

INSIDE & ONLINE  
JANUARY 2016  
Online



KPMS students get Chromebooks

• Communities in Schools earns 4-star rating

Become a fan on Facebook  
Follow us on Twitter

keypennews.com

Inside

Listing a tad to the starboard side, aye, Cap'n?

-- Page 24



News

News ..... 1-5, 8-9

Sections

Op-Ed Views ..... 6-7

Schools ..... 10-11, 16

Community Pages ..... 12-13

Community ..... 14-15, 17-22

Poet's Corner ..... 22

Out & About ..... 24

# New literacy curriculum arrives at district elementary schools

By Alice Kinerk, KP News

Kindergarten through fifth-grade students in Peninsula School District began the school year with a new reading and writing curriculum called Reading Wonders, and the response has been positive.

Reading Wonders, published by McGraw-Hill, uses an integrated approach to improving students' reading and writing skills. Each week begins with an essential question. The question forms the basis for learning that week.

For example, a recent essential question for third grade was, "Why do people immigrate to new places?" To explore this idea, students read informational texts about Ellis Island. They read historical fiction about immigrants who came to America from different countries. Then they wrote stories about why people move to new places.

The program includes literature anthol-

(See Curriculum, Page 2)



Photos by Ed Johnson, KP News

As part of her regular class, Minter Creek Elementary School fourth-grade teacher Dawn Barnes teaches Reading Wonders. Here, she is spotted tutoring Chloe Downey.

## KPAC – a communication link with Pierce County

Sara Thompson, KP News

Have you wondered how to let Pierce County officials know about your concerns or ideas for improving life in our rural community? The Key Peninsula Land Use Advisory Commission (KPAC) is working to open a better two-way channel of communication, according to chair Don Swensen.

KPAC was established in 2008. In April 2014 a two-year pilot program expanded the role of KPAC.

An ordinance passed by the county council expanded its role beyond land use and development, and modified the function of KPAC to "focus on communication between all county departments and Key Peninsula residents, property owners and business owners regarding significant issues affecting the community... including but not limited to land use, environmental regulations, infrastructure, schools, transportation improve-

ments, and public safety."

As a result of that ordinance, four directors of the Key Peninsula Community Council (KPC) were appointed to the KPAC in addition to those from the community at large. The pilot project ends in April but is expected to be renewed, and, in fact, Swensen plans to expand the role of KPAC.

"We meet monthly and want to adopt the policy of being the conduit between residents and the Pierce County Council for issues relevant to the health, safety and well-being of the Key Peninsula," Swensen said. "As the only official appointed county body for our community, that should be our role."

He noted that Derek Young, our county councilman, has been very responsive. "He has been a good ally and has really worked to get to know our issues since his election. But he is just one

(See Link, Page 3)

(From Curriculum, Page 1)

ogy textbooks with bright and colorful illustrations. Opportunities to practice reading skills and strategies occur on a daily basis. Each week also includes a set of books written at different reading levels so teachers can assign students to reading groups where they read books that are neither too easy nor too hard for them. Hundreds of additional titles can also be accessed online. Games to practice what is learned in class are online, too, teachers say.

The program also includes lessons on vocabulary, grammar, phonics and spelling.

Dawn Barnes is a fourth-grade teacher at Minter Creek Elementary, who also supports the district in leading professional development opportunities for teachers with the Reading Wonders program. Barnes likes Reading Wonders for the variety it offers and the built-in op-

**“Reading Wonders gives students the exposure to a variety of genres, including both literature and informational text.”**

*-- Dawn Barnes, Minter Creek educator*

portunities to practice new skills.

“Reading Wonders gives students the exposure to a variety of genres, including both literature and informational text. Each week, students are introduced to different comprehension skills, comprehension strategies and vocabulary strategies. Based on these skill lessons, students are able to apply their new knowledge to new text. This provides them with the needed skill application practice,” Barnes said.

Ashley Edmonds, a third-grade student at Minter Creek Elementary, also enjoys the variety in Reading Wonders. “Things I like about Reading Wonders are more

books and great stories. They highlight key words and have lots of details. I feel like I can imagine it in my head,” Edmonds said.

Chloe Sherwood, another elementary student in PSD, says “Reading Wonders is the best, because they make different topics and they include lots of details. My class loves the stories. I love how they make fiction and nonfiction stories.”

Prior to implementing Reading Wonders, teachers used one curriculum for reading and a separate curriculum for writing. That made integrating subjects difficult, they said. In addition, compared

to the previous curriculum, Reading Wonders offers significantly more support and materials to teach students who are reading and writing either above or below grade level.

Teacher training on the new program continues throughout the school year.

Because the components of the program are vast and can, at first, be overwhelming to teachers, a variety of workshops allow teachers to select what they would like to focus on in training.

“There will be ongoing professional development opportunities for teachers in the Peninsula School District through the Monday Matters meetings. The first meeting, held Nov. 16, provided teachers a menu of options to choose from, based on their current needs,” Barnes said.

Reading Wonders is aligned with the Common Core State Standards. Elementary students in PSD take the Smarter Balance Assessment from Common Core each spring.

www.greychvrolet.com

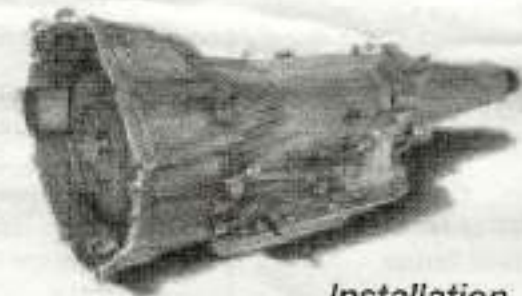
## GM TRANSMISSIONS.....Now At Grey Chevrolet

- Remanufactured transmissions are built specifically for each GM vehicle
- **3-year/100,000-mile nationwide limited warranty\* (parts & labor)**
- OE quality that incorporates all the latest engineering updates
- Plug-n-Play design for low hoist time
- Typically available the same or next day
- Toll-free Powertrain Contact Center: 866-453-4123

Genuine  Parts

**GREY CHEVROLET 360-876-8091**

4949 HOVDE ROAD, PORT ORCHARD, WA, 98367 parts@greychvrolet.com



www.greychvrolet.com

Installation  
Available

www.greychvrolet.com

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

Email: news@keypennews.com

# KEY PENINSULA NEWS

www.keypennews.com

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

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

Key Peninsula News is published monthly by the Key Peninsula News publishing board in Vaughn, Washington. The Key Peninsula Civic Center Association is the nonprofit parent organization. Copyright 2015 with all rights reserved. Reproduction of editorial or graphic content in any manner without permission is prohibited. Annual subscriptions (12 issues) are available for \$50.00 and are mailed first class. Copies are mailed presort standard to residents and post office box holders of the Key Peninsula. Single copies are available at the newspaper office in the basement of the Civic Center annex and at various distribution points located on the Key Peninsula. Approximately 19,000 people live in the distribution area.

#### STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP AND OPERATION OF THE KEY PENINSULA NEWS

1. THE KEY PENINSULA NEWS is a community newspaper, owned and published by the KEY PENINSULA CIVIC CENTER ASSOCIATION, a nonprofit, 501-c-3 corporation with main offices in Vaughn, Washington. The name, goodwill and any copyright assets that may exist pertaining to the NEWS are among the financial assets of

**Executive editor:** Scott Turner  
**Ad sales:** Brett Higgins, Wendy Kleven  
**Bookkeeper:** Heather Christian  
**Community pages editor:** Connie Renz  
**Production:** Christina Hallock, Paige Nader  
**Webmaster:** Brett Higgins  
**Staff and contributors:** Ed Johnson, Alice Kinerk, Karen Lovett, Hugh McMillan, Ted Olinger, Kevin Reed, Colleen Slater, Rick Sorrels, Sara

Thompson, Jessica Takehara, Rodika Tollefson, Irene Torres, Steve Whitford, Dan Whitmarsh.

**Distribution:** Vic Renz, Connie Renz, Phil Bauer, Frank Slater, Bill Dietz, Kevin Reed, Bob and Mindy Wilkins

**Guest columnists:** Chris Fitzgerald, Monica Rakowski and Bill Trandum

#### 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 First 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

# Popular crab feed on hold

By Scott Turner, KP News

Every year for many years, the Key Peninsula Civic Center has hosted a mid-winter crab feed.

Over the years they've raised thousands of dollars for the center's activities.

This year, however, the opening of commercial crab season was delayed for nearly two months after elevated levels of domoic acid were found in Dungeness crabs in Oregon and California. Those fisheries were immediately closed. Although the crabs in southern Washington tested safe, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) closed our state's commercial fishery to prevent overfishing in Washington.

So the KP crab feed has been delayed until March 12.

"We were worried about the shortage of crab," said Party Ghioffi, marketing and facilities coordinator for the civic center.

"We can't afford to buy crab and feed all the people at the going price. It would have made the tickets prohibitively expensive," Ghioffi said.

The civic center board of directors deliberated about the situation for a couple of months, Ghioffi added. "Ultimately we decided that the only way we can make it happen is to postpone it."

"We thought about maybe doing a seafood dinner, but people come for the crab," she said.

In addition to crab, the menu for the crab feed also includes spaghetti, salad and garlic bread.

According to a Dec. 8 press release from

WDFW, domoic acid is a natural toxin produced by certain types of marine algae. It can be harmful or even fatal if consumed in sufficient quantities, and cooking or freezing does not destroy the toxin in shellfish.

Typically, Washington, Oregon and California coordinate their commercial Dungeness fishery openings to prevent too many crabbers from concentrating in small areas.

On Dec. 21, WDFW announced that Washington's commercial crab fishery will open Jan. 4.

"Fishery managers for WDFW approved the opening in coordination with fishery managers from Oregon and California," said Dan Ayres, WDFW coastal shellfish manager.

WDFW delayed the fishery opening, initially scheduled Dec. 1, to conduct additional marine toxin testing and coordinate coastal openings with Oregon.

"Results from these tests continue to show domoic acid levels below the health-safety threshold set by state public health officials," Ayres said.

"We understand the hardship that this delay has caused the coastal crab industry," Ayres added. "However, it's important to help make sure that the crab going to the marketplace is safe to eat."

Hopefully, by the March 12 crab feed date, the price of crab will be affordable, Ghioffi said.

Meanwhile, the civic center is proceeding with the third annual Mardi Gras party on Feb. 6. That event will feature music by Richard Allen and the Louisiana Experience.

For information, visit [kpciviccenter.org](http://kpciviccenter.org) or call 884-3456.

(From Link, Page 1)

person. We need additional ways to communicate our ideas and concerns."

Toni Fairbanks, who is the county liaison for the KPAC meetings has also been very responsive. She attends all meetings.

Fairbanks said it is a great time to get involved with the commission. There are openings for community members, and several of the KP Community Council positions will need to be filled. Terms are for four years with a two-term limit.

"We aim to be a broadly representative group," Swensen said.

KPAC meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the VFW

Room at the Key Peninsula Civic Center. The meetings are open to all for public comment.

If you have issues you would like to address, the group recommends coming to a meeting or contacting Swensen. His email is [bigdswensen@gmail.com](mailto:bigdswensen@gmail.com)

If you are interested in an at-large position, applications are available online: [co.pierce.wa.us/DocumentCenter/View/4566](http://co.pierce.wa.us/DocumentCenter/View/4566).

Once received, the application is reviewed for recommendation by the Pierce County Executive and presented for approval to the Pierce County Council. Terms are for four years and members can serve up to two terms.



## Key Pen Parks

The key to your next adventure!

like us on  
facebook

follow us on  
twitter

[www.keypenparks.com](http://www.keypenparks.com) **January 2016**

### Spring Break Camp! The Salmon and the Sea

Inspiring and mind-boggling, discover the secret life of the salmon and its habitat, the sea, and how you can easily help save the future of both! Games, crafts and more! More info online!

9 am to noon, M-W, April 18-20  
Cost is \$65.  
(A second-child discount is available.)

### Woodland Fairy Camp

10 am to 1 pm, July 11-13  
Miss Fairy, Jacqueline Brulotte, will flutter by again to lead arts, crafts and other fun to satisfy your very fairy side!

### Carnival Camp

10 am to 1 pm, July 18-21  
Learn how to be a carnival entertainer! Juggling, magic, balloon twisting, etc.

#### KEY PEN PARKS JOB OPENINGS

##### OFFICE & RECREATION ASSISTANT

This position provides general and specific information to visitors, performs clerical support duties as assigned, and assists in leading recreation programs and community events.

##### SEASONAL MAINTENANCE

This position performs the routine maintenance of park buildings, facilities, athletic fields and grounds. Work is performed during a 40-hour work week for six months.

View entire position descriptions or download an application at the Employment page of our website or stop by the park office during open hours.

## FUN in 2016!

March 19 Pet Easter Treat Hunt	July 4 Community Hot Dog Social
March 26 Poker Pedal	Fridays in August Cinema Under the Stars
April 23 Parks Appreciation Day	October 22 All Hallows Eve Celebration
May 1 Mom & Me Tea	December 3 Breakfast with Santa
June 12 Dad & Me BBQ	

Thank you to the many faces who volunteered and helped make the 5th annual Breakfast with Santa, put on by Key Pen Parks and the Key Center Fire Station, an extra special and festive event for all the families and children who came!

Chief Guy Allen  
Leslie Beecher  
Brita Benton  
Jim and Carla Boyde  
Lori Critchfield  
Carrie Duram  
Nolan Elliott

Haylie Gallacher  
Fredda Graham  
Madison Grande  
Frank Grubaugh  
Jerry and Marilyn Hartley  
Bill and Claudia Jones  
Dee Dee Korke

Joanne Monson (Mrs. Claus)  
Jud Morris (Santa)  
Matt and Grace Nesbit  
Chad and Stacia Russell  
Dave Vazzani  
Assistant Chief Hal Wolverton



### Log Timber Sale Clean up Bid

Key Pen Parks seeks bidder for log butt clean up from recent timber sale. We estimate there is at least 20 cords of wood, minimum bid of \$500.

Bids are due by Feb. 2, 2016. Call or email Scott Gallacher for more info or with questions: [scottg@keypenparks.com](mailto:scottg@keypenparks.com) or 884-9240, ext 21.

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

# The ABCs of the Peninsula School District's upcoming levy

By Scott Turner, KP News

Because the state Legislature still has not fully funded education, as it is required by law to do, Key Peninsula voters will be asked on Feb. 9 to approve yet another school levy, according to Karen Andersen, key financial officer for Peninsula School District.

"We call it the Educational Programs and Operations Levy," Andersen said. "Like our regular budget, our levy is about people. It pays for teachers, but it also pays for a significant portion of our classified staff — paraeducators, office managers, tech assistants, janitors and so forth."

Because the state isn't fully funding education, all school districts in the state have a strong dependence on levy funds, Anderson said.

"We'd have to make cuts if we didn't have the levy funding. So until the state funds education 100 percent we need these funds to help make us whole," she said.

"The important thing is that this (levy) is 24 percent of our operating budget

**“If we took half 24 percent of our teachers out of our classrooms, we'd have larger class sizes ...”**

*-- Karen Andersen, PSD key financial officer*

and 75 percent of it goes to staffing," she added.

"This year we received funding for all-day kindergarten on the Key Peninsula — but we went all-day kindergarten across the district. So that's more staffing that's needed in our schools.

"If we took 24 percent of our teachers out of our classrooms, we'd have larger class sizes and we wouldn't have as many electives.

"If we took half of our custodians out of our schools, we'd have half as many custodians. In past times when the levy didn't pass, teachers had to clean their own rooms because we only had custodians coming in once a week," she said.

The current levy also helps maintain

things like the technology department. Currently the district is "trying to put computer devices into the hands of every student — especially on the KP," she said.

The Feb. 9 levy "isn't asking for anything new. We're asking for the current rate to be continued. Currently it's \$2.30. For 2017 we drove those dollars down and we're asking for \$2.19 per \$1,000 assessed value," Anderson said.

Any additional dollars built into the levy would go for priority things like security needs and routine maintenance needs like roof repair, she said.

"We're trying to beef those up a little bit. We're also trying to reduce class sizes especially in our core classes like math and English. And we want to continue to do

good things like put devices in students' hands and have a rotation on that."

When it comes to state funding, the future is unknown. "We just don't know what's going to happen with state funding. The goal is that we build a levy that says 'Hey, if the state comes through and they fully fund education, every year we're going to look and see if we truly need all the dollars we're asking for through the levy.' If the state starts to fund, we won't need as much and then it can be truly for extra things," Andersen said.

Peninsula School District personnel will hold four public forums in January including two on the Key Peninsula. Locally, forums will take place Jan. 12, 6:30-7:30 p.m. at the Key Peninsula Middle School library and Jan. 14, 6:30-7:30 p.m. at the Key Center library.

At each forum district members will present key information about the upcoming levy followed by a question and answer period.

For information, visit the 2016 levy page on the district's website at [psd401.net](http://psd401.net).

## Lakebay Construction, LLC

Formerly Lakebay Roofing

Roofing specialist serving the  
Key Peninsula since 1982.

FREE ESTIMATES, EMERGENCY REPAIRS  
LICENSED AND BONDED

- \* Algae Resistant Architecture Shingles \* Metal \*
- \* Cedar Shakes & Shingles \* Torch Down \*
- \* Flat Roofs \* Decks \* Remodels \*

Office (253) 884-1920

Cell (253) 432-3316

Tom Rolfzen

LAKEBCL861N5

Advertised in the  
KP News for 30 years.



Due to the  
delay in opening  
Crab Season....

## Our Annual Crab Feed

will be held

March 12, 2016 - 4 to 7 pm



Key Peninsula Civic Center  
17010 S. Vaughn Rd, Vaughn, WA  
253-884-3456 [www.kpciviccenter.org](http://www.kpciviccenter.org)

The Key Peninsula Civic Center Association through its facility and the effort of its members, fosters and promotes the civic, social, cultural and general well-being of the Key Peninsula community.

# Another potential murder on the Key Peninsula

By Rick Sorrels, KP News

Duwayne Lance Skillman, 32, has been charged with murder in the first degree in the death of Lynn Cooper, a 69-year old Key Peninsula resident. Skillman pled not guilty at his arraignment on Dec. 3. Trial has been set for Jan 25, 2016.

An order was entered on Dec. 3 establishing bail at \$2 million dollars, including a statement that Skillman was a "transient," a term frequently used to describe what is commonly known as a homeless person.

Skillman will be represented by Laura Carnell and Michael Kawamura from the Department of Assigned Counsel.

The Declaration for Determination of Probable Cause filed in this matter sets forth the facts that the prosecutor intends to prove at trial:

On July 6, 2015, Deputy Plummer responded to a report of an abandoned vehicle on 144th Street KPN. Plummer ran the license plates and determined that the registered owner was Lynn Cooper, whose residence was two blocks away on 144th Street.

Reports said that Plummer went to the Cooper residence and found the door open. "Nobody responded, and he entered to do a welfare check. Plummer found a deceased woman on the floor. Her body was in a significant state of decomposition." Plummer exited the building and

detectives started their investigation.

An autopsy performed on July 7 determined the cause of death to be sharp force trauma, with multiple stab wounds. The body was confirmed to be that of Lynn Cooper.

Cooper would have died sometime between June 18 and July 6, 2015, the report said.

The person who reported an abandoned vehicle on July 6 contacted the police again on Aug. 14, informing them that "he believed that his cousin Duwayne Skillman might be involved somehow."

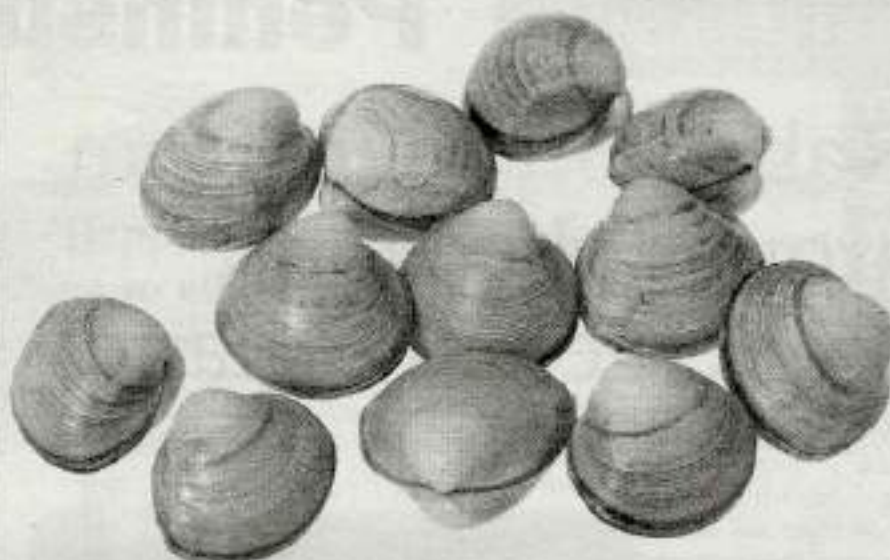
Skillman reportedly bragged to his cousin about stealing Cooper's vehicle. His cousin also found a bloody knife hidden in a woodpile next to where Skillman had been staying, before the cousin kicked Skillman off his property, the declaration stated.

Analysis by the Washington State Patrol Crime Laboratory revealed the blood on the knife was that of Lynn Cooper.

Skillman was arrested on Nov. 30, 2015, and gave three different stories over a short period of time, the declaration said.

The events and statements described above come from a sworn statement of a Pierce County Deputy Prosecutor, summarizing the police investigation. Skillman's facts will need to be determined at trial.

If Skillman does not post bail, then he will remain in the county jail pending trial.



## Clean water. Happy clams. Great chowder.

They all somehow go together. Yet, many things can negatively affect our shellfish, fish and the recreational waters we all use. Direct contact with polluted water, shellfish or fishing in polluted water will definitely ruin your chowder—and even make you sick.

So, we all need to do our part to keep our recreational waters and watershed clean and healthy. Take these steps to protect our environment—and our seafood:

**Use less fertilizers and pesticides**

**Get your septic system inspected**

**Scoop pet poop**

Visit [www.tpchd.org/wateraction](http://www.tpchd.org/wateraction) to learn more about how you can reduce pollution and keep water clean!

Tacoma-Pierce County  
**Health Department**  
*Healthy People in Healthy Communities*



## KP Community Council highlights

The Key Peninsula Community Council (KPC) closed out the year at its December meeting.

The board accepted the resignation of Tim Kezele. Colleen Mullin was elected to a two-year term to fill his position. Mullin, who moved to the Key Peninsula two years ago from Minnesota (her father lives here), is excited to begin giving to her new community. She has a master's degree in public administration, and feels her background will be useful.

New officers were elected and will serve as the Executive Committee for the KPC. They are: President, Chuck West; Vice-

president, Colleen Mullin; Secretary, Danna Webster; and Treasurer, Marcia Harris.

The board will hold a retreat in January to set its strategic plan for the coming year.

Danna Webster, who will be stepping down as co-president, is looking forward to the coming year. She states one focus will be on communication.

"Our community needs an accessible community calendar," she said. "This would include the printed community calendar in the KP News as well as a good online resource. We see the KP News as a primary partner and will also use Facebook and our website ([kpcouncil.org](http://kpcouncil.org))."

# Peninsula Views

## Rabbit breeders from around the world converge in Portland

They came by car, bus, truck, or plane, including enthusiasts from 48 of 50 states and several countries. Rabbit breeders from around the world gathered in Portland for the 92nd annual American Rabbit Breeders Association national convention from Oct. 31 to Nov. 4.

The convention has not been in the northwest since Portland in 1998. Washington hosted the last one in this state in Puyallup, back in 1993. Few venues have enough space to house the cooping, and meeting room requirements for the yearly event.

The Portland Expo Center, with more than 330,000 square feet of exhibition space, was filled to capacity with booths, judging tables and two and three-tiered rows of nearly 15,000 rabbits and cavies.

There were youth competitions for knowledge and judging, an art contest, judge's conferences for both rabbits and cavies (guinea pigs), and all the specialty club meetings, as well as the ARBA general membership meeting, board meetings and banquets judging. There was a rabbit agility section for the more agile. The convention was packed full of things to do.

RabbitCon VII is a learning symposium covering everything about the industry by top experts, to everything from breeding, to nutrition, anatomy, rabbit reproduction, raw plant diet to showmanship and purchasing rabbits on the internet.

One new breed, the Argente Brun, a silvered chocolate brown commercial rabbit originating from France, passed

**Karen Lovett**  
Guest columnist



its third and final showing.

Security was tight. One exhibitor was caught trying to smuggle a rabbit out of the building in a tool box. Another person tried to smuggle a cavy outside under her coat.

Jeff Jewett, an all-breed rabbit judge from Fox Island, was one of three co-superintendents. Jewett raised rabbits most of his life. He gave up the rabbits, but continues to judge after moving to Fox Island with wife Pam.

I first met Jeff and his dad, Bob Jewett, and the other breeders when I started raising rabbits in 1974. Bob and Jeff's mom Loretta lives on the Key Peninsula on forested land above the beach near Key Center. Bob still comes to local rabbit shows sponsored by West Puget Sound Rabbit Club at Kitsap Fairgrounds.

I have been raising rabbits for 41 years and have been an all-breed rabbit judge for 33 of those years. I took one rabbit with me to the show. My Polish rabbit won best chocolate doe. It was nice to do well with my only entry.

This was one of the best conventions I have ever attended. The only negative aspect for me was the drive to Portland from my hotel seven miles away in Vancouver. Stuck for an hour every weekday morning in the stop and go traffic made me long for my much loved country roads on the Key Peninsula.

## Taking shelter from the storm

We are experiencing record rainfall often accompanied by driving wind. We stay warm and dry inside, outwait the storms. Many animals do not have that luxury. Without intending it, we can cause

our animals to suffer needlessly this time of year. With our minimal effort, they can enjoy greater physical comfort, and we can decrease potential health issues in our animals arising from inadequate winter shelter.

I watched a recent windy downpour from my porch before heading to the barn. The thermometer read 40 degrees, but it felt much colder. And it was. As wind increased, my body heat dispersed faster, making it harder to maintain core warmth. This is wind chill, and it affects every living creature.

On that night, wind made 40 degrees feel like 20. My horses had shelter and normally hold their own in rain, but the wind stinging my face as it sped on would affect their ability to maintain body heat too. Out came their waterproof blankets, extra protection against respiratory distress and shivering chill. It took 15 minutes to provide this comfort, and I slept much better knowing it was done.

Some folks claim their dogs are "just fine" outdoors in the depths of winter because they have a doghouse. A bare floored doghouse (worse with a wet blanket) and an open doorway facing the only place the dog can lie is hardly any shelter at all. Situat-

ing the doorway in the direction most likely to welcome driving rain and wind puts the animal at the mercy of weather, house or no house. In a 40 degree storm with a chill factor of 20, an inadequately sheltered animal could suffer hypothermia, or even frostbite. This avoidable danger lurks day or night, especially if the animal is wet and unable to get dry.

All animals in our care need shelter providing basic natural or human-made protection from weather. And each species may require specific care or housing for its health and well-being.

Have extra bedding and cold weather animal clothing on hand and ready for use when temperatures drop and winds rise.

Keep your animals dry to maintain core body heat. If at all possible, bring the animal up to a porch or in the laundry room for extra shelter. We "bundle up" in inclement weather; they cannot. Weather-awareness and a plan for preventive action increases your animals' comfort and provides you with the well-being that arrives with knowing you are a compassionate caretaker. Ani-

(See Fitzgerald, Page 7)

**Chris Fitzgerald**  
Guest columnist



### Letters Policy

The opinions expressed herein are those 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 email to [news@keypennews.com](mailto:news@keypennews.com).

# Words with helping hands

January is a month for reflection, and so I've decided it's time you found out who helps make Words of Whit work, and why.

While growing up I paid little notice to the little black-haired girl who lived next door. After all she was five years younger than I, hence just a child. When I was in my junior year of college I happened to run into her while I was visiting my parents. She was now 17, and I noticed the little girl next door was little no longer. After Estella graduated from high school we were married, and four kids and 42 years later we are still a going concern.

Estella has been my constant friend and partner through good times and bad. Back when I thought being a police officer would be a good idea, she was there for me, working as my dispatcher on the graveyard shift or bringing me a new jacket to replace the one that had just been ripped off my back...no questions asked. She was there for me after a wanted felon put two bullets through me and she helped me get over the taking of his life.

As our children grew and money got tight, she got a job and worked off and on for about 10 years. She made \$4,000 from some of her creations and she spent the money making one of my dreams come true, taking the whole family to Disneyland.

I finally landed a position with an international wholesale distribution company. In the past I had written for my high school paper and occasionally for my college paper, but it was here that a series of events would propel me into a life of journalism.

On May 20, 1980 Mt. St. Helens erupted. The massive destruction touched many of us in different ways. For me and my fellow colleagues it meant losing two wonderful friends and co-workers. My first offerings in professional journalism were writing their obituaries in the company magazine. This was my first and hopefully last work in that genre, and even back then Estella was there to correct spelling, make suggestions, and also to help with my grief.

I continued writing for the magazine including some photojournalism above Mt. St. Helens, being one of the few who got to fly over the mountain just three weeks after the first eruption. My company liked my work

## Steve Whitford Words of Whit



and a few stories later "Words of Whit" was born and became a monthly column.

I retired early at age 53. By this time of life repetitive hand motions had given me inoperable carpal tunnel syndrome in both hands and wrists. My handwriting had deteriorated to the point of being near illegible and typing was entirely out of the question. We sold our Graham home of 27 years and went forth in search of a new place for our retired life.

In January of that year we found a small affordable house with a gorgeous yard and a three car garage in Lakebay, where we have been ever since. After a few years of goofing off, I realized something was absent in my life. I missed the pleasure of stringing words and phrases, and telling stories. Late in life after wearing so many hats, I realized what I always was; a storyteller. So I started telling stories for the KP News.

Which brings us to the present. All the stories I write are my own creations, but Estella's hands and mind are always there to help out and correct my spelling when necessary. She makes suggestions, helps research stories, and does some of the photography. She proofreads and edits long before the proofreaders reads and the editor edits. Most importantly she helps inspire me to be better than I am, and her hands are the instruments that translate and type my labors of love, so that each month we can tell another story.

Everybody has a story that deserves telling. Let me tell yours.

(From Fitzgerald, Page 6)

mals unconditionally deliver loyalty, devotion, laughter and companionship. The very least we can do in return is give them shelter from the storm.

*Chris Fitzgerald is an educator and empathic therapist. Her lifework is in service to animals in need of greater human understanding. She can be reached at cfitzgerald@centurytel.net.*



## CIVIC CENTER

## CORNER

Happy Holidays Happy New Year  
to all our neighbors & friends

We deeply appreciate our community and its support of the Civic Center throughout the years. We like to give special thanks to the individuals and businesses who contributed to our funding drive in June and those who just contributed without request as friends...and for those of you who wished not to be mentioned—we haven't forgotten your largess.)

Have the merriest of seasons - happy holidays to all—

Albertson's Gig Harbor; Delores & Wayne Argabright; Jerry Argenzio-West; Ken & Judy Austin; Nicholas Barnes; Phil & Kathy Bauer; The Food Market @ Key Center; Ruth Bramhall; John & Helen Carlson; Roy & Margo Dunforth; Don-Lee Davidson Survivor's Trust; William & Marjorie Dietz; Dinner Family Foundation; Emily Hall Tremaine Foundation; Pie Squared; Gary Gebo; Tracy Geiss; Gently Home Services; Bruce & Jane Ghandberg; Angel Guild; Hagen's Gig Harbor; W.H. Hall; Leslie & Carter Harbaugh; Jeff & Marcia Harris; Harry Nygard; Barbara & George Heard; Melody Henley; Ken & Alice Hendrickson; Robert & Dianna Home; Jeanie Thomas; Jan Jepsen; The Kaffers; The Kaffer Family; Roger Linville; Sunnycrest Nursery & Floral; Michael & Marcia Lupro; Bruce & Margo Macdonald; Herbert Marra PhD; Russ Haydon & Marsha Williams; Janice & Hugh McMillan; John & June Mercer; Mike & Joyce Tovey; Jud Morris; Mel & Leniam Moselle; Greg Murphy; Darlyne Olson; Steve & Linda Owen; Pat Medveckus; Don & Carolyn Penner; Roland Porter; QFC - Gig Harbor; Phil & Lynn Radcliffe; Duane Reed; Karen R Bunney; Jack & Bonnie Russell; Chuck Russon; Maryellen Sandquist; LDC Properties, LLC; Walt & Janice Smith; Elizabeth Stackhouse; David & Barbara Stratford; The Tarabochia's; Westwynd Motel & Apartments; Whittington Tile & Stone; Bruce Titus Auto Group; Scott Turner; Barb & Clark Van Bogart; Elsie Vezzani; Steve West; Doug & Betsy Wheeler; Peninsula Light Company; Mindy Wilkerson; Fran & Dan Watson; Kat Wingers; Scott & Terri Zander.



Congratulations to our Newly Elected Officers & Board

*\*April 2016*



President(s)*:	Bruce Macdonald, Ted Ralston, Phil Bauer, Mark Roberts
1st Vice Presidents*:	Phil Bauer, Bruce Macdonald
2nd Vice Presidents:	Pat Medveckus
Treasurer*:	Mark Roberts, Bruce Macdonald, Mark Roberts
Secretary:	Kat Wingers
Past President:	Ed Taylor
Human Resources:	Sharon Kaffer
At-Large:	Keith Axelsen, Tracy Geiss

### General Members:

Kim Allyn, Julie Boardman, Tom Boardman, Scott Dervaes, Peggy Gablehouse, Claudia Loy, Dale Loy, Loyd Miller, Jud Morris

*The Key Peninsula Civic Center Association through its facility and the effort of its members, fosters and promotes the civic, social, cultural and general well-being of the Key Peninsula community.*

The Key Peninsula Civic Center is a 501(c)3, not-for-profit organization.

# Glen Cove Repair

Open to service your auto & truck with integrity & honesty. Complete Auto & Truck Repair & Maintenance

Tired of searching for tires?

We carry a full line of name brand tires. Car, truck and off-road



Buy 4 and get your tires mounted & balanced for free

Offer ends 1/31/16

All Makes & Models  
Foreign & Domestic  
30k, 60k & 90k Services  
Timing Belts  
CV Axles  
Complete Brake Service  
Starters & Alternators  
Front End Repair  
Engine Replacement  
Clutch & Transmission  
Complete Diagnostic Repair  
Radiator & Heater Cores  
Shocks & Struts  
Performance Exhaust

Now located at 15312 92nd St. KPN

Owners:  
Eric, Manuela & Mathew  
Moreland  
253

884-1838

## KP Veterans storage unit gets vandalized

By Scott Turner, KP News

Sometime in early December, thieves broke into the Key Peninsula Veterans storeroom at the KP Lutheran Church, ransacked the room and stole several valuable flags.

According to Frank Grubaugh, president of the veterans group, the flags are used in the annual Aisle of Honor ceremony.

"When the church folks discovered the break-in they called the police and then the police called us," Grubaugh said.

At first, Grubaugh and his colleagues thought that they were missing about 60 coffin flags, he said. "The thieves had emptied the boxes of flags and used the empty boxes to carry away the other stuff," he said.

"As it turns out we're only missing two American flags and about six service flags. We're also missing the silver place settings that we use in our Missing Man ceremony," he said.

All in all, he said, around \$2,000 worth of items were either stolen or destroyed. Since the break-in, the group has "beefed up" the door and locks to the storeroom,

he said.

The flags that were stolen are used in the organization's annual Aisle of Honor ceremony held every May at the Vaughn Cemetery. "Ours is the biggest Aisle of Honor west of the Mississippi," Grubaugh said.

The ceremony honors all who have served their country — not just the fallen, he added.

Volunteers put out flags in the cemetery — one for each veteran who is somehow tied to a local Key Peninsula family. Each flag goes on a specific pole with a name on it.

Since the first ceremony in 1990, the number of flags has increased from 54 to more than 300.

"I can't describe what it feels like when you stand in that field and you see all those flags flying. The emotions just run the gamut," he said.

The two American flags that were stolen can't be replaced because they were coffin flags, Grubaugh said. They belonged to the families of the departed veterans and they're irreplaceable.

"What the thieves have taken from us isn't 'things,'" he said. "They've taken a

sense of security and a feeling of well-being."

The "overriding thing" is that this kind of thing can happen to anyone, he added. "The sheriff department says it's all related to drug use."

To learn more about the Key Peninsula Veterans visit [keypeninsulaveterans.com](http://keypeninsulaveterans.com). To donate funds to replace the items that were stolen, call Grubaugh at (253) 509-8656.

## Community Against Crime gets informed

By Sara Thompson, KP News

Citizens Against Crime (CAC) members took advantage of a program offered by the Pierce County Sheriff's Department to learn more about how the department works, and they plan to use that information to make the Key Peninsula a safer place.

CAC President Cindy Worden, vice-president Dee Starr and member Adam Worden spent one evening a week for 13 weeks attending the academy. Cindy Worden, who had participated in a similar program a number of years ago, said that the curriculum has been updated and would be worthwhile for any citizen.

"We learned how the department works," she said. "We gained understanding of what they can and can't do, why they sometimes can't come the minute you make a call."

For her, highlights included a presentation by Sheriff Pastor describing how he runs the department and the qualities he seeks in selecting officers. She also found the tour of the evidence room very helpful. The participants saw what common illicit drugs look like.

About 15 to 20 people from the Gig Harbor and Key Peninsula participated. A repeat of the academy should take place in the spring, and Worden will spread the word once the schedule is announced.

CAC now has its official 501c3 status, and is working on getting citizen patrols back on the road. They welcome new members.

If interested, call Worden at (253) 851-2401, or email her at [kpcitizensagainst-crime@gmail.com](mailto:kpcitizensagainst-crime@gmail.com).

Key Peninsula Civic Center thanks  
**The De La Cruz family**  
& all our friends  
for making our  
**EL SOMBRERO NIGHTS**  
A wonderful success!

Thanks to our wonderful volunteers  
Some are new, some have been here for years  
Thanks to our donors and customers too  
Our thrift shop wouldn't exist without you  
**Happy 2016 to all**  
ANGEL GUILD THRIFT SHOP  
in the Key Center Corral  
253-884-4333 - [angelguild4013@hotmail.com](mailto:angelguild4013@hotmail.com)  
Open Tuesday through Saturday 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM  
The Angel Guild Thrift Shop is an independent philanthropy and is not affiliated with any other organization.

**T  
h  
a  
n  
k  
s**



# Protecting our Waters: Vaughn Bay water quality downgraded

By Sara Thompson, KP News

In our community, surrounded by water, protecting the cleanliness of our beaches is important. Last summer, the water quality in Vaughn Bay declined to the point that measures to improve and protect it are necessary.

Barbara Ann Smolko from Pierce County Surface Water Management spoke about this important issue at the December Key Peninsula Community Council meeting, discussing what it means and what actions are being taken.

For decades the Washington State Department of Health (DOH) has tested the water in the bays suitable for shellfish harvesting every other month. The test is for fecal coliforms, the bacteria that live in the intestines of warm-blooded mammals including humans. In Vaughn Bay an increase in coliform levels has been seen during the last two and a half years.

This summer those test results led to a downgrade in the water quality from "approved" to "conditional" in a significant portion of Vaughn Bay. This means that shellfish cannot be harvested if more than a half inch of rain has fallen in 24 hours.

When a downgrade occurs state law requires formation of a Shellfish Protection District within 180 days. For Vaughn Bay, that deadline is Feb. 1, 2016. Formation of a Shellfish Protection District requires an ordinance to be presented to the Pierce County Council and approved. It also requires creating a Closure Response Plan (CRP).

There are already three such districts on the Key Peninsula — Burley Lagoon, Rocky Bay and Filucy Bay. Once a district forms it is permanent, even if the poor water conditions are corrected. The boundaries of the districts are determined by the topography and to include all land that drains into the affected bay.

In the case of Vaughn Bay, 3583 acres will lie within the district. Parcels within the Shellfish Protection District are not regulated differently from other parcels and owners do not pay additional fees.

The Pierce County Shellfish Partners Strategic Plan will provide framework for

## For more information

Interested in participating or finding out more?

Visit [www.piercecountywa.org/vaughnbay](http://www.piercecountywa.org/vaughnbay)

Or contact Barbara Ann Smolko, Pierce County Surface Water Management

Email: [bsmolko@co.pierce.wa.us](mailto:bsmolko@co.pierce.wa.us)  
Phone: (253) 798-6156

creating the CRP. The plan will consider the most likely sources of pollution and then recommend actions to "prevent, identify, correct" those sources. The most likely sources are failing septic systems, livestock and pets.

Smolko said that the approaches to improving the water quality include onsite sewage systems operation and maintenance, education, incentives, Watershed Council participation, technical assistance, communication, inspection and monitoring.

"Community members are needed to provide advice on what is most likely to be successful in the Vaughn area and what resources are needed to help residents make improvements," Smolko said.

Postcards were sent to those living in the area to let them know about the downgrade and need for action. She has already met with a group of residents to decide how to prioritize recommended actions to figure out which recommendations should be implemented first. She welcomes more participation.

"The Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department, the Pierce Conservation District, and Pierce County Surface Water Management will be the primary implementers of the closure response associated with creating the district, and to the many residents who have attended meetings and helped put together the plan. They have been wonderful to work with," she said.

Technical advice as well as financial assistance is available to help qualified owners with failing septic systems. Technical advice is available to evaluate storm water solutions and livestock management.

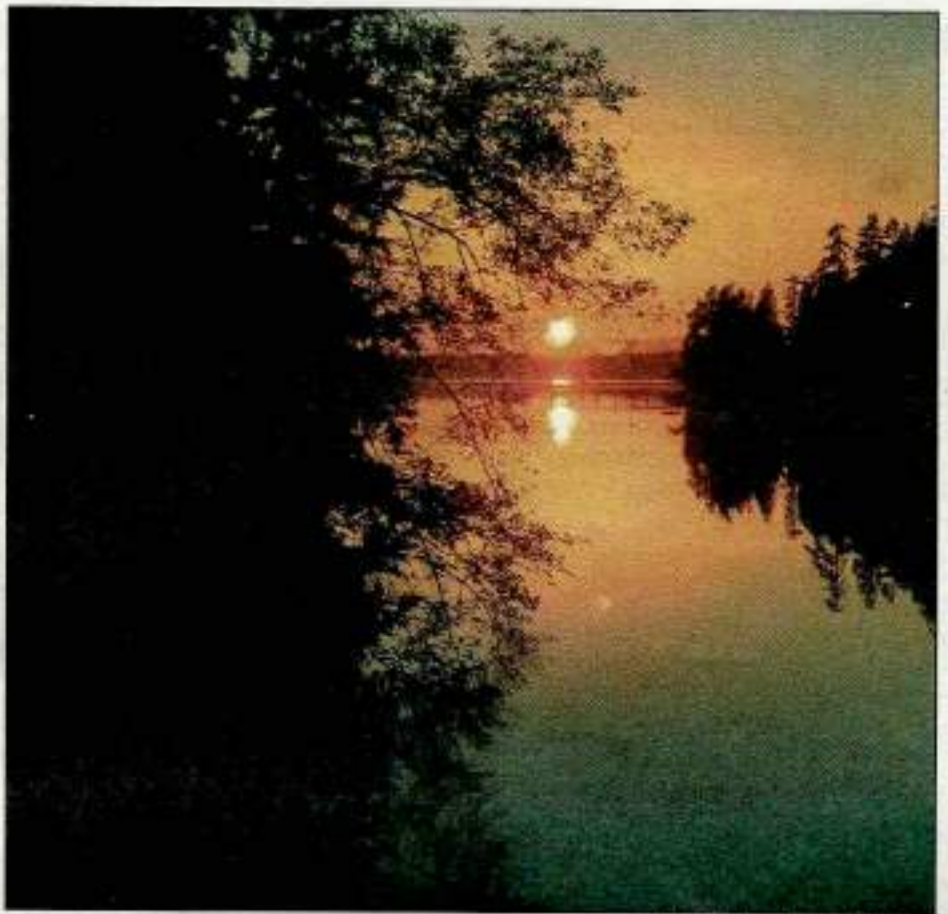


Photo by Scott Turner, KP News

The waters of Vaughn Bay may look tranquil, but harmful bacteria often infect shellfish that make the bay their home.

# Stay Clear!

**A downed power line may not be a dead line. It could cause serious injury or death.**

If someone is injured by contact with a power line, call 911 and keep others away until help arrives.

If a power line falls across or near your vehicle while you are in it, stay inside until help arrives. If you must exit, jump clear so that no part of your body is touching the car when you land. **KEEP BOTH FEET TOGETHER**, and shuffle or hop at least 30 feet away from the vehicle.

**Peninsula Light Co.**  
*the power is to*

**Outage Reporting:**  
**877.853.1388**  
[www.penlight.org](http://www.penlight.org)

# PHS students aim at National DECA competition

By Hugh McMillan, KP News

Peninsula High School students Sara Udem, Nadira Ali, and Madison Ormsby have created a DECA community service project aimed at winning participation in the National DECA competition in Nashville, Tennessee in spring 2016.

DECA, now a word in its own right, originated as "Distributive Education Clubs of America." DECA prepares emerging leaders and entrepreneurs for careers in marketing, finance, hospitality and management in high schools and colleges around the globe and hosts competitions in which students role-play at presentation events.

"We are hoping to attend the state and national competitions with our community service project," said PHS senior Sara Udem. "At the end of the 2014 school year, we combined with our DECA chapter and PHS' Leadership and ASB to organize a backpack drive titled 'Give Back Your Pack,' in which students gave used backpacks to classmates in need," she said.

"The backpacks were donated to Food Backpacks 4 Kids which filled them with



Photo by Scott Turner, KP News

Peninsula High senior Sara Udem (seated), project leader for DECA community service project, checks material for the group's activity supporting Food Backpacks 4 Kids with her project colleagues, PHS juniors Madison Ormsby and Nadira Ali.

food to go home with students in need," said Udem. "November 16-20, we organized a week-long food drive competition between PHS and our crosstown rival, Gig Harbor

High. Each school competed to see which would donate most for Food Backpacks 4 Kids. At the end of the week, each school's food was weighed at the Purdy Transfer Sta-

tion to determine the winner," she said.

According to Udem, a benefit concert was held at Uptown Gig Harbor outdoor shopping center.

"The PHS band Mystic Vines performed from 3-5 p.m. Money donations were accepted and door prize tickets were given each attendee. There were drawings of gift cards to Fondis, Blazing Onion, Uptown and Edible Arrangements. Also sponsoring us were Yo/Gs and ABM Management. Company logos were on our flyers and ads prior to the event and displayed on a banner" she added.

"Being a part of this fundraiser and raising awareness for Food Backpacks 4 Kids is incredibly rewarding and a really nice opportunity. I love every part of it and am so proud," Ormsby said.

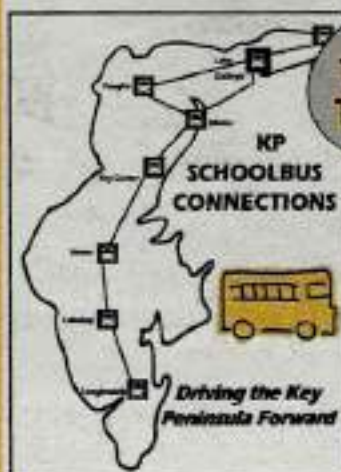
The Food Backpacks 4 Kids program, led by Karen Jorgenson, was launched on the Key Peninsula in 2009. In its first week, nine backpacks were distributed at Evergreen Elementary School.

"Our collective passion has infected many others, resulting in substantial growth of the

(See DECA, Page 11)

## KP SCHOOL BUS CONNECTS Monday, Tuesday and Thursday Trips to Town

AN INNOVATIVE TRANSPORTATION PROJECT



Mondays,  
Tuesdays &  
Thursdays

FREE  
**COMMUNITY**  
TRANSPORTATION  
FOR ALL AGES  
ON OFF-DUTY SCHOOL BUSES

KP BUS CONNECTS RIDERS TO  
KEY CENTER,  
LAKE KATHRYN, VOLUNTEER PARK,  
KPCS/FOOD BANK, LOCAL STOPS  
AND PURDY PARK & RIDE

SCHOOL BUSES AREN'T JUST FOR KIDS ANYMORE!  
(UNDER AGE 12 ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT)

For info & User's Guide, please contact [www.kpcouncil.org](http://www.kpcouncil.org) or call: 253-884-BUSS (2877)

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

### Evergreen Morning Route

8:50 EVERGREEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
8:59 PUBLIC ACCESS GRAVEL AREA AT END OF LAKE  
9:00 21ST ST KPS @ 193RD AVE  
9:05 KPCS SENIOR CENTER & FOOD BANK  
9:06 KEY PENINSULA HWY N @ HOME GAS STATION  
9:10 KEY PENINSULA HWY N @ 167TH AVE CT KPN  
9:11 VOLUNTEER PARK  
9:14 FOOD MARKET @ KEY CENTER  
9:15 KEY PENINSULA HWY N @ MINTERWOOD DR KPN  
9:21 SR 302 NW @ 92ND AVE NW - LAKE KATHRYN  
9:26 PURDY PARK & RIDE

### Midday Route

10:47 PENINSULA HIGH SCHOOL  
10:49 PURDY PARK & RIDE  
10:54 LAKE KATHRYN CENTER  
11:03 11615 SR 302 @ WINDERMERE REALTY  
11:05 SR 302 & 140TH (LAKE OF THE WOODS)  
11:06 LAKE HOLIDAY BUS SHED  
11:09 UNION 76 STATION @ FOUR CORNERS  
11:11 WRIGHT BLISS RD KPN @ 104TH AVE KPN  
11:12 OLSON DR KPN & WRIGHT BLOSS RD KPN  
11:14 FOOD MARKET @ KEY CENTER  
11:17 VOLUNTEER PARK  
11:21 KEY PENINSULA HWY N @ 167TH AVE CT KPN  
11:24 KEY PENINSULA HWY N @ HOME GAS STATION  
11:27 KPCS SENIOR CENTER/FOOD BANK  
11:33 PUBLIC ACCESS GRAVEL AREA AT END OF LAKE  
11:34 21ST ST KPS @ 193RD AVE KPS  
11:40 EVERGREEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

### Vaughn Morning Route

8:50 VAUGHN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
8:56 HALL RD KPN @ SOUTH VAUGHN RD KPN  
8:57 WRIGHT BLISS RD KPN @ 104TH ST CT KPN  
8:59 UNION 76 STATION @ FOUR CORNERS  
9:02 LAKE HOLIDAY BUS SHED  
9:03 SR 302 KPN @ 140TH AVE KPN  
9:05 CHARBONEAU CONSTRUCTION - OFF ROAD  
9:08 LAKE KATHRYN SHOPPING CENTER  
9:26 PURDY PARK & RIDE

### Afternoon Route

4:43 PENINSULA HIGH SCHOOL  
4:45 PURDY PARK & RIDE  
4:51 LAKE KATHRYN SHOPPING CENTER

STOPS BEYOND LAKE KATHRYN ARE BASED  
ON RIDER REQUEST



# Evergreen Elementary School PTA starts fundraiser for camp

By Scott Turner, KP News

Every year, the fifth grade class at Evergreen Elementary takes a two-day field trip to Camp Seymour for the Outdoor and Environmental Education Camp.

The students spend two days and three nights learning about the environment, exploring the various ecosystems, understanding natural resources and improving their outdoor and team-building skills. They study the life in the tide pools, underwater, along the shore and in the forests.

According to Ramona Dickson, president of the Evergreen Elementary PTA and a longtime Lakelake resident, the school's policy has always been "never to let any kid be left out."

So the PTA is sponsoring a fundraising program to raise \$1,500 to make sure that every fifth grader is able to attend the camp, which takes place in mid-February. This year there are about 35 fifth graders at Evergreen.

"For many of these kids it's their first trip away from home," Dickson said. "So it's a big deal in that way."

The camp is also good preparation for the fifth-grade assessment testing that happens every spring.

"Last year my daughter went to the outdoor camp and this year my son will go. It's a big part of the kids' science training," Dickson said. "And it's fun. It really enriches their lives and it's one of the best experiences of their elementary years because they're learning how to work in teams and also about how much life is teeming under the water and on the beach, and how we can impact it and need to take care of it."

(From DECA, Page 10)

program," said Under. "Each school year we support about 500 youth weekly with participating students at every Peninsula School District school. We predict that each year the number of children and families served will increase."

"It has truly been a blessing to help bring the community together and raise awareness for such a great cause," Ali said.

Food Backpacks 4 Kids is a nonprofit organization that fills backpacks with food for students whose families cannot afford food

## Want to go?

The Evergreen Elementary School PTA will host two restaurant takeovers to raise money for scholarships for fifth graders to attend the Outdoor and Environmental Education Camp at Camp Seymour. On Jan. 13, 5:30-7:30 p.m., they will take over the McDonalds restaurant on Borgen Boulevard in Gig Harbor North. They will take over the El Sombrero restaurant in Key Center on Monday, Jan. 29, 5-9 p.m.

For information or to make donations contact [evergreeneaglespta@gmail.com](mailto:evergreeneaglespta@gmail.com).

The school often receives support from local groups such as the Longbranch Improvement Club and Angels Guild, and this year the Greater Gig Harbor Foundation has also made a monetary gift with funds from their popular Cider Swig event.

The PTA is also doing two restaurant take-overs to raise funds.

They'll take over the McDonalds Restaurant on Borgen Boulevard on Wednesday, Jan. 13 and El Sombrero restaurant in Key Center on Monday, Jan. 29.

"The kids themselves will be at the McDonalds take over," Dickson said. "They'll be helping clean tables and wait on tables."

"This is such a great community and Key Peninsula people are always so generous. We hope they'll go to the restaurants and spend some money so our kids can go to camp. It's really an investment in our youth," she said.

on weekends.

"It is an incredible opportunity to witness all that Food Backpacks 4 Kids does for the community and to take part in something which helps my classmates and peers," Under said.

In this summer's Maritime Gig Festival, the DECA community service project walked with Food Backpacks 4 Kids. It created a game for Gig Harbor Uptown's trick-or-treating and also wrote a grant letter that received \$2,500 from the Ben B. Cheney Foundation.

For information, visit [FoodBackpacks4Kids.org](http://FoodBackpacks4Kids.org), or call (253) 857-7401.



# Save Energy. Save Money.

Conservation programs that help upgrade your home -  
*Save money and GO GREEN!*

## DUCTLESS HEATING & COOLING SYSTEMS

### \$1,000 Rebate

- Single-family electric heated homes
- Upgrade from baseboard and wall heater, cable heat, or a forced air furnace

## HEAT PUMPS

### \$400-\$1,500 Rebate

- Visit our website for a list of qualified contractors

## HEAT PUMP WATER HEATERS

### \$300-\$500 Rebate

- Cut your monthly water heater energy consumption by 50%



Rebates up to \$1,500!

Rebates are subject to change at any time.

FOR DETAILS AND CURRENT INFORMATION:  
[www.penlight.org/rebate-programs](http://www.penlight.org/rebate-programs)  
[energyspecialist@penlight.org](mailto:energyspecialist@penlight.org) | 253.857.5950



Peninsula Light Co.  
1925 The power to be... 2015

# COMMUNITY PAGES

Submit calendar items to [news@keypennews.com](mailto:news@keypennews.com) • Deadline is the 15th of the month

## NOW

### CISP volunteers needed

Communities In Schools of Peninsula (CISP) is looking for volunteer mentors for schools on the Key Peninsula: Evergreen, Minter Creek, Vaughn, KP Middle and Peninsula High. Volunteer opportunities vary by grade level and every volunteer receives training prior to working with youth. If you are interested in learning more about CISP programs, call Laurel Shultz at 884-5733, or email [Laurel@cisupeninsula.org](mailto:Laurel@cisupeninsula.org).

### ABE classes

Tacoma Community College offers adult basic education classes for individuals 16 years of age and older. Complete a high school diploma, prepare for the GED, increase job skills, or prepare for college or vocational programs. Classes are \$25 (tuition waiver available for those who qualify) and take place at the Red Barn Youth Center in Key Center on weekday mornings. Call 460-2424 for more information.

**JAN. 4 and 18**

### Senior shopping

Seniors have an opportunity to grocery shop and attend any scheduled Gig Harbor doctor's appointment with transportation provided; a "Dutch" lunch is included. 884-9265

**JAN. 4, 11, 18 and 25**

### Bloodmobile

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

**JAN. 6 and 20**

### Tech classes

Free tech classes, featuring Microsoft Word, are hosted 3:30 to 5 p.m. at the KC Library. Jan. 6 covers formatting of tables, text boxes and photos; Jan. 20 features "Beyond the Basics" to create customized brochures. 548-3309.

**JAN. 7, 14, 21 and 28**

### Cat tales

Children, ages 5 to 18 in 4-H, learn

### To submit an event

To submit an event for the Community Works calendar, please email Connie Renz at [connierenz@hotmail.com](mailto:connierenz@hotmail.com), or mail to P.O. Box 3, Vaughn, WA 98394. Briefs must be submitted by the 15th of the month.

all about cats from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the VFW Room at the KP civic center. Contact Dianna at 884-4182 or email [cat.tales4b@gmail.com](mailto:cat.tales4b@gmail.com).

**JAN. 8, 15, 22 and 29**

### Skate night

Skate Night is hosted at the KP Civic Center 6 to 9 p.m. Admission is \$5. Call 884-3456.

**JAN. 9**

### Second Saturday

"Adventures in Entomophagy: Waiter, There's NO Fly in My Soup!" explores the next big revolution in food – eating bugs. David G. Gordon, author and speaker shares his knowledge at 2 p.m. at the KC Library. Humanities Washington is funding this program. 548-3309.

**JAN. 11**

### Sing-along

All ages enjoy a sing along with the characters from "Frozen" from 4 to 5 p.m. at the KC Library. Costumes are welcome. A snack and a craft are included. 548-3309.

**JAN. 12 and 27**

### Crochet or knit

The Loving Hearts group knits and crochets for charities and meets 1 to 3 p.m. at WayPoint Church on Jan. 12 and 7 to 9 p.m. on Jan. 27. Yarn donations are always needed. Virginia, 884-9619 or [lovingheartsonkp@gmail.com](mailto:lovingheartsonkp@gmail.com).

**JAN. 13**

### Ashes meet

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

### Garden club meets

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

**JAN. 17**

### Pro wrestling

NW Pro Wrestling will begin a show at noon in the KP Civic Center gym.

### Sunday bluegrass jam

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

**JAN. 21**

### Community forum

The Mustard Seed's Third Thursday

Community Forum meets at 10 a.m. at the Key Center Library. Transportation is available by prior arrangement. 884-9814.

**JAN. 25**

### Robots!

Kids ages 8 to 18 build and program a robot using LEGO Mindstorms from 4 to 5:30 p.m. at the KC Library. Register at [piercescountylibrary.org/calendar](http://piercescountylibrary.org/calendar) or 548-3309.

**JAN. 30**

### Tech help

One-on-one tech help starts at 10 a.m. at the KC Library. Bring questions and devices and get expert assistance. Register at [piercescountylibrary.org/calendar](http://piercescountylibrary.org/calendar) or call 548-3309.

**BAYSIDE  
ANIMAL  
LODGE,  
LTD.**



*Where Animal Care and Friendly Customer Service are our Specialties*

**January Retail Special:  
10% Off All Coats and Sweaters**

**Boarding**-Large, individualized kennels for dogs, double-decker condos for cats, special care for other small animals. The safe and clean home away from home for your pets. Day boarding or long-term stays available.

**Pet Supplies**-Full line of pet supplies, ranging from cat and dog foods to bird feeders and horse wormers (and most everything in between!).

**Grooming**-Professional dog grooming for all breeds with gentle handling... by appointment. Bathing Available 6 days a week.

**Call or Stop by Today!**

12615 134th Avenue KPN (Between Key Peninsula Highway and Highway 302)

**(253) 851-9170**

# WEEKLY EVENTS

## MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS & FRIDAYS

### Senior exercise class

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

## TUESDAYS

### Story times

Every Tuesday, discover books, learn nursery rhymes, sing songs, play with blocks, and do arts and crafts at the Key Center Library. Music/Motion Story time (ages 0-2 years old with an adult) is at 10 a.m. and Preschool Science Story time (ages 2-5 years old) is at 11 a.m. 548-3309.

## TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS

### Senior tai chi

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

### Preschool play time

Beginning Sept. 15, 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. Care-givers 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 4 p.m. at the KC Library. 884-3931.

### Writers' workshop

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

## WEDNESDAYS & FRIDAYS

### Senior meals

Nutritional meals for seniors ages 60-plus are served at noon at 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. 858-5761 or 548-3511.

### Seniors' lunch

The Key Peninsula Senior Society meets at 11 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 7 to 9 p.m. at the KP Community Services in Home. 884-4440.

## FRIDAYS

### Story time

Families with young children enjoy art activities, stories, singing and finger plays at the KC Library 11 to 11:30 a.m. 548-3309.

## STEM

STEM at 2:30 p.m. at the KC Library for preschool and kindergarten kids. STEM is for science, technology, engineering and

math. 548-3309.

## SATURDAYS

### Writers' Guild

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

## EVERY OTHER SATURDAY

### Blues Jam

O'Callahan's Irish Pub Blues Jam, 6 to 9 p.m. hosted on Jan. 2 and Jan. 16.

# OFF THE KEY

## JAN. 2

### Live dive

Harbor WildWatch presents Pier into the Night with Live Dive at 5 and 6 p.m. at Skansie Park, 3207 Harborview Drive. Discover unique Puget Sound night-time animals without getting wet by watching a live video stream from SCUBA divers under Jerisich Dock. Touch tanks and underwater lights also are involved. Flashlights and life jackets are recommended. Suggested donation is \$2 per person. Harborwildwatch.org.

## JAN. 4

### CPR/AED class

Thomas Bliss from Northwest Response offers a free class for CPR and AED from 6 to 8:30 p.m. at 3177 Harborview Drive, Gig Harbor. Mature children, 12 and older,

and adults are welcome to attend. Participants will learn about sudden cardiac arrest and automated external defibrillators in this awareness class. This class is not for certification. Pre-registration is required at northwestresponse.com; select classes in January and pick Jan. 4 class.

## JAN. 7

### Democrats meet

26th Legislative District Democrats meet 7 to 9 p.m. at Givens Community Center, 1026 Sidney Road, Port Orchard.

## JAN. 9 and 10

### Bloodmobile

The bloodmobile will be at Adventure of Faith Church in Port Orchard 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Jan. 9 and at St. Nicholas Catholic Church in Gig Harbor 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Jan. 10.

# PUBLIC MEETINGS

## Artists' Blend

Jan. 4, 4 to 6 p.m. at Blend Wine shop for any artist; kathybauer100@gmail.com.

## KP Veterans

Jan. 4, 7 p.m. at KP Lutheran Church; membership is open to veterans and military service members and families over 16. 253-509-8656 or keypenveterans@outlook.com.

## KP Lions

Jan. 6 and 20, 7 p.m. at Key Center fire station; 853-2721.

## Peninsula School District Board

Jan. 7, 6 p.m. at District Office; Jan. 21, 6 p.m. at Goodman Middle School Library; (253) 530-1002.

## Key Pen Parks

Jan. 11, 7:30 p.m. at Volunteer Park administrative office; public is encouraged to attend.

## Key Peninsula Fire Department

Jan. 12 and 26, 5 p.m. in meeting room, Key Center fire station; keypeninsulafire.org.

## Key Peninsula Council

Jan. 13, 7 p.m. at Key Center fire station.

## KP Civic Center Association Board

Jan. 14, 7 p.m. meeting in Whitmore Room, KPCC; 884-3456.

## TWAA Board

Jan. 14, 7 p.m. in VFW Room of KPCC; kathybauer100@gmail.com.

## KP Democrats

Jan. 18, 7 p.m. at Home fire station; georgerobison@centurytel.net.

## Longbranch Improvement Club

Jan. 19, 7 p.m. at Longbranch Improvement Club; 884-6022 or longbranchimprovementclub.org.

## KP Advisory Commission

Jan. 20, 6:30 p.m. in VFW Room of KPCC; Toni Fairbanks, (253) 798-7156 or tfairba@co.pierce.wa.us.

## KP Citizens Against Crime

Jan. 21, 7 p.m. at Key Center fire station.

## KP Farm Council

Jan. 25, 6:30 p.m. at Home fire station; c.wiley@mac.com.

# Healthy Communities initiative ready to take off

By Sara Thompson, KP News

The Key Peninsula is poised to be at the center of innovation and coordination in ways we have never seen. And at the core of that action is a remarkable couple, Ben and Susan Paganelli.

The Milgard Family Foundation awarded a grant through the Key Peninsula Community Council (KPC) this fall. Its purpose? To build an infrastructure that will help this community better serve our populations in need. In addition some funds are available to provide services that focus on hunger, transportation, and health and wellness.

"We are excited to be working together to build on what is already a vibrant and healthy community," said Susan Paganelli. "Our job is to create a long-term plan based on the desires of the community, and to harness the existing strengths in a way that has not been done before."

The couple, who recently established a consulting firm in Gig Harbor, is perfectly suited to lead the project.

They met during college, Susan with a



Photo by Sara Thompson, KP News

## Ben and Susan Paganelli.

background in education and Ben in international relations. Ben served in the U.S. Air Force and when his career took him overseas, Susan gave up her teaching to raise their three children. She also gained valuable experience as she immersed herself in volunteer work, with schools and international groups.

Ben's work with the Air Force was initially in operations, but then shifted to strategic planning, including rebuilding Afghanistan.

After 22 years with the Air Force, the couple decided it was time to leave the military and join forces in a business together. "We had served our country," Susan said. "Now we wanted to serve our community, but in a way that gave us a chance to put down roots. We wanted to let our kids get settled, not to move again."

The first step was an advanced degree in international human rights for Susan while Ben taught at the Air Force Academy in Colorado. The next few years were busy. Susan was raised in the Pacific Northwest and Ben, originally from upstate New York, had come to love the area. In 2010 they found the house of their dreams in Gig Harbor, remodeled, settled their children in school, Susan completed her internship and they started their consulting business, VIA Unlimited.

Both Susan and Ben taught at Harbor

Institute, part of TCC. It was through connections there that they heard about the Milgard grant and decided to apply for the position of director.

"Our work has been in capacity development," said Ben. "That involves seeing what a community has, what they want and then creating a plan of action to get there."

"We take an asset-based approach. We have already seen some great strengths and we expect there is more we don't know about yet. This is an incredibly diverse community, and we are in an information gathering stage now," he said.

They have met with many community leaders and the Key Peninsula Business Association, and have attended community events to gather information and simply to listen. They are impressed with the energy and passion for service that so many people on the Key Peninsula have demonstrated. But they commented those people have their hands full with their current commitments.

"It takes time and energy to bring cohesion to all of the good work that is done in this community," said Susan. "People just can't add one more thing to their plates."

And that is exactly where the Paganellis come in.

Interested in sharing your ideas? They have just set up an email, and they welcome your input. You can reach them at: Director@KPCCommunityHealth.org. There will be regular updates through the KP News and a website.

## I CAN SPREAD GRAVEL USING MY DUMP TRUCK

THIS SAVES YOU A LOT OF HAND SHOVELING WORK. THE TRUCK WILL DO THE WORK FOR YOU!

1	3/4 inch Clean Crushed GREY AGGREGATE GRAVEL - 15 tons=30,000 lbs. =12 cubic yards
2	3/4 inch Clean Crushed Gravel, BLACK BASALT - 15 tons=30,000 lbs. =12 cubic yards
3	1 1/4 inch Clean Crushed Gravel, BLACK BASALT - 15 tons=30,000 lbs. =12 cubic yards
4	3 inch Clean Crushed Gravel, BLACK BASALT - 15 tons=30,000 lbs. =12 cubic yards
5	Gravel Spalls BLACK BASALT - 15 tons=30,000 lbs. =12 cubic yards
6	Sand - WASHED OR BLEACH - 15 tons=30,000 lbs. =12 cubic yards
7	Topsoil - 3-Way Mix - 10 cubic yards
8	Screened Fill Dirt (no rocks) (for fill) - 10 cubic yards
9	Screened GP Rocky (2 1/2" max) (for fill) - 15 tons=30,000 lbs. =12 cubic yards
10	2 1/2" 3/4" OR 1 1/2" MINUS Crushed Gravel BLACK BASALT - 15 tons=30,000 lbs. =12 cubic yards
11	2 1/2" OR 1 1/2" DRAIN ROCK - 15 tons=30,000 lbs. =12 cubic yards
12	Medium Beauty Bark Fresh Bright Orange - 10 cubic yards

**GRAVEL, SAND, DRAIN ROCK**

Key Peninsula, Port Orchard, Bremerton, Poulsbo, Silverdale, Olalla and Gig Harbor

**BBB**

**PAUL'S TRUCKING**

Now is the time **PAUL'S TRUCKING** Get-R-Done

**Special \$375.00 Cash Discount**

**Your Choice!!! Includes Delivery**

**Call Today!**

**318-8166**

a delivery charge may be added to areas not listed above

## KP Lions seek 'Citizen of the Year' nominees

KP News Staff Report

The 31st annual Key Peninsula Citizens of the Year Awards Banquet will be held March 26 at 6 p.m. at the Key Peninsula Civic Center in Vaughn. The keynote speaker for the event is Congressman Derek Kilmer.

The sponsoring KP Lions Club requests that nominations for KP Citizen of the Year be submitted before Jan. 13, to: KP Lions CoX, P.O. Box 63, Vaughn, WA 98594, or by email to hmcmap1000@centurytel.net.

Nominees must either live on, work on, or own property on the Key Peninsula. Non-resident persons who volunteer on

the Key are considered "workers" and are eligible. Members of the KP Lions Club are not eligible.

Throughout the year, community members submit nominations to the KP Lions Club, the members of which (via secret ballot) vote for the nominees, all of whom are designated citizens of the year.

This year, the folks nominating potential candidates will be sent a short email template asking "who and why" their community contender was chosen.

Each year, the KP Lions conduct an award dinner ceremony culminating in the identification of the the citizen of the year.

For more information, call (253) 884-3319 or (253) 853-2721.

# Local 4H club trying to send children to state capitol for government conferences

By Scott Turner, KP News

The Cat Tales 4H club may be one of the lesser-known youth groups of Key Peninsula groups, but they're doing important work.

According to Dianna Calhoun, Cat Tales 4H leader, the club educates young people between the ages of 8-18 in leadership training and other important skills. They meet every Thursday evening in the VFW room at the Key Peninsula Civic Center.

The local club is tied to the Kitsap County 4H group and is part of the national 4H organization that was founded in 1902. Today there are 4H clubs in all 50 states and in 82 countries.

"When we started the Key Peninsula 4H club about six years ago, we looked at how much it would cost to join a Pierce County group and when we factored in bridge tolls, it turned out that it would cost about \$200 on top of the regular club fees, so we opted to join the Kitsap

County group," Calhoun said.

The Cat Tales club focuses primarily on how to raise and care for cats, Calhoun, who is also superintendent for cats at the Kitsap County fairgrounds, said. "The kids learn all about grooming, feeding and keeping their cats healthy and they learn to identify different breeds," she said.

They also learn feline anatomy, genetics and other basic 4H knowledge.

Currently, the Cat Tales club is raising funds to send seven of its members to Olympia in February for the annual Know Your Government conference.

Of the seven kids who're attending the conference, five are from the Key Peninsula. The other two are from Kitsap County.

The Know Your Government training is open to all 4H-ers in the state. Calhoun said. "It's an annual event that goes in four-year cycles.

"The first year, the kids learn how legislation is passed — how bills are made. The next year the topic is about govern-

ment and the media. This year is an election year so the training is all about how to hold an election," she said.

The Cat Tales contingent will select a representative — a spokesperson — from among themselves, and then while they're in Olympia, they'll meet all the other 4H-ers from all over the state and will learn from stage legislators about how elections are conducted.

The conference takes place Feb. 13 to 16.

But before then the club needs to raise \$3,000 to cover the expenses of the seven kids who'll attend the event. Expenses include registration fees, hotel and program costs. Transportation will be provided by parents of the club members, Calhoun said.

Rather than trying to do a restaurant takeover or something similar, the 4H club has set up an online fundraising account.

To contribute to the Cat Tales 4H Know Your Government trip, visit [go-fundme.com/kplkids](http://go-fundme.com/kplkids).

## Band raises funds for Red Barn Youth Center

On Dec. 12, The Bluegrass Minstrels Festive Christmas Revelry drew a crowd of some 120 community members, filling Lakebay Community Church's Morgan Hall to benefit the Red Barn Youth Center.

The night was filled with music, comedy, sing-a-longs and all around fun.

According to band member Dorene Paterson, the band would like to thank the attendees for their generosity, as \$1,422 was raised and given to Laura Condon, director of the Red Barn Youth Center, who was present and gave a brief presentation on what the center is and does for the kids on the Key Peninsula.

For videos or links, visit [thebluegrassminstrels.com](http://thebluegrassminstrels.com).

### Wanted: Executive Editor for KP News

Part-time job, flexible hours.  
For application/info, email  
[Connierenz@gmail.com](mailto:Connierenz@gmail.com)

*Come to the Mardi Gras*

*3rd Annual*

**Mardi Gras**

*February 6, 2016*



**Featuring Richard Allen**



**& the Louisiana Experience**

*Tickets on sale soon!*

Key Peninsula Civic Center 17010 S. Vaughn Rd, Vaughn, WA  
253-884-3456 [www.kpciviccenter.org](http://www.kpciviccenter.org)

*The Key Peninsula Civic Center Association through its facility and the effort of its members, fosters and promotes the civic, social, cultural and general well-being of the Key Peninsula community.*

## The Mustard Seed Project

**Building an Elder-Friendly Key Peninsula**

Need senior services or information? Call us: 253-884-9814  
or visit our office in the Key Center Corral, M-F, 10 - 4

**January Third Thursday Community Forum:**

### You Online – Consumer Safety

Protect yourself from identity theft and scams, stay safe when using social media and e-mail, and find great reviews before making big purchases or hiring local services.

Presented in partnership with the Key Center Library.



**THURSDAY, January 21, 10 a.m.**

**BRONES ROOM – Key Center Library**

Transportation available by previous arrangement. Call us at 884-9814.

# Peninsula School District wants to know if you are 'Ready!' for your children

By Scott Turner, KP News

Key Peninsula parents whose young children don't go to preschool have an opportunity to prepare their kids for school through a new free program called Ready! for Kindergarten.

The program was developed in Kennewick, Wash. and introduced this past May at Minter Creek and Evergreen Elementary schools for children who would be entering kindergarten in September, according to Michelle Harrison, a school readiness facilitator with Peninsula School District.

Ready! for Kindergarten provides parents with a "tool kit" of cards, beads, shapes, alphabet letters and other items for playing with their children.

Research shows that children's brains are really developing between birth and age 5, Harrison said, so this program "helps parents have purposeful play at home with their kids."

Parents attend a free 90-minute training session and are given their own games (tools) and instructions on how to use them.

Then they use the system at home to play with their children, making each playtime a learning experience.

"We encourage parents to play little games with their kids — like when they go to a store, say "Let's look for a letter 'A,'" Harrison said.

"We're trying to show parents that they are their children's first teacher. So from the time a child is born, the more parents interact with their baby the more their baby is going to learn, because the parents are the most important people in babies' lives and they are going to learn from their parents," she added.

Caren Halvorson, a volunteer who works at Vaughn, calls Ready! for Kindergarten "an amazing program."

"Each age group gets different tools and goals. There are tools for 3- and

4-year olds, and goals for 4- to 5 year-olds.

"The goals — we call them targets — are things like being able to recognize the letters of their first name and being able to recognize 12-15 letters and their sounds by the time they get to kindergarten," Halvorson said.

Robyn McGilvrey, a 34-year-old mother from Minterwood has taken Ready! classes for all three of her kids.

"We learn fun games and rhymes and so forth. I learned a lot of new games and things to do with my children — new things that my kids like to do because it's not the same old stuff we have at home," McGilvrey said.

"The first time around we got sorting beads and we practiced motor skills by stringing the beads on a string. We also have card games. We keep everything in a special box so my kids know it's a special time when we bring out that little box," she added.

Six-year-old Reva McGilvrey liked playing with the Ready! tools. "We learned games like Toppett and Go-Fish," Reva said.

"The cards have pictures and a same number — like three dogs. I like playing with mom with the cards. There's another game with a little puzzle and you put the puzzles together and then you make a story out of them. It's a learning game," she said, moments before another gathering at Minter Creek Elementary School.

Harrison is a firm believer in the Ready! program.

"If your kid hasn't done preschool, this is a great thing for them. It gives you the tools so they can catch up. This is a really great program," she said.

"In kindergarten, kids that have been to preschool kind of get bored because they have to wait for the other kids to catch up. So this helps keep all the kids even," she added.

The next Ready! training session for parents will take place in February. The training and the tools are free for Key Peninsula families.

For information call the Early Childhood Referral line at (253) 530-1168, or email [harrisonm@psd401.net](mailto:harrisonm@psd401.net).



## ROLFZEN'S HOME SERVICES, LLC

*Formerly known as LAKEBAY ROOFING, Inc.*

FULL SERVICE CONTRACTOR

Additions \*Repairs \*Remodels \*Decks  
Roofs \*Pressure washing \*Fencing

ROLFZHS889KQ  
(253) 884-2186

Complete yard care  
House cleaning

Lakebay's  
Roofing  
Specialist

## Key to Life Church of the Nazarene

Meeting at Key Peninsula Middle School - Every Sunday at 10:30am

5510 Key Peninsula Hwy. KP N (253) 549-9963 // facebook: KeytoLifeChurch

**"Learnin' To Follow Jesus"**





# Imagination runs wild in Longbranch art studio

By Karen Lovett, KP News

Julieann Kohn's creative mind knows no bounds. She finds images in the unlikeliest of objects and enjoys turning her visions into artistic forms.

After their kids were gone, Kohn and her husband Sean Kohn decided to settle on the Key Peninsula. She was attracted here by the large community of artists.

They moved into a home that is steeped in a tradition of artistry and family ties in Longbranch. The house and large unattached art studio were built by her sister Michelle and her husband Bill.

They left the trees and built the buildings around them. The house was sold to Sean Kohn's mother, potter Tricia and her then husband Pat Thompson, another artist. Tricia moved out of state. Pat Thompson now has an extensive garden and art studio farther south in Longbranch.

Julieann Kohn modified the potter's studio to create a more open space to

work. There is a covered outdoor work area where she cuts and grinds logs. Cedar, fir and lodge-pole pine pieces are transformed into bears, pigs, owls and other creatures and take on the roles of candlestick holders and lamps.

The Angel Guild gives her broken lamps and lamp parts. "I'm a thrift store addict," Kohn said. "I volunteer there one day a week."

Originally from Lake Tahoe, Nevada, Kohn studied art at Lake Tahoe Community College.

"They have a great art program and have a foundry for bronze sculpture. I studied every kind of art from 1998 to 2012," Kohn said.

Her first soapstone carving, a dragon, took first prize in the school competition. One school project was a lifelike skier composed of duct tape.

She became a paid teacher's assistant in the 3-D art studio.

"I used to make custom log beds, but when you get over 50 it becomes too much work. I'm looking to do more in stone," Kohn said. "That's where my



Photo by Karen Lovett, KP News

Julieann Kohn grinds the surface of a cedar limb section creating a bear candle holder in the outdoor area of her Sound Shores Studio.

passion lies."

She has silicone bear and wolf prints for sculpture use and is also working on experimental garden sculptures. She is experimenting with resin that glows in the dark.

"I have a project room," Kohn said. "I'm like a mad scientist. I come up with weird ideas. I'm trying to come up with nautical ideas for this area."

For information on Sound Shores Studio, call (253) 282-9618.

## HYDROPONICS | LIGHTING | ORGANICS

Hard Core  
Ballast Package  
**\$169**



**\$10 off\***  
with purchase  
of \$50 or more

NEW LOW PRICES ON  
ALL SOIL IN STORE

KP  
**Indoor Garden  
Store**



Garden  
all winter  
indoors!

8912 Key Peninsula Hwy N • Lakebay, WA 98349  
(253) 884SURE (7873) | KPIndoorGardenStore.com

Open Mon-Sat 10am-6pm

\*Not valid with any other offers. Expires 1-31-16



## What are you waiting for?

Call or text to register today!



→ Winter storms are just around the corner. With a little help from our members, PenLight can get your power back faster. Activating by phone or text takes less than a minute - and it gives us the information we need to respond faster if there's a power outage.

During an outage here's how it works:

- Your phone number is stored so we know who's calling or texting
- It tells us the location of the outage, helping crews to respond faster

Report your outage by either phone or text.

### → BY PHONE

To opt-in, call 877.853.1388\* and press option 2. Then select option 3 to register your phone number. Later to notify us of an outage, simply call 877.853.1388 toll free and use our automated reporting system.

\*Please Note: This is a new toll free number and may be used after September 8, 2015.

### → BY TEXT

To opt-in, send a text to "85700". Type "penlight" in the message box, then hit SEND. Later to notify us of an outage, simply send a text to 85700, and type "out" in the message box. To opt out, text "STOP" anytime.



Peninsula Light Co.

The power to be...  
www.penlight.org

# Marijuana production — growing on the Key Peninsula

By Sara Thompson, KP News

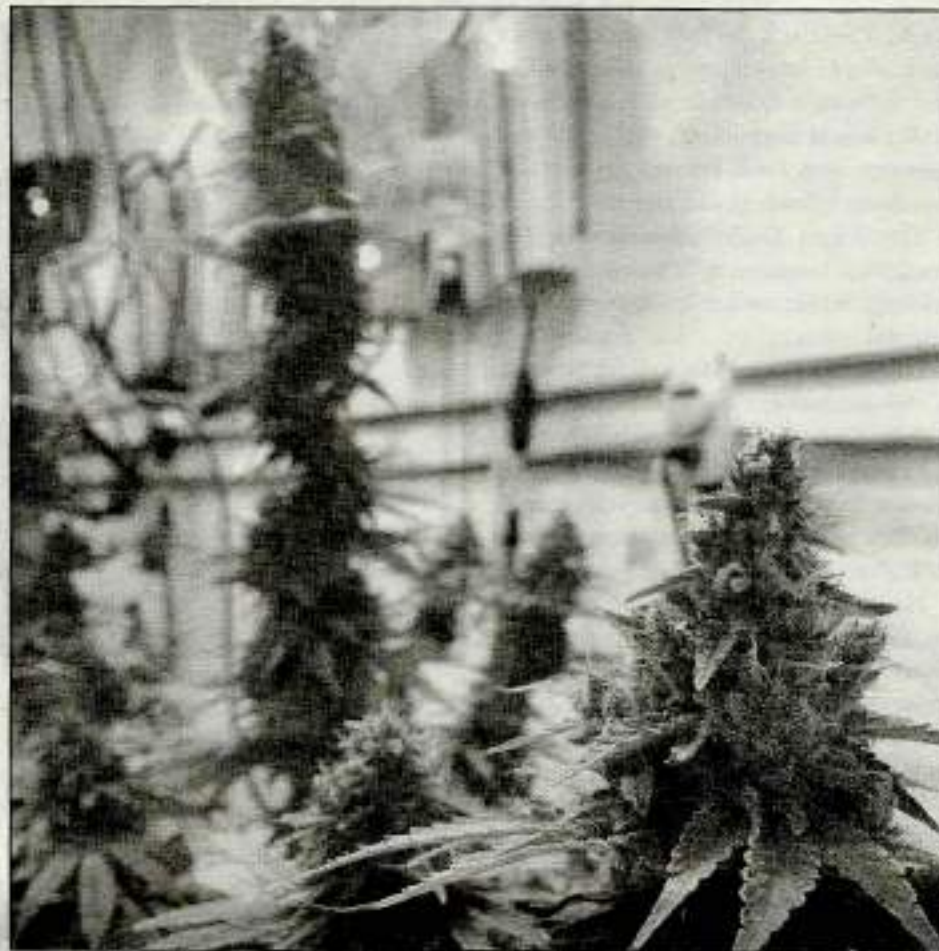


Photo courtesy of Bud Brothers

## Maturing plants at Bud Brothers in Oak Harbor

meant that a grower could get two or three harvests in a year rather than be limited to one. At the same time, Californians arrived, bringing additional strains and expertise. "Guerrilla gardening" took off.

That all changed in the early 1990s, when methamphetamine arrived. Those

seeking a cheap high moved to the cheaper, more addictive drug.

"The pot market fell off the cliff," the KP grower said.

At about that time, he was arrested, served a short time in jail and paid a significant fine. He quit growing and selling in the recreational market but had con-

nections with those requesting medical marijuana — primarily AIDS patients. Although medical marijuana was not yet decriminalized, he was able to provide for that market. He feels he was left alone by the authorities at that time because he was serving a population in need.

"Most of the marijuana grown in Western Washington was grown on the Key Peninsula or near Bonney Lake," he said. "Many of those growers are gone now. They lived hard lives."

## Medical Collectives

In 1998, when medical marijuana was decriminalized, the state allowed collectives to form. Patients and their caregivers could come together to grow their own supply and also donate to other patients.

Clint Pipkin, who now owns Herb-N-Wellness, said that early collective members had to feel their way — it was not entirely clear what was allowed. But he also said that for anyone wanting to be as legal as possible, joining a collective was the way to go. By 2000, collective gardens were pretty well established. Pipkin estimates that there are about a dozen of collectives on the Key Peninsula now.

Up to 10 patients (or their caregivers) could join in a collective, each growing up to 15 plants. Surplus cannabis could be sold or donated to other patients. The medicinal shops that first opened on the KP in 2010 served as a place to bring surplus and sell to those with medical authorization.

(See Marijuana, Page 19)

Editor's note: This is the third article in a three-part series on marijuana and the Key Peninsula.

Marijuana is big business, and growing marijuana is where that business begins. Washington state has collected more than \$130.5 million in excise taxes and \$40 million in sales taxes in the last year and a half, according to 502 Data, a website that tracks marijuana sales. Pierce County has collected nearly \$10.6 million from excise taxes.

Marijuana growing on the Key Peninsula dates back to the '70s, when an influx of renegades took advantage of the rural, "let-well-enough-alone" setting. One member of the early Key Peninsula marijuana growers, who asked to remain anonymous, said he arrived in 1978, after about a decade of experience growing and selling in Arizona and Hawaii.

"It was a bit like the old West back then," he said. "Land and water were cheap, you could live in a double-wide, and with about \$15,000, you could get started."

Growing was all outside, and everyone learned as they went.

"We flew by the seats of our pants," he recalled. Over time, the growers honed their skills — combining strains, understanding how to grow clones (cuttings from plants allowing for pure strains from mother plants) and improving the yields.

By the mid-1980s, with the advent of indoor lights, growing moved inside. It

# Update on Pierce County Council marijuana ordinance

By Sara Thompson, KP News

According to a Pierce County press release, on Dec. 15, the Pierce County Council repealed its de facto ban on marijuana production and sales in unincorporated areas.

The bill changes the conditional use permit process by eliminating a requirement that sellers prove the sale of marijuana is not a Schedule I drug under the Federal Controlled Substance Act. In addition, marijuana retailers are no longer required to operate in stand-alone buildings.

The changes were sponsored by Democratic councilmembers Derek Young, Connie Ladenburg and Rick

Talbert. Councilman Doug Richardson supported the measure after the council agreed to create a fund to pay for marijuana enforcement.

After the ordinance was passed, councilwoman Joyce McDonald, who voted against removing the marijuana ban, proposed an advisory vote to be presented to rural county voters in April. Talbot, voting along party lines, supported that motion, which passed by a 4-3 margin.

According to the Tacoma News Tribune, there are more than 200,000 voters in unincorporated Pierce County. Auditor Julie Anderson estimated that the cost of the advisory vote would be \$425,000.

Young noted that voters in every council district approved Initiative 502 in 2012, including rural areas that passed it 52 to 48 percent.

Young commented, "If you look at the map, there are very few precincts where this initiative wasn't popular. We don't have \$425,000 for this vote, and even if we end up having the vote, it's not binding," he said.

Young said the ordinance goes into effect regardless of the outcome.

"The council would have to pass a new ordinance rescinding this one. I just can't see the Pierce County Executive signing that one," he said.

(From **Marijuana**, Page 18)

In July 2016, the rules pertaining to collective gardens will change. The number of people in a collective will be limited to four, and each person will be allowed to grow a maximum of six plants.

In addition, the stores will have to be licensed and will be required to purchase cannabis from state-licensed producers. At this time, growing for personal recreational use is illegal but some state legislators have said that they hope to introduce legislation that would allow individuals to grow small numbers of plants.

"The black market is still alive and well," Pipkin said. "And I don't think it is going to go away any time soon."

#### Licensed Production

The Washington State Liquor Control Board (WSLCB), now named the Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board, has written the rule that, in the words of Initiative 502, "takes marijuana out of the hands of illegal drug organizations and brings it under a tightly regulated, state-licensed system similar to that for controlling hard alcohol."

In December 2013, a 30-day window opened to apply for growing and processing licenses. No further applications are available. According to the WSLCB website, more than 19,000 applications were received. To date, about 700 licenses have been issued. All others are pending. Six applications came from the Key Peninsula and one has been approved.

Chelsea Luke Brown, who with four

other partners, owns Bud Brothers in Oak Harbor, described how their business became operational. The partners had a combination of backgrounds including tech,



marketing, customer service and experience with growing medical marijuana.

After a few false starts in locating a site, they found a warehouse owner on Whidbey Island interested in leasing to marijuana growers. Once the warehouse was identified, it took nearly a year to demolish and rebuild the interior space. They planted their first crop in February 2015 and harvested about three months later.

Brown describes cultivation as an art.

She emphasized the importance of appreciation for the quality of what they grow. The planting, feeding, trim-

ming and timing of the harvest are done with great care.

State oversight is substantial. Producers can bring in their own stock within 15 days of receiving a license but then they can buy plants or seeds only from licensed growers. All plants must be tagged individually. Every lot must be tested for quality, including THC level (how strength is assessed). There are strict parameters for security cameras.

Once the buds are harvested, they are cut, dried, trimmed and packaged. Many growers are also processors — the plants are turned into resin or extracts. Retailers take it from there.

Six months after the first planting, Bud Brothers is sustainable — the costs are now covered and the business has the capacity to

more than double its harvest once the electrical system has been upgraded. Brown said that they were worried about how they would be received in Oak Harbor, a relatively conservative community.

"We were very open about what we are doing, and we have been welcomed," she said.

*"We will beat any competitor's prescription price."*

Purdy

**COST LESS**

Prescriptions

253 857 7797

*Flu Shots Available M-Sat in Pharmacy*

Happy 2016 from all of us at Purdy Costless!

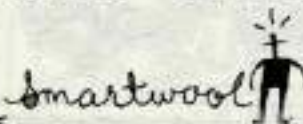


**25% off**



**one "Smartwool" product**

with this coupon



Valid January 1-31, 2016



#### SHERIFF AUCTION

Auction for delinquent moorage.

1978 Carver 33ft boat HIN number CDR320421278, WN825BP will be sold to the highest bidder on January 10, 2016 at 1pm at Lakebay Marina, 15 Lorenz Rd. KPN 98349. Preview and info sheet will be available January 8 and 9 at the marina. Anyone interested will place a sealed bid to be read on the designated date and time.

Note: vessel cannot be tested or started!

#### NW SPORTS PHYSICAL THERAPY, INC.



*Celebrating 30 Years Serving Our Patients*

Our Services Include:

• Orthopedic Rehab • Pre & Surgical Rehab • ACT Prevention and Rehab • Sports Conditioning & Training • Neuromuscular Rehab • Back & Neck Care • Work Injury Rehab • Sports Injury Rehab

Call today... (253) 851-7472

4111 Pl. Froedick Dr., Ste. 101  
Oak Harbor, WA 98555

# Foraging for wild mushrooms evolves into growing business

By Karen Lovett, KP News

Adam and Astrid DeLeo enjoy walking through the woods harvesting wild plants and mushrooms.

The Key Center couple has taken their love of living off the land to a higher level.

Adam DeLeo grew up near Key Center. He was home-schooled until he continued his education at Peninsula High School. He attended the University of Washington and Western Washington University, then spent time in Alaska on a fishing boat.

He met a Danish woman, Astrid, in Scotland where he was working as a cook at the Findhorn Foundation, a sustainable living eco-village. Renowned mycologist Paul Stamets, discoverer of immunological and bioremedial properties of mushrooms, came to Scotland to talk about fungi and their importance in the world. Adam and Astrid purchased an oyster mushroom kit.

After his visa and temporary work permit ran out, the couple traveled to Carson City, Nevada to Aloha Medicinals, the world's largest producer of medicinal mushrooms. They spent a month learning about the



Photo by Karen Lovett, KP News

**Adam and Astrid DeLeo stand in their climate controlled culture building growing lion mane mushrooms at their home near Key Center.**

thousands of medicinal cultures grown here.

They spent time on the Key Peninsula foraging and culturing mushrooms before

taking time off to Hawaii to get married Nov. 12, 2013. Two weeks later they took shiitake and oyster mushrooms to the farmer's market in Gig Harbor.

"I brought a bunch, then started going to restaurants," Adam said. "We were doing six farmer's markets a week."

"Six-days-a-week was too much," Astrid said. "Now we're doing four a week and approximately 12 restaurants and grocery stores."

Food Market in Key Center carries their mushrooms.

They are living in the front of a home built by his parents while utilizing a portion of the space for the budding business. His parents still live in the back. The home, overlooking Glencove and Mount Rainier, is nestled in forest land prolific with wild

mushrooms and edible plants.

A commercial stainless steel refrigerator set against a wall in their living room was purchased to keep mushrooms fresh before sale. A sterile scientific ventilation hood for tissue culture has space in the bedroom.

Adam DeLeo designed a climate controlled building he and his father Bill built together. The 8 by 16 foot building contains specialized metal racks DeLeo constructed to support the bags of growing fungi.

A large commercial local mushroom grower mentored the young entrepreneurs and sells sterile plastic bags for their mushroom cultivation, and shiitake and oyster mushrooms for resale. The DeLeos have a good working partnership with the company and are only interested in cultivating species not in competition with their partners.

They have tried several species, but have settled on the tasty lion's mane as their specialty for now. They also forage and sell a number of others, whatever nature provides seasonally.

The DeLeos have commercial foraging permits and routinely harvest chanterelles, matsutakes, hedgehogs, cauliflowers, morels and lobster mushrooms.

A lion's mane, *Herichium erinaceus*, found at Penrose Point Park, was the tissue donor for their culture operation. All of their home grown mushrooms of that prized epicurean species come from that original single fungus, they said.

The couple are saving their money to move into their own place. They hope to find a couple of suitable acres with a house on the Key Peninsula with room to expand their mushrooming business.

For information, contact Adam's Mushrooms at (253) 278-2822 or visit [adamsmushrooms.com](http://adamsmushrooms.com).

## Key Peninsula Community Services

17015 9Th St Ct KPN Lakebay, WA. 98349

### Senior Center & Food Bank

Helping our most cherished citizens to eat and live healthy  
PO Box 392 Lakebay WA, 98349 253-884-4440 Fax: 253-884-6196  
Email: [KPCSdirector@centurytel.net](mailto:KPCSdirector@centurytel.net)

KPCS has provided community services since 1982. We offer many programs, events, and traditions to enhance the life of our residents.

We are very fortunate to be a part of this community!

OFFICE HOURS: TUESDAY - FRIDAY: 9:30AM - 4:00PM

Pasado's Mobile Spay & Neuter Van will be here on January 5th. Please bring 2 towels per pet! Dogs on a leash and cats in a carrier. Please arrive at 6:45am! It is NOT first come first serve.

The DSHS Mobile Office will be here on Thursday the 21st of January from 10AM to 2PM.

From our Staff and Board we would like to say **Happy New Years** to all our community.

**HAPPY New Years!**

### FOOD BANK

Our Food Bank is in need of Volunteers for the New Year. We are looking for a driver and a rider for every other Sunday. If you are interested please call Susie at 253-884-4440 for more information. We also are always in need of help in the Food Bank.

[www.keypeninsulacommunityservices.org](http://www.keypeninsulacommunityservices.org) and [www.facebook.com/KeyPenCS](http://www.facebook.com/KeyPenCS)

## SERMON MOUNT

BRISCELLA SHIRER  
The Armor of God  
New Women's Bible Studies  
Tues 6:30pm, Wed 1pm & Thurs 1pm  
Starting Jan 19th, 20th, 21st  
Register Online Today

High School & Middle School Youth Group  
Meets Monday Nights 6:30-8:30pm  
Go to [five17.com](http://five17.com) for more info

THREE SUNDAY SERVICES  
9:30am, 11am & 6pm  
Children's Programs at All Services

WayPoint Church

pointing the way to Jesus...

12719 134th Ave KPN • 853-7878 • [www.waypoint-church.org](http://www.waypoint-church.org)

# A physician opens new practice on the KP

By Rick Sorrels, KP News

Before Dr. Roes opened his medical center in Key Center about 1987, the closest medical center for Key Peninsula residents was Dr. Finkleman and his medical center in Purdy, located on 144th Street near the Westwynd Motel and the shoreline of Burley Lagoon.

Finkleman has now retired after 35 years of medical service. Finkleman's practice and medical center has been sold to Dr. Michael Wingren, with patients being seen since September 2014. It is operating under the name of Sound Clinical Medicine PS.

Wingren grew up in Bemidji, Minnesota, graduating from the University of Minnesota with a degree in biology at the age of 19. His first job was counting mosquitoes in a swamp for UM, which caused him to think, "There must be something better."

Wingren joined the Peace Corps and spent two years in Kenya. Within a year he became the head of the tech school where the students learned agriculture and woodwork.

In 1981, while still in Kenya, Wingren had what he calls a "waking dream," which showed him his life's calling of being a doctor and treating disease. Since then he has dedicated his life to providing the best medical services possible at the grassroots level.

Wingren finished medical school at UM, obtained a master's in Public Health Administration, and did his three-year residency at the University of California at San Diego.

His first medical practice was at Lake



Photo by Ed Johnson, KP news

**Dr. Michael Wingren opened a family practice in Purdy in 2014 and is accepting new patients.**

Forest Park, Washington where he took over from a general practitioner. Many

of his patients did not have medical insurance, so he frequently took payment in fish or cash. He had expanded the building and added six doctors to the staff before he left.

Wingren was hired and became the director at a troubled clinic in Friday Harbor, Washington. All the existing doctors had been fired by the hospital's board. He took on a formidable task, and developed and expanded the clinic into a full hospital with an emergency room and 15 doctors on staff.

After 28 years of working in other people's clinics, Wingren wanted to run his own clinic and found Finkleman's offer attractive.

Wingren currently sees most of the patients himself. Dr. Terry Stanford, a female physician, sees patients on Fridays. Wingren has two medical assistants and one billing person. His wife also assists. Wingren has one adult child. Stanford's husband is a former astronaut.

Wingren considers both himself and Stanford to be "family practice doctors"

and explains what that means.

There was a restructuring of the medical system in the 1960s, which led to the phase-out of "general practitioners."

"General practitioners completed medical school and went straight to practice without the three year residency," said Wingren.

"Family practice doctors complete the three-year residency training, and normally prescribe hundreds of medicines," said Wingren. "They can handle 90 percent of the medical problems presented and refer the remaining cases to the proper specialists in the system."

Wingren's special areas of interest are cardiology and vascular issues, dermatology and psychiatry. He expects to hire two more full-time practitioners within the next five years. He is also one of the few doctors around authorized to certify for CDL (commercial driver's license).

"We care about our patients and their outcomes," he said.

For more information, call (253) 857-6166.

**Great Music Lessons**

Begin or Brush-up  
one month minimum

Gift certificates available

Band Tutoring

(253) 857-3788  
mary@expressionsmusic.com

**The Birds Love it...**

A great selection of bird seed for all  
of your feathered friends. **9 VARIETIES**

**NW Wild Bird Seed 5-50 lb.**  
Finch Food & Thistle Seed  
PLUS-FEEDERS FOR ALL VARIETIES

**ALL BIRD SEED, FEEDERS AND ACCESSORIES - 25% OFF**

Wishing You all a Happy and  
Healthy **NEW YEAR**  
From Dale and Claudia and staff

January hours - Mon-Sat, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Closed Sundays

Winter Color of Primrose, Pansies and Perennials

**SUNNYCREST**  
NURSERY & FLORAL

Check us out on  
facebook

**253-884-3937**  
www.sunnycrestnursery.com

Located in Key Center

**We work for you,  
not Wall Street.**

Mark Christel Belfair  
360.275.3666  
lpl.com/mark.christel  
24090 NE State Rt. 3,  
Suite G  
Belfair, WA  
LPL Financial  
Member FINRA/SIPC

Have you ever wondered who your financial advisor really works for, you or the firm? Our goal is your success as an investor. We work strictly for you. And we are backed by the strength and reliability of LPL Financial, the largest independent broker/dealer in the nation.\* We focus on one bottom line: yours.

Please call to learn more and schedule a free consultation.

**LPL Financial**  
STOCKS • BONDS • MUTUAL FUNDS • IRAs

Todd Rosenbach  
Key Peninsula  
253.884.4787  
lpl.com/todd.rosenbach  
9013 KPN Hwy,  
Suite B  
Key Center, WA  
LPL Financial  
Member FINRA/SIPC

# BSA Troop 220 again delivers food to KP Community Services

By Hugh McMillan, KP News

On Nov. 14, Scouts from Key Peninsula Lions-sponsored Boy Scout Troop 220 unloaded a large supply of food at the KP Community Services food bank. Preceding the delivery, Scouts took to the streets of

KP neighborhoods in search of food. They knocked on doors and left containers requesting folks to fill them with nonperishable food items for collection on this day. "Our scouts collected over 2200 items for the food bank," said Scoutmaster Spencer Wiklund. He said the Scouts braved the rain by putting out



Photo by Hugh McMillan, KP News

Boy Scouts, their siblings, and their leaders, Spencer Wiklund, third from right, and Dan Cusick, back left, of BSA Troop 220 pose for the camera after unloading a successful food drive at the Key Peninsula Community Services Food Bank Saturday, Nov 14.

## POET SPEAK

### KP poetry corner

*Editor's note: The KP News is offering a spot for poems submitted by Key Peninsula residents. Please keep them under 200 words and send them to Ed Johnson at edj@edjohnson.net. We will try and run a poem in every issue.*

### The 'Door is Off Limits'

By Ian W. Schwesinger

You beg, and you plead, but the door is off limits.

You plead, and you cry, but the door is off limits.

What could be in that door so important to hide?

Is it big? Is it small? Is it even worth your time?

You cry, and you pout, but the door is off limits.

You point, and you shout, but the door is off limits.

What could it be? Why can't it be seen?

Though you try, and you try, the door is still, and always will be, off limits.

more than 1000 bags that were picked up this Saturday.

"The boys like to make a game of it to see who can return to the vehicles with the most full bags. It is great to see such scouting spirit as they run along from house to house," Wiklund said.

Assisting in the operation were several Scout parents and family members. Three young ladies, a third-grader from Evergreen Elementary and a fourth- and fifth-grader from Minter Creek Elementary Schools did whatever was asked of them to facilitate the operation's success.

Asked what they thought of the adventure, as if a well-trained trio, they chorussed, "It's

been fun and it feels good to know we're doing good."

"I love counting up the cans to see how many we collected this year," said Scout Alexander Wiklund.

The last several years this food drive has been organized by Shirley Crane but this year she handed over the reins to Christianne Panda Burch, Spencer Wiklund said.

As the Scouts were finishing up, Panda Burch said, "I think we should do this again in the springtime when the food banks are low."

Look for Troop 220 Scouts in new areas sometime in the February/March time frame. "The search for food will continue," Wiklund said.

**HOME**  
EXCAVATING & DOZING

NATURE TRAILS,  
BEACH ACCESS,  
SITE CLEARING & PREP.,  
LOGGING,  
ROCK WALLS & STEPS,  
DRAINAGE SYSTEMS,  
ROAD GRADING,  
DEMOLITION,  
STUMP REMOVAL,  
GRAVEL &  
TOPSOIL DELIVERIES,  
& MUCH MORE.

***DIFFICULT JOBS ARE OUR SPECIALTY!***

**(253)884-5798**

## NEW BEGINNINGS REAL ESTATE, LLC.

Office ☎858-7053

Bernie 253-514-0659  
Bernie@New-BeginningsRE.com

Donna 253-606-8480  
Donna@New-BeginningsRE.com



**All Under One Roof...**

*Sell Your Home  
Buy a New Home  
Find a Home to Rent  
Rent out Your Investment*

**Just Give Us a Call!**

**DK** Property Management, LLC  
dba LZ Property Mgmt.  
☎884-2076

Donna Lester - Owner/Designated Broker  
15510 92nd St. KPN, Suite B  
PO Box 688  
Wauna, WA 98395

For Current Available Rentals, please visit:  
[lzpropertymanagement.managebuilding.com](http://lzpropertymanagement.managebuilding.com)



## Longbranch Community Church

[www.longbranchchurch.net](http://www.longbranchchurch.net)

Come and join us for  
Interdenominational Services  
Sunday School 9 am - Church Services 10:30

-Nursery is Provided-  
16518 46th St. KPS, Longbranch  
884-9339

God's Blessings to You - Pastor John Day

## SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY

ADVOCATE/REPRESENTATIVE

*The Difference is Personal Service*  
95% approval rate 2005-2014  
62 out of 65 cases approved in 2014

**MISSION POSSIBLE**  
Employment Services, Inc.

**360-798-2920**

[www.mpes.net](http://www.mpes.net)



Licensed Bonded Insured LYSTAC\*89180

**Concrete  
Flatwork  
Concrete Pumping  
Foundations  
Residential  
Commercial**

**Oliver Lystad**  
General Manager / Lead Estimator  
Vaughn, WA 98394

Patios - Driveways - Stairs  
Retaining Walls - All Finishes

**C 253.255.7012**

[oliver@lystadconstruction.com](mailto:oliver@lystadconstruction.com)  
[www.lystadconstruction.com](http://www.lystadconstruction.com)



**Aspen**  
Land Surveying LLC  
at The Landing in Key Center  
(half a block east of the stop light)  
253-303-0270 www.aspenland.com

**BROOKSIDE VETERINARY HOSPITAL**  
*Tender Loving Care For All Your Family Pets!*



Lisa M. Woods, DVM  
13701 118th Ave. NW  
Gig Harbor, WA 98329  
253.857.7302  
253.857.7654 Fax

**Lifeguard position available  
at Camp Stand By Me in Vaughn**



Duties include lifeguarding, running our community swim program, light pool maintenance, directing water aerobics, interacting with community members. 15 hours per week, \$15 per hour  
Contact Director Joshua Mayer at 253-225-9507

**CHARBONEAU**  
JC

**Construction & Supply**  
253-857-5125

LANDSCAPE ROCK • CRUSHED GRAVEL • RIVER ROCK  
PIT SAND • BEAUTY BARK • TOPSOIL  
STEPPING STONES • WALL BLOCK • PAVERS • BRICK  
DRIVEWAY CULVERT • DRAIN PIPE AND FITTINGS • MORE...

To advertise, contact Wendy Kleven  
at [kpnads@keypennews.com](mailto:kpnads@keypennews.com) or Brett  
Higgins at [sales@keypennews.com](mailto:sales@keypennews.com)

**KEY PENINSULA  
NEWS**



**Dave the Handyman**

David Leger  
Call or Text  
253-358-6488

20321 10th St. KP5  
Lakebay, WA 98349

[davidleger@gmail.com](mailto:davidleger@gmail.com)  
DAVIDEHR86409



**Gentily Home Services**

Home • Office • Out Buildings • Repairs  
Replacement • Alterations • Decks • Fixture  
Replacement • Windows • Doors • Minor  
Plumbing • Water Damage  
• Lights • Cabinets...and more

Mike Gentily  
PO Box 498  
Vaughn, WA 98394  
Handyman  
602578 853348

Phone: (253) 884-2491  
Cell: (253) 376-6227

**Grace Church, EPC** 

10:30 am Worship on Sunday  
Christmas Eve at 5:00 pm

Ed Longabaugh, Pastor  
2406 McEwan Rd, Lakebay, (We are just N of Home)  
TEL | 253-857-7284  
EMAIL | [edk186@gmail.com](mailto:edk186@gmail.com)  
WEB | [www.opcgrace.org](http://www.opcgrace.org)

**Key to Learning Childcare/  
Preschool**

"Nurturing the skills to succeed in school...and life!"

Gig Harbor/Key Peninsula Area/Minor Elementary School  
Ages 3-11/ Flexible Hours At Meals Provided  
Awesome Playground Great Friends  
Licensed home childcare provider since 1980  
Nolan Alexander 253-958-3460 or 253-858-5705

**Equine, Livestock & Residential Fencing—Since 1989**

Warick & Janice Bryant



**Kiwi Fencing Company, Inc.**  
Custom Form & Fence Solutions

11708 - 15th St. KP5  
Gig Harbor, WA 98325  
[www.kiwifencing.com](http://www.kiwifencing.com)  
800-598-2874  
253-851-5834  
fax 253-851-9590  
[info@kiwifencing.com](mailto:info@kiwifencing.com)

**KEY PENINSULA CARPENTER**  
All Phases of Carpentry & Painting

Owner/Operator  
Free Estimates/Same Day Call Back  
License - Bonded - Insured



CALL STEVE  
253-884-6693  
[Stevestem@gmail.com](mailto:Stevestem@gmail.com)

Steve's Home Repair & Remodel LLC # STEVEHR08412

**CHARBONEAU**  
JC

**Excavating**  
253-857-5125

TOPSOIL • CRUSHED ROCK • CRUSHED BARK • TRUCKING  
STUMP HAULING • LAND CLEARING • DRAINAGE SYSTEMS  
SITE PREP • ROAD BUILDING • INSTALL BLOCK WALLS

Have your historic event in our historic building.



Private Meetings • Dinners  
Networking • Family Reunions • More  
[www.longbranchimprovementclub.org](http://www.longbranchimprovementclub.org)  
2112 Key Peninsula Highway South  
call 253 884-6022

 The Longbranch  
Improvement Club  
SERVING OUR COMMUNITY SINCE 1931

*The Voice of the Key Peninsula*

**KEY PENINSULA  
NEWS**




**ONE EARTH  
Enterprises, Inc**

**Remodel • Repair • Design**  
253-857-7259  
Ira Spector • Lic# ONEEAE927CJ

Let's Cross Some Things Off That List!

**PENINSULA IRON**  
11800 SR 302 NW, GIG HARBOR, WA 98329

**CUSTOM STEEL & ALUMINUM WELDING  
GATES - RAILINGS - TRUCK RACKS**

KEITH HILLSTROM  OFFICE (253) 857-2054  
SHOP (253) 857-8844  
FAX (253) 857-2059

**PIERCE CONSTRUCTION**



Additions • Kitchen and Bath  
Remodel Experts  
New and Custom Build  
Tenant Improvement and more...  
NO JOB TOO LARGE OR SMALL

253-350-1275 FREE ESTIMATES  
Lic# MICHAPO44CW



**General Contractors**  
Licensed/Qualified/Insured  
LUPRANIC 19838P

**Specializations:**

- Site Development & Build
- Custom Design & Remodel
- Complete Home Renovations
- Custom Additions
- Garages & Outbuildings
- Custom Outdoor Living Spaces
- Concrete & Aggregate
- Patios & Decks
- Siding & Roofing

**(360) 265-0914**  
[info@rainierconstruction.com](mailto:info@rainierconstruction.com)  
LIKE us on Facebook and view our photo gallery

 **FREE ESTIMATES**

**Place your business card in this advertising directory  
Call 253-884-4699 or e-mail [ads@keypennews.com](mailto:ads@keypennews.com)**

# Out & About

To see more Out & About photos, visit our website at [www.keypennews.com](http://www.keypennews.com) and follow the Photo Gallery link. See more of your neighbors out and about, Key Peninsula scenes and happenings.

The local tug Falcon began to sink at its mooring in Mayo Cove (near Penrose State Park) during the storms of November when its bilge pumps failed. The owners managed to tow, push and drag it to shore, but the tide overwhelmed her. It took two more days of pumping to right the popular vessel.



Photo courtesy of Ted Olinger

## Where in the World...



Dale and Mary Frank of Lakobay hold the KP News at Byron Bay, New South Wales, Australia, the most eastern point of Australia.

sponsored by:

**BAYSIDE  
ANIMAL  
LODGE,  
LTD.**



Where Animal Care and Friendly Customer Service are our Specialties

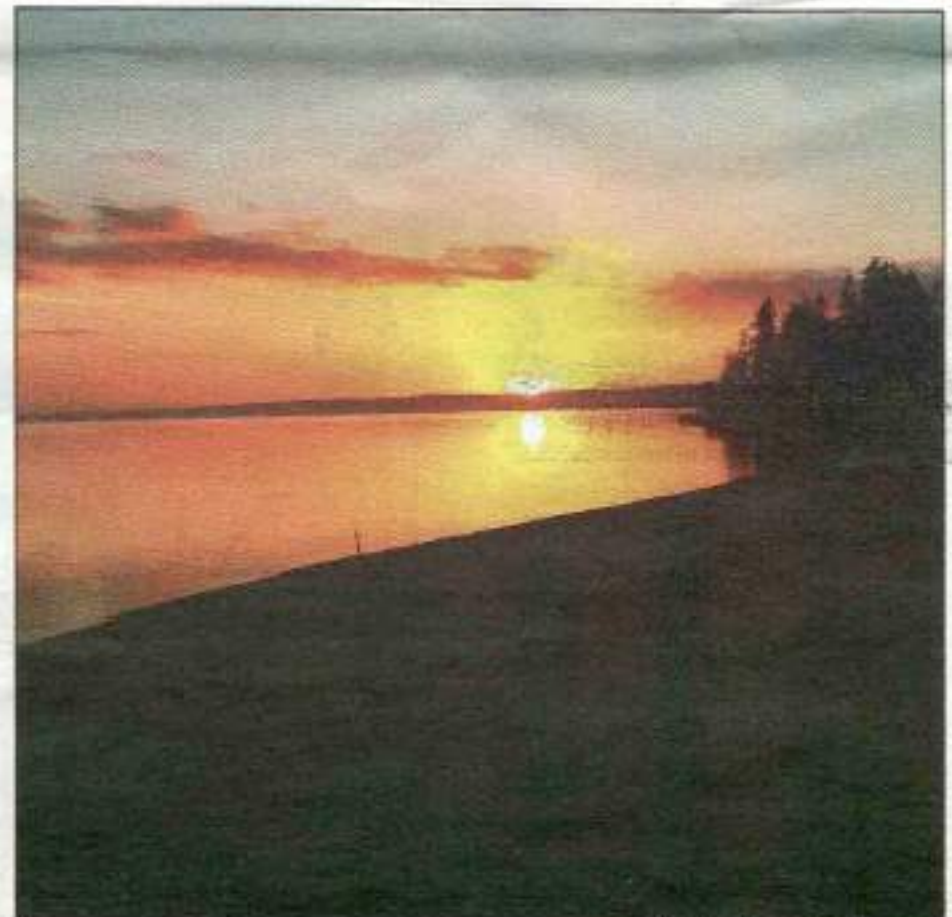
Photo courtesy of Bruce Cook

A pair of kayakers were spotted recently paddling around Von Geldern Cove.



Photo courtesy of Laura Armstrong

Longtime Key Pen Parks commissioner Bill Trandum receives a parting gift from Scott Gallacher, executive director, for his service with the park district. Trandum's open position is being filled by Shawn Jensen, who ran unopposed.



Golden sunset along the Purdy Spit.

Photo courtesy of Beth Buffington