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THE VOICE OF THE KEY PENINSULA

VOL. 42 NO. 2

INSIDE&ONLINE
FEBRUARY 2013
Online



Sunnycrest Nursery

- New arts center in the works
- GED classes at Home fire station
- Fire District 16 fire reports

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A worthy KP cause: Angels needed

By Irene Torres, KP News

The Angel Guild is a thrift store tucked into an inconspicuous space in the Key Center Corral.

The impact the nonprofit and its volunteer angels have made on the Key Peninsula is substantial. As of December 2012, the total of proceeds from the sales of donated items stands at \$1,010,458.

The Angel Guild has provided monies for grant funding for nearly every qualifying organization on the Key since its inception in 1979.

A year ago, shop hours were expanded to open on Tuesdays. Since then, the average store income has increased by \$1,700 per month. With that and the aging, illness and absence of some of their 40-50 regular workers, organization leaders have identified a need for more volunteer help.

A Saturday visit to the shop found two clerks at the counter and two workers in the sorting room.

Phyllis Henry and Betty Beal, two of those volunteers, both said they enjoy getting to meet the customers and socializing.

"It's always exciting when someone finds the perfect bargain. And the price is always right," Henry said.

Beal said she is surprised at the number of brand new items received, tags intact.

"It's the mail orders that don't fit. They are too much trouble to send back, so they donate them," she said.

Brand names like Coldwater Creek and Lands' End are commonly found in the shop, they said. The volunteers who sort the donations set all prices and store policies don't allow the clerks to change them.

Henry said that grandparents often come in with their grandkids and let them pick out a few toys for a quarter or 50 cents, and "everyone leaves happy."

Nancy Korsecck said she had shopped in the store so often, a clerk suggested she should volunteer, so she did.

She finds the Angel Guild a good way "to help a lot of people." Now she is in charge of the sorting room and works two days a week researching prices, evaluating items for sale and plac-

(See **Guild**, Page 4)

Vaughn man creates wooden toy treasures

By Scott Turner, KP News

Dale Toman headed out the door of his Vaughn home and followed the beaten path to his workshop, just like he's done hundreds of times before.

Toman, 69, is a toy maker, a lover of wood and glue who turns pine into intricate working art — soothing his mind, heart and soul at the same time.

He grew up in South Dakota and spent most of his life working civil service jobs. In 1997 he retired as a Veterans Administration warehouse worker.

Toman's fancy for wood started when his wife, Sherrill handed him a woodcrafters catalog back in the early '80s.

He found a train set he wanted to build to help him relieve stress. For his first project, he followed a detailed blueprint. "I made it and it looked real nice. It was just taking wood and



Photo by Scott Turner, KP News

Dale Toman enjoys spending quality time creating wooden toys in his Vaughn shop.

(See **Toys**, Page 2)

(From Toys, Page 1)

making something out of it and when I was done, it was a toy," he said, smiling.

Toman was soon hooked on a life hobby. The couple moved to Vaughn in 2007, and he's been building toys in his backyard shop ever since.

He's made a variety of different toys over the years, but has a hankering for making construction equipment like tractors, dump trucks and the likes.

"It's just pine wood and Elmer's wood glue. That is all I use," he said.

He picks his projects at random, with each one taking between one and two months to build.

Toman is methodical and meticulous. His toys have many small working parts he builds from scratch. He often goes on location to take photos so his toys can be as realistic as possible.

"It takes a lot of time. It takes a lot of finesse. It's something that you can't just take a bandsaw and cut out," Toman said.

He still uses blue prints, but said they generally just show the basic elements of each project.

"It's precision work. I use small files, do plenty of sanding and make all the toys from scratch," he said, holding up and rotating the pistons inside a small truck motor.

Toman is a diabetic, and says his labor of love is also good for his health.

"I go down to the shop and it seems like I am in my own world. It keeps my mind active and I'm always getting around and never sitting. It's a joy," he added.

He doesn't consider his hobby a business, but he does sell some pieces and others he gives away to sick children.

His next big project is going to be building a fire engine, complete with a working water pump.

"I got some ideas how I'm going to do it, but I want to go down to the fire station in Key Center and see if they'll let me go inside one of these fire trucks," he said, with a boyish grin.

Toman can be reached at (253) 884-3547.

Logging display opens at KP museum

The Key Peninsula Historical Society museum is proud to announce their new "Tall Trees, Tall Men and Tall Tales" theme of the year, and are looking for some community help.

Photos, tools, clothing and related items will be on display as well as a small replica of a steam donkey in operation, on loan from the family of Dale Boquist.

A timeline of logging on the Key Peninsula is also part of the main wall display.

Visitors are encouraged to identify tools or add names to unidentified photos.

Tom Van Slyke of Vaughn Bay Lumber Co. will give a presentation on his family's involvement with logging on the Key Peninsula during the annual KP Historical Society membership meeting on March 23, at the KP Civic Center following a noon meal.

Officer election and approval of amended bylaws will also be included. A copy of the bylaws is available at the mu-

seum for perusal by members.

The museum is open 1-4 p.m. every Thursday and Saturday, or by appointment. Admission is free; money donations always appreciated.

For information, call 888-3246.

Corrections

In last month's Lakebay Marina story, we misidentified Kerry Jamieson as the regional commander of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla. Jamieson is actually a former Flotilla commander of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary.

In the fire levy story, we misquoted Fire Chief Tom Lique. He said "...ultimately, our goal with the levy is to improve response times. If this doesn't happen by the end of 2015, I will ask the Board of Fire Commissioners to stop collecting levy funds."

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

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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-C3 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 the KEY PENINSULA CIVIC CENTER ASSOCIATION.

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

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

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



MARCH 2013

Key Pen Parks PROGRAM GUIDE

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

REGISTER ONLINE: www.keypenparks.com

PET EASTER TREAT HUNT

FREE!

SAT. MARCH 16

10:00AM-12:00PM

VOLUNTEER PARK

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

- 10:00am Check in begins—get your photo with the Easter Bunny!
- 10:30am The HUNT begins
- 11:30am Costume Contest

AMAZING RESOURCE BOOTHS:

- The Dog House (trim & paint nails!)
- The Humane Society (bring donation)
- Olympic Bird Fanciers (with live birds!)

Thanks to our other sponsors too: Petco, Brookside Veterinarian, & Howllywood



Park Systems Planning Survey

Please help us develop a plan for existing and possibly future parks, natural areas, recreation, programs, facilities, and services. Your responses are *very important* to the Needs Assessment process for our next 6 year Park Systems Plan.

This survey is **ONLINE** – just head to www.keypenparks.com and look for the survey icon pictured on the right, click, and expect to spend about 10-15 minutes completing. If you need a non-digital version of the survey, please call our office: 884-9240.

2nd Saturday ART FOR ADULTS Bead Jewelry

Our March class is with Sara Gray, from June Moon Beads. In this class, you will create a Leather Cuff Bracelet, as pictured below. This is a project for beginners or advanced students, come be creative with us!



LEATHER CUFF BRACELET

Volunteer Park Office
Date: Sat. March 11
9:30am-12:30pm
Fee: \$25

FITNESS CAMP

Instructor: Shannon Reichl

INDOOR (WEEKNIGHTS)

Location: KPMS Gym
Day: Mon & Wed Time: 6-7pm
Dates: Feb. 25-Apr. 3
Fee: \$45 for 1 class/week, \$90 for 2
Fitness Camp will move OUTSIDE in April

- AGILITY TRAINING • CARDIO TRAINING
 - CORE TRAINING • STRENGTH TRAINING
- ALL in a FUN workout!



Saturday
April 20
9:00am-
12:00pm

Parks Appreciation Day is a great chance for your group or family to spend a day of service in your community. This is a county-wide event; our Key Pen sites are: Rocky Creek, Gateway Park & 360 Trails, Volunteer Park, and the Civic Center. If you have a group that would like to commit to a certain site, call Jess 884-9240. After our projects are complete, we'll have a free hot dog lunch at the LDS Church to celebrate our good work!



Civic Center Gym
Saturdays: March 30 – May 4
10:30am-11:25am (ages 6-7) 11:30am-12:25pm (ages 4-5)
Fee: \$45

In Sport Samplers, experience a sampling of indoor sports: soccer, t-ball and kickball, and basketball. Every class will also feature cooperative games that focus on teamwork, communication, and problem solving.

Do you want to make a difference?

Park PALS is the program for you!

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

Upcoming Public Meetings

Park Board Meetings are at the Volunteer Park office, at 7:30pm on the following dates:
March 11

The Jerry Miller Band
 plays a fundraiser for the
KP Civic Center
 17010 S. Vaughn Rd KP N, Vaughn, WA 98394
Sat. March 9 • 8pm

WWW.JERRYMILLERSMUSIC.COM
WWW.KPCIVICCENTER.ORG
253-884-3456

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 Services**

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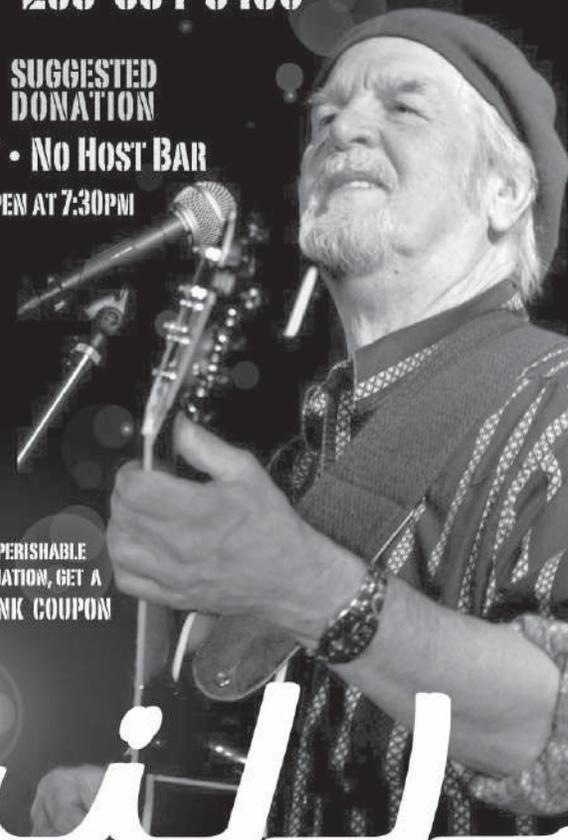



Photo by Scott Turner, KP News

Customer Glen Pszczola purchases some merchandise at the Key Center Angel Guild with help from Phyllis Henry and Betty Beal, on the cash register.

(From **Guild**, Page 1)

ing special items on eBay for auction or Amazon.com for sale. She said that some items need to reach an expanded market, outside the Key Peninsula. She recalled a McCoy cookie jar that sold for over \$400 and a box of Wedgewood pattern dishes that were sold by the piece and brought in over \$1,800.

Marlene Miles, who does the quality control from the shed behind the store, checks for soiling, working zippers, missing buttons, rehemmed items, rips and tears. Miles also oversees the adult puzzles and the children's toy section and takes the dolls home to clean and dress them, and to fix their hair.

"People are surprised at how clean everything is. But most of it doesn't come in that way. It can be discouraging," Korseck said.

The Angels try to take in as many donations as they can, but due to federal regulations for baby furniture and factory recalls of certain brand appliances, those items cannot be accepted — "even if it looks brand new."

A full-time paid coordinator, Carla Parkhurst, runs the store. There are volunteers dedicated specifically to testing the sewing machines, organizing craft materials, overseeing the books, managing the jewelry department, testing electronics and equipment, testing the bread machines by baking a loaf and so on.

Shoes and purses that do not sell in the store are picked up by an individual who pays the Angel Guild a small amount for

them. He then ships the items to Third World countries.

Sorters can encounter surprises, not all of them pleasant. "The work is dirty and heavy," Korseck said. "And those with allergies don't come out here (to the shed)."

A finance committee meets monthly to review grant applications and make recommendations. "Our greatest need is for volunteers who take their time commitment seriously," Treasurer Ann Nelson said via email.

The Angels only make grants to Key Peninsula organizations or activities that benefit the people on the Key Peninsula. They do not give to individuals, religious or political organizations. A list of grant recipients posted next to the door inside the store includes Mustard Seed Project, KP Community Services and Food Bank, KP Civic Center, Peninsula Light, Boy Scouts, KP Fire District and the KP Community Council, just to name a few.

Store vouchers are given to the needy through the KP Community Services and Children's Home Society. All donation requests must be mailed to P.O. Box 703 Vaughn, WA 98394. Donations are tax-deductible and receipts are available for that purpose.

These Angels may have retired from their paying careers but none of them has slowed in their commitment to community. They all work a minimum of 12 hours a month. All of them enjoy meeting other women who have the same interests and helping with customers. "It is fun. No day is the same," Korseck said.

For information, call (253) 884-9333.




Peninsula School District
Announces
KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION
FOR THE
2013-14 School Year
OPENS
SATURDAY, MARCH 9TH
9:00 A.M. ~ 12:00 NOON!
 ☆ **SPECIAL OFFER!** ☆
EVERY FAMILY THAT REGISTERS ON MARCH 9TH WILL RECEIVE 4 FREE PASSES TO A
MARCH 16TH MOVIE AT GALAXY THEATER!

Register at your Neighborhood School

- ★ Meet the Principal!
- ★ Please Bring:
 - ✓ Birth Certificate
 - ✓ Immunization Records
 - ✓ Proof of Address (We only accept a utility bill. No lease agreements.)
 - ✓ Most registration forms on-line at www.psd401.net

For More Information:
 Please visit the PSD Website at www.psd401.net
 Call your neighborhood school or call the District Office at (253) 530-1009

Student Transfers

The deadline to request a student transfer is April 30, 2013.

Special note: Purdy Elementary remains at full capacity—transfer requests with extenuating circumstances will be considered.

A Request to Transfer within Peninsula School District Form must be completed annually by any student requesting a transfer. Requests should be submitted to Peninsula School District, Attention: Dan Gregory, Academic Officer K-12 Programs, 14015 62nd Ave NW, Gig Harbor, WA 98332 by April 30.

To become a non-resident student in the Peninsula School District, parents must first complete the Application for Non-Resident Admission and obtain a district release from their resident school district. Non-resident transfers are granted on space availability at the school and grade level requested.

Requests for non-resident student transfers should be submitted to Peninsula School District, Attention: Dan Gregory, Academic Officer K-12 Programs, 14015 62nd Ave NW, Gig Harbor, WA 98332 by April 30.

To obtain a release from Peninsula School District, parents must submit a Request for Release—CHOICE form to the Education Service Center for signature.

Questions? Please call Roxann Tallman at (253) 530-1007.



MARCH EVENTS

- 7 School Board Regular Meeting 6 p.m. at Minter Creek
- 9 Kindergarten registration begins 9 a.m. to noon at all PSD elementary schools
- 12-14 High School State Writing and Reading Testing (grades 10-12)
- 15 No School--Possible snow make up day
- 21 School Board Regular Meeting 6 p.m. at District Office
- 25-26 Elementary ONLY early release 12:15 for conferences
- 26 Superintendent Forum 6:30-8 p.m. at Goodman Middle School

OSPI Identifies Vaughn Elementary as a Reward School - Vaughn Elementary School has been identified by the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction as a Reward School for 2013-14. Vaughn was considered for reward status based on levels of student achievement. As a High Progress School, Vaughn is in the top 10 percent of Title I schools in reading and math based on the school's performance over three years. Congratulations to Vaughn!

\$356,380 Check Presented to PSD - Peninsula Light Company CEO Jafar Taghavi recently presented the Peninsula School District with a rebate check for \$356,380. The rebate is the result of a partnership between the District and Peninsula Light Company to retrofit several buildings with new energy efficient lighting equipment. The rebate dollars allowed the District to expand the scope of the project and complete lighting upgrades at several schools and offices throughout the District. It is expected that the upgrades will save the District in both utility and maintenance costs.

Late Start Wednesdays - We revisit the value of our one-hour late start Wednesdays on a regular basis. The purpose of late start Wednesdays is very clear – collaboration on school improvement. Each of our schools documents monthly collaboration efforts, which are posted online at their building websites, and the District conducts school improvement process debriefs three times per year. It is not additional planning time, but is building directed collaborative work dedicated to school improvement. Unfortunately, with the state budget cuts the last few years, we have lost three extra Learning Improvement Days and, with the salary cuts, lost an additional Professional Development Day to a furlough day. We will continue to work with our school board, principals, parents and teachers to make sure the Wednesday collaboration remains value-added.

Nondiscrimination Statement Peninsula School District does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, honorably discharged veteran or military status, sexual orientation including gender expression or identity, the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following employees have been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination: Title IX and Compliance Coordinator is the Academic Officer K-12, (253) 530-1000, gregoryd@psd401.net; Section 504/ADA Coordinator is the Director of Student Services, (253) 530-1000, thompsonc@psd401.net

Peninsula Views

An introduction of duty

Hello, neighbors. I am your new state senator, and I'm grateful for this chance to introduce myself and share some thoughts on the issues facing our communities in these challenging times in Washington state.

For those of you I have not met, it is my privilege to replace our former state Sen. Derek Kilmer, who was elected to Congress in November. The Pierce County Council and the Kitsap County commissioners appointed me to fill the position, so our district will continue to be represented in Olympia this year.

I was born and raised in Bremerton, the son of a hospital administrator and a nurse.

Today I continue the family tradition as an emergency department physician at St. Joseph's Medical Center. I am a beneficiary of the excellent public education system in our state. I graduated from Central Kitsap High School and earned my law and medical degrees from the University of Washington. I live in Gig Harbor with my wife, Jessica, and our two children, David and Juliette.

As a native son, I know our area, including the Key Peninsula, has unique interests and needs.

Transportation is a great example. As many of us know all too well, we share a significant share of the costs of two major parts of our state transportation network: the Tacoma Narrows Bridge and the ferry system. I know that escalating bridge tolls and ferry fares, as well as potential cuts to ferry service, can make the basics like getting to work difficult for many of us. I know that it is also suppressing economic activity and making growth in our district a challenge.

I am working to keep tolls and fares down, while maintaining our connection to neighboring communities. I believe we can mitigate the need for higher bridge tolls, for example, by holding down administrative costs for the tolling program and taking a close look at reserve funds the bridge program is required to hold.

While we do have unique needs in our district, we also have much in common with every Washington community. On top of that list must be a commitment to education. As

Nathan Schlicher
Senator, 26th Dist.



someone who owes his career to a quality public education, I know how important our schools are, and I want my children to have the same opportunities that I did.

We're facing another tight budget situation, and we will have to make tough choices. However, I believe we need to be clear in the Legislature: Education reform and efficiency do not mean "less education." We can't cut education at any level; we must improve it. We have a constitutional and a moral obligation to put our children's education first, and I am committed to making sure we do just that.

As an emergency room physician, I also see firsthand the importance of our safety net. Ensuring everyone has basic health care not only changes lives, it can help us free resources for our priorities. A great example of this is the E.R. for "Emergencies" program, which I helped design as a physician. By working together, hospitals, physicians and the state helped people get the right kind of care, rather than coming to the emergency room with low-acuity health issues.

That reduced emergency room visits by state-insured Medicaid patients, increased the quality of care they received, and it is saving the taxpayers an estimated \$30 million. We can do more in this regard.

Most of all, I want to hear from you. You can always call my office, or if you are in Olympia during the legislative session, stop by to talk. I've also been hosting weekly Friday meetings across the district, inviting constituents to join me for coffee and a discussion of what matters to them.

I am honored to represent you and look forward to meeting you soon.

Sen. Schlicher will be holding a town hall meeting with Rep. Larry Seaquist from 2-3 p.m. March 16, at the Key Peninsula Lutheran Church. Contact Sen. Schlicher at (360) 786-7650 or nathan.schlicher@leg.wa.gov.

Lent, the annual journey toward Easter

We recently gathered to lay a friend to rest, saying our goodbyes to a mother, a sister, an aunt — a woman who died much too young after a battle with cancer.

And Joe still grieves his wife, and Gene his brother-in-law, and Doug his father, and we all miss our friends, parents, spouses, children who have left us. Death is too familiar a friend.

Last month, while many were celebrating Mardi Gras and St. Valentine's Day, another group was embracing Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent. It's an old custom, one that gets play in Roman Catholic and more liturgical corners of the world, and one that is lately finding traction in the wider church.

Lent gets a lot of bad press, if any at all. No one wants to speak of fasting and abstaining in a world built on acquiring and consuming. Self-denial seems silly in a culture that worships the pursuit of pleasure. "Eat, drink and be merry," said the rich farmer in the Bible.

But that philosophy is ultimately empty. We celebrate and accumulate, only to find it doesn't satisfy, that something more is necessary.

In the end, Lent is a time for truth-telling, for looking behind the masks and the pretenses and lies we tell ourselves. It is a time to recognize the reality we've been trying to ignore — that we're unhappy, that we're growing older, that we've hurt too many people, that life isn't going as we planned.

Everybody who's been part of a recovery group, or has gone through counseling or battled a disease will say that the crucial part is naming the truth

and not hiding from it any longer. This is what Lent is about: slowing down enough to name the truth about our lives.

That truth is often hard to bear. We lie. We steal. We drink too much. We are jealous. We are afraid. We hurt our friends and loved ones. We seek revenge on our enemies. We pillage and pollute the Earth. We are selfish. Our bodies grow old and sick. Death is close by.

Here's the good news, though. Lent isn't the end. It's just a step on the journey toward Easter. The end of the story will be celebrated again at the end of March as Christians gather to celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus.

Easter is the promise that all that has been broken is being made new. It is the hope that we shall all be reunited, as the old hymn says. Easter is the message that, in spite of all that pain and brokenness, we are loved with an unshakeable love, and that eventually, all will be made well.

Whether Lent is a season you recognize or not, I encourage you to take some time for quiet and reflection, even looking into the shattered remnants of the losses and pains of your life. As you do, my prayer is that you find the pathway leading through it to the hope of new life beyond. May Easter morning shine bright and clear for all of us.

Dan Whitmarsh
Writing by Faith



Dan Whitmarsh is pastor at Lakebay Community Church.

King tides, syzygy and the South Sound seiche

The oceans that surround us would really like to leave the Earth. Only Earth's gravitational pull keeps them here.

They are always seeking another gravitational pull with which to dance. Our

sun and moon are both willing partners. And dance they do. Our Earth rotates around the sun, making the focal point of the sun's gravitational pull move as we spin. The much closer moon rotates around us; the focus of the moon's gravitational pull also changes.

When the two pulls are in different directions, there's not much of dance going on and tidal differences day to day are minimized. But when the two tug in the same direction, the tidal dance can be huge. Huge enough to cause king tides.

King tide is the popular name; the name of the combined force that causes it is syzygy (pronounced sizz uh jee). Great word, eh?

Now, add a powerful wind blowing over miles of open water causing huge waves to build up and we get a sort of super syzygy. And for us here on the South Sound, southerly winds blowing up Carr and Case inlets, along with the seiche effect of water moving in a shallow vessel, creates conditions ripe for tidal flooding.

Puget Sound is a seiche (pronounced saysh). A seiche is a flat, shallow vessel filled with water that sways back and forth. If you fill a cookie sheet with water and carry it across a room, you create a seiche. The water tends to slop over whichever end you tilt and it's really difficult to get it to settle down.

Puget Sound is no different. The gravitational pulls of the sun and the moon combined with the rotation of the Earth provide motion for our seiche. At high tide, water piles up like crazy at the far end of our two waters at Wauna on Carr Inlet and Allyn on Case Inlet.

Tidal extremes in locations not at the ends of our seiche, for example Seattle, where the tide just passes by, are about 12 feet from lowest low to highest high. Meantime, Allyn and Wauna see predicted tidal differences of more than 20 feet from -3.8 to plus 16.5 feet or more and a couple of feet more under winter storm conditions.

But wait, there's more. One more force

William T. Trandum
Winds, Tides & Weathers



keeps our oceans from leaving the Earth. That's atmospheric pressure. Air presses down on the oceans, helping keep them from springing into the sky.

At normal atmospheric pressure, a one-inch square column of air reaching into the ionosphere weighs around 14.7 pounds. Yes, that weighs on you all the time, too. It's about as much as having a small car sit on you. But since it's both inside and outside of you, it doesn't crush you.

When atmospheric pressure goes down, as it typically does over Puget Sound during a storm, its ability to hold the sea down can be seriously affected. A barometric drop from 30 inches of mercury to 29 inches reduces that weight and results in a general tide level increase of 12.6 inches.

Add that extra foot to the syzygy the morning of Dec. 17, 2012, along with the gale force winds, and we had a greatly amplified high tide. The normal predicted high tide on that date measured in Seattle was just one-fourth of an inch higher than the last record high king tide in January of 1983.

Just look at the damaged seawall in Purdy, at Massimo's restaurant, and you can get a feel for the power of the combination of natural forces.

The next king tide for us occurred the morning of Jan. 14. Winds were light and variable and barometric pressure was high, so the tides were nearly a foot lower than predicted, and South Sound was as docile as a mill pond.

We live in a truly dynamic environment where gravity, wind, barometric pressure, the sun and the moon can change our mill pond into a roiling cauldron in a few hours.

As every mariner knows, we must be ever respectful of the forces of nature. In awe.

Bill Trandum is a retired U.S. Navy captain, has sailed many of Earth's seas in all kinds of weathers, and can be reached at btrandum@keypenparks.com.

It's spring at Sunnycrest and it's time to plant!

Lots of new plants and products to get the garden growing.

- STRAWBERRIES** - 7 varieties, 6 bareroot plants \$4.99
- RASPBERRIES** - 2-year-old canes, July and everbearing varieties
- BLUEBERRIES** - 2 to 4-year plants, 12 varieties, 25% off
- PLUS OTHER FAVORITES - GOOSEBERRIES, CURRANTS, MARION, LOGAN, JOSTA & TAYBERRY.**

March Classes

Get the Buzz on Bees
March 2nd, 11 a.m.

This is a seminar on learning how to encourage the native bees to stick around, propagate and pollinate the orchard and garden. Diane Everson, local expert, will share her knowledge on this important subject.

Growing "Bumper Crop" Veggies
Saturday, March 16th, 1 p.m.

Dale Loy, instructor

Great gardens begin with great soil and knowledge on how, when and where to plant and what to plant at the right time. Join Dale and share his passion.

THESE CLASSES ARE FREE BUT SIZE IS LIMITED SO SIGN UP NOW

WE HAVE BUNCHES OF FLAVOR

ONIONS - Walla Walla, Alisha Craig, Ringmaster and other favorites. We will have onion starts and sets and these are great for spring-summer plantings.

DON'T FORGET THE OTHER GREAT EDIBLES TOO!
ASPARAGUS-RHUBARB-HORSERADISH - All available for planting now.

HOLIDAYS IN THE FLORAL DEPARTMENT

St. Patricks Day
Sunday, March 17th
Shamrocks and green carnations for all of the IRISH in you.

Easter
Sunday, March 31st
Beautiful Easter lilies and floral designs for those special family gatherings.

FRUIT TREES ARE STILL ON SALE!
Bare root fruit trees are 25% Off
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Sunday 11 a.m.-4 p.m. www.sunnycrestnursery.com

Herron Island turns on the faucet for new water system

KP News staff report

On Feb. 9, residents of Herron Island celebrated the completion of a new water system.

The new system, which cost an estimated \$1.8 million, replaced an old, leaky system that had been in use since 1958, according to island manager Claudia Ellsworth.

Funds for the new system came from loan through the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development Program.

"We've been trying to replace the old system for more than 20 years," Ellsworth said. "We knew it would be expensive, but we were in a very favorable bidding climate."

They also got a very low interest rate on the loan — 2.5 percent.

There are approximately 400 homes on the island that connect to the system, including about 135 year-round residents. The entire island is a homeowners' association, Ellsworth said. The members own their land and their homes, but the association, called HMC, owns the water system and the ferry.

The island has two good-quality wells that are more than 200-feet deep, she added.

Association members — the actual water users — will pay for the new system over a period of 40 years. "By 2017, the entire system will be metered," Ellsworth said.

One of the biggest benefits of the new system is the increase in fire hydrants. Prior to the upgrade, there were just three fire hydrants on the entire island, which is 1.5 miles long and approximately half-a-mile wide.

"It's absolutely amazing the increase in protection the island now has," said Tom Lique, chief of the Key Peninsula Fire Department. "When the island annexed into the fire district in 1984, there were only three hydrants. Now there are 41."

That will make a huge difference in the fire department's ability to respond to fires. "Now, with the way our engines are set up, we can probably use just one engine because many of the hydrants will be within 1,000 feet of each other," Lique said.

In the past, fire trucks often had to dump their water loads before they could



Photo by Ed Johnson, KP News

Water system manager Judy Greinke, Heron Island manager Claudia Ellsworth and Mario Villanueva, the USDA state director of the Rural Development Division, cut the ribbon during the recent Heron Island community ceremony celebrating the completion of their new water system. The island's community center was filled with island residents and numerous off-island participants in the project.

board the ferry to the island. That meant that, once they got to the island, they had to find a hydrant to reload from.

The fire department lists the ferry "as one of our response units" Lique said. "If somebody calls us, they (ferry personnel) receive a page just like our own crews do. They tell us whether we can go directly to the dock, or if we have to wait for them to clear out all the cars to make way for our trucks."

The boost in fire protection may also

translate into insurance savings for islanders, Ellsworth noted. "Of course, it depends on who your insurance company is, but fire is the island's biggest hazard, and the new water system makes fire protection and suppression much, much easier," she said.

In the long run, Lique said, "We hope we'll never have to use the island's new water system, but if we do, it will be a great help to us in putting out a fire quickly and hopefully saving the home."



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2013 Arbor Day Tree Photo Contest

The Gig Harbor Peninsula Arbor Day Org, a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization, is sponsoring this contest to help raise awareness about the benefits of trees to people and our environment. Show us your best original photo of a tree, trees or a whole forest. Be creative, artistic and true to the theme!

1st Place \$100 2nd Place \$50 3rd Place \$25

RULES

All photos will be displayed at the
ARBOR DAY CELEBRATION
on Saturday, April 27, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
in the Peninsula High School commons

MAIL ENTRIES TO:

Gig Harbor Peninsula Arbor Day Org.,
P.O. Box 1493, Gig Harbor, WA 98335.
Entries may also be hand-delivered to
Peninsula High School's main office
(Attn: Carol Alex).

1. The theme of this year's contest is "Celebrating Pacific Northwest Trees." A regional tree or trees must be the main focus of the composition and should send a positive visual message.
2. Two contest categories: 1) Amateur under 18 years old and 2) Amateur 18+ years old.
3. Minimum size for your photo is 5 inches x 7 inches. No maximum size. Photos must be mounted on mat board for display purposes. Black and white or color photos accepted.
4. DEADLINE: Photos must be received by 3:00 p.m. on April 10, 2013. For a complete set of rules, go to: www.gigharborarbor.com.

2013 Tree Photo Contest Entry Form

(Affix this to the BACK of your photo)

NAME _____ Contact # _____
Check CATEGORY: AMATEUR 18+ _____ AMATEUR Under 18 _____
Name of school (if under 18) _____ Grade _____
TITLE OF ENTRY: _____ LOCATION taken _____

The photographer/contestant retains all copyrights to their entry and guarantees that they are the original photographer of said image. Photos may be posted on our website with permission.

BRIEFS

Community News

Local endowment fund gets established

The creation of an endowment fund has been discussed for many years at the Key Peninsula Civic Center (KPCCA).

Those with an interest in sustaining the operations of the center and those who plan their giving now have an official vehicle to do so.

In November 2012, the KPCCA past presidents voted to transfer their entire treasury (about \$13,000) as seed money, and the KPCCA Board of Directors voted to set up an endowment fund with the Greater Tacoma Community Foundation (GTCF).

In operation for decades and managing millions of dollars in similar funds, the GTCF protects and secures the investment, with only the interest earned being available to the center.

Contributions to the KPCCA Endowment Fund can be made through the civic

center or directly to the Greater Tacoma Community Foundation.

"A few (members) of our KP community expressed an interest in placing the civic center in their personal giving programs if the center would create an official and professionally managed endowment fund," said Bruce Macdonald, a KPCCA past president. "I think it is important to promote it as much as possible."

For information, call 884-3456 or 884-2955.

Local group looking for a few good tree lovers

The Gig Harbor Peninsula Arbor Day Organization is currently accepting nominations for its annual "Nominate a Tree Lover" good stewardship award.

This award is given to an individual or organization that has made a significant contribution to the planting or preserving of trees

in our community.

The organization is a grassroots, nonprofit made up of five dedicated women on mission to inform people about the importance of trees in Gig Harbor/Key Peninsula area.

According to Carol Alex, organization president, one of the ways they make people aware is by holding their popular contest.

"This award is open to anyone who lives or works in the greater Gig Harbor area. We are looking for someone or an organization who, last year, made some outstanding progress in the planting or preserving trees in our community," Alex said.

Their last recipient was Bernie O'Brien of Longbranch. He was chosen for saving trees that would have been cut down on various properties on the Key Peninsula, Alex said.

Each year, the award is presented at the Gig Harbor Peninsula Arbor Day Organization's Arbor Day celebration. This year the event will run from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. April 27 at the Peninsula High School commons.

"It is one way to really comment and ap-

plaud those people in our community who are doing good things in preservation. This is a community award by people doing good by trees," Alex said.

The organization will be accepting nominations through April 5 at arbor@gigharbortacoma.com. For information, call (253) 858-8797.

KeyFest fair moves to Gateway Park

The local KeyFest community fair is coming to town on July 12, 13 and 14.

This year, organizers are moving the popular event to the new Gateway Park, off SR-302 in Wauna.

There will be carnival rides, games, a fishing pond, entertainment, a vehicle show and more. Coordinators are looking for sponsors, vendors, volunteers, entertainers and vehicle entries of all kinds. For information visit keyfair.org or call (253) 444-3547.

12th Annual Key Peninsula Livable Community Fair
 Saturday, May 11, 2013
 Key Peninsula Civic Center • 10am - 3pm

Free admission!

MAKE CONNECTIONS IN THE COMMUNITY

Sponsorship opportunities are available to promote your business through posters, postcards, ads, website links and more.

Exhibit space available for non-profit organizations and other community resources on the Key Peninsula.

For details, visit www.kpciviccenter.org or call 253-884-3456

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State ramping up for work on the Key Peninsula Highway

By Irene Torres, KP News

Another recent accident in the vicinity of the Wauna curves brought out road crews for shoulder repairs and gave drivers a glimpse of major roadwork slated for Key Peninsula's highway in 2014.

Steve Fuchs, project engineer with the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT), said the highway has been identified as having many accidents.

He said the goal of the upcoming project is to increase safety by reducing the "frequency and severity of the accidents by reducing congestion."

The \$6.5 million "Key Peninsula Highway to Purdy Vicinity Safety and Congestion" project will be funded by the Transportation Partner Account.

Fuchs said there are two main intersections of focus. One is at 118th Avenue and SR-302, where the state will add left-turn lanes to try and reduce some of the major left-turn accidents. The other area of interest will be at the west end of the Purdy sand spit, at Goodrich Court and Goldman Drive, where they will also be adding left-turn lanes.

"We are trying to remove a lot of the



By Ed Johnson, KP News

Last month, Washington State Department of Transportation workers made some highway repairs after an accident in the Wauna curves area. Next year, the WSDOT will commence work on a major project designed to help make the heavily traveled Key Peninsula highway safer for drivers.

fixed objects in the right of way — mostly trees, so where we can (where wetlands aren't present) we will remove trees so when people leave the roadway they aren't wrapped around a tree," he said.

When construction delays start up next year, Fuchs said he is hopeful that drivers will be as patient as possible.

According to Fuchs, there are also plans to install six pullout areas on the shoulder

where vehicles can clear the roadway to allow emergency vehicles to pass. Each pullout will be 120 feet long.

The state does not have the budget to widen shoulders all along the 6.23-mile project, but Fuchs said the Legislature appropriated some money because they recognized the need to make some safety improvements.

"I think we have a very solid justification where we plan these improvements based off a roadway safety audit completed in 2009 in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration and the State Patrol," he said. "We also did a speed survey and were able to reduce the speed from 50 to 45 mph."

Fuchs plans to advertise the project near the end of this year, and construction will start in the spring. He said it's a one-season job and construction should be done by fall 2014.

Fuchs attends Key Peninsula Community Council meetings for quarterly updates on state road projects.

For information, call (360) 570-6600. A full project description is available at wsdot.wa.gov/projects/sr302/kphtpurdysafety/.

THE MORNING THAT CHANGED THE WORLD

LET IT CHANGE YOU

EASTER MORNING
SUNDAY, MARCH 31ST

THURSDAY

MARCH 28TH

Lakebay Community Church

6:30pm - SEDER SERVICE

Key Peninsula Lutheran Church

7:00pm - LAST SUPPER DRAMA

Longbranch Community Church

5:30pm - Maundy Thursday

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICES

MARCH 29TH

Key Peninsula Lutheran Church

7:00pm - GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

Longbranch Community Church

12:00 - 6:00pm - Sanctuary Open for Prayer

WayPoint Church

7:00pm - GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

Historic Vaughn Bay Church

Key Peninsula Civic Center, 884-9303 (VFW Room)

7:30am - SUNRISE SERVICE at Vaughn Bay Cemetery

(VFW room at Civic Center in case of rain)

9:30am - WORSHIP SERVICE

Key Peninsula Lutheran Church

4213 Lackey Rd KPN, Lakebay, 884-3312

10:30am - RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD WORSHIP

Lakebay Community Church

11 Cornwall Rd KPS, Lakebay, 884-3899

7:00am - SUNRISE SERVICE at Camp Woodworth

9:30am - RESURRECTION CELEBRATION

Longbranch Community Church

16518 46th Street KPS, Longbranch, 884-9339

7:15am - SUNRISE SERVICE on

Herron Island (ferry service at 7)

10:30am - EASTER WORSHIP SERVICE

WayPoint Church

12719 134th Ave KPN, 853-7678

9:30am & 11:00am - RESURRECTION CELEBRATION

Little Toasters building youthful confidence on the KP

By Michelle M. Mondeck, KP News

A stream of 15 energetic Evergreen Elementary School girls filled the classroom with smiles, laughter and anticipation.

Last month, during one of their Little Toasters after-school gatherings, these girls learned to stand up, to be proud and to speak their mind.

The Little Toasters program is designed similar to Toastmasters International, an organization dedicated to communication and leadership development.

The students start their activity with the “word of the day,” a hands-on craft project, followed by each girl writing her own speech based on a kid-centric topic of the week.

Coordinator Debbie Fisher said the program works well “because the girls have so much fun, they don’t even realize they’re learning.”

According to Fisher, who works for the Children’s Home Society of Washington, statistics show that teachers reported more than 60 percent of Little Toasters actually learned to speak up when bullied, and 90

percent of them raised their hands when asked to participate during regular school classes.

Last year, Jud Morris, Pierce County community director for the Children’s Home Society, asked Serena Carlson to become a volunteer “big buddy” for the growing program.

Carlson, 14, first became involved with Little Toasters in fifth grade. Now in middle school, she enjoys mentoring younger students involved in the popular program.

Carlson said she was encouraged by the leadership, had fun playing games and enjoyed working with the kid-generated weekly topics.

Singing in Little Toasters helped her to overcome stage fright and speaking in the classroom. She also attributes her self-confidence to being involved in the program, she said.

During the all-girls sessions, they engage with each other full of curiosity, imagination and beam with pride throughout the hour-long program.

“It’s really fun. We write speeches, play games and eat pizza,” said Drace Nesbit, 7.



Kaylee Scanton, left, and Ashley Roberts enjoy a craft activity with mentor Serena Carlson during a recent after-school Little Toasters session at Evergreen Elementary School.

Photo by Scott Turner, KP News

Lilly Hampton, 9, said she thinks the program is both fun and educational.

“I like to draw, and I get to do that. It’s a place to hang out with friends in a safe place, and it boosts up my confidence,” Hampton said, smiling.

At the end of each program, each student stood in front of her peers and read her speech of the day. Afterward, each girl was given a round of applause for a job well done.

Little Toasters is now offered as an after-school activity at Minter and Evergreen Elementary.

Fisher is working on developing the program curriculum in hopes of bringing other schools onboard in the near future, she said.

The Little Toasters program has been nominated by the Association of American University Women (AAUW) for the Ellen Roosevelt Award.

For information, call 884-5433.

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COMMUNITY PAGES

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

NOW

GED classes

Key Peninsula residents are able to complete a basic skills education for college entrance, employment skills or a GED. Class meets Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9:30-11:30 a.m. at the Home fire station. Evening classes (6 to 8 p.m.) are available at the TCC Gig Harbor Campus. Enroll any time. For detailed class information, registration and orientation, call Tracy Clark, (253) 460-2356.

MARCH 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

Friday skate night

Geared for kids 5-13, skate night is held from 5:30-8:30 p.m. at the KP Civic Center. This is a safe place with roller skating, arcade games and concessions. Parents are welcome to attend and visit with others on the observation balcony. Kpciviccenter.org or 884-3456.

MARCH 4, 11, 18, 25

Bloodmobile dates

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

MARCH 7

Fuchsia club meets

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

MARCH 8

Climate change

Gary Klauinzer presents "Climate Change: Why Sandy was so devastating and what can we do about our new reality?" at 7 p.m. at the Key Center Library. This presentation is free.

MARCH 9

Rummage sale

Dr. Penrose Guild holds its Attic Treasures rummage sale from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at the KP Lutheran Church. 884-2020.

MARCH 10, 17, 24

Silver cinema series

The fifth annual Silver Cinema Series for seniors presented by The Mustard Seed Project and the Friends of the KC Library begins with "Stephane Grappelli: A Life in the Jazz Century." The second film is "Her Name is Zelda," about a 90-year-old who remade herself during middle age. The last film is "Dalai Lama: The Soul of Tibet." View and discuss the free films at 1 p.m. at the KC Library. Refreshments are served.

MARCH 12, 27

Knit or crochet

Loving Hearts voluntarily knit and crochet hats for chemo patients and the backpack program for kids, baby items and blankets, wheelchair/walker bags and fingerless gloves for veterans in the community. They meet from 1-3 p.m. on March 12 and 7-9 p.m. on March 27. Donations of yarn and needles are always welcome. Virginia, 884-9619 or lovingheartsonkp@aol.com.

KPLL parent training

The KP Little League holds training for parents at 7 p.m. at Volunteer Park. askkpll@hotmail.com.

MARCH 12, 19, 26

Play time

Baby play/learn time, for 0-24 months, is at 10:15 a.m. followed by preschool block play, for children 3-7 years at 11 a.m. Both are at the KC Library. (253) 543-3309.

MARCH 13

Bayshore Garden Club

The Bayshore Garden Club meets at 1 p.m. at the Longbranch fire station. Francine, (253) 569-1381.

MARCH 13, 20, 27

Family story time

Family story time, for families with preschoolers, is from 11-11:30 a.m. at the

To submit an event

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

KC Library. (253)-543-3309.

MARCH 14

Ashes meet

The Ashes support group for FD#16 meets at 10:30 a.m. at the KC fire station. 884-3771.

MARCH 16

Pet treat hunt

Key Pen Parks hosts the annual free Pet Easter Treat Hunt from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Volunteer Park. All dogs must be on a leash. 884-9240.

MARCH 17

Third Sunday jam

Bluegrass Gospel Jam session is held at Longbranch Church (16518 46th Street KPS) from 6 - 8:30 p.m. for all acoustic instruments, ages, and skill levels. Everyone is welcome to play, sing or simply listen. Bring music stand and finger food to share; music and beverages are provided. (253) 492-4177.

MARCH 21

Community Forum

Mustard Seed hosts a free community forum at 10 a.m. at the KC fire station. Edie, 884-1205.

Words & wine

Words and Wine, with a featured poet or author and open mic, meets at 7 p.m. at the Blend Wine Shop. 884-9688.

MARCH 23

KPHS meeting

The annual membership meeting for the Key Peninsula Historical Society will be held in the VFW room of the

KP Civic Center from noon to 3 p.m. Tom Van Slyke, Vaughn Bay Lumber Co., will give a presentation on his family's involvement with logging on the Key Peninsula. Election of officers will be held and the museum will be open. Prospective members are welcome. 884-2511.

MARCH 28

Book group

"Dance Boots" by Linda LeGarde is the book discussed at 11 a.m. at the Key Center Library. The discussion group is sponsored by the Key Center Friends of the Library. (253) 543-3309.

MARCH 29

Club Cosmic

Club Cosmic, for teens grades 8-12, is held from 9 p.m.-midnight. Group games and activities, DJ battles, arcade games in the Whitmore room and concessions are offered; all for \$5. Kpciviccenter.org or 884-3456.

MARCH 30

Egg hunt

The annual free Easter Egg Hunt for children ages 12 and under begins promptly at noon at the KP Civic Center. The hunt is hosted by Boy Scout Troop 220 and the KP Civic Center. Kids search for Easter eggs filled with candy and prizes and visit with the Easter Bunny. The troop is seeking donations for candy. Contact katwingers@hotmail.com.

Citizen of year

The KP Lions reveal the Citizen of the Year at a banquet, catered by Dorne Webster of Mosquito Fleet Cuisine, beginning at 6 p.m. at the KP Civic Center. Tickets are available from members of the Lions or at Sunnycrest Nursery.

WEEKLY EVENTS

MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, FRIDAYS

Open walk

Get some exercise from 9-11 a.m. in the gym in the KP Civic Center and meet new friends. Open to all ages; families welcome. \$2 suggested donation. 884-3456.

TUESDAYS

TOPS #1325

Take-Off Pounds Sensibly meets at 9 a.m. at the Key Peninsula Lutheran Church. Free child care, fun and support are provided. 884-2554.

Key Singers

Key Singers meet at Key Peninsula Lutheran Church, from 7 - 8:30 p.m. New members welcome. Key Singers are singing show tunes for May concert. 884-5615.

TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS

Preschool play time

The Children's Home Society KP Fam-

ily Resource Center offers a preschool/toddler indoor park program from 9:30-11:30 a.m. at the KP Civic Center. Caregivers must stay with child. Drop-ins are welcome; stay for as long as you wish. A \$1/child donation is suggested. 884-5433.

WEDNESDAYS

Lakebay writers

The Lakebay Writers meet from 1:30-4 p.m. at the Blend in Key Center. 884-3931.

Watermark writers

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

THURSDAYS

Toastmasters

The Toastmasters meet from 8-9 a.m. at the KC Library. Join the fun and improve your speaking ability. Toastmasters International is the most efficient, enjoyable way of developing great com-

munication skills. Contact <http://3409.toastmastersclubs.org> or (253) 740-7891.

Senior Society

The Key Peninsula Senior Society meets at 11:30 a.m. for a potluck, fellowship and games in the Whitmore Room at the Civic Center. All are welcome. 884-4981.

THURSDAYS & SATURDAYS

KP Museum

A logging display at KP Museum, "Tall Trees, Tall Men, Tall Tales" is open at the Key Peninsula Historical Society museum from 1-4 p.m. or by appointment. Free admission; money donations appreciated. 888-3246.

SATURDAYS

Writers' guild

The Writers' Guild meets from 9-11 a.m. at the Key Center Library. 884-6455.

OFF THE KEY

MARCH 8-24

"Cabaret"

Paradise Theatre presents "Cabaret," the Tony award-winning musical by Kanter and Ebb, on Friday and Saturday evenings and Sunday afternoon. Call 851-7529 for information and tickets.

MARCH 9

Bloodmobile dates

The bloodmobile will be at the Gig

Harbor Health and Safety Expo (10222 Bujacich Rd NW) from 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m. and also at Gig Harbor Safeway from 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. The bloodmobile will be at St. Nicholas Catholic Church in Gig Harbor from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. on Sunday, March 10 and at the Kiwanis Club of Peninsula-Gig Harbor from 12-7 p.m. on Thursday, March 14.

Port Orchard bloodmobile

The bloodmobile is at Adventure of Faith Church in Port Orchard from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. on 3/10.

MARCH 14

Open mic for authors

Gig Harbor's 1st Open Mic for local authors is from 6:45-8:45 p.m. at Spiro's Pizza & Pasta on Harborview. Wendy Hinman reads from "Tightwads on the Loose," the story of her seven years of sailing around the world. Local writers can give 5-minute presentations from their works. This free event is presented by The Writers Connection, Plicata Press and friends. truwryter@comcast.net or janwalker@centurytel.net.

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KP Lions to select 2013 Citizen of the Year

The 29th annual Key Peninsula Citizen of the Year Awards dinner will be held March 30 at 6 p.m. at the KP Civic Center.

The Key Peninsula Lions Club invites all Key Peninsula citizens and their friends to attend. To confirm invitations and reservations, tickets may be obtained from members of the KP Lions Club or at Sunnycrest Nursery in Key Center in exchange for a \$25 contribution to help cover the costs of the event.

Profiles of the 18 citizens nominated for the honor of KP Citizen of the Year 2012-13 are below. Community members submitted their nominations to the KP Lions Club, whose members will vote by secret ballot for the winner. The winner will be revealed at the banquet.

MIKE COFFIN

Shortly after Mike Coffin's retirement from the U.S. Army, he became a professional volunteer. He was formerly the vice president and president of the Key Peninsula Lions Club while simultaneously serving as president of the KP Civic Center and Gig



Harbor Fraternal Order of Eagles.

He was on the KP Fire Department's planning committee, a trainer for the Pierce County Emergency Preparedness program and an

active member of both the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the American Legion.

His leadership has been sought because of his business background and his ability to gain consensus among group members; with his guidance, organizations excelled in their support of the community. Coffin is often seen driving local residents to appointments. He is currently president of the KP Civic Center Past Presidents' Association, a member of KP Business Association and is serving his fifth term as president of the Key Peninsula Veterans.

CAROLYN DIMMER

Carolyn Dimmer has enthusiastically and



effectively volunteered as a mentor with Communities in Schools of Peninsula at Evergreen Elementary, helping children overcome difficulties with reading. Students and peers

love her.

Dimmer also volunteers with the Angel Guild, helping to ensure that items for sale are properly marked and labeled and that customers and contributors are warmly welcomed. She is a real asset to the community and deserving of recognition for her selfless endeavors to make the Key Peninsula a precious place to live.

KOBE FREDERICK

On his own volition, 14-year-old Kobe Frederick approached the office of the Key Peninsula Park District offering to help. He soon became the go-to volunteer for almost all the programs.



He was an assistant leader for Eco Camp, a program helper for Cinema under the Stars, an assistant coach for PeeWee soccer, entertainment leader for Harvest Hayride, head elf for

Santa's Breakfast and is currently assistant coach for PeeWee basketball.

Frederick, who is home-schooled, has been inspired by these activities and is now pursuing more leadership training, including becoming a junior lifeguard. He is an inspiration to all children and to his peers on the Key Peninsula. He loves skating on Friday nights at the Civic Center and being involved with friends.

JEFF HARRIS

After his move to the Key Peninsula in 1995, Jeff Harris managed the Custom

(See COY, Page 15)

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(From COY, Page 14)



Camera business near Key Center, served as director for South Sound March of Dimes, director of Communities In Schools, and was the first president and founding member to the Key Peninsula Community Council. Because of his success building a strong foundation, the KPC is a recognized liaison for the community to state, federal and local governments and is the only KP organization that advocates for the issues and concerns of the entire peninsula.

Harris created the Key Peninsula Travel Club and coordinates its meetings and activities. He and John Biggs organized the first and only Key Peninsula Zucchini Race in celebration of the 100th anniversary of Home, in which carved zucchinis raced with the tide under the Home bridge.

WALLY HAUGAARD

Wally Haugaard is the director of the Key Peninsula FISH Food Bank. He exemplifies



what we strive for on the Key Peninsula in bringing people together and working cooperatively as a team.

Together with Karen Jorgenson, supervisor of the Food Backpacks 4 Kids Program, he has helped those in need acquire not just food, but household goods, magazines, linens, new clothing, books, personal care items and many other items that enhance the quality of life.

In 2012, 540,000 pounds of food fed 1,800 families on the Key Peninsula each month. Much of that food is collected three-days-weekly from cooperating businesses by Haugaard.

He is an inspiration to more than 50 volunteers from around the KP community who take turns unloading food from trucks, picking up, sorting and distributing food six days a week while also preparing hot soup each Tuesday at the KP Lutheran Church.

KAREN JORGENSON

Karen Jorgenson is supervisor of the Food Backpacks 4 Kids program, entering



its fourth year on the Key Peninsula. She is dedicated to bringing people together working cooperatively as a team. The backpack program has 50 volunteers who pack 468 backpacks each week. The backpacks are delivered to Key Peninsula-area schools and distributed to students in need of food on weekends.

In addition to quality and nutritious food, the children receive new socks, hats and mittens, as well as school supplies and personal care items. The school year program is supplemented by a summer program at the KP Lutheran Church where children and their families gather for hot, homemade lunch three days a week. Jorgenson is passionate about caring for, supporting and fulfilling the most basic needs of the people on the KP and the word "mine" is not part of her vocabulary.

TROY MILLES

Troy Milles dedicates many hours to youth on the Key Peninsula.



He initiated and directed a "Fridays' Teen Coffee House" at the KP Lutheran Church in an effort to give teens something safe, clean and fun to do and then joined others who had resurrected the Friday Night Skate program at the KP Civic Center. Since new rules were enforced and volunteer high school kids were trained to serve as well-respected referees, parents now enthusiastically support the program for its safe, clean, fun activities.

Milles eventually assumed the leadership role. Kids love and obey him. Last year, he created a new "Cosmic" program for kids in eighth grade through high school. At the request of the teens, now the program is about dancing, socializing and "hanging out." Attendance has soared and kids have something to do that they love on the last Friday night of each month.

(See COY, Page 16)

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(From COY, Page 15)

MATTHEW MILLS



Matthew Mills has provided dedicated, hands-on leadership to the KP Lions-sponsored Boy Scouts of America Troop 220 and Cub Scout Pack 220. Thanks to his and other scout leaders' professional approach to inspiring the kids, scouts are successful.

He is present for the troop's annual Easter egg hunt at the KP Civic Center, for the setup, bussing and cleanup at the KPCCA annual crab feed and when the troop expertly presents the colors at the annual KP Citizens of the Year Awards banquet.

Mills chaperones scouts on backpack trips, cross-country expeditions and sleeping in snow caves that the scouts build on the frigid winter slopes of Mount Rainier.

He is the consummate role model for youngsters who learn life skills in scouting, as well as a teacher at Purdy Elementary School.



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BENIDA PARODI



Benida Parodi has been with Key Peninsula Community Services for two years. She possesses and shares her compassion, her nonjudgmental attitude and her integrity with clients and volunteers. Her kindness to KPCCS' clients and volunteers is incomparable. If anyone in the community needs food bank services, Parodi is the person they want to serve them.

ANNE NESBIT



Anne Nesbit is a single mom who volunteers countless hours to the community. She is a volunteer firefighter/EMT officer with the Key Peninsula Fire Department, an active member of the KP Firefighters Association and a volunteer with the KP Children's Home Society. She has volunteered limitless hours with the levy committees of the Peninsula School District's and the KP Fire Department.

Nesbit is often involved with volunteer activities and programs at Evergreen Elementary, where her two children are students. She dedicated a substantial number of hours during December to not only organize but run KPFD's Santa sleigh. She does all this while holding down a full-time job at St. Anthony Hospital, where she hones her paramedic skills.

HANNAH PETERSEN



Hannah Petersen is Boy Scout Cub Pack 222's "Rock of Gibraltar." Petersen keeps all cubs and cub masters alerted to what's happening with the paperwork required of scouting activities. She always works with a smile and enthusiasm, which is infectious to all. She effectively deals with details of the pack's relationship with its sponsor, the Key Peninsula Lions Club. If anyone has a question concerning the pack, Petersen handles it with timely alacrity.

JEFF SCHAAR

Jeffrey S. Schaar has been cub master for Pack 222 since 2010. He works tirelessly for the pack, promoting scouting in the community by recruiting families. He is a great organizer of community service by leading the pack to clean up parks, build trails, serve at various community fundraisers, collect food for Backpacks 4 Kids and donate to

LINDA NILES

Linda Niles' countless labor contribution to Key Peninsula Community Services en-

(See COY, Page 17)

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KPCS would like to WELCOME our new Board Officers:

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 Vice Pres: *Perry Anthenat*
 Treasurer: *Linda Niles*
 Secretary: *Hellen Saxer*
 And also our new
 Board Member: *Carl Tucker*

www.keypeninsulacommunityservices.org and www.facebook.com/KeyPenCS

(From COY, Page 17)

CINDY WORDEN



event. A member of the Friends of the KC Library Board, she is tireless and imaginative in her duties as program chair and brings free music and entertainment to the community.

This year, Wiley was the major supporter in raising more than \$35,000 needed for additional equipment for the library remodel — a feat she accomplished in only four months. Her volunteer spirit in numerous other areas is contagious, making her an asset the KP needs.

Cindy Worden was recently re-elected to serve another term as president of Key Peninsula's Citizens Against Crime and continues to lead the organization in its

role as extra eyes and ears for the Pierce County Sheriff's Department.

Worden brings a wealth of experience from her previous, similar volunteer role in University Place.

Thanks to her encouraging personality and organizational abilities, the group's monthly meetings are well attended and frequently involve advisers from the sheriff's department.

Members of the public are encouraged to attend and present information and requests for CAC involvement in helping to inhibit local crime activities. She has sponsored the group's annual picnic, where Pierce County Sheriff Paul Pastor and his officers share experiences and advice with CAC volunteers.

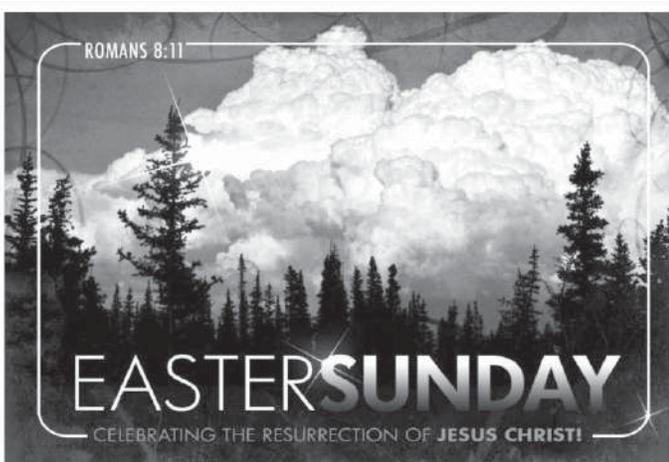
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LIC searching for recipes and a name for new cookbook

By Karen Lovett, KP News

Longbranch Improvement Club (LIC) has long benefited from numerous superb volunteer cooks who serve up wonderful meals for the public. Many are famous for potluck specialties that have become popular local favorites.

Longtime LIC member Peg Bingham is well-known for delectable sweets including sticky buns, apple crisp, baklava and almond delight — an English toffee that rivals a famous Northwest name brand.

Bingham began baking at age 8. She said her mother taught her to make lemon meringue pie, her father's favorite. After baking a lemon pie every day for five days, her father asked her mother to teach her how to make another kind of pie. Over the years, she modified and perfected family recipes, baking a dessert every day for her daughter and two sons. Now she is in charge of the LIC kitchen, where products of her baking ability are frequently tasted.

Many people have tried to get Bingham to divulge her prized recipes, which until now she has been unwilling to share.

Bingham said there are lots of good cooks in the LIC organization.

"People kept asking why LIC didn't have a cookbook. I agreed to put my recipes in as soon as they'd do one," she said.

Bingham asked Barbara Floyd to head the six-member committee, including Bingham, Barb Doat, Sharon Gearhart, Connie Hildahl, Karen Johnson and Barb Van Bogart. All members are volunteers donating time and effort to the successful production of this book.

"I thought it would be fun. It will be more than a cookbook," Floyd said.



Photo by Karen Lovett, KP News

Longbranch Improvement Club members, from left, Sharon Gearhart, Barbara Van Bogart and Barbara Floyd, were spotted cooking at the club's recent pancake breakfast. The three are part of a committee putting a public recipe book together.

The book will have hardcovers on the front and back, and at the beginning of each of eight sections will feature a watercolor of a historical location on the Key Peninsula.

Local artist Melissa Haumerson, who grew up on the KP, will do the paintings. The background history for each location will be included by local historian Connie Hildahl.

Members are hoping to get 100 recipes a month until the May 31 deadline, or until the goal of 350 recipes is reached. They said they have more than 100 so far and are hopeful that donors explain the background behind the recipe accompanying the submission.

"This is a community event, but we want it to be as expansive as possible involving the entire Key Peninsula and beyond. We welcome good recipes from outside the area," Van Bogart said.

She will be taking a few recipes from a cookbook published by Longbranch Community Church in 1973.

As a LIC member for 73 years, Del Leaf has been providing potluck participants plenty of opportunities to sample his corn pudding, the most requested recipe from the

organization. His famous culinary delight has already been submitted.

All recipes will be tested and proofed. Gearhart and Doat will be spearheading the testing phase.

The book will include a history of the LIC prepared by historian Lynn Larson.

Submitters' names will be printed with the recipe and the index will be itemized by contributor as well as by category.

Printing will be done by the cookbook division of Morris Publishing in Nebraska. The book will have a hardcover with three-ring binding and is expected to be in print sometime this fall.

Proceeds from book sales will benefit the LIC.

The Name the Cookbook Contest has an April 1 deadline. The winner will receive a gift basket filled with all kinds of goodies. May 31 is the deadline to submit favorite recipes to be included into what promises to be an exceptional cookbook.

Send recipes or cookbook names to P.O. Box 345, Lakebay, WA 98349. For information contact Barbara Floyd at recipesforlic@yahoo.com or 884-3796.

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Dancing of the Robes brings Native American dancers to KP

By Colleen Slater, KP News

There's a whole lot of dancing about to happen on the Key.

Two Waters Arts Alliance is sponsoring a presentation by Cheryl Samuel on the Ravenstail Revival, followed by native dancers with various woven robes from 1 to 3:30 p.m. on March 9, at the Key Peninsula Civic Center.

Haan Dei I Jin (Take my hand) of the Native Alaska Tlingit People, as well as the Seattle-based Tsimshian Haayuk, will participate in the Dancing of the Robes.

There were no Ravenstail robes in use on the Pacific Northwest coast in the early 1980s. Today, they are the pride of the people who make and wear them as they dance in ceremony and potlatch throughout the area.

It takes a year or more to weave one of these robes. Samuel, a scientist, artist, weaver and author, will bring one of her robes, and weaver John Beard plans to bring three of his to be danced.

Samuel traveled across the globe to see, touch and photograph ancient robes of native cultures, then wove a new one and



Photo courtesy, Seanna O'Sullivan Photography
A robe, handwoven by Kay Parker leads a Ravenstail fashion show in Juneau, Alaska. Two Waters Alliance is hosting a special presentation at the civic center March 9.

wrote a book about the art.

Called Northern Geometric Style Weaving, the robes, some mere fragments, were studied in Burke Museum in Seattle, St. Petersburg, Russia, London, Vienna, Copenhagen and Dublin.

Samuel taught descendants of early robe weavers in Alaska how to weave the intricate designs, including circles, some-

thing unique in weaving.

Samuel will teach three-day beginning, intermediate and advanced weaving classes at the Longbranch fire station in early March.

Samuel, born in Hawaii, has been given many names. Nanilei, her Hawaiian name from her parents, means "a necklace of beautiful flowers." Alu Sumti, "Mother of Lightning," was received by a Tsimshian basket weaver in an Alaskan potlatch. Adopted into a village of the Chilkat Tlingit, she received the name Saantaas, "Ancient Threads," for the teacher of the last historic Chilkat weaver. A Haida native gave her the name Nang xaay7u'ad tl xaynan-gaa, "The one who lovingly kept alive the weaving fragments."

Her paintings, weavings and wood turnings are in private and museum collections in Europe and North America, and she has woven regalia commissioned for ceremonial use.

Tickets for the event are available at twowaters.info or at the door. Adults, \$20, students and seniors, \$10. For information, contact 884-3959 or visit ravenstail.com.

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The real estate market on the KP is finally looking up. Waterfront home sales are strongest, accounting for nearly half of the sales this year with an average sales price of \$500,000, while the average sales price of non-waterfront homes is \$180,000. There are currently 146 homes listed for sale on the KP with an average asking price of \$260,000. If it's time to sell your home, call for an up-to-date market analysis.

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Spring Fling returns with juried show, music and more

The 10th annual event supports Artists in Schools program for Key Peninsula kids.

KP News staff report

Spring Fling, the annual signature event hosted by Two Waters Arts Alliance, will bring a celebration of local arts and artists to the Key Peninsula on Saturday, April 6. The elegant affair is a fundraiser for Two Water's highly successful Artists in Schools program, which brings working artists to the four Key Peninsula schools, as well as after-school art to Key Peninsula Middle School and programs for home-schooled students.

The event, in its 10th year, will showcase local artists in a juried exhibit, open to adults and young artists alike, as well as a student exhibit featuring art from all the Key Pen schools. Silent and live auctions, live music by harpist Genevieve Picard and art awards including People's Choice are part of the program. Key Pen's Amy Shaver and Denise Hays will provide

delicious hors d'oeuvres and desserts. A no-host wine, beer and cocktail bar will be available.

"Two Waters volunteers begin planning this event at least six months in advance. Our hope is that all people interested in their community will attend this visually delightful, entertaining and fun-filled event in support of local schools, local artists and local kids," said Kathy Bauer, TWAA vice president and one of the Spring Fling organizers.

The main focus of Two Waters Arts Alliance is on the Artists in Schools program, which matches up teachers with local artists who provide hands-on activities that complement the curriculum. Additionally, homeschooled students can participate in arts activities and Key Pen Middle School students can sign up for a weekly after-school arts club. The program is supported by funds raised through Spring Fling, grants, memberships and donations.

"The arts teach children specific modes of thinking that are essential to problem solving. Success, both at home and in the workplace, regardless of career, is largely

determined by problem solving skills," Bauer said.

In addition, TWAA sponsors a variety of events for children and adults every year, as well as providing other programs and support for artists and art enthusiasts.

The juried art show is open to all TWAA members but membership is waived for students. There is no entry fee and the deadline for submissions is March 15.

For more information about TWAA and about the art show entry, go to twowaters.org. Tickets for the gala, which will be at the KP Civic Center, are available online and will be for sale at Blend Wine and Sunnycrest Nursery. Cost is \$30.

The Voice of the Key Peninsula

KEY PENINSULA
NEWS

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Susan Reed

Susan Reed, 53, died Feb. 17 near Gig Harbor with loved ones by her side. She was born Dec. 27, 1959 to Helen and Channon Dean Hupp in Parkersburg, WV.

Reed's professional career included 3D animation, graphic art (such as our Key Pen Parks logo on the wooden signs), marketing, search engine optimization, business ownership and volunteer work.

She was known to land jobs with creative cover letters, and was a keen observer of personalities. Reed admired design and style in all of their forms, especially when added to exemplary craftsmanship.

Her love of life and sense of humor will be missed, along with her caring and gentle philosophy. Reed is survived by her husband, Kevin, son Jeremiah, daughter Nicole, son Jaden; two brothers, two sisters, nieces and nephews. Her full obituary can be found at edwardsmemorial.com.

A celebration of life will be held at the family's home in Lakebay.

Ruth Purrington Blakemore

Ruth Blakemore, 89, died Jan. 24.

Blakemore, had been a Gig Harbor-area resident since 1988. She was a retired registered nurse who loved working in labor and delivery. She enjoyed making quilts, crocheting afghans and making pillows and dolls for her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

As a faithful member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, she and her late husband, Don, served many missions during their retirement years. Blakemore served as president of the Key



Peninsula Seniors group, and in her later years was part of the Key Center Ward humanitarian service group.

Blakemore is preceded in death by her husband, a brother and a grandson. Surviving family members include three children: Bruce Blakemore (Louise), Janice Lodholm (Harry), Sandra Wurtz (Paul) and 15 grandchildren and 30 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Feb. 2 at the LDS Church, Key Center.



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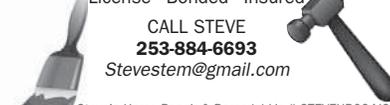
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Out & About

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Photo by Hugh McMillan, KP News

Above: The Key Center Pierce County Library held its gala reopening event on Feb 16. The community came out in force for a day of fun, refreshments and entertainment. The library had been open since Feb. 4, following some 10 weeks of closure for remodeling and renovations. Here, Jeff Evans performs some card tricks to the delight of Nicholas and Grace McDonald, and Natalie and Elizabeth Pierson.

Right: Volunteers Pat Medveckus, center, Claudia Jones, rear, are flanked by Denise Smith and Julia Jones in the KP Civic Center kitchen showing off some of the hundreds of Dungeness crab savored by more than 250 hungry event supporters at the annual KPCC fundraiser.



Photo by Hugh McMillan, KP News

Where in the World...



Rich and Caroline Pettit returned recently from a trip to Antarctica on the National Geographic Explorer ship. They have been part-time residents of the Key Peninsula for 25 years and love their home away from home near Home.

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Photo by Ron Cameron, KP News

Whitehorse Mountain, Three Fingers and Mount Pilchuck peaks rise above Von Geldern Cove last month.