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Mustard Seed fundraiser.

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Backpacks 4 Kids program receives \$50K

By Rodika Tollefson, KP News

The Food Backpacks 4 Kids program, which provides food to more than 370 students on the Key Peninsula and in Gig Harbor, will be able to expand its reach next year thanks to a major grant from the Russell Family Foundation.

The two-year, \$50,000 unsolicited grant will help the nonprofit Peninsula Communities of Faith to grow its popular program as it heads into its fourth year.

George and Dion Russell, who live on the Key Peninsula, learned about the organization as they explored the needs of the local community, according to Jamie Venters, George Russell's executive assistant. She said the Russells have been involved with Communities In School, and heard from teachers about kids who came

(See Backpacks, Page 4)



Photo courtesy of Kim Wiley

Golden arches

April showers bring double rainbows to the Devils Head area on a late Key Pen afternoon at the end of April.

The Mustard Seed Project wins transportation award

By Colleen Slater, KP News

The Mustard Seed Project of Key Peninsula is one of eight winners of a 2012 STAR Special Recognition Award from the Beverly Foundation, based in Albuquerque, N. M. A total of 18 awards for senior transportation services were given, out of 378 applicants from around the country.

The recognition includes \$10,000 for The Mustard Seed Project's senior transportation program. The Mustard Seed Project began providing senior transportation in 2008, utilizing local volunteer drivers, in collaboration with Catholic Community Services. A van, leased from Pierce Transit, was added in 2010.

The Mustard Seed's latest local transportation effort is KP Schoolbus Connections, a collaborative two-year community transportation pilot program launched in November 2011. These "Tuesday trips to town" will continue throughout the

summer, and some special "field trips" are planned for Gig Harbor and Tacoma, to inspire Key Peninsula residents to try this free weekly transportation service.

KP Schoolbus Connections trips are not limited to seniors. The first 25 people who register in advance for the "field trips" will receive a pass for Pierce Transit bus travel from Purdy Park and Ride to destinations in Gig Harbor or Tacoma, depending on which trip they've selected. On June 12, it's the Gig Harbor History Museum. A trip to Uptown Gig Harbor is set for June 26, and another to Pt. Defiance Zoo on July 10. Admission costs at the destinations are not included. "Bus buddies" will help orient riders to the Pierce Transit system.

Amanda Walston, Mustard Seed transportation program coordinator, said the KP Schoolbus project was modeled after Mason

(See Award, Page 3)

'Whooping cough' hits KP, vaccinations recommended

By Rodika Tollefson, KP News

The Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department has confirmed cases of pertussis, also known as "whooping cough," on the Key Peninsula and in Gig Harbor. No exact numbers are available for the peninsula; however, countywide, 245 cases were confirmed as of May 19 — compared to 128 during the entire year in 2011 and 84 in 2010.

Pertussis is a highly contagious, bacterial disease that can be spread through sneezing and coughing. This respiratory disease has reached epidemic proportions in Washington state. Statewide, a total of 1,738 cases have been confirmed through May 19, with more reported cases awaiting confirmation. In 2011, 146 cases were confirmed statewide during the same period.

TPCHD spokeswoman Bridget Vandevanter said the majority of the cases are in school-aged children, and no deaths have been reported in the county to date. Infants are most vulnerable, and the infection may result in hospitalization and death.

Based on figures from Washington State Department of Health, the county's rate per capita is 30.1 (per 100,000), slightly higher than the state rate of 25.8.

"This is a very serious issue facing all the communities in our area. We need people to take action to protect themselves. Vaccination is the best prevention for whooping cough," Vandevanter said. "The more people in the community that have immunity through vaccination, the less likely the disease is to spread. Kids and adults can get vac-

Vaccinations

Key Medical Center offers the pertussis vaccine for anyone under 19, on a walk-in basis, every Tuesday, 9-10 a.m. on a first-come, first-served basis. The clinic charges a \$10 administrative fee, which can be waived. The clinic also has the adult combination; however, it is not covered by Medicare.

Cost Less Pharmacy can provide the vaccine for \$53 and also bill it through Medicare part D. At deadline, the Health Department was working with Cost Less to finalize an arrangement for the vaccine to be offered for a \$15 administrative fee, but the timeline had not been confirmed.

The Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department will offer a free immunization clinic 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Saturday, June 2, on site. It is also offering a coupon for free vaccinations for uninsured or underinsured adults who care for newborns or infants. For more information, go to www.tpchd.org.

nated to help stop outbreaks and lower the risk of infection to babies and others most likely to get severe cases of pertussis."

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the disease starts with cold-like symptoms that could include fever and a mild cough, which may become severe in one or two weeks and continue for weeks. Infants may not develop any cough but instead could have apnea. It could take seven to 10 days after infection to develop the symptoms, and sometimes more than a month.

"We are seeing a fair number of cases we are suspicious are pertussis but no culture-positive ones yet," said Dr. Bill Roes, Key Medical Center physician. "Pertussis is a bacterial infection and can be treated with an antibiotic; usually we use azithromycin, which is effective, simple and not too expensive."

He said he recommends to his patients that anyone taking care of children as well as all

health workers get vaccinated. The clinic offers vaccinations Tuesday morning as part of its Well Child program on a walk-in basis (see side bar for details).

"My advice is stay away from large crowds where there are people coughing," he said. "A mask on an infected person may decrease the risk of them spreading the germ, but I don't recommend wearing a mask to prevent my patients from getting it."

The health department recommends that people who have or may have whooping cough get antibiotics early during their illness and stay home from work or school, as well as away from young children and infants until the patients are treated properly or have no more symptoms.

Secretary of Health Mary C. Selecky declared a whooping cough epidemic in Washington in early April, and on May 3 Gov. Christine Gregoire announced emergency

Pertussis symptoms

According to the CDC, "pertussis can cause violent and rapid coughing, over and over, until the air is gone from the lungs and you are forced to inhale with a loud 'whooping' sound. This extreme coughing can cause you to throw up and be very tired. The 'whoop' is often not there and the infection is generally milder (less severe) in teens and adults, especially those who have been vaccinated."

Early symptoms include runny nose, low-grade fever, mild and occasional cough and a pause in breathing (apnea) in infants.

For more information, go to www.cdc.gov/pertussis or www.tpchd.org.

funds available to the state Department of Health to fight the disease. She also announced federal approval for health officials to redirect some funds toward the purchasing of more than 27,000 doses of a vaccine for uninsured and underinsured adults.

"In my 13 years as secretary this is the first time I've had to use the word 'epidemic' about disease in our state," Selecky said in a statement. "Pertussis is very serious, especially for babies. It's vital that teens and adults are current on their immunizations because they're often the ones who give whooping cough to babies."

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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.

KEY PENINSULA NEWS

www.keypennews.com

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

Key Peninsula News is published monthly by the Key Peninsula News publishing board in Vaughn, Washington. The Key Peninsula Civic Center Association is the non-profit parent organization. Copyright 2012 with all rights reserved. Reproduction of editorial or graphic content in any manner without permission is prohibited. Annual subscriptions (12 issues) are available for \$30.00 and are mailed first class. Copies are mailed postage prepaid 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 12,000 people live in the distribution area.

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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 rights that may exist pertaining to the NEWS are among the financial assets of

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2. The objective of Key Peninsula News is to support and enrich 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.

Bus driver Annette Marlow shows a map with the stops on the KP School-bus Connection route.



Courtesy photo

(From Award, Page 1)

County's award-winning use of school buses for the general public.

"This is innovative collaboration," Walston said. Such a program hasn't been done in this area before. She emphasizes it works well because of public and private partners.

The Puget Sound Educational Service District wrote and administers the pilot project grant, while the Peninsula School District handles the essential school bus and driver components. Routes have been carefully designed by Peninsula School District, working in collaboration with The Mustard Seed Project and Pierce Transit. The project logo was designed by the Peninsula High School marketing class with teacher John Selforth.

The Mustard Seed Project is the community information center for the service and offers a connector van for seniors who would like to take the bus. Drivers and buses make the KP Tuesday trips after dropping students off in the mornings at Evergreen and Vaughn elementary schools, then driving up the peninsula to the Purdy Park and Ride, where buses to Tacoma or Bremerton and beyond are available.

There is a midday run back to the KP and a late afternoon run from the Park and Ride, back along south-bound routes, ending at the schools. The schedule has run according to the school district calendar, and will now run on Tuesdays through the summer as well. The sched-

More information

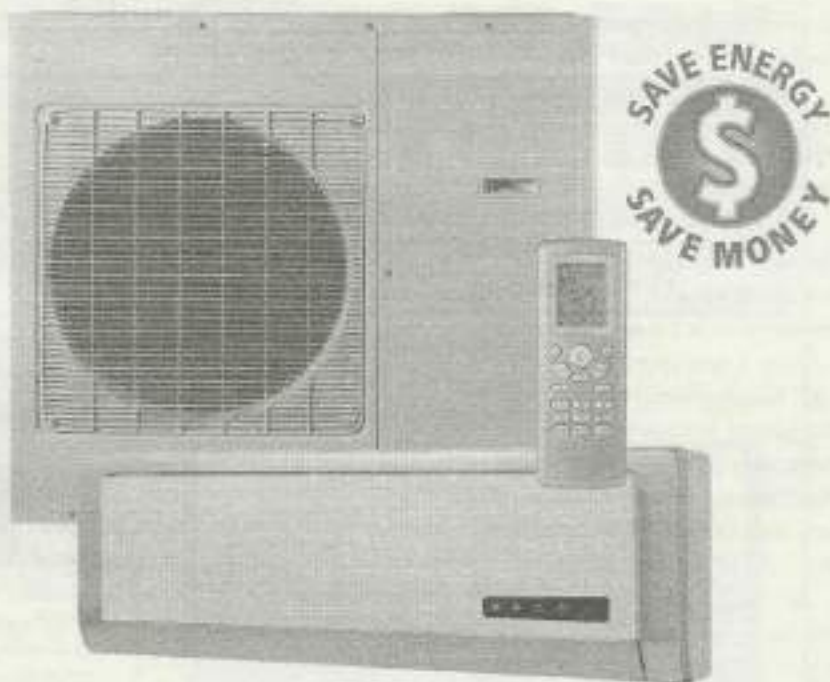
Schedules are available at the Mustard Seed office, next door to the Key Center Library, online at www.themustardseedproject.org, by calling 884-9814 or emailing tm.sp@centurytel.net.

Community members are encouraged to find a group of friends or get their organizations to sign up for one of the special Tuesday field trips. Call for more information or to sign up.

ule is designed to connect with Pierce Transit Route 100 and also can be useful transportation for high school students following after-school activities.

These buses are for use by all on the Key. The Mustard Seed Project, Pierce Transit, Catholic Community Services and the Puget Sound Educational Service District are members of the Pierce County Coordinated Transportation Coalition, which connects transportation providers with regional transportation planning for "special needs" groups (defined as youth, elderly, disabled, low income and rural) throughout the county.

Increased community usage of the KP Schoolbus Connections during this second year of the pilot project is necessary for any possibility of continued funding for this innovative mode of rural transportation, according to The Mustard Seed Project organizers.



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The power to be...

(From **Backpacks**, Page 1)

to school hungry and could not focus on anything before snack time.

"In the past, George has been pretty global in his philanthropic giving," Venters said. "They wanted to focus more on the need in their back yard."

The organization will receive \$25,000 for the first year and \$15,000 for the second year, with an additional \$10,000 during the second year as a matching grant.

"First I was speechless and then I teared up," Karen Jorgenson, program coordinator, said of her reaction when she received a letter stating the program would receive the discretionary funds. "This is wonderful—we can help more children and this takes the pressure off figuring out how to add more."

The faith coalition started with 48 children the first year and grew to serve the entire school district. Volunteers sort and pack food every week during the school year at five sites, including one at Key Peninsula Middle School and one at Key Peninsula Lutheran Church. Each food bag or backpack contains enough food to hold the child for the weekend, including easy-to-prepare meals. It costs \$10 per week to fill each backpack.

At the Lutheran Church site alone, a small

Summer food program

The summer meals will be available 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, from June 25 to Aug. 17. Key Peninsula Lutheran Church is located at 4213 Lackey Road in Lakebay. For information about the free transportation, call 884-4449.

group of volunteers pack about 165 bags in under two hours.

"I have a heart for the program," said stay-at-home mom Jennifer Mayatte, who's been helping for about five months. She has kids at Evergreen Elementary and learned about the program there as she helped deliver the backpacks.

"I was a hungry kid growing up and I've been wanting to volunteer for this program," she said as she packed backpacks recently at the church with oatmeal, canned chili, peanut butter and other staples.

Jorgenson said there are about 2,300 students in the Peninsula School District who would qualify for the assistance by partic-



Photo by Radika Tullifson, KP News

Evelyn Montero, who is filling a bag with food, brought the idea of the program to the Key Pen after talking to a similar coalition of churches in Belfair. The local program was modeled after the North Mason one, which was inspired by a coalition in South Kitsap that started the backpacks program several years ago.

ipating in the federal free and reduced lunch program at school.

"We can become more aggressive in enrolling children," she said. "We can add a couple hundred more very comfortably and could even go up to 1,000."

Summer meals program

An extension of the Backpacks 4 Kids is the Peninsula Communities of Faith's summer meals, which will be available three times a week at no charge to anyone ages 1 to 18.

The program is funded through the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Last year, Key Peninsula Lutheran Church qualified as a site, due to being a central location to

Vaughn and Evergreen elementary schools and KPMS, all of which have more than 50 percent of their student population qualified for free and reduced school meals.

This year, an additional day was added and the coalition was working with the YMCA to provide transportation. (YMCA representatives could not be reached to confirm details.) Kids who come for a meal will be sent home with a bag or two filled with groceries as well.

"Once we qualify for a site, we're called an open site and we serve anybody," Jorgenson said. "We can also feed parents without charge because of lunches provided by the food bank (at the church)."

Preparations for July fair in high gear

The 11th anniversary for the Key Peninsula Community Fair is the weekend of July 14 and 15. This year's theme, "Celebrating the Community," was chosen by the KeyFest planning committee in recognition of the years of hard work and dedication by Key Pen businesses and individuals to provide an entertaining, educational and fun event.

The KeyFest committee is working to present two full days for an estimated 2,500 visitors. New this year is the Show Off Your Boat exhibit, organized by Allen Elzy. Boat owners are invited to parade their boats or park them at the festival grounds for the show. Elzy is looking for any and all boats, old and new, up to 30 feet long. There will be a Best in Show award.

Saturday morning festivities will begin with the Crazy Key Parade starting in Key Center at 10 a.m. and working its way to the festival grounds in time for the official opening ceremony. A fireworks show produced by Key Pen Parks will be featured after dusk.

Back by popular demand is Key's Got Talent. Singers, dancers, musicians, clowns, jugglers, magicians and snake charmers found by talent scout Jeff Nelson will perform. They will be the main event on Sunday, July 15, with prizes awarded in three age categories starting from age 5 through adult.

Information for visitors, volunteers, vendors and boat and talent shows is on the KeyFest website at www.keyfair.org.

THIRD ANNUAL LONGBRANCH COMMUNITY

CROQUET TOURNAMENT

Sponsored by Longbranch Improvement Club to benefit Key Peninsula Civic Center

Sunday July 22

Noon-6:30, LIC Field

Prizes for team spirit, costumes, game scores
Food, drink, friendly judges plus Cakewalk

4-person team registration \$60

Call 884-3456 or sign-up online at
www.longbranchimprovementclub.org

No team? Sponsorships start at \$25

Donations to Food Bank welcome. Spectators too.





SUMMER 2012

Key Pen Parks PROGRAM GUIDE

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

REGISTER ONLINE: www.keypenparks.com

SUMMER CAMPS

CAMP	Dates	Time	Ages	Fee	Highlights	Notes
THEATER CAMP	July 9-13	10:00am-4:00pm	7-16	\$149	Prepare & perform a play with Kathleen McGilliard!	Registration Deadline & Cast meeting 6/25
CREATIVE ARTZ CAMP	July 16-20	9:30am-12:00pm	4-7	\$79	Draw, paint, & sculpt FUN projects	Registration Deadline 7/9
ECO CAMP	July 23-27	9:00am-4:00pm	8-12	\$109	Big canoe trip, farm tour, hiking & more	Registration Deadline 7/16
PEEWEE CAMP	August 6-10	9:30am-11:30am	4-7	\$59	Sports and Crafts perfect for little ones	Registration Deadline 7/30
SERVICE CAMP	August 6-10	1:30pm-4:00pm	8-12	\$79	Make a difference in your community!	Registration Deadline 7/30
LEGO CAMP: Pre-Engineering	August 13-17	9:00am-12:00pm	5-7	\$125	Build boats, bridges, mazes & cars...	Registration Deadline 8/6
LEGO CAMP: Engineering Fundamentals	August 13-17	1:00pm-4:00pm	8-12	\$125	Build engineering projects: arch bridges, gondolas...	Registration Deadline 8/6
ECO CAMP	August 20-24	9:00am-4:00pm	8-12	\$109	Big canoe trip, farm tour, hiking & more	Registration Deadline 8/13

JUNK in your TRUNK
COMMUNITY GARAGE-SALE
 Saturday, June 9
 Volunteer Park 9am-3pm
 Space to sell your junk -\$20



THANK YOU
 TO THE VOLUNTEERS WHO BUILT THE PLAYGROUND AT THE CIVIC CENTER!

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| Bill Trandum | Laird & Colleen Young |
| Birch Electric | Leah Duransmith |
| Bruce MacDonald | Mark Michel |
| Caden & Haylie Gallacher | Mark Roberts |
| Cameron McIntyre | Matt Kennedy |
| Carrie Duransmith | Mike Desmond |
| Chuck West | Mike Lupro |
| Dave Hawkins | Murph's BBQ |
| Ed Robison | Nic Aspee |
| Erin Comstock | Norma Butler |
| Greg Anglemeyer | Pastor Butch Hall |
| Greg Murphy/Murph's BBQ | Phil Bauer |
| James & Kim Allyn | Phil Tucker |
| John & Daniel Lique | Sherry LaGood |
| John Mullan | Stephen Strauss |
| Jose Luis Munoz | Stian Skulstad |
| Joseph Lindstrom | The Fobes Family |
| Jud Morris | Thomas Hause |
| Judy Austin | Todd Rosenbach |
| Karen Schmid | William Moody |
| Kevin Canavan | William Simpson |

ADULT FITNESS

OUTDOOR BOOT CAMP

Location: 360 Park Trails Instructor: Shannon Reichl
 Day: Tuesday Time: 6-7pm Dates: June 19 - July 24
 Fee: \$30 for 6 classes

ZUMBA

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

EDGU: for a healthy spine

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

SAMPLE CLASS
 June 27



JUNE 16
5K RUN/WALK
TK KIDS DASH

*\$15 register before June 5 (guaranteed a t-shirt)
 *\$25 register from June 5-15
 *\$5 from each registration donated to the Key Peninsula Elementary School of your choice - Minter Creek, Vaughn, or Evergreen

Peninsula Views

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Geoducks, reader feedback and more

The May article about Taylor Shellfish Farms taking over management of the shellfish operations in the Burley Lagoon has resulted in several emails from readers questioning the article's one-sided approach. The readers questioned why the story did not cover the research on geoduck farms and their impact on the environment.

The purpose of the article was to report on the changes of the operations, rather than provide an in-depth look at the issue of geoduck farming. In fact, the Key Peninsula News reported on this topic from all sides — the commercial interests, the property owners, environmental groups and other stakeholders — in an in-depth series back in 2006. The series culminated in a standing-room only community forum we sponsored with support from KP Community Council and others.

We recognize this is an ongoing topic of concern and new events transpire in this industry that are worth reporting more regularly. We appreciate our readers' input into our future coverage — and making sure we do our job as the local community newspaper. Please continue to let us know how we're doing, whether you think we're doing a good job or not so much.

Speaking of reader feedback, we have created an online survey to help guide us in future editorial decisions. Please take a few minutes to weigh in — see details in our advertisement on page 10.

This feedback will be used as we delve into examining our editorial content to make sure it continues to be relevant to our community. A reader panel will be convened on an advisory basis to help through this process.

A couple of spots are still open on this advisory panel, which will meet for two or three meetings over the summer. If you'd like to be involved, email news@keypennews.com for details.

On a personal note, I would like to thank those who have expressed their enthusiasm for seeing me back in the editor's seat. Although it is a temporary arrangement — until the publishing board hires a permanent replacement — it feels good to be back at the heart of community happenings on the Key Peninsula.

I've been especially impressed to learn about the many recent and current partnerships local organizations create in order to better serve the community. The Key Pen parks district is one such excellent example, as evidenced by the new playground it built at the KP Civic Center in partnership with the KP Civic Center Association, and its partnership with Kitsap County to keep Horseshoe Lake Park open all week long this summer.

I welcome your input, whether it's via our reader survey or personal email — my door is always welcome, virtually speaking. Email me at editor@keypennews.com.

Letters Policy

The opinions expressed herein are the opinions of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the views of the publishers or staff. All letters to the editor must be signed and include a daytime phone number for verification. No anonymous letters will be published. Submissions are used on a space available basis and may be edited if 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.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Thanks for supporting fire department

As chair of the Key Peninsula Board of Fire Board of Commissioners, I want to thank the community for supporting our local fire department. Our new board is working cooperatively to deliver the best emergency services possible within a balanced budget.

Sadly, the news is correct in reporting that we are facing challenges to get enough firefighters to respond to emergencies. We are fortunate to have volunteers and help from neighboring fire districts but those resources can add 20 minutes or more to response times. We need to find a more permanent solution to be able to provide a full-time response to fires in our service territory.

The board is working hard with our fire chief to find a solution to improve response times. We will communicate this solution with you through the news media and our newsletter in the months ahead. In the meantime, we would like to invite you to attend one of our board meetings on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m. at the Key Center Fire Station. It's a great way to see our new board in action, learn more about what we're proposing and ask questions.

Sheila Hunt RN, MN

Board chair

Key Peninsula Fire Department

Geoduck farming not sustainable

I was astonished that no one at Key Pen News bothered to contact property owners on Burley Lagoon (for the May story about geoducks). We have followed Mr. Yamashita's appli-

cation for a geoduck farm since last July, when some of us were sent copies of the application. When we saw David Steel as representing Mr. Yamashita, we wondered if Taylor Shellfish was going to piggyback on Mr. Yamashita's application. A senior Mr. Steel, senior Mr. Taylor and Mr. Yamashita started in the shellfish industry together. And we have followed the geoduck aspect of that industry with growing alarm.

Mr. Dewey's comments lead you to believe they are voluntarily applying for a substantial development permit. This is not the case.

Geoduck farms are not sustainable aquaculture. Of necessity, everything must be cleared or killed to allow space for such farms. And the harvest/replant cycle is so immediate that nothing can recover. Mr. Dewey cited the University of Washington Sea Grants.

I attended the second day of the geoduck symposium and heard the interim results of some studies, which will not be complete until December 2013. None have addressed the continuous harvest/replant cycle. The results from some small study sites are being used to justify seeding massive geoduck farms.

The current application is for harvest only. The harvest area is directly in the path of seasonal salmon runs. Salmon depend upon forage fish for their diet. Harvesting with pressure wands will disturb and hold the bottom sediments in suspension. We believe that disturbance will destroy the habitat for various organisms that salmon depend upon for survival.

These are some of the many concerns regarding the application. We don't believe Mr. Yamashita would want to destroy the place that supported his family and our families, and, most importantly, the abundant fish and wildlife that call the lagoon home.

*Heather McFarlane, member
Friends of Burley Lagoon*

2012 GUEST COLUMNIST

New short sale rules announced

Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac have once again announced new guidelines to streamline the process for short sales, which most real estate observers expect will outpace foreclosures in the coming year.

A short sale is a transaction in which a lender agrees to accept less than the amount owed on the mortgage. It is a "strategic default," designed to get a borrower out of financial trouble without having to go through the drawn-out legal tangle of the foreclosure process. However, a short sale will affect the seller's credit score, reducing it as much as a foreclosure would, according to Fair Isaac Corp., which developed the system.

Under the new guidelines, which take effect in June, servicers of mortgages backed by Freddie and Fannie Mae have 30 days to review and respond to short sale offers or requests. "Upon its first written notice" to the seller, the lender must provide notice that it either "waives" or "reserves" the right to collect the full amount of the debt. If the lender needs more than 30 days to provide notice, it must provide the borrower weekly updates and a final response within 60 days.

If the borrower is requesting a short sale under the government's Home Affordable Foreclosure Alternative program, the clock starts ticking when the borrower submits a completed borrower response package requesting consideration of a short sale. If the short sale is not under the government program, the clock starts ticking when the borrower submits a short sale offer from a potential buyer and a completed borrower response package.

Area real estate agents who handle such transactions agree they do take a long time to complete — anywhere from 20 days to 24 months — and delays often result in loss of the sale.

For lenders, it could mean saving a distressed property from falling into foreclosure, saving them tens of thousands of dollars in lost property value and costs.

Housing Finance Agency acting director Edward J. DeMarco said these changes

Tracy Butzko
Tracy's Real Estate Tips



are being considered "additional tools to prevent foreclosure, keep homes occupied and help maintain stable communities."

With the average short sale nationwide taking about six months to complete, real estate agents are pleased with the new timetable but wonder if it's realistic. Penalties for missing the 30- or 60-day deadlines have not been announced.

In tandem with the new Freddie and Fannie Mae short sale guidelines, Washington House Bill 2614, effective also in June, creates new law and revises existing law with regard to short sales for owner-occupied properties. In part, this law provides the statute of limitations for a lender to bring an action to collect any outstanding debt after releasing its security interest in the property is shortened to three years.

This is not the first time the government has acted to accelerate the short-sale process. In late 2009, the Treasury Department proposed financial incentives and simplified the procedures for completing them. That included a \$1,000 payment to servicers and a maximum of \$1,000 to go to investors who signed off on payments to subordinate lien holders, the Treasury said. Borrowers were to receive \$1,500 in relocation expenses.

The rules, which took effect in April 2010, were supposed to reduce the short-sale process to 10 days, but didn't. We will watch this program closely to see if this time around it produces the intended results.

Do you have a questions, topic idea or comment? Phone, text or email me your ideas.

Tracy Butzko is a member of National Association of REALTORS. You may reach her at 253-617-9670 or by email at tracybutzko@johaliscott.com.

Key Peninsula Community Services Food Bank & Senior Center

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2012 GUEST COLUMNIST

Let's hear it for those in the trenches: teachers

If we were honest, I think we'd all admit to a deep, unresolved angst toward teachers. It's nothing personal; it's just what they stand for.

After all, these are the people who forced us to remain inside on spring days, memorizing state capitals, when we would rather have been outside hitting baseballs. These are the men and women who forced us to sit quietly at our desks for hours on end, discussing the merits of early American literature when all our friends were headed off to the mall.

These are the people who sent home mountains of homework that they expected us to complete — over Christmas break, no less. Who can admit to liking these taskmasters who expected us to master algebraic equations, produce endless term papers and prepare for pop quizzes?

However, I've reached that stage where I can look back over my life and begin to see the influences that brought me to this place. And I have to admit it: I owe most

of who I am to the teachers in my life. Those who saw more in me than I could see there; those who recognized talents and abilities; those who wouldn't put up with mediocrity and half-effort.

The things I do well now, the areas of accomplishment in my life — I didn't get there on my own. I had teachers helping me every step of the way.

Like Mr. M., who taught my first public speaking class, though he never knew I'd end up a preacher. Or Mr. S., who taught me to play the trumpet, though he never knew I'd end up in a brass quintet. Or Mrs. K., who taught my high school English class, though she never knew I'd end up writing for a newspaper. Or Dr. B., who taught me that we can accomplish a whole lot more together than we ever can on our own. Or Prof. B., who forced me to look at Jesus and his redemptive work in a whole new light, entirely changing the

Dan Whitmarsh
Writing by Faith



way I do pastoral work.

Whether we want to admit it or not, teachers have had a profound influence on our lives and they continue to influence our community. As a pastor and a parent, I am concerned about the health of our society.

The Key Peninsula is my home, and I want to see healthy families here. I want to see people thinking for themselves, learning to care for each other, learning to solve our common problems with wisdom and compassion. I want to see our young people excelling in their lives. I want to see a

vibrant society working together to make this place a joyful, prosperous community.

One thing that gives me hope is the teachers we have here. My daughters have been in the classrooms of many of the men and women who serve our schools; in my role as pastor I have had abundant opportunity to get to know our local teachers. The work they do impresses me. Their talents, their passion, their excitement, the hope they bring to school each day — we are fortunate to have these people working in our midst.

So here, at the end of this school year, with summer vacation upon us, let us all raise a cup of cheer to the teachers in our midst and say, "Job well done! Go enjoy your summer break — you've earned it!"

Here's to the teachers — we thank you for all you do.

Dan Whitmarsh is pastor at Lakebay Community Church.

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at

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Photo by Hugh McMillan

Four-part anthem

Peninsula High School's quartet, the Four Flats, opened PHS' 27th annual Scholarship Awards Assembly in the school's Milt Boyd Auditorium, Wednesday, May 16, with the National Anthem. Various organizations and individuals sponsor the scholarships every year for graduating seniors.

Local organizations are among grant recipients of Tacoma foundation

By Rodika Tollefson, KP News

The Greater Tacoma Community Foundation selected three Key Peninsula-based organizations among the beneficiaries of its annual Vibrant Community grants. The grants, which were announced in May, total more than \$600,000 to 76 nonprofits.

Communities In School of Peninsula received \$10,000 for its mentoring program while The Mustard Seed Project and Children's Home Society received \$7,500 and \$2,500, respectively, for operating support. Gig Harbor's Harbor WildWatch and Harbor History Museum also received funding.

"It is a huge help. It supports all aspects of our reading and math program," said Colleen Speer, CISP executive director. She said CISP has several other programs, including an emergency fund for students and bullying prevention, and any support received for general operation helps the organization focus on its mentoring niche.

It costs CISP \$140,000 to run its mentoring program, which serves 260 students at 10 Peninsula School District schools, with the help of more than 160 volunteer mentors.

"We are honored to be chosen as a recipient. In this funding climate, it's nice to be recognized in this way," Speer said, adding that the grant process is very rigorous and includes site visits by the selection committee.

The Greater Tacoma Community Foundation is a philanthropic organization that manages \$83 million in assets on behalf of donors. The foundation awarded \$2.8 million in grants and scholarships in fiscal year 2011. The Vibrant Community program is one of several grant-making avenues, and is focused on five specific areas: arts and culture, basic needs, education, environment, and neighborhoods and communities.

Sherrana Kildun, director of community programs for the foundation, said 136 proposals totaling more than \$2 mil-

Learn more

For more information about the Greater Tacoma Community Foundation, go to www.gtcf.org.

lion were received this year for Vibrant Community grants.

"We review each application with the lens of how they address the needs in those five elements that we believe make a vibrant community, and how they align with our values," she said. Some of those values are innovation, integrity and collaboration, she added.

Volunteer committees review the applications and make recommendations to the board of directors. This year, the total awarded was 60 percent higher than last year. The program was launched in 2009, but the foundation has been making grants since 1986 and manages about 400 named funds, each with a different focus.

Kildun said the selection committee looks at goals, value statements and various indicators in selecting recipients, and it has supported each of the three Key Pen organizations in the past.

"We do look at geographic diversity as well and we're very happy to support these three strong organizations," she said.

She said Children's Home Society really spoke to its holistic approach to working with families and meeting needs with a variety of services, while Communities In School impressed the foundation with the services provided through its excellent model. Mustard Seed not only made an impact in GTCF's basic needs focus area, but also in neighborhoods and communities because of programs such as volunteers driving seniors around to medical appointments.

"We're very happy to support the Key Peninsula community," Kildun said. "We learn a lot about the community out there (through this process) that helps inform our future grant-making."

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Jimmy D's is coming to the Key Peninsula

By Danna Webster, KP News

The tavern formerly known as Sit and Sip has new owners, Jim and Midge Haskins, and a new name, Jimmy D's 94th Avenue Pub. A June opening is planned for the establishment near Lake Kathryn after painting, carpeting and some remodeling are completed and all the Pierce County permit requirements are met.

The Haskins are known for their Jimmy D's restaurants in Gorst and Belfair. Some people in Jim Haskins' age bracket are considering retirement but after he sold the Gorst restaurant recently, he chose to start a new business.

"It became available and was reasonable," he said. "I wanted to downsize from a full restaurant — less headaches, I don't want to retire."

Instead of a full restaurant menu, the new pub will offer sandwiches, hamburgers and soups with occasional specials like barbecued ribs and prime rib dinners. Meals will be served on paper plates with disposable utensils because the septic restrictions will not allow a commercial dishwasher.



Jimmy D's owner, Jim Haskins, stands in front of the vintage refrigerator door at his new Key Peninsula pub he plans to open in June.

Photo by Danna Webster, KP News

Haskins has refinished the bar, built pull-tab shelving and added four new beer taps for a total of 12. He hopes to serve four or five local brews.

"I'd rather buy from locals and send it (business) out into the community than send it out far away. We should be working together to improve the community. It's good business," he said.

Haskins has connections to the Key Peninsula community from earlier times. In the '70s, when he opened his first tavern in Tacoma, he knew Lu Smith as a business associate.

Smith is the owner of Homeport Restaurant in Home. His former carpet business, Star Carpet Cleaning and Dyeing, serviced the Key Peninsula, Gig Harbor and Kitsap. He is no longer in the carpet business but he kept the equipment because he still loves to clean carpet.

His other love is senior softball. He plans to build enthusiasm at the pub for Jimmy D's senior softball team and maybe add a co-ed and men's team. There will be games to play inside the pub, too, including darts, pull tabs, pool, foosball and maybe shuffle board.

For him, planning facilities and remodeling the pub is fun, like working a puzzle. Once he starts putting it together, he sees things he didn't know he needed. Then he goes out and gets it. That makes the remodeling a never-ending project. Once he gets it open, he expects to see more remodeling to do.

The food industry is Haskins' sole career currently. He is a "food guy" and measures success by his employees' longevity in years of service. He has worked with Pat Sullivan, the new manager for the 94th Street Pub, for nearly 40 years.

"I'm his answer girl," Sullivan said. "He is one of the best friends I've ever had and he was my friend before he was my boss."

Sullivan has opened six businesses for Haskins including this one. Haskins said, "I've been pretty lucky over my tenure in business — one bartender retired, I had waitresses work 12-18 years, cooks 10-12 years — I try to treat them with respect. I'm a people person. They're my family."

Haskins and his wife, Midge, had a Hawaiian getaway planned over the Memorial Day holiday. He says that will have him rested up and ready to open the new pub in June.

TELL US WHAT YOU THINK!

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Congratulations to **Edie Morgan and Dayl Minch** for winning a framed print of this photo by *Ed Johnson* by completing our survey at the Livable Community Fair and online.

Thank you to all those who submitted your thoughts!

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A lively Livable Fair

The 10th annual Key Peninsula Livable Fair brought a variety of organizations and activities to the KP Civic Center the second Saturday in May. The purpose of the event is to highlight local services to the community, and this year vendors included businesses that provide disaster preparedness products and services. A ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new playground, a trout pond and a display of equipment-moving units from Joint Base Lewis McChord were among the highlights.

For more photos as well as videos from the livable fair and the playground opening, visit www.keypennews.com.



Photo by Hugh McMillan, KP News
Hoping for a catch, would-be fishermen crowd around the shadier side of the trout pond. The day was perfect for sunburns for the unwary.



Photo by Mindi LaRosa, KP News
Aben Walters, age 10, catches his first fish at the fishing tank.



Photo by Mindi LaRosa, KP News
Parents and friends take pictures and watch their little ones perform dance routines on the Civic Center stage.



Photo by Mindi LaRosa, KP News
Children play on the new Civic Center Playground at the Livable Fair.



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COMMUNITY PAGES

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

NOW

Enroll now! 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 9:30-11:30 a.m. at the Home fire station. Evening classes (6 to 8 p.m.) are available at the TLC Gig Harbor campus. Enroll any time. For detailed class information, registration and orientation call Tracy Clark, 253-460-2356.

JUNE 1

Cosmic skate night

Cosmic skate night is 9:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m. for high school-aged only. DJ Kip Miller plays upbeat club mixes paired with an enhanced laser light show. Enjoy contests and games. Admission is \$5 and includes skate rental, games and access to limited concessions. kpciviccenter.org or 884-3456.

JUNE 1, 8, 15

Skate night

Friday night skate night for area elementary and middle school students is 6-9 p.m. at the KP Civic Center. DJ Will Moody spins tunes, games are in the Whitmore Room and snacks are available. June 15 is the end-of-school haw party with special hours of 6-10 p.m. Entry is \$5 and includes skate rental, games and crafts. 884-3456 or kpciviccenter.org.

JUNE 3

Bluegrass jam

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

JUNE 4, 11, 18, 25

Bloodmobile

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

To submit an event

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

JUNE 7

Fuchsia club

The Lakebay Fuchsia Club meets at 7 p.m. at the Key Center Fire Station this month. Ginnie, 884-9744.

JUNE 9

Junk in Your Trunk

Key Pen Parks hosts a "Junk in your Trunk Sale" at Volunteer Park, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. 884-9240.

Pancake breakfast and sale

KP firefighters host their annual pancake breakfast 7:30 - 11 a.m. at Key Center fire station. Tickets \$5 per person, kids 5 and under free. The ASHES rummage sale runs 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. at the station. ASHES is the auxiliary group that helps support the fire department, using the proceeds from the rummage sale to buy needed items not included in the budget. Donations for the rummage sale may be dropped off at the fire station Friday, June 8, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. 884-5430 or 884-3771.

Lyme group

The Lyme support group meets 1-3 p.m. at the Key Center Library. Lyme mimics over 300 other diseases including MS and ALS. Positive group support for chronically-ill patients, caregivers and family members, and information and education on the fastest-growing vector-borne disease in the world is offered. Local doctors and nurses, on the frontlines for rural communities, are especially invited to come and learn from patients. Lyme has four times the number of AIDS patients in North America and is growing.

JUNE 10

Talent tryouts

Tryouts for Key Fest's talent show will start at 3 p.m. at KP Civic Center. All ages and talent categories are considered. Those under 18 need parental consent. www.keyfair.org.

JUNE 12

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 1-3 p.m. at the WayPoint Church. Yarn, knitting needles, crochet hooks and button donations are always welcome. Virginia, 884-9619 or lovingheartsonkp@aol.com.

Friends meet

The Friends of the Key Center Library meet at 5:30 p.m. at the library. All Friends are welcome.

JUNE 13

Bayshore Garden Club

The Bayshore Garden Club meets at 1 p.m. at the Longbranch Fire Station. Francine, 253-569-1381.

Free shots

PSD is offering free immunizations from 3:30-5 p.m. at Evergreen Elementary School.

JUNE 16

Fun run

Key Pen Parks is hosting a Summer Fun Run at 360 Trails at 9 a.m. Walk or run either 1K or 5K to raise money for the PTA of a KP school of your choice. Every participant receives a T-shirt and all kids win a ribbon; prizes will be awarded by ages for the fastest times. Cost is \$15 if registered by June 4; \$25 June 5-16 (race day). Jessica@keypen-parks.com or 884-9240 or keypenparks.com.

JUNE 17

Third Sunday jam

Bluegrass Gospel Jam session is hosted at Longbranch Church (16518 46th Street KPS) 6 - 8:30 p.m. for all acoustic instruments, ages and skill levels. Everyone is welcome to play, sing or simply listen. Bring music stand and finger food to share; music and beverages are provided. 425-492-4177

JUNE 21

School's out

The last day of school for Peninsula School District students has an early release for all grades.

Down Home practice

The Down Home band begins practicing at 7 p.m. at the Key Medical Center (15610 89th Street, Key Center). Anybody who has ever played a band instrument and still has it is welcome. Dr. Roes, 884-9221.

Community Forum

The Third Thursday forum's topic is "Home Modifications for Aging in Place." Learn about the possibilities for continued independent living in your home. 10 a.m. Brones Room, Key Center Library. Call The Mustard Seed Project for info at 884-9814.

JUNE 23

Marine life class

A free class, "Bivalves for Clean Water," is offered 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. at Camp Seymour. The class is presented by Marine Water Quality Specialist Teri King, funded by the Dept. of Ecology, sponsored by Pierce County Shellfish Partners, and brought to you by Harbor WildWatch, the Pierce Conservation District and the Kitsap County WSU Extension. Renee Johnson, WSU Kitsap County Extension, 360-337-7157 or kgicourses@gmail.com.

(See Community, Page 13)

(From Community, Page 12)

JUNE 28 - JULY 4**Fireworks sale**

Support the Civic Center and buy fireworks from the only stand that directly benefits the Key Peninsula community. The stand is open 10 a.m. - 9 p.m. in the parking lot of the Market at Key Center. 884-3456 or kpciviccenter.org.

PUBLIC MEETINGS**Key Pen Parks**

June 4, 7:30 p.m. at Volunteer Park Annex; keypenparks.com

KP Community Fair Association

June 5, 6 p.m. in Roadhouse Restaurant VIP room; www.keyfair.org

KP Lions dinner & program

June 5 & 19, 6:30 p.m. in VFW Room, KP Civic Center; 853-2721

KP Historical Society Board

June 7, 11 a.m. in museum; members welcome

Peninsula School District Board

June 7 & 21, 6 p.m., regular meeting at district office; www.psd401.net

Fire District 16

June 12 & 26, 6 p.m. at Key Center Fire Station; www.keypeninsulafire.org

Key Peninsula Council

June 13, 7 p.m. at Key Center Fire Station; www.kpcouncil.org

KP Civic Center Board

June 14, 7 p.m. in Whitmore Room; www.kpciviccenter.org

LIC

June 20, 6:30 p.m. at Longbranch Improvement Club; www.longbranchimprovementclub.org

KP Citizens Against Crime

June 21, 7 p.m. at Home Fire Station; www.kpcitizensagainstcrime.org

OFF THE KEY**JUNE 2****Writing symposium**

A free writing and publishing symposium for writers on is offered 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at Gig Harbor Library. Topics include publishing pointers, focus on elements of writing, writing across cultures, book and cover design and formatting, social networking and sales. A dozen local authors, including five from the KP, will be presenters and their books will be available for sale. Pre-registration with the library is required- 253-548-3305. For more information: online@piercecounitylibrary.org/calendar. This event is sponsored by Friends of the Gig Harbor Library.

JUNE 2-3**Maritime festival**

The annual Maritime Gig is happening in Gig Harbor on Saturday 8 a.m.-9 p.m. and include the Pirates of Peninsula Grand Parade at 10 a.m. along Harborview Drive. Sunday hours are 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

JUNE 2, 9, 16, 23, 30**Farmers market**

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

JUNE 8**Bike ride registration**

The 22nd Annual Tour de Pierce Bike Ride on June 24 includes 30- and 50-mile marked routes. A 12-mile route is designed for families or for those new to biking. All routes include maps and cue sheets, a rest stop with refreshment, and restrooms. The ride starts and finishes at the Western Washington Fair Grounds Gold Parking lot, S Meridian & 9th Ave SE, Puyallup. The pre-registration fee (\$12/person-\$36/family of 4 from same household) is due by June 8. For an application call 253-841-8515 or www.piercecounitywa.org/parks.

JUNE 10**Marine life class**

A free class, "Shoreline Living," is offered 1-4 p.m. at Hales Pass Community Center. The class is presented by Marine Water Quality Specialist Jeff Adams and Horticulture Educator Peg Tillery, fund-

ed by the Dept. of Ecology, sponsored by Pierce County Shellfish Partners and brought to you by Harbor WildWatch, the Pierce Conservation District and the Kitsap County WSU Extension. Renee Johnson, WSU Kitsap County Extension, 360-337-7157 or kgicourses@gmail.com.

JUNE 15 - JULY 1**Broadway revival**

Paradise Theatre presents "Anything Goes" on the weekends. The play is at 7:30 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays and 3 p.m. on Sundays. A special dinner theatre presentation will be hosted June 30 at 6 p.m. Call 253-851-PLAY or www.paradisetheatre.org for tickets.

JUNE 16**Victor flea mart**

The famous Victor Flea Mart is 9 a.m.-4 p.m. on Highway 302 behind the fire station in Victor. Books, clothing, antiques, collectibles, linens, kitchenware, electronics, outdoor stuff, furniture, bakery items, raffle, cheeseburgers, hotdogs and free coffee are available. Proceeds go to maintaining our building and to charity. Debby, 360-275-1364.

(See Off the Key, Page 14)

WEEKLY EVENTS**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.

TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS**Preschool play time**

The Children's Home Society KP Family Resource Center offers a preschool/toddler indoor park program 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. \$1 donation per child is suggested. 884-5433.

WEDNESDAYS**Lakebay writers**

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

Watermark Writers

The Watermark Writers presents a free writers' workshop 5-8 p.m. in Vaughn. Call 253-778-6559 for information.

THURSDAYS**Toastmasters**

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

**Senior Society
KP Senior Society**

The Key Peninsula Senior Society, aka Yesterday's Teenagers, meet at 11:30 a.m. for a potluck, fellowship and games at the Civic Center. All are welcome. 884-4981.

THURSDAYS & SATURDAYS

KP Historical Museum is open 1-4 p.m. Current displays feature Penrose Point and KP logging. 884-2511 or 884-5403.

SATURDAYS**Writers' Guild**

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

Zumba

Zumba for ages 16-plus is offered on Saturdays 9-10 a.m. at the KP Civic Center. Cost is \$53 for a 5-class punch card, good for two months after purchase date. 884-9240 or jessica@keypenparks.com.

KC Computer Repair goes mobile

Staff Report

Sheryl Mirenta, owner of KC Computer Repair, closed her storefront in Key Center on May 12 and was planning to launch a new business model in June.

She had worked in the KC Corral location since 2003, first as a technical assistant to original owner, Bill Horwitz, then in January 2005 became the store's proprietor. As closing time neared, she sold off store trappings, shelving and inventory, along with rustic carved wooden artwork that had adorned the walls.

As part of the new model, Mirenta has restructured and will deliver computer support and repair services by phone or from a remote online location, "saving you the inconveniences of disconnecting your hardware, taking it to the shop, picking it up later, and reconnecting it."

The change is necessary to continue to meet the needs of clients and to keep pace with the changing demands businesses are facing, she said.

"You will be able to schedule a house



Photo by Mandi LaBarr, KP News

After nine years at KC Corral, Sheryl Mirenta is taking her business mobile.

call and we will make a site visit to assess your needs," Mirenta said. "We believe this model will allow us to provide a higher level of service to our clients at a competitive rate while allowing our business to transition to a sustainable, longer term business model."

After going mobile, KC Computer Repair retains the same business phone number (884-5150). A flier handed out in the shop before closing expressed Mirenta's appreciation: "Thanks to everyone for all your support. We look forward to serving you for many more years to come."

(From Off the Key, Page 13)

JUNE 19

Gardening workshop

Pierce County sponsors an Edible Garden Workshop called "Garden Bug: The Good, the Bad and the Sluggy" 6-8 p.m. at Schmel Homestead Park. Call 253-363-1846 prior to the workshop if you plan to attend.

JUNE 26, JULY 3

Summer concerts

Summer Sounds at Skansie returns for the 10th year on Tuesdays through Aug. 28. All free outdoor concerts start at 6:30 p.m. on the waterfront at Skansie Brothers Park, rain or shine. The first concert features The Coats (thecoats.net). The July 3 concert features the Washington Army National Guard 133rd Army Band (133armyband.washingtonarmyguard.org). Remaining in 2012 is the popular restaurant delivery service to the park by many of Gig Harbor's favorite downtown eateries. On board this year are Devoted Kiss Cafe, Moeso, Kelly's Cafe & Espresso and Tides Tavern. Bring your own chair or blanket; no tents or umbrellas are allowed. Gig Harbor parks are smoke-free. Saving seats is subject to management discretion and roping off seats will be allowed. gigharborguide.com.

JULY 14

Wine & food festival

The Third Annual Gig Harbor Wine & Food Festival is presented by the Gig Harbor Historic Waterfront Association on the grounds of the Harbor History Museum. The event will include multiple tasting tents with more than 25 wineries, breweries and restaurant and food purveyors represented. Also featured will be a wide selection of educational offerings, including wine seminars and cooking demonstrations. Attendees will have the opportunity to bid on a variety of dining and winemaker dinner packages. Tickets for the Gig Harbor Wine & Food Festival may be purchased at an early bird price on the festival's website at www.harbor-wineandfoodfest.com.

Key Peninsula Civic Center Fireworks Stand

stationed outside the
Food Market at Key Center

JUNE 28 - JULY 4

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TNT Safe & Sane Fireworks

We're the only fireworks stand on the Key Peninsula where the proceeds stay in our community, supporting local programs benefiting families, kids, teens, seniors, and you!



*Opens at 12 noon on June 28

Babysitter Needed

Key Peninsula Lutheran Church is currently looking for a Sunday morning babysitter for our nursery. Responsibilities include providing care and activities for approximately 3-6 children who range from infancy to five years old. Hours are 10:15 am to 11:45 am.

Applicant must be 18 years of age or older and pass a WSP background check. The salary is the current minimum wage for 1 1/2 hours per Sunday paid monthly.

An application can be obtained from the church or call 253 884-3312. We are located at the intersection of Key Peninsula Highway and Lackey Road.



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FIRE DISTRICT 16 CALL LOG

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

Total calls: 120
EMS: 87
Fire/service: 11
Other: 22

April 16

Firefighters responded to a vehicle accident and found the elderly driver unconscious. She was rapidly extricated and transported by ambulance to a trauma center for evaluation and treatment of her injuries.

April 25

Firefighters responded to a report of a fully involved barn fire near Longbranch. The barn contained tools and equipment, including a tractor and motorcycle. There were no persons or animals inside. With no hydrants nearby, three water tenders shuttled water to the fire engine from a nearby school. The cause is suspected to be related to an improperly installed woodstove and stovepipe. Damages esti-

mated to be around \$40,000.

April 29

A 52-year-old Lakebay man was twirling a revolver on his finger "Old West" style when it discharged into his leg. The man was transported to a Tacoma hospital for treatment of nonlife-threatening injury.

May 4

Firefighters were called to assist a sheriff's deputy who had made contact with a 35-year-old Longbranch man on the side of a road and not acting normal. The man reported he was not feeling right mentally and requested to speak with a doctor about his condition. Key Peninsula Medic One transported him to a local hospital as a voluntary commitment for evaluation of his psychiatric state.

May 6

On May 6, firefighters responded to the home of a woman in her 40s who

left some "designer natural stones" and crystals in a wicker basket on her deck to bathe in the light of the full moon. She returned home the next afternoon to find the basket on fire. The woman extinguished the fire but called 911 to have it checked by firefighters. Sunlight refracting through the crystals apparently ignited the basket.

May 8

Several 911 calls were made to report a car fire in a lake community. Arriving units found the 1991 Toyota SUV's engine fire had been successfully extinguished by the two men who had just rebuilt the engine. After repairing the engine, the men attempted to start the vehicle and the engine compartment erupted in flames. There were no injuries and no surrounding buildings or vehicles were involved.

May 12

A 4-month-old girl received a small

bump on her head when a TV remote fell about 1 1/2 feet from the armrest of the family's couch and hit her on the head. The infant did not appear to be in any apparent distress and was left at home with her parents after the paramedic and a physician at Mary Bridge Children's Hospital emergency department conferred.

May 13

A woman in her 70s was working on her dock with her son when she tripped and fell to the beach below. She was stabilized at the scene and transported by ambulance to an area hospital for treatment of shoulder and rib injuries.

The Voice of the Key Peninsula

KEY PENINSULA
NEWS

The Mustard Seed Project

Building an Elder-Friendly Key Peninsula

June Third Thursday Community Forum

Home Modifications for Aging in Place

- An estimated one in five Americans has a disability
- The number of people wanting to remain in their own homes is growing rapidly
- Come find out more about the possibilities.



Thursday, June 21st

Brones Room Key Center Library 10 a.m.

Transportation available Call 884-9814 for details

Everyone welcome at this FREE program

The Mustard Seed Project also offers:

Key Peninsula Senior Ride Program
Door-to-door Transportation
for Seniors and Disabled Adults
253-884-2216
amanda.mustardseed@gmail.com

Key Senior Information Center
Free, confidential information & referral services
for Seniors & their Families
253-884-0814
tmen@ourmustard.net

Key Peninsula Real Estate MARKET REPORT

Thru April 2012

HOMES

NON-WATERFRONT REPORT

Homes for Sale	127
Average List Price	\$264,643
(price per sq ft)	\$130
Average Days on Market	196
Homes Sold (ytd)	58
Average Sold Price	\$200,883
(price per sq ft)	\$100
Average Days on Market	148
Properties Pending	56

WATERFRONT REPORT

Homes for Sale	39
Average List Price	\$351,778
(price per sq ft)	\$192
Average Days on Market	275
Homes Sold (ytd)	8
Average Sold Price	\$328,000
(price per sq ft)	\$187
Average Days on Market	58
Properties Pending	2

LAND

NON-WATERFRONT REPORT

Land for Sale	173
Average List Price	\$79,647
(price per acre)	\$17,527
Average Days on Market	483
Land Sold (ytd)	12
Average Sold Price	\$48,358
(price per acre)	\$14,143
Average Days on Market	388
Properties Pending	4

WATERFRONT REPORT

Land for Sale	27
Average List Price	\$147,320
(price per acre)	\$71,405
Average Days on Market	315
Land Sold (ytd)	3
Average Sold Price	\$103,667
(price per acre)	\$47,416
Average Days on Market	346
Properties Pending	1

This report is provided as a generic reference only...as all properties are unique.
Contact a REALTOR® for specific pricing information.

Key Peninsula Market Report provided by:

Tracy Butzko, REALTOR®, ABR®
253 617 9670

tracybutzko@whitcomb.com



Maple Hollow is the newest addition to KP parks

By Danna Webster, KPNews

On May 18, Key Pen Parks celebrated the opening of Maple Hollow Park with a ribbon-cutting ceremony, barbecue lunch and guided tours. Five pairs of scissors snipped the ribbon. The tools were in the hands of the president and vice president of the parks commissioner board, Greg Anglemeyer and Bill Trandum; the president of the Key Peninsula Business Association, Ed Robison (who also serves as a parks commissioner); Debbie Austin, who represented Jan Angel's office; and Pierce County Councilman Stan Flemming.

Maple Hollow Park is open to visitors as a passive-recreation park on 58.5 acres with a three-quarter-mile moderate trail down to 1,400 feet of shoreline and beach along Carr Inlet.

The opening was coordinated with the regular lunch meeting date for the Key Peninsula Business Association and lunch was provided by Key Pen Parks and catered by Greg Murphy of Murphy's BBQ. Representatives from programs like West Sound Watershed and the Washington Sea



Photo by Danna Webster, KP News

Guests of the Maple Hollow ribbon cutting ceremony Jake and Will Henley, learn about the living creatures in west Puget Sound along with their mother, Kellie Henley and Pierce County Councilman Stan Flemming. Harbor Wild-Watch president, Joyce Murray, tells them how crabs grow out of their shells.

Grant at WSU-Kitsap Extension served as trail and beach guides, explaining the natural shoreline recovery processes. Harbor WildWatch provided a "Touch the Creatures from the Beach" exhibit at

the picnic area.

The park was secured as a 50-year lease from Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) in 2009. It was one of the original canoe and kayak water accesses developed by DNR in the late '70s.

The property was closed around 1990 due to lack of funds for maintenance. The area suffered the abuses of an abandoned property for two decades, creating many issues for Key Pen Parks to resolve

prior to getting it ready for public use. Various sources of funding were sought and matching grants were secured from the DNR creosote recovery program, the Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account and the Salmon Recovery Board. Improvements included the removal of the original bulkhead and old creosote steps, cleanup of trash and dump sites and the building of a trail, part of which is wheelchair-accessible.

According to Key Pen Parks executive director, Scott Gallacher, the removal of the bulkhead allows for the runoff of fresh water into Carr Inlet through various natural processes. Other parks in Kitsap County and also Pentrose State Park are considering the removal of their bulkheads.

"This beach is a case study for the natural processes that occur. We are working with Mother Nature for our project," Gallacher said. He explained that armoring a shoreline with a bulkhead is needed only for property with structures and houses.

The trail head for the park is near the street parking at 4441 Van Beck Road, about one-quarter mile east from the Key Peninsula Highway intersection. This area is furnished with a concrete picnic table and wheelchair-accessible vault privy. There is a half mile long trail, also wheelchair-accessible, which was built as an Eagle Scout project. This trail leads to an overlook with a potential view of Mount Rainier on a clear day. Recycled asphalt was used for the path and most building materials used for the park are also from recycled sources.

Once again, the park provides kayak and canoe access to the Carr Inlet and South Puget Sound. Visitors are welcomed by giant moss-coated maple trees along the winding trail between the trail head and the beach and in the springtime, they are treated to a carpet of trillium blossoms.

The park will be busy this summer with several weeklong day camps that involve Legos, theater and ecological studies planned by Key Pen Parks Recreation Coordinator Jessica Smeall. The summer camp program information is listed on the park website at www.keypenparks.com.

Gallacher hopes for high use of this park, both for public pleasure and to keep the site safe from vandals. "The best deterrent for vandals is public use and many eyes," he said.

The Extraordinary Andrew Evans



The Andrew Evans Magic Show

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2:00 PM
Saturday June 23

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ARTS ALLIANCE

Guild in need of more Angels

The Angel Guild is looking for a few more good members to help run the store. The thrift store has added one day to the summer schedule with the hope of increasing revenue. The new summer bouts at the thrift store in the Key Center Corral are Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The additional hour will help the nonprofit bring in more revenue; however, it also means volunteers will be working double or triple shifts. For more information about becoming a member (dues are \$5 per year), call 884-9333 or email angelguild9013@hotmail.com.

Read a complete story about the Angels and recent changes in next month's edition.

Minter Elementary's young artists create new mural

By Hugh McMillan, KP News

Visitors to Minter Creek Elementary School are now greeted with a brand new mural gracing the entryway to the school.

For years, the concrete wall at the entry has been painted and repainted with sea life scenes that weathered badly and became unsightly. Thanks to a huge effort on the part of volunteers, school staff, parents and other interested parties, a new detachable, permanent mural was created by every student in the school. The kids were the artists.

Two years ago, third-grade teacher Susan Stone approached Two Waters Arts Alliance, especially muralist Tweed Meyer and TWAA's Artists in Schools Program Director Lauren Littleton, with the idea for the mural.

"We just couldn't say no," Littleton said. "TWAA's Artists in Schools program strives to bring art to as many students as possible on the Key Peninsula. What better way than to involve the entire school on a project?"

She said many TWAA artists love to



Photo by Hugh McMillan, KP News

Near her painting of it on the mural, third-grader Erin Pierson proudly displays a photo of Washington's state bird, the goldfinch. See more photos in our online gallery.

share their artistic knowledge with kids and Tweed Meyer is no exception. "Tweed really came through on this project. We turned an empty classroom into the 'art-

ists studio' and Tweed helped all the kids understand that this was their project from start to finish," she said.

Fifth-grader Bobbi Worden said, "It

took a lot of planning before we could even start painting, but it was worth the wait."

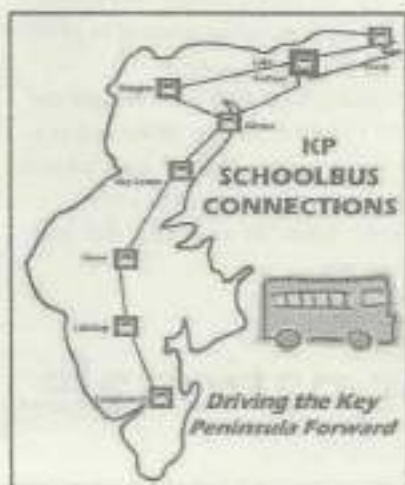
Another of the young artists, Trey Douglas, said, "Our mural shows us how much we are connected to our universe and all the people and animals around the world."

The mural involved teamwork from the entire school but represented something different for each person. "It might be an image, a thought or emotion that connects us to each other and the world around us. I feel that through our mural, our students are capturing the inquisitive, creative, joyful child in each of us," Stone said.

Littleton credited Stone and TWAA members for going into the community to raise the money for the project. "Local businesses really came through for us. Harrison Homes donated all of the construction time, Pro Build, Parker Paint, Rodda Paint and Gig Harbor Home Depot contributed necessary supplies. We had amazing parent volunteers who jumped in to help; a true community effort," she said.

KP SCHOOLBUS CONNECTIONS

"Tuesday Trips to Town" Running every Tuesday thru the Summer!



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 - June 26 – Uptown Gig Harbor
 - July 10 – Pt. Defiance Zoo
 - Call for info & to sign up
 - Free door-to-bus-stop van connection for riders age 60+ by pre-arrangement

For information, routes & Users' Guide,

please contact The Mustard Seed Project:
253-884-9814 or email tmsp@centurytel.net

*Unfortunately, standard schoolbuses are NOT wheelchair accessible. Riders must be able to board independently.

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3	1 1/2 Inch <i>Clean</i> Gravel 15 tons=30,000 lbs.	
4	Pea Gravel 15 tons=30,000 lbs	
5	7/8 Inch <i>Drain Rock</i> 15 tons=30,000 lbs	
6	1 1/2 Inch <i>Drain Rock</i> 15 tons=30,000 lbs.	
7	5/8 or 3/4 Inch <i>Minus</i> Crushed Gravel 15 tons=30,000 lbs.	
8	1 1/2 Inch <i>Minus</i> Crushed Gravel 15 tons=30,000 lbs.	

Evergreen students, staff embrace healthy lifestyle

Students at Evergreen Elementary School don't receive candy as a reward anymore, and they don't even notice. Instead, they get extra minutes of recess, or similar reward that promotes a healthier lifestyle. It's all part of the Ready, Set, Go! 5210 program.

By Marsha Hart, KP News

Students at Evergreen Elementary School have spent the year learning about how to live a healthy lifestyle. Through a program called Ready, Set, Go! 5210, the YMCA has provided an after-school program filled with activities that encourage healthy living. The initiative is part of the Y's partnership with MultiCare Health System and the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department.

"We got to be the first to introduce it, so we launched it with Evergreen," said Kristina Butorac, senior health and wellbeing director at the YMCA of Pierce and Kitsap Counties. "Obviously we are knee-deep in the childhood obesity epidemic, so we lay down the groundwork of healthy lifestyle for the family as a whole. We get the kids moving and then spread that excitement to families."

The YMCA provides programs at the school during the late-start collaboration Wednesdays in the Peninsula schools, so at Evergreen the focus is on 5210. The name, 5210, means: five or more fruits and vegetables, two hours or less of recreational screen time, one hour or more of physical activity and zero sugary drinks per day.

"It's pretty attainable," said Jacque Crisman, principal at Evergreen. "Here at school we don't have sugary drinks and they have more than an hour of exercise. We encourage our families to make sure the kids are not getting online or watch-

Ready, Set, Go!

For more information about Ready, Set, Go! 5210, visit letsgo.org or contact Kristina Butorac at 253-853-9622.

ing TV, gaming and that stuff, and the five fruits and vegetables are easy if they eat breakfast with us."

T-shirts were donated to the school for the program, and Crisman said a contest is held each week to see which class has the most students wearing their T-shirts. The reward is another healthy choice, such as extra recess time.

"When we first did 5210, we had to look at how we provide rewards and celebrations because in the past a teacher might give out a Jolly Rancher for a reward, so we are looking at no food as a reward," she said.

As for birthdays, families are encouraged to bring alternative foods for celebrations.

"We're trying to change the mindset and thinking, and that is hard because you really can't control it," she said.

However, the children get it, she said. "I notice that they notice we are noticing," Crisman said. "They are willing to try new things and they always have fruits and vegetables on the tray."

Crisman said she has been surprised by how the program has been received by everyone at the school. "I thought I'd hear



Photo by Karina Whitmarsh, KP News

YMCA's Senior Health and Wellbeing Director Kristina Butorac with students Wyatt LaBolle (left) and Blake Johnstone during a recent 5210 activity at Evergreen.

about no food rewards," she said. But the children have been fine with it.

On PTA nights, the foods have been switched to healthier choices, such as nuts and popcorn, granola bars and fruit rolls. "It's amazing. No one noticed. That is something to be said. It is OK to make these changes," Crisman said.

Great things are happening at Evergreen through this program, according to Crisman. The YMCA has not only provided programming around 5210 for the students, but also for staff.

"We have the Y doing some wonderful 'get up and move' classes twice a week, a culinary arts class that works on nutrition and our cooking class after hours, and we look at what kinds of foods we are using in our cupboards at home that are healthier and fast snacks they can make on their own. On top of that, the Y provides Zumba class on Wednesdays after the teacher contract time and they exercise until about 5:30 every Wednesday," Crisman said.

It's not just about kids and parents, but the school as a whole, she said.

"It's always part of the conversation, so we're talking about the elements," Butorac said. "Personally when I work with the kids, we pick a number and that is our homework. So maybe we pick a new vegetable to try or challenge on drinking so many glasses of water three days a week."

The countywide 5210 program is part of a national initiative that was inspired and modeled after a similar one in Maine called Let's Go! Maine. In Pierce County, it came as a result of a Healthy Communities Summit organized by Mary Bridge Children's Hospital and the policy group ACHIEVE, which is focused on issues relating to physical activity and healthy eating.

The initiative is gaining momentum and the city of Gig Harbor has embraced it as well. Mayor Charles Hunter proclaimed May 18 as Ready, Set, Go! 5210 Day.

Evergreen plans to continue the program next year.

Peninsula High School debate team qualified for nationals

By Danna Webster, KP News

Two Peninsula High School students recently qualified to debate at the national level. The duo, Cameron McMillan and Jayne Wright, are residents of the Key Peninsula.

The two seniors qualified for state debate rounds during the National Forensics League debates in January. In March, the Peninsula High School team traveled to Gonzaga University in Spokane to compete against 32 teams. McMillan and Wright tied for third place with Union

High School. Second place went to a North Kitsap High School team, and first place went to Drew Kent and Tyler Jensen from Gig Harbor High School.

According to McMillan, all teams debated the question about whether or not the United States should provide foreign aid to Pakistan. Throughout the rounds of completion, a coin toss determined each team's position, either pro or con.

The national competition will be hosted in Indianapolis in June; however McMillan and Wright are not able to

attend due to funding.

PHS debate teams practice for completion by debating a National Forensics League question every month. This was the fourth year of debate club for McMillan and the first for Wright.

"It's a lot of fun once you get into it. It actually is. Going into rounds and coming out of them is work but a lot of fun," McMillan said.

After graduation, Wright intends to study at Pacific Lutheran University and McMillan at Oregon State University.

KPMS science teacher impacts federal education policy

By Marsha Hart, KP News

She's been traveling, talking and listening for almost a year in her role as U.S. Department of Education teaching ambassador.

Karen Borders, science and aerospace teacher at Key Peninsula Middle School, was one of more than 900 applicants who vied for one of the 11 positions as a classroom fellow. The application process itself was involved, with a 15- to 20-page application, letters of recommendation, phone interviews and, finally, an in-person interview, which took place in San Francisco. Borders has remained in the classroom while working as an ambassador this past school year.

"This is new for me," Borders said. "I've done a lot of leadership with the national board, as one of the OSPI coordinators and with NASA, but this is new and a big learning curve, but extremely rewarding for me."

It's a one-year term and she has almost completed her time as an ambassador for the 2011-12 school year.

"I knew my teaching would only get better the more I understood federal policy and understood what was happening at the federal level as well," she said.

As a teaching ambassador, Borders has engaged in conversation with many educators. Roundtable events, most of which are hosted around the state, have included between seven and 28 people. She has traveled to Oregon, Kentucky and Ohio to get feedback as well.

"One of the big things I've learned is how much the Department of Education listens to the educator voice," Borders said. "What teachers are saying in the field is heard and impacts what happens at the



Photo by Hugh McMillan, KP News

Karen Borders

federal level. I'm also learning what happens at the federal level with designing policy and vision, and how much thought and integrity goes into it."

During her roundtable discussions, she reaches out to rural, urban, suburban, and tribal schools, as well as national board-certified teachers, middle school teachers and principals.

Borders has attended conferences to talk with them and has also set up her own discussions. In April and May, the focus of discussion was on the RESPECT Project, she said, which is a conversation about reforming and elevating the teaching profession. RESPECT stands for Recognizing Education Success, Professional Excellence and Collaborative Teaching.

The conversation began when the Obama Administration's 2013 budget included \$5 billion to reform the field of teaching. The reforms include every aspect, from training and tenure to compensation and career opportunities for educators.

The conversations, which are led by

ambassadors and are happening all around the country, are directly impacting the RESPECT Project document. The document is live, which means it is still being edited. Each day new things are added or deleted — it shows that the teachers really do have a voice, and that the Department of Education is listening, Borders said.

"It's really about looking at the components of the teaching profession, and often teachers don't feel respected and aren't compensated similarly to other professions, but it is also with regards to raising the standards and having a richer evaluation system for teachers and principals

and looking at different models," she said.

Borders said the goal of each discussion is to elevate student achievement and learning. And she's glad she has been able to remain in the classroom. The students don't really notice anything she is doing outside of the room, she said.

"I am their teacher," she said of her sixth- and eighth-grade science students and her aerospace students. "I think the other pieces that go along with my leadership aren't as important (to them) as what happens in the classroom. They know and appreciate what is happening in the classroom and they are learning."

School Briefs

Retirement party June 14 hosted for Bouck

Peninsula School District is hosting a farewell party for Superintendent Terry Bouck, who is retiring from 39 years of education in Washington state. Bouck, a Wauna resident, recently was named superintendent in Billings, Mont.

The celebration is from 4 to 6 p.m., with a presentation at 5 p.m., at Peninsula High School's commons/gym.

For information, call PSD at 530-1000.

School district budget forums

Peninsula School District will host a public forum on the 2012-2013 budget Tuesday, June 12, at Key Peninsula Middle School Library and Monday, June 18 at Henderson Bay High School. Both events are from 6 to 7:30 p.m.

The district encourages all members of the public to attend and ask questions or voice concerns regarding the Peninsula School District's budget. Those unable to attend may submit their feedback to Charles Cuzzetto, deputy superintendent, at cuzzettoc@psd401.net.

Local students at WWU

The following Key Peninsula residents are on the Winter 2012 Honor Roll at Western Washington University: Beatrix Fabiola Klugger, 4.0; Cameron Wiley Russell; Cody Dean Brower; Scarlett Octavia X. Anguiano and Kalei Lauryn Church, 4.0.

Winter quarter graduates with bachelor degrees from WWU are Daniel Glenn Durnance, accounting; Tracey Lynn Wilber, psychology; and Duncan Taylor Harrison, physics.

Congrats!

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The Sports Scene

A roundup of Key Pen athletes in action

Key Peninsula Little League first baseman Abigail Hanson goes after the ball during a May 6 game at Volunteer Park.



See more photos at www.keypennews.com

Photo by Ed Johnson, KP News



Photo by Ed Johnson, KP News

Alayna Piwonski, a member of the Gig Harbor Premiere Soccer, during a recent quarter-final state championship game against the Whatcom Rangers in Bellingham. The team is comprised of Peninsula High School players, most of them from the Key Peninsula. They advanced to the quarterfinals of the State Soccer Cup before running into the Rangers from Whatcom County.



Photo by Ed Johnson, KP News

Rachel Wittreich, Peninsula senior playing her last year as a Seahawk, dives into first base and avoids the tag during a game against Enumclaw in May.

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Magician Andrew Evans back in town

By Colleen Slater, KP News

The Two Waters Arts Alliance brings back master magician Andrew Evans for a performance of magic at 2 p.m. on June 23 at the KP Civic Center.

He wowed his audience of all ages in March of last year with a program of illusions that included sleight-of-hand, psychological deception, interaction with children and great rapport with his enthralled watchers.

Evans looks more like a teenager than a 24-year-old engineer who has designed livable tree houses in the Northwest. He learned his first card trick as a 5-year-old. He immersed himself in the study of magic tricks as an eighth grader, talking to magicians at a Pike Place Market shop and learning all the magic tricks he could.

As a college student, he continued his studies of the art and created his own style of performance, infusing classic techniques and effects with modern presentations and scripts.

His award-winning, 10-year career as a magician has taken him around the United States as well as into other countries. He borrows from vaudeville and sideshows to hone his own performances, dipping into traditional stunts and



Courtesy Photo

Andrew Evans returns for another show on the Key Pen.

escapes for some of his own shows.

Evans also lectures on the psychology of deception and theatricality of magic, how they can enhance magical performances as well as how they relate to everyday lives.

To those who'd like to be magicians, he says, "There really is no substitute for practice, more practice, and then, just when you think it's perfect, another two weeks of practice."

Tickets (\$8) are available at Sunnycrest Nursery, The Blend Wine Shop, at the door or online www.twowaters.org.

Chocolate Sundae raising funds

By Colleen Slater, KP News

The annual Chocolate Sundae Auction of the Key Peninsula Lutheran Church is the major fundraiser that supports the church's many outreach programs.

The June 3 event includes a light lunch, chocolate sundaes "with the works" as dessert precedes both a silent and live auction. There's no charge for the lunch or admission.

A highlight this year is a hand-stitched, queen-size quilt by Barbara Bramhall. Donation tickets for the drawing are \$1 or six for \$5.

The church's various outreach programs are operated by community volunteers and are self-supported through grants, donations and fundraising events.

These programs include community meals, three nutritious meals a month year round; a food pantry program that distributes grocery items six days a week year round; Backpacks 4 Kids, which provides nutritious food on

weekends during the school year for children on the school lunch program; and a summer lunch program, providing lunch three times a week during summer vacation to local school children.

New this year is a Tuesday Soup Day, serving choice of two nutritious home-made soups all year long. The church is also a certified emergency shelter, now in its sixth year of training, preparation and readiness to provide food and shelter to local residents during power outages or disasters.

All the food preparation follows Pierce County guidelines and is done in the commercial kitchen on site by volunteers with a food handler permit.

People in the community may donate auction items for the event as well as make a donation to a favorite outreach program. The event starts at noon on June 3 at McColley Hall, at the junction of Key Pen Highway and Lackey Road.

For auction donations or information, call 884-9606 or 884-4449.

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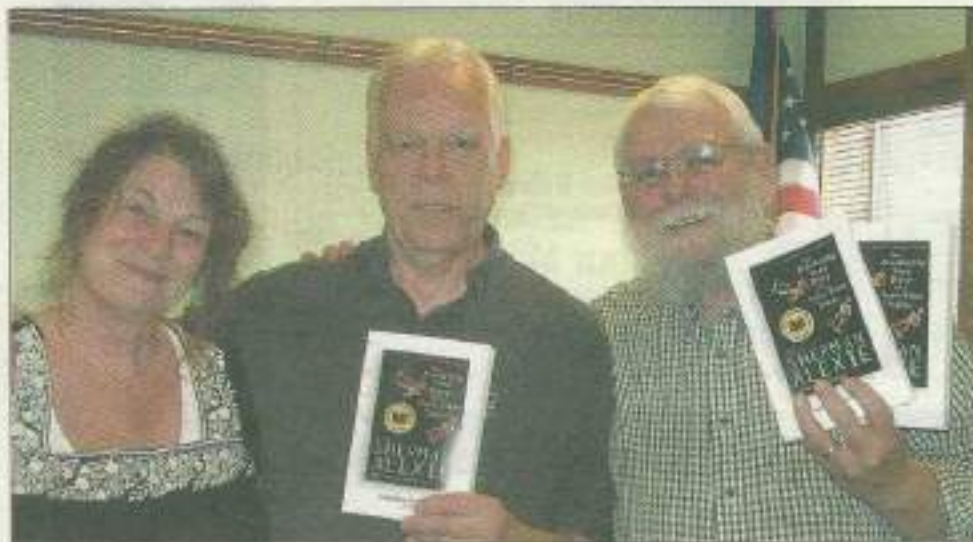


Photo by Colleen Slater

Claudia Patchen and Alan Kemp pose with Jerry Libstaff (center) at the KP Library, celebrating World Book Night. Libstaff, a local writer and publisher, hosted the event on behalf of Watermark Writers. The object is to increase a love of books and reading by young adults and adults who are not regular readers. A panel of booksellers and librarians selected 30 titles, and a million copies of free editions were printed for distribution that night. Libstaff selected Sherman Alexie's "The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian" to give to the first 25 guests.



Photo by Hugh McMullan

After designing them and purchasing necessary materials, Key Peninsula Lions Club members spent two days constructing four durable, safe ramps for wheelchair movement at the home of a Lake of the Woods family in need. Former KP Lions' president George Robison led a crew that included club vice president-elect Mike Razmek and his cousin, Lenny Baker, who was visiting from Florida, member Bill Macaras and secretary Cindy Robison. Pictured are Razmek, Baker (back to camera) and Robison working on the project on day one.

Where in the World...



Monica Rakowski, owner of KP Indoor Garden Store, took her copy of KP News with her to visit family in Germany last month.

She is pictured in her family's quaint village, Tiefenbronn.

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Why Cross the Bridge?



Photo by Ed Johnson

Brother Sun — Greg Greenway, Pat Victor and Joe Jencks — perform at Longbranch Improvement Club at a fundraiser for Mustard Seed. About 200 people attended the April 28 event. Several local artists and photographers displayed their work and donated a portion of their art sales.