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Shoreline regulations update on the table

By Danna Webster, KP News

Pierce County is in the process of updating its shoreline regulations and going through a public process that includes review by the local land-use advisory committees. The Key Peninsula Land Use Advisory Commission had a joint study session recently with its Gig Harbor counterpart, and a public meeting on the Key Peninsula followed June 20.

Amid consternations expressed by both the general public and the advisory commission (LLIAC) was the inadequate time allowed to prepare for the meeting. Pierce County planning staff presented almost 200 pages of proposed amendments to the Shoreline

(See Shoreline, Page 4)



Photo by Ed Johnson, KP News

Aisle of Honor

More than 300 flags flew at Vaughn Cemetery on Memorial Day as part of the annual Aisle of Honor organized by Key Peninsula Veterans. As we celebrate Independence Day, we salute all those who made the ultimate sacrifice to defend our freedoms. See more photos on page 11.

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A warm winner
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SR-302 improvements running into a glitch

By Rodika Tollefson, KP News

The recent speed change to 45 mph from 50 on State Route 302 was part of an ongoing safety improvements project along a section of the highway. Other projects, slated to start around 2014, include proposed improvements at the intersection with 118th, a two-way turn lane at Goodrich Drive and cutting back the slope on a portion of the Wauna curves.

Steve Fuchs, project engineer with Washington State Department of Transportation, said the speed change came as a result of a safety audit in 2009. The audit noted the speed variance as well as the multiple access points into businesses and residences.

"The conclusion was made that a speed reduction was appropriate for a section of 302," he said.

The other proposed improvements were also the result of the same audit. But the final decision on the project is currently on hold as

state officials and county leaders debate one impact of the changes at 118th: The existing commercial building that is home to Ravensara coffee shop and Serenity Salon would have to go. The property is slated to become a stormwater runoff pond.

"At a time when we have limited areas for businesses on Key Peninsula and at a time when we're trying to facilitate the growth of business, the state is clearly moving in the wrong direction," Pierce County Councilman Stan Flemming said of that plan. "We (county officials) made it clear it's a high priority for us to preserve those businesses and we're prepared to take this as high up as we need."

County and state officials met several times to discuss other ideas, and Flemming said the county suggested several alternatives. The problem, Fuchs said, is that the funding is limited — an estimated \$6.9 million — and some of those alternatives are too expensive. Already,

(See SR 302, Page 5)

'Logging the KP' forum draws a crowd

By Danna Webster, KP News

The community forum "Logging the KP" was presented to a packed room at the Civic Center May 24. This presentation of the Key Peninsula Community Council (KPC) included nine guest panelists ranging from the president of the Vaughn Bay Lumber Co., Tom Van Slyke, to District 26 State Rep. Larry Seaquist. Also included were experts on forest practices and ecology from the state and country.

Following the one-hour panel discussion, the audience was invited to conversations at tables featuring historians, elected representatives, county and state officers, loggers and foresters.

"I think the community got a lot out of the presentations and that we ensured the guests remained (for the most part) on topic and focused on their personal areas of expertise," said KPC logging committee planner Lance McMillan. "I had two members of the audience (neither of whom I knew) stop and thank the KPC for putting this event on and complimenting us on how well orchestrated it was."

As a result of the forum, two top priorities were identified as next steps for the KPC: the need for guidance from expert foresters and the need to provide public notification. The logging committee will continue to build rapport with the county and DNR. In addition, they have begun developing a liaison with forestry stewardship associations such as the Washington Forest Farmers As-



Photo by Hugh McMillan, KP News

Panelists discuss various logging issues at the May forum, which attracted a large crowd.

sociation (WFFA).

In June, KPC directors attended WFFA tours of the Alpine Evergreen Co. near the Carney Lake area and Frank Shirley's tree farm in Vaughn. On the Alpine tour were examples of different logging practices: clear-cut, selective cut and thinning; the results of scotch broom management, surface water management, and the use of grinding debris.

Along the tour, 15 farm owners discussed the long-term and cyclical nature of tree crops, forest harvesting advantages for wildlife. One of the farmers was Joy Cornstock,

who lives in Grapeview. Her husband, Sam, is the president of the Olympic Chapter of WFFA.

She told a favorite story about logging: "In 1970, Sam and I bought 20 acres. I was a 'don't touch my trees' person. Then we selectively logged 10 acres. The result was more light, new growth of little trees. The grouse came back. The deer came back and lots of birds. The animals could walk through our woods. We have accrued 50 acres and have a salmon creek, bear, cougar, heron and otters. I would never have enjoyed that until I cut a tree down."

The problem facing the Key Peninsula is landowners who know the value of trees but are not informed about best forest practices, according to DNR Assistant Manager Jed Herman, a guest panelist at the forum. While loggers and experts on the panel agreed that tree harvest can be done with sensitivity to the forest, wildlife, water resources and public aesthetics, the task for KPC and the community is to provide forest education.

Danna Webster is the president of Key Peninsula Community Council and worked on the logging planning committee.

To subscribe, please write,
call or fax:

Key Peninsula News

17010 S. Vaughn Road
P.O. Box 3, Vaughn, WA 98394

Phone (253) 884-4699

Fax: (253) 884-4053

E-mail: news@keypennews.com

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NEWS

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

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Interim editor: Rodika Tollefson

Assistant editor: Danna Webster

Ad sales: Lori Deacon

Community pages editor: Connie Renz

Production: Christina Hallock, Page

Nader

Webmaster: Brett Higgins

Staff and contributors: Jim Bellamy,

Ron Cameron, Ed Johnson, PJ Kezele,

Mindi LaRose, Karen Lovett, Hugh

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2. The objective of Key Peninsula News is to support and create community by reporting news and features and providing a forum for local information. News and editorial coverage focuses on the Key Peninsula and immediately adjacent areas within Fire District 14.

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

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SUMMER 2012

Key Pen Parks PROGRAM GUIDE

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

REGISTER ONLINE: www.keypenparks.com

SUMMER CAMPS

CAMP	Dates	Time	Ages	Fee	Highlights	Notes
THEATER CAMP	July 9-13	10:00am-4:00pm	7-16	\$149	Prepare & perform a play with Kathleen McGilliard!	Registration Deadline 6/28 Cast Mtg 7/2
CREATIVE ARTZ CAMP	July 16-20	9:30am-12:00pm	4-7	\$79	Draw, paint, & sculpt FUN projects	Registration Deadline 7/9
ECO CAMP	July 23-27	9:00am-4:00pm	8-12	\$109	Big canoe trip, farm tour, hiking & more	Registration Deadline 7/16
PEEWEE CAMP	August 6-10	9:30am-11:30am	4-7	\$59	Sports and Crafts perfect for little ones	Registration Deadline 7/30
SERVICE CAMP	August 6-10	1:30pm-4:00pm	8-12	\$79	Make a difference in your community!	Registration Deadline 7/30
LEGO CAMP: Pre-Engineering	August 13-17	9:00am-12:00pm	5-7	\$125	Build boats, bridges, mazes & cars...	Registration Deadline 8/6
LEGO CAMP: Engineering FUNDamentals	August 13-17	1:00pm-4:00pm	8-12	\$125	Build engineering projects: arch bridges, gondolas...	Registration Deadline 8/6
ECO CAMP	August 20-24	9:00am-4:00pm	8-12	\$109	Big canoe trip, farm tour, hiking & more	Registration Deadline 8/13

PENLIGHT SUMMER FUN RUN June 16 at the 360 Park Trails



THANK YOU: Peninsula Light Co., Key Medical Center, VOLUNTEERS: Greg Angiemyer, Kristina Butorac, Joe Ganisin, Meegan Clawson, Nicole Neimann-Carr, Debbie Michalke, Sherrie Pierson, Vic Reichl, Bill Trandum, Kat Wingers

5K RACE RESULTS:

#	Name	Time	#	Name	Time
1	Jake Quincey	21:10	31	Mario Borsjoli	32:38
2	Matt Thompson	21:26	32	Danielle Molzan	33:34
3	Jeremy Cummings	21:45	33	Christine Alcantara	33:58
4	Mathew Michalke	22:13	34	Julie Miller	35:03
5	Kelly Egge	22:48	35	Robin Koch	36:02
6	Stan Skulstad	22:55	36	Jannel Borseth	36:16
7	Edward Robison	22:56	37	Caden Gallacher	37:53
8	Dakota Neal	22:59	38	Blake Muggli	39:06
9	Andrew Campbell	24:12	39	Bruce Muggli	39:07
10	Tim VanNorman	24:14	40	Payton Skoglund	39:49
11	Kurtis Severson	24:22	41	Annie Skoglund	39:52
12	Roy Oesterhaus	25:01	42	Sharla Schuller	40:02
13	David Lloyd	25:22	43	Deanna Hanshew	41:41
14	James Harwell	25:39	44	lynda burton	41:58
15	Daryan Hanshew	25:54	45	Amy Broadrick	42:02
16	Nicole Niemann-Carr	26:12	46	Janice Tomko	45:28
17	Rachel Brown	26:24	47	Renee Ghan	48:11
18	Sherry Campbell	27:31	48	Dianna Haug	48:12
19	John Campbell	27:51	49	Beth Olinger	54:20
20	Gavin Olson	28:08	50	Anabelle Goodman	55:12
21	Melissa Stanton	28:32	51	Becky Maffei	56:34
22	Hailey Lystad	28:33	52	Lora Wood	56:37
23	Shannon Reichl	28:54	53	Edward Olinger	56:38
24	Lori Robison	29:17	54	Jacob Magee	58:00
25	Jack Olinger	30:44	55	Kyle Magee	58:00
26	Kyle Miller	30:47	56	Kelsey Magee	58:00
27	Annie Struthers	30:58	57	Nancy Hasenpflug	58:00
28	Katie Campbell	30:59	58	Tamara Magee	58:00
29	Jessica Odd	31:08	59	Marilyn Folger	63:56
30	Chase Michalke	32:08	60	Dee Roach	63:58

ADULT FITNESS

OUTDOOR BOOT CAMP

Location: Volunteer Park Instructor: Shannon Reichl
Day: Tuesday Time: 6-7pm Dates: July 31-Sept 4
Fee: \$30 for 6 classes

ZUMBA

Location: Civic Center
Instructor: Kirsten Gallacher
Day: Saturday Time: 9-10am
Fee: \$53 for 6 classes

EDGU: for a healthy spine

Location: Volunteer Park
Instructor: Grant Glasscock
Day: Wednesday Time: 11am
Dates: 7/11-8/1 Fee: \$20 for 4 classes

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(From Shoreline, Page 1)

Management Act (SMA). It was the responsibility of the LUAC to consider a recommendation for approval of the amendments for Pierce County Council. The county council is responsible for final approval of the updated shoreline regulations.

The Shoreline Management Act (SMA) was adopted in 1972. All 260 local governments under the jurisdiction of SMA must update their programs by December 2014. The mechanism for putting new shoreline development regulations and policies in place is called a shoreline master program.

With approximately 70 miles of shoreline, the Key Peninsula represents nearly one-third of the shoreline in Pierce County. Amendments to the shoreline master program are significant to shoreline property owners concerned about buffers, setbacks and shoreline erosion. Economic development, recreation, public access and the preservation of the visual quality of the shoreline are some of the concerns expressed by local residents.

"A majority of the public meetings lies ahead," said Pierce County Senior Planner Ty Booth at the KP LUAC meeting. "There will be lots of changes along the way — focus on the concepts, not line by line."

Booth presented a summary overview of the amendments. He also introduced the mapping project called natural Shoreline Environment Designations (SED), which aims to ensure long-term preservation of shorelines that are ecologically intact (minimally degraded) and sensitive to human influence.

Public comment was provided by the small turnout of about a dozen people. Residents of the Burley Lagoon area Jolene McClung and David Allard addressed their concerns regarding the Taylor Shellfish plan to develop geoduck farming in the Burley Lagoon and specifically the process of obtaining aquaculture permits. Other concerns included: restrictions on critical buffers and whether trails would be allowed, public access to shorelines and a suggestion that an abbreviated summary of the document be provided.

Taylor Shellfish representative Diane Cooper expressed concern that the application process is so technical and detailed that only large commercial companies like Taylor can comply and it limits the potential for small growers. "Economic vitality is based on diversity of businesses, small and large," she said.

The proposed amendments were examined section by section by LUAC, from bulkheads and docks to agriculture and aqua-

culture. Regulations for aquaculture were discussed extensively with the county planners.

Dave Risvold, environmental biologist, concurred that the amended regulations are much more detailed and more complex.

"I understand Ms. Cooper's concerns. Her concern is that everybody is going to have to do that. But if it's not in the code, then large companies won't need to. It's a Herculean set of regulations for everybody."

"Only a company as large as Taylor can do this. Maybe over time we can learn through their farms how to monitor and what is important," Risvold said.

In a later conversation, Risvold said that the aquaculture subcommittee had met a year and a half ago and reading the language today, he can understand the concern for the small farmer. But the intent was to generate a list of regulations that applies to everybody and a list of some items that might only apply to bigger operations. If the language needs to be edited to make it clearer, then the staff will do so.

The purpose of the reviews is to provide that kind of direction. "I'm going to look at the section again and see if I can make it less confusing," he said.

At the conclusion of the three-hour review, the LUAC voted to recommend the shoreline amendments by a vote of 4 to 3. An additional motion was made and passed, by a 5 to 2 vote, requesting an opportunity to review the document again if substantial changes are proposed after the public meetings.

The next opportunity for Key Peninsula residents to attend a hearing is Monday, July 16 at the Home Fire Station, 1921 Key Peninsula Highway, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Information about public meetings, the latest updates and opportunity to make comments can be found online at www.piercecountywa.org/shoreline.

Key Pen Park Commissioner Bill Trandum was one of a handful of people who remained in the audience for the duration of the review. He expressed some of his thoughts on a Facebook group for Key Peninsula: "Pierce County's proposed new shoreline regulations include significant changes to salt and fresh waterfront property use, including big changes to setbacks, a new definition of high-water and new Shoreline Environmental Designations — basically new waterfront property zones. ... Every affected property owner should attend the public meeting at the Home Fire Station at 6:30 p.m. July 16. Pierce County is moving as fast as possible to get this adopted."

(From SR 302, Page 1)

the state's real estate office estimated the cost for right-of-way acquisition to be too high, so the engineers had to go back to the drawing board.

The issue of the potential business displacement was discussed recently with WS-DOT supervisors and Fuchs said there would be another month or so before a conclusion is reached. He said there are no win-win alternatives.

"The conclusion of our meeting was that DOT is still wanting to try to do something at that intersection in terms of improving safety. We do not have consensus even internally among our staff on how that would look like," he said.

Tara Froode, who owns Ravensara with her mother, Jody Stark, said so far the discussion doesn't sound promising. Their business, which also houses 3 Clouds Bakery, has been in the building for 15 years and employs six people in addition to the owners.

She said there are not very many suitable locations on the highway where the coffee shop could be relocated and the three potential parcels are all undeveloped.

"We don't make enough money to purchase commercial property and then develop it," she said.

One possibility the state has mentioned is having the coffee shop relocate its drive-through but she said their suggested design has concerns. The business owners are willing to do some remodeling but with only 425 square feet, there is limited wiggle room.

DOT has discussed widening the road toward the other side instead, but because of the proximity to a creek, there's the possibility of wetlands presence. "Wetland mitigation is expensive," Fuchs said, adding that the state hasn't been able to get permission from the property owner there to do a wetland delineation.

As part of the improvements, emergency pull-outs will be installed in about six areas, and trees will be cut back throughout the highway to establish a clear zone. The expected timeline is for the project to go out to bid in the fall of 2013, with construction likely to start in 2014. The final decision on the 118th intersection will likely impact the completion timeline—if the culvert there is not replaced, construction would likely be done in one season.

Fire levy likely to be on the November ballot

Key Peninsula Fire District commissioners were expected to vote on placing a levy on the November ballot to fund eight full-time firefighter positions. At press time, a vote on the resolution was on the commissioners' June 26 agenda.

The department is proposing the levy to help improve response times and ensure enough firefighters are available for emergencies, according to officials.

Currently, the Key Peninsula Fire Department relies on volunteers and mutual aid, which can add 20 minutes or more to

response times.

"Our first concern is public safety," said Fire Chief Tom Lique. "This levy would fund eight full-time fire fighter positions, and help us improve our emergency response for our community."

If approved by voters, the four-year levy would cost 41 cents per \$1,000 of assessed property values (\$7.70 per month for a \$225,000 home). The fund would pay for salaries, training and safety equipment for eight firefighter/EMTs positions.

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- Sound Stage Artists
- Silk Scarf Painting with Artist Tawnya McGraw

Friday, July 13

- 11 a.m. Propagation and Care of Lavender - Bill Ketts, Blue Willow
12 p.m. Cooking with Lavender - Tracy Ketts, Blue Willow
1 p.m. Bees in Our Garden - Alicia Halbert, Sunny Bee Honey Farm
2 p.m. The Many Uses of Lavender - Tracy Ketts, Blue Willow
3 p.m. Lavender Oil Distillation - Barefoot Boys Garden

Saturday, July 14

- 11 a.m. Propagation and Care of Lavender - Victor Gonzales, Victor's Lavender
12 p.m. Cooking with Lavender - Tracy Ketts, Blue Willow
1 p.m. Lavender Oil Distillation - Barefoot Boys Garden
2 p.m. The Many Uses of Lavender - Tracy Ketts, Blue Willow
3 p.m. Propagation and Care of Lavender - Victor Gonzales, Victor's Lavender
4 p.m. Bees in Our Garden - Alicia Halbert, Sunny Bee Honey Farm

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Peninsula Views

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Key Pen's growth ... a sneak peek into the future?

The Key Peninsula's changing look for the past few years would come as a big surprise to someone who hasn't visited in a while. Key Center alone — with the new stoplight, neatly paved intersection and a new, modern market building, along with the other commercial activities — gives the impression of a bustling little community.

When I moved to the Key Pen more than a decade ago, the area had limited recreational amenities and a volunteer-run park district ready to fold. Now, the kids have a skate park and two new playgrounds. The thriving parks department continues to add open spaces — just in June, it completed the purchase of the Anderson property, which will be a tremendous asset for the community. (See the July web addition of KP News for the story).

Since making Key Pen my home, I have witnessed the creation of several new nonprofits — like the Two Waters Arts Alliance, Backpacks 4 Kids and The Mustard Seed Project — that bring more activities and services to make this area more vibrant.

We're still a small town — after all, the opening of Burger King was big news, as was the addition of three stoplights to an area that for decades had none. But all these changes, some of them subtle, are a sure sign that the growth in population and other changes will continue to spur new development, new amenities and new demands from residents who love to be able to work, shop and play in their own back yard.

While controlling growth is sometimes no easier than predicting our summer weather, we do have the power in the form of the officials we elect, the public processes we can participate in. One example is the Shoreline Management Act, which has the potential of altering the way our shorelines are currently developed. The county is currently going through the review process of its master plan — and the time is of essence for citizens to look at the proposed changes and comment.

What gives me comfort that Key Pen will still be a great community in another decade, and hopefully for many more to come, is the engagement of its residents. It is also the countless groups and volunteers — some of whom can be seen at event after event — whose creativity and efforts are such a great tribute to the human spirit. I see that every day at Key Peninsula News, which exists because of its volunteers. I see it in the works of organizations such as the Longbranch Improvement Club, which is mounting an event in July to benefit a fellow nonprofit, the Civic Center. I see it at events such as the recent logging forum, where people express their concerns about their community.

You all know who you are. Thank you for your undying dedication and for caring. The story of the Key Peninsula would be drastically different without you.



Rodika Tollefson, editor

2012 GUEST COLUMNIST

Turning 50 on my own terms

Turning 21, I left the plans of the day to a friend. She set me up. A blind date. That man was tall and fine and perhaps the most boring individual I've ever met. I think I nodded off during the second drink. Perhaps it was called a Catatonic.

Turning 22, to make up for the 21st birthday debacle, I threw myself a party. Outdoors, a balmy Yakima evening, music, friends, a keg. (And in Yakima when you say "keg," suddenly you have more friends than you realize.) The guy I thought I was dating decided at the last minute he was unable to attend. Instead, someone unexpected arrived and filled in very nicely. Better, in fact. Like it was the plan all along, he was fully attentive and charming. I was swept off my birthday feet.

Turning 30, I told all relevant parties, "No party." I had a new baby and was not up for an event. My best friend found this unacceptable, throwing me a last minute "Surprise!" It was dreadful and I'm not even sure well-meant.

Turning 40, I waved my entire family off for six days as summer campers and counselors. Finding that I now had the house and the week to myself, I grabbed my wallet and made for the stores. I spent \$100 on flowers alone. I procured a bottle of wine for every day of my week. I bought triple cream cheeses, crackers, olives, papaya, artichoke hearts and caviar. "Table for one!"

I loved turning 40. The act of "owning it" was glorious and wonderful. The first day of my week was perfect. The next morning, however, there was an early, unexpected knock at my door. The aforementioned "best friend" had flown in from the Midwest. Surprise! In an instant, I lost my choreographed and cherished solitude and gained an unanticipated house guest. I might sometimes use the term "best friend" too loosely. She eventually fell away. Surprise!

Now, I'm heading straight into a new

Barbie Swayzie
Write Out Loud



decade on my own terms. I'm positively inspired and empowered. In any area of my life where I've mastered the courage to step up, the act of embracing and taking ownership has always served me quite well. Oft times, turning out even better than I'd planned.

This month I'm turning 50.

I adore this fact. I'm energized and brazenly recruiting Barbie's Dream Team, an enthusiastic and faithful band of volunteers who are actively helping me to honor my nature, my spirit and my light in my 50th year. Taking the details of this milestone into my own hands directly contributes to the strong sense that the years immediately ahead are mine to claim.

I'm cautious, however, and careful to avoid the closet in the darkest corner of my mind where the perfectionist, hand-wringing, fear-based Barbie lives. She doesn't always play well with others. So I've hung a "Do Not Disturb" sign on her doorknob.

Upon such birthday milestones, it is common to commemorate with symbolic gestures. Rites of passage. Bucket lists. Exercises in reassessment and reunions. The writing of memoirs.

A friend told me that for each month of her 40th year, she held a special event. An English tea party. Horseback riding at the beach. Christmas in Leavenworth. She then created a scrapbook of all 12 adventures. A year-long commemoration. This style resonates with me so I'm creating a fitting and extended celebration of my own. I'm genuinely tickled just making the plans.

The upgrade of Barbie 4.9 to Barbie 5.0. This version may not be compatible with your iPad or iPhone. But it works well with eye contact. No surprise.

Letters Policy

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COMMENTARY

Something for everybody

Election season is here, and it is an out of the ordinary one. Expect an advertising bombardment second to none.

The presidential election will not only find two diverse personalities in contest, but also a choice between diametrically opposed philosophies of government that will severely impact everybody's day-to-day activities for decades to come.

The ballot will also include a referendum to revoke the recent legislation allowing gays to marry and an initiative to legalize the recreational use of marijuana. Truly, something for everybody.

The filing deadline has already passed for candidates seeking office and other ballot issues except: Presidential and vice-presidential candidates nominated by parties other than the Democratic and Republican ones have until Aug. 4 to file. State initiatives have until July 6 to file the required number of voter signatures. County and local initiatives, referenda and bond and tax levies can be filed up until Aug. 7. Expect additional presidential candidates, state initiatives and local tax levies to be added to the November ballot.

Primary ballots will be mailed to registered voters on July 20. Prospective voters have until July 9 for the primary election and Oct. 8 for the general one to make changes to their voting registration, and can register as late as July 30 and Oct. 29 if they have never registered in Washington.

Laws that govern deadlines and which items go on the primary and general ballots are different for federal, state, county and judicial offices and issues, whether it is a partisan or nonpartisan office at the county level, and different again if a candidate is running unopposed, with only one other contender or multiple opponents.

The following chart shows which offices and issues are currently set to appear on the ballot for Key Peninsula residents, the number of candidates in contention currently and whether they will appear on the ballot for the Aug. 7 primary election (P), or the Nov. 6 general election (G).

Federal office		
President and vice president	6	G
Senator	8	P&G
Representative 6th District	7	P&G
State office		
Governor	9	P&G
Lt. governor	6	P&G

Rick Sorrels The Pragmatic Sophist



Secretary of state	7	P&G
Treasurer	1	P&G
Auditor	4	P&G
Attorney general	3	P&G
Commissioner of public lands	3	P&G
Superintendent of public instruction	5	P&G
Insurance commissioner	4	P&G
Legislative District 25, position 1	3	P&G
Legislative District 25, position 2	2	P&G
Court of Appeals, Div. 2, position 3	1	P&G
Supreme Court, position 2	3	P&G
Supreme Court, position 8	2	P&G
Supreme Court, position 9	4	P&G
State issues		
R-74: Revoke or affirm gay marriage legislation		G
I-502: Legalize and regulate marijuana		G
ESJR 8221: Constitutional debt limit		G
SJR 8223: Constitution, UW investment funds		G
Pierce County offices		
County executive	2	P&G
Assessor/treasurer	5	P&G
Sheriff	1	G
Superior Court, position 5	2	P
Superior Court, position 7	2	P
Superior Court, position 12	2	P
Superior Court, position 13	2	P
Superior Court, position 18	2	P

NOTE: Certain offices will appear on both the primary and general, despite the fact that they are running unopposed or with only one opponent. An additional 17 Superior Court judges, running unopposed, will automatically assume office without appearing on either ballot.

Contested positions for precinct committee officers (PCO) will also appear on the primary ballot but they are not government offices. PCOs are volunteers who do organizational work for the Republican and Democratic parties.

I-502 was originally an initiative to the Legislature with signatures verified after the 2011 general election. The legislators exercised their option to refer it to the people for a vote in 2012, instead of acting upon it themselves.

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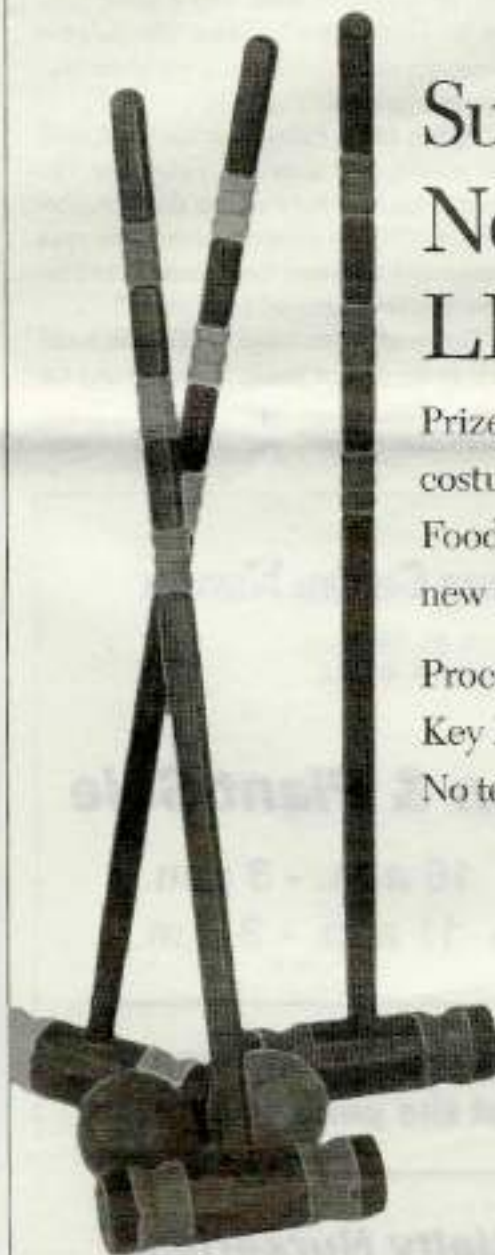
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More Angels needed to help

By Danna Webster, KP News

This summer, Angel Guild is open Tuesday through Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Being open on Tuesdays may produce \$200 or \$300 more each week, according to the estimates of newly elected Angel Guild board president, Dee Van Vleck. She says that means more money to give away.

"We give what we've got," Van Vleck said. "Everything but what it takes to operate is given away, and we're hoping that another day increases income."

Last year the Angels give away about \$65,000. Since the group began its work, an estimated \$570,000 has been given to various Key Peninsula organizations and projects.

They Angels started out running a rummage store in the parish house of the Longbranch Church, which served as a medical clinic for the Key Peninsula. The clinic was established by the late nurse practitioner Jean Broadsack in the 1970s.

In those years, "there were a lot of hippies living in the woods and they needed clothes so Jean decided to have a rummage store,"

recalled Marge Rickert Radonich, who lives in the same house where she was born in Longbranch.

She recalls that "the hippies" paid 25 cents to use Broadsack's bathtub. So Broadsack decided to offer them a job and put them to work sorting clothes into bags. Radonich and her sister Shirl Rickert Olson were some of the first volunteers to help with the rummage store. Olson was the first Angel Guild board president.

The rummage store moved from the clinic into an unpainted shack with a wood stove on the KP Highway in Home. The shed was eventually moved to the property where Sunnycrest Nursery is now.

"When Doug Fabre built the KC Corral, we moved over there and moved the first shed in the back for a sorting shed," Radonich said. "We got more members, were open longer and just grew from there. I can't believe how much money we've made."

The story of the Angel Guild name is also tied to the Rickert family. Radonich and Olson's father, George Rickert, went to Broadsack's clinic routinely to check his blood pres-

Angel grants

Angel Guild funds are available to Key Peninsula groups with the exception of religious or political affiliates. Requests for funding must be mailed to the Angel Guild Board at P.O. Box 703, Vaughn, WA 98394. For membership information, call 884-9333 or email angelguild9013@hotmail.com.

sure. Radonich says the "clinic ladies" liked talking to him about the early days.

When they asked him to tell about his wife, Huldea Minah (Minnie) Rickert, he answered, according to Radonich, "I'm married to an angel. Anybody that's put up with me all these years had to be an angel." Minnie was the angel who inspired the Angel Guild's name.

With the addition of the Tuesday store hours, Angel volunteer members are working double and triple shifts. That makes boosting

membership a major goal for board President Van Vleck.

Nearly 50 members work at the store and serve on the general board. All of the members vote at the business meetings on the last Monday of each month and determine the distribution of monthly funds. All Angels pay an annual \$5 membership fee.

New members work initially with a mentor and learn the skills required for clerical duties, banking and accepting donations. For example, store space limits the size of items accepted. That means the horse and pickup truck donated in earlier years can no longer be accepted.

In her short tenure as an Angel, Van Vleck has learned that guild members are revered by the residents of Key Peninsula.

"Everywhere you go, somebody's been touched by the Angel Guild," she said and added her recommendation for the store as a great place to work.

"I love that place. It's my social. Everybody is in a good mood," she said. "We have so much fun. They are so congenial and the Angels are so selfless. It's a good place."



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Key Pen Parks raises money for schools with Fun Run

Nearly 70 adult runners and more than 40 kids turned out to the 360 Park recently for the inaugural Fun Run fundraiser, sponsored by Key Pen Parks to benefit local schools.

The park district donated \$5 from each entry for the 5K to one of the local elementary schools at the runner's choice. The kids had their own race, a 1K dash, and all received medals.

"Our goal was 100 runners. For our first annual run, we were happy," said recreation coordinator Jessica Smeall.

The district plans to add Key Peninsula and Harbor Ridge middle schools next year and eventually Peninsula High. The long-term goal is to add a cross-country invitational segment for high-school athletes.

"It's such an amazing course and has so many trails you can run on — we want to share it with as many people as possible," Smeall said. "PenLight is excited to continue sponsoring it for years to come so we're planning for the same time next year, the last weekend before school is out."



Kelly Egge, a Peninsula High runner, participated in her first race at the Fun Run since a near-fatal car accident in March. She won in the women's category.

Photo by Ed Johnson, KP News

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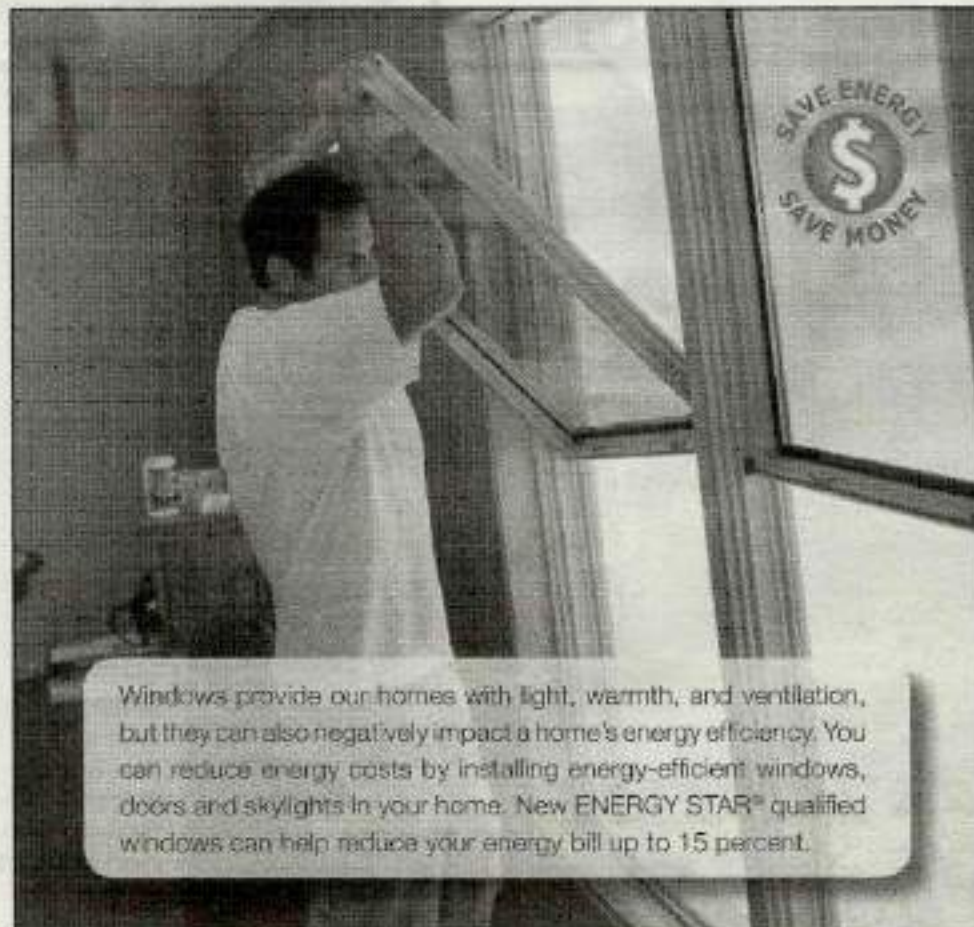
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Freedom is not free

Photos by Hugh McMillan, KP News



KPV members lay a memorial wreath to commemorate veterans who gave their lives to protect our freedoms.

Left: Keynote speaker at the Key Peninsula Veterans-sponsored Memorial Day services at Vaughn Cemetery was Jim Martinson, who, despite the loss of both legs at his upper thighs, competes in wheelchair marathon races and exudes determination not to let anything get him down.



Key Singers perform as part of the festivities.

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COMMUNITY PAGES

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

NOW TO JULY 4

Fireworks sale

The Civic Center fireworks stand open 10 a.m. – 9 p.m. in the parking lot of the Market at Key Center. 884-3456 or kpciviccenter.org.

NOW

Summer lunch program

A free Summer Lunch Program is held at Key Peninsula Church, 4213 Lackey Road, Lakebay, on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. until Aug. 17. This program is for children 1-18 and parents are welcome. Call 884-4449 for information or to register for free transportation at 884-4449.

NOW TO SEPT. 2

Summer reading programs

Summer reading programs for children, tweens and teens run through Sept. 2 at all Pierce County Libraries. With the summer reading theme "Dream Big – Read!" children ages 3-11 will read and participate in a variety of events and programs. Children who read 15 hours may enter a drawing to win an iPod Touch, a gift from Pierce County Library Foundation.

The Teen Summer Challenge is a new online gamification program. Challengers will earn badges and master achievements, interact with friends, read down library fines and share reviews of books, music, movies and places. Pierce County Library Foundation will award an iPad to a winner randomly selected from the top point earners.

This summer children can read down fines they have accrued. For the first 10 hours of reading, students may earn one coupon for up to \$5 off their library fines. The Library System is offering this one-time only opportunity to reduce fines during these tough economic times and at the same time engage and involve children, tweens and teens with reading.

JULY 1

Bluegrass jam

The Lakebay Bluegrass and Gospel Jam is the first Sunday at the Lakebay Community Church (11 Cornwall Road KPS) at 12:30 p.m. Bring your voice and/or acoustic instruments; music and lyrics are provided and most of the music uses G, C or D chords. 884-3899.

JULY 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

Bloodmobile dates

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

JULY 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

Story time

Summer story time for babies and toddlers, ages 0-3 with an adult, is at 11 a.m. at the Key Center Library. Older children welcome. 253-548-3309.

JULY 5

Puppet theatre

Pierce County Library puppeteers present "Goat and the Chili Peppers" and "Stone Soup" to children ages 6 and up at 2:30 p.m. at the Key Center Library. 253-548-3309.

Fuchsia club

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

JULY 7

Historic boat cruise

The Key Peninsula Historical Society offers an evening cruise of the east side of the KP, leaving Longbranch dock at 6:30 p.m. and returning at 9 p.m. Appetizers and no-host bar are included. Tickets are \$50 each, available at the museum or at the KP Civic Center or by calling 884-1400.

Book sale

Friends of Key Center Library will sell all hardcover books at 20 percent discount between noon and 2 p.m.

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.

JULY 9-13

Theater camp

Key Pen Parks sponsors Theater Camp for ages 7-16 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Volunteer Park. Cost is \$149. Register online at keypenparks.com or with Jessica, 884-9240x22 or Jessica@keypenparks.com.

JULY 10

Trip to zoo

Go with a bus buddy or small group on Schoolbus Connection to the Point Defiance Zoo. First 25 to sign up in advance receive free bus ride to TCC in Tacoma, where you catch a bus for Point Defiance. 884-9814.

Knit or crochet

Loving Hearts voluntarily knit and crochet hats for chemo patients and the backpack program for kids, baby items and blankets, wheelchair/walker bags, and fingerless gloves for veterans in the community. They meet from 1-3 p.m. at the WayPoint Church. Yarn, knitting needles, crochet hooks and button donations are always welcome. Virginia, 884-9619 or lovingheartsonkp@aol.com.

JULY 11 TO AUG. 1

Class for spines

Key Pen Parks sponsors a class, EDGU, at Volunteer Park on Wednesdays at 11 a.m.-noon. The class is for all fitness levels and features activity for one's spine with low-impact moves while standing in the park; cost is \$20 for 4 classes. 884-9240 or keypenparks.com.

JULY 13

Skate night

Friday night skate night for area elementary and middle school students is from 7-10 p.m. at the KP Civic Center. DJ Will Moody spins tunes, games are in the Whitmore Room and snacks are available. Entry is \$5 and includes skate rental, games and crafts. 884-3456 or kpciviccenter.org.

JULY 14

Lyme group

The Lyme support group meets from 1-3 p.m. at the Key Center Library.

JULY 14-15

KeyFest

The 11th KeyFest will kick off Saturday at 10 a.m. with the Crazy Key Parade from Key Center to the Festival Fairgrounds at Volunteer Park and continue until dusk followed by a fireworks show. (Everyone in the parade must be checked in and lined up by 9:30 a.m.) The highlight of Sunday's events is the Key's Got Talent competition on the Main Stage. There is also a KeyFest Boat Show. A \$5 entry fee for the boat show is charged; a Best in Show award will be given. Contact Allen at 253-275-2064 to RSVP your boat spot today. Keyfair.org.

JULY 15

Third Sunday jam

Bluegrass Gospel Jam session is at Longbranch Church (16518 46th Street KPS) 6 - 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 provided. 425-492-4177.

JULY 16-20

Creative artz camp

Key Pen Parks hold Creative Artz Camp for ages 4-7 is 9:30 a.m.-noon at Volunteer Park. Cost is \$79. Register on-

(See Community, Page 13)

OFF THE KEY

JULY 1

Wings & wheels

Tacoma Freedom Fair Wings & Wheels is back with airplane fly-bys, a meet-and-greet with pilots, airplane and helicopter rides, displays, a car show, a motorcycle show and more. The show runs 11 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Tacoma Narrows Airport and is part of the

Tacoma Freedom Fair. Admission is \$12/adults, \$5/ages 7-17 and children 6/free. Tickets available at the door or in advance at www.freedomfair.com. Parking at the airport is limited; those who purchase event tickets online in advance will have priority access to the onsite parking on a first-come, first-served basis. Day-of-event ticket purchasers can park for free at the Uptown Gig Harbor Shopping Center and MultiCare parking lots or at the Gig Harbor Athletic Club, and get a free ride on an express shuttle bus to the main entrance at the airport. www.freedomfair.com/wings-wheels or 666-7999.

JULY 2, 3, 31

Low tide fun

Tacoma Nature Center will show families about Puget Sound's beaches and the inhabitants at "Tiptoe through the Tidepools" at Titlow Beach (8425 Sixth Avenue, Tacoma) on July 3 10 a.m.-1 p.m. with a

low tide of minus 3.5 feet. Touch tanks are on site. www.metroparkstacoma.org

Owen Beach in Point Defiance Park will host "Explore the Shore" on July 2 with a tide of minus 3.2 feet at 9 a.m. for ages 5 and up. Zoo naturalists accompany participants on low tide beach walks; participants will learn about the biological diversity of local beaches and better understand how to protect them. The second program is July 31 at 9 a.m. featuring a minus 2.3 foot tide. The last program will be held on Aug. 29 at 9 a.m. with a tide of minus 0.8 feet. www.pdza.org

The events and programs are free and open to the public; bring sunscreen and wear shoes and clothing appropriate for walking on rough beach terrain. All programs have meet-up times so participants can get a brief introduction to the day before the walk begins. They're designed to last about two hours, though people may want to explore the beach for a longer time.

JULY 2

Sing-along at library

Children under age 6 with an adult may sing along with Casper Babypants' versions of classic nursery rhymes at 2 p.m. at the Gig Harbor Library. 548-3305.

JULY 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

Summer concerts

Summer Sounds at Skansie returns for the tenth year on Tuesdays through Aug. 28. All free outdoor concerts start at 6:30 p.m.

JULY 30

Summer reading art event

Key Center Library presents an art event for families at 11 a.m. at the library. Dreamers may create art is the theme; drop-ins are welcome. 548-3309.

AUG. 3

Outdoor cinema

Key Pen Parks features free movies at Volunteer Park every August Friday night at 7:30 p.m. Bring a chair or blanket, snacks and smiles. "Muppets" is the Aug. 3 movie. Check the website for pre-movie entertainment. keypenparks.com.

and are held on the waterfront in Skansie Brothers Park rain or shine. The July 3 concert features the Washington Army National Guard 133rd Army Band, July 10 is Danny Vernon, July 17 is Magical Strings, July 24 is The Beautiks, and July 31 features the "Swing Reunion Orchestra." GigHarborGuide.com.

JULY 5, 12, 19, 26

Uptown concerts

Bring your lawn chair to the Uptown Gig Harbor pavilion to enjoy wonderful music summer Thursday evenings from 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM. A great variety of music by local musicians and bands is presented in free weekly concerts. July 5 is The Shy Boys, July 12 is Michael Anthony Pratt, July 19 is Us On Roofs, and July 26 is The Collective. Visit www.UptownGigHarbor.com or contact Kristin at 851-4557.

JULY 6, 20

Classic movies

Cinemagig Outdoors 2012 features classic movies every other Friday at Donkey Creek Park. "Ghostbusters" will be shown at dusk on July 6 and "West Side Story" will be shown on July 20. Bring a chair or a blanket. The movies are sponsored by Gig Harbor, MultiCare Gig Harbor Medical Park and Cottesmore of Life Care with assistance from the Gig

Harbor Kiwanis, Kitsap Bank and the Gig Harbor Film Festival.

JULY 7-31

Solo art show

Elizabeth Bloom's "Artisan Designs by Elizabeth" will be featured at TheArtSpaceGallery@Backbone, 7108 Pioneer Way, Suite A, from July 7-31. An artist reception will be held on July 7 from 4-7 p.m. Hors d'oeuvres and fine wine is provided. A percentage of all sales of the unique one-of-a-kind wearable art is donated to charity. 858-2474 or www.eabloom.com.

JULY 7, 21

Family movies

Cinemagig Outdoors 2012 features family movies at Skansie Brothers Park every other Saturday. "Monsters VS Aliens" will be shown on July 7 and "Lady and the Tramp" (Disney) will be shown on July 21. Movies begin at dusk; bring chairs or a blanket.

JULY 7, 14, 21, 28

Farmers market

The farmers market at Uptown Gig Harbor is open 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

(See Off the Key, Page 14)

PUBLIC MEETINGS

Key Pen Parks

July 2, 7:30 p.m. at Volunteer Park Annex; keypenparks.com.

KP Community Fair Association

July 3, 6 p.m. at Roadhouse Restaurant VIP room; www.keyfair.org.

KP Lions dinner & program

July 3 & 17, 6:30 p.m. in VFW Room, KP Civic Center. 853-2721.

KP Historical Society Board

July 5, 11 a.m. in museum.

Peninsula School District Board

July 7, 6 p.m., regular meeting at district office; www.psd401.net.

Fire District 16

July 10 & 24, 6 p.m. in meeting room, Key Center Fire Station; www.keypeninsulafire.org.

Key Peninsula Council

July 11, 7 p.m. at Key Center Fire Station; www.kpcouncil.org.

KP Civic Center Board

July 12, 7 p.m. in Whimore Room; www.kpciviccenter.org.

LIC

July 18, 6:30 p.m. at Longbranch Improvement Club; www.longbranchimprovementclub.org.

KP Citizens Against Crime

July 19, 7 p.m. at Home Fire Station; www.kpcitizensagainstcrime.org.

(From Community, Page 12)

line at keypenparks.com or with Jessica, 884-9240x22 or Jessica@keypenparks.com.

JULY 19

'Dreaming Tree' play

Last Leaf Productions performs "Dreaming Tree" for ages 3-12 and parents at 11 a.m. at the Key Center Library. This folktale-based play is about a young Bolivian boy, the art of healing and jealousy. 548-3309.

JULY 23-27

Eco camp

Key Pen Parks hosts Eco Camp for ages 8-12, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Campers meet at Volunteer Park and travel around the KP to different sites each day. Full-day camp

(From **Off the Key**, Page 13)

JULY 8

Bloodmobile

The bloodmobile is at St. Nicholas Catholic Church, Parish Center Room, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

KP author

Local author Leslie Bratspis gives a brief talk and reads excerpts from her novel, "Good Fortune," at 3-4 p.m. at Eagle Harbor Books, 157 Winslow Way East, Bainbridge Island. Autographed books

will be sold. www.eagleharborbooks.com/event/good-fortune-leslie-bratspis.

JULY 9-13 AND 16-27

Theatre camps

Paradise Theatre holds their 18th year of summer camps in Gig Harbor. Camp Junior, ages 3-5, is held from 9 a.m.-noon July 9-13 and costs \$195. Star Struck Camp, ages 6-9, is held July 16-27 for afternoon (\$395) or all day (\$560) and will perform Disney's "Aristocrat Kids" Show Biz Kids, ages 10-13 is held July 16-27 for afternoons (\$395) or all day (\$560) and will perform excerpts from Broadway shows. Broadway Bound Camp, ages 14-18 is held all day and one overnight from July 16-27 (\$560) and will perform excerpts from Broadway shows. A 20% discount is available for a second student from the same family. Register at 851-PLAY or vrichards@paradisetheatre.org.

JULY 11, 18, 25

VBS

Gig Harbor Nazarene Church offers Vacation Bible School for kids in grades 4-6 every at 6-8:45 p.m. at 7721 Pioneer Way. www.ghnazarenechurch.org or 851-5798.

JULY 13

Bloodmobile

The bloodmobile is at Harbor Place at Cottesmore, 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

JULY 14

Wine & food festival

The Third Annual Gig Harbor Wine & Food Festival is presented by the Gig Harbor Historic Waterfront Association at the Harbor History Museum. Chef Holly Smith of Cafe Juanita in Kirkland will compete in an "Iron Chef" style against Chef Tin Nguyen, executive chef of the Suquamish Clearwater Casino Resort. The event will include multiple tasting tents, wine seminars and cooking demonstrations. www.harborwineandfoodfest.com.

JULY 19

Bloodmobile

The bloodmobile is at Kiwanis Club of Peninsula-Gig Harbor, noon-7 p.m.

JULY 21

Chalk the Harbor

The GHFWA provides all the necessary chalk for free and offers award certificates

for best chalk art in the following categories: kids, family, high school, college students, adult and maritime/nautical theme. Registration is 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. at Anthony's parking lot and the Pioneer/Harborview intersection near the Fly Shop. The event continues until 3 p.m. Participants and spectators are encouraged to visit the Peninsula Art League's annual Summer Arts Festival taking place on Judson Street on both Saturday and Sunday.

JULY 28

Local author signing

Karen Hale of Minter will read from, sell and sign copies of her new book, "Rory McQueen Video Wars: Vietnam" at Cutter's Point Coffee, 5006 Point Fosdick, Gig Harbor at 7:30 p.m.

JULY 31

Gardening workshop

Pierce County sponsors an Edible Garden Workshop called "Planting and Planning Your Fall Garden" 6-8 p.m. at Schmel Homestead Park. Call 363-1846 prior to the workshop if you plan to attend.

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FIRE DISTRICT 16 CALL LOG

A summary of calls for FD 16 for May 15 to June 15

Total calls: 153
EMS: 110
Fire/service: 11
Other: 31

May 23

An 82-year-old man was involved in a vehicle collision when the car he was driving left the roadway and struck a tree in the Minter area. No other vehicles were involved. He was evaluated at the scene by a paramedic and released.

May 24

A 38-year-old Sequim woman was being driven home following discharge from a hospital for a neurological condition when she began to have a seizure in the car. The driver pulled into the Home fire station and sought help from the on-duty crew. Paramedics quickly administered medication that brought her seizure to an end. She was transported by Key Peninsula Medic One to a local hospital for further treatment.

May 26

Firefighters responded to a call for a 2-year-old child who had his foot run over by a lawnmower. The child left the scene with his father in their private vehicle en route to the hospital before aid arrived.

May 28

A 72-year-old woman of the Elgin area was experiencing stroke-like symptoms when her brother called 911 for EMS assistance. The woman was treated and transported to St. Anthony Hospital.

May 30

Crews responded to a motor vehicle collision after a 17-year-old male rolled his car multiple times. The young man had passed another car at a high rate of speed just before entering a sharp bend in the road on SR-302 and lost control of his vehicle. Because he was wearing a seat belt, he sustained only minor injuries and was treated and transported to St. Anthony Hospital.

May 31

Firefighters were called to the Wauna curves section of SR-302 for a vehicle in the ditch. The driver reported that he slid into the ditch while attempting to yield to a police vehicle responding to a separate collision. He stated that he was not injured and a tow truck had been summoned. An hour and a half later, firefighters were dispatched to another call from a passing motorist reporting a vehicle in the ditch in the Wauna curves. Arriving units found the same vehicle in the same predicament and still awaiting the tow truck. No additional action was taken.

June 5

Firefighters were dispatched to a report of a vehicle collision with fire. Units arrived to find a 21-year-old soldier standing outside his burning car. He stated that he failed to negotiate a curve, glanced off a telephone pole, spun around and struck a tree. He was not injured but the vehicle was destroyed by the fire. Pierce County Sheriff's deputies investigated

and found no drugs or alcohol were involved.

June 8

Firefighters were dispatched to a report of a vehicle submerged at Lake Holiday and found a full-size pickup truck had rolled down an embankment and had come to rest in about six feet of water. A member of the Water Rescue Team confirmed the vehicle was unoccupied.

June 9

A 42-year-old woman of the Minterwood area was driven to the Wauna fire station by her husband for respiratory distress. The woman's condition was serious and she was treated and transported to St. Anthony Hospital by an EMS crew. Citizens are reminded to call 911 in the event of medical emergencies rather than driving to a fire station because of the possibility of arriving at the station and finding that the duty crew is not in the building due to training, response, routine duties and other activities.

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Community garden gears up for food bank donations

By Karen Lovett, KP News

A \$10,000 grant from Key Pen Parks got the Key Peninsula Community Garden off to a good start three years ago, providing funds for the deer fence, water and a rototiller. That money has run out and the garden relies on donations of money and labor to continue its success.

Gardeners tending plots for the third year in the KP garden are reaping the benefits of increased production, thanks to soil enrichment with organic composted farm amendments, according to the coordinators.

"Fall planting of cover crops such as annual clover, rye grass, soy beans or other legumes that fix nitrogen in the soil are tilled under in the spring to make way for the enriched soil in preparation for spring planting," said Barb Carr, a retired elementary school teacher who coordinates the community gardens on the Key Pen and in Gig Harbor, and teaches gardening classes at local meetings. "Farm amendments such as Five-Way Garden Mix from Purdy Top Soil improved the soil. Every year gets better as soil improves and knowledge increases."

In addition to providing plots for families



Photo by Karen Lovett, KP News

Joanna Steun coordinates the volunteers who help tend the community garden, which is located behind Sunnycrest Nursery.

to grow their own vegetables, the community garden dedicates space to produce grown for the local food bank. The fledgling food bank garden is improving thanks to volunteer coordinator Joanna Steun, her friend Pam Martin and other volunteers. Kale, pole beans, summer and winter squash, potatoes and, hopefully, corn will be available this year.

"We would love to have community vol-

unteers to help with the food bank plot, including delivering produce to the food bank," Steun said.

Dennis Taylor with the YMCA Friends and Servants program has been instrumental in providing youth community service workers to maintain the grass around the garden and help with garden preparation.

Scout troops and church groups volunteer in the Gig Harbor Community Garden and Carr would like to see similar organizations on the Key Peninsula help with the food bank garden.

"Every community garden has its own personality," she said. "Some people just like to garden — some like to socialize as well."

A few family plots are still available for enterprising gardeners with a desire to grow their own fresh vegetables. There's still time to put in a garden for summer veggies or to get ready for next year.

The cost for one year is \$30 and includes water, but gardeners are responsible for watering their own plots. Those who can't afford the fee will not be turned away, but a small payment is appreciated, Carr said.

For information about the community garden, call Barb Carr at (253) 370-8575.

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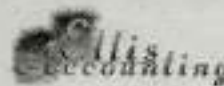
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Lavender Festival focuses on colonial history

By Colleen Slater, KP News

"Life on a Lavender Farm in Colonial America" is the theme of Blue Willow Lavender Farm's second Lavender Festival on July 13 and 14.

Lavender was a common crop in the 1700s in the Northeast.

Bill and Tracy Ketts are creating videos about historical events to encourage interest in their special Saturdays this summer. The Stamp Act of 1765 and the Boston Tea Party in 1773 appeared in early June and are still available on their website, www.blucwillowlavenderfarm.com.

Every Saturday throughout the season, all farm workers will wear colonial American costumes, many created by Tracy. Visitors can listen to talks on both history and horticulture each hour. Activities that demonstrate some of the daily lives of early forebears add a special touch to this year's event.

A variety of local musicians will share their talent from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. both days of the festival. Local "plein air" artists will be on site painting the scenery at the farm. Some culinary demonstrations are also

planned.

Victor Gonzales, international expert on lavender, will present talks and classes about propagation and pruning on Saturday, July 14. Bill Ketts will also give talks on lavender plant care.

"Last year we had 1,200 people," more than expected, he said. They came from Seattle, Bremerton and many other places in the Northwest.

Ketts says there will be more local vendors and more food offerings this time around.

Available lavender starts, from 3 1/2-inch pots to gallon containers, feature a wide variety of the easy-to-grow plants. Lavender crafting classes will be available for a small fee.

This local event precedes the annual Sequim festival because of an earlier bloom season.

Bill and Tracy Ketts moved to Vaughn at the invitation to start a house church on the property of a friend. Bill was his former pastor in California. They could do whatever they liked with the property to provide additional income. Their research suggested lavender would do well in this climate. The



Photo courtesy Blue Willow Lavender Farm

Bill and Tracy Ketts, in colonial costume, will welcome visitors to their farm on July 13 and 14 for music, food, expert talks and other activities focused on lavender.

first field was cultivated and plants set in four years ago, offering a few items for sale in 2009.

The couple planted their 15th field of lavender at the end of March as a "show" field, next to the barn. They grow 60 varieties, all at their peak in July, with 4,000 plants. Most are "lavender" of various shades, but pink and white varieties are also part of their selections.

They use no chemical fertilizers or sprays on the lavender or the fruits and vegetables they grow for sale and home consumption.

Fresh and dried bouquets, wreaths, sachers, soaps, teas and many handcrafted as well as commercial items cover shelves and walls in the charming farm store.

The farm is open Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. until the end of September. They will participate in the Oct. 6 Farm Tour again this year.

Blue Willow Lavender Farm is located at 10615 Wright-Bliss Road KP N in Vaughn, south of Highway 302.

As their Facebook site says, "Admission is free. Memories are priceless."

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Teacher honored through donation to kids' program

Vaughn Elementary School hosted a presentation ceremony honoring late teaching assistant Joan Hart in June. Her husband, Bill, was at the school to present a \$14,500 donation in her memory to the Food Backpacks 4 Kids program. Students created artwork for the occasion and teacher Jodi Connelly shared memories of Hart, who began working for Peninsula School District in 1984 as a teaching assistant at Goodman Middle School.

Hart joined Vaughn Elementary the following year as a TA and remained there until her retirement in 1997. Following her retirement, Joan and Bill both volunteered at Vaughn every week to read to and mentor students. Joan Hart died in April at the age of 80.

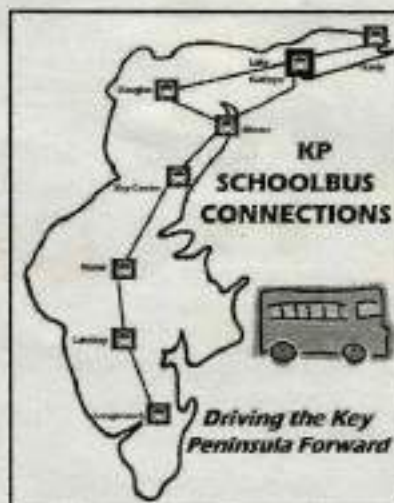


Steve Wickline, executive director of Peninsula Communities of Faith, receives a commemorative plaque from Bill Hart honoring his late wife, Joan Hart.

Photo by Vic Reay, KP News

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LIC croquet tournament to benefit Civic Center

Longbranch Improvement Club will host its annual croquet tournament on July 15 and will donate the proceeds to the Key Peninsula Civic Center.

The event, in its third year, is a friendly competition among teams of four, and competitors go all out to come up with creative costumes.

Prizes will be awarded to teams for costumes, scores, theme and spirit. The event includes a cakewalk; food and drinks will be available.

Those who prefer not to play may sign up as sponsors, and 100 percent of sponsorships will go to KPCC. Cost for team of four is \$60 and helps LIC pay for event expenses.

The tournament is from noon to 6:30 at the Longbranch Improvement Club's field and the public is invited to drop in to watch the tournament.



Derek Kilmer and June Mercer hang out at last year's tournament.

Courtesy photo

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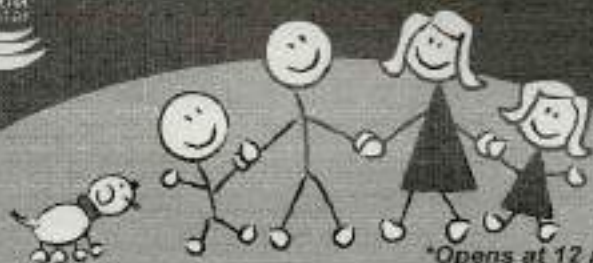
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KeyFest returns with parade, fireworks and more

By Danna Webster, KP News

Old-fashioned good times with friends and neighbors are the highlight of KeyFest, the annual Key Peninsula community fair. Each year, Key Pen Parks interrupts its summer schedule and opens Volunteer Park with fields transformed into fairgrounds.

Day one, Saturday, July 14, begins with the Crazy Key Parade leading the way from Key Center to the opening ceremony. The first two hours will be broadcast live by country radio station KAYO 96.9 FM. This Olympia-based station will feature regular advertising prior and during the event.

The first day closes with a fireworks show presented by Key Pen Parks.

There will be two days of food, music, games, vendors, a climbing wall and rope bridge, the Sherman Family petting zoo, Agri-Vision displays and the inaugural Show Off Your Boat show.

The show is looking for any and all boats, old and new, up to 30 feet long. Even boats looking for a new home can be

in the show with a "for sale" sign. There are a few options for entering. Skippers can trailer their boat in the Crazy Key Parade before the fair starts and leave them at the fairgrounds; they can park the boat at the fairgrounds Friday evening between 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. or bring it to the fair between 8 a.m. and 9 a.m. Saturday.

There is a \$5 entry fee with an award for the best in show. For more information check www.keyfair.org or contact Allen at 278-2064.

Sunday festivities open at noon and the main event on center stage is the Key's Got Talent show. New contestants auditioned in June and some contestants from previous years will be returning. Singers, dancers, musicians, clowns, jugglers, magicians and snake charmers may be on the program. Prizes are awarded for age categories: youth (5-12), teen (13-19) and adult.

This is the 11th anniversary for the fair, which opens Saturday, July 14, and closes Sunday, July 15. Scores of volunteers work yearlong planning this entertaining, educational and fun event.



Photo by Hugh McMillan, KP News

The petting zoo is one of the fair's most popular activities.

Visitors are asked to consider contributing to the fair by paying a parking fee of \$1 per person or \$5 per car load. Information is available on the KeyFest website: www.keyfair.org.

The Mustard Seed Project

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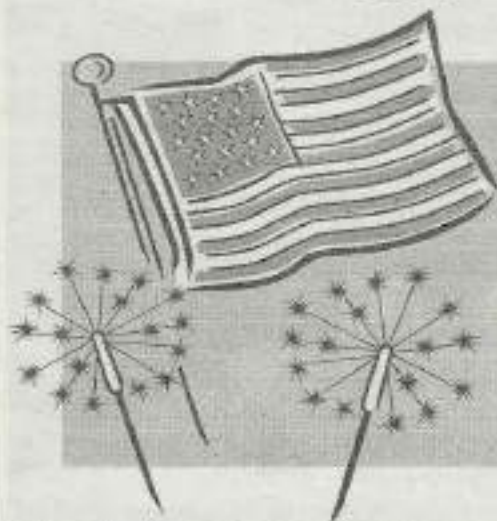
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Bluegrass and BBQ Festival comes to LIC

By Colleen Slater

The Longbranch Community Church hosts its first annual Bluegrass and BBQ festival on Saturday, July 28, 2-6 p.m. at the Longbranch Improvement Club.

This fundraiser event for all ages is in lieu of the church's annual salmon bake.

Chef Oliver Coldeen will provide an assortment of barbecue sandwich offerings – beef, pork, chicken and salmon. Sandwich with coleslaw and chips will cost \$6. Strawberry shortcake, popcorn and beverages will all be available for a modest price.

Entertainment will include the Day Brothers, with Pastor John on mandolin, Daniel from Oklahoma on guitar, and David from Oregon on bass.

The Rhythm and Shoes Cloggers, directed by Mike and Watona Williams, will be fast-stepping to bright rhythms.

Old Time Fiddlers are another planned

program treat.

Bluegrass jamming for anyone who plays an acoustic instrument will be included, plus some performances by local talent.

Admission is free and those who play an acoustic instrument are invited to bring their favorite and participate in bluegrass jamming.

A silent auction will be held, with a wide variety of items, large and small. Dave Hatlin's wood furniture for lawn and patio will be available for sale.

Activities for kids are also planned.

All proceeds from the festival go to support the ministries of the Longbranch Community Church.

"Bring your appetite, instruments, money and be looking for fun," says Ruth Bramhall, church trustee.

For more information about the festival, call 857-5184, and about the bluegrass jamming, 884-9339.

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Wine Among the Vines benefits Dr. Penrose Guild

By KP News staff

The Wine Among the Vines Garden Party at Sunnycrest Nursery is coming back for a second year, according to Becky Anglemeyer, president of the Dr. Penrose Guild.

"As people were leaving our party last year, they asked that we do it again this year — so we are. Folks who couldn't attend told us later that they were sorry they missed it. Now they have a second chance," she said.

The garden party is a fundraiser to support Mary Bridge Children's Hospital and Health Center in Tacoma. "It's so much more than a fundraiser. It's a community

event," Anglemeyer said.

This year's party is 5-7 p.m. on July 29. "It's a great way to end a summer weekend," Anglemeyer said.

Sue Goetz, well-known Gig Harbor gardening personality, will be on hand to answer gardening questions.

Refreshment wines will be provided by The Blend Wine Shop in Key Center. Jeff and Dayle Minch, owners of Blend, will also select the fine wines for a silent auction. Although it's a blind auction, with the bottles dressed in elegant wine bags, Minch promised helpful descriptions of each bottle to tease the palate.

Party-goers can sit and chat with friends

at tables set among the flowers and shrubs, and enjoy wine and delicious hors d'oeuvres while listening to strolling violins.

"What a setting for a party!" Anglemeyer said. "Last year, the nursery never looked more beautiful, and Claudia and Dale Loy, owners of Sunnycrest Nursery, promise it will be just as beautiful and just as full of great ideas for your own garden."

A \$25 donation pays for one of the tickets, which can be obtained from Penrose Guild members. Call Anglemeyer at 884-2020 or stop by Sunnycrest Nursery in Key Center, where guild member Claudia Loy can provide a ticket along with gardening advice.



Photo by Colleen Slater, KP News

The band plays among flowers and plants at last year's event at Sunnycrest Nursery.



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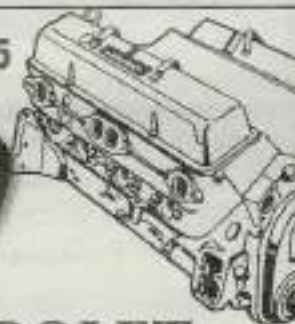
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Out & About

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Photo by Mindi LaRoz, KP News

Peninsula High School Marching Band performs during the "Pirates of the Peninsula Yo Ho Harbor Grand Parade" along Harborview Drive in Gig Harbor, as part of the Maritime Gig weekend events.



Courtesy photo

The Friends of the Key Center Library elected a new board on May 10 at the annual general meeting, which was attended by 35 members. Left to right they are: Neal Van Der Voorn; Connie Renz, treasurer; Karen Lovett, secretary; Christine Gilbert; Barb Trotter, vice president; Maureen Reilly, president, and Carolyn Wiley. Not pictured is Barb Lutzewitz.

This barn-on stilts gets an appreciative nod as unique to the Peninsula by the many people who see it as they pass the westerly end of Von Geldern Cove on Heron Road. This photo was taken in the evening on one of the warm days.



Photo courtesy Steve Wirt

Where in the World...



Toni Stockton and John Macklin read a copy of KP News at the "Basilica de Nuestra Senora de Los Angeles" (the Basilica of Our Lady of the Angels) in Cartago, Costa Rica, earlier this year.

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Erlene Twidt holds the special quilt she won at the Key Peninsula Lutheran Church Chocolate Sundae event in June. The queen-size quilt, designed and stitched by Barbara Bramhall, brought in \$713 for the annual fundraising event. Started about 20 years ago when senior Sunday School teens offered only chocolate items for sale, proceeds now help support the various community outreach programs of the church. Auction items included a decadent chocolate cake, handmade crafts, baked goods, artwork and more. Events available for auction were Breakfast with the Rabbi, Victorian tea, and Stargazing. Total proceeds from both auction and quilt were \$6,700.

Photo by Colleen Slater, KP News