayPoint Church, 12719-134th Ave KPN. All are welcome. Yarn donations are always needed. lovingheartsonkp@gmail.com or Virginia, 884-9619.

OCT. 9

Garden club meets

The Bayshore Garden Club meets

1 p.m., at the Longbranch fire station. Francine, (253) 569-1381.

KP Council

The KP Community Council hosts Bob Dragoo, from Peninsula Light, who will share area population trends at 7 p.m., at the KC fire station. (253) 884-6455.

OCT. 10

Ashes meet

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

OCT. 10 and 24

Key free clinic

Non-emergency medical care for residents without any medical insurance is provided 5:30 to 8 p.m. 884-4440.

OCT. 11 and 25

Teen fun

Club Cosmic, for teens grades 8-12, is 9 p.m. to midnight. Geared exclusively for teens, this twice-a-month event is chock full of DJ battles, dancing, games, including dodge ball (with glow-in-the-dark balls), four square, name that tune and contests: all for \$5. Kpciviccenter.org or 884-3456.

OCT. 17

Forum

Mustard Seed's third Thursday Forum is 10 a.m., at the Key Center fire station. 884-1205.

OCT. 20

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 listen. Bring music stand and finger food to share; music and beverages are provided. (253) 492-4177.

OCT. 24

Book discussion group

All adults are invited to join the fourth Thursday Book Discussion Group at 11 a.m., at the Key Center Library. Ask at the desk for your copy of the book. This event is sponsored by Friends of the Key Center Library (253)548-3309.

OCT. 31

Halloween carnival

The KP Civic Center hosts a costume contest, pumpkin carving contest, carnival-style games and activities with prizes and treats for everyone. Get a free keepsake photo taken by a professional photographer. Admission is free. 884-3456 or kpciviccenter@centurytel.net.

OFF THE KEY

OCT. 4, 11, 18, 25

Spanish talk time

Join in Spanish conversation with El Grupo from 12:30 to 2 p.m., at the Gig Harbor Library.

This event is sponsored by Friends of the Gig Harbor Library. 253-548-3305.

OCT. 4-6

'Dracula'

Paradise Theatre presents "Dracula" at

7:30 p.m., on Friday and Saturday and 3 p.m., on Sunday. 851-7529.

OCT. 5

Fall festival

Scarecrow Festival at Sehmel Homestead Park includes music, scarecrow contest, games, hay rides, pony rides and pumpkin launcher. The event is free. www.penmetparks.org.

(See **Community**, Page 15)

(From Community, Page 14)

OCT 7 - JAN. 4**Museum exhibit**

Harbor History Museum presents "1987: A Day in the Life Photography Exhibit."

OCT. 12**Bloodmobile**

The bloodmobile is at Safeway from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

OCT. 18-20**Film festival**

The annual Gig Harbor Film Festival features independent, foreign, full feature, shorts, documentary, animated and more, as well as a 72-hour film competition, Kidsfest and workshops. www.gigharborfilmfestival.org.

OCT. 19**Lego building**

Use the library's Legos and other items to construct anything you want from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at the Gig Harbor Library. Duplos are available for small children. This free event is sponsored by the Friends of the Library. (253) 548-3305.

WildWatch at night

Visit Harbor WildWatch naturalists "Pier Into the Night" to investigate the marine life in Puget Sound from a night-time perspective by placing underwater lights into the darkness drawing marine species into view that are seldom seen during the day. This is an event for all ages hosted 6 to 8

p.m., at Skansie Brothers Park, Jerisich Dock. Parents are encouraged to place their children in floatation devices on the dock for safety. Free life-jackets are available for use while at Jerisich Dock. 514-0187 or info@harborwildwatch.org.

OCT. 24**Pumpkin carving**

Watch master pumpkin sculptor Russ Leno from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., at Uptown's Pavilion. uptowngigharbor.com.

OCT. 27**Grief and holidays**

Join Kristine Kevorkian, Ph.D., as she discusses "Holiday Tears to Cheers: Coping with Grief During the Holidays" at the Gig Harbor Library from 2 to 3 p.m. info@drkkevorkian.com.

OCT. 31**Halloween WildWatch**

Join Harbor WildWatch celebrate Halloween in Skansie Brothers Park from 3 to 6 p.m. Visit their booth to get up close with the creepy critters that inhabit the depths of Gig Harbor. Learn about the bizarre habits and behaviors these critters use to defend themselves from the creatures that lurk in the dark. Stop by before and after your trick-or-treating for a Harbor WildWatch treat. 514-0187 or info@harborwildwatch.org.

Halloween in Gig Harbor

Trick or treat events are hosted 3 to 6 p.m., in downtown (gigharborwaterfront.org) and 4 to 6 p.m., at Uptown. Uptowngigharbor.com.

COMMUNITY**WEEKLY EVENTS****MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, FRIDAYS****Senior exercise class**

The S.A.I.L. program, taught by Marilyn Perks, includes aerobics, light weightlifting, stretching and balance techniques at 10 to 11 a.m., at the KP Community Services in Lakebay. Participants must register with Marilyn, 884-4440.

TUESDAYS**Key Singers**

Key Singers, a local community chorus, is practicing music for its annual Christmas program in December and for other community functions at 7 p.m., at Key Peninsula Lutheran Church sanctuary, junction of Lackey Road and KP Highway. New singers welcome. 884-5615.

TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS**Senior tai chi club**

Senior tai chi meets 10 to 11 a.m., at the KP Community Services in Lakebay. 884-4440.

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. Caregivers must stay with child. Drop-ins are welcome; stay for as long as you wish. A \$1/child donation is suggested. Tami, 884-5433.

WEDNESDAYS**Writers meet**

The Lakebay Writers meet 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., at the Key Center Library. 884-3931.

Writers' workshop

The Watermark Writers present a free writer's workshop 5 to 8 p.m., in Vaughn. (253) 778-6559.

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 KC Library. Join the fun and improve your speaking ability. 3409. toastmastersclubs.org or (253) 740-7891.

Seniors' lunch

The Key Peninsula Senior Society meets at 11:30 a.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 beginning at 7 p.m. 884-4440.

THURSDAYS & SATURDAYS**KP Musuem**

"Tall Trees, Tall Men, Tall Tales" is open at the Key Peninsula Historical Society Museum 1 to 4 p.m., or by appointment. Free admission; money donations appreciated. 884-3246 or keypeninsulamuseum.org.

PUBLIC MEETINGS**KP Lions' dinner and program**

Oct. 2 and 16, 5:30 p.m., in VFW Room, KP Civic Center; 853-2721.

Key Peninsula Veterans

Oct. 7, 7 p.m., at KP Civic Center; kpveternets.net.

Fire District 16

Oct. 8 and 22, 6 p.m., in meeting room, Key Center Fire Station; keypeninsulafire.org.

Key Peninsula Council

Oct. 9, 7 p.m., at KC Fire Station; kpcouncil.org.

Peninsula School District Board

Oct. 10, 6 p.m., at Minter Creek gym; Oct. 24, 6 p.m., at district office.

KP Civic Center Association Board

Oct. 10, 7 p.m., in Whitmore Room;

kpciviccenter.org.

Key Pen Parks

Oct. 14, 7 p.m., at Volunteer Park; keypenparks.com.

LIC

Oct. 16, potluck, 6:30 p.m., at Longbranch Improvement Club; 884-6022 longbranchimprovementclub.org.

KP Citizens Against Crime

Oct. 17, 7 p.m., at Home fire station; kpcitizensagainstcrime.org.

KP Farm Council

Oct. 28, 6:30 p.m., at Key Center fire station; dwebsterkp@gmail.com.

CALENDAR SUBMISSIONS

Send you calendar items to editor@keypennews.com

Sandwich shop opens up on State Route 302

By Jessica Takehara, KP News

Cars, trucks, bikes and all manner of vehicles whip past the spot every day on State Route 302. If passersby glance, they will notice a new sign, Fredda and Lori's Deli, across the street from Charboneau Construction and Supply.

When drivers stop in, Fredda Graham or Lori Critchfield will greet them with a welcoming smile and "Hi, have you been here before?"

Answering "no" to the question means one of the women will explain the menu, the combo possibilities and other food options at their new restaurant.

Make no mistake, there is plenty to choose. Sandwiches range from meatball and French dip to veggie in large, small or half sizes. There are sides, salads, coffee, shakes and kid options too.

Open from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m., seven days a week, Fredda and Lori's Deli is ready to meet that "oops I forgot to eat" early morning crowd with breakfast items.

In fact, according to Graham, their break-



Photo by Ed Johnson, KP News

Lori Critchfield, left, and Fredda Graham recently opened Fredda and Lori's Deli in the building formerly operated by Gourmet Burgers.

fast items have been some of the biggest sellers. Especially since breakfast is available all day, she said.

Neither Graham nor Critchfield are strangers to the Key Peninsula. They are longtime residents and Graham spent many years

working at other Key Peninsula businesses.

Critchfield has previous experience in the medical community. The women met after working together in Gig Harbor for several years, Critchfield said, and while Graham nodded in agreement, she said they "balance

each other out."

The idea of starting their own deli was always a dream, but one day Graham and Critchfield just decided to make it happen. There is plenty of road between having the dream and welcoming customers into your business though, they said.

A location needed to be found, meetings with vendors held, selecting quality ingredients done, setting prices and a myriad of other details that come with running a deli.

All the hard work paid off and Fredda and Lori's Deli celebrated its grand opening on Aug. 17, a month after the soft start on July 12.

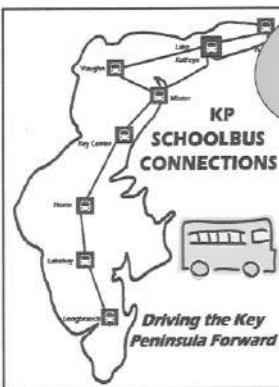
They said the deli's sign has brought in repeat customers who can pick up a sack lunch special, call in orders, or purchase a party tray in addition to the standard menu fare.

When asked about making a sandwich in a special way, Graham and Critchfield spontaneously chorused together: "If you want it and we have it, we'll make it anyway you like ... with love."

Fredda and Lori's Deli is located at 11717 SR-302. For information, call 858-7212.

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Photo by Tonya Bryson, KP News

A friend's recommendation for Salon 302 prompted Gig Harbor resident Penni McGrew, left, to make a special trip to the Key Peninsula. Here, she gets a manicure from nail technician Nicole Brown.

New looks at Salon 302

By Steve Whitford, KP News

Karen Horan offers up affordable luxury at her new salon in Lake Kathryn.

Horan is a lifelong resident of the area, having grown up in Port Orchard, and has been a licensed cosmetologist for 27 years.

After completing college, she worked for a while at Great Clips in the Kitsap Mall.

In 2005 she moved her vocation to Peninsula Hair Design located further down SR-302, owned by Andrea Berger.

In the fall of 2012 Berger decided to close her salon so she would have more family time. Horan decided she wanted her own salon. She contacted Don Zimmerman, who owns the space formerly occupied by Coast to Coast Hardware, and a lease was agreed upon. After three months of remodeling, Salon 302 had its grand opening on March 30.

The artisans who perform services at Salon 302 offer up a variety of special skills and unique backgrounds.

According to Horan, all the crew from Peninsula Hair Design moved with her, and were able to keep their faithful clientele.

Each one is self-employed and rents a space.

The hair stylists are Andi Kramer, Mirella Geyer, Billie Hanson, Andrea Berger, Trista Smith, Desiree Martinez and Lyudgarda Hamlin.

Hamlin was born in Russia, where she was forced to be an engineer, a vocation she hated. She married an American and immigrated. In the United States, she said she

could choose her profession, and she chose hair styling.

Hair services include cut, shampoo, scalp treatment, color and specialty perms. Discounts are available to seniors age 65 and older.

There are two nail techs, Nicole Brown and Kissi Hamilton. They offer manicures, pedicures, polish and artificial nails and nail art.

Shadi Nolan is the resident esthetician who provides specialty facials, face and body waxing, eyelash extension and makeup applications.

Massage techniques are performed by Heidi Wardlow, including relaxation, therapeutic, Swedish, deep tissue, sports and pregnancy massage therapy.

Tanning beds also are available.

Services are available for men, women and children.

Clients of Salon 302 really seem to enjoy the service.

Becky Macomba stated she's been following Andi Kramer for more than 13 years.

Dorcey Dillon, longtime customer, said, "They're just great and the salon is beautiful."

"We want to create an experience that people will want to talk about. Offering specials and sharing our work on Facebook is a great way to keep me booked all day," said Brown.

Salon 302 is located in Lake Kathryn at 14216 A 92nd Ave. NW.

Scheduling and information is available by phone at (253) 857-3994 or at salon302hs.com.



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Email us at EHsepticsystems@tpchd.org with "Incentive Program" in the subject line. Or, give us a call at (253) 798-4788. This program will end when the funds run out, so the first to call will be the first to get a discount! Call us today!



New online calendars for Peninsula School District

By Jessica Takehara, KP News

Keeping life organized can be a real challenge. Keeping life organized with children at different Key Peninsula schools while juggling conflicting sports schedules and other activities can be downright hectic.

Peninsula School District is exploring an option to lessen this stress with online school calendars.

Previously, each family of a PSD student received a printed month-by-month school calendar. General dates and events appeared in the format, but items specific to each school were the responsibility of individual families to add on the paper copy.

With the advent of the online form, the district is hoping to alleviate clashes of events by providing "filters" to customized calendars. To view this information, log on

to the PSD website and click on "district" then "calendars" and finally select "district calendar" on the drop-down tab.

Highlight the "full functionality" line and this will link to the page designed by the Seattle-based group tandem. From here, it is possible to filter or search events. The calendar is also accessible from each school's website.

Since this entire process is very new to PSD, staff and parents are still learning about it as well as getting used to the technology.

Minter Creek Elementary School parent Michelle Hockmuth was not aware the district had switched to the new format until after school started.

"I wish there was more communication about this new calendar since we were not going to get a printed copy in the mail," Hockmuth said.

This was echoed by Vaughn Elementary School parent Jennifer Ford, who hopes the district "eventually sends out more information about the calendars."

Apart from the need for more informa-

tion, the calendars do present a chance for families and staff to coordinate more efficiently within the district. Minter Creek Elementary office manager Chris Holts noted that conflicts with fifth-grade camp can be smoothed over quicker because each school has access to information with a mouse-click.

The information on the calendars also can be texted to interested family members, linked to Facebook and Twitter, or the location of events sent via Google Maps to visiting relatives.

With the intense focus on technology, families without access to computers may feel out of the loop. There is community computer access at the Key Peninsula Library, but they tend to fill up fast. Plus, it would still cost money to print a copy at that facility. Check with your local school for a hard copy of the calendar based on need.

For information about the new calendars, inquire at your local school, attend a PTA meeting or visit the PSD website at psd401.net.



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KP Historical Society has plenty to see and do

KP News staff report

The history of huckleberry harvesting on the Key will be presented by the KP Historical Society at Gateway Park during the KP Farm Tour on Oct. 5.

A huckleberry cleaning machine will be displayed and a video of a local family operation will be available to view. Free booklets featuring the local history and "tried and true" recipes, samples of huckleberry taffy, hands-on activity for children and a raffle basket of huckleberry products will all be available. Proceeds benefit the society's Peninsula High School scholarship fund.

Carrying on the theme of "Tall Trees, Tall Men, Tall Tales," tuition-free classes designed for home school families this month will be "History of Key Peninsula Forests." Classes for both primary and intermediate students will take place at the museum, 9 and 11 a.m., on the first four Wednesdays of October. Contact 884-1400 for registration and questions.

A special morning at the museum for



Photo by Colleen Slater, KP News

A detailed mock-up of a spar tree plant, on loan by Dale Boquist, is on display at the museum.

dads and preschoolers will take place on Saturday, Oct. 19. Admission is free, no

registration necessary, but it's a drop-in from 9 to 11 a.m. View the logging ex-

hibit, explore early logging equipment, participate in a craft activity and enjoy a logging camp treat of apple cider and donuts.

The Historical Society received a \$5,000 grant from Pierce County for historic preservation. Funds will be used for classes, workshops, presentations and community events related to the current display of logging on the Key Peninsula.

Society board members are continuing to interview and videotape some of the older citizens of the Key Peninsula who have several generations of roots in the area.

Many books on local history, including recent reprints of some out-of-print books, are available at the museum for purchase.

The museum is open every Thursday and Saturday through November from 1 to 4 p.m., except on holidays or this month, on the day of the KP Farm Tour.

Appointments can be arranged for other days or times if needed. Call 888-3246 for information.

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Where in the World...

Lifetime Key Peninsula resident, Cheri Scoggins, recently moved to Japan with her husband, Joshua, and their two children. Joshua is active duty Navy and the family will be stationed in Japan for three years. Grace, 6, and Joshua, 3, lived on the Key Peninsula until their move abroad. A photo of the children and their copy of the KP News was snapped at Command Fleet Activities in Sasebo, Japan.

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Local musician, feeling rejuvenated, shares his talent

By Colleen Slater, KP News

Roger Gemelle's musical career began in New York City at age 19, when he hustled to a studio from school to play on a keyboard.

He signed with the Tokens (of "The Lion Sleeps Tonight" fame) and played with them until he formed his own band, "We Ugly Dogs," which recorded under the Tokens label, BT Puppy.

"Our single, 'Spring Rains,' was No.1 in Duluth, Minn.," Gemelle said with a laugh.

The band, renamed Canterbury Music Festival, moved to Boulder, Colo., where bluegrass was popular.

They played Ebbets Field, opened for Mickey Nelson in Chicago and did various radio and television spots.

Only 150 copies of their album, "Rain and Shine," were released in 1968. Gemelle didn't even know that until several years later.

The album, including a bonus track of "Pamela" with Gemelle on lead vocals was reissued as a CD by devotees of "sunshine pop" music and has been released in the United Kingdom and South Korea.

Gemelle left that band to play soft rock in California.

The new group played at Laguna for six months, then elsewhere for six months.

On a trip to Las Cruces, New Mexico, Gemelle was relaxing at a jukebox between gigs when "this really cute blonde walked in," he said.

"I fell in love instantly," Gemelle said of Dinah, his wife of 36 years. "It took her quite a bit longer," he added.

Dinah, invited by a friend to hear the visiting band, said, "I don't know; I wanted to stay home and wash my hair." Ever since, she said, "Any time there's a problem, I say I should have stayed home and washed my hair."

The Gemelles moved to Seattle in the early 1990s, where Roger played at the Cameron and Edgewater hotels. He didn't want to live in the city, and bought property near Vaughn.

He and Roy Denton, of Gig Harbor, joined forces and became The Denton Brothers, playing and recording.

"I'm still writing music for some of his songs, even though he's passed away," Ge-



Photo courtesy Roger Gemelle

Key Peninsula resident Roger Gemelle plays with his mandolin, "Blondie."

melle said.

He said that about a dozen years ago, work just dried up. "I was burnt out and for 10 years, I didn't touch an instrument," he said.

Two years ago, Dinah bought him a mandolin. He wouldn't touch it. One day, he picked it up, started playing it and that night

when Dinah came to bed, she asked, "Is there room for me with you and Blondie?"

The mandolin was named, christened, accepted and loved.

Gemelle began playing here and there, joined the Key Singers, met new friends and felt he was "brought back to life."

Rusty Roots, his local band, was organized with Bill and Lynn Lloyd and Dorene Patterson. They play locally, at venues like the Longbranch Bluegrass and Barbecue and Old Timers Day.

Saturday evenings the Gemelles hold an open mic at Lakebay Marina, and added to the entertainment at their grand opening and the beer-tasting events.

Gemelle is now getting booked for other locations and events. His latest musical love is his new Fender Strat named Franny, for his mother, he said.

He enjoys being able to "pay back" the people, churches and food bank in the community that helped him through the hard times.

"This is like a love affair," he said, "for love of music."

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PHS grad is making some wave in paracanoe racing

By Irene Torres, KP News

Lakebay's Megan Blunk has the heart of a champion and the arms to prove it.

She won two silver medals during her first Paracanoe World Championships in Duisburg, Germany, on Aug. 28, and she has set her sights higher.

"It makes me just want to fight that much harder and win next time," she said.

Blunk competed in the Trunk and Arms (TA) classification. She came in second place in the women's K-1 and V-1 races. Her K-1 final finish time was 57.507, just half a second behind first place, Emma Wiggs of Great Britain. Improving on her K-1 heat, Blunk turned in a time of 1:10.838 in the V-1 final, 7.595 seconds behind Jeanette Chippington of Great Britain.

Alan Anderson, coach of the Gig Harbor Canoe and Kayak racing team, met Blunk about two years ago and was inspired by her drive.

"When I made the decision to add paracanoe to our program, it was my intention to help athletes with disabilities understand our sport and to perhaps give them something healthy and positive to do. I have realized that, working with Megan, it's kind of the other way around — she inspires all around her, including me, to be better," Anderson said.

Blunk said she tries to put herself into uncomfortable situations so she can push herself.

She said it helps her to build confidence and make her stronger.

"When I was able-bodied, I wasn't happy, but I slacked off and didn't do anything to change it. Fighting to overcome disability has allowed me to feel like an athlete, and to know who I am.

"It feels really good because it shows me not to second-guess myself and if you just go as hard as you can, then



Courtesy photo Megan Blunk

Megan Blunk, of Lakebay, plies the waters during USACK Nationals in Oklahoma City in August. The former Peninsula High School student recently won two silver medals at Paracanoe World Championships in Dusiburg, Germany.

you can accomplish your goals," Blunk said.

Blunk's teammate, Ann Yoshida, won the bronze medal in the women's V-1 Arms (A) direct final in 1:31.382, finished 25.754 seconds behind Chippington, the first-place finisher. Yoshida lives in Hillsboro, Ore. Vadim Kin, from Seattle, came in seventh during the V-1 A final.

Ryan Padilla, of Gig Harbor, completed in the men's K-1 A using aluminum braces to support his legs and straps to hold them still. The steering mechanism on his canoe allows him to adjust the rudder to counter side winds. Such modified equipment is typical of Class A paracanoeists, Anderson said.

The Nelo Viper 55 is the standard paracanoe and is designed according to International Canoe Federation Touring Specifications.

According to Nelo, paracanoes are designed for stability and balance and

weigh more than other canoes. Paddlers who can use only their arms could be

vulnerable to the wind, so their boats have a lower the center of gravity and are heavier on the bottom.

All Paralympic Games are governed by the International Paralympic Committee (IPC). The Paralympics were started in 1948 as a small group of British World War II veterans and has become one of the largest international sporting events today. Paralympians strive for equal treatment with non disabled Olympic athletes, despite a large funding gap between the two events.

Blunk has returned to her study of psychology at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where she plays wheelchair basketball.

During the next two years, she will train for both basketball and paracanoe and try to qualify for the Paralympic summer games in 2016, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, where paracanoe will make its Olympic debut.

The U.S. paracanoe squad currently consists of nine paddlers, and "I am excited to be part of a pioneering effort," Anderson said.





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Couple to debut 'Another Chance' at GH Film Festival

By Irene Torres, KP News

Interviews with offenders at the Washington Corrections Center for Women have been produced as a 30-minute video documentary about training to reenter the workforce after release from prison.

"Another Chance" has been selected to screen at the Gig Harbor Film Festival on Oct. 18 at the Galaxy Theater.

Maureen Reilly and her husband, Jim Reynolds, live in Vaughn and together run Seat of the Pants Productions as independent filmmakers.

Since 2001, they have produced short promotional and training videos for Kitsap Community Resources, the Navy shipyards, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and an early-learning clip for the Bremerton School District.

In the spring of 2013, they were invited to film the Gig Harbor Rotary awards ceremony.

There they learned about the Rotary Return to Work program and decided to film it as a short documentary.

Reilly interviewed women at the prison in



Photo by Ed Johnson, KP News

Maureen Reilly and her husband, Jim Reynolds, of Vaughn, made a video documentary that will be screening at the Gig Harbor Film Festival on Oct. 18.

Purdy for nearly a month. When she heard of their fears, she realized that it was too

much of a story for a six-minute video.

"They don't know how to support them-

selves legally. They're scared of being outside. This program gives them the confidence and support they need to survive," Reilly said.

She said she worried that the women would not want to appear on camera, but that the Rotarians have a good rapport with the offenders. Only the women who volunteered and were cleared by officials appear in the video.

Reilly said she would like to expand the story into a full 60-minute documentary to follow up with the women in the program. She wants to ask them how the classes helped them and how the Rotary scholarship fund made a difference.

"This is primarily Maureen's project. She gets all the credit. She has managed all of the elements herself, and she's done a great job. I am really proud of her," Reynolds said.

The Gig Harbor Film Festival screened 42 films in 2012, and will show a similar number during the sixth annual festival Oct. 18-20 this year.

For tickets and information, call the office at (253) 851-3456.

View a trailer here: vimeo.com/74311548.

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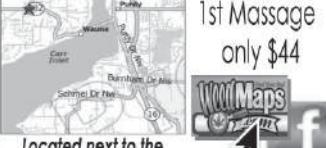
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National 'Make A Difference Day' comes to area

KP News staff report

On Oct. 26, Americans across the nation will come together for national Make A Difference Day — a day and a mission for people to improve their communities.

Local civic volunteers are planning the first-ever Gig Harbor/Key Peninsula (GHKP) Make a Difference Day celebration.

New Key Pen parks commissioner appointed

KP News staff report

Susan Quigley was appointed as a KP parks commissioner at the Sept. 9 board meeting to replace Greg Anglemyer, who had recently resigned.

Quigley has a bachelor of arts degree in public administration and a master's in business administration. She served as a registered nurse in the U.S. Army, both active and reserve, before retiring in 1993 after 23 years of service.

Quigley was born in Poughkeepsie, N.Y., and has lived on Taylor Bay in Lakebay for the past 13 years, where she became familiar with Key Pen Parks when it acquired the neighboring property for a park.

"I'm a kayaker, hiker, outdoors person and gardener," Quigley said. "I liked what they (the park district) were doing, meeting the people's needs and preserving land before it is developed and gone forever."

The appointment lasts only until the results of the November elections are certified in late November.

Quigley did not file to appear on the November ballot before the August deadline. The only person to file was John Kelly, who is running unopposed. In such a case, state law will allow Kelly to assume office in November, instead of waiting until January.

"My biggest task during my short, three-month term of office will be to help pass the park levy," Quigley said. "After that I will attend meetings, volunteer and wait for another position to open."

The Greater Gig Harbor Foundation, working with leaders from the Key Peninsula Community Council, Gig Harbor Fish Food Bank, Harbor WildWatch, the Key Peninsula Civic Center and many other groups, will host a local campaign at their temporary headquarters in Uptown Gig Harbor.

The foundation's five Core Area Boards (CABs) will be represented and key partner organizations will be engaged to make a difference in the community.

Foundation President Julie Gustanski said this event will physically bring people from the community together.

"At the campaign headquarters they can make a financial donation, deliver food, school supplies, winter clothing, or fruits and vegetables from their gardens, or sign up to receive needed services from area organizations," Gustanski said.

According to a Greater Gig Harbor Foundation press release, during the event community members can see the grassroots work being done by the foundation, the arts and culture, education, parks and environment, recreation and

social capital groups to help nonprofits on both peninsulas fulfill their needs.

Citizens will learn how they can easily make a difference through volunteering in their community, the press release said.

"Make a Difference Day is a demonstration of our core belief that it's through people that change happens in the world," said Michelle Nunn, CEO of Points of Light Institute and co-founder of HandsOn Network. "People across the country will be engaged in service projects that will strengthen their communities on this special day of civic engagement."

KGHP-FM radio station manager Spencer Abersold will broadcast live from the location that day. With support from CenturyLink, a telethon is planned from 3 to 6 p.m., where the message "we just made a difference for our community" can be shared by callers from a phone bank.

For information, to sign up as a volunteer or to apply for a booth, call (253) 514-6338.

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Volunteers plant trees to protect Filucy Bay water quality

By Alice Kinerk, KP News

About 30 volunteers, organized by Pierce Conservation District, gathered recently at a Longbranch farm to plant more than 450 native trees and shrubs alongside an agricultural ditch draining into Filucy Bay.

The goal of the project was to protect soil and water quality, as well as provide a connection between two large parcels of forested land. Over time this will expand habitat for native species and provide a shaded corridor by which amphibians and small mammals can access the bay.

Farmers David and Susan Scott purchased the 20-acre farm behind the Longbranch fire station a little more than a year ago. They began grazing cattle and other livestock on the field, but were soon contacted by the health department, whose testing revealed high levels of bacteria in surface water draining from the property.

That's when the Scotts turned to Pierce Conservation District for help.

The non regulatory district promotes the conservation of renewable natural resources

in Pierce County. It educates farm owners about best practices in mud, manure and pasture management, and works with farmers to make ecologically sound renovations to existing farms. Susan Scott has been happy to work with the organization. "It is a wonderful opportunity to help small farmers who may not financially be able to do it themselves," said Erin Ewald, a small farm planner with the Pierce Conservation District.

The Scotts' farm drains into Filucy Bay, a productive shellfish harvesting location. Maintaining the bay's water quality is, therefore, important not just for ecological reasons. There is an economic aspect to it, and it is tied to human health as well.

A Pierce Conservation District representative visited the Scotts' land, took a soil sample and worked with the Scotts to understand what their short- and long-term goals included. Using this information, they put forth their suggestions for creating a more sustainable farm.

Ewald says their goal is not to tell farmers what to do with their land, but to help farmers to make informed decisions. The Scotts were



Photo by Ed Johnson, KP News

amenable to making the suggested changes. "They have taken the information and adapted it to their own property," Ewald said.

The Scotts temporarily reduced the size of their herd until they could improve their other pastures, and put in the suggested fencing to protect the ditch. They also helped out with the tree planting too.

The crowd of helpers was made up of eager volunteers ranging from Boy Scouts seeking community service projects to members of Harbor WildWatch. Also present were

local citizens concerned about water quality and helping out neighboring farms. "It was a wonderful turnout of volunteers," Susan Scott said.

Provided with shovels and a brief lesson on how to successfully transplant the saplings from pots into the ground, the volunteers spread out on either side of the ditch and got to work.

Jerry Kersting, another Key Peninsula cattle farmer, was among those who turned out for the tree planting. He had been consulting with the Pierce Conservation District about his own farm, and was eager to get involved with what he sees as a worthwhile organization.

"I was not aware that this help was available. It's fun to join in with others in the community," he said.

The work was finished by the afternoon. "We did get all the plants in the ground, tubed and mulched. It was a great event," Ewald said.

For information about upcoming volunteer opportunities visit piercecountycd.org. Ewald can be reached at erine@piercecountycd.org.

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Lunch at a fingertip: new program piloted at Vaughn Elementary

By Jessica Takehara, KP News

The 21st century has arrived at Vaughn Elementary School. Beginning on (or around) Oct. 1, paying for lunch will simply take the placement of a finger on a scanner: select, scan, eat.

The new pilot program means Vaughn students will not have to memorize a lunch code or slow the food line when they forget it.

The finger-scanning program was adopted from Kennewick, S.D. Sodexho, Peninsula School District's (PSD) food caterer, is funding the pilot occurring in Vaughn and Harbor Heights elementary schools.

Privacy is one of the major concerns voiced by parents. To safeguard information, the program creates a mathematical template based on the inputted scan to identify each student. The gathered information is specific to the scanner, and is not shared according to Sid Taylor, PSD director of child nutrition.

The finger-scanning lunch program will last the entire school year and then be evaluated for effectiveness. If data shows a lunch line speed increase, reliable technology and

buy-in from families, then PSD will look at implementing it district wide.

The cost of a districtwide application will be determined later, with either the district, Sodexho, or a combination of the two footing the bill.

Initially, the program was set to begin on the first day of school, but Taylor said that "software glitches" delayed the kick-off.

"The lunch staff is trained and ready to go though," he added.

Vaughn parents have, or will, receive information about the program along with an opt-out choice. Since privacy regarding technology is a growing concern, parents are encouraged to weigh all the information and then make a decision about participation.

This is not the only program PSD con-

sidered. A more expensive computer touch screen that referenced students by picture and classroom also was investigated. The finger-scan program is more cost-effective, should PSD end up paying for all or part of a green-lit district operation, Taylor said.

For information, visit psd401.net or attend the next school board meeting at Minter Creek Elementary School at 6 p.m., Oct. 14.

Grants for environmental projects are available

Lu Winsor Environmental Grant funds are available for organizations, schools and individuals to work collaboratively with the Key Peninsula-Gig Harbor-Islands (KGI) Watershed Council on drainage, water quality and/or habitat issues within the watershed.

A recent Pierce Conservation news release said such projects may include watershed education, enhancement and restoration activities or purchase of equipment and supplies.

The KGI Watershed Council is now

accepting applications for 2014 funding. The maximum grant amount is \$2,000 per project and \$4,000 per organization. These grants are funded by Pierce County Public Works and Utilities, Surface Water Management Division and Peninsula Light Co., Green Choice Program, the report said.

Applications are due Oct. 11. For grant information, visit piercecountywa.org/KGI.

Flu shots available on KP

Flu shots will be available to all adults in the community this month.

According to Dr. Roes at the Key Peninsula Medical Center, shots are recommended for all adults, especially those over 65, and Medicare typically pays for this vaccine. Through special arrangements with the center, the vaccine also will be available at the following clinics to community members without insurance on a donation basis:

Oct. 12, 9 a.m. to noon, at Key Medical Center (in Key Center), 15610 89th St. Ct.

Oct. 16, noon to 12:30 p.m., at the Senior Center, 17015 9th St Ct. KPN, Lakebay.

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Beverly Jane Johnson

Beverly Jane Johnson died peacefully in her sleep on Sept. 12.

Johnson was born on Dec. 17, 1926 in Grand Forks, North Dakota to Arden Paul Campbell and Merle Lottiemarie (Alexander) Campbell.

Her family moved to Gorst, Wash., when Beverly was 12. She graduated from South Kitsap High School with the class of 1944 and worked as a pipefitter apprentice in the shipyard during World War II.

In 1946 she married, Edmund P. (Knute) Johnson and started a family while following Knute around the world and his career in the U.S. Navy.

By the time Knute retired, the Johnson family included five boys, Edmund, Douglas (Martha), Kenneth (Michelle), Glen (Sheryl) and Chris (Juliana). Within days of retirement, the family settled in Wauna.

Johnson worked at Pearl's Restaurant in

Purdy, in the cafeteria at Peninsula High School and ran the kitchen at First Presbyterian Church in Tacoma for several years.

While raising her family, Beverly was always involved in whichever sport or interest her sons participated in.

As her sons left home, she was free to pursue other interests and became active in the Burley Bible Church, the Gig Harbor Historical Society and the Peninsula Orthopedic Guild.

Johnson was preceded in death by her parents, her husband and her youngest son, Christopher, as well as two daughters-in-law, Pam (Edmund) and Debbie (Ken).

She is survived by her brother, Ken, of Arizona, four sons, 16 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

A celebration of her life will take place at 2 p.m. on Oct. 5 at the Burley Bible Church in Burley.



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Michael John Mills, of Alexandria, Va., died suddenly Sunday, Sept. 8, at the age of 42.

Mills is survived by his wife, Kristine, and sons Gabriel, 11, and Zachary, 9.

He was a loving husband, father and friend to all he met.

Mills was born and raised in Vaughn and attended Peninsula High School, the University of Washington, and received his Ph.D. from Northwestern University.

Mills was a lifetime outdoorsman, enjoying swimming, hiking, camping and biking. He was a Life Scout and was very active with his sons in the Boy Scouts and enjoyed working with them on their new hobby of amateur rockets.

Michael John Mills

Mills is also survived by his parents, Judy and Don Mills; brothers Matthew (Lisa) and Martin (Robin); nephews Kelson and Sawyer; nieces Mackenzie, Ruby and Bailey; aunts Jane Glundberg (Bruce) and Lynn Mills; cousins, Blake (Janna, son Loki) and Melissa (Brian) in Washington; and in-laws Jackie and Dan Fromm, sister-in-law Rochelle McLetchie, niece Larissa and nephew Patrick in Michigan.



Franklin Howard Wright

Franklin Howard Wright, who went by Howard Wright, longtime resident of Home, passed away on Aug. 30.

He was born in Delaware Gap, Penn., on April 27, 1918. He was 95 when he died.

Wright died in Gig Harbor after a long and courageous battle with cancer.

His father was Franklin Broadhead Wright and mother Adelaide Thomas Wright. He moved to Berkeley, Calif. in 1925, and went to UC Berkeley, Calif., and graduated with a bachelor's degree in engineering.

He was preceded in death by his first wife, Helen Wright, and his second wife, Marie Wright. He is survived by his



son, Douglas Wright; daughter, Anne Johnson; son-in-law, Barry Johnson; and daughter Gwen Weed. He has three grandchildren: Elise Snedegar, Jolie Weed and Karen Harcourt.

He has two great grandchildren, Nathan and Dean.

His ashes will be laid to rest beside his first wife, Helen Wright, at the Sunset View Cemetery, Berkeley, Calif.

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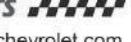
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