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April 14-18
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THE VOICE OF THE KEY PENINSULA

VOL. 43 NO. 4

INSIDE&ONLINE

APRIL 2014

Online



Happy Paws

- Middle school robotics tourney
- Minter mural
- Fire District 16 fire reports

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winner from
KPMS

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Local group knits for those in need

By Alice Kinerk, KP News

When Virginia Gallyer sees an unmet need in the community, she works to meet that need, even when it means helping to found a new charitable organization from the ground up.

In 2009, Gallyer saw that the patients of Dr. Frank Senacal needed hats, slippers and other knit items to keep them comfortable during their cancer treatments with the St. Anthony's Hospital oncologist.

Gallyer, who had lost her husband to cancer 13 years earlier, contacted a few friends, including Cyndi Kelly, and together the women began scouring local thrift stores for yarn. They met to knit on a regular basis, and began donating their finished items.

It wasn't long before word of the group spread, and Gallyer and Kelly soon had many eager knitters, as well as donated yarn. Their new group needed a name. Kelly's mother suggested "Loving Hearts." It stuck.

The next step was finding a location



Photo by Scott Turner, KP News

Lucy Potts knits a cap for a chemo patient during a recent Loving Hearts work session at the WayPoint Church. Other knitters were there, too. Also pictured are (from left) Betty Miller, Christine Webster and Lynn Murphy.

to meet and knit. Gallyer, a member of Key Peninsula WayPoint Church, asked pastor Tim Stobbe if room was available at the church. From the outset,

Stobbe was happy to help, she said. Initially the group met in the church nurs-

(See **Knitters**, Page 4)

School board approves two funding issues for August ballot

By Rick Sorrels, KP News

Both a capital bond issue and a contingent capital levy will appear on the August primary ballot for Key Peninsula and Gig Harbor Peninsula voters. Both measures were approved unanimously by the Peninsula School Board at its regular meeting on March 6.

Both proposals are very similar in where the money will be spent: new elementary school at Gig Harbor North; replacement of Artondale Elementary; health, safety and security upgrades throughout the district; field and track upgrades; KPMS upgrades; and technology upgrades and/or middle school science classrooms.

The difference is in how these capital improvements will be financed, either by a \$60 million bond, or by a \$55.9 mil-

lion levy. For the bond, homeowners will see property taxes increased about 91 cents per \$1000 valuation, or about \$275 per year for a \$250,000 home. The levy rate would be \$1.19, or \$298 per year. There are significant differences in financing costs, duration, and when the funds are available.

Some of the school board members felt very strongly about a bond, others strongly for a levy, and some flip-flopped back and forth. Their consensus was that both measures would be put to the voters, along with educational efforts, and that the voters would decide which way to go.

The bond measure requires a 60 percent majority to pass. The levy requires 50 percent to pass.

The "contingent" term kicks in after the votes are counted.

(See **Ballot**, Page 4)

FD 16 board meets to discuss qualifications for new chief

By Peter Ruble, KP News

Commissioners with the Key Peninsula Fire Department began the planning stages of replacing former Fire Chief Tom Lique during a March 10 board meeting.

Board Chairperson Raymond Lamoureux and his fellow board members discussed the desired qualifications for a new chief.

The next meeting is set for 3 p.m., March 25, at the Key Center fire station. Interim Fire Chief Guy Allen, who plans on competing for the permanent position, says the process should take 10 to 12 months.

Lamoureux said he is certain that an outside consulting firm will need to be hired to find a chief, and he plans on having a national search that focuses on "southern states."

Lamoureux said there aren't enough resources to do it in house.

"We are primed and ready to move for-



Photo by Peter Ruble, KP News

Raymond Lamoureux is the board chairperson for the Key Peninsula Fire Department.

ward with great things," said Lamoureux. "We don't want to stay in the status quo."

During the brainstorming session on March 10, the board came up with a list of qualifications for a new chief. Although they

had specifics, commissioner Sheila Niven cautioned against pigeon-holing a candidate and missing out on an exceptional candidate who might have intangible leadership skills. "It's the drive that we're looking for," Niven said.

According to Lamoureux, the board wants a chief with at least a bachelor's degree in business management or fire-related public relations, but a master's degree is preferred. He said the he would like someone who has been with their current department for at least 10 years, and has had five years of experience as a battalion chief. He said that experience managing a budget of \$3 million to \$5 million is preferred.

According to Niven, the board is seeking someone with an open mind and progressive personality with strong social skills. Ideally, the candidate would be family-oriented and would want to live within the district, she said.

Bike races coming to 360 Trails

On April 6, the Washington State Student League will host the second mountain bike race in its series at Key Peninsula's 360 Trails.

Riders from the state's middle and high schools will be divided into 10 groups of comparable age and skill.

Racing will start with varsity girls at 10 a.m. A second start of 11:45 a.m. is posted for the remaining riders, including the varsity boys.

These races will start in Gateway Park, off of the Key Peninsula Highway, just west of Lake Kathryn Village.

For information or to sign up for the event, visit washingtonleague.org/races.

For information about Key Peninsula's parks, visit keypenparks.com.

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KEY PENINSULA NEWS

www.keypennews.com

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

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

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

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

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

APRIL 2014



Key Pen Parks PROGRAM GUIDE

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

REGISTER ONLINE: www.keypenparks.com

Spring Break CAMPS

Grades K-5 Eco Adventures and LEGO Camps!

ECO ADVENTURE: ORIENTEERING & ARCHERY

Hands-on learning with Seymour Naturalists. Play with compasses and arrows! LUNCH INCLUDED!

Day: Mon. April 14th

Time: 10:00am-3:00pm

Fee: \$30

Location: Camp Seymour



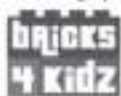
LEGO: CHI Challenge w Chima Speedorz

Use Chima skills to build motorized racing Speedorz!

Day: Tues. April 15th

Time: 9:30am-12:30pm

Fee: \$25



LEGO: Ninja Camp using Ninjago Spinners

Explore Ninjago including battling Spinjitzu spinners!

Day: Thurs. April 17th

Time: 9:30am-12:30pm

Fee: \$25



At LEGO Camps with Bricks 4 Kidz, the "models" are designed for different skill levels, appropriate for all ages and abilities, even the motorized models!

ECO ADVENTURE: Creatures of the Sea

Hands-on learning with Harbor WildWatch: the food web, beaches, and making our own sea creatures!

Day: Wed. April 16th

Time: 1:30-4:00pm

Fee: \$15

Location: Volunteer Park



UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES:

- Mon. April 14th Park Board Mtg 7:30pm @ Volunteer Park (7:00pm study session) PUBLIC IS WELCOME & INVITED!

PET EASTER TREAT HUNT

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

10:00 Check in/photos/crafts
10:30 The HUNT begins
11:15 Wags N Whiskers 4H Show
11:30 Costume Contest Winners Announced

AMAZING RESOURCE BOOTHS:

- The Humane Society
 - Olympic Bird Fanciers (live birds!)
 - Wags N Whiskers 4H
- Thanks to our other sponsors too: Petco, Brookside Veterinarian, Mud Bay & Hawthwood

**SATURDAY
APRIL 12
@ VOLUNTEER PARK
10:00AM-12:00PM**

FREE COMMUNITY EVENT!

BRING DONATION OF HUMAN OR PET FOOD FOR THE FOOD BANK!

PeeWee Soccer

Instructor: Kidz Love Soccer

Day: Mondays Dates: Apr 21 - June 16

Classes: 8 Fee: \$68

Location: Volunteer Park Field 2

Class	Times	Ages
Mom/Dad & Me	3:20-3:50pm	2-3.5 yrs
Tot Soccer	4:00-4:30pm	3.5-4 yrs
Pre Soccer	4:30-5:05pm	4-5 yrs
Soccer 1	5:05-5:50pm	5-6 yrs
Soccer 2: Skills & Scrimmages	5:50-6:35pm	7-10 yrs

**KIDZ
LOVE
SOCCER**



NEW CLASS

FITNESS CAMP

SPRING 1 & 2 SESSIONS

Instructor: Shannon Reichl Ages: 16+

Location: Volunteer Park (indoor & outdoor)

Day: Tues & Thurs Time: 6-7pm

Dates: Apr 1 - May 8, May 13 - June 19

Fee: \$30 for 1 class/week, \$60 for 2

Join mid-session and we will provide the fee!

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



Sat. April 26
9am-12pm

Join us at one of our KP Sites:

- Volunteer Park
- Gateway Gardens/360 Trails
- KP Civic Center
- Rocky Creek Trails
- Purdy Spit (thank you Harbor WildWatch team!)

WHAT SHOULD I BRING?

Volunteers should wear appropriate clothes and shoes for the season, weather, and work. Bring gloves, shears, gardening tools, pruners, rakes, shovels—and be sure to label them. Most of all bring your enthusiasm, smiles, and appreciation for our parks. We start at 9:00am, hotdog lunch at noon for volunteers at Volunteer Park. See you on April 26th!

KP Community



Garden

PLOTS AVAILABLE NOW! \$50 for 1, \$90 for 2

Location: Behind SunnyCrest Nursery in Key Center (92nd St KPN)
To reserve a plot: online or call 884-9240 x22

WONDERS OF SPRING

Blooming Beauties

ORNAMENTAL TREES - Plums, cherries, magnolias
SHRUBS - Rhododendrons, lilac, kerria, viburnums





Vegetable Gardening Time!

Cool weather varieties now available
 Cauliflower • Spinach • Broccoli
 Beets • Onions • Lettuce • Cabbage

End of April sees the arrival of everyone's favorites
 Tomatoes • Peppers • Squash



ANNUALS

Great color for sun and shade

- Geraniums • Impatiens
- Petunias - cool new ones
- Begonias • Fuchsia
- Many other favorites and unusual packs, 4-inch, gallons

Sedums 101
 11 a.m. Sat., April 12 - FREE!
 Go beyond hens and chicks in your rockery. Learn how sedums can landscape, decorate and become a great addition to the garden.

Piet Karsseboom, of "T&L" Perennial Growers, will share his passion for these succulents

Mason Bees

The friendly pollinators

This is prime time to encourage these superb pollinators (95% more effective than honey bees) to build habitats in the garden

- DORMANT LIVE BEES
- HOUSING AND COMPLETE SYSTEMS

SEED POTATOES are here!
 All organic - 11 varieties
 6 varieties of fingerlings
 1# of seed will produce
 10#'s of potatoes



Moss Basket Class

11 a.m. Sat. April 19
 Class fee \$40

Create your own color & texture filled moss basket that you can enjoy all summer. Fee includes all materials. Class size is limited. Call now to reserve space.

Best Buys - April

Weeks roses
 25% off bare root
 America's favorite flower

Strawberries
 6 bare root plants - \$4.99
 Seven varieties!

Blooming Rhododendrons
 Washington's state flower
 1 gallon & 5 gallon sizes

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Check us out on Facebook to see our latest weekly sales

(From **Knitters**, Page 1)

ery but as their numbers grew, they moved to a larger room.

Today, there are about 25 members of Loving Hearts, 15 or so of whom meet twice a month at WayPoint Church to enjoy knitting and crocheting together. Others stop by during the meeting to pick up yarn and drop off finished items.

Last year, the group knit and crocheted 1,365 items. They were donated to a number of local charities, including Backpacks 4 Kids, CareNet, St. Anthony's oncology department and Providence St. Peter Hospital in Olympia. The largest share of their donations goes to Retsil Veterans Home in Port Orchard. Items donated to Retsil include prayer shawls, wheelchair bags, walker bags and slippers, among others, Gallyer said.

Diane White read about Loving Hearts in the Key Peninsula News a few years ago. She liked the idea of the group, but was too busy to join right away. "I was still working then, and it wasn't until I retired that I thought I would like to take part, follow up and actually go to meetings," White said.

These days, White does much more than just attend meetings. She handles clerical work for the organization, typing up the letters that accompany donations to each charity. She also keeps track of the number of items donated. She coordinates with Backpacks 4

Kids, and also sorts the knit items by gender.

Once a month, White travels to Fife, where a second Loving Hearts group formed about two years ago. Although the Fife knitters donate finished items to charities within their own community, it is the KP Loving Hearts that furnishes their yarn. A third Loving Hearts group formed in Shelton last year.

The group is seeking new knitters. They are even willing to teach interested folks how to knit or crochet if necessary. "We always love having new people," White said.

The twice-monthly meetings at WayPoint Church are designed to fit into busy schedules, with one meeting scheduled for evening and one for daytime. The knitters themselves enjoy knitting for free, allowing them to share a beloved hobby while simultaneously giving back to the community. "It's nice because people don't have to buy yarn," White said.

Organizers say that Loving Hearts is always in need of yarn donations.

"We really appreciate the donations the public gives us over the years because we funded it ourselves first," Kelly said. They also are eager for new volunteers.

Yarn donations can be dropped off at WayPoint Church, 12719 134th Ave. KPN. Anyone interested in knitting or crocheting with the group can contact Gallyer at (253) 884-9619.

(From **Ballot**, Page 1)

If only one measure passes, then that is what happens. If both measures pass, then the "contingency" wording in the voters pamphlet will be that only \$2 million of the \$55.9 million levy will be used and applied to the \$60 million bond measure.

At the Feb. 6 school board meeting, the organization that opposed the No-

vember schools levy (Citizens for Responsible School Spending) agreed to support the \$50 million bond, but was surprised when the commissioners also decided to place the levy on the ballot, in apparent disregard to their agreement.

Jerry Gibbs, spokesperson for the opposition committee, said, "By April 1, our committee will decide which measure we will support and which we will oppose."

Terry Lee withdraws from County Council race

Terry Lee has withdrawn his candidacy for Pierce County councilmember. The November race will be between incum-

bent Stan Flemming and challenger Derek Young. Candidate filing dates are May 12 through May 16.



Classified employees provide key support **2013-14 School Year Student Transfers**

More than 500 classified employees support the Peninsula School District, comprising about half of all the PSD staff. Classified professionals work largely behind the scenes to ensure the students have the best educational experience.

They work in office settings, transport students, ensure buildings are cleaned daily, prepare and serve meals, maintain facilities and grounds, and work with students in small groups for extra support. They also ensure the business side of the district runs smoothly and efficiently.

"All these folks are dedicated, hard-working individuals" says Barb Trotter, secretary at Key Peninsula Middle School and president of the classified union. "They show up for work every day to provide the very best environment for our students to learn."

In her 20-year career with the Peninsula School District, Cindy Lippert has worked in a variety of roles — from paraeducator at Peninsula High and health technician at all four middle schools to secretary at Gig Harbor High.

Now in her third year as the office manager at



Henderson Bay High School office manager Cindy Lippert says working at the school is the highlight of her PSD career.

Henderson Bay High School, Lippert does everything from supporting the principal and teaching staff to planning graduations and helping students apply for scholarships.

"This is a school of choice. The students made a choice to come here and I chose to come here," she says. "Every staff member gives 150 percent and they care for all the students' needs. It's a special place."

As we prepare for the redistricting of our elementary schools and make plans to accommodate the explosive growth taking place in north Gig Harbor, new out-of-district transfer requests will be impacted as follows:

- No new out-of-district transfers will be accepted at grades K through 5
- No new out-of-district transfers will be accepted at Harbor Ridge Middle School

Fillable transfer forms and school district transfer policies are available at www.psd401.net at the Family drop down menu under the Transfers tab.

Completed forms must be returned to the district office via e-mail, post, or drop-off, no later than April 30. If you have questions please call Roxann Tallman at 253-530-1007.

School Year Calendars

The 2014-15 and 2015-16 student academic calendars are posted to the district website at www.psd401.net. Click the Calendar scroll down menu. They were approved by the board of directors at the March 6, 2014 meeting; however, they remain subject to change due to state testing dates.

Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten registration is ongoing in your neighborhood schools. Early registration aids the school district in planning for the upcoming school year. Thank you!

Future Capital Project Information

PSD wants to continue sharing information with you about funding for future capital projects. Follow the links at the district website www.psd401.net to find out more and to review the materials presented at the most recent community meetings. New materials will be added as available, so please check back often.

Peninsula School District participates in field test - Peninsula School District students in grades 3-8 and selected 9th graders will participate in the Smarter Balanced Assessment Field Test this spring. Participation is confidential and there will be no impact on grades.

This is a very exciting opportunity for our district. Students will be able to try out new, online testing software and innovative question types that will be very similar on future Smarter Balanced assessments. By participating in the field test, our students will be influencing the development of future Smarter Balanced assessments used in our schools.

If you would like more information and access to practice tests, please visit the Smarter Balanced website at www.smarter-balanced.org or go directly to the tests: sbac.portal.airast.org.

Nondiscrimination Statement The Peninsula School District does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, honorably discharged veteran or military status, sexual orientation including gender expression or identity, the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. Inquiries regarding compliance and/or grievance procedures may be directed to the District's Title IX and Compliance Officer, Dan Gregory, at (253) 530-1009, email gregoryd@psd401.net or the Section 504 and ADA Coordinator, Sean Whalen, at (253) 530-1080, email whalens@psd401.net. Mailing address: 14015 62nd Ave. NW, Gig Harbor, WA 98332.

Peninsula Views

Are we living with an open government or a secret society?

The public has a “right to know.” Elected and appointed officials are responsible to the people. The public does not yield its sovereignty to elected officials. These principles are codified in statutes by the Open Public Meeting Act (OPMA) and the Public Records Act.

Actions prohibited by law include secret meetings, secret ballots, secret deliberations (discussions), withholding documents from the public, etc. These prohibitions affect almost anything that a government official does. The list of “exceptions” is short. There is no right to privacy when there is a “legitimate concern to the public.”

Human nature is to conceal “mistakes” and anything that would be questioned. The state attorney general and the state auditor are in constant battle with local governments who frequently misunderstand, or, through intent or ignorance, violate their mandate with the public.

The courts have ruled that serial discussions between individual board members who want to exchange information on an issue outside of official meetings in person, by email or other means, is a violation of OPMA.

The statutes provide for “executive sessions,” outside of public oversight, in very limited circumstances, but when a motion is made bringing it to the table for consideration or vote, the “secrecy” of an executive session is lifted. The statutes require that all deliberations on

Rick Sorrels
The Pragmatic Sophist



an issue must be made public.

When a local government comes out of executive session, and a motion is made and voted upon without any discussion or explanation, there is an obvious failure to comply with the statutes.

Federal law requires that individual rights to privacy exist for certain medical records and health conditions, but no such rights exist for personnel or disciplinary records. The state ombudsman for OPMA and public disclosure states that the public has an absolute right to be informed of inappropriate actions by government officials and employees.

The executive officer for one of our local municipal governments has just left office under a “gag” agreement, where all parties are prohibited from saying anything “disparaging.” A similar gag agreement was used with his predecessor. A gag agreement of any sort is anathema (intensely opposed) to the concept of open government.

The Key Peninsula has experienced some good elected officials, but also some who were tyrants, ineffective or retired-in-place.

Our local municipal governments are the lowest rung on the political ladder. Our officials all enter office with the

(See Sorrels, Page 7)

What’s in a name?

In April, Christians will be celebrating Easter, a day marked by hope, surprise, astonishment and joy.

There is a poignant moment early on the first Paschal morning. Mary stands beside the empty grave crying, trying to make sense of it all. Jesus appears to her, but she doesn’t know it is him. He asks why she is crying; she says she can’t find her friend.

Then Jesus spoke her name, “Mary,” and suddenly she knew. Her friend, the one so recently dead, was standing in front of her, very much alive. All it took was hearing her name, spoken on his lips.

There is power in a name. Speaking a name acknowledges the worth and dignity of every human being. Christians read in the story of creation that humans carry the image of God in our frail frames. There is goodness in men and women, young and old; we are beautiful creatures, each worthy of respect and honor.

When I lived in California, people would ask me what I thought about “the illegals.” Or they would ask what I thought “about the Mexicans.” It was hard to know how to answer that question, because I didn’t have a lot of thoughts about “those people.”

I could, however, tell you about Vincent, who worked backbreaking jobs for endless hours, just to provide basic necessities for his wife and child. Or Antonio, who found hope after a life marked by violence and drugs, and was desperately trying to take that same message of hope and redemption to others lost in the same deadly cycle. Or Monica, a lonely young mother who had a voice like the angels that would bring tears to the eyes of all who heard her sing.

Dan Whitmarsh
Writing by Faith



These days, I’m often asked what I think about “the gays.” Again, I can’t really say. But I could tell you about my friend Kurt, a man who grew up in a Christian home, who struggles daily to balance who he feels he is with the expectations of his family to be somebody else. Or Anna, a young woman who walked the typical path of self-loathing, repeated suicide attempts and rejection by those closest to her. Refusing to give up, however, she is now a powerful advocate for people who don’t have voices in our society.

There are countless other ways we do this, using labels and stereotypes to dehumanize others, rather than looking at them as real people with real stories, hopes and dreams and even their own names. We call people by their ethnicity, their religion, their political persuasion, their gender, dismissively referring to them with labels that are at best incomplete, and at worst, completely biased.

Which is why I like the way Jesus called Mary by name. He didn’t see a Jewish woman with a sordid history; he simply saw Mary, his friend, and he spoke her name. A connection was made that brought healing and hope and love and restoration, all because he spoke her name.

Dan Whitmarsh is pastor at Lakebay Community Church. He can be reached at dan@lakebaycovenant.net.

Letters Policy

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Got the fishin' season blues

I'm wishin' I was fishin'

As I toil through my day

A putting out my stories in the same old usual way

But I'd rather be a trollin' for the one that got away

I'm wishin' I was fishin'

As I write on through the night
'Cause the stories got to go out, and they got to go out right

But I'd rather have a fish on stretchin' my line tight

I'm wishin' I was fishin'

As I labor through the week, but sometime with my line out is all I really seek

And I'd quickly trade my ink pen for a boat that doesn't leak.

Steve Whitford Words of Whit



I'm wishin' I was fishin'

As I struggle through the year, but I gotta put my time in, 'cause the cost of livin's dear

But even with no luck, fishins' more fun than being here

I'm wishin' I was fishin'

As I strive forth with my life, through bad times and sad times, I can handle all the strife

Cause after I've been fishin' I don't even mind the wife.

(From **Sorrels**, Page 6)

best of intentions to do good work, but they all lack the experience of a Bill Clinton or a Ronald Reagan, and only one local elected official is remembered to have moved on to another elected office.

If you think you can do better, by all means run for office. Most positions on the ballot are unopposed. Otherwise, we can only hope that our public officials continue to improve to become better and better at serving the public, as the law requires.

SR-302 improvements rolling forward

Dean Moon, the project engineer for the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT), reported on the State Route 302 road improvement project at the Key Peninsula Community Council meeting in March.

The scope of work includes left-turn channelization at 118th Avenue and adding turnouts for emergency vehicles and speed enforcement, Moon said.

He said that right-of-way acquisition and staking in tree removal areas has nearly been completed. About 450 trees and 40 stumps will be removed from the five-mile stretch of highway.

According to Moon, plans for relocation of utilities have been approved, and coordination with Pierce County for site development and county road use permits is underway. The project will be put out for bid in mid-April, with the job to begin soon after the Fourth of July. It will

take about two and a half months to complete and road closures should be anticipated through early October, he said.

The WSDOT contact during construction is Steve Fuchs, project engineer. He can be contacted at (360) 709-8100.

To advertise, contact
Wendy Kleven at kpnads@keypennews.com or Brett Higgins at sales@keypennews.com

KEY PENINSULA
NEWS

A Tale of Two Churches

A variety of community organizations call the Key Peninsula Civic Center home, among them are two churches, the Historic Vaughn Bay Church and the Key Peninsula Baptist Church. This month, learn a little more about both.

Historic Vaughn Bay Church was organized in August 1939 by descendants of original families of the first churches of Vaughn and other interested community citizens. The congregation initially met in homes and then began holding services in the VFW Room, Key Peninsula Civic Center, in May, 2002.

The Church's primary department is the Peninsula Prayer Ministry, outreach providing ministerial services to the residents of the Key Peninsula. The Church's words of inspiration are: "Direct my footsteps according to your word" (Psalm 119:133a).

The main purposes of the Church are to present Scriptural preaching and teaching to all who attend services, witness to God's presence in our lives, and to maintain a Church for all faiths in the community. We welcome all Christ's followers and seekers.

The pulpit is filled with visiting pastors from a wide range of denominational backgrounds. Sunday services are conducted in a setting of warm fellowship that includes the Gospel preached in spirit and truth, accompanied by traditional and contemporary music.

The Church has been called by God to serve all by offering assistance where we are able, and sharing the Gospel of salvation, forgiveness, and the love of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. We believe in the triune God, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection, and eternal life.

The Church supports numerous home mission projects, including the Key Peninsula Community Food Bank, the Children's Home Society of Washington's annual Summer Fun event, the Key Peninsula Civic Center's annual Halloween Carnival, holiday packages for families in need in our community, as well as gift packages for our servicemen throughout the world. The Church also financially supports world mission projects of the American Red Cross for specific world disaster relief and of the Leadership Development Foundation with Christian outreach to all of the world from Washington, D.C.

The Church holds its regular Sunday morning worship services at 10:30 a.m. It also holds a brief Easter Service at Vaughn Bay Cemetery at 7:30 a.m. on Easter Sunday morning.

Key Peninsula Baptist Church has been serving the community since 1994. Sunday morning is a time for our church family to gather for fellowship, worship, and hear from God's Word. We welcome visitors into our family, as we have never met a stranger.

Our Sunday worship service begins at 11:00 a.m. and includes music and a time of expository preaching. Our music is a mixture of contemporary music and traditional hymns. We also offer children's church for younger children.

We focus on children's ministry, through our Awana Club during the school year and our Sports Camp during the summer. On Sundays, we offer Bible study for all ages beginning at 9:30 a.m. We also have a choir that practices during the year and performs Christmas and Easter cantatas.

This is our 19th year of holding Awana at the Civic Center on Wednesday nights. We offer programs from pre-school through high school. Our clubbers participate in weekly theme nights as well as special events. Those events include Grand Prix racing, Bible Quizzing, Awana Games, and Puget Sound Camp.

Our Senior Pastor, Butch Hall, has been leading the church since 2010. In addition, he doubles as a Police Chaplain for the Bremerton Police Department. Steve Strauss has been the Associate Pastor since 2004, and can be found teaching Junior High students in Awana.

Our prayer is that you would be blessed and strengthened by the power of Jesus Christ and that you will live a life of abundance in fellowship, joy and liberty. Key Peninsula Baptist Church is here for you. It is not a building where people just meet; it is a fellowship of believers coming together to declare the glory of the Lord and celebrate Jesus as King. We study the Word, practice what we learn and, in the process, grow together.



www.kpciviccenter.org
kpciviccenter@centurytel.net
253-884-3456

The Key Peninsula Civic Center is a 501(c)(3), private non-profit. We rely on members, fundraisers, and donations to keep our doors open, and our rentals affordable for the community. Thank you for your support!

Art pole project has students turning everyday objects into art

By Scott Turner, KP News

Early this year, a dozen KPMS students met after school and created an art pole from recycled materials as part of a Two Waters Art Alliance (TWAA) art program.

The objective was for each student to create an artwork from found materials that depicted something they like about nature.

The class was taught by TWAA artist Jessica Smeall.

"I call it 'up-cycling to the extreme,'" Smeall said. "It's kind of a theory of what we can do with stuff that we see around us that's headed to the dumpster — or what we call the 'waste stream.' How can I take that object and give it a new life?"

Smeall enjoys teaching the students that "art is all around them," she said. "They can take anything they see and make it into art."

The kids made flowers out of junk and turned old business-card magnets into miniature artworks using polymer clay.

As the culmination of the four-week class, each student produced a 3D art piece based on a small square of wallpaper.

"I had a whole table of what most people

would consider garbage and told the students we were going to make art out of it," Smeall said.

According to Smeall, each student had to pick a "nature muse."

"Some of them picked a bird or trees or water — but each one had a unique concept of things. So the pole represents all things that keep us sustained on Earth," she said.

Smeall then took the finished 3D artworks and applied them to a large pole that has been moving from place-to-place on the Key Peninsula since mid-February.

Savannah Wood, 12, was one of the budding artists who participated in the after school art project.

"We learned to make art of things we just find laying around," she said. "We do a little square that symbolizes water or Earth and we use something like oxygen hoses from the hospital and make it into something artistic. Instead of throwing things away, you can make stuff with it and it helps you realize that you can do a whole lot more with stuff that might just get thrown away. You can make something new out of it. I think the Two Waters program is very cool," Wood added.

(See **Art**, Page 9)



A group of young Key Peninsula Middle School artists gather around an art project with TWAA artist Jessica Smeall. The recycled-art pole will be on display at various Key Peninsula locations.

Photo by Scott Turner, KP News

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(From Art, Page 8)

Kady Soucie, 11, created a person enjoying a picnic out in nature. "Then we put it on this pole, which is going to a bunch of schools and other places," she said with a smile.

The idea, Soucie added, is "so that people can learn how to be kind to nature and not destroy it. We have to have natural resources to live."

That's just the kind of understanding Smeall had hoped to instill in the students.

"We talked about stewardship and what that means," she said.

"I told them to really think about what in nature inspires them. What intrigues them when they're outside? They actually had to do a bit of homework because they each had to bring their own idea to class," she said.

Smeall collaborated on the project with Brittany Langdon, a volunteer with the Pierce County Health Department.

"The health department helped us a little bit with supplies," Smeall recalled, "and together Brittany and I came up with the idea of a moveable sculpture."

They used a cardboard tube from a roll of butcher paper for the pole. An old soc-

Art pole on display

The art pole will be on display at Evergreen Elementary School through April 11 and then moves to the following locations:

April 12 — Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department

April 26 — Key Pen Parks

May 12 — Minter Creek Elementary School

May 26 — Vaughn Elementary School

June 2 — Key Peninsula Community Services

June 16 — Key Center fire station

cer ball was attached to the top to represent the Earth, and the base was made from a broken playground piece.

"Every kid made up a little quote to go with their art piece," Smeall said. "And we teachers also added some famous quotes from people like John Muir and Chief Seattle."

Getting the pole out into the community for all to see and enjoy is one of the best parts of the project. "The kids are really proud of it," said Smeall, beaming a smile.

County officials to consider amendments to shoreline plan

"The revision of the Shoreline Plan has proven to be a conflict of stupidity versus common sense," said Stan Fleming, the Pierce County Council member for District 7, which includes the Key Peninsula and Gig Harbor Peninsula.

Pierce County has been working on the state-required update for the past three years. The county council hopes to bring it to a vote on April 22.

Heated issues have been geoducks, docks, floats, bulkheads, public access and expanding shoreline buffers that further restrict property rights and use.

The council seeks public input. Upcoming meetings are on April 3, at 5:30 p.m., at the Peninsula High School auditorium, 14105 Purdy Drive, and April 7, at 1:30 p.m., at the City-County Building, room 1045, 930 Tacoma Ave. S., Tacoma.

Comments can be submitted orally at the meetings, or written at piercecounty-wa.org/council. Contacts are Debby Hyde, Planning and Land Services, 798-7110, dhyde@co.pierce.wa.us, and Mike Kruger, County Council Legislative Analyst, 798-6067, mkruger@co.pierce.wa.us.

Arts and crafts festival coming to Key Peninsula

Two Waters Arts Alliance (TWAA) is hosting a day-long Spring Splash Arts & Crafts festival 1 to 4 p.m., May 3, at the Key Peninsula Civic Center.

Key Peninsula families can enjoy an entertaining and educational venue, providing the opportunity to get to know

one another in a creative and joyful art educational setting.

A \$5 admission is suggested as a contribution. Pre-registration is recommended to secure a place. To pre register, email info@twowaters.org. To help with volunteering, contact (253) 884-4223.

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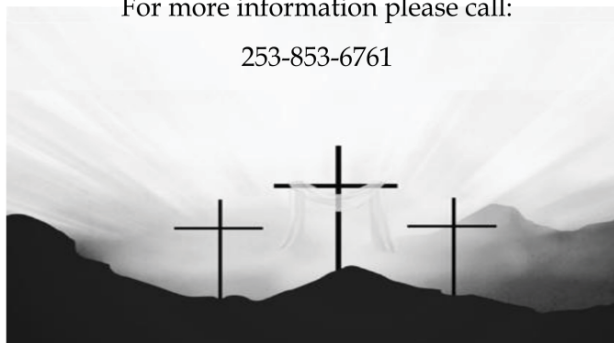
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Photo by Leah Folden, LP News

On Feb. 14, parent Christina Wood leads a canoe full of home-school students at Camp Seymour to paddle around Glen Cove.

Camp Seymour influences the future culture of home schooling

By Leah Folden, KP News

It is 9:30 a.m. on a windswept, rainy Friday morning at the Camp Seymour parking lot, where parents dropped off their children for a day of ornithology and canoeing. What is unique about this group is that all of the children are home-schooled.

Scott Gjertson, the camp's outdoor environmental education director, said that this networking program for home-schoolers has been growing since December of 2003.

The first session only attracted one family; however, there are now 33 chil-

(See **Homeschool**, Page 11)

(From **Homeschool**, Page 10)

dren in attendance.

Julie Gonsalves has been bringing her 9-year-old twins for the past five years to this outing and said the “program really stands on its own.”

Gonsalves is a former public school teacher who, when asked what prompted the decision to homeschool, pointed to the disproportionate ratio of students to teachers in traditional educational institutions.

During the event, parents gave a variety of reasons for switching to homeschool such as wanting to be with their children more, the lack of accommodations for special needs, as well as the freedom for children to learn at their own pace.

Gjertson said activities like this one at Camp Seymour provide supplemental learning opportunities that mix science with physical activity, as well as provide a chance to socialize in a structured learning environment.

University of Puget Sound’s Slater Museum of Natural History donated specimens of birds for the day to be identified and studied by students. The children then reported to the class on what they learned about their respective bird.

“This is where I get nervous,” said Colin Wood during his team’s presenta-

tion. Immediately following this statement was an overwhelming amount of encouragement from the class. Reassuring and supportive affirmations filled the room as Wood continued on with his report.

Camp Seymour naturalist Matt Herndon said it is gratifying to see some of the same kids year after year and watch them grow up.

The kids casually shoot witty quips between Herndon and another naturalist, Amelia McClelland, throughout the day.

Many parents describe the experience at camp to be very different than learning through public institutions. The youth are not sheltered from the average student experiences, however. At lunch, students participate in the rush to find a place in line as well as a spot to sit; a process that closely mimics a traditional school.

Parents in favor of home-schooling have created a grassroots institution, such as Washington Homeschool Organization, to connect and provide opportunities outside of the in-home curriculum.

Homeschool parent Christine Wood said the culture of homeschool teaching is evolving to address traditional concerns including socialization and the lack of diverse opportunities in the home.



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OBITUARY NOTICE

Elaine (Satterlee) O’Hara

Elaine O’Hara, 80, died of heart failure at her home at Lake Limerick on Feb. 16.

Born in Tacoma to Herb and Ellen Satterlee, she married Terry O’Hara of Vaughn in 1955. She attended Annie Wright Seminary, worked at J. C. Penney and volunteered as a candy striper at Tacoma General Hospital.

She is survived by her husband Terry; daughter Kathleen Rae, of Lake Limer-

ick; brother Herb “Tod” Satterlee, Jr. of Tacoma; grandson Christopher Mathis of Tumwater and numerous nieces and nephews.

A brief graveside service is scheduled for April 5 at Vaughn Bay Cemetery, followed by a memorial gathering in the Whitmore Room at the KP Civic Center in Vaughn. A memorial service will also take place on April 27 at Lake Limerick.

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COMMUNITY PAGES

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

APRIL 1

Bloodmobile

The bloodmobile is at Peninsula High School from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

APRIL 1 and 15

Senior shopping

The senior van meets at the KP Community Services at 9 a.m., and returns between 3 and 5 p.m., to give seniors an opportunity to go grocery shopping and attend any scheduled Gig Harbor doctor's appointments. Also included is a "Dutch" lunch. 884-4440.

APRIL 3 and 17

GED help

Teens, young adults and adults get help from educators who tutor in English, reading and writing, mathematics, sciences and social studies. Sessions are 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., at the Key Center Library. This event requires registration and an appointment. Call (253) 548-3309.

APRIL 4, 11, 18, 25

Skate Night

Skate Night is hosted at the KP Civic Center 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., April 25 is Country Western Night. Kpciviccenter@centurytel.net.

APRIL 5

CPR class

The Key Peninsula Fire Department hosts a "Heartsaver First Aid CPR-AED" class 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the Key Center fire station. Call 884-2222 for information.

APRIL 7, 14, 21, 28

Bloodmobile

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

APRIL 8 and 23

Crochet or knit

The Loving Hearts group knits and crochets for charities and meets on April 8 from 1 to 3 p.m., and on April 23 from 7 to 9 p.m., at WayPoint Church. Yarn

donations are always needed. lovingheartsonkp@gmail.com or Virginia, 884-9619.

APRIL 9

Garden club meets

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

Council meeting

The KP Community Council meets at 7 p.m., at the KC fire station. 884-6455.

APRIL 10 and 24

Free clinic

Non-emergency medical care for KP residents without any medical insurance is provided 5:30 to 8 p.m., at Key Peninsula Health and Professional Center in Key Center. 884-2234.

APRIL 11 and 25

Teen fun

Club Cosmic for high school kids is 9 p.m. to midnight at KP Civic Center. 884-3456.

APRIL 12

Garage sale

Longbranch Improvement Club hosts a community garage sale 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., at LIC. Indoor and outdoor booths, baked goods and lunch are available. 884-2030.

Pet treat hunt

Key Pen Parks hosts its annual free Pet Easter Treat Hunt for youngsters and pets, 10 a.m. to noon, at Volunteer Park. Bring a bag for treats, a leash for pets and food donations for pets and/or humans. Check in and photos start at 10 a.m. The hunt is at 10:30 a.m., and the 4H show is at 11:15 a.m. The costume winners will be announced at 11:30 a.m. Resource booths from the Humane Society, Olympic Bird Fanciers (with live birds), and Wags N Whiskers 4H group will be present.

Ashes meet

The Ashes support group for the Key

Peninsula Fire Department meets 10:30 a.m., at the Key Center fire station. 884-3771.

Library program

As part of Pierce County READS, "Hidden Treasures in Washington Museums" is presented at 7 p.m., at the Key Center Library. (253) 548-3309.

APRIL 13

Seymour Sunday

YMCA of Pierce/Kitsap offers a free afternoon of family activities at Camp Seymour from 2 to 4:30 p.m. 884-3392.

Opera preview

Friends of the KC Library present Norm Hollingshead, who will preview the opera "Tales of Hoffman" at 7 p.m., at the KC Library. The opera will be on Sunday, May 4. (253) 548-3309.

Last Supper

Key Peninsula Lutheran Church will host its annual presentation of the Last Supper at 7 p.m. The presentation will take place in McColey Hall at the church. bigbill321954@gmail.com.

APRIL 19

Service Saturday

YMCA of Pierce/Kitsap hosts its Camp Seymour Service Saturday 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. 884-3392.

Brunch and hunt

Camp Colman (20016 Bay Road, KPS) sponsors a free Community Easter Brunch and Egg Hunt beginning at 10 a.m., at the camp. 884-3844.

Egg hunt

Boy Scout Troop 220 hosts its annual Easter egg hunt at noon at the KP Civic Center. 884-3456.

Library program

The Friends of Key Center Library present Tames Allen: Life in Service at Downton Abbey at 2 p.m., at the KC Library. (253) 548-3309.

To submit an event

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

APRIL 20

Sunday bluegrass jam

Bluegrass Gospel Jam session at Longbranch Church (16518 46th St., KPS) will not take place in April due to Easter Sunday. The event will return May 18. (253) 492-4177

APRIL 25

Movie premiere

A short film shot at Lakebay Marina will be shown from 5 to 8 p.m., at Lakebay Marina, 15 Lorenz Road. Wine and beer tasting are available during the premiere.

APRIL 26

Appreciate parks

The annual Parks Appreciation Day is 9 a.m. to noon at five of the Key Pen Parks' locations. Bring your family and tools (with names attached) to a Key Peninsula park and help out. Jess, 884-9240.

APRIL 27

Breakfast

The annual Fishermen's Breakfast at the Key Peninsula Sportsmen's Club, on Jackson Lake Road, is 7:30 a.m. to noon. The "all you can eat" breakfast includes pancakes, ham and eggs, fruit juice and coffee for \$6. Children ages 6 and younger are free. On Saturday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Sunday, 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., the club's annual yard sale takes place. This annual event benefits local youth and the KP Community Food Bank and Senior Center. Bill Smith, 884-2655.

WEEKLY EVENTS

MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS & FRIDAYS

Community walk

Free walking for exercise 9 to 11 a.m., in the KP Civic Center gym. 884-3456.

Senior exercise class

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

TUESDAYS

Sing

The Key Singers practices are 7 p.m., at the KP Lutheran Church sanctuary, corner of Lackey Road and Key Peninsula Highway. No auditions. Membership is \$10 to cover costs of music and annual PHS scholarships. 884-5615.

Swim

Family swims are 5 to 6 p.m., followed by an adult lap from 6 to 7 p.m., at Easter Seals Camp Stand by Me. 884-2722.

TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS

Preschool play time

The Children's Home Society KP Family Resource Center offers a preschool/toddler indoor park program 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., at the KP Civic Center. Care-

givers must stay with child. Drop-ins are welcome; stay for as long as you wish. A \$1/child donation is suggested. Tami, 884-5433.

Senior tai chi club

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

WEDNESDAYS

Writers meet

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

Writers' workshop

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

TUESDAYS & SATURDAYS

KPHS Museum open

The KPHS museum, located at the KP Civic Center in Vaughn, is open Tuesdays and Saturdays, 1 to 4 p.m. "Forest to Farms - The Land, the People, the Legacy" is this year's display. No admission charge, but monetary donations are welcome. Facebook - Key Peninsula Historical Society. 858-3246.

WEDNESDAYS & FRIDAYS

Senior meals

Nutritional meals for ages 60-plus are served at noon at the KP Community Services; a \$2 donation is requested. Guests (ages 50-59) of senior attendees are requested to donate \$2.50. 884-4440.

THURSDAYS

Toastmasters

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

Seniors' lunch

The Key Peninsula Senior Society meets at 1 p.m., for a potluck, fellowship and games in the Whitmore Room at the KP Civic Center. All are welcome. 884-4981.

Bingo

Free Bingo at the KP Community Services in Home 7 to 9 p.m. 884-4440.

SATURDAYS

Writers meet

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

Lakebay Jam with 302

Lakebay Jam with 302 is 6:30 to 9 p.m., weather permitting, at the Lakebay Marina. Call ahead at 884-3350 or glory-promo@gmail.com.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

KP Veterans

April 7 and 21, 7 p.m., at McColey Hall/KP Lutheran Church; 884-4407 or 884-9852, kpvetveterans.net.

KP Lions' dinner and program

April 2 and 16, 5:30 p.m., in VFW Room, KP Civic Center; 853-2721.

Key Peninsula Fire Department

April 8 and 22, 6 p.m., in meeting room, Key Center fire station; keypeninsulafire.org.

Key Peninsula Council

April 9, 7 p.m., at Key Center fire station; kpcouncil.org.

Peninsula School District Board

April 10, 6 p.m., at Key Peninsula Middle School Library.

KP Civic Center Association Board

April 10, 7 p.m., in Whitmore Room; kpciviccenter.org.

Key Pen Parks

April 14 and 28, 7 p.m., at Volunteer Park; keypenparks.com.

LIC

April 16, regular potluck, 7 p.m., at Longbranch Improvement Club; 884-6022 longbranchimprovementclub.org.

KP Citizens Against Crime

April 17, 7 p.m., at Key Center fire station; kpcitizensagainstcrime.org.

KP Farm Council

April 28, 6:30 p.m., at Home fire station; bkettts@hotmail.com.

OFF THE KEY

APRIL 1, 8, 22

Drop-in help

Adults receive help using Microsoft Office, e-books and e-readers, email and any Pierce County Library e-source at Gig Harbor Library 2 to 3 p.m. 548-3305.

APRIL 8 and 12

Bloodmobile

The bloodmobile is at Gig Harbor High School 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., April 8 and at Safeway 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., April 12.

APRIL 9

Building credit

Teens and young adults discover the impact of credit reports and credit

scores, benefits of having good credit and 10 keys to effective credit building 4:30 to 5:30 p.m., at Gig Harbor Library.

APRIL 10

Discover art!

Children (ages 6-12) are invited to hear a story about Andy Warhol, get inspired, and create their own artwork in his style at 4 to 5 p.m., at the Gig Harbor Library. Sometimes creating great art gets messy, so dress appropriately. Pre-registration is required. This event is sponsored by Friends of the Gig Harbor Library. 548-3305.

APRIL 11-13, 18-21, 25-27

Play presented

Paradise Theatre presents "Treasure Island" at 7:30 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays

and 3 p.m., Sundays. This show is for adults. Paradisetheatre.org or 851-7529.

APRIL 12

College planning

Teens and young adults explore options for college expenses, including tax-free savings plans, government loans, scholarships, grants and lines of credit 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., at Gig Harbor Library.

APRIL 16

Hiking with kids

The Gig Harbor Library hosts Washington Trails Association members who review books and discuss safety and how to keep kids moving down the trails. This free adult event is at 6:30 p.m.

Minter Creek All Stars help solve playground conflicts

By Scott Turner, KP News

A group of fifth-graders at Minter Creek Elementary School are learning important new skills that benefit their fellow students and their community.

They're learning to be conflict managers on the school's playgrounds.

According to Becky Maffei, the school counselor, the All Stars program trains fifth-graders to resolve minor differences that occasionally arise during recess such as squabbles over a toy or the friendship issues about who wants to play with whom.

The program began many years ago by Ann Olson, the school's previous counselor.

"It's very popular with the kids," Maffei said. "It's become part of the culture at Minter Creek."

"When kids get to be fifth-graders, one of their first questions is, 'When do I get to apply to be an All Star?' They get excited about it from the time they're kindergarteners," she said.

The All Stars are a very visible part of daily recess because of the bright orange vests they wear.

They work in teams of two. "They just walk around the playgrounds and help kids in general. But if a conflict occurs, they'll offer to help the kids resolve it," Maffei said.

Before they earn their orange vests and badges, Maffei teaches the All Stars simple, kid-level mediation skills. "They learn how to be good listeners, how to talk without interrupting and how to rephrase things," she said.

On the playground, the All Stars have the quarreling kids agree to some basic ground rules like don't interrupt, use kind words and let each child tell his or her own side of the story, she added.

"The idea is to kind of walk the kids through the process of solving their own problems. They're not disciplinarians or supervisors, they're just there

(See All Stars, Page 15)



Photo by Scott Turner, KP News

Minter Creek Elementary School All Star Alyssa Hall, in the orange vest, helps resolve a recent playground problem with, from left, Marielena Romero, Clarissa Hains, Breana Dalesky and Lilly Boere.

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(From **All Stars**, Page 14)

to offer help," she said.

The All Stars also lend a hand to kids who are all by themselves on the playground or who look sad. "The All Stars can go over and ask, 'Hey, what's going on? Can we help you find somebody to play with?' or something," she said.

Of course there are also times when the All Stars just call on an adult to step in. "If the kids don't want their help, or if it's a situation that might be dangerous, then they go get an adult," Maffei said.

Every All Star has to apply for the position, including telling why they would be good at resolving conflicts and obtaining a recommendation from a teacher.

Usually 15 All Stars are selected each term.

Kaitlyn Holt, 11, has dreamed of being an All Star since she was in kindergarten.

"I was like, man, when I get in the fifth grade I'm gonna be an All Star," she said. "I wanted to help kids find ideas to solve their problems. It's fun

because you get to be with your partner and sometimes kids just come up and ask us if we can help them with something. It's like they trust us and feel comfortable with us," Holt said.

Cayden Royne, 10, and Mason Palagyi, 11, are teamed-up this semester. "I think it's cool that we can help other kids," Royne said. "Like kids who are kind of tattle tales — they can come to us instead of going to an adult."

"It makes you have a good feeling to help people," added Palagyi, who has

wanted to be an All Star since he was in first grade.

Another team, Alyssa Hall, 10, and Larena Triplett, 11, agreed. "We're helping with any problems that anyone is having," Hall said. "Like somebody lost something and is upset so we just tell them to go to the lost and found. And sometimes we also help clean up."

It can be a little boring when there's nothing to do, Triplett added, "but It's usually fun — especially when we find a problem and solve it."



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Mentor: Gerry Baldwin
Gerry Baldwin has been a math mentor and volunteer with Communities In Schools of Peninsula for over eight years. "I've been a member of the board and a math mentor for over 10 years. I've helped shape CISP to what it is today. A continental online math center. Gerry has found the time to mentor high school kids in complex math and even car repair! Now a retired pilot, Gerry is proud of his kids. He says, 'My kids go from a 12 to a 11 and advance one to two grade levels after one hour a week of tutoring in a school year. I have time to mentor, anybody else?'"

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LONGBRANCH COMMUNITY CHURCH
5:30PM - MAUNDY THURSDAY

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APRIL 18TH**
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LONGBRANCH COMMUNITY CHURCH
12:00 - 6:00PM - VIGIL SANCTUARY OPEN FOR PRAYER
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7:00PM - GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

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9:30AM - WORSHIP SERVICE
KEY PENINSULA LUTHERAN CHURCH
4213 LACKEY RD KPN, LAKEBAY, 884-3312
10:30AM - RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD WORSHIP
LAKEBAY COMMUNITY CHURCH
111 CORNWALL RD KPS, LAKEBAY, 884-3899
7:00AM - SUNRISE SERVICE AT CAMP WOODWORTH
9:30AM - RESURRECTION CELEBRATION
LONGBRANCH COMMUNITY CHURCH
16518 46TH STREET KPS, LONGBRANCH, 884-9338
7:15AM - SUNRISE SERVICE ON
HEERON ISLAND (FERRY SERVICE AT 7)
10:30AM - EASTER WORSHIP SERVICE
WAYPOINT CHURCH
12719 134TH AVE KPN, 853-7878
9:30AM & 11:00AM - RESURRECTION CELEBRATION

Woman gives to community by offering Zumba classes

By Scott Turner, KP News

Key Peninsula Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS).

It's her way of "giving back" to the community, she said.

Smeltzer and her husband moved to the Key Peninsula from Utah in 2009 so he could attend the University of Washington.

Soon after she arrived here, a friend suggested she tag along to a Zumba class at the LDS church, and Smeltzer was hooked.

She became a certified Zumba instructor in April 2010 and took over as teacher of the class.

The class is for all levels, Smeltzer said, but she acknowledged that it "sometimes might get a little bit advanced for someone who doesn't have a dance background."

Zumba is a fast-paced exercise routine based on Latin dance. "It's a combination of salsa, merengue and other Latin-inspired dancing and music," Smeltzer explained.

"The way I teach it, it's a great cardio workout, but it's also fitness, working on abs and arms and squats in addition to all the other regular Zumba routines," she said.

She teaches both low and high-impact styles. "So when people have been coming for a while, they can sort of find their own groove. And it's all safe and anybody can benefit if they just stick with it," she said moments before a recent class.

Smeltzer has taught students ranging from age 12 to 60, she said.

Anna Reimers, of Key Center, has been taking her class since October.

"You can tell that Melissa puts a lot of effort into choreographing her class and making it fun and effective for your body. She is very passionate about Zumba, and wants to share that with everyone," Reimers said.

Smeltzer's classes are free because "out here on the Key Pen a lot of people have a hard time driving all the way in to the Y. And sometimes it hard for them to pay for a membership," she said.



Photo by Scott Turner, KP News

Zumba instructor Melissa Smeltzer runs a recent (free) class at the Key Peninsula LDS church.

Want to Go?

Melissa Smeltzer's Zumba class takes place every Wednesday at 10:15 a.m., at the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-day Saints, 12521 134th Ave. KPN.

For information, call or text Smeltzer at (801) 599-4409, or email princess_nelly@hotmail.com.

Her class is her way of providing something that people don't have to spend much money on.

And besides, she added, because it's at a church, "I just don't feel comfortable having people pay me for it. I do it for exercise for myself and I also really benefit from learning new choreography every month."

And there's another, very personal reason: "It's also a great way to make new friends," she said.

"I really enjoy getting to know my students and I've made some really great friends through Zumba. And I feel fulfilled being able to teach someone and having someone tell me they've lost weight or that they love my classes. Some people even tell me that my class is the highlight of their week."

KP church members to perform 'The Last Supper' for community

By Scott Turner, KP News

In the Christian tradition, Maundy Thursday commemorates "The Last Supper," the night before Good Friday.

"Maundy Thursday is part of Holy Week, which begins on Palm Sunday with Jesus's triumphant entry into Jerusalem," said Pastor Heinz Malon of Key Peninsula Lutheran Church.

"It's Passover at that time — which is why he's in Jerusalem. Every day he's teaching at the temple and then on Thursday he goes to celebrate the Passover meal with his disciples and he inaugurates what the church has come to know as communion — or the Lord's Supper, as it's also called."

Jesus also announces that one of his disciples will soon betray him, Malon continued. "So all the disciples are really upset. They're concerned because they don't know what this whole betrayal thing is about."

Leonardo da Vinci depicted the scene in his famous painting "The Last Supper."

On April 17, members of KP Lutheran will bring the painting to life in the church's

annual Maundy Thursday event.

The recreation has taken place every year since 2008, according to Bill Barker, a long-time church member who plays the part of Peter.

It's an attempt to enliven the story by humanizing the disciples and showing the actual emotions taking place in each disciple when Jesus foretells the betrayal, Malon said.

People from Lakebay, Longbranch and even a person from Tacoma take part in the reenactment.

"We have 13 actors, including Jesus, and we also have a narrator who gives a background about what da Vinci was thinking when he painted The Last Supper, and about some of his other famous paintings," Barker said.

The narrator also talks about the symmetry lines in the painting — how everything points to Jesus, Malon added.

Each disciple sits, motionless, at the food-laden table until it's his turn to speak. Then each expresses his shock and horror at the thought of betraying Jesus.

"It's a visceral experience of the emo-

Want to go?

Members of Key Peninsula Lutheran Church will reenact the scene depicted in Leonardo da Vinci's famous painting "The Last Supper" as part of a Maundy Thursday service. The reenactment takes place Thursday, April 17 at 7 p.m., at the church, 4213 Lackey Road KPN. Call (253) 884-3312 for information or email kpluth@centurytel.net.

tional conflict the disciples were experiencing when their teacher and best friend has just told them, I'm going to be arrested and executed and one of you is going to betray me," Malon said.

"But it helps us understand that the disciples were real live people — not superheroes. They were conflicted and confused and they didn't understand what was happening, but knew that it was a big mo-

ment and a crisis moment. And they were afraid," he added.

Theologically speaking, everyone has betrayed Jesus, Malon said. "And that's the setup for Good Friday and for Easter — that in spite of the betrayal, here's how big the love is and how much hope there is."

Malon hopes that "even people who aren't churchd can know that from the very beginning the people who made up the church were flawed and confused, but they cared for one another and they still managed to experience faith and hope," he said.

Malon wants people to understand that a "relationship with God or some kind of spirituality is not some kind of stodgy, confining thing that's constricted by a bunch of iron-clad laws — that, if you don't follow every single one of them there's a lightning bolt that's going to hit you."

"A relationship with God — in whatever form that takes — helps us get through those crisis moments," he said. "The people who go to church and the people who don't go to church: God loves every one of us."



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Red Barn getting spruced up for grand opening, coming soon

By Karen Lovett, KP News

The Red Barn in Key Center hosted an open house Feb. 22 to introduce patrons to the upgraded facility.

During Phase One, the front room has a fresh coat of paint and '50s style ice cream/soda booths with white table tops and red vinyl bench seats.

Phase Two will have a second large multipurpose room in back, but it needs \$50,000 to finance renovations before it will be ready to use. A new stage constructed by YMCA youth volunteers out of materials paid for with a grant from the Key Peninsula Business Association has already been built in the unfinished room. They need insulation, heat, drywall and a multipurpose floor to complete the project, organizers said.

"Tons of volunteers will help offset the cost," said Jo Ann Maxwell, Red Barn board member. "The stage will be very useful for bands or other activities."

Jud Morris, KP Business Association president, said, "We are glad to help out the community."

Board member Doug Paterson started



Courtesy photo by Glen Ehrhardt.

Guests enjoy an open house at the Red Barn in Key Center.

supporting the Red Barn eight years ago. He became a board member a year ago. He asked PenLight for a street light out front. Their engineer, Ben Wilson, cut trees and stacked the wood to make room for two light poles.

Teresa Martinson, wife of Red Barn President Ron Martinson, has a long history with the building. It was built in the 1980s and originally had two stories. It was used as a feed store. Custom Camera Design re-

placed the feed store. When the film business moved to Kitsap County nine years ago, the George Russell family, owners of Silverbow Farm, bought it and turned it into an art storage facility.

Silverbow Farm was the property of the Thompson family. Jane Thompson married George Russell, and she and her husband took over the eight-acre farm. Jane passed away years ago.

According to organizers, it was decided that Key Center needed a youth facility. Ron and Teresa Martinson work for the Russells and asked to rent the building for the youth center. The Russells made a very generous offer to lease the building to them for \$1 a year.

It took about three years to get the permits from Pierce County. The second story had to be removed to meet the codes. They are still waiting for verification of the nonprofit status with the federal government.

Glen Ehrhardt, vice president and marketing director, maintains a Web presence along with anything to do with public awareness and said they expect to open early in May.

Maxwell has been on the board for one year.

"Red Barn is a place for teens to connect, a safe welcoming place. Kids can step outside of themselves. They can do homework here, gain spiritual insight, and form life-changing relationships. In Phase Two, we'll do more sports and games. Whatever the kids need to shine and have leadership opportunities is what we're about," Maxwell said.

(See Red Barn, Page 19)

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Library sponsors free tutoring and GED test preparation

By Karen Lovett, KP News

General equivalency degree (GED) preparation is now available at Key Center Library.

All supplies, including paper, pens and books are free. Unlike Tacoma Community College, there is no charge for the classes.

These lessons differ from those offered by TCC. Instead of following a strict format, each student will receive individual instruction tailored to meet his or her own needs. The library will have a whiteboard and English, mathematics, science and social studies will be offered. Three teachers have volunteered their time to teach the classes.

John Ellickson ran the GED program for the past three years for TCC on the Key Peninsula.

Ellickson, along with two instructors who worked under his direction, Jerry McCourt and Gary Gebo, liked teaching and joined him in looking for a new sponsor. They wanted to be under the umbrella of an organization. They found a willing supporter with Rosina Vertz, supervisor at the Key Center Library.

Ellickson has a degree in philosophy and an advanced degree in education and counseling, and has been involved with teaching for 35 years. He ran education centers on U.S. Army installations in Germany. After retiring in the mid 1990s, he worked as a real estate inspector.

"I never wanted to retire," Ellickson said.

"I've always loved the GED program and the test and the process of learning and education. I've always considered myself an educator.

"We'll tutor anyone who comes in, not necessarily for GED, but anyone who wants to learn and finds our services useful," he said.

McCourt taught English and critical thinking at TCC for 43 years. He has enjoyed teaching and he missed contact with students. He wanted to work with them more like a coach rather than in a structured setting, he said.

Gebo considers himself to be a self-esteem booster.

"Some people freeze when taking the GED or any other test. I try to go out of my way to give them a pat on the back," he said.

The library has agreed to sponsor planning through the time frame of TCC's spring quarter to see to see if there is an interest or need.

Classes will be offered Thursdays between 9:30 and 11:30 a.m., but scheduling times are negotiable and students can choose a time that works better if need be. Children younger than 16 must have a letter from the school district before they can attend. The average age of students in the past has been in the 20s.

The computerized GED test is not free and is offered by a private company.

For information on classes, contact Rosina Vertz at (253) 548-3309.

(From Red Barn, Page 12)

According to Maxwell, organizers want youth to be involved and are partnered with the YMCA. The goal is to have ideas split approximately 50-50 between adults and teens for indoor and outdoor plans.

Red Barn has received several grants: \$4,700 from Franciscan Associates for computers; \$3,000 from PenLight for the two outdoor lights and \$10,000 from the Bamford Family Foundation for general operations. They are still in need of grants and private donations. A staff person will be in charge of finding volunteers, Maxwell said.

There will be a bus drop-off stop in front of the facility when the Red Barn opens.

"When they start making road improvements, we can make modifications to improve the drop-off site," said Stan Flemming, Pierce County council member.

Cindy Worden, president of Citizens Against Crime, brought her kids to see the Red Barn.

"My kids are really looking forward to it. They can meet with their friends without parents. Kids can be safe. Parents won't have to worry about them. They can hang out with friends and work on homework," Worden said.

The Red Barn staff is currently searching for a youth director.

For information, contact Jo Ann Maxwell at (425) 420-7070.

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Key Center community garden boasts great sun and soil

By Alice Kinerk, KP News

Anyone who has put in a new garden knows there is a lot of work to do before you pluck a single pea. First, you have to find an appropriate site: good soil, sunny location water source access. You will need to make decisions. Raised beds versus conventional, trucking in compost or making your own, and fencing or no fencing?

When all of that is settled, it is time to dig, dig, dig.

Hopefully you already have a rototiller, some shovels and hand spades, a rake or two and hoses. Otherwise a new garden quickly becomes expensive, too.

For those just getting into gardening, this can all feel somewhat overwhelming. Fortunately, the Key Peninsula has a community garden with more than 20 plots available.

Located in Key Center, behind Sunnycrest Nursery (on 92nd Street KPN), the community garden rents 4-foot by 24-foot plots. A one-time fee of \$50 covers

water costs.

"As a community, gardening is easier because you get to share equipment and share ideas," said Dale Skrivanich, volunteer coordinator for the garden.

Jessica Smeall, who is recreation coordinator for Key Pen Parks and also works as registrar of the garden, agrees.

"We're trying to increase the community feel of the garden. We want gardeners to know each other's names, know whose plot is whose," she said.

This year, Smeall is planning meetings and workshops to help new gardeners learn techniques. "We've got great soil, great sun and a community of people who want to help you succeed," Smeall said.

However, the KP Community Garden is about more than just getting newbies to stick their fingers in the dirt. Every year, two of the plots are reserved to grow fresh vegetables to donate to needy families through area food banks.

"Helping the food bank is so important. We've have so many people who are

down on their luck here," Skrivanich said.

In spring, the food bank plots receive donated plant starts from local gardeners. A few months later, volunteers harvest potatoes, carrots, tomatoes and more.

The garden, now in its fifth season, was started in spring 2010 with the help of a nonprofit group called Healthy Communities of Pierce County. However, without a Key Peninsula representative truly invested in the garden, leadership faltered, and as of 2013, Healthy Communities is no longer involved with the garden.

That's when the park district stepped in. With an enhancement grant from them, the garden was able to acquire deer fencing and purchase gardening equipment. Smeall made logistical upgrades and added plot markers listing gardeners' names.

And she got the word out. "Pairing up with Key Peninsula Parks is exciting because it brings it into focus. Jess has done a terrific job of advertising," Skrivanich said.

Smeall will be talking up the community garden again at next month's Livable Community Fair, scheduled for Saturday, May 10 at the Key Peninsula Civic Center.

The future of the community garden looks bright. Skrivanich, who believes people shouldn't have to drive more than five or 10 minutes to reach their community garden, would like to see two new ones eventually added to the peninsula: one in the Longbranch/Lakebay area and another in Gateway Park.

"Right now in the United States there is a huge push for people to keep gardens. If the White House has a garden in the middle of all that landscaping, it is an important thing," Skrivanich said.

Community garden organizers are currently seeking volunteers to tend food bank plots for the 2014 season. If you would like to volunteer or are interested in renting a plot, contact Dale Skrivanich at (253) 225-3027.

More information about KP Community Garden is available at keypenparks.com.

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Photo by Hugh McMillan, KP News

Vaughn Elementary School student Oceanna Valentine delicately releases a salmon fingerling into Vaughn Creek.

Vaughn Elementary students release salmon into the wild

By Hugh McMillan, KP News

In February, undeterred by soggy rain, a parade of Vaughn Elementary School kids, under the guidance of teachers and parent volunteers, carefully made their way down to Vaughn Creek as part of the school's release of salmon fingerlings.

The annual project is to raise salmon in an exposed aquarium at the school to get students interested in salmon, their habitat and ways to coexist with salmon.

"We are fortunate to have access to Vaughn Creek on Mr. James Bosch's property to release the salmon, as we get to see the perfect habitat for salmon," said Doug Smith, teacher and leader of the event.

Smith said the creek is shaded by trees and plants to keep it cool. There is gravel for the salmon to lay their eggs into on their return from the ocean, and the water is clean.

"If we have creeks and streams that salmon can live in, then we have the habitat for other animals, plants and fish to live," Smith said.

According to Smith, the Department of Fisheries allows the students to release the salmon into Vaughn Creek to let the students experience what is good for salmon. "They also supplied us with the tank and cooling unit so they can experience the first three stages of the lifecycle of the salmon.

"We collect the salmon eggs, place them in the tank, and our kids get to watch them daily developing into little salmon over the

several weeks before we release them into Vaughn Creek," Smith said.

"I like watching the salmon grow from eggs to alevin to fingerlings," said student Aubrey Stanton.

Zane Hoskins enjoyed helping kindergartners release the salmon. He named his salmon Ted, and said, "It swam as fast as a cheetah as it swam away."

Traisey Strange said she learned much.

"Salmon lay up to 5,000 eggs and that is a lot of eggs. About two salmon make it to their home stream after going out to the ocean," Strange said.

Kieran Ashcraft said the "best part" was naming and releasing the salmon because they named them silly names like "Squirt." "Another thing that was cool was watching the salmon in the tank trying to get under the gravel because they wiggle as fast as the speed of light," Ashcraft said.

Tanner Stubblefield said he liked learning about the salmon's lifecycle.

"The happiest part was when the salmon were hatching," he said.

"The eggs became alevins which use their egg sac on their belly for food. Then alevins become fry or fingerlings. After a year of living in the creek they become smolt, and go to the ocean. In the ocean they are adults and feed on plankton, small fish and shrimp. After two to three years they come back to the stream where they were born and spawn. They lay up to 5,000 eggs in the gravel and the lifecycle starts over," Stubblefield said.

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Community Inclusion Program reaches out to all

By Jessica Takehara, KP News

There are moments in life that define individual character. Embracing all people, without regard to physical appearances or differences, is one such yardstick action generally found in common by all.

The Community Inclusion Program (CIP) seeks to make this mission a reality through celebrating disability awareness and building relationships.

In existence for more than 20 years, CIP is a PAVE (Partnerships for Action Voices for Empowerment) program. The group organizes monthly

events aimed at providing information, resources surrounding technology and social events for special needs families. Michele Lehosky is one of the CIP coordinators and PAVE program director. She said "reaching out to all families" is a primary goal.

Essentially, there are two components within CIP. Parents and adults meet to take part in activities led by Lehosky at area schools. At the same time, the Youth Leadership Team arranges games, discussions and projects for the teen and under crowd. This youth team is made up of students with and without disabilities who want to make a difference in

the community. There also are specific youth program meetings throughout the year for orientation, training and social activities.

Peninsula High School teacher Wendy Christiansen and PAVE employee Milissa Burkey are the adults who help the Youth Leadership Team facilitate events.

"The activities for the youth portion of CIP are student driven and have included great opportunities like overnight retreats," Christiansen said. With local volunteers and student participation, feedback on the success of meetings and topics can change to best fulfill the needs of the community.

According to Lehosky, students who participate in CIP Youth Leadership Team learn about networking, peer mentoring, self-advocacy and the power of acceptance.

"Community service requirements for graduation can be completed through this program and the United Way of Pierce County partners with area districts to reward volunteerism with a school letter in community service," Lehosky said.

One of the most popular CIP meetings is the December pancake breakfast. Involvement from Kiwanis, FISH and

Peninsula School District bring together people of all abilities. Attendees are encouraged to donate canned goods and are served a hearty meal while listening to a Minter Creek Elementary choral group directed by music teacher Paula DeMoss.

Two large events are still to come for CIP during this school year. The first is a Bingo Night on April 24 at PHS that senior Dylan Payne helps run. He encourages families to come and take part "because it is fun." This event also funds the CIP program. The next is a dance on May 16, where students socialize and junior Josh VanMechelen emphatically says is a "great place to be with friends."

Currently, Key Peninsula Middle School and the KP elementary schools are not meeting sites. "Vaughn used to be seven or eight years ago," Christiansen said, "but there was a shift in attendance, and CIP needs to listen to the community. It would be great to build a connection back in the KP area though."

For information on CIP and PAVE, visit wapave.org or call (253) 565-2266. Parents, siblings, aunts, uncles, grandparents, cousins, friends or anyone with or without disabilities is welcome.



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Out & About

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



Photo by Karen Lovett, KP News

On March 11, there was a historic gathering in the VFW room at the KP Civic Center. The Key Peninsula Historical Society welcomed former VFW members of the Key Peninsula post to acknowledge their service and have their photos taken in front of the VFW emblem. Pictured (from left) are Bud Elvin Floberg, Wally Cornman and Cy Young.



Photo by Ed Johnson, KP News

Camp Seymour added a new dock to their Glencove facility to help expand education programs for its campers. The YMCA of Pierce and Kitsap Counties spent \$250,000 on the new dock, which is said to be more environmentally friendly. It will not sit directly on the shore during low tide.



Photo by Scott Turner, KP News

Key Peninsula Middle School student Kaitlyn Glenn poses with her first-place contest-winning paper. Glenn recently won the Fleet Reserve Association's Americanism Essay Contest for her age group with her Bill of Rights essay, based on how this body of work impacts her. She won a cash prize of \$50.