



Final day of school for the 2012-13 year

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THE VOICE OF THE KEY PENINSULA

VOL. 42 NO. 6

INSIDE&ONLINE

JUNE 2013

Online



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- Home Espresso nears 20 years
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KPMS students tell Holocaust stories

By Scott Turner, KP News

What began as a reading assignment for language arts students at Key Peninsula Middle School has become a pair of entries in a statewide contest to remember the Holocaust.

Earlier this spring, KPMS eighth-graders were given an assignment to read and discuss a book about the Holocaust as part of the school's Springboard curriculum.

According to language arts teacher Vicky Schauer, studying the Holocaust has been part of the Springboard curriculum for three years.

"All three of my classes were assigned to read a book and then join in a discussion," Schauer said. "But after the book

(See Holocaust, Page 2)



Photo by Scott Turner, KP News

Sierra Rose Nason, 14, interviewed her great-grandmother about escaping Germany during the Holocaust. She and fellow KPMS student Kassidy Crownwere finalists in a contest sponsored by Washington State Holocaust Education Center in Seattle.

KP Parks proposes tax levy for November ballot

By Rick Sorrels, KP News

At its May 13 board meeting, Key Pen Parks introduced a resolution for the November general election ballot that would create an operations and maintenance levy against property taxes for all KP landowners.

According to Key Pen Parks Director Scott Gallacher, the board vote to approve the levy launch will probably occur at its June 10 board meeting. "There is no guarantee, however, that it won't be postponed until July. KP residents are welcome and encouraged to come and speak out either for or against the resolution," Gallacher said.

A specific dollar figure or percentage collected for the tax will not be discussed until the June meeting.

All five park commissioners agree that the park district will be in dire straights if an additional revenue source is not quickly found.

The ballot issue that created the district also authorized it to collect up to 75 cents in property tax receipts (per \$1,000 in assessed value), with simply a vote by the board of directors. KP Parks has never taken that much. Its current authorized "take" is 41.5 cents, but will drop to essentially nothing next year.

For 2013, KP Parks is "authorized" to collect \$728,000, but is expected to collect only \$600,000 from property taxes. For 2014, the amount collected is expected to drop to between zero dollars and \$150,000 (a rate of 0 to 12 cents per \$1,000 assessed value).

According to Gallacher, the only other income for KP Parks is a stable \$115,000 each year from sales tax and user fees for park facilities.

There are two major reasons for the drop in revenue. One, the economy tanked, along with assessed values and the taxes collected. Two, something called "pro-ration," where there is a pecking order in who gets the taxes collected, said Mike Loneragan, Pierce County assessor-treasurer.

The state Constitution sets a maximum for property tax collections. The taxes "authorized" for the various taxing governments now exceed that limit. The alpha dog and beta dog receive their full amount authorized, with the lower priority agencies now shorted.

The priority for the local taxing district, from highest to lowest, is: Pierce County general government, Pierce County roads, Fire District 16, Pierce County Library, KP Parks and lastly, the

(See Parks, Page 4)

(From **Holocaust**, Page 1)

discussions, several of the kids wanted to write about the characters or the authors of the books they'd read. It was a chance to extend the learning and personalize it."

This year, Schauer was able to coordinate the school's Holocaust study with the National Day of Remembrance and also with a statewide contest sponsored by the Washington State Holocaust Education Center in Seattle.

More than 700 students from across the state entered the contest with photographs, digital images and written works. Two KPMS students were chosen as finalists.

Crown wrote "... a lovely, amazing poem" about the Holocaust that is in the running for a prize, Schauer said.

For Sierra Rose Nason, 14, the reading assignment became an opportunity to tell the story of her great-grandmother

whose family escaped from Czechoslovakia just as Hitler's armies invaded their country.

"I've always been interested in the Holocaust," Nason said. "Not just the stories about the gas chambers and the concentration camps, but also about the escapees and the people who were able to get out fast enough. You don't really hear much about them."

Nason's great-grandmother and her family were among the lucky ones who were able to escape.

"When we started the Holocaust section in SpringBoard, I knew I wanted to write about something," Nason said. "And then when Ms. Schauer showed me the contest form, I knew I wanted to write about my grandma."

"She didn't exactly experience the Holocaust because she got out fast enough to not have to survive through all the — uh — disappointments, but I knew I wanted to interview her," she said.

Her great-grandmother's old name was Hana Löyw, Nason said. "But now her new name is Joan Brant. I call her Grandma Joan even though she's my great-grandmother. She was born on April 21, 1930 in Czechoslovakia. Now she lives in Spanaway with my aunt."

For her story, Nason and her grandmother talked for about two hours. The young Nason said her hand was cramped from taking notes. At times, she said the interview became very emotional.

"When grandma was 8, that's when Czechoslovakia got hit by Hitler's power and that's when her family left because they knew they weren't going to be safe there," she said.

Nason said one of her great-grandmother's most frightening memories was about leaving Czechoslovakia.

"She remembers seeing the boots of a German soldier and she thought she was going to die. They kept changing

the (colors of the) passes, which was how they kept the Jews confused. My grandmother was so afraid because she didn't have the right color pass. But the soldier tripped and let their papers fly, and then he said they could pass," Nason said with a smile.

Nason said the family made their way through Prague first, and then the underground helped them get to Holland, and when they arrived in America her great-grandmother was 13.

"I was very amazed by her story," Nason said. "It's so interesting and it's astonishing that she can remember it all."

"What inspires me the most is those thousands of people who got killed. They didn't just care about themselves, everybody cared about the other people. I don't want anyone to ever forget that something tragic happened. I don't want anyone to forget about the Holocaust," she said.

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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.

Key Peninsula News is published monthly by the Key Peninsula News publishing board in Vaughn, Washington. The Key Peninsula Civic Center Association is the non-profit parent organization. Copyright 2013 with all rights reserved. Reproduction of editorial or graphic contents in any manner without permission is prohibited. Annual subscriptions (12 issues) are available for \$30.00 and are mailed first class. Copies are mailed presort standard to residents and post office box holders of the Key Peninsula. Single copies are available at the newspaper office in the basement of the Civic Center annex and at various distribution points located on the Key Peninsula. Approximately 19,000 people live in the distribution area.

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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.

**JUNE 2013****Key Pen Parks PROGRAM GUIDE**Recreation Coordinator: Jessica Smeall, jessica@keypenparks.com 253-884-9240 x22REGISTER ONLINE: www.keypenparks.com**SUMMER CAMPS at-a-glance**

CAMP	Dates	Location	Time	Ages	Fee	Highlights
MAD SCIENCE	July 8-12 August 19-23	Volunteer Park	9:30am-12:30pm	5-12	\$125	July is Machine Mania and August is Science Sleuths!
THEATER	July 15-19	Civic Center	10:00am-4:00pm	7-16	\$149	Prepare & perform a play with Kathleen McGilliard!
LEGO: Pre-Engineering OR Bash Em Bots	July 15-19	Volunteer Park	9am-12pm or 1pm-4pm	5-7 or 7-12	\$135	Build boats, bridges, mazes & cars (Pre-Engineers) or battling mechanized machines (Bash Em Bots).
PICASSO ART	July 22-26	Volunteer Park	9:30am-12:00pm	4-7	\$79	Learn from famous artists and create masterpieces!
ECO ADVENTURE	July 29-Aug 2 Aug 12-16	3 Parks, 1 Farm & Camp Seymour	9:30am-4:00pm	8-12	\$109*	Big canoe trip, recycled art, hiking, beachcombing...
YOGA & MEDITATION	August 5-9	Volunteer Park	9:00am-10:00am	7-12	\$49	Experience the calming effect of yoga practice...
PEEWEE DRUM	August 5-9	Volunteer Park	10:00am-2:00pm	4-7	\$49*	Explore all types of drums & prepare a performance!
PEEWEE THEATER	August 19-23	Volunteer Park	2:00pm-4:00pm	4-7	\$59	A fun and creative camp to learn theater skills!

*reduced price reflects subsidy from Community Partners—KGI Watershed (Eco) and Longbranch Improvement Club members (Drum)

Junk in your Trunk 6/8
Space to sell your junk - \$20**FITNESS
CAMP****SUMMER 1 SESSION**

Instructor: Shannon Reichl

Location: Volunteer Park (first 3 weeks of the session) & 360 Trails (last 3 weeks)

Day: Mon & Wed Time: 6-7pm

Dates: June 3 – July 10

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

Join mid-session and we will prorate the fee!

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• \$20 register before June 4 (guaranteed a shirt) • \$30 register June 5-15

• \$5 from each registration donated to the Key Peninsula school PTA of your choice--
Minter Creek, Vaughn, Evergreen, or KPMS**KIDS RUN FREE! (choose 1k Kids Dash or 5k!)****Upcoming
Public
Meetings**Park Board Meetings are at
the Volunteer Park office, at
7:30pm on the following
dates:June 10 (2nd Mon. of month)

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Narrows Bridge tolls to increase next month

By Connie Renz, KP News

Bridge toll rate changes are coming. As of today daily commuter with a Good to Go Pass pays \$1,000 per year for tolls on the Tacoma Narrows Bridge.

The Washington State Transportation Commission has proposed a toll-rate increase of 25 cents beginning July 1. The new tolls are: Good to Go \$4.25, toll booth payments \$5.25 and pay-by-mail \$6.25. This amount increases commuters' payments by about \$5 per month.

A 25-cent increase for July 1, 2014 also has been proposed.

During a recent toll meeting, WSDOT's Dan O'Neill said "if rates are kept low this year, a bigger bump will occur next year."

According to WSDOT's "TNB Toll Rate Setting" revised in December 2013, tolls on the Tacoma Narrows Bridge must cover costs to make debt service payments on construction bonds, operate and maintain the new bridge (but not the old one), operate and maintain toll collection, make necessary repairs and restoration to the new bridge, and purchase insurance in case something happens that takes the bridge out of service

(but not the lack of vehicles crossing).

WSDOT said toll rates must change because the original finance plan that funded TNB construction included 10 separate bonds that required low debt service (repayment) in early years after construction that increase rapidly for the first 10 years and less rapidly after that with more interest paid each year.

The plan assumed the average toll rates would begin at \$3 when the bridge opened, increasing \$1 every three years until reaching a maximum of \$6.

To date, WSDOT data show due to reduced costs and better than projected traffic in the early years, toll rates have remained lower than originally projected.

The new bridge opened in 2007 with tolls of \$1.75 for Good to Go and \$2 for cash. In July 2010, the toll increased to \$2.75 for Good to Go and \$4 for cash; the original plan was for \$4 for all tolls.

In July 2012, the toll-rate increased to \$4 for Good to Go, \$5 for cash and \$6 for pay-by-mail, although the original plan called for the toll to be \$5 for all pay plans. According to the original finance plan, the toll will eventually be \$6 for Good to Go.

(From Parks, Page 1)

Flood Control District, Lonergan said.

Gallacher expects Pierce County to take a bigger bite of next year's allotment for its general fund and roads, due to pressing needs, which will drop KP Parks' receipts to near nothing. Fire District 16 and the library have no current plans that would bury KP Parks even deeper, but that is always subject to changing events.

KP Parks does have approximately \$1 million in reserve funds, which could extend its operations another year or so, but a loss of those funds would greatly impact any improvements to the various park facilities.

"If the reserve fund is depleted, facility improvements would essentially cease, along with a goodly percentage of our six employees," said Board President Greg

Ballot writers wanted

Writers for the "for" and "against" position statements will be needed for the parks levy issue for the November ballot, if the parks board vote passes. Applications must be received by the county auditor by Aug. 6, with statements due by Aug. 9 and reply statements by Aug. 13. For information, contact Scott Gallacher at (253) 884-9240, or scottg@keypenparks.com.

Anglemyer. "The November ballot will give the voters a chance to let us know if the parks will stay open or not."



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Who?

Students who will be enrolled in high school for the 2013-2014 school year.



When?

July 8th - July 25th
8:00 AM - 3:00 PM
(1/2 hour for lunch)

Where?

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Gig Harbor, WA 98335

Transportation Available for Peninsula School District students.

What?

The Peninsula School District and West Sound Technical Skills Center are joining forces to provide high school students with a great opportunity to get a head start on CTE, PE, or science elective credits. For summer 2013, students can sign up for a class that spikes their interest. Upon completion of the summer course, students will earn a letter grade and a .5 high school credit. This program is tuition FREE with a \$35 materials fee due at registration.

Program Offerings

- **Dynamic DNA** - Students will learn about DNA and genes, how genes influence who we are, and how they interact with the environment (CTE or science).
- **2D Video Game Design** - Based on DigiPen curriculum, students apply creativity and problem solving through computer programming. (CTE)
- **Environmental Science** - Students participate in a variety of exercises in the natural environment. (CTE or Science)
- **Sports Medicine: Physical Fitness Tech** - Introduction to a variety of skills used in sports medical fields, including practical applications. (CTE or PE)
- **Robotics** - Use of Lego robotics to learn basic computer programming. (CTE)
- **Advanced Robotics** - A continuation of robotics to perform advanced functions. (CTE)
- **College, Career, and Financial Exploration** - Focuses on the career portfolio, job interview process, consumer education, and financial literacy (incoming sophomores only). (CTE)
- **Global Health** - A hands-on laboratory course about a variety of biomedical skills covering a spectrum of infectious disease prevention, such as malaria (CTE or science).

*Offerings contingent upon sufficient student enrollment.

Why?

This summer satellite program is a great opportunity for students who want to have more **elective freedom** in high school. For students who are enrolled in four years of world languages or the arts, this creates a flexible way to earn a .5 credit needed for graduation. The courses available are **fun, hands-on**, and because students will be in one class 6.5 hours a day, they will be able to participate in valuable activities with fewer time constraints. Don't miss this amazing chance to **kickstart** your high school career.

What are you waiting for? Register now! Go to: sl.psd401.net/ssp

Summer School

Credit recovery classes are designed for high school students who need to capture .5 credit in selected classes which are required to graduate (math, English, social studies). Students must have already taken such a course and received a grade of F or Incomplete.

HSPE support classes are offered in reading and writing to prepare students to re-take the HSPE exams. This is specifically for students who have already taken the HSPE but did not meet standard and plan to retake the test in August. Meeting standard on the HSPE is required by the state to graduate.

Independent Reading List

This spring, middle and high school teachers and librarians from across the district collaborated to create an independent reading list to supplement the SpringBoard curriculum:

- to support teachers, parents, and students in choosing high-quality, engaging novels at each grade level for independent reading, literature circles, and/or reading support.
- to deepen student understanding and application of themes and strategies in the curriculum.
- to support the Common Core State Standards requirements that students read more complex texts more frequently.

The District, middle and high school websites feature a link to the reading list on their main pages or your student may request a copy from their librarian.

JUNE EVENTS

- 6 School Board Regular Meeting 6 p.m. District Office
- 10 Key Peninsula Middle School—All Bands Concert 6:30 p.m.
- 12 Community Transitions Program "CTP" Graduation 6 p.m. at Kensington Gardens
- 15 Henderson Bay High School Graduation 1 p.m. Boys & Girls Club
- 16 Peninsula High School Graduation 12 p.m. Tacoma Dome
- 16 Gig Harbor High School Graduation 3 p.m. Tacoma Dome
- 18 Last day of school—Early release for all grade levels: high school, 10:45 a.m.; middle school, 11:30 a.m.; and elementary school, 12:15 p.m.
- 20 School Board Regular Meeting 6 p.m. District Office

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Peninsula Views

Lessons from Silicon Valley

Imagine a classroom with a blackboard instead of a whiteboard, and a variety of colored chalk to write with instead of dry erase markers.

As you look around, you notice something else unusual: the absence of tech screens —no computers, iPads, not even a television.

What you do see are lots of bookshelves overflowing with books (even a set of print encyclopedias) as well as an abundance of nature items set out on tables and countertops: rocks, shells, pine cones, an entire paper wasp nest, assorted animal bones and teeth and mud.

Mud? Are we visiting a classroom in a rural, impoverished community, or have we somehow stepped back in time to the classroom of our childhood?

Neither. We are today standing in the center of a classroom in Los Altos, Calif. We are visiting the Waldorf School of the Peninsula, located south of San Francisco on the San Francisco Peninsula. It's the school where the chief technology officer of eBay as well as many Apple, Hewlett-Packard, Yahoo! and Google executives send their children to be educated.

This is one Waldorf school out of some 160 in the United States. There are several in the Puget Sound region, and more than 700 worldwide. In Washington these are private schools where families pay tuition, but in some states you can find public charter schools that operate under the Waldorf philosophy.

The history of the Waldorf School is quite interesting. The first was created by Austrian philosopher/scientist Rudolph Steiner in Stuttgart, Germany. In 1919, just after World War I, he was asked by the owner of the Waldorf-Astoria cigarette factory to give a speech to his workers.

Steiner spoke about the need for society to find a less damaging way of resolving conflict, for people to embrace a new sense of ethics and the need for a new social order. After his lecture, the factory

owner asked Steiner to start a school for the workers' children.

What is intriguing about the proliferation of the Waldorf system is not its philosophy of teaching and learning or its vision of developmentally appropriate curriculum, but the fact that today tech titans in Silicon Valley choose to send their children to schools where computer use by children is not recommended and television viewing at home is requested to be strictly monitored for content and language.

Waldorf educators believe that children need to learn from physical activity and learning through creative, hands-on tasks. Those who believe in this approach say that computers inhibit creative thinking, movement, human interaction and attention spans.

And what do Waldorf students think? They say that they don't miss having technology at school and admit that they have some access to tech devices at home, if they want it.

But their time with electronic devices is limited until they reach high school, when their techie parents say that they pick up the necessary skills very quickly.

One Waldorf middle school student shared how he becomes frustrated when his parents get so wrapped up in phones and other devices that they "forget" that he is even there. On a recent trip to visit cousins, he found himself sitting around with five of them playing with their gadgets, and not one of them was speaking to another. He began to wave his arms, saying, "Hello guys, I'm here."

Deborah Allen is a teacher and librarian, and she enjoys reading to children all the time.

She can be reached at windmeadowfarm@gmail.com.



Deborah Allen
Read to Me

Loreena Racine, cycling recycler

On any given day if you spend time on the Key Pen byways, you may encounter Loreena Racine. She's often riding her bicycle and is on a recycling mission.

On some days, she makes an eight-mile round trip from her home to Key Center, where she does volunteer work at the Angel Guild.

She sorts and stocks used treasures for future reuse and sale. Racine is a customer as well and regularly buys used jewelry that she remakes into lovely vintage brooches, necklaces and bracelets. Her handiwork is on display (and for sale) at the Goin' Postal store — close to the Angel Guild.

Other days, she recycles for K C Computer Repair.

To get to the computer shop, it's a 12-mile round trip up two of the steepest hills in the area. While working there, Racine takes apart old computers for eventual recycling. "Racine is a great help, and does her job to perfection," said Sheryl Mirenta, owner of KC Computer repair.

Racine is dedicated to her work and her

friends. She rides her bicycle in all seasons, rain or shine.

"I don't ride in snow," she said. "It's too dangerous."

Peril can lurk behind every twist and turn. A few years back she was riding without her reflective vest and was struck from behind by a Winnebago, knocking her down and causing severe lacerations, that required stitches. She has worn her vest and helmet ever since.

Besides all the cycling and recycling, Racine is branching out to new art forms.

She is presently painting animal portraits on T-shirts, each one a personalized work of art. She hopes to be selling them soon.

Racine is one individual who makes our community a unique and better place to live. When you're out and about, watch for Racine and her wonderful art.



Steve Whitford
Words of Whit

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Tennis court cleanup help appreciated

The Key Peninsula Tennis Club would like to thank the Gilmans, the Schuler boys, Dick Day, Kendall Ewing and Herb

Marra for their participation in our annual tennis court clean up at the Key Peninsula Civic Center on Saturday, May 18. You got a heck of a lot done and the courts look great.

*Phil Bauer
Vaughn*

Letters Policy

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

Breaking down gun background checks

Gun background checks do nothing to thwart gun violence in cities such as Chicago and New York, where the majority of crimes are committed with illegal guns.

Guns purchased by law-abiding citizens are not the problem; criminals are.

We have to get past the idea that law abiding gun owners are evil.

The major news media and a good portion of our politicians have been reporting some very gross misrepresentations about gun owners and background checks.

People like California Sen. Diane Feinstein and New York Sen. Chuck Schumer tell us that "48 percent of gun sales are made without a background check" and that background checks have "blocked over 1.7 million prohibited individuals from buying a gun." Both stats are just false.

On sales without a check, even the 40 percent figure that President Obama recently used is off.

Cecil Beal Gun Sight



It's obtained by the rounding up a 36 percent statistic that comes from the only study on this issue.

That study covered a 1991-94 period, most of which came before the Brady Act took effect on Feb. 28 1994, which required all federally licensed dealers to perform background checks.

The researchers in this one short study gave this 36 percent number for all transactions, including family inheritances and gifts, not just "sales." If you count only guns that were bought, traded, borrowed, rented, issued or won through raffles, 85 percent went through federally licensed gun dealers and just 15 percent would have been transferred without a back-

ground check.

That survey also found that all gun show sales went through federally licensed dealers.

If Schumer really trusts this study, he and his media cohorts should stop complaining about the "gun show loophole." Schumer's state already has very strict gun laws that don't work because New York's laws are aimed at law-abiding citizens, not criminals.

Here are the Internet facts: Any firearm purchased on the Internet has to be shipped to a federally licensed firearms dealer. You cannot just go on the Internet, buy a gun and have it shipped to your home. All the proper paperwork has to be filled out, a background check done and the gun registered. So why are people saying we need extended background checks?

The real question here is what good will this new background check law do?

It would not have stopped any of the recent shootings we have suffered here in America, but you know what might have? Giving the FBI access to mental health

records.

This information could be used in conjunction with the current criminal background checks performed by licensed gun dealers. It would make certain that anyone who has a diagnosed mental health condition or lives with someone who does is not allowed to own a firearm. As a gun dealer, this would be (an added) valuable tool to help me and others keep guns out of the hands of people who should not have them.

In the current bill being touted by President Obama, the provision for background checks if you are selling a gun to a family member or a friend was removed.

This was for a person-to-person private sale. So now, for a local sale all you have to do is say that you know the person you are selling to. How would anyone know otherwise? If there is any "loophole" anywhere it is in this current bill.

Cecil Beal has been involved with firearms through business and collecting most of his life. He can be reached at cmvabeal@hotmail.com.

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Business owners, volunteers blend to clean up entrance to KP

By Michelle Mondeck, KP News

Dayl Minch got tired of seeing trash building up on the roadside. Minch, a co-owner of Key Center's Blend Wine Shop, took her determination and called the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) Adopt-a-Highway Program and recently organized a road cleanup crew.

"Our town is beautiful and full of art, writers, talent and shops, and this (litter) is the first thing people see as they enter Purdy," Minch said.

On April 7, the crew, consisting of more than 20 volunteers, gathered in the pouring rain outside of Massimo's restaurant and were given an assigned section of road.

Two of the volunteers, Paul and Colleen Haak, said they were happy to lend a hand picking up, as they helped one another don their rain gear.

The WSDOT provided safety vests, hard hats, gloves and road signs for the cleanup, and the process was fairly simple, Minch said.

According to both Jeff and Dayl Minch, the "big time" commitment is signing a four-year contract on a two-mile stretch of road. Last month's cleanup action was just a trial run. The couple wants to see how many people are interested in the project. If they can get enough volunteers, they said they will commit to a four-year contract.

Volunteers Ayane Kawaai and Evelin Lundeen, both members of the Gig Harbor High School Key Club, said roadside trash bothered both of them and they were more than willing to help with the project.

"I decided to help cleanup the mess," Kawaai said. The two paired up for the outing. Lundeen mirrored her friend's sentiments. "I just wanted to do something productive. I don't like seeing all the litter when I go by here," she said.

Both girls were given the stretch of roadway below Peninsula High School to clean. Kawaai and Lundeen said they were proud to be helping out their neighboring school and community as a goodwill gesture.

The road cleanup took volunteers about

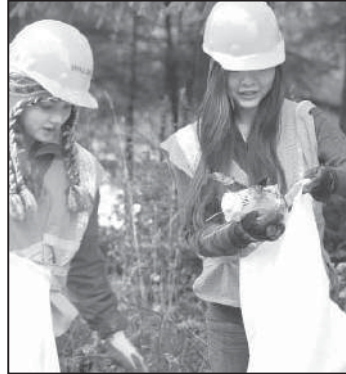


Photo by Michelle Mondeck, KP News

Evelin Lundeen and Ayane Kawaai, right, were among several crew members who were out enforce last month cleaning up litter in the Purdy area as part of the WSDOT Adopt-a-Highway Program.

two hours. They worked until they ran out of bags, and made a sizeable dent in the garbage, Jeff Minch said.

The crew picked up 100 very full trash bags, which were then picked up by WS-

DOT for disposal.

After the cleanup, the Minches invited all participants back to the Blend Wine Shop for a hot meal, which was provided by Lori Deacon, owner of Cape-E Farm and Vineyard.

Volunteers exchanged stories and expressed what a great experience it had been. To show their appreciation, the Minches handed out T-shirts to the volunteers to commemorate their community service efforts.

About one month later, Dayl Minch organized a second road cleanup where some 15 volunteers went back to the original location and picked up another 70 bags of garbage.

"We wanted to finish what we started," she said.

Minch said the cleanup effort is a community project and the official road adoption will be brought to the "community table."

"We will make a commitment if there is enough interest and plenty of volunteers," she said.

For information, call (253) 884-9688, or visit blendwineshop.com.

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NEWS BRIEFS

Community News

Jeff Harris named Citizen of the Year

Longtime Key Peninsula resident Jeff Harris was recognized as the Citizen of the Year at the end of March. Harris was selected by the sponsoring Key Peninsula Lions from 18 people nominated by the community.

"The Key Peninsula is a great community," Harris said in accepting his award. "All you have to do is find one of the many organizations in the community and be involved."

Washington Corrections Center for Women Superintendent Jane Parnell, the keynote speaker, shared information about the programs that are in place at the prison to help the offenders successfully reenter the community. The prison currently houses 917 women ages 18 to 93 and has 738 registered volunteers who contributed 14,000 hours of service last year.

"Because of volunteers, we have programs to address the issues that have brought (the offenders) there," she said.

The banquet included live music by local group Rusty Roots. Congressman Derek Kilmer led a group of half a dozen state and county officials in serving the dinner to the attendees.

PSD students place well in county library contest

Three Key Peninsula Middle School and Peninsula High School students were winners in the recent Pierce County Library System's teen contest, Our Own Expressions.

Students from Pierce County, including home-schooled, submitted nearly 1,000 poems, short stories, photographs and drawings, which were judged by professionals in each field based on several criteria.

Eight Peninsula School District students were among the first- through third-place finalists, including Peninsula High's Jesse MacKinnon (third place, 11-12th grade drawing category, and second place, 11-12th grade photography) and Nick Tollefson (first place, 9-10th grade photography),

and Key Peninsula Middle School's Mercella Washburn (second place, 7-8th grade photography).

"I like photography because photography lets me express different things, different emotions I wouldn't necessarily be able to express to someone with words," said Tollefson, who's been dabbling in photography for two years. "My plan is to get a degree in art, specifically in photography, and do photography for a living or teach it to adults. I've been told that if you love what you do and you love your job, you will never truly work a day in your life. If I become a successful photographer, I could travel the world and see the true beauty the world has to offer."

The winners of the annual contest showcased their work at a special public reception on May 30 at Pacific Lutheran University. They were awarded cash prizes ranging from \$50 to \$100, sponsored by the Pierce County Library Foundation.

"Students dazzle us each year with their

amazing writing and art," said Neel Parikh, executive director for Pierce County Library. "It is a joy and an honor to encourage these promising teenagers to share their talents and continue their creative efforts."

KP Council headed to Tacoma to inform county

At the invitation of Pierce County Councilman Stan Flemming, three members of the Key Peninsula Community Council attended the in-district council meeting on May 21.


The meeting was hosted at the Anna Lemon Wheelock Library in Tacoma.

Chuck West, Irene Torres and Phyllis Henry introduced the county council to the Key Peninsula Council's mission, history, current activities and plans for the future.

Pierce County meetings are open to the public and are recorded for cablecast. Video archives are available at piercecountytv.org.

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The power to be...

Area high school students gather for a day of strict Chinese culture

By Colleen Slater, KP News

You're learning a foreign language. One of the best exercises is to speak and listen to only that language for an extended time.

That's why (about three years ago) Heidi Steele, instructor of Chinese at Peninsula and Gig Harbor high schools, organized Chinese Immersion Day for her students.

About 60 students, nearly half of them from Peninsula and Gig Harbor high schools, plus instructors and chaperones, gathered at Nichols Community Center on Fox Island in April to spend nine hours together in various activities.

They committed to speaking only in Chinese for that time, practicing with native speakers of the language, absorbing new vocabulary in a fun, culture-rich environment.

A few of the adults only speak Chinese.

Hour-long class sessions included calligraphy, Majiana, paper folding, singing, paper cutting, Chinese knotting, poetry and

painting, jump rope and Beijing opera.

They made dumplings for lunch, practiced Tai chi and played outdoor games, with a performance presented at day's end.

Brett Shelley, who studies Chinese 2 at PHS, hadn't been to Immersion Day before. "I did Majiana and Chinese knotting, which were both really fun," he said. "It was incredibly difficult speaking only in Chinese, many times being completely clueless as to what was happening," he added.

Chinese has been offered at PHS since 2005, with Steele the only teacher. She teaches Mandarin, the national dialect.

"The focus is on helping students to learn Chinese that they can actually use outside of the classroom," Steele said. "Many students go on to study Chinese at college and use it in future careers," she said.

This year, 19 students, one teacher and two chaperones traveled by bus from Methow Valley to share the experience.

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YMCA sponsor healthy programs throughout the Key

By Scott Turner, KP News

Since it opened in 2007, the Gig Harbor YMCA (now known as the Tom Taylor Family YMCA) has had a presence on the Key Peninsula, thanks largely to Longbranch resident Kristina Butorac.

Butorac is the senior director of youth development at the Gig Harbor-Based Y, and is responsible for all of the organization's outreach programming.

"We realize that for a lot of families on the Key Peninsula, it would be a financial hardship to travel to Gig Harbor to go to the Y," Butorac said. "We needed to go outside of our walls."

YMCA Marketing Director Kristin Stave said what's happening on the Key is more about putting the Y's mission in action.

"The Y isn't just a swim gym or a place to go work out. It's about caring for each other and creating a space for people to be cared for. Our Key Pen program is about bringing our programs to people, rather than making them come to us," Stave said.

According to Butorac, many of the Y's programs on the Peninsula take place in the schools.

"Out here, the schools are the hubs of the community and the more things that can happen in the school, the more likely families are to participate. So bringing the Y to the schools is a natural," Butorac said.

The outreach began about four years ago at Evergreen Elementary when Butorac started a program called Get Up and Move, a weekly after-school class with games and physical activities. She said it is also designed to teach students to become leaders and it provides a safe place for kids to be after school.

The GUM program — as some of the older kids call it — has expanded to other Key Pen schools. Butorac said there's some kind of Y programming taking place in the schools nearly every day during the school year.

She said every elementary school participates in the Y's 5210 program that focuses on healthy every day lifestyles.

"The 5210 focuses on five servings of fruits and veggies every day, two hours or less of 'screen time' one hour or more of physical activity and zero sugar-sweetened drinks every day," Butorac said.

All Key Pen elementary schools also offer a weekly Wednesday Morning Program dur-



Photo by Ed Johnson, KP News

Kristina Butorac, Tom Taylor Family YMCA senior director of youth development, goes through some "Get Up and Move" exercises last month with a pack of energetic Evergreen Elementary School students.

ing the hour before school starts. It includes 30 minutes of physical activity and programming about values like caring, honesty, respect and responsibility, she said.

Evergreen Elementary has a Y club every morning from 6 to 9 a.m. in which students do crafts, play games and have homework and reading time before school starts. Evergreen also hosts a "Beyond After OURS" program Wednesdays and Fridays after school.

Thursday afternoons at KPMS feature a class called Cooking Around the World. "That's when our health educator, Kristin Cucklick, goes to the school and teaches the kids about foods from different lands," Butorac said. "The kids learn cooking skills and also how to make tasty, nutritious meals."

Funding for the Key Pen programs comes from the Y's annual Strong Kids campaign, a nationwide program that raises funds "to fill and meet the needs of folks who need financial assistance. "For us, that's everything that's happening on the Key Peninsula," Butorac said.

Lakebay resident Anne Nesbit is a big fan of what the Y is doing on the Key. Nesbit's two children — Matt, 11 and Grace, 8 — both go to Key Pen schools and have participated in the Y classes.

"The Y is all about kids and health and fitness. They're so focused on the kids," Nesbit said. "And it doesn't matter what your faith base is — they're just focused on helping

kids and teaching them about eating right and exercising and empowering them to feel good about themselves."

For information, contact Kristina Butorac at kbutorac@ymcapk.org or call (253) 534-7871.







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COMMUNITY PAGES

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

NOW

GED classes

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

JUNE 2

Sunday auction

KP Lutheran Church holds the annual Chocolate Sunday Auction at noon at McColey Hall. A light lunch and chocolate sundaes will be served during the live and silent auction. Proceeds benefit the church's emergency shelter and community meals. 884-3312.

JUNE 3, 10, 17, 24

Bloodmobile dates

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

JUNE 6

Fuchsia group meets

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

JUNE 6, 20

Senior shopping

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

JUNE 7, 14, 21

Skate night

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

JUNE 8

Camp program

"Seymour Sunday" holds a free family program including camp activities and a camp meal at Camp Seymour. Email djackson@ymcapkc.org for a digital pass.

Make a photo album

Kathleen Gray will show participants how to make a "Star Photo Album" 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the KP Civic Center. Register with Kathleen, 884-2090.

Junk sale

KP Parks host the annual "Junk in Your Trunk Sale" from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Volunteer Park. Call 884-9240 extension 22.

JUNE 8-9, 21-25

WildWatch programs

Harbor WildWatch's "Get Your Feet Wet" programs take place at the beach at Penrose State Park. Look for the blue canopy where the naturalists and volunteers in blue shirts will help with a beach walk, discovering new life forms and learning how human behavior impacts fragile critters. Visit harborwild-watch.org for event times.

JUNE 11, 26

Knit or crochet

Loving Hearts voluntarily knit and crochet hats for chemo patients and the backpack program for kids, baby items and blankets, wheelchair/walker bags, and fingerless gloves for veterans in the community. They meet from 1 to 3 p.m. June 11 and 7 to 9 p.m. on June 26. Donations of yarn and needles are always welcome. Virginia, 884-9619 or lovingheartsonkp@aol.com.

JUNE 12

Garden club meets

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

JUNE 13

Ashes meet

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

To submit an event

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

JUNE 13, 27

Key free clinic

Non-emergency medical care for residents without any medical insurance is provided from 5:30 to 8 p.m. 884-4440.

JUNE 15

Fun Run

PenLight's Summer Fun Run takes place 9 a.m. at 360 Trails Park. Pre-register before June 4 and get a souvenir shirt. Some proceeds go to the PTA of one's choice: Minter Creek, Vaughn, Evergreen or KPMS. Kids run free. 884-9240 extension 22 to register.

Family variety show

The KPCCA presents a family-friendly variety show featuring comedian Alex Serbe and magician Jeff Evans. Tickets are available at brownpapertickets.com, Sunnycrest Nursery and the KP Civic Center. An event sponsorship was given by Ed Taylor and the Westwynd Motel. Kpciviccenter.org/varietyshow.

JUNE 16

Sunday bluegrass jam

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

JUNE 20

Community forum

The Mustard Seed presents its community forum 10 a.m. at the KC fire station. 884-1205.

Words and Wine

Words and Wine is hosted at Blend Wine

Shop at 7 p.m. Jerry, 778-6559.

JUNE 21

Teen fun

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

JUNE 23

Tryouts held

"Key's Got Talent" tryouts take place 3 to 5:30 p.m. in the KP Civic Center Gym. Ages 6 and older may try out; all tryouts must be family-friendly. Keyfair.org for more information.

JUNE 25

WildWatch at Purdy Spit

Harbor WildWatch presents "Get Your Feet Wet" at Purdy Spit from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Look for the blue-shirted naturalists and volunteers to assist you. Harborwild-watch.org or (253) 514-0187.

Summer reading

The theme for summer reading is "Dig into Reading" and it starts with story time for babies at 10:15 a.m. and one for toddlers and older kids at 11 a.m. on Tuesdays at the Key Center Library. (253) 548-3309.

JUNE 26

Family story time

Family story time takes place at 11 a.m. on Wednesdays at the Key Center Library. (253) 548-3309.

JUNE 28-30, JULY 1-4

Fireworks sale

The KP Civic Center's fireworks stand is open 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. in Key Center. 884-3456.

JUNE 29

BBQ

KP Indoor Garden Store hosts its third annual Customer Appreciation BBQ from noon to 7 p.m. in Key Center. There will be vendors, samples, free food, music, raffles, prizes and 20 percent off everything in the store. 884-7873.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

Key Peninsula Veterans

June 3, 7 p.m. at KP Civic Center; www.kpveterans.net.

KP Lions' dinner and program

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

Peninsula School District Board

June 6 and 20, 6 p.m. at district office.

Key Pen Parks, June 10

7 p.m. at Volunteer Park; keypen-parks.com.

KP Community Fair Association

June 11, 6 p.m. in Roadhouse Restaurant VIP room; keyfair.org.

KeyFest

June 11, 6 p.m. at Roadhouse; president@keyfest.org.

Fire District 16

June 11 and 25, 6 p.m. in meeting room, Key Center Fire Station; www.keypeninsulafire.org.

Key Peninsula Council

June 12, 7 p.m. at KC fire station; www.kpcouncil.org.

KP Civic Center Association Board

June 13, 7 p.m. in Whitmore Room; www.kpciviccenter.org.

LIC

June 19, BBQ potluck, 6:30 p.m. at Longbranch Improvement Club; 884-6022 longbranchimprovementclub.org.

KP Citizens Against Crime

June 20, 7 p.m. at Home fire station; kpcitizensagainstcrime.org.

KP Farm Council

June 24, 6:30 p.m. at Key Center fire station; dwebsterkp@gmail.com.

WEEKLY EVENTS

MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, FRIDAYS

Open walk

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

Senior exercise class

The S.A.I.L. program, taught by Marilyn Perks, includes aerobics, light weight lifting, stretching and balance techniques takes place 10 to 11 a.m. at the KP Community Services in Lakebay. Participants must register with Marilyn, 884-4440.

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

Senior tai chi club

Senior tai chi takes place 10 to 11 a.m. at the KP Community Services in Lake-

bay. 884-4440.

WEDNESDAYS

Writers meet

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

Writers' workshop

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

WEDNESDAYS & FRIDAYS

Senior meals

Nutritional meals for seniors 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 KC Library. Join the fun and improve your speaking ability. Toastmasters International is the most efficient, enjoyable way of developing great communication skills. For information, contact toastmastersclubs.org or (253) 740-7891.

Seniors' lunch

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

Bingo

Free Bingo takes place at the KP Community Services beginning at 7 p.m. 884-4440.

THURSDAYS & SATURDAYS

Logging display

The logging display "Tall Trees, Tall Men, Tall Tales" is open at the Key Peninsula Historical Society Museum 1 to 4 p.m. or by appointment. Free admission; money donations appreciated. 884-2511 or 884-5403.

SATURDAYS

Writers meet

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

OFF THE KEY

JUNE 1-2

Maritime Gig

The annual Maritime Gig Festival takes place 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Saturday and 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Sunday. The Pirates of the Peninsula Parade, family events, live music and more are on Saturday. Sunday has lots of activities, food, music, the Blessing of the Fishing Fleet and the new Wheels on Water Classic Car Show. Gigharborchamber.com.

JUNE 1

School garage sale

Henderson Bay High School is hosting a garage sale fundraiser for its senior class from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., at 8402 Skansie Ave. For information, call (253) 530-1712.

JUNE 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

Farmers Market

The Gig Harbor Farmers Market at Uptown is open 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., on Saturdays.

JUNE 2, 5, 9, 12, 16, 19, 23, 26, 30

Farmers Market

The Farmers Market at Skansie Brothers Park is open on Wednesdays and Sundays.

JUNE 15

Flea market

The "Famous Victor Flea Mart" annual fundraiser is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Victor behind the SR-302 fire station. Raffle, household item, plants, books and food. For information (360) 275-1364.

JUNE 21-23 & 28-30

Play presented

"Spamalot" is presented at the Paradise Theatre on Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. and on Sundays at 3 p.m. (253) 851-7529.

JUNE 25

Summer concert

Summer Sounds host The Gothard Sisters (Celtic music/dance) at 6:30 p.m. at Skansie Brothers Park in Gig Harbor. All concerts are free and take place in any weather.

JUNE 29-30

Garden tour

The annual Gig Harbor Garden Tour hosts a "Tour for Literacy" to benefit local child and adult literacy. Hours on Saturday are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Sunday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Contact info@gigharborgardentour.org.

KP company holds benefit for Key Peninsula Civic Center

By Karen Lovett, KP News

Key Peninsula Master's Dry Carpet Cleaning business started April 28, 1998.

On April 19, owners Tom and Julie Boardman celebrated 15 years of successful operation with a fundraiser for the Key Peninsula Civic Center.

The couple's celebration party was hosted at Blend Wine Shop in Key Center. It was a festive occasion and a unique way of giving back to their community.

Cleaning services were raffled off during the event, and more than \$400 was raised to help support the civic center.

Some 15 years ago, while working as an auto body repair person, Tom Boardman began suffering from exposure to work-related chemicals. He needed a different line of work with an instant income. The couple quickly researched business opportunities.

Julie Boardman said they contacted a carpet cleaning supplier who changed their lives.

"He gave us supplies, equipment and training and sent us business customers. In less than a month we were trained and earning an income," she said.

Their business has blossomed since then because the two take the time to get to know each of their customers very well.

"We serve the needs of each person. The majority of our customers are women because they focus on detail," she said.

The couple maintains those relationships — mostly repeat customers — serving clients in Seattle, Kirkland, Tacoma, Kitsap County as well as the Key Peninsula.

Their children, Ben, Heather, Jessie and Becky, have grown up with the business. All are highly-qualified carpet cleaning specialists producing the same quality cleaning as their parents.

According to Julie, the largest carpet the family ever cleaned was an 18,000-square-foot church multipurpose room. It took the entire family, including an exchange student living with them, two days to finish. The oldest item Master's Dry Carpet Cleaning did was cleaning an area rug more than 100 years old.

Blend was filled with many longtime customers and friends who were quick to recommend the quality service provided by Master's Cleaning service.



Photo by Karen Lovett, KP News

Clockwise from left, Tom Boardman, Mark Roberts, Julie Boardman and Heather Boardman tear his raffle tickets during the Master's Dry Carpet Cleaning anniversary celebration at Blend Wine Shop.

"Julie and Tom just cleaned my carpet yesterday. They did a great job," Sylvia Haase said.

Barbara Heard said that Tom and Julie really "understand the science of dirt."

In addition to running their business, the couple returned to take on an active role helping to run the Key Peninsula Civic Center. Tom Boardman is a member of the board and Julie became the executive board secretary one year ago.

"I've been on the Civic Center board for 32 years. We missed them when they were off the board. We're so glad they're back," Claudia Loy said.

Tom Welch was the lucky first-place winner, getting \$400 off any cleaning service. Second and third prize winner Mark Roberts won a loveseat upholstery cleaning (or comparable) and bottle of wine.

For information, call (253) 858-6477 or visit mastersdrycarpetcleaning.com.

2nd Annual "Doing the Key" Golf Tournament

A fundraiser for the
Key Peninsula Civic Center
Saturday, August 24th
Trophy Lake, Port Orchard

Event opens at 12pm
Tournament starts at 1:30pm

- four person scrambles
- course competitions
- 1st & 2nd place winners

\$125 per player
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www.kpciviccenter.org

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Registration ends June 19th so sign up NOW!

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

Book based on life on the Key

By Scott Turner, KP News

Since 2004, Ted Olinger, and his wife, Beth Porter, and their son have made their home on the Key Peninsula.

For several of those years, Olinger wrote for the Key Peninsula News, reporting on everything from sports to a local horse whisperer, to a family who has raised foster kids for three decades.

He also wrote for outdoor magazines.

Most recently, Olinger has focused his talents on writing "The Woodpecker Menace," a book of short stories. Fellow KP resident Tweed Meyer illustrated the cover of the book.

Olinger said his stories are a fictional record of the people, critters and activities he's come to know in his years of living here — observances of life in what he calls "the accidentally unseparated island nation that is the Key Peninsula."

The title story is about a young family who moves to the Key Peninsula and whose home is invaded by a woodpecker.

"They cannot get rid of it," he said. "After multiple attempts to dislodge him and after getting permission from the government to kill him, they instead decide to surrender and welcome him into their home."

Many of the stories are based on his experiences when he was working for KP News.

"I started to get to know people around here and see how they interact with the Peninsula and how the Peninsula acts on them and changes the trajectory of their lives," Olinger said.

He was meeting many people and hearing a lot of things that were not necessarily newsworthy. "I was getting the flavor of the different types of life that exist out here. And that sort of got the burner going. That's what really inspired putting this book together," he said.

Olinger tells the story of "an anarchist logger who makes his living by selling logs out of the back of his truck." "You see that all over the place. He's also a poet, a political activist and somebody who I think a lot of the people on the Peninsula recognize as someone who is an archetype out here. The stories all have that kind of a flavor," he said.

He also writes about lives that were uprooted when the housing bubble collapsed in 2006 and 2007.

"A number of people we knew and that my boy grew up with just disappeared be-



Photo by Scott Turner, KP News

Vaughn resident Ted Olinger recently authored a book about his experiences and encounters with nature and people who make the Key Peninsula their home.

cause they lost their homes," he recalled. "Families were split, and somebody who had lived out here for years had to leave or divide their family because they just couldn't afford to live here.

"For some reason, that idea inspired me to join this with other news items about bees dying off, which is a pretty well-known thing. And that produced a story about what we need to do to conserve the people in our community as well as our nature — human nature and animal nature."

According to Olinger, some of the stories are humorous, some are more serious.

"They stand alone, but they also build on one another, so someone who reads the book from beginning to end is going to get a different perspective than someone who reads just one or two," he said.

Olinger hopes that readers will come away with "more of an appreciation for what is happening around them — whether they relate to what's going on here or not."

"That no one is as isolated as they think they are and everybody has an impact. Everybody has an effect whether they are aware of that or not. Hopefully it will make readers realize that they have a role to play whether they are aware of it or not. We're all satellite nations out here; we are all interconnected," he said.

"The Woodpecker Menace" is available at Mostly Books and Bayside Books in downtown Gig Harbor. It also can be purchased online at plicatapress.com.

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ACROSS

- 1 Liquid crystal display (abbr.)
- 4 Rural free delivery (abbr.)
- 7 Confederate States of America (abbr.)
- 10 Red-tailed Hawaiian bird
- 11 Water (Fr.)
- 12 Snake (pref.)
- 14 A (Ger.)
- 15 Ask
- 17 Three (pref.)
- 18 Biesbok
- 19 Big apple (abbr.)
- 20 Kemo
- 22 Agent (abbr.)
- 24 Ingenuous
- 27 Slave of Sarah
- 31 Fare
- 32 End
- 34 Servant
- 35 Auricular
- 37 Saltwort
- 39 Royal Air Force

(abbr.)

- 41 New sugarcane shoot
- 42 Negative population growth (abbr.)
- 45 Marked with lines
- 47 Health resort
- 50 Indic language
- 52 Husband of Jezebel
- 53 Wings
- 54 Or nearest offer (abbr.)
- 55 Cleave
- 56 Age
- 57 Soak flax
- 58 Atlantic standard time (abbr.)

DOWN

- 1 Large Eur. dormouse
- 2 Tea box
- 3 River into the

Answers

1	IS	2	LA	3	TE	4	RE	5	TH	6	SH	7	CS	8	NO	9	AV	10	AL	11	NO	12	NO	13	NO	14	NO	15	NO	16	NO	17	NO	18	NO	19	NO	20	NO	21	NO	22	NO	23	NO	24	NO	25	NO	26	NO	27	NO	28	NO	29	NO	30	NO	31	NO	32	NO	33	NO	34	NO	35	NO	36	NO	37	NO	38	NO	39	NO	40	NO	41	NO	42	NO	43	NO	44	NO	45	NO	46	NO	47	NO	48	NO	49	NO	50	NO	51	NO	52	NO	53	NO	54	NO	55	NO	56	NO	57	NO	58	NO
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|-------------------|--|
| North Sea | (abbr.) |
| 4 Solicit | 16 Audible breath |
| 5 Field deity | 18 Compass direction |
| 6 Chaperon (Sp.) | 21 Amend |
| 7 Bed | 23 Dravidian language |
| 8 Whirl | 24 "Fables in Slang" author |
| 9 Nautical cry | 25 Inlet |
| 10 Ketone (pref.) | 26 Family relative |
| 13 Incorporated | 28 Overshoes |
| | 29 Trouble |
| | 30 Recommended daily allowance (abbr.) |
| | 33 Overcoat |
| | 36 Gloomy |
| | 38 Energy unit |
| | 40 Public excitement |
| | 42 Nat'l Security Agency (abbr.) |
| | 43 Pallid |
| | 44 Growl |
| | 46 Cord |
| | 48 Beat rapidly |
| | 49 Abdominal (abbr.) |
| | 51 Expanse |
| | 52 Altar constellation |

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- Unique acts are always appreciated!
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- Auditions will be held June 23rd at the KP Civic Center 2-6pm. If you are unable to make it on June 23rd, send an Audition video of you/your group when you register.

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Variety Show



Local residents join worldwide Lyme protest

By Colleen Slater, KP News

A "bull's-eye" rash is a first indication of an insidious disease that affects an increased number of people every year worldwide.

Home resident Anna Hart has had the disease for some 15 years. According to her, the three stages of Lyme disease include the symptoms of a cold, followed by stomach problems and eventually the brain and heart can become affected. These stages may progress through many years, depending on treatment, but during the final stage the patient will never be well again, she said.

Anna's mother, Lorraine Hart, is a local activist for Lyme disease.

Lorraine has stood at the Purdy Drive/State Route 302 intersection for three years by herself, trying to build public awareness.

This year, nearly a dozen others joined her at the busy corner, holding signs for passing motorists and pedestrians to take notice.

Lorraine Hart said that people honked, waved, called out positive greetings, and several stopped to ask about the disease and pick up fact brochures.

"We impacted hundreds of people," Hart said.

According to Hart, thanks to a woman in Sweden who suggested having a worldwide protest, this year 30 countries organized events during May 11-12.

Lyme disease is an infectious disease caused by microscopic bacteria carried by the bite of



Photo courtesy Dale Goodwin

Lorraine Hart, left, her son Aaron Rinehart, Gigi Saunders and Anna Hart were in Purdy last month raising awareness about Lyme disease.

ticks, or *Borrelia burgdorferi*. According to Hart, ticks are common in forests, thrive in mild weather and travel on rodents, deer and migratory birds.

This disease is more prevalent than most medical people believe, Hart said.

"Multiply the (statistics) number by at least three," Anna Hart said. "It's the fastest growing infectious disease in this country."

Anna Hart contracted the disease on a canoe trip in Indiana. She said it took three years to be clinically diagnosed and another five years to finally get aggressive treatment from a Lyme Literate specialist (LLMD). She said it took a while for her immune system to rebuild, followed by a detox treatment to pre-

pare it for a regimen of high-dose antibiotics just to get the disease under control.

She still follows an antibiotic regimen, but is not any better off than several years ago, due to a treatment she feels hadn't been sufficiently studied and tested.

Hart operates an online group for Lyme sufferers in Washington state.

Lorraine said there are no Lyme specialists

in Oregon or Idaho, "so people come to Seattle from those states."

Citizens of other countries come to the United States seeking treatment as well, as their governments restrict medical processes, Lorraine added.

Initial appointments with specialists can cost from \$550 to \$1,500.

Lorraine said about 85 percent of the medical community knows little about Lyme, and both women have had doctors tell them they are not interested in learning about the debilitating disease.

The United Kingdom is studying the U.S. guidelines about Lyme and planning to revise its own. In that country, a Lyme patient can only receive 28 days of treatment, Anna said.

Both women and others associated with the disease are hopeful the U.K. guidelines will be even better than the U.S., and this country can follow suit.

Anna Hart's story, photos and a trailer for the film about Lyme (and other references) can be found at myspace.com/hartsoflyme.

For information about the Washington state Lyme support group, visit health.groups.yahoo.com/group/valymefighters/.



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Key Pen Parks and Peninsula Light to host Fun Run

By Scott Turner, KP News

If you're looking for a healthy, unique way to celebrate Father's Day a few days early this year, put on your running shoes and join the PenLight Summer Fun Run on the Key Peninsula's 360 Trails on June 15.

According to Jessica Smeall, recreation coordinator for Key Pen Parks, this is the second year for the run.

"We started planning this when the PTA at Minter Creek Elementary wanted to do something to get the kids active — and maybe serve as a fundraiser for the PTA," Smeall said. "They thought it might be good to have a fun run."

"Minter Creek had the idea, but we expanded it to include Evergreen and Vaughn elementary and KPMS."

PenLight stepped in as sponsor of the event and Key Pen Parks is using it as a way to "expose the community to 360 Trails," Smeall said.

"It's an amazing resource. It's 360 acres with trails that loop through meadows and forest. It's a great place to walk, run, ride horses, bicycle or do just about anything to



Courtesy photo by Greg Anglemeyer

Vaughn Elementary School runners fly off the starting line during last year's PenLight Summer Fun Run at 360 Trails. This year, event organizers are hoping for a community-wide turnout for the popular event designed to support local schools.

get active," she said.

The race also is getting support from Route 16, a Gig Harbor store that sells running and walking gear. "They're our race director and

they're also doing the timing and handling the finish line. It's great to have their support,"

Smeall said.

to get out and learn the trails of this true jewel-of-a-park on the Key Peninsula," said Al-

Smeall said.

"This race is a great opportunity for folks

(See **Fun Run**, Page 19)

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AGES 5 -12

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Registration material available on our website at:

www.kpbfellowship.org

(From **Fun Run**, Page 18)

exa Martin, coordinator of training programs for Route 16.

"It's a very unique landscape and the trails are in amazing shape. I often send runners and walkers there who are recovering from injuries because the trails are so wide, gentle and soft. It's like running on clouds," Martin said.

PenLight is the primary sponsor.

"They have an educational initiative," Smeall said. "They came on board because the race kind of goes along their power line road. They provide funding for the race and help with advertising and they bring a big bucket truck for kids to play on. Their support helps us break even."

According to Smeall, the race is an annual Father's Day celebration, and will fall on the last weekend before school gets out.

"This year it's on June 15. It's sort of a last chance to come out and support your school because the school that has the biggest turnout of runners gets a big trophy," Smeall said. "Right now the trophy is living at Vaughn Elementary but the other schools are all really

up for getting it back for themselves."

There will be a 5K run and also a 1K kids' dash, Smeall said.

Last year, in addition to about 115 runners, there were 40 people who walked the course. There also were hundreds of people cheering the runners, and volunteers all along the course giving out water, she said.

"You don't have to be an athlete to participate. The idea is that we're exposing kids to a sense of community. We can all find a way to participate and support what we're doing here," Smeall said.

All kids run for free. There's no registration fee for anyone 12 and younger.

Smeall said the timed 5K race begins at 9

a.m., followed by three separate races according to age group for the kids. There are medals for all the winners according to age groups and every finisher receives a ribbon.

Race brochures are available at running stores on the KP and in Gig Harbor.

Registration for the 5K is \$20 before June 4. After that date and on race day, registration is \$30. With every registration fee, \$5 goes to the PTA of the runner's choice.

"It's really a fun event," Smeall said. "There's something for everyone. Our goal is to have this be an event that truly supports our local schools."

To register or to be a volunteer, visit keypenparks.com or call (253) 884-9240.

Candidates sign up for 2013 election

The filing deadline for 2013 elective office was May 17. Only three of the offices are contested.

The candidates are:

State senator: Nathan Schlicher and Jan Angel.

Port of Tacoma Pos. 1: Eric Holde-man (Tacoma), Dave Dormer (Gig Harbor), Connie Bacon (Lakewood), and Andre Young (Tacoma).

Port of Tacoma Pos. 2: Dick Marzano (University Place).

Port of Tacoma Pos. 4: Don Meyer (Spanaway).

Peninsula School District: Wendy Wojtanowicz.

Fire District 16: Frank Grubaugh and Jeremiah Wilder.

Key Pen Parks Pos. 1: Mark Michel.

Key Pen Parks Pos. 3: John Kelly.

Golf tournament set for end of month

There is a charity scramble at Horseshoe Lake Golf Court on June 22. The event is set to benefit Key Peninsula Community Services Food Bank and Senior Center.

Organizers say it will be a fun-filled day with lunch, prizes, awards, a silent auction and raffle. Funds raised help feed those in need on Key Peninsula.

Check-in 8 a.m., shotgun start at 8:30 a.m. For information, call 884-4440 or visit keypeninsulacommunityservices.org for registration.

'Chocolate Sunday Auction' returns to KP

The Key Peninsula Lutheran Church will host its annual Chocolate Sunday Auction on June 2.

The event will start at noon with a complimentary light lunch. Chocolate sundaes will be served during the popular silent and live auction fundraising event.

Proceeds will support the organization's outreach and community services programs. The church is located at 4213 Lackey Road.

For information, call (253) 884-3312.



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Community comes out for festive fair

By Karen Lovett, KP News

A constant stream of young and old made their way inside and out of last month's Key Peninsula Livable Community Fair.

There was a large mix of nonprofit and service organizations on hand to help the hundreds of folks who made their way to the 12th annual event, which opened on the right note by a performance from the Key Peninsula Middle School Jazz Band.

Many fish took the bait as families fished for trout at the Key Peninsula Civic Center's (KPCC) pond. A bubble table, putt putt golf, slug game, craft table, bounce house, playground and rope bridge provided plenty of additional activities to entertain children.

The first KP Summer Camp Fair, hosted by Key Pen Parks under the big tent, showcased upcoming and ongoing camp options from Camp Seymour, Key Pen Parks, Key Peninsula Baptist Church, Miracle Ranch, Soundview and

the YMCA.

Pleasant, sunny weather provided a perfect incentive for plant sales out front with the Lakebay Fuchsia Society. Master Gardeners from Washington State University were available to answer questions and offer advice.

There was plenty of information to be had from 40 organizations located indoors.

Local water quality and water surface management, wildlife, emergency preparedness, Huckleberries 4-H Club, YMCA, library, Mustard Seed, Fresh Food Revolution Co-op and PenLight were among the many participants who answered questions and handed out brochures and free goodies.

Gabe and Micah Sidwell took advantage of the activities booth, sponsored by Two Waters Art Alliance, there to bring attention to the Artists in Schools Program. The Sidwells were just two of many kids who made thumbprint necklaces for Mother's Day.

The Key Peninsula Veterans were

there collecting donations and offering various first aid kits. According to Frank Grubaugh, the group is well on its way to meeting the \$5,560 goal needed to install a flagpole at Volunteer Park.

The KP Historical Museum provided tours for a look back in time when logging played a key role in the development of the peninsula.

New this year, the Key Pen Parks PALS offered a welcome food and beverage break for all vendors and volunteers as part of the KPCC's Lunch Runner program. Forty-one meals were ordered and delivered by PALS teams between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.

"This year's turnout was great. We're pleased so many of our community members find the Livable Community Fair a beneficial addition to their spring calendars," said Holly Hendrick, KPCC marketing and facility coordinator. "We're already making plans with our community partners for the 13th Annual Key Peninsula Livable Community Fair on May 10, 2014."

Trail Riders meet, plan and gallop forward

The Key Pen Trail Riders (renamed from KP Trails Committee) met at O'Callahans on May 3 and agreed to work toward developing an equestrian trail at 360 Trails.

A plan was developed for a barefoot friendly boundary line trail near the perimeter of the park using volunteer labor from the Trail Riders.

Mark Burke presented the trail plan to the KP Park Board at its regular meeting on May 13. It was well received and encouraged by the park commissioners.

Pierce County is again considering the transfer of land at the Lakebay Transfer Station (the local dump) to KP Parks. These 60 acres have been considered for trails off and on since the creation of park district. The Trail Riders are intrigued with the large parking area and easy access, with no competition for use.

The next meeting for the Trail Riders will be at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, June 4 at the Key Center Library.

For information, contact Marla Karabinos at asbridinghi@gmail.com.

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Annual Boy Scouts pinewood derby rolls through Vaughn

By Hugh McMillan, KP News

Last month, the Key Peninsula Lions-sponsored Boy Scout Pack 222 rolled into the Key Peninsula Civic Center.

The place was abuzz with fun and excitement. Kids and their parents were seen shuffling into position in a multitude of body contortions, yelling, urging their homemade vehicles to accelerate down a ramp.

This year, Pack 222's derby was professionally created, elaborate and technically designed.

For as long as scouting has been around, groups of kids have looked forward to this annual competition to see how their crafted wooden cars fared with others.

The scouts' cars race down a long ramp with four slotted tracks.

The ramp is elevated at the start gate end before the cars are released down a sloping track where gravity — the motivating power — swishes them about 50 feet where they bump to a stop at track's end, often with a whack.

This group's finish line was different. The end was scientifically cushioned in such a way



Members of Boy Scouts of America Pack 222 pose for a group shot before the beginning of their recent Pinewood Derby races at the Key Peninsula Civic Center.

Photo by Hugh McMillan, KP News

that the cars lined up in the order in which they finished. The results of each race were then projected on the ceiling, with computerized exact times electronically announced.

Nowadays, organizers said that almost every vehicle is made from a Boy Scouts of America kit.

In the past, they were carved out of chunks of wood on which wheels were mounted.

Today's cars are assembled by the cubs, frequently with the help of an adult, almost always dad.

They are decorated and painted in whatever way the kids wish. They must meet weight standards and other details of the regulated contest rules.

Pack 222 spokesman Billie Bowen was there, and was just as fired up as most in the

gym. Excitement was in the air, cars lined up on a display table in the KP Civic Center for all to admire.

"The Pack 222 boys have been working hard designing patterns, putting the cars out on build day, sanding, painting and adding finishing touches," Bowen said.

Siblings and parents also worked on their cars, as there were also sibling and adult races.

Bowen said there were sharks and Batman and Hulk-themed cars.

"Some were hot dogs and classic race cars painted in the most awesome colors. The pride in the boys' faces as they show off their cars is obvious and great to see," he said.

The goal behind the Pinewood Derby races is to have fun. Each car races four times, and as the cars race down the track, kids and adults alike cheer and congratulate each racer no matter what order they place, he said.

"The derby is more than about just winning. It's a time for children to learn sportsmanship and to develop a lasting relationship with an adult role model. As in all aspects of scouting, the Pinewood Derby help boys develop skills, confidence and self-esteem," Bowen said.

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Geoffrey L. Baillie Wharf commemorates late LIC president

By Colleen Slater, KP News

A special memorial, tasty breakfast and “perfect” sailing weather brought out a crowd for the opening of boating season and the annual dock breakfast at Longbranch Improvement Club marina in early May.

More than 180 people enjoyed breakfast with friends and family.

Lynn Carr, dock master, introduced speakers for the brief memorial service for Geoffrey Baillie, late president of Longbranch Improvement Club (LIC).

Speakers included Kurt Anderson; Gayle Brewer; Lisa Bryan; Baillie's widow Lynn Larson; and Terry Lee, a former

Pierce County councilman.

Baillie faced the problem of having the marina closed during the summer of 2011 with the county condemning the wharf due to a deteriorating structure. The marina generates 60 to 80 percent of funding used for LIC maintenance and programs.

The club had five months to put up a new wharf.

Baillie, as president, faced obtaining permits from an array of agencies that were expected to take more than a year to complete.

He believed in the power of enduring community and often noted the community spirit of the Key Peninsula.

With “pit bull tenacity” and a small group of committed individuals, Baillie made it happen in time for the 2011 boating season.

Baillie's death last December left a void in the community and LIC.

The club opted to rename the wharf in his honor.

A memorial plaque was unveiled that states: “This wharf is dedicated to the memory of Geoff Baillie, president of the Longbranch Improvement Club from July, 2009 until December, 2012. Geoff spearheaded the LIC effort to secure permitting, engineering, construction and financing for replacement of this wharf in



Photo by Frank Slater, KP News

Last month, during the open of boating season, the community came out in force for the annual breakfast and to celebrate Geoffrey Baillie, the late president of the Longbranch Improvement Club, with the unveiling of a monument in his honor.

2010. His ingenuity, dedication and hard work made this wharf, and the success of the LIC marina, possible.”

Lynn Larson said Geoff was a modest

man, but would have appreciated the gesture of the memorial plaque.

“He wanted to leave the world a better place,” she said.

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Erik Pitkanen rounds the curve during a race last month. He placed first in his division. Approximately 117 riders competed under sunny skies as part of the Evergreen Washington Student League Mountain Bike race series. This was the third race in the series and took place at Key Peninsula's 360 Trails.



Courtesy photo



Lakebay resident Sherrie Pierson shows her KP News issue in front of the Mont-St-Michel Monastery in Normandy, France, on July 3, 2012.

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Photo courtesy of Ric Hallock



Photo by Ed Johnson, KP News

Above: On May 20, the YMCA at Camp Seymour officially cut the ribbon on its new dining facility. Pictured from left are Theresa and Charlie Walters, YMCA CEO Bob Ecklund, and Deanna and Ray Dally. The Dallys donated \$1 million and the Walters donated \$500,000 for the project. "We have been in the facility about three weeks and it's been just amazing for everyone," said Diane Jackson, director of administration and marketing.

Left: With some words of encouragement from his dad, Anthon Clapp, 3-year-old Cameron Clapp of Lakebay comes in strong at the homestretch of the 1-mile run during the inaugural Mom's Day Trail Race at Sehmel Homestead Park in Gig Harbor on May 18. The run was a fundraiser for Jordyn Valona, who suffers from a rare, progressively debilitating muscle disorder.