

Habitat hammers about to strike again

Volunteers, donations welcomed by Key Peninsula housing ministry

By Ron Bechtel
KP News

As winter yields to spring and spring blossoms into summer, a chorus of happy volunteers doing "the ministry of the hammer" will fill the serene surroundings of Lake Minterwood. That's the announcement from Jim Leigh, chairman of the Gig Harbor/Key Peninsula Chapter of Habitat for Humanity. Thanks to the efforts of Gerry Dryer (Keller Williams Realty), a local Habitat board member, property has been acquired for Habitat's second Key Peninsula home. The home will be built on a vacant lot in the Lake Minterwood development.

Two years ago, Pastor Chuck Odegaard of the Vaughn Community Church and builder Dale Harrison of Harrison Homes spearheaded the formation of the Key Peninsula Habitat for Humanity chapter. An energetic local board has already seen one home completed and occupied in Vaughn, and two more are slated for construction and occupancy in 2003.

Helping low-income families is what Habitat is all about. "Habitat doesn't work unless we have families to help," said Bob Delaney, a Lake Minterwood resident and coordinator of volunteers for the peninsula chapter.

But it is not a giveaway program. Selected families become owners of a Habitat home just like other homeowners—they make a downpayment and pay monthly mortgage

payments on a no-interest, no-profit loan. In addition, they agree to invest 500 hours of labor with Habitat—300 hours on their own home's construction and 200 hours on another Habitat home.

(See **Habitat**, page 5)

How to participate

Volunteer labor: Habitat needs your energy for foundations, framing, carpentry roofing, floor covering, wallboard, painting, plumbing, electrical, heating, insulation and more. Request a volunteer interest form and safety manual from Bob Delaney. Call 884-6469 or email him at rs_delaney@msn.com.

Donations: Habitat needs your financial support for buildable properties, building materials and labor, cash gifts, monthly pledges, endowments and no interest loans. Donations are tax deductible. Send donations to Habitat for Humanity, Gig Harbor/Key Peninsula Chapter, 1101 South J, Tacoma, WA 98405.

For more information about Habitat for Humanity call 253-627-5626.

Wauna Fire Station aims for summer groundbreaking

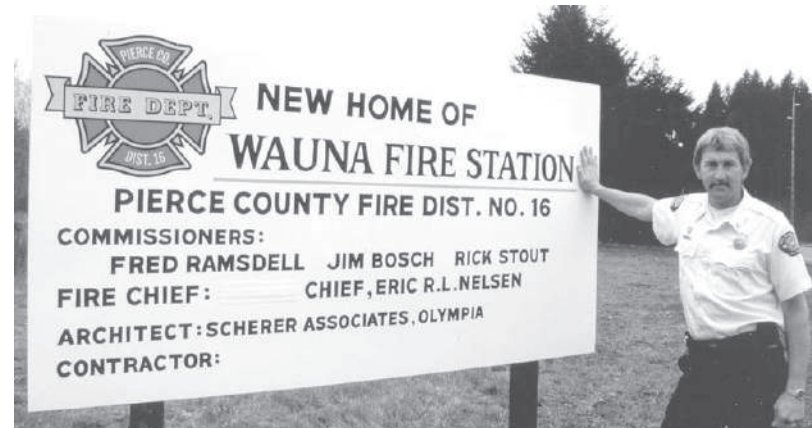


Photo by Rodika Tollefson

The underground work, including the septic system installation and grading, has already been completed at the new site. The site will have room for expansion in the future to either add new equipment or conference/training facilities.

By Irene Torres
KP News

"Extremely optimistic," beams Eric Livingood-Nelsen, Chief of Peninsula Fire District No. 16, when describing the probability that the new Wauna Fire Station (16-1) will be built by the end of this year. He hopes to break ground at the site just off Highway 302 this June, contingent on funding.

When he started as a recruit firefighter 14 years ago, Nelsen listed his goals to then-

Chief Horace Kannoe. One of those goals was, one day, "to wear your shirt," (meaning he aspired to be chief). Now that he is, Chief Nelsen is committed to the Wauna construction project. But he will not recommend the construction of any facility that compromises his staff or manpower to protect the residents of the Key Peninsula, he said. "Safety is a big issue," Nelsen said, adding that "laying off staff is not an option."

The Fire District voters approved a bond issue for \$3.8 million in 1992 to build four

(See **Fire Station**, page 8)

Contest named Key Pen; new contest seeks logo

By Rodika Tollefson
KP News

In January 1931, Edward Stone of Lake Bay, as it was known at the time, was notified by the local businessmen's association that his choice of "Key Peninsula" as a name for the area won the first prize—and the \$25.

"At that time, that seemed like a lot of money," said his grandson, Gene Stone, who has lived here since the 1920s. Gene, a teenager then, says his grandfather was in his 60s at the time of the contest. Edward Stone was a musician who played and made "pretty good" violins.

"He looked at the peninsula and it looked like a music key to him," Stone said.

Despite the name that seemingly stuck to the area, it was not made official until 50 years

later. The Washington State Board of Geographic Names officially approved the name in March 1981 for the area "west of Purdy, south of Kitsap County and east of Mason County and covers an area of 70 square miles."

In the spirit of that contest, the Key Peninsula Business Association is sponsoring another one, this time for a logo. "We thought we needed a logo and talked about designing our own," said former KPBA President Ed Taylor, who plans to enter the contest as well. "We need some identification that everyone out here could use and would identify us as a community, and this is a chance for the community to have a part in it."

The logo, which should be uniquely representative of the peninsula, will become

(See **Logo**, page 7)



KPCS expansion project receives a \$10,000 boost from VFW

page 3



Pioneers Harmon and Jane Van Slyke

page 9

Special insert: Community Directory (pull out and save it for reference), center pages

In this issue

News

Agri-Vision: A new program	2
Citizen of the Year nominees	4
Business profile: Storage Tech	6
Outdoor Club launched	13
I.M.Pact project outreach	15
Spring arts program begins	16

Sections

Peninsula Views	4
People & Lifestyles	9
Community Works	10
Arts & Leisure	12

Meeting brings in ideas for Home Park plan

By Nancy Lind
KPPRD

About two dozen people got together to express their thoughts and wishes for the new Home Park under the KPPRD banner on Feb. 10. There were lots of ideas, possi-

Home Park planning

Regular planning meetings of the Friends of Home Park are held at the Home Fire Station every third Thursday of the month, and everyone is welcome to attend. You can participate as much or as little as you like and we will welcome all of you for your input and support. Contact Nancy Lind at 884-3347, email nancy lind2000@yahoo.com. Everyone is welcome to attend. You can participate as much or as little as you like and we welcome all your input and support.

bilities, funny things to consider and refreshments to go along with all the planning. Some of the suggestions were playground equipment, a fire pit, gazebo/bandstand, trails, gardens, interpretive signs, historic markers, statuary, artwork, educational opportunities, benches, picnic tables, parking space, natural plantings, exercise trail, lighting, fences and many more ideas.

When it was asked how many would like to be a member of the Friends of Home Park, almost everyone raised their hand. The next step will be to meet at the site and finish the cleanup, scrape and level the surface, identify what things should remain and plot some new things to put on the ground and in the ground in a timely fashion.

This is a wonderful opportunity for anyone to get involved at the very beginning of a new park. It will be mostly sweat equity by volunteers who just want to help, and monetary donations are welcome.



Photo courtesy of Ann Waldo

Crews hauled several containers full of junk during the Pierce County cleanup of the site that is now home to the park.

Seahawks scholarship program seeks donors

Since 1985, the Hawks Scholarship Fund committee has been providing post-high school education monies for seniors at Peninsula High School. Many businesses, families and organizations on the Key Peninsula have supported the program from the start, and many Key Peninsula students have been recipients. Donations are still being accepted to benefit this year's senior class. Recipients are allowed to use their awards for any type of education beyond high school, academic or vocational.

Contributions of all sizes are welcomed. Gifts of \$100 or more can be used to create a named scholarship. Donors have the option of selecting the recipients themselves or assigning that task to a community board. Students apply for all funds distributed through the program by completing a scholarship notebook, which highlights their achievements as well as future plans and goals. This year approximately 175 PHS seniors have submitted notebooks.

Scholarship recipients are announced at an awards assembly at Peninsula High School in May. Donors are given the opportunity to present the awards themselves. Both donors and graduates receive recognition in a special section of The Peninsula Gateway following graduation.

If you are interested in establishing an award to recognize these students and give them a financial boost after high school, please contact scholarship fund president Marsha Williams at 857-7557 for further information.

Agri-Vision is a new KP "animal"

By Mike Salatino, Agri-Vision director
Special to KP News

You might be an Agri-Vision person and not even know it. Look at your neighbor....maybe your kids!

What is Agri-Vision? It is the new animal, agriculture and horticulture program happening on the peninsula with the help of the Key Peninsula School District, the Key Peninsula Parks and Recreation District and the Key Peninsula Community Fair. The addition of agriculture, horticulture and animal husbandry programs will have long-term impact at both the Community Fair and in the schools on the peninsula.

The programs will be a wonderful opportunity for the community to become involved in developing our kids' talent. People are needed from 4-H, FFA, Pony Clubs, horticulture programs or any organization that

would fall into the Agri-Vision Program guidelines. The first meeting is a needs assessment meeting is for adults to come and have their voice heard, to be involved in the start-up of programs, funding for future clubs, shows and competitions locally.

What if you have always had a green thumb but are no expert, can you help? You bet! The program needs help in various aspects. It is imperative to demonstrate the community support for this goal in order to gain the funding needed to guarantee success. Agri-Vision will benefit the kids and the kids at heart on the peninsula. The ultimate goal in creating the clubs is to establish the local fair as a forum for exhibitors and/or competition to display their talents.

The first meeting is March 5 at 7 p.m. at KPMS. Contact Mike Salatino at 851-4556.

Key Highlights

Tune your television sets Thursday, March 13 at 10 a.m. to PBS (KCTS 9) for a chance to see **Key Peninsula Middle School Concert Choir** in the "World's Largest Concert," broadcast in 175 countries. Schools from across the country pre-recorded specific songs for the concert and will each have a brief screen appearance.

Wash. State Parks will highlight **Joemma Beach Park** as a "Best Kept Secret" on its Website during March. Each month, an undiscovered state park is featured. A parking permit is required for all state parks. For information, see www.parks.wa.gov/parking or call 360-902-8844.

KEY PENINSULA NEWS

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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 email to keypennews@yahoo.com

KP Historical Society annual event focuses on White/Goldman store

Please plan to attend the 31st annual meeting of the Key Peninsula Historical Society at the Key Peninsula Civic Center on March 27 at 6:30 p.m. The gathering will start off with a one-hour social followed by a short business meeting that will include the election of officers for the coming year. The program for the evening will describe the history of White/Goldman store. New members of the community are encouraged to attend. Call 884-2712 for more information.

Other updates

Space is still available for the March 16 historical cruise around the Gig Harbor and Key Peninsulas. Follow the routes of the Mosquito fleet boats and learn the history of the two peninsulas. Contact Chris Erlich at the Gig Harbor Peninsula Historical Society for more information by calling 858-6722. Don't be left at the dock!

The society's historical museum is located at the Key Peninsula Civic Center in Vaughn, at 17010 South Vaughn Rd., K.P.N. Museum hours are Thursday and Saturday from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. or by appointment by calling 884-3272.

Food bank expansion gets \$10,000 boost

By Rodika Tollefson
KP News

The Key Peninsula Community Services has a dream of expanding its building to accommodate existing services and groups better, and to add more services in the future. The plan, which will about double the size of the facility, has been in the works for five years, but lack of funding has put the dream on hold for a while.

Last month, the capital project fund went from \$4,000 to \$14,000, thanks to a donation from the VFW Post 4990 that enabled the organization to begin applying for permits.

"The expansion is needed because we're growing out here. We're the only group out here providing these services," said KPCS Director Cristi Watson, adding that KPCS' donations from the emergency fund to people in need went from \$23,000 to \$49,000 last year.

The expansion would add an adult day care program for Alzheimer's patients, move the food bank downstairs, add heating systems to the areas that currently don't have it, add meeting rooms, extra parking and a loading zone, and make the different areas more accessible to the public. The expansion, estimated to cost \$100,000, will be done in stages as funding becomes available.

"We haven't been able to have a lot of extra money, but anything extra goes to the building fund," Watson said. "We're writing some grants right now."



Photo by Rodika Tollefson

Roy Burke presents a \$10,000 from the VFW Post 4990 to the KPCS board. The money will go toward the capital fund for the expansion of the building.

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Community Council is a chance for residents to influence the future



By Irene Torres

After living out here for over two years, I thought I had a good idea of how things happen on the Key Peninsula. As I have become involved in the process of organizing our new Community Council, I have had the opportunity to look behind the curtain. There is no "Wizard of Oz." Instead, I have met an incredible group of talented people, committed and dedicated to our community, who are striving to better the entire Peninsula by participating in the process.

Over the past few weeks, I have achieved a new appreciation of the work that goes on behind the scenes. Much more work is needed to strike a delicate balance, preserving the best of our history for posterity, while preparing for a bright future and maintaining a wonderful quality of life for all who have chosen to make the Key Peninsula home.

Those serving on the subcommittees for the Community Council organization are trying to do the right thing for all the residents who will eventually be represented by it. Feedback to the subcommittees will continue to be welcomed, as we move through the process of setting up the best model for our needs. Contact either of the co-chairs, Jeff Harris at 884-4697 or Dennis Taylor at 884-5241, to volunteer your time or ideas to this project.

Subcommittees include: Organizational, Communication/Outreach, Process/Structure, Student Needs, Finance, and Crime Prevention. The work of each of the subcommittees will be considered as the structure evolves into a formalized entity, designed for interface with county government and other policy-making bodies. The process of developing this Community Council entails specific areas of expertise (brain) and interest (heart) among the participants. The end result will benefit everyone on the Peninsula, for years to come. The eventual goal is to have a unified voice, with the courage to speak louder than any single individual.

Irene Torres lives in Vaughn and is involved with a variety of local organizations, including the Lions Club, Key Peninsula News, Community Council organizing committee and others.

Editor's Note

While contemplating an appropriate topic for this month's editorial, a common theme recurred during the reading of the mix of articles contributed by our volunteer writers and community members. Despite being called the stepcousin of Pierce County for its lack of government services and other resources, the Key Peninsula is far from abandoned. Instead, residents unite to fill in the gaps—whether by shoveling dirt to build a park, reading to children at a school, picking

up litter on the side of the road, cooking meals for senior citizens, or letting their voices be heard in discussions that will help direct the peninsula's future.

What better editorial could highlight this year's nominees for the Citizen of the Year? They are the true face of this community, yet just a small sample of hundreds of other unsung heroes. Although this page is usually reserved for opinion pieces, this month we're making an exception. The profiles of the people who make Key Peninsula beautiful begin on this page, and Key Peninsula News salutes these dedicated men and women of the Key Peninsula!

Letters to the Editor: To submit a letter to the editor, write to keypennews@yahoo.com, fax to 884-4053, or mail to: P.O. Box 3, Vaughn WA 98394. The subject must be related to the Key Peninsula. Limit to 100 words or less.

28 residents nominated for Citizen of the Year award

Mindy Brocenos organized Key Peninsula's patriotic parade and rally supporting our troops in the Gulf War. Within minutes of the tragedy of Sept. 11, 2001, she rallied a substantial gathering of KP citizens in a candlelight vigil. In 2002, she led the way for a repeat of that event.

Cristi Watson, Executive Director of the Key Peninsula Community Services, volun-



teers an enormous number of hours in excess of the 30 hours for which she is paid. She is a member of the VFW's Ladies' Auxilliary, Moose Lodge, Cootiettes, the Needs Assessment Committee for the KP Community Forum, and an Advisory Board member for the Children's Home Society.

Robert McCrossin of Bayside Animal Lodge, Ltd. has done a great job of clean-



ing up the property and been a good community neighbor since he took over in 2001. A great supporter of animals of the Key Peninsula and surrounding areas, he opens his kennel to strays, works hard to find them families, and takes in animals found after car accidents until someone from their families comes to get them.

Brandin and Garrett Elston, 13-year-old



twins, tackle any job requested of them at the KP Community Services/Food Bank where, after school, weekends, and holidays they each logged 73 hours of volunteer time and were December's Volunteers of the Month. They set



The chicken chronicles of Winter Creek Farm

By Bonnie Mora

I'm not quite sure if it is a study in race relations or even world peace, but I have been a silent observer of a pair of chickens I will call the "vagabond chickens."

I am a volunteer transplant to the Washington woods of the Key Peninsula and have become a student of country things. This pair of chickens began as a large group of chicks that my neighbor got from the annual "free chicks with every \$10 purchase" sale at the local feed store last spring. There were probably 10 or 12 chicks and they took up residence in my neighbors' coop. The fence around the coop had been destroyed during the winter and as the chicks began to inspect their surroundings they ventured farther and farther away from the coop.

At night they began to perch on the limbs of a big pine tree directly in front of my house. It was amusing at twilight to see the branches of the tree move seemingly of their own will as the chicks found their sleeping spot for the night. The months passed and as the Free-Range bunch grew, their peeps matured to clucks, they lost their downy plumage and grew feathers. My neighbor soon forgot about these rapidly growing chickens so the Free-Range bunch traveled a good distance each day in search of breakfast, lunch and dinner, always returning to their tree motel at night. Soon they feasted on leftovers at a bird feeder located down the road (in the country we have roads, not streets) and finally found their way to our property.

When I decided to have chickens my true love built a coop for me as well as installed a proper fence; we have a stainless steel feeder and water can. My hens and rooster are warm and dry in the win-

ter and cool in the summer. They have nesting boxes and comfortable perches they are also "free range," but they are trained to come at the sound of my voice. I just call out "Chiiiiikens" and they come running. Have you ever seen a chicken run? It is funny and sweet and amazing all at once.

Anyway, back to the Free-Range bunch, as time passed their number began to diminish. Probably a chicken hawk grabbed a few, maybe a coyote or dog some others and by late fall only a tired-out rooster and two timid hens were all that were left. They began to watch longingly as my happy hens stretched and yawned at daybreak and began the day pecking at their bucket full of layer pellets, take deep gulps of cool fresh water, and scratch in the dirt for worms and other yummy treats. I open the gate to the coop each day and my chickens waddle/run out to explore, scratch in the dirt, take dirt baths and nap until dinnertime. The vagabond chickens circled in closer and closer to my coop and soon they would scurry in while my chickens were out for the day. The vagabond rooster kept his eye open for the return of the residents of the luxury coop and when they began to return he would lead his harem out.

Pretty soon it seemed the two groups of chickens would be in the coop at the same time with no incident. Finally, one evening I closed the gate on the entire group, and the night passed in peace. Two roosters, seven hens nestled on perches, fluffed their feathers and slept.

If only world peace could occur as easily—take time to get to know your fellow creature, share your food and shelter, camp out together under the stars and sleep in peace, heavenly peace.

Bonnie Mora lives on the Key Peninsula with her husband, children, horses, dogs and chickens.

Writers and opinion guest columnists wanted!

Submissions must relate to the Key Peninsula.
For guidelines, call 884-4699 or email keypennews@yahoo.com

(Continued on page 18)

Councilman proposes KP plan

By Rodika Tollefson
KP News

With a second Tacoma Narrows Bridge under way and other State Route 16 improvement in the works, Key Peninsula will become much more accessible and enticing to new development, says Pierce County Councilman Terry Lee. He believes now is the time for residents to decide the area's future.

"There is so much beautiful land and undeveloped property here that people will drive right through Gig Harbor," Lee said. "Key Peninsula will look like a gold mine to them."

Lee feels residents have the perfect opportunity to preserve the area's character and influence its growth, and is proposing the development of a Key Peninsula Comprehensive Plan that would address land-use, economic development as well recreation.

"It will give citizens an opportunity to identify the unique characteristics of the peninsula, where they want to develop economically, what areas to set aside for protection, and what areas should be reserved for commercial development," Lee said. "There are 22 transportation improvement components that will provide HOV lanes right to the peninsula's doorstep—and we

need to get ahead of the game."

As an example of how a plan works, Lee points out that without the 1975 Gig Harbor plan's restrictions, the area along SR-16 could have looked like Meridian Drive in Puyallup, instead of having vegetation buffers that protect the scenery along the highway. In contrast, the 1962 Pierce County plan allowed for random development in South Hill.

"This is a plan for the people; if the people decide they do not want a plan, I will not push it," Lee said.

In the meantime, his resolution to set aside \$300,000 in the 2004 budget for the development of the plan is working its way through committees. If approved, county staff will begin working with local residents on a draft plan. In addition to providing a blueprint for future development, the process would create a citizen advisory commission, similar to the Peninsula Advisory Commission in Gig Harbor, that will oversee the implementation of the plan with regards to new development.

The commission would be independent of a community council but Lee sees the potential for the two bodies to work together.


"We can't stop the influx but we can direct the development," Lee said. "The plan can provide more predictability and help preserve the quality of life."

(From **Habitat**, page 1)

Construction should get underway on Habitat's Lake Minterwood home in early April. But not without a team of volunteers. Both skilled and untrained helpers will work together to build it. Under the supervision of skilled laborers, most of the work on the house will occur on Fridays and Saturdays.

"Our objective is to give everyone a chance to work at the site," Delaney said. "We have a critical need for skilled workers in various construction crafts who can lead a crew of volunteer workers."

As a grassroots movement, concerned citizens from all walks of life have come together to form more than 1,900 affiliates of Habitat for Humanity International. They believe that owning a decent home is a crucial link to family economic development and life management.



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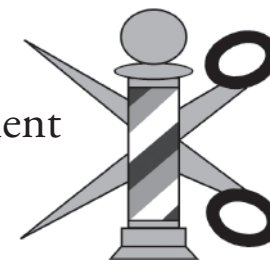


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High tech arrives on the Key Peninsula

By William C. Dietz
KP News

Got data? If you do, and it's on reams of paper, a new company called Storage Tech LLC would like to help. They scan documents onto CDs or DVDs so your business can not only rid itself of all the paper currently in storage but access records quickly and easily.

Those who drive the Key Peninsula Highway have been aware of the one-story building located just past the Shell station and Key Center Auto Repair. Long vacant, and sometimes vandalized, the structure is now home to Storage Tech LLC, arguably the Peninsula's first high-tech business.

Pulling in off the highway, one is immediately struck by the fact that four cars occupy a parking lot that looks as if it could accommodate a hundred. A sign reads: "Warning- All activities are recorded on video tape to aid in the prosecution of any crime committed against this facility." A quick peek through the front window reveals that most of the building's 25,000 square feet are empty.

A series of signs lead to the front office, where a receptionist and Operations Manager Ron Verone are busy processing files. Fingers flying, and with occasional breaks to take phone calls, Verone explains that Storage Tech came into being when owner and CEO Brian Overland purchased the building from a group who hoped to develop a strip mall.

Overland, who graduated from Peninsula High School in 1976, and from Yale

in 1980, went on to work for Microsoft in the 1980s and is the author of six books on computer technology covering subjects like Visual Basic, Java, and a language called C++.

Overland attempted to sell the property, was unable to find a buyer, and decided to create a new business rather than let the space sit vacant. The result is Storage Tech LLC, an electronic storage business that targets its services to businesses in Washington state. Existing clients include doctors, lawyers, and mortgage companies among others.

Customers can bring their documents into Storage Tech, where files are stripped of non-relevant material, scanned, and transferred to a CD or DVD that goes to the client for approval. It's possible to store 5,500 pages on a CD, or 125,000 pages on a DVD. Verone claims that electronic storage is a lot less expensive than warehouse space, is a good deal more convenient, and helps his clients meet legal requirements for document retention.

Once the transfer process is complete, the source documents are shredded and recycled. "It's a non-polluting business," Overland said, "and that's good for the environment."

There are competitors of course, but Verone points out that they store the paper documents themselves, which means that when a customer wants to retrieve a document, he or she has to wait for a courier to bring it by. The fact that Storage Tech scans files onto CDs or DVDs means that they can



Photo by Rodika Tollefson

A project can vary from a few hundred files to hundreds of boxes, but the speed also depends on each client's software requirements and needs. Once files are scanned, they are destroyed unless a client is required to keep paper copies—and Storage Tech will eventually convert the empty part of the building into a storage facility for paper files.

send data to customers more quickly.

"You can email us, fax us, or call on the phone and retrieval time will never be more than an hour. When you reduce turnaround time for file retrieval from 24 hours to one hour, that's a significant edge," Verone said. "Time is everything."

The company has five employees at present, and if things continue to go well, Verone expects to add eight more by the end of year. In fact, if things go extremely well, there's plenty of room for the company to expand, as Overland also owns the property to the north.

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News from KPPRD

By Nancy Lind, *commissioner*

Sports Center and Fairgrounds

Events are happening very fast on the Key Peninsula. Some significant name changes are going on and Volunteer Park is no exception. The park is going back to the name on the sign at the entrance, Key Peninsula Sports Center. The words "and Fairgrounds" will be added. The park is pretty quiet this time of the year but the grass is beginning to grow, bulbs are pushing up and young players are showing up to start practicing. Soon the park will be full of Little Leaguers and adult softball players.

There was a serious robbery at the park about a month ago. While security has been beefed up and surveillance increased, it is an ongoing problem. Suspicious activities should be reported to the sheriff.

On March 29, from 11 am to 12 pm, the park is celebrating its 30th anniversary with Volunteer Park Spring Fling, 2003. This is a fundraiser for Little League and adult softball to offset the high cost of the field lights. It will be a big event with activities such as a school battle of the bands, speedball, art contest, beer garden, dancing and much more. The theme of the party is "Building a Community Park Together."

Next master planning meetings:

Sports and Leagues: March 10, 7 p.m., the KP Sports Center Annex

Leisure Programming: April 14, 7 p.m., Civic Center

New Parks: May 12, 7 p.m., KP Sports Center Annex

The Park Board will meet at 6 p.m. on the second Monday for the next three months to accommodate these meetings. The normal time for board meetings is 7 p.m. on the second Monday and 4 p.m. on the fourth Monday.

Rocky Creek Conservation Area

A general meeting was held to develop a Master Plan for the Rocky Creek Conservation Area (RCCA) on Feb. 18. Many ideas were discussed and have been categorized under five headings: protect salmon habitat, conserve forest resources, introduce "passive" recreation, construct support facilities, and use the park for educational programs. Suggestions included: build bridges across the creek, put in barriers to stop motorized vehicles, provide wheelchair accessible trails, and provide parking in designated areas. Other ideas included a pit toilet, a picnic shelter, a fire pit, amphitheater, a park host trailer, employing salmon and forest practices, encouraging environmental programs, and coordinating organized groups to complete

service projects. These developments are long-range projects and are on the wish list for the future.

Volunteers have worked hard at the RCCA for the past five years, making significant improvements. At the last meeting of FORC, the group identified several tasks from the Master Plan and coordinators were assigned to focus on specific projects. Everyone is welcome to attend the FORC meetings, give input and lend support. The Friends of Rocky Creek (FORC) meets on the second Thursday of each month at 2 p.m. at the Key Center Fire Station. For information, call Nancy Lind at 884-3347 or email nancy lind2000@yahoo.com.

(From **Logo**, page 1)

the community property of KPBA and may be used by any local organized group to identify it as part of the community. The winner will be selected by a panel of judges.

"Part of a unified community is the way the community presents itself," said Simon Priest, who suggested the idea of having the contest. "If we present ourselves under one identity, we could represent ourselves as a unified community."

Contest rules

The design must have the potential to be enlarged to a size of 16" by 16" and reduced to 1" by 1" without losing clarity and resolution. Entries should be submitted in the 4" by 4" size on a single piece of 8.5" by 11" white paper, and contain no more than two colors. Each person can submit up to three entries.

Submit entries, postmarked by June 1, to KP Logo Contest, c/o KPBA, PO Box 439, Vaughn WA 98394. Backup submissions can be emailed to framsdell@harboret.com, but are not official entries. Name, age, postal address, email address, and telephone number must be included at the bottom of each submitted page.

A winner will be selected by July 1. For more, call Mary Ramsdell at 884-4834, or email framsdell@harboret.com.

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(From **Fire Station**, page 1)

new fire stations, and to purchase equipment, apparatus, and vehicles. Two new stations were complete by 1996, at a cost of \$1.2 million each. But unanticipated costs of construction, unplanned contingencies, changes in code requirements, lengthy permitting processes, right-of-way negotiations, new laws, and other delays led to a funding shortfall and stymied construction of the last two facilities. It was a plan with "expectations that could not be met with the revenue as approved," according to Nelsen. Some of the problems were "caused by incomplete plan specifications, which could not be permitted."

Then a change in the fire flow requirement was imposed by the Building Department and Fire Marshal of Pierce County, which entailed installation of a 90,000-gallon hydrant system with a Type B, one-hour fire flow. This increased costs in excess of \$26,000. A generator, power hookup, 911 connection, and a new telephone system added to the bottom line. County-mandated oil/water separator systems, drainage and irrigation systems, landscaping and plantings, and signage increased costs another \$44,000. Computers, appliances, furnishings added \$15,000 more to the expense.

In completing the groundwork for the Wauna Fire Station, services of a different

architect were enlisted, and a better building design was proposed. The present plan is for a wood construction, with four back to back apparatus bays with a total of 5,000 square feet, including dormitory, shower facilities, kitchen, but no classroom or public space at this time. "We need to build the fire station with the goal of (fire and EMS) operational response and service delivery to the community," Nelsen insists. "Goal 1 is fast, efficient response." This new plan will be cost-effective and flexible, leaving room for Goal 2—future expansion and later centralization of administrative services and additional training facilities. With the design change, Chief Nelsen believes the construction costs can be managed, noting that "it doesn't make sense to go back to the voters because we are so close to having the funding for Wauna."

In February, the Board of Commissioners for Fire District No. 16 released the construction documents and went out for bid. Three qualified contractors have been pre-approved to submit bids. The board does not have to award the bids; but this step will give a realistic idea whether additional financing might be needed. Nelsen is also working on a proposal to evaluate the market value of the existing Wauna Fire Station for possible sale, among other ideas for creative financing of this project.

WINTER IN THE COUNTRY

Winter descended on Vaughn Elementary School on Feb. 13 with songs, dances, laughs and a few hundred spectators who came to watch first and second graders perform at the "Husky Ranch." Organized by Cultural Enrichment teacher Ernie Donehower and music



Photo courtesy of Darrin Tollefson

teacher Mary Farr, the "Winter in the Country" performance showcased Mexican and Canadian folk dances and song favorites like "Chicken Lips and Lizard Hips," and "She'll Be Comin' Around the Mountain."

Public invited to attend the Citizen of the Year awards banquet

The **Citizen of the Year** award banquet will be held at the Civic Center on Saturday, March 15. It includes a no-host bar, dinner, an address by retired Adm. Herb Bridges, and awards of honor to 28 special Citizens of the Year who were nominated by community members.

Hosted by the Key Peninsula Lions, the banquet is open to the public. Tickets, \$15, or \$55 for a party of four, until Saturday, March 8, are available at Sunnycrest Nursery in Key Center, the Home Store at the Home bridge, and Country Expressions in Wauna; after March 8 and at the door, tickets are \$20.

Hospitality hour begins at 6:30 p.m., and dinner at 7 p.m.



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From pioneer stock Harmon and Jane Van Slyke

By Colleen Slater
KP News

Harmon Van Slyke and wife Jane, who recently celebrated their 62nd anniversary, live on his pioneer ancestor Alfred Van Slyke's property at Vaughn. The original 160 acres stretched from the bay north to what is now 100th Street, with the western side where Alfred's great-great-granddaughter Dulcie Schillinger lives, and included the current Kesterson home.

Harmon and Jane's home is on the site of the three-story, four-bedroom home built by Alfred from lumber cut at his mill in the cove next to his store. It was the first of many homes built of lumber from that mill.

Harmon built his first of two "strip" boats there as a young man. "Strip" boats were built of 1" by 1/2" cedar strips edge nailed, sealed with white lead and fastened to steamed oak frames. While Harmon built one boat on that porch, Jane Bradley came along the boardwalk that edged the bay from store to church. They signaled each other to meet on the boardwalk that evening. Jane received her engagement ring at a bonfire on the beach.

Harmon taught at Belfair for two years, and he recalls a snowfall of 30" in 1942 that caused school to be cancelled. He served in Iwo Jima and Okinawa with the Army Corps of Engineers, in the same battalion with Wes Davidson. Home from the service, Harmon worked for Davidson Brothers Logging Company, driving a truck for them during the summer between teaching years at Belfair.

Harmon later got a sawmill and started a lumber business. The new venture became the Vaughn Bay Lumber Company. Their home on the county line at Victor was built from their own milled lumber. After the first big log was made into lumber, his father declared the work too hard for him, so Harmon continued to log and operate the mill on his own, and now his sons Tom and Dale manage the company.

Harmon salmon fished commercially some summers. His first trawler, the Lady Jane, was later replaced with the Lillian C, a 31-foot steel boat. Harmon and son Tom then finished a 38-foot glass hulled boat. The Andrea Jane, named for Tom's daughter and



Photo courtesy of the Van Slyke family

Harmon and Jane Van Slyke are both from Key Peninsula pioneer families.

mom, was christened by Jane on Tom's beach. Jane's family, the Bradleys, arrived here when she was four. Their furniture, shipped by train to Tacoma and trucked to Vaughn, was moved into the house the day before the family arrived. That night the house burned to the ground.

The Jensen family took them in— parents, grandparents, and four children. The Bradleys stayed there until a house could be found at Lewis Lake for a few months, then moved to the end of the road at Sunshine Beach.

The couple recalled gatherings at the Mercers' home to watch Gorgeous George wrestle on television. Mercers had the first set in the community, Van Slykes the second.

Square dancing has been one of their main recreations over the years, traveling near and far for demonstrations and competitions. They still dance but less often now.

Harmon was in band and Choir of the West at PLC, and both are now with Key Singers. Jane led Girl Scouts and taught ceramics in her home for many years.

Although twin sister Helen has been involved for several years with the seniors who meet at the Civic Center, Harmon declares he's "not old enough yet."

Three children, six of seven grandchildren, and seven (soon to be eight) great-grandchildren all live on the peninsula. Besides Harmon, Jane, son Dale and family, other descendants who live on original Alfred Van Slyke land are Helen Wolniewicz, Jerry Wolniewicz, Bobbie McEnttee and Dulcie Schillinger.

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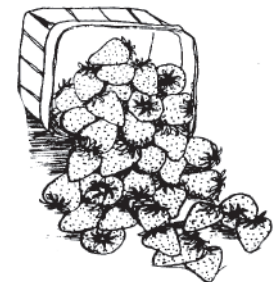
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Library hosts free workshop

Celebrate Trees in Watercolor and Poetry, a hands-on workshop by Molly Hashimoto, Saturday, March 15, 1-2:30 p.m. at the Key Center Library. Molly Hashimoto is a watercolor artist and teacher who makes her home in Seattle. Her note cards are published by Pomegrante Communications, and she has illustrated three children's books, plus five CD covers for Koto master and storyteller Elizabeth Falconer. Molly teaches around Puget Sound, giving workshops for library systems, school districts, and artists of all ages. She is a dedicated keeper of watercolor journals, and she'll be bringing several to share with participants.

Direct participation will be limited to the first 25 to arrive, others may observe. This is a free program sponsored by the Friends of the Key Center Library. All supplies will be provided by the instructor. For more information, call the library at 884-2242.

Other library events

Family Storytimes for ages 3-5 (all ages welcome) will be held at the Key Center Library March 19 - April 9, each Wednesday at 11 am. Sign up at the library in person or by calling 884-2242.

"Garden, Source, and Substance" is the title of an art and poetry exhibit by Tweed Meyer that will be on display in March and April at the library. Tweed invites the community to share her delight and passion for garden art: the beauty, imagination, and color.

A new happening for the Angel Guild

SAVE YOUR RECEIPTS!! WHY?

Peninsula Markets will make a cash donation to the Angel Guild for every one of their cash register receipts we receive. We have a collection jar beside the register at the Thrift Shop in Key Center or you can give them to any Angel Guild member.

As always, we thank you for your donations of good, serviceable items. We wouldn't be here if it weren't for all of you. However, we do have rules regarding items we can offer to the public. We also have limited space, which dictates what we can and cannot ac-

cept. Each month we receive a great amount of things that cannot go in our shop and must be disposed of some way.

In the past month someone has been stopping off after hours and leaving huge piles (truck loads) of totally unusable stuff on the walkway between the Thrift Shop and the Beauty Shop. Since our donation drop-off area is behind the store, all this has to be moved. This takes many hours and dollars that could go to helping our schools, libraries, and other organizations in our communities that aid our residents. We need your help putting a stop to this. If you have any information, please call 884-9333 or contact any member. Everyone in the Angel Guild is a volunteer (55 and older) who gives many hours each month to our organization. We want our efforts to go for a good cause.

Club demonstrates container planting

Planting containers with an assortment for spring and summer will be the program for the March 19 meeting of the Vaughn Bay Garden Club. Meg Graddon and Penny Hertzberg will present the demonstration. Dulcie Schillinger is hostess, with Phyllis Anker and Joyce Niemann assisting her. Please contact 884-1527 or 884-5403 for more information.

Great shopping at S.A.V.E Thrift Store

S.A.V.E. Thrift Store in Purdy offers tremendous values year-round with profits benefiting the activity groups and the scholarship program at Peninsula High School. If you have yet to discover this great shopping opportunity, make a point to stop in on Purdy Lane below Peninsula High School. The store is open daily from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. except Wednesday and Sunday. Donations are accepted during the same hours.

S.A.V.E. features clothing, housewares, toys and games, books, and miscellaneous items including collectibles. Baby clothes are a specialty. Bag sales are held three times each month. First is the children's bag sale on Tuesday, March 4. A large grocery bag of kids' clothes and shoes of your

choice costs only \$3. On Saturday, March 15, a bag of clothes and shoes for all ages goes for \$5. The final \$3 bag sale, again for all sizes, is on Tuesday, March 25. On Thursday, March 27, the store will be filled with completely fresh wearable merchandise at regular, low prices. Even if you cannot make it in for a bag sale, there is always something on special at S.A.V.E., something to catch your eye.

For further information about shopping, donating or volunteering, contact the store manager at 857-2800.

Longbranch Improvement gears up for yard sale

The Lonhbranch Improvement Club is excited to announce the grand community yard sale on Saturday, June 21. This is a community event that will be a lot of fun! Come and rent a table or just a space to sell your wares—leave the planning and advertising to us. More details to come. For more information, call Theresa at 884-3013.

Vaughn High reunion committee works on details

The committee met on Feb. 13 to get started on the planning for the reunion on June 21. Those attending were Chet Dadisman, Bill Hipp, Don Lind, Milly Niemann, Frances Kinkaid, Harm and Jane Van Slyke, Shirley Olson and Joyce Niemann. Chet turned his chairman's position over to Don Lind. A caterer has been contacted and still working out the menu. The program is not confirmed but the three old cheerleaders will still be around to lead the Vaughn High School yells. The invitations will go out after March 20.

Anyone wanting more information may contact any of the above committee. Please be sure to set the date aside for a fun time with your old classmates.

Cub Scouts beautify Civic Center grounds

The Cub Scouts of Pack 222 descended upon the Key Peninsula Civic Center on Feb. 8 to clear the gardens and grounds of the detritus of winter. They clipped, raked, swept, bagged, shoveled and hauled limbs, leaves and litter until the gardens and grounds had been whipped into shape. Included in the group were: Dominick and Austin Nole, Tyler and Anthony Douglas, Brandon Morrison, Josh Lique, Cody Hanson, Collin Bucknell and Hayden Lynette.

Besides the scouts, several family members helped out. Dianna Nole, den mother

and chief honcho, divided the scouts into groups and issued assignments and cautionary warnings about needles, broken glass and the like. Tom Lique, parent and firefighter with District 16, used a fire truck and washed the tennis court down, eliminating a lot of sweeping. Scouts were allowed to handle the nozzle with Tom backing them up on the hose.

This community service was in return for free use of the Civic Center facility for their Halloween Festival in October. A big thanks to Scout Pack 222 and the parents and family members who all helped in the cleanup.

Spay/Neuter program offers pet adoption, other services

Baby kittens are adorable balls of fluff, and can be socialized with people and other animals if they are started early enough. However, many people decide the once-attractive half-grown cats are no longer wanted. These young cats, often frightened with their recent treatment, are dumped at an out of the way location, or sometimes near a community road.

If you have or know of producing cats or unaltered tomcats and do not intend to keep any offspring, call the number listed below and help stop the proliferation of unwanted cat visitors in our neighborhoods.

The Peninsula Spay and Neuter Program has a goal of having all cats on the Key Peninsula spayed or neutered. They will give assistance and advice. Call 884-1543. To adopt a beautiful socialized half-grown male cat that has been neutered, call 884-5860.

Fundraiser helps young boy

A spaghetti dinner and silent auction at the Civic Center on March 29 at 5:30 p.m. will benefit 11-year-old Vaughn Elementary student Sam Stewart who is fighting leukemia. Tickets are \$10. You can also help by making a donation to the Sam Stewart Fund at the First Community Bank (formerly Harbor Bank) in Gig Harbor, either at 7022 Pioneer Way NW or at 5101 Pt. Fosdick. To find out more about the benefit dinner, call Paula at 884-3551 or Terry at 884-4174.



Photo courtesy of Dianna Nole
Cub Scouts are clearing out the Civic Center grounds.

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Key Peninsula Community Directory

The Community Directory is a special Key Peninsula News insert published on an occasional basis. Please save this insert for future reference. This insert is a comprehensive list of local organizations and regular meetings and activities. Special events will be published each month in the regular newspaper sections.

To have an event listed in future directories, or to list your special event in the monthly Key Peninsula News, send an email to info@keypen.com, and include answers to the following questions: WHAT is the event; WHY should people attend; WHO is the event's organizer/sponsor; WHEN is it happening; WHERE is it located; and HOW can people find out more information. You can also leave a voicemail at 884-4699.

The Community Directory is a joined effort by:

Key Peninsula Electronic Newsletter
Dr. Simon Priest, Editor
www.keypen.com
info@keypen.com

Key Peninsula News
P.O. Box 3; Vaughn WA 98394
ph. 884-4699; fax 884-4053
keypennews@yahoo.com

Ongoing meetings

WHO

Key Peninsula Civic Center Association Board
Key Peninsula Community Services Board
VFW Women's Auxiliary
Veterans of Foreign Wars
Key Peninsula Parks & Recreation District
Angel Guild
Peninsula Neighbors
Key Peninsula Lions Club
Longbranch Improvement Club
Key Peninsula Historical Society
Key Peninsula Trails Committee
Lakebay Fuschia Society
Citizens Against Crime & Citizen's Patrol
Key Peninsula Health Center Incorporated
Key Peninsula Business Association
Bayshore Garden Club
Ruth Circle (Women's Association) Lunch
Two Waters Arts Alliance
Vaughn Bay Garden Club
Community Council Organizational Committee
Lake Minterwood
Olman Point
Lake of the Woods
Key Peninsula Fair Association
Friends of Rocky Creek
Friends of Home Park
Key Peninsula Outdoor Club

WHEN

Second Thursday, 7:00 pm
Second Monday, 10:00 am
Second & Fourth Mondays, 7:00 pm
Second & Fourth Mondays, 7:00 pm
Second Monday, 7:00 pm; Fourth Monday, 4:00 pm
Fourth Monday, 10:00 am
Second Tuesday, 10:00 am
First & Third Wednesdays, 7:00 pm
Third Wednesdays, 7:00 pm
First Thursday, 7:00 pm
First Thursday, 7:00 pm
First Thursday, 7:00 pm
Third Thursday, 7:00 pm
Fourth Thursday, 8:00 am
First Friday, 7:30 am; Third Friday, 12:00 noon
Third Friday, 12:00 noon
Third Monday, 12:00 noon
First Thursday, 7:00 pm
Third Wednesday, 10:30 am
Fourth Tuesday, 7:00 pm
Third Monday, 7:00 pm
Second Saturday, 10:00 am
Second Monday, 6:00 pm
Second Tuesday, 6:00 pm
Second Thursday, 2:00 pm
Third Thursday, 7:00 pm
Second Thursday, 7:00 pm

WHERE

KP Civic Center in Vaughn
KP Community Services House in Home
KP Community Services House in Home
KP Civic Center in Vaughn
KP Sports Center & Fairgrounds Annex
Key Center Library
Longbranch Fire Station
KP Civic Center in Vaughn
Longbranch Improvement Club
KPHS Museum (beside the Civic Center)
Home Fire Station
Key Center Library
Key Center Fire Station
Key Peninsula Health Center
Homeport Restaurant & Horseshoe Lake Golf Club
Longbranch Improvement Club
Longbranch Community Church
KP Civic Center in Vaughn
Various Locations
Key Peninsula Middle School
Key Center Library
Key Center Library
Key Center Library
Key Center Fire Station
Key Center Fire Station
Home Fire Station
Key Center Library

HOW

884-3456
884-4440
884-4407
884-5581
884-9240
884-9333
884-2222
884-3456
884-6022
884-4538
884-3347
884-2242
884-2222
884-2234
884-3600
884-2487
884-9339
884-2955
884-1527
884-7899
884-2242
884-2242
884-2242
884-4386
884-3347
884-3347
884-3347

Regular programs

<u>WHAT</u>	<u>WHEN</u>	<u>WHERE</u>	<u>HOW</u>
Senior Aerobics	Tuesdays & Thursdays, 8:30 am	KP Community Services House in Home	884-4440
Duplicate Bridge Club	Tuesdays, 7:00 pm	Key Center Library	884-4811
Key Singers	Tuesdays, 7:00 pm	Longbranch Community Church	884-5615
Senior Lunch	Wednesdays & Fridays, 12:00 noon	KP Community Services House in Home	884-4440
Senior Bingo	Thursdays, 7:00 pm	KP Community Services House in Home	884-4440
Skate Night (Kindergarten through 8th Grade)	Fridays, 6:30 pm	KP Civic Center in Vaughn	884-3456
Public Breakfast	Third Saturday, 8:00 am	KP Community Services House in Home	884-4440
Dog Obedience	Saturdays, 10:00 am	KP Civic Center in Vaughn	857-7805
Women's Community Line Dancing	Wednesdays, 10:00 am	Longbranch Community Church	884-9339
Longbranch Youth Group	Thursdays, 6:00 pm	Longbranch Community Church	884-9339
Longbranch Pre-School	Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, 12:30 pm	Longbranch Community Church	884-9339
I.M.Pact Dinner	First Sunday, 3:00 pm	KP Community Services House in Home	884-4440
Game Night	Fourth Saturday, 6:00 pm	Longbranch Community Church	884-9339
Family Potluck and Activity Night	Second Saturday, 6:00 pm	Longbranch Community Church	884-9339
Yoga	Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, 9:30 am	KP Civic Center in Vaughn	884-3456
Karate	Mondays, Thursdays, 7:00 pm	KP Civic Center in Vaughn	884-3456
Boy Scouts	Tuesdays, 6:30 pm	KP Civic Center in Vaughn	884-3133
WIC: Women, Infants, & Children	Tuesdays, 8:00 am	KP Civic Center in Vaughn	884-3835
TOPS: Take Off Pounds Sensibly #1019	Tuesdays, 6:00 pm	KP Civic Center in Vaughn	884-3456
Seniors Society	Thursdays, 11:00 am	KP Civic Center in Vaughn	857-3029
Cootiettes (service club)	Second Wednesday, 7:00 pm	KP Community Services House in Home	884-4440
Brownies	Wednesdays, 5:00 pm	KP Community Services House in Home	884-4440
Senior Shopping Trips	First & Third Thursdays, 9:00 am	KP Community Services House in Home	884-4440
Alcoholics Anonymous	Wednesdays, Fridays, & Sundays, 7:00 pm	KP Community Services House in Home	884-4440
Quilting Group	Mondays, 10:00 am	Key Center Library	884-2242
Book Discussion Group	Third Thursday, 7:00 pm	Key Center Library	884-2242
Children's Crafts	Second Thursday 10:00 am	Key Center Library	884-2242
Families for Kids	Second Thursday 4:00 pm	Key Center Library	884-2242
Knit & Spin	First & Third Fridays, 11:00 am	Key Center Library	884-2242

Community services

LIBRARY: Tuesday & Wednesday, 11:00 am - 8:00 pm; Thursday & Friday, 11:00 am - 6:00 pm; and Saturday, 11:00 am - 5:00 pm; 884-2242

HISTORICAL MUSEUM: by appointment of Thursday & Saturday, 1:00 - 4:00 pm; 884-6951

SWIMMING POOL: call for changing schedules, open times, rentals, and lessons; 857-3533

MINTER CREEK SALMON HATCHERY: unguided tours available, 7 days/week, 8:00 am - 4:30 pm; 857-5077

FOOD BANK: 4 days/week (closed Monday), 10:00 am - 3:00 pm; at Key Peninsula Community Services House in Home; 884-4440

COMMODITIES DISTRIBUTION: Second & Third Fridays, 10:00 am - 3:00 pm (in place of Food Bank); at KPCS in Home; 884-4440

CLOTHING BANK: 5 days/week, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm; at the Children's Home Society in the Key Peninsula Civic Center in Vaughn; 884-5433

KEY PENINSULA FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER: at the Children's Home Society in the Key Peninsula Civic Center in Vaughn; 884-5433

TACOMA COMMUNITY HOUSE YOUTH EMPLOYMENT: Monday, Wednesday & Thursday, 2:00 - 5:00 pm in the KPCC; 383-3951, x226

COMPREHENSIVE MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING, Monday through Friday, flexible hours, 396-5800

Regular programs

<u>WHAT</u>	<u>WHEN</u>	<u>WHERE</u>	<u>HOW</u>
Sewing	Fridays, 1:00 pm	Key Center Library	884-2242
Boy Scouts	Second & Fourth Tuesdays; 6:30 pm	Key Peninsula Lutheran Church	884-1153
Girl Scouts	First & Third Thursdays, 6:30 pm	Key Peninsula Lutheran Church	884-3252
Boy Scouts #222	Fourth Friday, 7:00 pm	Key Peninsula Lutheran Church	884-1153
Frog and Sole 4-H	First & Third Thursdays, 6:30 pm	Key Center Fire Station	884-2222
KP Blues 4-H Club	Third Wednesday, 7:00 pm	Wright Bliss Fire Station	884-2222
TOPS: Take Off Pounds Sensibly #1325	Tuesday, 9:00 am	Home Fire Station	884-1721
4-H Difference Club	Third Monday, 7:00 pm	Home Fire Station	884-2222
4-H Sewing Meetings	First & Third Thursdays, 4:00 pm	Home Fire Station	884-2222
Cub Scouts	Second Friday, 6:30 pm	Key Center Fire Station	884-2222
Indoor Park	Tuesday & Thursday, 9:30 am	KP Civic Center in Vaughn	884-5433
Little Buddies	Tuesday, 3:30 pm	KP Civic Center in Vaughn	884-5433
Little Buddies	Wednesday, 3:30 pm	Evergreen Elementary School	884-5433
Tea Time	Thursday, 3:45 pm	Evergreen Elementary School	884-5433
Relatives Raising Children	Third Thursday, 12:00 noon	KP Civic Center in Vaughn	884-5433
ADHD Group	Second Monday, 11:00 am	KP Civic Center in Vaughn	884-5433
12 Step Support Group	Monday, 6:00 pm	Lakebay Community Covenant Church	884-3899
AA Group	Tuesday & Thursday, 7:00 pm	Lakebay Community Covenant Church	884-5966
Boy Scouts	Monday, 6:30 pm	Lakebay Community Covenant Church	884-3899
Cub Scouts	Thursday, 6:30 pm	Lakebay Community Covenant Church	884-3899
Girl Scouts	Thursday, 5:45 pm	Minter Creek Elementary School	851-4542
Minter Mutts 4-H Club	Fridays, 7:00 pm	Minter Creek Elementary School	851-4542
After Hours Enrichment Courses	Monday through Thursday, 4:10 pm	Evergreen Elementary School	884-5724
After Hours Enrichment Courses	Monday through Thursday, 2:45 pm	Key Peninsula Middle School	884-5725
Cub Scouts	Wednesday, 7:00 pm	Latter Day Saints Church	857-5263
Boy Scouts	Wednesday, 7:00 pm	Latter Day Saints Church	857-5263
Girl Scouts	Wednesday, 7:00 pm	Latter Day Saints Church	857-5263
Older Scouts	Wednesday, 7:00 pm	Latter Day Saints Church	857-5263
Alanon	Fridays, 6:00 pm	Key Center Library	884-2242
Odds & Ends 4-H	Second & Fourth Wednesdays, 6:30 pm	Miracle Ranch	851-7696

Support services

884-3600	Key Peninsula Business Association	884-4386	Key Peninsula Fair	884-4697	Communities in Schools
884-7899	Safe Streets	884-2205	Children's Home Society of Washington	798-4940	Pierce County Sheriff
884-4442	4-H	596-1760	Key Peninsula Cooperative Preschools	383-2733	County Animal Control
884-9333	Angel Guild	884-9221	Immunizations (Well Child Clinic)	798-7250	Transportation Services
884-6022	Longbranch Improvement Club	884-3835	Women, Infants & Children Program	572-2273	Chemical Spills/HazMat
884-3456	Key Peninsula Civic Center	857-3513	KGHP Radio (89.9 FM)	798-4166	Domestic Violence 24hr Help
884-4440	Key Peninsula Community Services	857-3530	Peninsula High School	798-3800	Energy Assistance
884-2222	Key Peninsula Fire District	884-4800	Key Peninsula Middle School	798-6403	Family Health Programs
857-6171	Peninsula School District	884-3393	Evergreen Elementary School	798-4636	Illegal Dumping (Information)
884-9240	Key Peninsula Sports Center (Vol. Park)	851-4542	Minter Elementary School	798-3444	Abandoned Cars
884-7721	Key Peninsula Little League	884-5700	Vaughn Elementary School	798-6875	Victim Assistance

Religious groups

<u>WHAT</u>	<u>WHEN</u>	<u>WHERE</u>	<u>HOW</u>
KPLC Christian Education	Sunday, 9:15 am	Key Peninsula Lutheran Church	884-3312
KPLC Worship	Sunday, 10:30 am	Key Peninsula Lutheran Church	884-3312
KPLC Lutheran Church Council	Second Thursday, 7:00 pm	Key Peninsula Lutheran Church	884-3312
KPLC Choir Rehearsal	Wednesday, 7:30 pm	Key Peninsula Lutheran Church	884-3312
KPLC Key Community Bible Study	Tuesday, 7:30 pm	Key Peninsula Lutheran Church	884-3312
KPLC Confirmation Class	Wednesday, 7:00 pm	Key Peninsula Lutheran Church	884-3312
KPLC Wednesday Women	Wednesday, 10:00 am	Key Peninsula Lutheran Church	884-3312
KPLC Men's Breakfast	First & Third Wednesdays, 8:00 am	Key Peninsula Lutheran Church	884-3312
KPLC Worship and Music Team	Second Sunday, 12:00 noon	Key Peninsula Lutheran Church	884-3312
KPLC Stephen's Ministry	First Thursday, 7:30 pm	Key Peninsula Lutheran Church	884-3312
Grace Presbyterian Church	Sunday, 11:00 am	Miracle Ranch	857-7284
Grace Presbyterian Choir	Thursday, 7:00 pm	Miracle Ranch	857-7284
LCC Sunday Worship	Sunday, 11:00 am (one hour earlier in summer)	Longbranch Community Church	884-9339
LCC Sunday School	Sunday, 9:45 am (except summer months)	Longbranch Community Church	884-9339
LCC Adult Bible Study	Monday, 10:30 am	Longbranch Community Church	884-9339
LCC Choir Practice	Sunday, 9:30 am	Longbranch Community Church	884-9339
LCC Bell Choir Practice	Monday, 4:30 pm	Longbranch Community Church	884-9339
LCC Soup and Bread Supper & Communion	Thursday, 6:30 pm	Longbranch Community Church	884-9339
AWANA Program (KPBC)	Wednesday, 6:30 pm	Key Peninsula Civic Center in Vaughn	853-6761
Key Peninsula Baptist Church	Sunday, 9:30 am	Key Peninsula Civic Center in Vaughn	853-6761
Historic Vaughn Bay Church	Sunday, 10 am	Key Peninsula Civic Center in Vaughn	884-5403
Seventh Day Adventists	Saturday, 10:00 am	Key Peninsula Civic Center in Vaughn	884-2360
Lakebay Christian Assembly	Sunday, 10:30 am	Lakebay Christian Assembly Church in Home	884-4854
LCA Sunday School	Sunday, 9:30 am	Lakebay Christian Assembly Church in Home	884-4854
LCCC Worship	Sunday, 10:30 am	Lakebay Community Covenant Church	884-3899
LCCC Sunday School	Sunday, 9:00 am	Lakebay Community Covenant Church	884-3899
LCCC High School Youth Group	Tuesday, 7:00 pm	Lakebay Community Covenant Church	884-3899
LCCC Pioneer Clubs	Wednesday, 6:30 pm	Lakebay Community Covenant Church	884-3899
LCCC Middle School Youth Group	Wednesday, 6:30 pm	Lakebay Community Covenant Church	884-3899
LCCC Ladies Bible Study	Wednesday, 6:30 pm	Lakebay Community Covenant Church	884-3899
LCCC Ladies Bible Study with child care	Thursday, 9:15 pm	Lakebay Community Covenant Church	884-3899
I.M. Pact Working Committee	First Tuesday, 9:00 am	Lakebay Community Covenant Church	884-5086
Community Bible Fellowship Worship Service	Sunday, 10:30 am	Minter Creek Elementary School	884-1999
CBF Sunday School	Sunday, 9:30 am	Minter Creek Elementary School	884-1999
CBF Youth Night	First & Third Saturdays, 6:30 pm	Various Locations	884-1999
CBF Gym Night	Friday, 7:00 pm	Evergreen Elementary School Gym	884-1999
VCC Sunday Service	Sunday, 10:00 am	Vaughn Community Church	884-2269
VCC JourneyLand Sunday School	Sunday, 11:15 am	Vaughn Community Church	884-2269
VCC Sunday Evening Service	Sunday, 6:00 pm	Vaughn Community Church	884-2269
VCC Junior High Youth Group	Monday, 7:00 pm	Vaughn Community Church	884-2269
VCC Senior High Youth Group	Thursday, 7:00 pm	Vaughn Community Church	884-2269
LDS Sacrament/Worship Service	Sunday, 9:00 am	Latter Day Saints Church	857-5263
LDS Sunday School	Sunday, 10:20 am	Latter Day Saints Church	857-5263
LDS Adult Auxiliary	Sunday, 11:10 am	Latter Day Saints Church	857-5263
LDS Primary Youth (ages 3-12)	Sunday, 10:20 am	Latter Day Saints Church	857-5263
LDS Youth Activity Night	Wednesday, 7:00 pm	Latter Day Saints Church	857-5263

Special Events for MARCH 2003

WHAT

Camp Seymour Family Snowshoeing Trip
 KPOC: Kayaking Day (instruction)
 KPPRD: Sports and Leagues (public input)
 KPOC: Bicycle Repair (bring your bike, tools)
 KPOC: Local Hiking (short distance)
 FOTL: Celebrate trees in watercolor and poetry
 KPLC: Citizen of the Year Awards Dinner
 KPHS: Historical Boat Cruise
 FOTL: Family Story Times
 KPOC: Off Road (mountain) Bicycling
 KPOC: Equestrian Ride (horse trails)
 KPHS: Annual (General) Meeting
 Camp Seymour Women's Wellness Weekend

WHEN

Saturday, March 8
 Sunday, March 9, 10:00 am
 Monday, March 10, 7:00 pm
 Thursday, March 13, 7:00pm
 Saturday, March 15, 10:00 am
 Saturday, March 15, 1:00 pm
 Saturday, March 15, 6:30 pm
 Sunday, March 16, 12:30 pm
 Wednesday, March 19, 11:00 am
 Saturday, March 22, 10:00 am
 Sunday, March 23, 10:00 am
 Thursday, March 27, 6:30 pm
 Saturday & Sunday, March 29 & 30

WHERE

Hurricane Ridge
 Camp Seymour near Key Center
 KP Sport Center (Volunteer Park) Annex
 Key Center Library
 To Be Decided (call for location)
 Key Center Library
 Key Peninsula Civic Center in Vaughn
 Gig Harbor to Key Peninsula and return
 Key Center Library
 To Be Decided (call for location)
 To Be Decided (call for location)
 Key Peninsula Civic Center in Vaughn
 Camp Seymour near Key Center

HOW

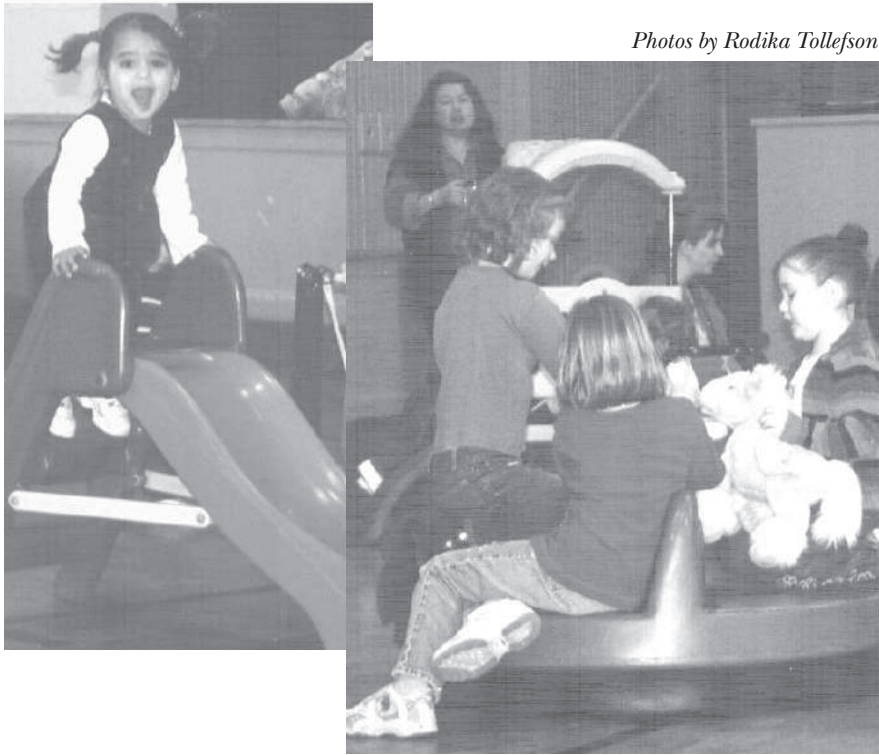
884-3392
 884-3347
 884-9240, info@kpprd.org
 884-3347
 884-3347
 884-2242
 884-3319, 884-3485
 884-6951, info@kphs.org
 884-2242
 884-3347
 884-3347
 884-6951, info@kphs.org
 884-3392

To have an event listed in the COMMUNITY CALENDAR, please send an email message to info@keypen.com with the answers to these questions: WHAT is the event, WHY should people attend, WHO is the sponsor, WHEN is it happening, WHERE is it located, HOW can people find out more?

Indoor fun

Little tykes get the chance to run around and have fun at the Key Peninsula Family Resource Center's Indoor Park. The program, at the Civic Center gym, is a chance for parents to bring their toddlers and preschoolers for two hours, twice a week, to play with other kids and use fun large-muscle toys. The children play on a variety of equipment under the supervision of their parents, who use the time to network and socialize with each other. Suggested donation to use the "park" is \$1 per child.

Call 884-5433 for more information.



Photos by Rodika Tollefson

Get involved *Local groups need volunteers*

The Key Peninsula Community Services is searching for volunteers to assist with the following list: monthly bulletin board & reader calendar, administrative assistance, weekly plant care, weekly food organizer, clothing organizer, bread runs, senior aerobics instructor, senior excursions coordinator and volunteer coordinator. Contact Cristi Watson at 884-4440 or watsonkeypen@aol.com for details.

Key Peninsula Family Resource Center is recruiting high-school age Big Buddies for the **Little Buddies** program. Male Big Buddies are especially needed to mentor young boys, and several openings for girl mentors. The session began Feb. 25 and will run through May. This is a social and recreational after-school program that meets in the afternoon until 5 p.m., at the Civic Center Tuesday and at Evergreen El-

ementary Wednesday. High school students can earn community service hours, not to mention the respect and the admiration of the young children. Screening and training is part of the program. Call Edie Morgan at 884-5433.

Children's Home Society's KP Family Resource Center has recently signed a collaborative agreement with **Big Brothers/Big Sisters** of King and Pierce counties to help extend their program, to the children of this community. Adult mentors, age 18 and older, who want to make a difference in the lives of local children are being recruited. Call Rika Addington at 884-8433.

The Key Peninsula Historical Society is looking for docents to volunteer in the **museum** on Thursdays and Saturdays from 1 to 4 p.m. Call 884-6951.

To have your organization's news listed, email keypenews@yahoo.com or call 884-4699.

Key Peninsula Lutheran Church
 N.E. Corner of Lackey Road & Key Peninsula Hwy

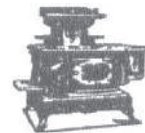
Sundays: Christian Education: 9:15 am
 Worship: 10:30 am
 Childcare provided

Ash Wednesday Service: March 5, 7:00 pm

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Local groups plan extensive trail network

By Caril Ridley and Simon Priest
Special to KP News

For decades local residents have dreamed of connecting parks and communities with a system of trails for hiking, backpacking, strolling, running and enjoying the natural wonders of Key Peninsula.

Horsemen have dreamed of connecting pastures for riding beyond the confines of their own land, mountain bikers have traveled great distances to find specialized trails and kayakers have paddled open-waters to stretch their legs and enjoy a bit of public beach. Trails have historically networked people, nature and communities.

The 2001 Pierce County Comprehensive

Plan mandates the development of trails throughout our region. Recreation on trails increase people's quality of life and leisure by connecting with nature, improving health, raising fitness, and reducing stress.

The Key Peninsula Trails Committee is a volunteer group of concerned citizens working with the KP Parks and Recreation District and the Great Peninsula Conservancy to build and sustain local trails for hiking, backpacking, biking and equestrian. A network of trails will eventually include multi-user and specific user trails with loops and spurs connecting parks and community resources throughout Key Peninsula.

They have completed a 50-mile historical automobile trail that links 120 points of sig-

nificant interest. The new guidebook of maps, directions, photographs, and descriptions will go on sale in the next few months with proceeds benefiting the Key Peninsula Museum and further trail work.

They are also nearing completion of a 40-mile kayaking trail from Allyn to Purdy with stops at several parks, beaches, and islands along the way. A guidebook for this trail should be available by the end of the year. They expect to finish bicycling, hiking and horse trails in the next few years. A multi-user corridor of several trails is planned to follow the power line right-of-way across the top of the peninsula with most trails connecting to this trails corridor. Other trails under consideration include wheelchair, fitness, nature, mountain biking, scuba, and sailing in select locations.

You can help by attending meetings, offering land easements, donating goods or services, sponsoring trail segments, and volunteering. For information, visit www.keypen.org; email info@keypen.org or attend the monthly meetings, on first Thursday at 7 p.m. at the Home Fire Station.



Arts Alive

Join the fun in our spring season of arts classes and events for Key Peninsula. Call Kathy at 884-9172 now.

SATURDAY WORKSHOPS

Wet Feltmaking Mar 8
Needle Feltmaking Mar 15
Sumi for Adults and Kids
Apr 5, 12 and 19
Bead Jewelry Apr 12
Drawing for Teens Apr 26
Animal Sculpture for Kids May 3
Framing and Presentation May 3

WEEKLY CLASSES 6 sessions

Essential Writer's Tools for Kids
Mar 5 - Apr 9
Hand Built Pottery
for Kids, Mar 4 - Apr 8
for Adults, Mar 6 - Apr 10
Chinese Brush Painting
Mar 31 - May 12
MASTER CLASS Plein Air Painting
with Kurt Solmssen, Apr 12

MONTHLY EVENTS

Drum Circle first Tuesdays
Drawing Studio third Wednesdays

Tuition from \$15, family discounts and scholarships available. Classes start soon, register now!

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Key Center
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from the Library)

Key Peninsula News is looking for war veterans to tell their stories. Call 884-4699 or email keypennews@yahoo.com

The Key Peninsula Outdoor Club is launched

By Nancy Lind
KPPRD

The Key Peninsula Outdoor Club (KPOC) had its first meeting on Thursday, Feb. 13 at the Key Center Library at 7 pm. Attendees represented numerous outdoor recreational activities including equestrian, kayaking, biking, hiking, skiing, back packing, climbing, hang gliding, surfing, caving, car camping, sailing, canoeing, fishing, and others.

Anyone interesting in recreational activities done outdoors is encouraged to attend the regular meetings with like-minded people, to make connections, plan events, network, share resources and learn new skills.

KPOC meetings, on the second Thursday of each month, will last approximately 90 minutes. The first half of the evening is an education workshop and the second

half is trip planning and other business discussions.

Possible future workshops may examine SCUBA, astronomy, and mushroom identification. Other upcoming trips include

our regular trail walkabout on the third Saturday with Nancy Lind, and a possible kayaking day at Camp Seymour. All the trips and outdoor activities happen regardless of northwest weather.

Upcoming KPOC events

Thursday, March 13, 7 pm: Join us at the Key Center Library for basic bike maintenance taught by Jimmy Livengood, Camp Seymour employee. Bring your bicycle, bike tools, and spare parts. Jimmy will also be the trip coordinator for an off-road mountain bike ride. Call Jimmy at 460-8889 or email jlivengood@ymcatacoma.org.

Thursday, April 10, 7 pm, KC Library: Learn about Horse First Aid and caring for your animal on the trail with local equestrian Ken Wolfe. Ken will also be the trip coordinator for a horse trail ride on Sunday, March 23. Call him at 884-6064 for time and place.

For more about the club or activities, call Nancy Lind at 884-3347, email nancyind2000@yahoo.com; Caril Ridley at 884-5461, email hicaril@hotmail.com; or Danette George at 884-6474, email dgonny@centurytel.net.

Camp Seymour gets new interactive exhibit

By Marty Marcus
PNHS V-Pres.

Nestled in the woods along the shore of Glen Cove, the YMCA's Camp Seymour has been in operation nearly a hundred years, serving some 8,000 campers per year from schools, summer camps, family camps and weekend conferences and retreats. Walt Burdsall, Director of Outdoor and Environmental Education for Camp Seymour, suggested adding a new element to its outstanding environmental education facility. So, now sharing the downstairs classroom with the indoor-tidepool organisms are heated enclosures containing snakes, a tortoise and a lizard.

Funds for heating, lights and enclosures were provided by a grant from the Pacific Northwest Herpetological Society (PNHS), and some of its individual members donated the animals.


Fifth and sixth grade classes from schools all over the Puget Sound area will have a hands-on opportunity to learn more about the roles of these animals in their varied environmental niches. When completed, the exhibit will contain a Russian Tortoise, an Australian Bearded Dragon, an adult California Kingsnake, two small boas—a juvenile and an adult—known as Rosy Boas, from Baja, Calif., a Desert Kingsnake from Arizona, a Black Pine Snake and a Corn Snake from the southeastern United States. Most of the animals are fairly young, born in captivity, and with life expectancies of 20 years or more. Food for the animals is also being donated by PNHS members.

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YOGA POSTURE
COBRA - Opens the Chest and pelvis, good for building a stronger back. Lie on your stomach, exhale and push up with your arms, open the chest keeping the shoulders down. Look upward stretching your neck up. Breathe evenly. Hold for 30 seconds, then rest.



YOGA CLASSES
AM M,W,F 9:00 ~ 10:30 @ KPCC in VFW room
PM Tue. 6:00 ~ 7:30 @ MVP in Key Center
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Historic Vaughn Bay Church
A Community Gathering
Worship Service 10:30 am
884-5403
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Times have changed. Today, with merged credit reports, computerized processing, and in house underwriting, we are able to take a loan application and in most cases, have a credit approval back within an hour! Your credit approval is a conditional one, based on the property that you intend to purchase-appraisal and a title report, are a few more steps that need to be completed in the final process.

If you are about to start looking for a home, take a few minutes to contact a lender that will take the time to get your loan pre-approved and issue a written commitment of approval for a specific price range. Such a letter has an amazing positive effect on sellers when attached to the offer, and in current market conditions, nothing less will do!

*Courtesy, Heath Nicholls
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HIDDEN CREEK- \$262,000 - Exquisite home in Hidden Creek neighborhood w/lg wrap around porch and brick-paver driveway. Green belt on two sides, fenced backyard w/patio and stepping stone pathways lead to gazebo and arbor, separate dining rm w/steps down to living rm. Seating area and blt-in buffet in kit. Master BR has separate sitting rm and jetted tub. MLS#23016815. 253-884-3304.



NESTLED NEAR THE LAKE - \$110,000

This newer 3 BR rambler is just a short walk to the lake and recreational area. Bright living room with fireplace, roomy kitchen with slider out to back deck for easy summer barbecues. Private backyard, close to salt water parks and public boat launches. MSL#23016491. 253-884-3304.



VIEW OF MT. RAINIER & BEAUTIFUL SUNRISES - \$245,000

- This home overlooks Joe's Bay w/ a view of Mt. Rainier and the rising morning sun. Sit by the cozy fireplace and look out over the water. Home has been remodeled in last 2 years- has fully finished bsmt. Outside- deck on two sides, Rhodies, fruit trees on nearly an acre. Close to boat ramp. MLS#23020338. 253-884-3304.

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I.M.Pact moves forward with domestic violence program

By Irene Torres
KP News

Whatever they do, it is never right. They suffer repeated physical injuries, bruises and broken bones from assault. There is often the fear and psychological intimidation, and they constantly endure threats of bodily harm. They are domestic violence victims—and for many, there has been no way out, nowhere to turn, no hope for a better life. They don't know what to do, so they often remain in the situation. Now, through the efforts of I.M.Pact Key Peninsula, those victims can escape the bondage of abuse and begin to see options to improve their lives.

"It is a sad commentary on our society that domestic violence is a reality, but the national media uses terms like "family dispute" to describe it in terms that minimize the emotional impact," said Deacon John Riccardi, I.M.Pact board of directors chair. "We are doing something about it on the Key Peninsula."

I.M.Pact is an acronym for Interdenominational Missions Pact, comprised of representatives from "Christian churches involved with works of benevolence in the Key Peninsula." I.M.Pact's ministry is "to aid healing and serve victims of domestic violence, enabling them to gain a sense of

self-worth, a goal for the future, a feeling of community, and the confidence to support themselves and their children," according to their promotional materials. The churches offer a Community Meal at the Community House at 3 p.m. every Sunday, with the mission "to promote a closer community by bringing neighbors together around the meal table." They offer meals and entertainment and are looking for financial help to purchase food, supplies, performances, and children's ministries. Chaired by Charl Blackwood, these events welcome visitors and volunteers.

Domestic violence help

Until a local domestic violence shelter is opened, those in abusive situations may confidentially call the Pierce County Domestic Violence Helpline at 253-798-4166 for assistance.

I.M.Pact's project activities for 2003 are focused on community outreach, including publishing a newsletter, increasing public awareness, training sessions by Pastor Heather James for "Keeping Children Safe" and detecting abuse in children.

Dennis Taylor, with Safe Streets, has been supporting the project since May 2002.

"Originally I joined to support their goal to create a shelter," he said. "Safe Streets' Crime Prevention Program has two primary focuses: reduction of meth production and reduction of incidents of domestic violence. Nearly 50 percent of crime incidents on the Key Peninsula relate to meth crimes and domestic violence."

I.M.Pact board members Deacon John Riccardi, Penny Gazabat, Cathlee James, and Jeannie Seick, among others, celebrate the successes of the past year. They received a designation as nonprofit organization (501c3), making donations tax deductible. They continued to educate against domestic violence in schools, churches, community, and in personal lives. A clothing closet provides families with clothing and necessities, and the board is looking for someone to coordinate that effort.

The board hopes their efforts will eventually lead to a safe, secure residence on the Peninsula for victims of domestic violence. "The I.M.Pact Board is reorganizing itself, and is now on the road to making the shelter a reality," Riccardi said. This project would initially offer immediate shelter for women and children, with access to counseling, clothing, and training.

For more information, contact I.M.Pact by email, IMPACTKP@integrity.com, write to P.O. Box 58, Lakebay, WA 98349, or call 253-884-5086. For information on other domestic violence projects, contact Gig Harbor Key Peninsula Family Violence Prevention Project at GHKPFVPP@msn.com.

"We have a great project that serves our Lord Jesus as well as our community," says Dorene Paterson, working committee chair. Later, the facility would be expanded into a transitional facility, offering housing, daycare, preschool, drug and alcohol counseling, job counseling, budgeting, case management and support groups, she said.

A grant from Pierce County enabled the group to poll the community in a needs assessment for feasibility of developing a battered women's shelter. The results of the survey showed 90 percent to 99 percent of respondents were in favor of additional funding for counseling, shelters, and increased police enforcement of domestic violence laws.



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Two Waters greets spring with new programs

By Rodika Tollefson
KP News

The Two Waters Arts Alliance is celebrating its first year with a Spring Fling on March 1 at 7 p.m. at the Civic Center.

There is a lot to celebrate since Two Waters was officially created a year ago. In less than two years since a group of people got together to discuss a need for an arts program on the Key Peninsula, two successful seasons brought classes and workshops for children and adults alike, and a third season—Arts Alive—is getting ready to begin in March, among other projects the group has organized and continues to pursue. One of their recent events brought the Tacoma Youth Symphony for concerts to Minter Creek and Evergreen elementary schools.

"The kids were in awe; they sat and watched, mesmerized," Vice President Kathy Bauer

said at a presentation during a Key Peninsula Business Association meeting.

Monthly events include a drumming circle and model life drawings, and the lineup of spring offerings includes felt making, sumi painting, jewelry making, drawing, animal sculpture making for children, writer's tools for kids; hand-built pottery making, Chinese brush painting; and special classes in master painting and framing.

"We want people of the Key Peninsula to have access to the arts without having to drive to Gig Harbor or Tacoma," "No one will be turned away because they cannot afford it and we can offer scholarships."

To find out more about the classes, pick up a brochure, available at various locations including the library, Civic Center, post offices and schools. To register for a class or two volunteer for the organization, call Kathy Bauer at 884-9172.

Sunnycrest offers seminars

March is gearing up to be a busy month at Sunnycrest Nursery and Floral in Key Center. Besides all the nursery stock arriving weekly, the nursery is offering two Saturday seminars. On March 8, local expert pruner Tim Kezele will conduct a hands-

on learning seminar with the emphasis on fruit trees. Class begins at 11 a.m. and costs \$5 per person. On March 22, Ken Wassman, president of the Puget Sound Bonsai Association, will teach the basics of Bonsai. His class starts at 11 a.m. and costs \$10 per person. Class size is limited—sign up early. Call 884-3937.

Fried and True Recipes

Compiled by Colleen Slater

A friend claims some of her favorite recipes came from the Key Peninsula News several years ago. Here is another opportunity for readers to share their special dishes. Priority will be given to those with a brief story—a recipe handed down through several generations; developed or adapted to fit supplies on hand or special dietary needs; traditional ingredients changed to make faster preparation.

Please send recipe and story (typed preferred) to: Colleen Slater, P.O. Box 107, Vaughn, WA 98394; email to cas4936@centurytel.net; or drop them by the Key Peninsula News office with Colleen Slater's name on the envelope. Include your name and a telephone number so we can contact you for any questions about either recipe or story.

This is my grandmother's recipe for Lemon Butter, which we have always called Lemon Curd. She made tarts, cut holes with a thimble, and baked the "holes" along with the tarts for the young ones to nibble. The tarts, filled with Lemon Curd, were one of her standard offerings for family affairs. Her granddaughter, Joyce Niemann, continues to take them to various functions. Agnes Bill's Lemon Butter (as printed in "A book of recipes compiled by the Ladies of the Vaughn Bay Library Association in 1931"; reprinted by the Key Peninsula Historical Society, 1995)

Lemon Butter

1 lemon, grated rind and juice
1 cup sugar
1 teaspoon butter
3 large egg yolks

Place one cup sugar in upper part of double boiler. Grate rind of lemon, squeeze juice, and add to sugar. Add butter. When sugar is dissolved, let cool; then add the well-beaten egg yolks of the eggs and cook, stirring, until thick. This butter will keep for several days. To make tarts, use your favorite crust recipe.



Photo by Rodika Tollefson

These melt-in-your-mouth Lemon Butter Tarts were baked by Joyce Niemann.

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Fair a great success thanks to community

By Sharon Kaffer
Key Peninsula Community Fair director

How do you begin to say thank you to all who contributed to the success of the 2002 Key Peninsula Community Fair? If each volunteer was thanked just by first name, the space for a 300-word article would run out before completed. Yes, you read that right! The Fair had over 300 volunteers and organizations working together in a cooperative spirit to create a fun, high quality event that serves as a fundraiser directly benefiting Key Peninsula neighborhoods.

This community event brings a new dimension to the Peninsula. While looking for ways to continually improve the way of life for the people, key organizations joined forces. Under the direction and vision of Mike Salatino, Ed Taylor, Claudia Loy and Fred Ramsdell, the Key Peninsula Fair Association [KPFA] was created. The KPFA is co-owned by four local groups: The KP Civic Center Association, The KP Business Association, KP Parks and Recreation District and the Longbranch Improvement Club.

Many people from these wonderful organizations donated countless hours and energy. Additionally, TOPS volunteers cleaned the fairgrounds each morning, the Boy Scouts kept the food court spotless, members of the Key Peninsula Baptist Church generously sponsored and organized the children's games, and the kind people from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints did a wonderful job directing parking.

Thank you to all those listed above and to all the unsung heroes for their dedication.

Grazie, takk, merci, danke, arigato, kiitos, spasio! No matter what language or how often it is said, no amount of thanks is enough!

The 2003 Key Peninsula Community Fair will be held August 15-17, 2003. For information, see www.KeyFair.com or call 253-884-4FUN.

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Citizen of the Year, continued
from page 4

an example to other young people on the Peninsula and show that the volunteer spirit is what brings a community together.

Nancy Lind, a member of the KP Parks and Recreation District Board, has contributed enormous energy, organizing ability and hours over many years to help KP parks. She heads Friends of the Rocky Creek Conservation Area where she has organized a group of inmates from the WA Corrections Center for Women who, along with many volunteers, contribute their efforts each month to clear trails, plant trees, and clean up garbage. She organizes three other major work parties at RCCA each year.



Anna White is a charter member of Citizens Against Crime, with which she has been affiliated for 15 years, and its Citizens' Patrol to which she has contributed countless hours assisting the Pierce County Sheriff's Department to deal with the criminal element in our communities. She has also contributed many hours to the KP Community Services/Food Bank.



Jim Wylie has long been a volunteer fixture at the Evergreen Elementary School, and in the Palmer Lake community where he resides and is known as a special friend

to youth. His love for animals has made the community a better place as he voluntarily sees that they are neutered and returned to their families. He gave up his nice garage and made it into a place where a bed-ridden senior citizens with MS could live. Although recently diagnosed with MS himself, he continues to care for others.



Ruth Matthews' soft spoken, continuous smile and an ever prevailing can-do attitude endear her to "The Girls," ladies she takes on senior shopping trips twice a month as a volunteer for the KP Community Services. An active member of her church, she often cooks in the Sunday I.M.Pact meals.



Linda Youngechild, a member of the Board of Directors of Communities in Schools, is dedicated to kids. She has spearheaded the Lake Holiday annual Easter egg hunt and pours hours into its success. She haunts Vaughn Elementary School with volunteer assistance, and can be counted on the never say no to a request for assistance, particularly when kids are involved.



Simon Priest is fairly new to the community but came on like Gang Busters in col-

laborating in the formation of the the impending KP Community Council. He is a professionally trained expert on park development and readily has lent his expertise to KP's Park and Recreation District. He voluntarily created and shares with anyone interested, the KP community's first electronic newsletter.



Mark Burris has long been associated with Boy Scouts of America and, locally, with BSA Troop 220 for which he is Assistant Scoutmaster, a job calling for contribution of countless hours to organize events, provide leadership and leadership training, campouts, hikes, and related tasks essential to the success of a Troop.



Phil Bauer serves on the KP Civic Center BOD, works with Habitat for Humanity, is on the KP Fair Association board and its executive board, helped paint the KPCC stage and a neighbor's house for no charge, and is one of the founders of the Two Waters Arts Alliance.



Jason Leib has poured countless hours into coaching Little League teams to which his primary message is always, "have fun"! Whether winning or losing, he inculcates in the kids the joy of play and fairness and teamwork and hard work. He is always available to gratuitously repair plumbing problems, fix the broken whatever's, and, in general, assist those in need.



Marlies Van Cise quietly and persistently serves our community. She is in her fourth year as president of the Longbranch Community Church where she started the "Care Club" and heads the

church's road cleanup, "Treasure Hunt Program." She is active in the Longbranch Improvement Club and volunteers whenever needed. She is vice president of the Dr. Penrose Orthopedic Guild. She and husband, Dick, spearheaded the memorable visit to Longbranch of the Virginia V.

Miriam Goad, a gentle activist in the Palmer Lake community, spearheaded the Citizens Against Crime Citizens' Patrol there and recruited neighbors to participate. An active member of the Palmer lake Beach Club's Health and Safety Committee, she daily collects refuse from the streets and has brought hazardous waste conditions to the attention of Pierce County. She has encouraged Safe Streets participation in the community and distributed to all homes pamphlets on methamphetamine labs and how to deal with them. She has led the crusade to purge the area of abandoned vehicles.



Tim and Carolyn Mericle chair various committees and pick up area seniors for twice a week lunches at Community Services. Whether Tim's energy never wanes although once a month he donates platelets at the Blood Bank. He serves actively as a member of the KPCS BOD. The Mericles have hearts that encompass our whole community.



Dee Dee Kerkes, a long-time member of the KP Fire Department, serves as the Volunteer Officer of KPFD's Herron Island fire station, where, through her efforts, Herron citizens have a BLS response team trained at both the First Responder and EMT levels. She responds on the mainland as a volunteer EMT to 911 requests for assistance, staffs the Department's rehabilitation unit at major incidents, and

(Continued on page 19)

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Continued from page 18

serves as a response member for critical incident debriefing of members and citizens. She instructs basic first aid and CPR classes.

Katie Simon is a senior at Peninsula High School where she maintains a 3.2 GPA, is a two-term president of TATU (Teens Against Tobacco Use), plays basketball and varsity soccer, is in track and field, has been a PAA soccer coach, Harbor Ridge Middle School basketball coach, a fifth-grade camp counselor, a member of the Harbor FC Soccer Club, and volunteered in Mexican orphanages.



Jessica Welker, a senior at Peninsula High School, maintains a 3.7 GPA while serving as president of the school's Environmental Club, holding a position on the National Honor Society, being involved with soccer, track and field, the Help the Homeless Club, the Adopt a Road litter pickup program, a frequent volunteer at the Rocky Creek Conservation Area, a volunteer at the S.A.V.E thrift store,



the Pierce County Stream Team, and vice president of the Gig Harbor/Key Peninsula Arbor Day Foundation.

Denise Carron, a newcomer to the community, wasted no time in becoming involved with its needs by signing up as the Longbranch Improvement Club newsletter editor, a job at which she is exceedingly well-skilled.



Betty Hicks has poured her heart into the kids of Evergreen Elementary School for many years, helping organizing fund raisers, serving as everything from "grunt" to leader of the school's PTA and, in general, being one of those "rocks" the kids know will always be there for them. She has served on the BOD of the KP Parks and Recreation District and worked with the After 'OURS program.



Bud Ullsh has served this community forever. He was a volunteer firefighter with KPFD who worked his way up to Battalion Chief rank before retiring with honors after 37 years of service in the course of

which he fought many fires, rescued many accident victims, trained many volunteer firefighters, and served as an inspiration for other members of the department. He is a long-time member of the Board of Directors of the KP Community Services of which he is currently president.



Donna Fisher, as president of the Peninsula Schools Education Foundation, and before that, as its active Board of Trustees member, has given many hours to ensuring that the organization's mission is fulfilled, that its fund raising annual breakfast is successful, and that the proceeds of these efforts are properly distributed as grants that benefit our kids' quest for knowledge.

Tim Kezele loves this community to which he has contributed countless hours as a member of the Board of Directors of the KP Parks and Recreation District, caring for the lawns at KP Sports Center & Fairgrounds, performing limitless maintenance tasks there, scrounging light fixtures, mirrors, furniture, or whatever for the park and for the Civic Center,




forming and serving for years as president of the KP Historical Society and just being there for anyone and anything to improve the quality of life on our Peninsula. There is not room to list his many contributions.

Joelene Lemke is a dynamite lady whose efforts to enhance education in our community are without parallel. A long-time member of the Peninsula Schools Education Foundation, and its treasurer, she has given countless organizational hours to ensuring that the Foundation's annual fund raising breakfast is a success. She has never demurred the "grunt" work involved in achieving success. She is heavily involved in the youth-oriented activities of her church.


Linda Hubbard, a long-time salaried employee of the KP Community Services, dedicates limitless hours well over that expected of her to ensure that anyone in need gets whatever it takes to make life livable. She takes needy seniors to doctors' appointments, shopping, on senior shopping tours, and on visits to places of interest, and is involved with Old Timers' Day, the Renaissance Faire, dances and the KPCS kitchen. She is a member of the Cootiettes.





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