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Key Peninsula News



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4-H DIFFERENCES "We Make A Difference"



4-H DIFFERENCES members Holly Wiltfong, Faith Higgins, Dannielle Higgins, Spring Higgins and Forrest Higgins (future member), back row; Levi and Hunter Higgins (future members) modeling and displaying some of their creations.

Happy New Year! The Differences' sewing project has been busy this past holiday season making fleece coats, hats and mittens for the Holiday Helper Program through the Children's Home Society. With the help of Marlene from Mountain Pacific of Gig Harbor, who supplied the polar fleece for the cozy coats, and the sewing talents of our members, we were able to provide gifts of warmth and holiday cheer. All members were invited to help, with or without sewing skills. Those who didn't know needle from thread were put to work cutting, snipping threads, cleaning up, providing child care and, as gofers, carrying items from work station to station. Thanks to everyone who helped with this project. And a big thank you to the Key Peninsula Fire Department which provides us a meeting room at the Home Station for all our various club projects.

Dannielle Higgins, a senior member of our club, got the idea for this project after attending a cozy coat workshop while participating in the 4-H National Congress in Atlanta, Georgia. Although our club's project was on a much smaller scale, the goals were the same: to provide warm coats to those less fortunate, to give our members a sense of being part of a larger community and to provide the opportunity to share our gifts and talents with others. 4-H provides such opportunities for all school age children and adult volunteers. If you or someone you know wants to **make a difference** by being involved in 4-H please contact your local WSU Cooperative Extension.

Time To Nominate Citizens of the Year

by Hugh McMillan

The 17th Annual Key Peninsula Citizens of the Year Awards Banquet will be held at the Longbranch Improvement Club, Saturday, April 7. Keynote speaker will be Pierce County Executive, John Ladenburg.

Now is the time to get your nomination(s) for this honor in the mail to: Citizens of the Year, KP Lions, P.O. Box 63, Vaughn, WA 98394, in a brief letter describing the person(s) and your reason(s) for making the nomination(s). Be sure to include the nominee(s) telephone number and address.

Anyone living, working, or owning property on the Key Peninsula is eligible to be a candidate for recognition of voluntary work or contributions of benefit to the KP community. Members of Lions Clubs are not eligible.

So that there will be time in which to prepare data, to take photos of the nominees for the media, and for the Lions Club members to conduct their secret ballot vote, nominations must be submitted on or before February 28, 2001.

Questions? Please call 884-3319, 884-6019, or 884-3485.

WINTER VISUALS at KP CIVIC CENTER Saturday, February 3rd

The Gig Harbor Key Peninsula Cultural Arts Commission will present its annual WINTER VISUALS event on Saturday, February 3rd, from 12:00 noon to 5:00 PM, at the Key Peninsula Civic Center on So. Vaughn Road, Vaughn.

Each year, "Winter Visuals" hosts approximately 35 award-winning artists show, demonstrate and sell their arts. The participants will discuss their personal art processes in creating stained and blown glass, pottery, metal/wood/stone sculptures, watercolors, pastels, art from recycled materials, photography and more. A number of them provide hands-on experience for children, such as shaping clay on a pottery wheel, placing stained glass pieces in a jigsaw pattern, working on a collective tapestry weaving and drawing animals with calligraphy brush and ink.



Alexandre Safonov
Another featured artist of Winter
Visuals on Page 11.

Another unique part of "Winter Visuals" is the combining of both visual and performing artists. The Key Singers, a well-know local group, will present their program at 1:00 PM. Alex Fordyce, classical pianist, now thirteen (!), will perform. In addition to playing the piano, Alex will play a bagpipe in full Scottish regalia. This will be his fourth performance for "Winter Visuals".

The Key Peninsula Seniors will have the kitchen open for food and refreshments and Sunnycrest Nursery will provide floral decorations.

Admission is by donation for adults. Children, students and nursing home residents are admitted free. For further information please contact Shirley Tomasi at 851-9462 or e-mail, cec@harborart.com.



The Children's Home Society's FAMILY ROOM

THANK YOU, EVERYONE!! Once again, this community has outdone itself in providing holiday happiness for its children in need. Thanks to the tremendous generosity of the broad cross-section of our community, 397 children in 154 families received gifts through our Holiday Helper program this year. Sponsors and donors ranged in age from kindergarten students through grandparents. Individuals, families, groups of friends, civic organizations, schools, churches, and local businesses came together to help make a much brighter holiday season for the families who participated in this year's Holiday Helper program. And the most uplifting part of this story is that we never called anyone to ask for donations. Everyone came to us wanting to help. What a wonderful community in which to live, where people truly care about their neighbors!

Huge thanks go to our own Holiday Helpers. This year we were able to hire a temporary, part-time assistant, Cara Echevarria, who did a phenomenal job of keeping things on track. We were also ably assisted by volunteers Susan Ritchie, Voski Sprague, Joan Ryan, Dana Shaw, Dana Snelson, and Katie Black. We absolutely could not have managed without them.

We would like to thank the following groups for their generous gifts: Agnus Dei Lutheran Church, CenturyTel employees, Evergreen Elementary School, FISH, Fire District 16 Angel Tree program, 4H Differences, Girl Scout Troop 447, Gig Harbor Chamber of Commerce Giving Tree program, Gig Harbor Eagles Auxiliary, Gig Harbor Thriftway Giving Tree program, Keller Williams Realty, Key Bank of Purdy, Key Peninsula Community Services, Key Peninsula Lutheran Church, Key Realty, Lakebay Community Church, Lighthouse Christian School—Mrs. Babbitt's, Mrs. Otis' and Mrs. Givens' classes, Longbranch Community Church, LaLu's Homeport Restaurant, Mohawk Northern Plastics, Netstar Mortgage, New Body Inc., Peninsula Neighbors, Peninsula High School Honor Society and Students, Peninsula School District Administration Office, Purdy Cost Less, Ravensara, St. Vincent DePaul Society, St. Nicholas Catholic Church and School—Mrs. Tinder's and Mrs. Stoneking's classes, Sunnycrest Nursery, Vaughn Elementary School, and Windermere Realty. **THANK YOU ALL!!**

Many thanks also to the individuals and families who generously gave to the children of this community: Vicky & John Biggs, Kristen Bottiger, Marsha Brossner, the Cartwright family, Frank & Cyndi DiBiase, Jack & Mary Ellen Donachie, Debbie Ehrhardt, May Ekram & friends, Leslie England, Wayne & Dana Gibson, the Gurr family, the Jorday family girls, Janet Lee, the Lilyblade family, Dr. & Mrs. Herbert Marra, Vicki McClung, Jan & Kevin Millard, Sharon & Loyd Miller, Angie Schmidt & family, the Show family, Voski & Robert Sprague, Virginia Thompson, Carol Wall, and Lynetta Yanity.

Special thanks to the Trueblood family for their holiday fundraising activities, and to Mike Tinder and associates at Windermere Realty for the extra support they gave us.

It is awe inspiring to be a part of this caring community. We are very grateful to all for a wonderful new year!

The staff of the Children's Home Society Key Peninsula Family Resource Center.

P.S. Give us a call at 884-5433 for information on our upcoming parenting classes and toddler activities.

KPCCA Board Meeting Minutes

Summary of Minutes of December 14, 2000

The following motions were approved:

To accept the November Board Meeting Minutes after correcting the Skate Manager's name to read Shawn Etheridge and to include information regarding elections of board officers.

To accept the November Treasurer's Report.

To operate the kitchen concession during the Ciscoe Morris event at KPCC.

To elect Rick Krum to the position of KPCCA Executive Board Secretary.

Summary of Minutes of January 11, 2001 (unapproved)

The following motions were approved:

To accept the December Board Meeting Minutes.

To accept the December Treasurer's Report.

To authorize the Whitmore Room floor repair to be performed, not to exceed \$2,500.

To reserve KPCC spaces on December 25, 2001 for the Salatino Christmas Day Dinner.

To increase the Skate Party rate to \$4 per skater, with a minimum of \$70.

Note: The full text of these KPCCA Board Meeting Minutes, including discussion and other announcements, is available at the KPCCA office.



KEY PENINSULA CIVIC CENTER

FROM THE OFFICE

By Leslie England

Skating parties continue to be a "Main Event" here at the Civic Center. Please note that if you're planning to book a private skating party, the fee is now \$70.00 for two hours. This includes an attendant to issue skates and play music.

Spring cleaning came early for the facilities staff. Loyd Miller, our 1st Vice President and Maintenance guru worked diligently sorting and re-labeling the many keys that it takes to open all the doors, gates and cupboards on the premises. We have done some tidying in the main kitchen and have labeled the pots and pans storage shelves on the stage. This should assist when new renters have an event with food preparation.

"Winter Visuals" is the first major public event at the Center for 2001. It is presented by the Gig Harbor Key Peninsula Cultural Arts Commission. Plan to visit us on February 3rd to meet award-winning artists and enjoy local musical talent.

Third Annual MLK Day at Rocky Creek



Artondale Elementary students Anna, 8, a 3rd grader, and her brother Owen, 6, a 1st grader, and their dad Eric Guenther (in the baseball cap) together with Sam Livingston of Lake of the Woods and Heather Kibbey planting Douglas fir seedlings donated by Fred Ramsdell of Home in an area selectively logged by a logging firm under contract to Pierce County.
Photo by Hugh McMillan

by Hugh McMillan

For the third Martin Luther King Day in a row, enthusiastic supporters of the Rocky Creek Conservation Area on the Key Peninsula planted Douglas fir seedlings, cleared trails, and cleaned up debris along the woodland trails and from the creek bed.

The fir seedlings will replace trees recently, "thinned and salvaged by a logging firm under contract to Pierce County," said park leader Nancy Lind. "It's part of our agreement with the County; they thin and salvage the trees and we maintain the trails and recreation sites."

As a reward for their efforts, park supporters Bill Stovner, Stan Schnieder, Bob and Nancy Lind, Heather Rogers, Rae Brown, Liz Lathrop, Bob Mauk, Lu Winsor, Sam Livingston, Heather Kibbey, and Eric Guenther with daughter Anna and Son Owen enjoyed hotdogs and other goodies at the burn site.

**The P J B is Coming to
The K P C C
Saturday, June 2nd
Be There!!**

It's Paint Tacoma-Pierce Beautiful Time Again

Applications for free house painting are now available for low-income seniors and low-income disabled men and women throughout Tacoma and Pierce County. This program of Associated Ministries is now in its 17th year, at **no cost to the homeowner**, with the painting done by volunteers and the paint purchased with donated funds.

The **deadline is April 1st, so now is the time to apply.** To be eligible, applicants must: (1) be a senior (60+) **OR** have a disability, (2) own their own home in Tacoma/Pierce County, and (3) be low-income. For applications and further information, call 253-383-3056, ext 105.



Energy Assistance Available for Low-Income Residents

Project Help is available to Peninsula Light Company customers through May 1. This program is a coordinated effort between the utility, its members and Key Peninsula Community Services. It offers assistance for winter heating bills. Low-income residents with electric heat as their main heat source can receive a \$200 credit on their utility bill.

Donations from Peninsula Light members are matched dollar for dollar by the utility. This program has become more critical as less and less federal money has become available.

Last year a total of \$53,353 assisted 266 local families. To apply, call the Customer Service Department at 857-1510.

For additional information, please call Daphne Daus, Member Services Director, at 857-1534.

Key Peninsula Historical Society & Museum Receives Financial Donation

The Key Peninsula Historical Society & Museum is very grateful to receive a year end contribution from the "Sunshine Management Services" of the Tacoma/Gig Harbor area. It is support like this that helps with the on-going operations of the societies museum project located at the Key Peninsula Civic Center in Vaughn. The Museum is getting ready to open for the 2001 year, starting in February on Thursdays and Saturdays from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM. For more information on the museum, call 884-4538.

**Happy
Valentine's Day
February 14th!**



Key Peninsula Historical Society & Museum

Open: Thursday & Saturday
1:00 PM to 4:00 PM
KPCC at 17010 South Vaughn
Road, Vaughn, WA
Mailing Address:
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Vaughn WA 98394
(253) 884-4538

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A View From Home

by Marty Marcus

Let's look at "transfer pricing", a tidy little scheme multinational corporations can use to avoid their fair share of U.S. taxes. I won't mention the names of any specific companies, but you know who they are. They set up supposedly different "affiliates" in other countries for tax-reporting purposes, but when they report earnings to their stockholders, it's as if they really are just one company.

So let's make up a name for such a company and see how it operates. We'll call it the Orchid Company because as I write this I'm looking at one of our orchids that's now in bloom. The way this company is set up, they have an Orchid Company America, with headquarters in Key Center, Washington, an Orchid Company Japan, an Orchid Company Brazil, Singapore, etc.

"Transfer pricing" works in both directions, that is, it involves both imports and exports. As an example, we'll say Orchid Company America buys wrist-watch batteries from Orchid Company Japan for \$8,252 each, and sells them here for \$3.98. Orchid Company America certainly doesn't make any taxable profit on that deal, do they? Those are real numbers, by the way, I didn't just dream them up for this article.

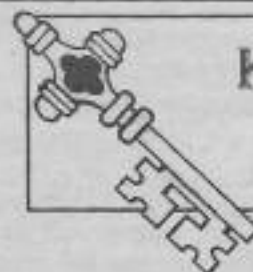
On the export side, Orchid Company America sold to Orchid Company Brazil some missile launchers for \$59.50, which were then sold to Venezuela, and some ATM's for \$45.25, which were then sold to the Dominican Republic. To a European "affiliate", Orchid Company America sold venetian blinds for 12 cents for resale to Germany, and through another "affiliate", tractors went to Canada for \$448.41. There was no taxable profit on those sales. This type of scam costs U.S. taxpayers at least \$40 billion a year.

The H-1B visa program is another great system for avoiding the payment of taxes, set up by Congress. Hi-tech companies here say they can't get enough skilled technicians to work for them, so Congress lets them import trained technicians from India and other countries and allows them to work here for 6 years with a special visitor visa. How does this impact taxes? These techies are paid in the currency of their home country by direct

deposit to their bank at home. No income tax withheld, no social security tax paid by the employer or employee. They are given an "allowance" (non-taxable) for paying rent and other living expenses. Is there really a shortage of technically skilled here? What really exists is a shortage of techies who are willing to work for \$25,000 a year less than the top rate for that type of job.

Tax-avoidance schemes are by no means the sole property of businesses. Tax cheating has become pervasive in our society, including people who are working but don't earn enough to owe taxes and those whose annual income is in the tens of millions. It has reached the point where many now say, "If so-and-so can do it and get away with it, why shouldn't I do it, too?"

In the next, and final, installment in this series, we'll look at some actual people and how they've avoided (and maybe evaded) paying their fair share of income tax, and how Congress has actually aided and abetted the ability of people to do this. Stay tuned.



KEY DATES

2000

BUSINESS / PROFESSIONAL GROUPS

BP Business Assoc. 1st Friday - 7:30 AM Home Port Rest.
3rd Friday - Noon Horseshoe Lake Rest.
Fire Fighters Assoc. 4th Wednesday - 7:00 PM Key Center Fire Sta.

CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS

Amnesty International 2nd Thursday at 7:00 PM Key Center Library
Ashes 1st Thursday at 10:30 AM Key Center Fire Station
Boy Scout Troop #220 Tuesday - 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM - KPCC Whitmore Rm.
Cootlett 3rd Thursday at 7:00 PM KPCC/Whitmore Rm.
KPCCA Exec. Comm. 1st Monday - 7:00 PM Civic Center
KPCCA Board 2nd Thursday - 7:00 PM KPCC/Whitmore Rm.
KPCS Board 2nd Monday - 10:00 AM Comm. House - Home
KPHC Board 4th Thursday - 7:30 PM Health Center
KP Lions Club 1st & 3rd Wed. - 6:30 PM KPCC/Whitmore Rm.
VFW & Auxiliary 2nd & 4th Mon. - 7:00 PM CC/VFW Room/WH - Rm.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Adult Literacy Classes - Call for Appointment 851-6552 - Gig Harbor
Angel Guild 4th Monday - 10:00 AM Brones Rm./KC Library
Children's Home Society Family Resource Center - Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM, Key Peninsula Civic Center, Lower Level - Call 884-5433
Food Bank - Tues. through Fri., 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM Comm. House - Home
Hot Lunch for Seniors on Wednesdays at Noon - Community House - Home
Also food & clothing assistance. For More Information, call 884-4440, 884-4514, or 857-4780.
Immunizations (FREE) Thursday, 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM at Urgent Care, Gig Harbor.
The Key Peninsula Well Child Clinic at the office of Dr. Ross every Tuesday at 9:00 AM.
Key Center Library 884-2242 - Hours: Tuesday & Wednesday 1 - 8 PM, Thursday & Friday, 1 - 6 PM, Saturday, Noon - 4 PM.
KP Baptist Bible Study Wednesday - 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM KP Civic Center
Overeaters Anonymous Wednesday - 7:30 PM St. Nicholas Church
Seniors Exercise Program Tues. & Thurs. - 8:30 to 9 PM Comm. House, Home
There Is Hope 12-Step Christian Support Group Thursdays at 7:00 PM at Lakeway Christian Assembly Church - 253-884-3659.
WIC (Women, Infants & Children) Every Tuesday 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM Civic Center, in the VFW Room. Call: 884-3835 on Tuesdays for an appointment.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

KP Fire Commissioners 2nd Wednesday - 7:00 PM Key Center Pico Sta.
2nd Monday after 2nd Wednesday at 4:00 PM Key Center Fire Sta.
KP Parks & Rec. 2nd Monday - 7:00 PM Volunteer Park Annex

SELF-HELP GROUPS

Alcoholics Anonymous - Mon. through Fri., 8:00 PM - Sat. & Sun. - 6:00 AM
At the Key Peninsula Community Services in Home.
Peninsula ALANON - King of Grace Lutheran Church, Purdy - Tuesday 1:30 PM
Caregivers Support 2nd Tuesday - 7:00 PM Brones Rm./KC Library
Grandparents Group 1st Monday - 1:00 to 3:00 PM Brones Rm./KC Library
Contact Norma at 884-2205 for more information.
T.O.P.S. Tuesday Evening Weigh-in 6:15 PM - Meeting at 7:00 PM - Civic Center
T.O.P.S. Tuesdays at 9:00 AM at Fire Station, Home, WA

SOCIAL & HOBBY GROUPS

Bayshore Garden Club 3rd Friday of each month, for more information call Sylvia Reberford at 884-2487, Longbranch Improvement
KP Historical Society 1st Thursday - 7:30 PM KP Historical Museum
Museum Open Thursday and Saturday from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM.
LB Improvement Club 3rd Wednesday - 7:00 PM Longbranch Improvement
Peninsula Neighbors 2nd Tuesday - 10:00 AM Longbranch Fire Station #4
Lakeway Fuchsia Society 1st Thursday - 7:00 PM Brones Rm./KC Library
Ruth Circle Meeting 3rd Monday - 10:00 AM Bible Study, lunch and
Meeting at 12:00 Noon at the Longbranch Church.
Senior Society Luncheon Thursdays - Noon KPCC/Whitmore Room
Vaughn Bay Garden Club Call 884-5403 for more information.
Key Singers Tuesdays 7:00 - 9:00 PM Longbranch Comm. Church
Contact Jo Sturm - 884-1350

NOTE: IF YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR ORGANIZATION LISTED HERE, PLEASE MAIL THE INFORMATION BY THE 20TH OF EACH MONTH TO: KEY DATES, KEY PENINSULA NEWS, P.O. BOX 3, VAUGHN, WA 98394, OR FAX IT TO US AT: 884-4053.

KEY PENINSULA NEWS

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1. THE KEY PENINSULA NEWS is a community newspaper, owned and published by the KEY PENINSULA CIVIC CENTER ASSOCIATION, a non-profit, 501-C3, corporation with main offices in Vaughn, Washington. The name, goodwill and any copyright assets that may exist pertaining to the NEWS are among the financial assets of the KEY PENINSULA CIVIC CENTER ASSOCIATION.
2. The primary purpose of the NEWS is to serve as communication between the KPCCA Board (and its activities) and the residents of the Key Peninsula, generally corresponding with the defined geographical area of Pierce County Fire District 16.
3. The secondary purpose of the NEWS is to serve as a communication means between the KPCCA member organizations and the residents of the same area.
4. The NEWS shall be entirely free of political bias, and shall advocate no particular religious point of view. Further, its service will be open to all local organizations and residents, subject to the availability of space and generally accepted good taste and legal considerations.

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 letters for length and content and no religious or political material will be printed. Mail letters to: P.O. Box 3, Vaughn, WA 98394.

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Ad Sales: Stephanie Carter
Production: Alice Truitt
Staff Reporter & Photographer:
Hugh McMillan
Proof-readers: Marty Marcus, Ann Waldo
Accounting: Vicky McClung



TAX TIPS

By
Marv & Myrtle
Keizur, CTP

It looks like we are into another tax season and time for me to warn you about tax preparers who are not properly educated in the latest provisions of the tax revenue code. If your tax preparer has not attended at least 30 credit hours of classes during year 2000, he/she is probably not prepared to give you all the benefits you deserve. In order for me to belong to the tax organizations I belong to, I am required to have (those) 30 hours of education.

This season, we are recommending that you use electronic filing. It is good when combined with direct deposit in order to receive your refunds quickly. It can also be used for balance due, and you can postpone your payment until April 16th. Try E-file this year.



**Valentine's Day
Is February 14th!**

Free Community Meal at Civic Center

Don't get bogged down cooking every Sunday. Bring the family down and enjoy the pleasure of good company, great food, served directly to you, and make new friends. The meal is served:



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TOPS NEWS

by Frankie Johnson

A lot of people make New Year's resolutions to lose weight. Maybe you are one of those and about now your resolve is waning. You are tired of cutting calories and the exercise is boring. The weather is gray and you want to EAT. Now is the time to seek some friendly support which your local TOPS chapter is more than willing to provide. The thing that sets TOPS apart from other weight-loss groups is that it is affordable for everyone. To join, it will cost \$20 for international dues and \$5 to the local chapter. TOPS is non-profit with no meals to buy. Weigh-in is free. Membership is open to men, women and children over 7 years of age. What are you waiting for? How could it be any better? We are here for you.

Obesity is one of the BIGGEST (pardon the pun) health problems facing Americans today. Just look at the kids. The percent of overweight teens is higher than any time in history. What does the future hold for them? Heart attacks? Diabetes? Loss of self-esteem? You name it. There are so many issues related to being overweight. TOPS can and will help you if you desire and have a true dedication to be healthy. Our success rate is extremely high. Once you have reached your ideal weight, you graduate to our elite group KOPS (keep off pounds sensibly). It may seem a bit confusing so we offer the opportunity to visit a meeting and talk to our members. Some have lost as much as 200 pounds. Or as little as 5 pounds. You don't have to be obese to want to learn better food habits.

We held an open house last month to explain the TOPS plan. We welcomed 4 new members. Carol Bischoff was the best of the TOPS losers. Carol has lost over 50 pounds and is on her way to better health. This month we will celebrate Valentine's Day by wearing as many items of red clothing as possible to our meeting. The member with the most will win a prize.

There are many tools to help you in your quest. We offer meal planning, recipes, challenges in every phase of weight management. Please feel free to attend our next meeting which is every Tuesday evening at the Civic Center in Vaughn, starting at 6:00 pm with weighing-in (privately, of course), fellowship with the other members and the meeting from 7:00 to 8:00. You can call 884-4102 if you have questions.

Poetry Contest # 5

We're really impressed with the quantity and quality of the poems we've been receiving in these contests. Contest #4, Haiku style, brought in 22 entries. The name of the winner and the winning entry appear at the end of this column.

For contest #5, we'll go back to the limerick style, since it also brought in a lot of entries the first time. For those of you who haven't participated before, the winner gets a \$20 gift certificate for use at any merchant who advertises in *The Key Peninsula News*. The rules, again, for sending in your entry: the deadline for #5 is February 20th, 2001, sent to Poetry Contest, K P News, P O Box 3, Vaughn, WA, 98394.

Limericks have 5 lines, line 1 rhymes with line 2 and line 5, line 3 rhymes with line 4. Traditionally, many limericks would not be printable in a family newspaper, so please don't send in any like that if you want them to be considered by our judge.

The winner and winning entry for Contest #4 are: Congratulations on your winning Haiku poem, Ruth Ann Chambers of Vaughn. Here is the winning entry:

Brave scarecrow stands guard
Over luscious strawberries,
Crows sit on his head.

Close to Home



ESPRESSO

Mon. - Thurs., 5:30 AM - 5:00 PM
Fri. - 5:30 AM - 5:30 PM
Sat. - 7:30 AM - 5:00 PM
Sun. - 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Next to Walt's in Key Center

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Sabbath (Saturday) Services:

10am - Sabbath School

11:15am - Worship Service

360-876-5581

We meet at:

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To Your Health

by
William F. Roes, M.D.

In keeping with my theme for the year of Medicine in the 21st Century, I'd like to spend some time this month on the way medicine fights infections that seem to continue to plague the human race. The development of antibiotics (actually antibacterial agents) was one of the outstanding developments of the 20th century, and I believe the development of antiviral agents will be one of the hallmarks of the 21st. A virus is a particle of genetic code (DNA or RNA) wrapped in a protein coat. Unlike bacteria, it is not technically alive by itself, but can infect living cells. One of the biggest challenges in medicine is how to eradicate the virus without killing the cells it occupies and in which it replicates.

In the last 10 years there have been some major advances in antiviral therapy, most notably in the treatment of patients who have the HIV (AIDS) virus. Another area which probably will affect many more of us is the development of medications that fight the influenza virus. Over the past years, influenza has killed approximately 20,000 people a year in the U.S. This year, when there was a shortage of the vaccine and many people didn't get a flu shot, the presence of effective anti-influenza medications becomes especially important. There are basically four anti-influenza agents: amantadine (Symmetrel), rimantadine (Flumadine), zanamivir (Relenza), and oseltamivir (Tami-flu). The first two are older agents and relatively inexpensive, but effective against Influenza A only. The latter two are newer, more expensive, and useful against both Influenza A and B.

All of these medications can shorten the duration of an influenza attack and lessen symptoms, and they are most effective if taken within the first 48 hours of an infection. This can be a problem because people seldom see their physician the first day of an illness, and it can be hard to know whether your infection is a cold or the flu. These medications have no effect against colds, and most often a doctor relies on the patient's exam and symptoms to decide what type of infection he's dealing with. Influenza typically comes on suddenly, is associated with high fevers, muscle aches, headaches, cough and loss of appetite — nasal symptoms and sore throat are not typical symptoms. A cold usually develops more slowly, and runny nose, sore throat and chest congestion are the most typical symptoms.

If you are interested in learning whether the flu has hit our area, you can check with the Centers for Disease Control at http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/diseases/flu/flu_virus.htm. If you think that you have influenza (especially if you missed your flu shot), call your doctor. The old medical adage "It's just a virus and there's nothing you can take" may not be true in the 21st Century.

Bayshore Garden Club

The Bayshore Garden Club will begin the February 16th meeting at 10:00 AM with a workshop on wreath making with live materials. Members who wish to participate should bring moss, ivies, succulents, small bulbs or any other plant material they would like to incorporate into their wreaths. Doris Boudreau will continue to advise.

Hostesses Joyce Bischoff and Doris Boudreau promise lunch at Noon, with the Business meeting to follow. A Nominating Committee for Officers is needed.

Ann Waldo, as theme speaker, is presenting "Other members of the Rose Family". Rose Malmgren will present a Floral Design, and Margarite Bussard will talk on Horticulture/Conservation.

Location: Longbranch Improvement Club.

For more information call Sylvia Retherford, 884-2487.



Another Women-Only Support Group

This group offers support to women on a wide range of women's issues. Whatever the needs are in the group, we offer support. Come get support, come get help for the issues you're dealing with. You're not alone, WE CARE!

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Lakebay Community Church
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For more information call 884-3899



THE LAW COLUMN

by Michael Misner

"Soft on crime" and "what about the rights of the victim?"

Those words usually pop up around election time when various candidates are searching out votes. We all hear the words, but what do they mean? Are there really judges or prosecuting attorneys out there who actually like criminals and don't like law-abiding citizens?

From my perspective of 27 years in the courts of this state, the answer is easy and the answer is clearly, no. I know all of the judges in Pierce County and have been friends with several of them for years. There is not a single jurist in our county that has any affinity for criminal behavior. They hate it as much as anyone, and they hate it for many reasons.

Judges have homes that they don't want broken into any more than anyone else would. Judges have children they don't want victimized any more than any other parent would. Judges have cars they don't want stolen in the middle of the night and they, like the rest of us, don't want to be the victim of a stray bullet when they are going to a movie with their friends.

If judges feel like the rest of us, then why do these phrases keep popping up all the time? Consider the following story.

Recently, the nightly newscast showed a young man being sentenced to prison for four years for being drunk and killing a man in a car crash. The victim's family was upset that the driver had to serve only four years in prison. Most of us would agree with them that the sentence was inadequate. Vehicular homicide is a Class A felony in this state and the punishment for Class A felons is life behind bars.

If the statute permitted a life sentence and the driver got only four years, can't we conclude that the judge in this case was "soft on crime" and that he felt a greater sympathy for the man who got drunk and drove down a public highway than he did for the family of the poor man who died in a terrible car crash?

I don't know that judge, but I am willing to bet everything I own that he was sick to his stomach that he couldn't do more.

If the judge was not, as many people like to think, some liberal mush-head, then how did such a pitiful sentence get handed down to a man who had done something so horrible? Like most things in the world, it came down to one word — money. We don't have the cash to build the jails we need.

Simply stated, there are not enough jails and prisons to house all the of the people in this state who are convicted of crimes. In essence, what we have is a triage approach to punishing the bad guys in our midst. Repeat offenders get the most time. First-timers get the least.

The next time people talk to you about "pro-criminal" judges, ask them to be more specific. Ask yourself if the speaker is someone who is trying to advance a personal agenda not only at the expense of a judge who is not present and able to fight back, but also at the expense of a family that has just been devastated.

You could have a very interesting conversation on your hands.

KP Historical Society & Museum Receives Financial Donation

The Key Peninsula Historical Society & Museum is very grateful to receive a year-end contribution from the "Sunshine Management Services" of the Tacoma/Gig Harbor area. It is support like this that helps with the on-going operations of the Society's museum project located at the Key Peninsula Civic Center in Vaughn.

The Museum is opening for 2001, starting in February. Hours are 1 PM to 4 PM on Thursday and Saturday. For information call 884-4538.

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YESTERDAY'S TEENAGERS!

Key Peninsula Senior Society
by Jim Nolan @ 851-4847

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO EVERYBODY — All on the same day?? Sound possible??

All things are possible to K P Seniors Society planners; so on January 24th KPSS members were able to celebrate birthdays for EVERYONE. The noon potluck that day was spruced-up/spiced-up a bit with a special menu and birthday greetings. Anyone and everyone having a birthday on ANY day of the year was able to celebrate with Swiss steak, mashed potatoes and salad, plus a variety of desserts. Actually, it was real birthday time for long-time member SHIRLEY ROPER-WITT and KPSS President VIRGINIA ADKISSON, both born in January. So, we sang the birthday songs, congratulated Shirley and Virginia and each of us upon being born. No special gifts, but lots of fun, fellowship and a unique way to observe our "whenever" natal days. Come celebrate yours with us — any Thursday at 12 noon at the K P Civic Center in Vaughn. Pot-luck or not, NO charge! Please come and join us any time you are able — PLEASE.

New and holdover officers for the K P Senior Society were formally installed in January and the inauguration included: President, Virginia Adkisson; Vice-President, Jim Blundell; Secretary, Rose Malmgren; Treasurer, Erna Dunn. Each will serve through December of this year.

Have you been following our monthly series of Survey Questions, designed to let you know the opinions of our membership on various items of import (and NON-importance) from time to time?? Well, don't try to follow the SENIOR SURVEY this time, for the simple reason that due to colds, flu, plus other etceteras, we weren't able to complete a survey in January — SURPRISE! We'll try to do one in February for the March 1st column. Please let us know if this feature is REALLY important.

Speaking of letting us know, there's a phone number at the head of this column — USE it to tell us how you like or DIS-like anything we say here. PLUS, if you have a question about our organization, THE KEY PENINSULA SENIOR SOCIETY, just call that number and ask. Love to hear from you, honest!!

By the way, look elsewhere in this issue of the paper for more interesting details on the WINTER VISUALS, coming again this year on Saturday, February 3rd, to the K P Civic Center. It will feature more than 30 artists showing and discussing their works of glass, metal, ceramics, cloth, stone, pastels, watercolors and photography. An added attraction will be the Key Singers and a pianist and bagpiper. Members of the KP Seniors will be providing KITCHEN duty, assuring tasty snacks and drinks all day long. The kitchen service counter is on the right as you enter the Civic Center, just past the door to the Whitmore Room where we meet every Thursday. We'll say "Hello" if you will, maybe even if you don't, so there!

How about an AMAZING STORY: The doctor on duty at the Emergency Room sees a tall man with a FROG attached to his head walking into the facility. "Oh, my goodness, come sit down and tell me how this happened", said the Doctor. "Danged if I know," said the FROG. "Six weeks ago it was just a pimple on my butt."

Sorry for that one — see you next month.

Barrels For Emergency Water Supplies

PEP-C (the Gig Harbor-Key Peninsula Emergency Preparedness Committee) will be selling heavy duty plastic barrels for emergency water supplies to the public the third Saturday of each month from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM at Haven of Rest Cemetery off SR 16. Cost is \$15.00 for 50 gallon container size, \$10.00 for smaller sizes while supplies last. Any questions call 851-3843.

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Valentine's Day Is February 14th!

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Do You "Yo-Yo"?

by Mary Nelson

The toy yo-yo, that colorful disk on a string, is well known for its talent for spinning down to the end of that string and, after a small tug, rolling back up. The faster it is thrown down, the faster it shoots back up.

The majority of overweight people have lost weight many times only to regain it. This up and down pattern is called yo-yo-ing. The worst part of this behavior pattern is that usually more is gained back than was lost. Eventually the person is afraid to try losing weight for fear this yo-yo-ing will result in weight gain instead.

T.O.P.S. (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) advocates slow weight loss and slow life changes that put KNOTS in the yo-yo string. By taking off one pound at a time and learning how to eat so as to keep it off, you just keep going down until you reach your desired weight and stay there!

Tuesday, February 20th, the T.O.P.S. Morning Group will be having an **Open House** from **9:00 - 10:30** at the Home Fire Station on the Key Peninsula Highway in Home. You will meet people in all stages of weight loss and find out what we are all about: Friends, Weight-loss, Fun and Friends. Come by and give us the once-over. There is no obligation on your part. For more information call **Ruth** at 884-9606 or **Dotty** at 884-1721.

Also, you will meet our best losers for the month. First place was **Anna Johnstone**. Despite illness and physical problems, Anna has made us all proud of her progress. **JoAnne Gilkison** came in a close second. Her smiling face is always an encouragement to us all. Stick with it, both of you, and you will reach your goals.

Our group will be cleaning up our "Adopt a Road" area on February 2, weather permitting. If you see us picking up trash, give us a wave, or better yet, join us.

Angel Notes

by Frankie Johnson

Have you been into the Angel Guild Thrift Store lately? Over the holidays our angels cleaned and painted and did some annual overhauls. One of the biggest improvements is in our bathroom/dressing room. Mary and Fred Ramsdell once again came forth to use their time and talents to redo the sink area. Thank you so much, Fred and Mary. Mary is one of our angel ladies. Fred is an honorary angel, too. He has done many projects in the past and we certainly appreciate his efforts.

The past year was a banner year as to the amount of financial help we were privileged to pass on to the Key Peninsula area. It is due to the ongoing support from our loyal patrons and benefactors in the continued donations given so freely to the Guild. We pride ourselves on presenting the best values and prices of any thrift store around. Also, kudos go to our diligent staff who sort, clean and maintain the store. Being a clerk, I have such a good time on my shift. The customers are for the most part my wonderful friends. I was gone on a vacation during December and January. It was SO good to be back. It seemed that everyone who came by on my first day back was a precious gift to me personally. Even the lady whose purse I attempted to sell to her!! She was such a good sport as I opened her handbag to see what treasures she had stashed for me to ring up. It was a funny moment, but you had to be there.

Please keep on with your great donations and patronage of the Angel Guild Thrift Store in beautiful downtown Key Center in the K C Corral.

TACOMA NEWCOMERS' CLUB

We feature monthly luncheons at local sites, socials, book discussions, bridge, other games, as well as outings and sightseeing out of town. COME! Meet new friends, learn about the area and enjoy good company. We usually meet on the 2nd Thursday each month.

Next meeting: Thursday, February 8, 2001.

Location: Lieu's, 12151 Pacific Ave. S., Tacoma, WA

Social: 11:30 AM Lunch: 12:00 Noon

For more information, call Barbara at (253)752-1009.

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29 Years of the K P Parks & Recreation District

By Nancy Lind

In 1972 the community voted to form the Key Peninsula Park and Recreation District. The next year the District leased 20 acres from Pierce County at \$1 per year to develop a Sports Center. In 1974 and '75 the site was logged and graded by volunteers to provide 2 baseball fields, 1 soccer field, 2 tennis courts and a storage building. In 1983, after leasing the property for 10 years, and after many more improvements on the property, the County was asked to sell the site to the Park District for another dollar. The County agreed, and the Sports Center, about 3 miles south of Key Center, has been known as Volunteer Park ever since.

The Rocky Creek Conservation Area has a more recent history. The County was planning to trade this 224 acres to a developer in exchange for a site in Gig Harbor that would then have become a ball park at a cost of \$4 million. After several years of intensive lobbying, in 1998 the 224 acres, designated as Open Space, was leased to the K P Park and Recreation District for 10 years at \$1 a year. For years these 224 acres had been abused by trash dumping, ORV's, target shooting and drug-related activities.

A group known as the Friends of Rocky Creek has been active for almost 3 years getting the site cleaned up, having trails built, planting trees, getting the car hulks out, stopping motorized traffic, and getting fish back into the creek. A group of women from the Correction Center in Purdy come out once a month to help. There are 3 special workdays presently scheduled: Martin Luther King Day in January, Earth Day in April, and Make A Difference Day in October. At 2:00 PM on the last Sunday of each month, people are invited to meet at the big sign to do a Walk-About. Horseback riders are encouraged to use the logging trails.

This once was a pretty scary place, but it's a lot friendlier now. The Rocky Creek Conservation Area is located off Elgin-Clifton Road (SR 302) and 150th (the Lake Holiday entrance). The gravel pit is not a part of the package and therefore is off-limits to the public.

The Friends of Rocky Creek meet the first Wednesday of each month at 2 PM at the Key Center Fire Station. For more information and/or request to work at Rocky Creek, call Nancy Lind at 884-3347. To help support RCCA and/or to be put on the mailing list for RCCA, write to Jan Piercy at P O Box 1014, Wauna, WA 98395.

Those interested in Men & Women's Softball and Adult Baseball (19+ years) should sign up **now**. Call Pat Medveckus at 884-5097 or the Park Office at 884-9240 and leave a message.

For Little League registration, call Marla Hawkins at 851-4430.

For information about Volunteer Park and/or scheduling, call Fred Ramsdell at 884-4834 or Pat Medveckus at 884-5097 or the Park office at 884-9240 and leave a message.

The Park Board meets the second Monday of each month at 7 PM at the Volunteer Park Annex.

Harvest Sharing

The Lakebay Christian Assembly offers its HARVEST SHARING of various foodstuffs to all.

Location: McEwan Road, just off KPHN
Every Wednesday, 2 PM to 5:30 PM

Lakebay Fuchsia Society

Meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month in the Key Center Library at 7: PM. On February 1, Bob Stump will speak on Honey and Mason Bees in our gardens.

Visitors are welcome.

Contact person: Ginnie Aardal 884-9744

Vaughn Bay Garden Club

The February meeting of the Vaughn Bay Garden Club will be held at the home of Colleen Slater, with Cathlee James as co-hostess.

Michael Kerkes will present a program on ferns. A white elephant sale, a popular annual event, will be held.

For information, call 884-5403.

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Veterans' Voices

By Eileen Young



"Award Winner, Steven Simon, and his mother, Debra Simon."

Here we are, into the second month of the year. Sure hope it is treating you and yours with love and kindness.

Those of us involved with Post and Auxiliary are busy preparing for the year ahead. Goods for sales, raffles, fireworks, etc., all part of the necessary activities of the order. Combine this with funerals, visits to nursing homes, VA hospitals, retirement homes and just plain caring for folks in our community makes for very busy members. The necessity for new members becomes very obvious as our ranks become older and less able to carry out our goals. If you would like to be part of all of this, contact a VFW member for an application. We need you and welcome you in advance.

Post 4992 in Silverdale saw a capacity crowd gathered January 6th for the District #4 Essay and Voice of Democracy Awards. Teachers, parents, families and our own members cheered as the winners were announced. Pride and excitement was evident when 4990's winner, Steven Simon, son of members Alvin and Debra Simon, received his first place certificate for his outstanding essay (Grade 7). Who knows? We may have a future Voice of Democracy winner in this patriotic and hard working young man. Congratulations to all and we hope to see you in future competitions.

SPECIAL NOTICE: Key Peninsula WWII veterans are invited to share interests and enjoy barbecued smoked sausage, plus other refreshments on February 21st between 12 N and 4 PM. The Sausage Place above the Trading Post in Key Center is the location and the sponsor is Key Peninsula Post 4990. For more information call Bud Natucci at 884-4555. A similar event will be held at a later date for Korean, Vietnam and Gulf War vets. Watch this space for times and dates.

Thanks to all the folks who donated the used clothes for the vets hospital; Alvin Simon assures us that the clothes are distributed and the men send their sincere appreciation for your thoughtfulness. Louie Aguilar also thanks everyone for contributions of books to the Harbor View Manor retirement home.

The CARE CIRCLE this month includes Alice Palmer, Joe Barrow, Buzz Simon, Judy Wilson and Henry Stock. Jane Gulliver, we hope your hand is healing, and to all the folks laid low by the nasty flu bug making the rounds, get well soon — we care.

We will keep our fingers crossed for Voice of Democracy winner, Nicole Lindquist, who has been nominated for the Patrick Henry Award. Congratulations also to Terry Bryant from Bremerton on being nominated Teacher of the Year.

The Massing of the Colors at Fort Lewis will be held on February 11th at 3PM. Our own Color Guard from 4990 will participate and if you have never seen this event, it is well worth the trip.

From the Ladies Auxiliary, a sincere thanks to all who donated items for the admission kits made for incoming patients in the hospitals and rehabilitation centers. 45 kits were made on January 22, and will be appreciated by our veterans.

Take care, keep well and remember — Whatever your past - you have a spotless future.

Gear Up At The Children's Museum Of Tacoma

Gears & Gadgets: A Look At Simple Machines is a great opportunity for children, and any adults they bring along, to get down to the nuts and bolts of how simple machines really work. Families can experiment with pulleys, levers, wheels, and inclined planes as they move through the walls of an oversized house. This special exhibit will be at the museum until June. Don't miss it. For more happenings at the museum see page 16.



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The Mountain's Shadow Upside Down

By Sylvia Retherford

At 7:45 AM on January 3, 2001, there was a most beautiful and fairly rare occurrence viewed from our house on the shore of Puget Sound in the village of Home on the Key Peninsula. It was a brilliant scarlet sunrise with a huge inverted blue shadow of Mt. Rainier blocking out a large section in the middle of it. This has been seen several times in this area and has been photographed. But this was the most spectacular display we have seen.

This phenomenon requires special conditions. There must be a cirrus cloud cover (sometimes called buttermilk sky) at a higher elevation than The Mountain. The sun rises directly behind The Mountain and projects the inverted shadow on the underside of the cloud layer that is highly colored. We have observed this only in early January and it persists about five minutes before the shadow narrows and disappears as the sun rises. This phenomenon can happen here only in winter and our four previous viewings have all been in early January. This time the show was reflected also on the dark, glassy smooth surface of the water in Von Geldern Cove.

We saw no reference to it in a newspaper nor on radio or TV. We wonder if other areas see this event and also why it seems not to be newsworthy.



Mt. Rainier shadow projected on the underside of clouds, red with sunrise, seen from our front porch.

Jim Mattern, Metal Sculptor

Jim Mattern was born and raised in the state of Washington. A self-taught artist, Jim began sculpting with metal during the late 60's upon returning from Vietnam. As Jim's talent was beginning to unfold, he decided instead to direct his efforts by building a home and providing a secure future for his family. Dreams don't often endure the ravages of time, and yet, after thirty years of striving, he accomplished his original goals. In 1994, he finally answered the call of his life's dream: To sculpt with metal.

Mattern begins the lengthy creative process by drawing freehanded on metal with a piece of soapstone. Hooded and gloved, wearing protective leather clothing, and looking part cowboy, part Darth Vader, Mattern proceeds to the next phase that guarantees an all-fronts assault on the senses. With blinding light from torches, ear piercing clamor from grinders and compressors, and acrid smoke from burning metal, he harnesses the elemental properties of fire, air, and earth to release his inner vision of the beauty of Nature.

The sculptures radiate with a luminous quality of movement. To experience this, look at a piece and move through the room. As light is refracted from the surface it will appear as if an African wind is rustling through the Acacia tree (Serengeti series). Other sculptures are designed, for example,



Serengeti Moon, Set of 3



*Jim Mattern
Metal Sculptor*

to give the effect of cool moonlight reflecting on the water (Monterey Bay by Moonlight series).

The visual beauty of Mattern's sculptures is enhanced when one discovers the hidden "heart" of this artist. As a tribute to the courage and determination of a dear friend, Mattern incorporates a heart when designing most of his pieces. This friend is the 19th heart transplant recipient at the University of Washington's Medical Center. Mattern hopes that by locating the heart in his sculptures one "will locate the 'heart' within and choose to become an organ donor". Look for the heart in other Mattern sculptures.

KEY PENINSULA CIVIC CENTER

Feb. 3rd
WINTER VISUALS

Daily Gym Walk
Monday - Friday
8:00 - 9:00 AM

1
Indoor Park 9:30-11:30
Seniors 10:00-5:00
Museum 1:00-4:00
Bible Talks 6:45-8:45
Karate 7:00-9:00

2
Home School Skate
2:00-4:00
Skate Night 6:30-9:00

3
WINTER VISUALS
Cultural Arts Commission
Noon-5:00
Museum 1:00-4:00

4
KP Baptist Church
9:00-1:00
Community Meal
3:00-4:00

5
MOMS 12:30-4:30
TCC 4:15-5:15
Karate 7:00-9:00
KPCCA Exec. Comm. 7:00

6
WIC 8:00-4:00
Indoor Park 9:30-11:30
Little Buddies 3:00-5:00
Scouts 6:00-9:00
TOPS 6:00-8:00
Dog Obedience
7:00-8:00

7
MOMS 1:30-5:30
TCC 4:15-5:15
LIONS 6:30-10:00
AWANA 6:30-8:30
Bible Study 6:30-8:30

8
Indoor Park 9:30-11:30
Seniors 10:00-5:00
Museum 1:00-4:00
Bible Talks 6:45-8:45
Karate 7:00-9:00
Board Meeting
7:00-9:00

9
Home School Skate
2:00-4:00
Skate Night 6:30-9:00

10
Museum 1:00-4:00

11
KP Baptist Church
9:00-1:00
Community Meal
3:00-4:00

12
MOMS 12:30-4:30
TCC 4:15-5:15
VFW/VFW Aux.
7:00-9:00
Karate 7:00-9:00

13
WIC 8:00-4:00
Indoor Park 9:30-11:30
Little Buddies 3:00-5:00
Scouts 6:00-9:00
TOPS 6:00-8:00
Dog Obedience
7:00-8:00

14
MOMS 1:30-5:30
TCC 4:15-5:15
AWANA 6:30-8:30
Bible Study 6:30-8:30

♥
Happy Valentines

15
Indoor Park 9:30-11:30
Seniors 10:00-5:00
Museum 1:00-4:00
Bible Talks 6:45-8:45
Karate 7:00-9:00

16
Home School Skate
2:00-4:00
Skate Night 6:30-9:00

17
Museum 1:00-4:00

18
KP Baptist Church
9:00-1:00
Community Meal
3:00-4:00

19
MOMS 12:30-4:30
TCC 4:15-5:15
Karate 7:00-9:00



Presidents Day

20
WIC 8:00-4:00
Indoor Park 9:30-11:30
Scouts 6:00-9:00
TOPS 6:00-8:00
Dog Obedience
7:00-8:00

21
MOMS 1:30-5:30
TCC 4:15-5:15
LIONS 6:30-10:00
AWANA 6:30-8:30
Bible Study 6:30-8:30

22
Indoor Park 9:30-11:30
Seniors 10:00-5:00
Museum 1:00-4:00
Bible Talks 6:45-8:45
Karate 7:00-9:00

23
Home School Skate
2:00-4:00
Skate Night 6:30-9:00

24
Museum 1:00-4:00

25
KP Baptist Church
9:00-1:00
Community Dinner
3:00-4:00

26
MOMS 12:30-4:30
TCC 4:15-5:15
VFW/VFW Aux.
7:00-9:00
Karate 7:00-9:00

27
WIC 8:00-4:00
Indoor Park 9:30-11:30
Little Buddies 3:00-5:00
Scouts 6:00-9:00
TOPS 6:00-8:00
Dog Obedience
7:00-8:00

28
MOMS 1:30-5:30
TCC 4:15-5:15
AWANA 6:30-8:30
Bible Study 6:30-8:30

February 2001

We're Doing Our Part!



Peninsula Light Company *A Mutual Corporation*

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13315 GOODNOUGH DR. N.W.
PHONE (253) 857-5950
FAX (253) 857-3100
www.penlight.org

In view of the energy crisis, we at Peninsula Light Company endorse Governor Locke's goal of a 10% reduction in energy consumption this winter. We immediately took the following steps:

- Reduced the temperature in our office by 1° F.
- Installed occupancy sensor light switches in each office.
- Asked each employee to turn off their computer at night.
- Installed timer on hot water tank.

We estimate our net savings in the month of January to be 11,264 kwh.

Because of our longstanding commitment to conservation, Peninsula Light had previously retrofitted existing fluorescent lights from 40 watt T12 (1 1/2" diameter) to 32 watt T8 (1" diameter). We changed from magnetic ballast to electronic, allowing immediate on/off capability and eliminating unnecessary heat output. We also installed occupancy sensors in all common areas.

We encourage our membership to follow our lead in helping to reduce energy consumption in the region and protect the quality of life we enjoy. By working together, we can help avoid blackouts and damage to the power grid.

Peninsula Light Company is committed to reaching this goal. In fact, we will be reporting on our progress.

Here are just a few ideas on how you can do your part:

- Turn off lights when not in use.
- Turn down thermostats and limit the use of portable space heaters to evening or weekend hours when central heating systems are off.
- Turn down water heaters to 120° F.
- Install compact fluorescent bulbs.

Energy Savers—Tips on Saving Energy & Money at Home is available for free in our lobby, or call today at (253) 857-5950 for your booklet.

Please Join Our Efforts!

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Working Against Domestic Violence - A Community Responsibility

by Alisa Velonis, Prevention Specialist, Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department

Domestic violence affects everyone. Even if we have not personally experienced a violent relationship, we probably know someone who has. A recent survey conducted by the National Institutes of Justice and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported that nearly 25% of women (1 in 4) surveyed had been raped and/or physically assaulted by a current or former spouse, partner, or date at some point in their lives. In Pierce County, over 3,500 people called the Pierce County Domestic Violence Helpline last year, and we know that there were many others who experienced violence within a relationship who didn't call. Clearly, violence in intimate and family relationships is widespread in our communities.

Many of us witness family violence without ever recognizing it. We may have a colleague whose husband "checks up" on her several times a day and asks who she's been with. Or we may find ourselves unable to go out with a friend whose new boyfriend won't allow her to socialize alone (because he "just can't stand to share her with anyone"). Or we may realize that this is the third time that our sister has fallen down the stairs and can't make it over for dinner. But because we don't witness the violence daily, it's easy to assume that we are seeing a quirk in an otherwise good relationship.

Sometimes we minimize the violence, tell ourselves - or believe others - that the abuser lost control because of "stress at work" or "financial problems". Family violence is *not* about stress, nor about alcohol or drug use, unemployment, anger, or relationship problems. It is not about anything that a victim says or does. These serve as excuses to explain the abuse, but they do not cause the abuse (how many of us hit our bosses when we get angry?). Only the *abuser* causes the abuse.

More importantly, family violence is not about a loss of control, but about maintaining control. One partner uses power to control another person. Whether that power is manifested in the form of denigration, threats, intimidation, isolation, or physical violence, it does not represent a loss of control, and should not be excused as such.

But what can we do? Lots. We can model equitable relationships for our children, creating norms that discourage violent behavior. We can ask what our workplaces are doing to support victims of domestic violence, what our faith communities are doing to respond. We can provide help for our neighbors if they need it. We can respond to victims non-judgmentally, not saying "why don't you just leave," but asking "how can I help?" The Pierce County Commission Against Domestic Violence suggests five things to say to someone living with domestic violence:

- * You don't deserve to be abused
- * I'm afraid for your safety
- * I'm afraid for the safety of your children
- * The violence will get worse
- * There are people to help when you are ready

If you are experiencing violence in a relationship or would like to help a friend who is, contact the Pierce County Domestic Violence Helpline at 253/798-4166.

This Bill is For the Birds

by Colleen Slater

I have a new man in my life - a quiet, unassuming helper who has come to live with us. His name is Bill, and his job is feeding the birds. The gift of the Reiman Publishing Company, Bill-Bird-in-Hand is a life-size figure which draws the birds to eat from his outstretched hand. Then, switching his shirt and cap onto myself, I, too, can feed the little feathered creatures from my own hand.

The prototype has been extremely successful, and although I haven't yet ventured forth to check it out, it will happen soon. The little juncos, finches, chickadees and other small birds clean up the goodies provided by Bill. A Stellar's Jay comes by now and then for a taste, too. This is one of a pair who have figured out how to grab bits from the suet feeder and even eat from the feeder which supposedly keeps the larger birds away. The Jays are colorful, and we enjoy having them come by. They don't clean out the feeders and the little ones are soon back. Now if an adventurous crow shows up, I'll be more aggressive at chasing that big bird away.

The new year should provide some interesting "close encounters of the bird kind" for our visitors and ourselves.

Key Singers Sponsor Valentine's Day Dance

The Key Singers are sponsoring a Valentine Dance at the Longbranch Improvement Club, February 10, 2001, at 8:00 PM.

Music will be provided by "SWING FEVER", an 18-piece orchestra that features big band music from the 40's and 50's, as well as selections from more recent times.

Tickets are \$10.00 per person and may be purchased at the door. A "No Host Bar" will be provided.

This promises to be a fun evening and a great way to get into the "SWING" of the new year!

DON'T MISS IT!

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Sunday
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IN THE LIBRARY

Colleen K. Carrigan's exhibit **A Passion for Flowers** is on display at the Key Center Library through the month of February. There will be an opportunity on Saturday, February 3 at 1PM to meet and talk with the artist. Colleen will talk about the evolution of the plant kingdom, the evolution of her own garden, her inspirations from flowers in the wild and Georgia O'Keeffe.

Colleen brings to her paintings the perspective of gardener, biologist, keen observer and artist. She will closely observe a bloom for five to ten hours as she translates the joy of that experience into a painting.

She has also written and illustrated a beautiful counting book for children using flowers and insects as the theme. As a biologist, she has studied fresh water snails, damsel flies, marine and freshwater fish and tropical sharks.

Join us for this celebration of flowers!

This free program is sponsored by the Friends of the Key Center Library. Refreshments will be served.

FAMILY STORYTIMES for all ages will continue through March 23 each Friday at 10:30 AM. Individuals and groups are welcome. This is a great way to introduce children to the library, to learn to be a part of a group listening and participating in activities.

LOCAL INFORMATION HOTLINES

RED TIDE HOTLINE

Call 1-800-562-5632

To find information about the latest information about red tide warnings.

BURN BAN

Call 1-800-595-4341

To get the latest notice about indoor and outdoor burning in the local area.

WINTER PASS REPORTS

Call 206-DOT-HIWAY or 1-800-695-ROAD

To get the latest information on road conditions and high-mountain-pass situations.



Roll On, Columbia, Roll On

Made possible by the Washington Commission for the Humanities, a program featuring Carl Allen, Woody Guthrie: The Columbia River Songs, will be presented Thursday, March 1st, at 7 PM at the Fox Island Chapel on Echo Bay, 400 6th Avenue, Fox Island. Allen portrays Guthrie through narration and song, conveying the power of music to affect the way people think about their environment and politics. More information is available at 253-549-7039.

Two earlier programs in this series are Ezra Meeker: Those Terrible Treasures, on Thursday, February 1st at 7 PM, at the Gig Harbor Peninsula Historical Society and Museum, with Raymond Egan portraying Meeker; and A Change of Worlds: Photographs of Puget Sound Native Americans 1855-1955, with Greg Watson, at the Peninsula Library, 4424 Pt. Fosdick Drive NW, Gig Harbor, on Thursday, February 15, at 7 PM. For more information on this program, call 851-3793. For more information on the Ezra Meeker program, call 858-6722.

You said you like to see
Your name appear in print,
So as fast as I can be,
I finally took your "hint".

Happy Birthday,
Esther!

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Happy Valentine's Day
February 14th!

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE

30 GALLONS (6 five gallon buckets). RubStar M800, reflective rubber asphalt for waterproofing roofing or other surfaces. Make an offer - Best offer accepted. Contact Loyd Miller 884-2536 or the Key Peninsula Civic Center at 884-3456.

Home Feed & Grocery

Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-10:00 PM

Sat. 9:00 AM-10:00 PM

Sun. 9:00 AM-9:00 PM

Holidays 10:00 AM-6:00 PM

Corner 4th & KPN, Lakebay

884-2321

KEY PENINSULA BAPTIST CHURCH. Meeting Sunday mornings at Key Peninsula Civic Center in Vaughn. Bible Study 9:30 AM, Worship Service 11:00 AM, Wednesday AWANAS 6:45 PM. Pastor James Rouse - Phone 884-9994.

DEADLINE for the KP News classifieds ads is the 20th of each month, call 884-4699 to place your ad.

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ANGEL GUILD THRIFT STORE. K.C. Corral, 10 AM to 4 PM Wednesday through Friday, Saturday - 10 AM to 3 PM. In store specials weekly. All proceeds benefit the Key Peninsula. 884-9333.

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Don't Miss Winter Visuals

at the
Key Peninsula Civic Center
Saturday, February 3rd
12 to 5:00 PM

Refreshments served by the KP Seniors

KEY TO LEARNING CHILDCARE in Key Center - **Fall AM Preschool** openings, incredible playground!! Educational activities. Full or Part-time care. 22 years experience. Call to arrange a visit.

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The Garden In February 2001

by Sylvia Retherford
(253) 884-2487



February is a good time to establish orchard trees. Choosing favorable varieties for our area is difficult. Of apples, Liberty, Akane, Chehalis, Prima and Sparta are some of the best. Gravenstein and Granny Smith are more subject to insect damage and disease. For small gardens, three or four varieties grafted into one tree may be a good choice.

Frost is the only variety of peach that is dependable in this area. It blooms in March and its delightful fruit ripens in August. Puget Gold is the only apricot advised. Most plums and Italian prunes produce well. Standard pears and Asian pears (Korean Giant) do well and ripen in mid-September. Sweet cherries produce a crop that the birds consume before they are ripe enough for humans to enjoy. A small tree that could be netted might be an answer. Good directions for planting come with young trees purchased at a nursery.

Slugs and snails have not become a problem yet but weeds have. Ralph Waldo Emerson had a good definition: "What is a weed? A plant whose virtues have not yet been discovered." In spite of that, weed management is time consuming and frustrating. Don't expect perfection. How many can you tolerate?

Weeds are classified into three groups: (1) annuals that germinate, grow, flower and die in one season; (2) biennials produce leaves and store food in the first year and seed the second year; (3) perennials live from year to year and tops may die down but roots persist. Never let any weed go to seed in or near the garden. Seeds can be blown in or dropped by birds so this is not a perfect answer. Hand pulling or hoeing are good for annuals and biennials, but roots must be dug out for perennials. The commonest perennial weeds are buttercup, horsetail, morning glory, quack grass, clover and in my garden, violets.

February is the time to plant seed of lettuce, spinach, parsley and peas if you have a well-drained spot. Each year is different, of course, but usually lettuce and spinach can be eaten in April and peas in May. Parsley will last all summer long and set seed to be harvested in late fall.

The flower garden is blooming with early bulbs, primroses and Hellebores. Daphne odora and Sarcococca are perfuming the area.

Questions & Answers

Financial Focus

Submitted by Connie R. Rose

More Estate Planning Ideas

Creating your estate plan is an important task for you and your loved ones. Only through careful planning can you be assured that you and your beneficiaries will be cared for as you desire. Here are an additional five ideas for you to consider:

1. Determine Your Taxable Estate

It's important to distinguish between your probate estate and your taxable estate. Your taxable estate consists of the value of your gross estate (the fair market value of all your assets), less any deductions. The estate tax is a transfer tax the U.S. government imposes on the assets or property you transfer to other people at the time of your death. These taxes can consume up to 55 percent of your estate. Discuss estate tax planning with your professional advisers.

2. Take Advantage of Estate-tax Exemptions

The Unified Tax Credit allows you to pass \$675,000 to beneficiaries estate tax free in 2000 or 2001. A married couple who plan carefully can take advantage of two exclusions, effectively passing \$1.35 million to beneficiaries free from estate tax. The amount of the exclusion will increase to \$1 million per person in 2006. The exemption can be used while you are living or after you are gone. However, it is important to keep in mind that this is a "use or lose" credit. Married couple must have the proper planning in place to use both available exclusions, or one will be lost.

3. Plan For Incapacity

We've mentioned planning for your survivors upon your death, but what if you are unable to manage your affairs while you are alive? A Durable Power of Attorney allows you to designate someone to manage your financial affairs. This person is known as your attorney-in-fact. A health care directive, or proxy, can be drafted to allow someone to make certain health care decisions for you if you should be unable to do so for yourself.

4. Protect Your Assets With Insurance

Medical expenses in your later years can devour the estate you've worked so hard to accumulate. Even worse, you may end up drawing on your children's or family's resources as you struggle to pay for nursing home care. Long-term care insurance and life insurance can help. For example, life insurance can protect your survivors from the loss of your earning capacity and can provide cash for your family to help pay taxes and/or expenses when settling your estate.

5. Assemble Your Team

Now that you know some of the issues you should be considering as you begin the estate planning process, the next step is to put together a team of professionals who can help you make decisions that are right for you. Use the tips we've provided (this month and last) and talk with your investment representative, your attorney and your tax adviser about your particular situation.

No woman can afford to miss this!

Van Kampen Funds "Smart Women Finish Rich™" Financial Planning Seminar

Start improving the quality of your financial life right away with seven simple steps.

"Smart Women Finish Rich™", based on the best selling book by David Bach, Broadway Books 1999, is a fun, educational seminar specifically designed for women. It provides you with seven steps to help you live a richer life.

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Connie Rose Edward Jones Investments - 253-853-7988

cordially invites you to "Smart Women Finish Rich™", an educational seminar that can help you plan for financial security and to seek your dreams.

Wednesday, February 7, 2001, 7:00 PM at The Inn at Gig Harbor
This seminar is free, but seating is limited, call for reservations.

Before investing, request a prospectus from your financial professional and read it carefully. The prospectus contains more complete information including a discussion of risk considerations, charges and ongoing expenses.

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Key Peninsula World War II Vets

are inviting you to share interest and enjoy BBQ sausage, snacks and good conversation with fellow veterans

February 21 from 12:00 - 4:00 PM at

The Sausage Place
(above the Trading Post)

Key Center

Sponsored by Veterans of Foreign Wars Post # 4990

Key Peninsula

Contact Bud Natucci at 884-4555

Notice To Contributors

Please submit material to the Key Peninsula News before the 20th of each month. Hard copy and PC disk, preferably in Microsoft Word and in 10 Point, Times New Roman font are useful, and pictures are welcome.

We reserve the right to edit all material.

If you give us pictures or disks, we will have them back in the KPCC office as soon as the paper comes out. Please stop by to pick them up during office hours - 1:00 PM to 6:00 PM,

Tuesday through Friday

or call 884-2213 for information.

Ann and Marty

Children's Museum of Tacoma

MUSEUM HOURS:

Tuesday - Saturday
10:00 AM - 5:00 PM

FIRST FRIDAYS FREE: February 2, 1001 from 10:00 AM - 9:00 PM.

Visitors can enjoy the museum for free on the first Friday of each month. Sponsored by Milgard Manufacturing, Inc.

W.O.W. WEE ONES WEEKLY: Join us each Tuesday and Wednesday from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM for some toddler fun!

TUNES

Tuesday, February 6th

Wednesday, February 7th

Tuesday, February 20th

Wednesday, February 21st

W.O.W. PROGRAMMING THEMES

February 13th and 14th Lacy Hearts

February 27th and 28th Fabulous Foot Prints

SUPER SATURDAY SURPRISE: Saturday February 10th, 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM.

Valentine Wreaths: Warm someone's heart with a special wreath for his or her door.

Super Saturday Surprise is FREE with admission. Call (253) 627-6031 for more details.

CURIOSITY CORNER THEMES: Each week the museum's Curiosity Corner features a new theme.

February 1st - 7th National Pet Owners' Month:

We'll share information about proper pet care and ownership and you can make a special frame to hold Fluffy and Fido's photo.

February 8th - 14th Valentine Collage: Come and collage a beautiful Valentine's Day Heart for someone special.

February 15th - 24th Year of the Snake: Gung Hay Fat Choy! 2001 is the Chinese Year of the Snake. Come create a slithery project and learn about the other animals represented in the Chinese Lunar calendar.

February 26th - March 3rd Dr. Seuss' Birthday:

Theodore Geisel, better known as Dr. Seuss, was born March 2nd, 1904. To celebrate this beloved author/illustrator's birthday, we'll have his books and a fun project in Curiosity Corner. Who's your favorite Seuss character -- The Cat in the Hat, or maybe Sam I Am?

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