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THE VOICE OF THE KEY PENINSULA

VOL. 44 NO. 2

INSIDE&ONLINE

FEBRUARY 2015

Online



Third-graders receive dictionaries

• Author pens second novel

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Unique science classes are popular

By Scott Turner KP News

About six or so years ago, Reynolds Riley started teaching an advanced forensic science class at Peninsula High School. It's proved to be very popular and Riley now teaches three forensic classes a week to about 100 students.

Students who get a grade of "B" or better can get a five-hour college credit "at no cost to them," she said. Several students have taken the course as part of a career path.

The class covers the basics of crime scene analysis.

"They learn how to dust for prints and they know all the basic bag-and-tag protocol for crime scenes. We go into the history of it, we do blood spatter, identifying from bones — about 15 different units," Riley said.

Riley got the idea for the class when she attended a conference and read a prototype for the class. "I started teach-

(See Science, Page 2)

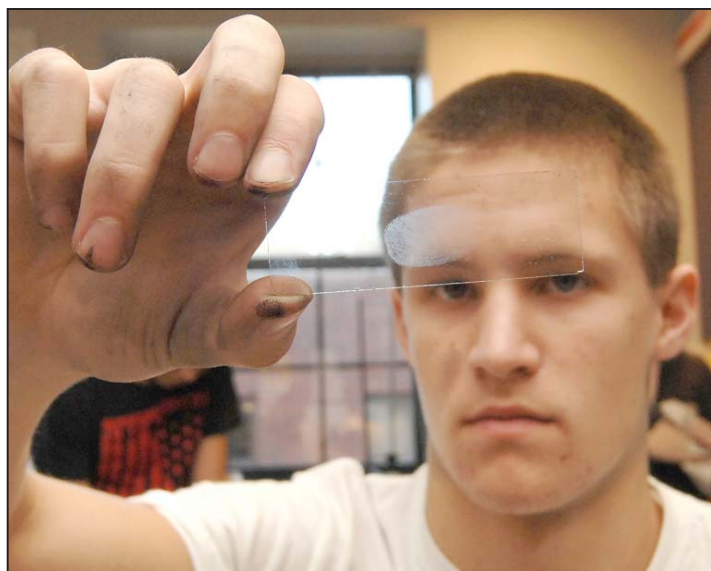


Photo by Scott Turner, KP News

Sammuel Andrews takes a close look at a finger print during a recent class assignment.

Local artist paints nature's beauty

By Alice Kinerk, KP News

What happens when you mix passions for biology, fine arts and the Key Peninsula? You get a talented local artist who commemorates trees and flowers on paper, pointing out spots of natural beauty that the less artistically-inclined among us would likely rush right by.

Leila Luginbill does just that.

Luginbill's ties to the area run deep. Her beautiful bay-view house in Home was passed down to her through family. Some of Luginbill's earliest known relatives, George and Sylvia Allen, who founded Home.

Luginbill has a special place in her heart for trees she estimates are old enough to have been around when her grandparents and great grandparents were here.

Recently retired from a career teaching science in the South

Kitsap School District, Luginbill walks daily, and it is in on these walks that she often is taken by the beauty and stature of the Key Peninsula's trees.

"I decided after I quit teaching that I'd garden and paint," Luginbill said. "I have a biology degree, so plants mean something to me," she added with a laugh.

After posting a few of her paintings on the Key Peninsula Facebook page, Luginbill was surprised by the number of responses she received from people suggesting other majestic local trees she should paint.

Her painting of a mossy tree on the corner of 5th and C Street in Home sparked several comments, and now Luginbill has a long list of local trees she wants to view and consider painting. A personal favorite of Luginbill's are locust trees. "Locusts have

(See Artist, Page 3)

(From **Science**, Page 1)

ing it the next week, right out of the book and the kids loved it," she recalled.

"Some kids really get into the finger printing, some kids are into entomology — the study of insect life cycles and how long a body has been dead. Some kids are into blood spatter. There are so many different things that we do. Something will spark somebody's interest and I'll take that and run with it," Riley said.

PHS students recently took fourth place in a national forensic competition in Kansas City, Mo, after winning at the regional and state level.

"We had to process a crime scene. They got 100 percent on their crime scene but they lost points because we didn't have the money for some expensive equipment, so I made things with money out of my own pocket," Riley said. "They were supposed to have all this expensive stuff hanging off their belts, but ours was all

homemade, so that's why we lost points. Otherwise, I really believe they would have placed in the top three for sure."

Caleb Greer, 17, a PHS senior, loves the class. "I think it's awesome and it's amazing that we can have this level of technology at our school," the Wauna resident said. "I took the class because I eventually want to become a police officer and eventually become a CSI or something. I thought this class [will] be really fun and it is," she said.

Helena Triplett, 17, agreed. "I've taken this class before but this is a more advanced class. I really like it because it goes into more detail and it seems like we're getting a good feel for what it's really like," she said.

Forensics classes have also been added at the middle school level as part of the STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) curriculum, according to Brad Collins, who teaches science and biomedical science at Key Peninsula Middle

School.

"The gold standard in the biomedical science program is this program called 'Project Lead the Way,' Collins said. "It's a three-year program and we rolled out the first class this year — principles of biomedical science.

"Next year is human body systems, and the third year is medical interventions. We're hoping to spark the kids' interest in science itself and maybe pursuing a classification in health," he said.

Collins teaches medical biology principles woven around a fictitious person, one Anna Garcia, he said.

The very first day of class students learn that Anna Garcia has died.

"We spend the rest of the year figuring out how she died," Collins said.

"We quickly eliminate any foul play because it's not a forensics class. So we start looking at her blood, her heart and all her body systems," he said.

There's a unit on diabetes, a unit on

sickle-cell anemia, a unit on heart health. "...trying to eliminate possibilities and investigate how all of these issues and body systems can lead to death. It's very much hands-on, and solving real world problems," he said.

The students design their experiments and models of systems and use data to reach conclusions, he said. "They're using critical thinking skills and developing teamwork and collaborative skills as well."

The biomed class doesn't replace any other classes.

"A lot of my students are still taking general biology and chemistry and they've added this on because they're interested in it. It's an additional class," Collins said.

"Ren (Reily) and I want people to know that we're working hard to help students find success and find their passion and be successful by using these STEM classes to do that, and helping them to explore the world within a classroom," Collins said. "That's what modern science is all about."

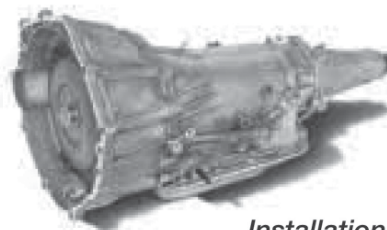
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Photo of Mount Rainier in the masthead was taken from the dock in Longbranch
by Thomas Morgan, a KP News reader and Key Peninsula resident.

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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.



Photo by Ed Johnson, KP News

Artist Leila Luginbill sits at work in her Home studio.

(From **Artist**, Page 1)

fabulous bark. Rugged, gnarled, fabulous,” Luginbill said.

Luginbill does not have formal academic training in the arts, but she has been a longtime student of Sherri Bails, who teaches painting classes, through Pen Met Parks. Luginbill is part of the advanced painting class which meets regularly at Sehmel Homestead Park in Gig Harbor.

“My goal with every student is to help them find their own special way of painting. Everyone has their own style. She wants to put in a lot of detail. It’s not photo-realistic, but it is precise,” Bails said of Luginbill.

Luginbill is also part of an online painting group that issues fun monthly challenges, such as to paint or draw in a stained-glass style.

Trees and flowers are far from Luginbill’s only source of inspiration, however.

She has paintings featuring trains, architecture and gardens, as well as portraits of her grandchildren. Trips to Europe inspired paintings of faraway places. A friend’s photo of sailboats reflecting on still water forms the subject of another painting. Yet another features a curious goat poking her nose through a fence.

With too many completed paintings to hang in her home, dozens of framed paintings sit leaning against a wall upstairs. Unframed works are stacked on horizontal surfaces in nearly every room. She has, in the past, loaned out some of her works to display at the Key Center Library, the Blend Wine Shop and the office of her own massage therapist.

Luginbill plans to one day leave all her paintings to her children. Although she has sold a few paintings over the years, she’s not in it to make a quick buck. “I don’t want to do a business. That’s too much work. I’d rather just paint,” said Luginbill.

Getting’ in the Swing for Spring Fling **CIVIC CENTER CORNER**

Nicole Burnett, Two Waters Arts Alliance Board Member since 2014.

The giant void you felt in your social calendar during the spring of 2014 was likely due to the absence of the Two Waters Arts Alliance Spring Fling. Happily, the TWAA board is prepared to fill that void for you this year, and is proud to announce the 2015 Spring Fling Gala will take place at the Civic Center on May 2nd.

We look forward to continuing our strong relationships with local artists, schools, sponsors and the Key Peninsula community, as we celebrate and support arts on the Peninsula.

The event will include a juried art show, artist demonstrations and artwork exhibits, live music, a silent auction and a student art display. The evening will cater to the palette as well as the eyes, as a special signature cocktail provided by Heritage Distillery and craft beers from 7 Seas Brewery along with heavy hors d’oeuvres will be served. Pull out your finest artsy cocktail attire and get ready for a wonderful evening.

Local artist extraordinaire Taylor Reed and I will be putting on the event this year, and are very proud to be increasing our involvement with the fantastic organization that is Two Waters. Promoting an appreciation of the arts for children and adults and enhancing art education in our schools is the foundation of TWAA’s work.

Our Board is so proud of the programs we have been able to provide to the community and the opportunities we have been able to offer to school-age

children and adults alike throughout the area.

Our 2015 vision, in addition to the programs we currently provide, is to increase support for the Key Peninsula artist community by offering programs to assist in growing artist’s businesses and promoting their work. We believe it is essential for the continued growth of this community that we nurture, protect and encourage creativity. Of course, it is only with the generous support of local citizens and businesses that our work at Two Waters Arts Alliance is allowed to continue. We are grateful for this continuing support and are looking forward to an evening of celebration!

The 2015 Board is committed to making Spring Fling in the coming year the best event to date. Opportunities to volunteer to assist with this wonderful event are still available. Anyone interested in getting involved as an auction donor, sponsor, artist or event coordinator should contact info@twowaters.org. Opportunities to support this wonderful local organization via tax-deductible donation will also be available, so make sure to leave a spot for the Spring Fling in your 2015 budget!

For more information, please visit www.twowaters.org or email nicole.burnett@kw.com or taylorreed100@gmail.com

We look forward to seeing you at the Civic Center May 2, 2015!

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

Peninsula Light Co. to keep rates the same in 2015

KP News staff report

According to a recent press release, Peninsula Light Co. will be holding off a rate increase for a second consecutive year despite a hefty increase in wholesale electricity prices.

PenLight is a full-requirements utility of the Bonneville Power Administration and is subject to wholesale rate increases when a federal agency goes through its review process every two years. BPA raised its wholesale rates by 9.6 percent on Oct. 1, 2013, covering a period that will expire on Sept. 30, 2015.

The press release said PenLight, led by its Board of Directors and CEO Jafar Taghavi, fully absorbed the costs of the increase last year by continuing to find financial efficiencies. The company's cost-containment strategy has been to refinance long-term debt, reduce outage costs due to improved reliability efforts and limit operating expenses to 1 percent growth year over year. It's been successful for the

past six years.

"My staff and our board of directors work very hard to minimize budget impacts," Taghavi said. "We continue to look for ways to innovate, economize and invest in technology that will reduce expenses and support our ability to become more efficient."

Taghavi said it's been much more difficult to keep rates the same for the second year, but the board approved a budget for 2015 without a rate increase. In fact, PenLight has only raised rates three times since 2001, a trend that's opposite from the industry nationwide.

"We anticipate we will again see a rate increase from BPA in October 2015, so we will work at keeping the costs we can control to a minimum," Taghavi said.

PenLight is a member-owned, not-for-profit electric cooperative. Since 1925, the utility has served the Gig Harbor and Key peninsulas and Fox Island in western Pierce County. PenLight has grown to be the sec-

ond largest cooperative in Washington state. It serves more than 31,000 meters with 977 miles of line in 112 square miles of service territory. The company also provides service to

3,230 water consumers.

For more information, visit penlight.org.

Source: PenLight

2015 government budgets approved

By Rick Sorrels, KP News

It's budget time for the various local governments. Below are their approved budgets for 2015, compiled from budget documents.

	2014	2015	change
City of Tacoma	\$1,481,203,069	\$1,537,004,458	+4 percent
Pierce County	978,147,971	928,694,642	-5 percent
Peninsula School District	101,906,192	98,620,272	-3 percent
City of Gig Harbor	56,461,756	51,641,698	-8 percent
Pierce County Library	26,654,035	28,063,748	+5 percent
FD5, Gig Harbor	17,993,205	17,215,311	-4 percent
FD16, Key Pen	5,336,254	5,428,134	+2 percent
Pen Met Parks	2,326,823	3,245,095*	+39 percent
Key Pen Parks	918,745	997,685*	+9 percent

*Note: Approximate. Will vary due to proration with senior priority agencies.

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What a great time to take a tour of our facility and see all the programs we have to offer the community.

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NEWS BRIEFS

Community

County receives funding for road safety projects

Pierce County will receive \$2.16 million in federal highway safety improvement funds for five road safety projects, including one on the Key Peninsula.

Pierce County is among 46 agencies across Washington that will receive more than \$48 million in federal highway safety improvement funds, according to a Jan. 8 announcement by the Washington State Department of Transportation.

"These funds will allow us to make important road safety improvements for our motorists and pedestrians," said Brian Ziegler, Pierce County Public Works and Utilities director.

Five projects that will result in safety improvements are in multiple locations around the county. One project involves the addition of guardrails and guardrail reflectors along sections of Key Peninsula Highway.

Design on three of the projects is expected to begin in June, followed by environmental permitting. Construction contracts for the projects are expected to be awarded by September 2016, with the work expected to be completed by November 2017.

Mail thefts rampant on Key Peninsula

Between the evening of Dec. 13 and the evening of Dec. 15, thieves broke up and burglarized the outside mailboxes at the Lakebay Post Office and the box by Capitol Lumber in Key Center.

The boxes were damaged and an unknown quantity of mail was taken.

In recent years, outside mailboxes at the Vaughn and Wauna post offices have been vandalized as well.

In Lakebay, steps have been taken to prevent a recurrence — trees and shrubs have been removed for better visibility. "The outside boxes in Lakebay and Key Center will not be replaced, as the costs of the thefts come out of our pockets," said Adam Wade, postmaster.

Wade recommended that postal patrons

pick up their mail each day to avoid future thefts.

If you believe some of your mail was stolen, you can report it at postalinspectors.uspis.gov or complete and submit PS form 2016 available at any post office.

Key Peninsula Bischoff Food Bank organizers say 'thanks'

According to a recent press release, the Bischoff Food Bank wants the community to know that the popular Home-based center is receiving more food now (to give out) than when they first opened at their new location.

The release said it has been a "struggle to get back to normal, and we are now back with plenty of food."

Organizers say although they are assisting more than 2,000 people per month, they are always in need of additional volunteers and any financial assistance the public can offer.

The food bank is located at 1916 Key Peninsula Highway North, and is open Tuesday through Friday from 2 to 6 p.m. and Saturdays from 2 to 5 p.m.

For information, call (253) 278-1227 or visit kpbischofffoodbank.org.

Annual Key Pen Parks Pet Easter Treat Hunt nears

On April 12, Key Pen Parks will host its 6th Annual Pet Easter Treat Hunt at Volunteer Park from 10 a.m. to noon.

Resource booths from the Humane Society, Olympic Bird Fanciers (with live birds) and Wags N Whiskers 4H group will provide information and experiences.

The 4H group will also be doing a presentation with their dogs and students together.

According to a Key Pen Parks press release, photos with the Easter Bunny will be available. The event ends with the costume contest winners.

A new feature this year is craft projects for the human and their pooch.

For information, visit keypenparks.com or call (253) 884-9240.



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Peninsula Views

KP new editor thanks staff and community

From all of us at the KP News, I want to thank you for your amazing support this past year and into the future. It has been a pleasure telling your stories and supporting our local businesses.

Words cannot express our gratitude for your continued support of this paper. Thank you to Art and Jean Morgan, George and Donna Rippon, Yurg Construction, Peter and Janet Stanley, and anyone we may have missed in our tribute because of deadline constraints. We also received generous donations from others who wish to remain anonymous.

During 2014, many things went well with our publication. I want to thank advertising representatives Wendy Kleven and Brett Higgins for an outstanding year in keeping us in the black. Our paper is growing thanks to the ongoing support of local businesses.

Our core of talented volunteers deserve to be recognized, too, as they humbly produce stories and photographs each month to educate and bond our special neck of the woods.

I want to thank Bill Dietz, former president of the KP News publish-

Scott Turner
The Editor's Desk



ing board, for his wisdom, open mind, friendship and dedication to making our monthly publication one of the best read in the state.

Ed Johnson was appointed the new president and I look forward to his (and other new board member) leadership.

I want to give a special shout out to Connie and Vic Renz (and their support crew) for their tireless efforts in distributing the newspaper every month.

As this coming year unfolds, I want you to know that I'm always looking for new writers and photographers to join our quest to better inform you.

Please feel free to contact me directly with your story ideas and your concerns.

As I have said in the past, I may be the managing editor, but this is your community and your paper.

To reach Scott, email him at editor@keypennews.com. Please send donations to Key Peninsula News, P.O. Box 3, Vaughn, WA 98394.

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It may be legal, but it could be unhealthy

Being a pastor is a hazardous job. It's because of the cookies and the peanut brittle.

Parishioners sometimes desire to show appreciation to their pastor, especially around the Christmas season. What says "thanks" better than cookies, chocolate, peanut brittle or licorice?

I don't mean to sound ungrateful; it warms my heart to know people were thoughtful enough to give a gift. It's just that, once the holidays are over, I find my pants don't fit as well.

To paraphrase an old song, "O Lord, it's hard to be healthy when people love you this way."

Almost everything about our world makes it hard to be healthy. I recently took my daughters grocery shopping. Like many of you, I try to make every dollar stretch as far as it can. In addition, ease-of-preparation ranks high on my list of shopping necessities.

As we wandered the aisles, I was struck by how the game is stacked against us. Eating healthy is difficult and expensive. Natural, healthy food costs more than processed, chemically-laden foods. Cooking healthy takes time, energy and creativity, and who has time for that in a rushed and harried lifestyle?

Some early Christians wrote to the Apostle Paul and said, "We live in freedom, so everything's allowed, right?" Paul wrote back and said, "All things are allowed, but not everything is beneficial."

This lesson applies as well today as it did 2,000 years ago. We boast of the freedoms we are afforded as American citizens. Nobody has the right to tell us what to do, so long as we obey the laws of the land.

We don't often think of the other side of the equation. Just because something is legal, that doesn't necessarily make it

good. Cookies are legal. And delicious. I love cookies and peanut brittle. Unfortunately, those things are not good for me, especially in large quantities.

Alcohol, although regulated, is legal, but the devastation caused by excessive drinking is horrific. Fast food is cheap, handy and perfectly legal, yet the result of our burger addiction is an epidemic of obesity, diabetes and heart problems. Marijuana is now legal in Washington, but the day will come when lives and families are in shambles because of such easy access to this drug.

There is much that comes our way that is lawful and acceptable, but is also unhealthy and damaging. From food to entertainment to recreation to sexuality, many claim their freedom as their right to do whatever they want. And yes, they have that freedom.

Never forget, though, that choices have consequences. Eat enough cookies and your pants won't fit. Smoke enough dope and your brain won't work. Fill your head with violent entertainment, and don't be surprised that you're an angry and violent person.

I don't mean to be judgmental or to rain on anybody's parade, but consider this truth: A lot that is legal is actually quite harmful. Let us strive to make better choices, seeking the things that are not just legal, but also beneficial to ourselves, our families and our world.

As for me, maybe I'll eat more carrots and less cookies.

Dan Whitmarsh
Writing by Faith



Dan Whitmarsh is Pastor at Lakebay Community Church. You can contact him at dan@lakebaycovenant.net.

Nature's way to beat flu season

The flu strikes hardest in February, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Most of us know people who have been hit hard with colds and viruses this winter.

This year, flu shots have only been about 23 percent effective. The CDC has stated that this year's influenza vaccines are less effective than usual. The viruses used to make them aren't a good match for the viruses now spreading across the country.

Flu strains have mutated too quickly and are genetically different from the flu viruses used in this year's vaccine. Nature is kind of smart like that.

Just as chemical pesticides have created super bugs that attack our gardens, vaccines and antibiotics have created super bugs that attack our bodies.

The good news is that where Western

Monica Rakowski
Living Close to Nature



medicine stumbles, holistic methods usually succeed. Just as organic gardening is making a comeback, it's time holistic health practices do too.

According to traditional Chinese medicine, food plays a vital role in our health. TCM teaches us to eat according to the seasons. Seasonal, local food from nature is best.

It's not just what you eat, but how you eat that counts. Paul Grobins, the acupuncturist at True North Sports Acupuncture in Gig Harbor, says that TCM has three main rules for eating.

First, eat on schedule. Eating at the same time every day reduces stress on the body and regulates cravings.

Second, stop eating before you're full. Overeating creates a traffic jam in your digestive tract, says Grobins, slowing down digestion.

Your digestion will make or break your health. Good digestion passes toxins quickly through your body and makes it easier to absorb vitamins and minerals. Poor digestion does the opposite.

Furthermore, our Western culture eats the wrong portion sizes at the wrong times of day.

Breakfast should be small to break our fast (get it?). Lunch should be large to supply us with energy for the day. Dinner should be medium-sized so we can digest it before we go to sleep. This way, our bodies can use their energy to repair and restore instead of digest food.

Third, a cold body should eat warming foods and a warm body should eat cooling foods. Our bodies are always seeking balance and homeostasis. As

Grobins puts it, "We wear parkas in the winter and flip-flops in the summer for a reason."

The seasons directly affect this principle. In the winter, our bodies are a cooler temperature and digestion takes more energy than normal to "cook" the food in our stomach. Cooked food takes less energy to digest than raw food, which puts less stress on the body.

"Warming" foods, such as soups, root vegetables and pungent spices, dissolve mucus and easily digest in winter's cold, damp environment.

Vaccination or not, it is wise to boost our immune systems for added protection this month. TCM offers us holistic, common-sense tools for our healthcare toolbox this flu season.

As Ben Franklin once said, an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.

Monica owns KP Indoor Garden Store in Key Center. She can be reached at naturegirllife@gmail.com.

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KP Fire Department christens new ambulance

By Hugh McMillan, KP News

On Jan. 17, the Key Peninsula Fire Department held its first-ever dedication ceremony for a new piece of equipment — a medic rig. The department's new ambulance is an economically saving acquisition employing a new approach to required equipment replacements.

"To build a new medic unit in today's market would cost tax payers approximately \$160,000," said Hal Wolverton, assistant chief.

"Today's economy being what it is, we had to be creative when replacing our 2005 medic unit. With our budget unable to support the replacement costs, we researched refurbishing the 'box,' the patient treatment area, and installing it onto a new Ford chassis. When the final numbers came back, this idea was too good to pass up. By refurbishing the box and installing it on a new chassis, the savings was

over \$60,000," Wolverton said.

By the looks of those at the ceremony, it was hard to tell the rig is not entirely brand new.

A solemn dedication ceremony conducted by one of KPFD's volunteer chaplains, Leslie Beecher, brought the event to its highlight.



A substantial crowd braved the rainy weather to participate. It included both career and volunteer firefighting officials, a fire commissioner and several excited KPFD siblings, the latter of whom enjoyed spraying dedication water on the new rig from the pre-connect hose off a fire engine.

"Seeing everyone here today to help us dedicate this medic unit is such a great feeling. It feels so good to see the connection with the community grow, the warmth and support we feel now is so rewarding. The positive energy is palpable," said Chief Guy Allen.




Photo by Hugh McMillan, KP News

At January's dedication of Key Peninsula Fire Department's new ambulance, Chief Guy Allen, right, and in the cab, Evergreen Elementary students Erika Prante and Grace Nesbit, and left, Assistant Chief Hal Wolverton and Volunteer Battalion Chief Anne Nesbit enjoy the experience.

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KeyFest 2015 getting ready to roll

By Karen Lovett, KP News

Led by president Brandy Ellzey, the now experienced KeyFest crew is already finalizing plans for this year's event. The venue at Gateway Park will remain the same, but a new, earlier date of June 19-21 will help avoid conflicts with other fairs and local events as well as provide cooler springtime weather.

Original founding members, Key Peninsula Business Association and Key Peninsula Civic Center, have withdrawn. Key Peninsula Fair, still referred

to as KeyFest, has become an independent organization. There are more voting members and committee chairs with many family members involved. There is still room for more people to help on committees. Meetings are open to the general public.

Ellzey explained that the organization has received \$4,500 so far but will need many more donations to offset the \$20,000 cost to bring in power. Paying \$75 an hour for Washington State Patrol to control traffic adds to the outflow of funds.

KeyFest

When: June 19-21; 4-11 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. – 11 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m.- 6 p.m. Sunday

Where: Gateway Park, 10405 State Route 302, Gig Harbor
More information: Call (253) 223-5467 or visit keyfest.org.

cycle shows again this year and entertainers are being lined up for the main stage.

KeyFest meetings are scheduled for the first Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. The next meeting will be on Feb. 4. The fair needs people and financial support. Plenty of help will also be necessary during the week of the fair. Help from anyone 16 and older will be appreciated, planners said.

Organizers are looking for Friends of the Fair: individuals, businesses or organizations willing to make large or small donations anonymously. Sponsors can give small or big contributions. Larger donations help keep admission fees down.

Vendors are needed, including artisans and crafters. Early-bird booth rates include a 20 percent discount if registered by Feb. 28. Prices vary depending on electricity. Booths are 10 by 10 feet or 10 by 20. Kim Bauer is in charge of vendors.

Carnival rides will be back by popular demand. They are the main reason KeyFest was moved to Gateway Park. Additional expenses for power and traffic control are offset by the advantage of having the rides, Ellzey said. Attendance has been much greater since the move, drawing crowds from Purdy, Gig Harbor and Mason County, in addition to KP residents.

The one new committee member, Scott Sherman, is overseeing the beer garden. There will be car and motor-

Mardi Gras Festival returns to the Key

The second annual Mardi Gras Festival promises to be full of tradition.

Authentic music, libations, food and costumes will have attendees thinking the Key Peninsula Civic Center is in the middle of the French Quarter.

According to a civic center press release, organizers say this year's Feb. 21 festival will feature Richard Allen & The Louisiana Experience along with the Kim Archer Band.

Murph's BBQ will be dishing up ample à la carte New Orleans fare to include Louisiana hot sausage, dirty rice (chicken/pork/vegetarian) and seafood gumbo — topped off with cake.

Dinner and no-host beverage service begins at 6 p.m., music starts at 7 p.m., and the party goes until 11 p.m. This is a 21-plus age event.

Lavish costumes will again be the mode-o-day — rented and homemade — with a king and queen crowned for their best costumes between 8:30 and 9 p.m. They will receive an assortment of gifts before leading the traditional dancing parade throughout the venue, then proceed to the upper promenade and throw beads to their subjects.

Tickets are \$20 in advance or \$25 at the door. Advance purchase are available online at 2015-mardigras.brown-papertickets.com and locally at Blend Wine Shop, Key Peninsula Civic Center, and Sunnycrest Nursery in Key Center.

For information, call (253) 884-3456.

Source: KP Civic Center

The Mustard Seed Project

Building an Elder-Friendly Key Peninsula

Need senior services or information? Call us - 253-884-9814 or visit our office in the Key Center Corral, M-F, 10 am – 4 pm

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Photo courtesy of Key Pen Parks

Adjacent to Gateway Park is 360 Trails, a labyrinth of trails for mountain biking, hiking and horseback riding. The Washington State Department of Natural Resources leased the property to Key Pen Parks for 50 years in 2009.

Park maintenance easier thanks to new mower

By Scott Turner, KP News

The job of keeping the 360 Trails Park in good shape recently got a little easier when Key Pen Parks purchased a big new mower.

According to Scott Gallacher, executive director, his group was looking for some much-needed equipment late last year “and this mower just happened to become available.”

Gallacher described the new tool as a walk-behind flail mower. “It’s a fairly good-sized mower that you walk behind. It’s on tracks, not on wheels,” he said.

Volunteers, especially Courtland Capwell, have been using the new mower to help trim the park’s existing trails and to blaze new ones.

“Courtland’s efforts have mostly focused on the mountain bike trails, which is great,” Gallacher said. “We also have many multi-use trails, which are typically geared toward all user groups, not just a single group.”

The new mower is also put to use at other Key Pen properties on the peninsula.

Gallacher is currently looking for volunteers to participate in the organization’s

Adopt-a-Park program at 360 Trails.

“In the Adopt-a-Park program, we ask individuals or groups to commit to working on the property, say, four times a year,” Gallacher said.

Capwell is doing a great job on the mountain bike trails he has adopted, “but we have many other areas in the park that we’d like to have individuals or groups or businesses adopt, also,” Gallacher said.

“The 360 Trails is such a large property — 360 acres — we realize we need more than just one person or one group to adopt that property.

“Our volunteers allow us to stretch our dollars. Last fall, we hired help from Washington Conservation Corps to build some trails for us. We’re trying to add trails to the 360 property as our resources allow,” Gallacher added.

Adopt-a-Park work is “mostly hands-on, physical work, but if someone wants to make a monetary donation, we’ll gladly accept it,” he added.

Sami Jensen is the Adopt-a-Park coordinator at 360 Trails.

To volunteer or to make a donation, contact Gallacher at (253) 884-9240, extension 21.

Museum focuses on Key Peninsula communities

KP News Staff Report

"One of the primary goals of the Key Peninsula Historical Society is to share the history of the Key with our community," says current program coordinator Christine Anderson. "We are currently working on two such opportunities: the new display opening in February plus a special promotion in Key Center."

The new exhibit is "The Story of the Key Peninsula — Its Past — Its People — Its Places."

According to Anderson, in the late 1800s the shoreline communities of the Key Peninsula began to grow. "The museum display will focus on three institutions that sprang up in each area: schools, stores and community halls," she said.

Where families settled, schools soon followed. By the 1890s most Key Peninsula students attended a one-room schoolhouse, although earlier ones included homes and a tent.

Mercantile stores were built close to community floats and docks, since all merchandise had to be transported by boat.

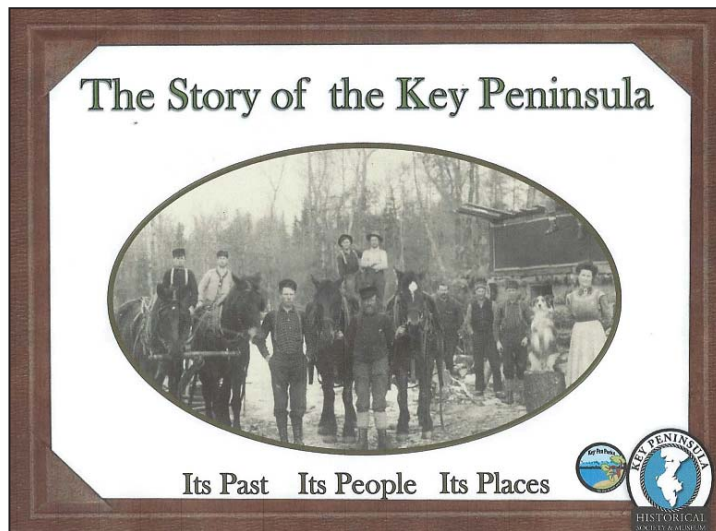


Photo courtesy Christine Anderson

The new banner with this year's theme will grace the museum porch in February.

Anderson said as communities grew, residents looked for the opportunities to build permanent community gathering places, and halls were erected, often serving several functions.

ing several functions.

The new exhibit is made possible through the support of Key Peninsula Parks Department and the Friends of the Key Peninsula Historical Society.

KPHS purchased banners and informational posters through a grant from the Pierce County Landmarks and Preservation Commission. The first ones told the story of the first hundred years of logging on the Key Peninsula. A new banner with this year's theme has now been obtained.

Don Stolz, owner of the Food Market in Key Center, is sponsoring a storefront display of these posters in the windows next to Figaro's Pizza in Key Center.

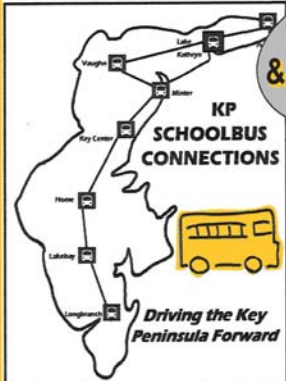
The museum has permanent displays relating to Key Peninsula history, many albums of photos and stories to browse through, as well as local history books, toys and other items for sale.

The museum opens on Tuesday, Feb. 3, 1-4 p.m., with the new exhibits on display. Regular open hours are Tuesdays and Saturdays, 1-4 p.m., February through November. Free admission. For information, call 888-3246.

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Ron and JoAnn Roberts have been reading and math mentors at Vaughn Elementary for nine years! Ron is a retired attorney and JoAnn spent years teaching 4th grade. They have lived in the Gig Harbor area for 37 years and raised five boys here.

Ron has been part of the Communities In Schools Board for over two years and is a part of the Program Committee. JoAnn says, "My favorite part of mentoring is watching the kids blossom and their confidence grow. I just love to get to know the kids."

Ron explained, "The kids work really hard, you can tell they don't get much help outside the classroom, so we can make a difference, and we have the time!" Ron continued, "I get so much out of watching and helping these young kids develop, it's rewarding to see them 'get it.'"

It's very rewarding for us to have two exceptional mentors like the Roberts. Thank you very much, Ron and JoAnn, for so many years of giving back to the kids in our community.



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Many thanks to Don Zimmerman and Jan Warren at Cost Less Pharmacy



COMMUNITY PAGES

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

NOW

Tacoma Community College offers adult basic education classes at the Red Barn Youth Center in Key Center. These classes are for individuals (not currently enrolled in high school) who want to prepare for the GED test, earn a high school diploma, improve job skills, or pursue a vocational/technical or college education. Please call the TCC Gig Harbor campus at 253-460-2424.

FEB. 2

Key Pen Parks

Due to the lack of quorum, a special park board meeting will take place at 7:30 p.m., Monday, Feb. 2 (in lieu of the regularly-scheduled meeting on Feb. 9). As always, the public is encouraged to attend.

FEB. 2 and 16

Senior shopping

Seniors have an opportunity to go grocery shopping and attend any scheduled Gig Harbor doctor's appointments with transportation provided; a "Dutch" lunch is included. 884-9265.

FEB. 2, 9, 16 and 23

Bloodmobile

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

FEB. 3, 10 and 17

Story time

Music and Motion Story Time for ages 0 to 3 years (with an adult) takes place at 10 a.m., at the Key Center Library. Children will enjoy songs, rhymes, dancing, play and instruments. Preschool Science Story Time for ages 3 to 5 takes place at 11 a.m., and includes hands-on science exploration. Both activities are sponsored by Friends of the Key Center Library. 548-3309.

FEB. 4

Fuchsia meeting

The Lakebay Fuchsia Club meets at 7 p.m., at the Key Center Library. Ginnie,

To submit an event

To submit an event for the Community Works calendar, please email [Connie Renz](mailto:Connie.Renz@connierenz@hotmail.com) at connierenz@hotmail.com, or mail to P.O. Box 3, Vaughn, WA 98394. Briefs must be submitted by the 15th of the month.

884-9744.

FEB. 5, 12, 19 and 26

GED help

Adults get help preparing for the GED, high school completion, college and placement tests 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., at the Key Center Library. Local educators will tutor in English reading and writing, mathematics, sciences and social studies. Call 548-3309 to make an appointment.

Cat-lover meeting

Cat Tales 4-H Club, for children 5 to 18, meets 6:30 to 8 p.m., in the VFW of the KP Civic Center. Learn all about cats with some cat-loving friends. There is an informational open house for interested kids at this meeting. Dianna, 884-4182 or cat.tales4h@gmail.com.

FEB. 6 and 7

Book sale

Friends of the Key Center Library host a Friday and Saturday book sale 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the library. Books on gardening, cooking, travel, self-help, fiction, and DVDs, CDs and VHS tapes are available. Proceeds fund free programs presented at the library. 548-3309.

FEB. 6, 13, 20 and 27

Family story time

Family story time including stories, art activities, rhymes, singing and finger plays followed by a learning-filled play time for caregivers and children is at 11 a.m., at the Key Center Library. 548-3309.

Skate night

Skate Night is hosted at the KP Civic Center 6 to 9 p.m. (note new times). 884-3456.

FEB. 10 and 26

Crochet or knit

The Loving Hearts group knits and crochets for charities and meets Feb. 10 at 1 to 3 p.m., and Feb. 26 at 7 to 9 p.m., at WayPoint Church. Yarn donations are always needed. Virginia, 884-9619.

FEB. 11

Garden club meets

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

FEB. 12

Ashes meet

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

FEB. 12 and 26

Free clinic

Nonemergency 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. 509-8881.

FEB. 13 and 27

Teen fun

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

FEB. 14

Handmade cards

All ages are welcome to handcraft Valentine's Day cards with Anna. Bring your imagination and creativity and drop in between 2 and 3:30 p.m. All card supplies are provided. 548-3309.

FEB. 15

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.

vided. (253) 492-4177.

FEB. 21

Mardi Gras

The second annual Mardi Gras Music Festival is hosted at the Key Peninsula Civic Center from 6 to 11 p.m. There will be a queen and king, tons of beads, New Orleans style barbecue and food, drinks and music. The Kim Archer Band and Richard Allen & The Louisiana Experience are confirmed to perform. This is a 21 and older event. The bar will be serving a signature cocktail and other libations. Mardi Gras attire is encouraged, the more outrageous the better. Bring on the glitz, glitter, sparkles and a fantastic mask. For information, call 884-3456.

FEB. 22

Barter fair

KP Barter will host a barter fair at the Lake Holiday clubhouse 2 to 4 p.m. The event is free. Contact Alice at 884-2723 or visit Key Peninsula Barter on Facebook.

FEB. 24

4-H meeting

The 4-H Guinea Pig group meets 6:30 to 8 p.m., in the Civic Center Library (upstairs). Nanette, (360) 981-5292.

FEB. 27

LEGOs

Children 8 to 18 build and program a robotic vehicle using the LEGO Mindstorms kit 4 to 5:30 p.m., at the Key Center Library. This event requires preregistration and is sponsored by the Friends of the KC Library. 548-3309.

KEY PENINSULA NEWS IS LOOKING TO TELL YOUR STORY

Send your story suggestions and photo opportunities to Scott Turner, editor, at editor@keypennews.com

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

Rehearsals begin

Key Singers, local community choral group, starts rehearsals for its annual spring concert on Feb. 3 at the Key Peninsula Lutheran Church at 7 p.m. No auditions required – if you like to sing and can carry a tune, come join. Member dues of

\$10 pay for rent, music, concert refreshments and PHS scholarships. 884-5615.

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. Tami, 884-5433.

TUESDAYS & SATURDAYS

KP Museum reopens

The Key Peninsula Historical Society opens a new display in the museum located at the KP Civic Center in Vaughn on Feb. 3. This year's theme is "The Story of the Key Peninsula: Its Past – Its People – Its

Places." The focus will be on the early communities of the area. Open hours are 1 to 4 p.m., Tuesdays and Saturdays. No charge, although monetary donations are much appreciated. 888-3246.

WEDNESDAYS

Writers' workshop

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

Writers meet

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

WEDNESDAYS & FRIDAYS

Senior meals

Nutritional meals for seniors ages 60 and older 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.

OFF THE KEY

FEB. 5

Democrats meet

The 26th Legislative District Democrats monthly meeting is 7 to 9 p.m., at the Kitsap Room, Givens Community Center, 1026 Sidney Road, Port Orchard. kateirn@hotmail.com.

FEB. 5, 8 and 14

Bloodmobile

The bloodmobile will be at Kiwanis Club of Peninsula-Gig Harbor noon to 7 p.m. on Feb. 5, at United Methodist Church 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Feb. 8, and at Safeway 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Feb. 14.

FEB. 5, 12, 19 and 26

Chess activity

Children in grades K to 8 participate in Chess Club every Thursday from 6 to 7 p.m., at the Gig Harbor Library. Twenty minutes of instruction is followed by 40 minutes of play. This event is sponsored by Friends of the Gig Harbor Library. 548-3305.

FEB. 9

Sauerkraut basics

Adults learn the basics of making sauerkraut with Lisa Oldoski 6:30 to 8 p.m., at the Gig Harbor Library. Make friends with the microbes in your life and learn how to chop, salt, pack and wait for the best healthy and delicious sauerkraut. This event is sponsored by the Friends of the Gig Harbor Library. 548-3305.

FEB. 10

Online classes

Adults may learn on demand with online classes available through Pierce County Library. Learn about classes 2 to 4 p.m., at

the Gig Harbor Library. 548-3305.

Earthquake help

Adults learn to take steps to reduce the earthquake hazard to homes with Rick Hopkins, Pierce County building official. Peggy Lovell Ford, with Pierce County Emergency Management, will give a brief overview of the earthquake hazard in Puget Sound area. Event is 6:30 to 8 p.m., at the Gig Harbor Library and requires registration. Topics covered include: home evaluation, permit process, bolt and plate installation and safety and engineering solutions. 548-3305.

FEB. 12

Discover art!

Children (ages 6 to 12) enjoy a story about Jacob Lawrence, become inspired and create their own art work in that style from 4 to 5 p.m., at the Gig Harbor Library. Creating art can be messy. This event requires registration and is sponsored by the Friends of the Gig Harbor Library. 548-3305.

FEB. 17

Drop-in help

Stuck? Need more help? Adults may bring questions to get answers on using Microsoft Office, e-books and e-readers, email and any Pierce County Library e-source between 2 and 3 p.m., at the Gig Harbor Library.

Author visits

Adults are invited to join local author D.L. Fowler for a conversation about his new biographical novel, "Lincoln Raw" at 7 p.m., at the Gig Harbor Library. This event is sponsored by Friends of the Gig Harbor Library. 548-3305.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

KP Veterans

Feb. 2, 7 p.m., at the KP Lutheran Church. Membership is open for veterans and active duty military service members, their spouses and children over 16. (253) 509-8656 or keypenveterans@outlook.com.

Key Pen Parks

Due to the lack of quorum, a special park board meeting will take place at 7:30 p.m., on Monday, Feb. 2 (in lieu of the regularly-scheduled meeting on Feb. 9) at the district office. As always, the public is encouraged to attend.

KP Lions' dinner and program

Feb. 4 and 18, 6 p.m., in VFW Room, KP Civic Center; 853-2721.

KP Fire Department

Feb. 10 and 24, 5 p.m., in meeting room, fire station in Key Center; keypeninsulafire.org.

Key Peninsula Council

Feb. 11, 7 p.m., meeting, hosted at Key Center Fire Station. Mustard Seed Director Edie Morgan will introduce the KP Senior Housing Project and the

general public is invited to join KPC to honor the service of former Councilman Stan Flemming. kpcouncil.org.

Peninsula School District Board

Feb. 12 and 26, 6 p.m., regular meetings at District Office.

KP Civic Center Association Board

Feb. 12, 7 p.m., meeting in Whitmore Room, KP Civic Center. 884-3456.

KP Land Use Advisory Commission

Feb. 18, 6:30 p.m., at the KC Library; chuck-west@hotmail.com.

LIC

Feb. 18, potluck, 7 p.m., at Longbranch Improvement Club; 884-6022, longbranchimprovementclub.org.

KP Citizens Against Crime

Feb. 19, 7 p.m., at fire station in Key Center.

KP Farm Council

Feb. 23, 6:30 p.m., at fire station in Home; c.wiley@mac.com.

**Key To Life
Church of the
Nazarene**

Sunday School 9:30am

Worship 10:30am

Teen night Friday: 7:00pm



Meeting at the Red Barn :
15921 84th St & Key Pen Hwy
(253) 549-9963

Key to Life
Church of the Nazarene

Backpacks of food, still benefitting KP community students, families

By Scott Turner, KP News

Every Friday afternoon, more than 400 youngsters on the Key Peninsula receive backpacks filled with a weekend's worth of food for their families through a districtwide program called Food Backpacks 4 Kids.

According to Diba Wickline, Food Backpacks 4 Kids' executive director, the program began in 2009 when several Key Peninsula residents wanted to do something "to help food-insecure kids" — especially kids at Evergreen Elementary School.

"The first week, we filled nine backpacks and they went solely to children at Evergreen," Wickline said. "Now our all-time high that we have filled in one week has been 547."

The backpacks are filled with tuna, chicken, pasta-roni meals, soup, ravioli, spaghetti, whole grain cereals, shelf-sta-

ble milk, canned soups, canned vegetables, canned fruits, fruit cups, puddings, "all kind of things," Wickline said.

"We put things in there that the kids will enjoy and that they can use by themselves. So we also include things like instant oatmeal, boxed fruit juices, peanut butter and jelly, granola bars and things like that," she said.

At the beginning of the school year when eligible families sign up for the state's "Free and Reduced Lunch Program," they also qualify to receive a backpack.

"We don't want any identification from them, all we want is for them to fill out a form that lets us know if there are any allergies, any intolerances such as gluten or peanut allergies or anything that might be harmful or not healthy for that family to take home," Wickline explained. "We make sure that we are very careful about that."

The program's No. 1 priority, she said, is "making sure these children have nutrition that will help them be able to learn and to retain what they learn in school."

"If a child is hungry, chances are they're not going to retain a lot of what they hear, they're going to be distractible and maybe even unhealthy," she said.

"Children that are food-insecure get sick more; they have more health issues because they don't have adequate nutrition that will help them to grow and to fight off illness or disease," she added.

As a 501c3 nonprofit organization, the Backpacks program is run almost entirely by volunteers (Wickline is the only paid staffer).

Every Wednesday, volunteers gather at Key Peninsula Middle School to fill backpacks for Key Peninsula-area kids.

There are also packing sites in Gig Harbor for schools located on that side of the Purdy bridge.

Partnerships and donations also play an important role in their success. Partners include the Emergency Food Network, Gig Harbor Rotary North, Key Peninsula Lions, Loving Hearts, PEO, and "a lot of very generous community members who help us out," Wickline said.

Each backpack contains about \$10 worth of food — some weeks it's more, some weeks it's less, she said. "We have to keep really close tabs on what we get, what we buy and what's donated to us," she said.

Families larger than the standard four-person model receive additional backpacks.

Besides the Food Backpacks 4 Kids program that runs through the school year, organizers also sponsor a summer lunch program when school isn't in session.

"It runs at the KP Civic Center three days a week," Wickline said. "It's a fresh-cooked hot meal that could be anything from sloppy joes to grilled ham and cheese sandwiches to spaghetti."

"We make sure it's well-balanced and if the child is hungry for more than one



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(See **Backpacks**, Page 15)



Photo by Scott Turner, KP News
Micky Bearden and Vera Cragin, right, grab supplies to be stuffed into backpacks during a Food Backpacks 4 Kids packing session last month at Evergreen Elementary School.

(From **Backpacks**, Page 14)

lunch, they can have another. As long as they finish their first one, they can certainly have a second one," she said.

Last summer, the group also launched a crockpot program in which any family that asks, receives a free crockpot, a recipe book and bulk items such as rice or beans, oatmeal and "a bunch of spices," Wickline said. "Who doesn't love the smell of something cooking in a crockpot?" she said.

There's also a garden seed program that began at the end of last school year.

"We started sending seeds home with the backpacks so the families can start having their own gardens," she said.

To encourage reading and literacy, there's a partnership with the Key Peninsula Resource Center and Communities in Schools Peninsula.

"We're sending books home with the backpacks so the children can begin to start their own personal libraries at home. That's been really well received by the kids and they've been really excited about it," Wickline said. "We're trying to build personal libraries for 525 kids."

Hugh Maxwell, principal at Evergreen Elementary, is a big supporter of the backpacks program. "It takes the place

of our school day lunches during the week, so we know that they've had food over the weekend and on Monday morning they're ready to learn," Maxwell said.

"Nutrition is so important for kids — having the food over the weekend makes a big difference. Kids don't learn well when they're hungry," he added.

Sue Kingsbury-Surratt, health tech and office assistant at Evergreen, agreed. "We have a high percentage of students here who are on the Free And Reduced Lunch Program and some of these kids are only eating at school," Kingsbury-Surratt said.

"So when the weekend comes, that's the difference of them eating or not eating. With the cost of groceries today, that's another reason this is so important to our families and our kids because food is just another big expense. So the community support is huge as far as the kids getting the nutrition and the calories they need.

"And we know if the kids miss getting their backpack, they're really upset. They just really look forward to it," she said.

For information about Food Backpacks 4 Kids, visit peninsulacommunityfoundation.com. To volunteer or donate to the program, call Wickline at (253) 720-5553.



FEBRUARY 2015

www.keypenparks.com



Do you love watching outdoor movies in the summertime?

Key Pen Parks hosts Cinema Under the Stars on Friday evenings in August and we'd love your input on what this summer's movies should be!

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BOARD MEETING DATE CHANGE

Due to the lack of quorum, a special park board meeting will be held

**at 7:30 pm
on Monday,
February 2**

(in lieu of the regularly-scheduled meeting on 2/9).

As always, the public is encouraged to attend.

Upcoming Events in 2015

Saturday, March 28
Pet Easter Treat Hunt
 10 am to noon at Volunteer Park
 Bring your four-legged canine pals for frolicking and treat-finding!



Saturday, April 25
Parks Appreciation Day
 You and your family and friends can volunteer at one of our parks and help make the community a better place to live!

Saturday, April 4
Poker Run (trail biking fun)
 This unique biking activity for all ages is a fundraiser for the future Gateway Park and 360 Trails. Great prizes await you!



For more information on these events, check back at our website.

SEASONAL MAINTENANCE ASSISTANT JOB OPENING

Key Pen Parks is taking applications for a Seasonal Maintenance Assistant. This position performs the routine maintenance of park buildings, facilities, athletic fields and grounds. Work is performed during a 40-hour work week for six months. **Application deadline is February 13, 2015.** To view the entire position description or to download an application, please visit www.keypenparks.com or stop by the park office during business hours.

Are you a contractor, consultant, or vendor? If you are interested in doing business with Key Pen Parks, contact Scott at scottg@keypenparks.com.

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Home delivery dairy open to Key Peninsula residents

By Irene Torres, KP News

Fessler Farms, LLC, now provides dairy and full-service grocery deliveries to the Key Peninsula.

Each week, the family-owned service will deliver fresh dairy and grocery products into customers' ice chests or milk boxes. Delivery is between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

To ensure product safety, Fessler will provide a temporary milk box for \$11, of which \$10 is refunded upon return.

Owner Dan Fessler said all of their milk options are rBST- (recombinant bovine somatotropin, a growth-hormone) and antibiotic-free.

"You will receive the freshest milk you can buy. In fact, it is delivered to your door usually within a few days after the cow was milked. Grocery store milk is usually at least a week to 10 days old when you pick it off the shelf," Fessler said.

According to Fessler, there is no minimum order for a variety of products, including milk and other dairy organics and juices.

They also deliver breads, fruits, veg-



Photo by Ed Johnson, KP News

Gene Miller delivers milk to Key Peninsula homes from Fessler Farms (delivery service), a new storefront in Key Center.

etables, meats, grocery and miscellaneous items, and are adding items all the time, he said.

Nonhomogenized organic milk comes in glass bottles. There is a \$3 deposit for the glass that is refunded when you return the glass rinsed clean. Fessler Farms does not want plastic lids returned.

Delivery can be scheduled to automatically continue every week, two weeks, three weeks or four weeks as a standing order. Items used less often can be ordered for one-time-only delivery. Changes to orders

can be done every week as late as 9 a.m., two business days before scheduled delivery with the exception of raw and organic milk products, which must be preordered a week in advance.

Fessler said there is never a contract obligation to start or continue delivery service.

Fessler Farms will automatically apply credit or debit charges after each delivery. There is a \$2 weekly delivery fee (\$0 for weekly orders more than \$40) for the service to help cover the cost of fuel.

"That's usually less than you'd spend to

drive to the store," Fessler said.

Store hours in Key Center are Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Gene Miller is the regular driver and Cora Miller helps in the retail store.

Vouchers for the WIC (Women-Infants-Children) program may be accepted after enrollment with the state, which should occur in April.

The store will be taking applications for sales personnel and will be hiring new drivers soon.

Reach Fessler Farms by calling (253) 509-9995, or order online at fesslerfarms.com. It's located at 15610 92nd Street Kp N in Key Center.

POET SPEAK

KP poetry corner

Editor's note: The KP News is starting a spot for poems submitted by Key Peninsula residents. Please keep them under 200 words and send them to Ed Johnson at edj@edjohnson.net. We will try and run a poem in every issue.

By Ed Johnson, KP News

Fair Jeanne

Fair Jeanne, how sleepst this night in half filled bed?
And pray what thoughts are summoned up of me?
Recall you how the fires of love were fed
When weeks scant passed what's you and I was we.

A love at times must wane to grow anew.
In separation's fire new temper's sought.
To transform yester's tears to tomorrow's dew.
And wash away the wound that parting's wrought.

While soon these many miles will shrink to none,
will love's embers warm that blessed heart
to kindle in two what's needed to make one
and consummate what ne'er again shall part.

Love, if our love may still be caused to grow,
no fire shall e'er match our increasing glow.



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For more information, contact the Member Services Department at 253.857.5950 or toll-free at 888.809.8021.

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Two Waters 'Artists' Blend' is a big community hit

By Irene Torres, KP News

The first "Artists' Blend" event in November brought together a small group of like-minded and creatively diverse souls who gathered to share stories and learn a few new ones.

Artist Taylor Reed said the idea is to have a time each month when artists and patrons of the arts can get together just to talk art.

"We have so many artists on the KP and surrounding areas but we are so spread out and don't really all know each other very well. We have lots of artists and we would really like to get to know each other," Reed said.

Art news, shared by those who attended in January, included artist, conservator and teacher Phoebe Toland and her husband, ceramic artist Richard Notkin. Phoebe's sister, sculptor Tip Toland has just received a United States Artist Fellowship award.

Exhibitor Adria Hanson is a painter who lives on the Key Peninsula. Her true artist soul still craves time to stay con-

nected with her art and other artists as time with her new baby allows. Hanson studied fine art in Italy.

Lampwork glass artist Brynn Rydell talked about her new projects, which are painstakingly designed and impeccably delivered.

Reed was also busy with a show at Morso Wine Bar in Gig Harbor. Doing double duty as a landscaping creative as well as a painter, her life is full. She is showing her work on a regular basis with the Kimball Gallery group in Gig Harbor.

Robin Peterson is busy revisiting her Voices of the Wilderness art residency, which she will present this summer in Tongass National Forest, southeast Alaska.

Kathy Bauer has a perfect showcase for her photography at The Blend; she's excited for the future of Two Waters Art Alliance (TWAA) and is looking forward to continuing support for the arts and artists in our community with some re-envisioning of ways the organization can keep us connected, sharing the blessings of a creative lifestyle for all ages.

Reed said this was only the third month, but the group grew a lot this time. "We had 6 or 7 people show the first two months, but this month we had 17-18 and it was really fun and great energy," Reed said.

According to Reed, the group is getting really enthusiastic feedback.

"I will be posting information on the TWAA Facebook page facebook.com/twoswatersartsalliance. Two Waters is really focused this year on supporting all of our local artists and bringing us together. We are always looking for volunteers; the more we have the more cool things we can do," Reed said.

The group is still trying to figure out what the monthly event will be, and they know that is up to whoever shows up.

"The focus will be making sure we have

time to talk to each other about current projects we may be working on and are excited about or are having trouble with, what exhibits are currently up and what we have seen. We'll be discussing reviews, ideas for art shows and classes on the peninsula and sharing local opportunities for artists. We will share networking and marketing ideas for artists. We would also like to have short presentations, kind of a show-and-tell time. We had a few people bring in some pieces they are working on, which was a big hit, showing new and different material and techniques," Reed said.

Artists' Blend is free to attend and is open to anyone who wants to talk art on the first Tuesday of every month from 4 to 6 p.m. at Blend Wine Shop in Key Center.



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December 16, 2014

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f t y

PHS student helps KPMS students with speech, debate

By Scott Turner, KP News

Audrey Gainey thinks that learning to do public speaking and debate gives youngsters some very important life skills that can help them think objectively and communicate better.

Gainey, 17, has started a speech and debate club at Key Peninsula Middle School.

She's a senior at Peninsula High School, where she's co-captain of the speech and debate team.

The KPMS club, which meets every week, is Gainey's senior project.

"One of the biggest things about speech and debate is that it gives people an outlet, it teaches kids how to present themselves and express themselves," Gainey said.

The speech part helps you develop confidence and communication skills, "and the debate part allows you to see both sides of an issue and create good points for both sides of the issue and use evidence and rhetorical devices and just be able to create persuasive arguments," she said.



Photo by Scott Turner, KP News

Peninsula High School student Audrey Gainey, right, listens to KPMS debate club student Surfer Martin, 14, articulate her point during a recent mentoring session.

Nationally and in statewide competitions, the PHS team is "really doing well," Gainey said. The PHS team competes regularly in tournaments against other Washington high schools and even stu-

dents from Idaho and Canada.

"You get the topics a month before the tournament," she explained. "They might be things like genetically modified organisms, peacekeepers, military aid versus developmental aid, education and so forth," she said.

The goal, she said, is "to persuade the judge to your side of the issue."

"You go into it with a four-minute prepared speech and then the rest of the round we come up with on-the-spot responses, not something we've prepared. Everyone has the same amount of time to speak or respond to something. You have to interact with the other team and their points," Gainey said.

There's also a questioning period where both sides get to ask each other questions about their case and the topic — so each side gets a better understanding of the other point of view, she added.

Gainey uses those same rules and techniques in the KPMS club, which she began soon after school started last fall, although, she said, the idea had been in the works for a couple of years.

"We give the kids debate topics — like 'let's think of pro arguments and arguments that are against this topic,'" she said. "We spend a lot of time talking about both sides of the topic."

"We also talk about how to structure your arguments. You can't just say that this is true without giving evidence or

backing it up logically," she said flatly.

Gainey said that club members also participate in weekly events like "impromptu things."

"I give them a random topic that they've never seen before and they have to create a six-minute speech on the spot."

"So it really gets them to think on their feet and how to construct their ideas and present them clearly in a short amount of time," she said.

Gainey attended KPMS in the sixth and eighth grade.

"There weren't that many opportunities back then for me as a student to be able to figure out what I'd like to do, and that's a big disadvantage when you get to high school and there are so many more clubs than there are at the middle school. So I think it's really good that kids at KPMS are getting more opportunities," Gainey said.

Surfer Martin, 14, is a KPMS Speech and Debate Club member. "When I heard about the Debate Club I thought it sounded intriguing, especially knowing how to state my opinion," Martin said.

"I thought that I'd give it a go. It's very cool and really neat to work with high school seniors and collaborate with them and be taught about debate and speech form. I'm learning a lot," she said. "Audrey is really good as a mentor and she helps me learn how to get better at debating. I think I'll take debate at Peninsula, too."

One of Gainey's close friends and fellow PHS students, Alec Dionne, has started a similar club at Harbor Ridge Middle School in Gig Harbor.

"We both really want to recruit more people for our high school team and just to give these kids some lifelong speaking skills," Gainey said.

The two middle schools will hold a debate tournament in February or March.

"Knowing that there's going to be a tournament has given the kids something to look forward to and something to drive them," Gainey said.

"In high school we have tournaments every week so we're constantly working on our craft and our speaking skills because we have this goal to reach. So we want to have that same kind of goal in our clubs for the middle school kids," she said.

CALLING FOR CITIZEN ADVISORY PANEL MEMBERS

Key Peninsula Fire Department is currently seeking citizens that would like to serve on a Citizen's Advisory Panel. This group is responsible for reviewing the District's current future plan document and recommending possible updates. The group will need to meet on a regular basis to allow for continuity of members and training/information needs. During the first few months, meetings will take place 3-4 times per month and will eventually meet once per month as the committee sees fit.

If you desire to serve on this committee, please submit a letter of interest no later than February 23, 2015. The Board of Fire Commissioners will review the letters and will select a panel of approximately ten (10) citizens to serve during the regular board meeting of February 24, 2015. Please feel free to attend!

Please submit the letter to:
Pierce County Fire District 16
ATTN: District Secretary
8911 Key Peninsula HWY KPN
Lakebay, WA 98349

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cbosch@piercefir.org

If you have any questions, please contact Fire Chief Guy Allen or Administrative Manager Christina Bosch at 253-884-2222.



KPFD rewards Minter 'Spell-a-thon Roundup' champs

By Hugh McMillan, KP News

Ty Robuck, Minter Creek Elementary School principal, was proud that two kindergarten students received a fire truck ride to school for being the top earners in the school's PTA-sponsored "Spell-a-thon Roundup" fall fundraiser held Dec. 9.

Other participants in the fundraiser were awarded their prizes and participation certificates that same week in class.

Landon Olson was one of the two kindergartners who walked off with top honors and a ride in a Key Peninsula Fire Department fire engine. Kaleb Fraioli was the other winner.

"This past fall, our PTA decided to have students do something different for a fundraiser," Robuck said. "Rather than sell things like wrapping paper, we did the spell-a-thon."

Every Minter student was given spelling words matched to grade level. In November, each class took spelling tests, which were corrected.

"We held a culminating fall carnival with games, pie-throwing and barbecue — a fun evening," Robuck said.

Each grade level's top earners earned a prize. Each participating student had a shot at a grand prize. The

two kindergartners won a ride to school on a fire engine, Robuck said.

"This was a different kind of fundraiser for the kids of Minter Creek," said teacher Shawna Olson. "As a parent, it was really neat to watch my son practice his words every day. He even got some extra pledges from some friends and family who upped the challenge with more difficult words for him to spell at home."

Pledges were earned by students who asked family members or friends to pledge money for each word they spelled correctly.

The spelling test was mandatory for all Minter students. Collecting pledges was optional but when students realized they had to take the test anyway they were more inclined to try to collect pledges.

"Landon, who is in Caitlin Nettlebeck's kindergarten class, raised more than \$200," said Olson.

Assistant Key Peninsula Chief Hal Wolverton said the department was asked to provide a ride to school in a fire engine for winners of the spelling bee.

"The two winners were treated to a tour of a fire station then donned the appropriate gear for boarding the engine," he said.

Asked how he felt about the ride, Kaleb said, "It was good. My favorite part was when they turned on the sirens and air horn, but the headphones were really cool, too."



Holding his fire helmet and a police car, Landon Olson, one of two Minter Creek Elementary kindergartners winners of the school's PTA-sponsored fundraising "Spell-a-thon" contest is delighted to sit in the driver's seat of a Key Peninsula Fire Department fire engine. The other winner is classmate Kaleb Fraioli.

Courtesy photo by Jason Olson



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Economics of geoduck aquaculture

By Sara Thompson, KP News

Editor's note: This is the fourth and final article in our geoduck series. The first focused on the bearing for a new farm on the west side of the Key Peninsula, the second reviewed the history of geoduck aquaculture and the third concentrated on the environmental impact.

Washington is the largest producer and exporter of geoducks, and although the economics are far from transparent, there is a fascinating story to be told. Developing technology, policies affecting harvesting, turning a low-end product to a luxury food item and a growing Chinese economy all play a part in this tale.

The early years

The industry did not start until after 1967, when abundant subtidal wild beds were discovered, particularly in Washington and British Columbia. In Washington, quotas were established along with agreements with the tribes (though illegal harvesting was common and continues to be a concern).

In Canada, the harvesting was initially derby-style and the pounds harvested jumped from 2,500 tons in 1976 to nearly 8,000 in 1988. As concerns grew for the viability of wild stock, Canada changed to a quota system and harvesting fell to a low of 3,000 tons in 1995.

The target market at the time was almost exclusively in Hong Kong, and this market was reached via Vancouver, B.C. Initially geoduck was sold as a canned food and ex-vessel prices were just 50 cents a pound.

Profitability grows

As the harvest plummeted in the mid-1990s, geoduck also began to be marketed as a fresh luxury food. Prices skyrocketed and by 1995 it was selling for \$7.50 per pound. Wild harvests have remained fairly constant since 2000 (between 3,500 and 4,000 tons). Wild geoduck are now also harvested in Mexico and Alaska. Prices have risen with ex-vessel geoduck now worth \$15 a pound or more and \$30 for fresh.

As prices increased, the technology of farming developed. By 2002, the first farms

in Washington sold their products.

Shipping infrastructure also evolved and while in the early years 90 percent of geoducks were shipped through Canada, Washington now ships directly to Hong Kong and China.

As China's economy expands, the taste for geoduck has shown no sign of slowing. Prices continue to rise and the market has moved from Hong Kong to include most major Chinese cities.

The industry's role

Washington, like any other state, needs industry to survive. Businesses pay salaries, purchase goods in order to operate, and pay taxes and fees. In turn, employees buy goods, pay taxes and thus add to the economy.

The shellfish industry, according to the 2013 report by Northern Economics, spent \$101.4 million and generated \$184 million in output. It was responsible for 1,900 direct jobs and an additional 810 jobs, indirectly.

This is not an enormous piece of the state economy (the landscaping industry is responsible for a total of 43,000 total jobs (direct

and indirect) and sales of \$2.4 billion. And Boeing, Amazon and Costco surely dwarf shellfish.

But Kevin Decker from Washington Sea Grant noted, "The counties where aquaculture is important are largely rural. For those counties this industry is important. In addition, Washington wants to diversify its industry."

The money at stake

Farming geoducks requires a significant investment. Land must be leased. Seed must be purchased; protective equipment must be purchased and installed, monitored regularly and then removed when the geoducks have dug deep enough to elude predators. And finally, after five to seven years, they must be harvested using high-volume, low-pressure hoses brought in via barge.

Exactly how much it costs to farm geoducks is not clear. Based on a survey of the Pacific Shellfish Growers Association, the average cost to farm all shellfish is about \$5,000 per acre per year. But, as Decker noted, geoduck probably costs more to farm than other shellfish, and there is likely variation in costs depending on the size of the company. He observed that companies have been hesitant to share their data — it is a small and competitive industry.

How much money is made at harvest is a bit more transparent. The Department of Natural Resources, with numbers from 2004, estimated that an acre would produce \$750,000 per acre every five years. Prices have increased since that time by at least fifty percent, so an estimate of \$1,000,000 every five years would be fairly conservative.

(See Geoduck, Page 21)

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(From **Geoduck**, Page 20)

How the Key Peninsula fits in

Currently about 200 acres are leased in the state for geoduck aquaculture. On the Key Peninsula, 22.3 acres are currently approved for farming, with 2.5 acres not yet planted. An additional 16 acres were approved and are under appeal, and several other permits are pending. Burley Lagoon, immediately to the north of the Key Peninsula, is the site of two other pending permits for a total of 35.6 acres (including a mixed one for geoducks and manila clams).

All current geoduck farms in Pierce County are on the Key Peninsula. Though the county accounts for only 0.5 percent of all aquaculture in the state, it provides 11 percent of all geoduck sites, and if other permits are approved, that percentage may grow.

According to data from the Pacific Shellfish Growers Association, about 10 percent of aquaculture employees come from Pierce County, so it appears that the industry brings jobs at least at the county level.

If an average acre of farming brings in \$200,000 a year (\$1 million every five years), then the harvest on the peninsula is probably sold for about \$4 million. This calculation does not take into account the costs of farming, the fact that some acreage remains dormant each year or that the clams may be harvested at longer intervals. But by any measure, this is a significant amount of money.

Less tangible impact

If it is difficult to get accurate figures for the expenses and income of the industry, it is probably even more difficult to measure the economic impact along other lines.

Property values are affected but the impact seems to be very site-specific and difficult to measure.

The industry touts the beneficial effects

of filtering to water quality but those effects are overstated, according to Jim Brennan, a marine biologist who specializes in nearshore matters.

Brennan worked as a marine habitat biologist for Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and then served as the senior ecologist for King County.

"We can't necessarily draw conclusions from the East Coast data on oysters," he said. "Even there, it has been determined that bivalves filtering the water is not the solution to pollution. Clear water is not necessarily 'clean' water."

Other benefits mentioned include fostering of stewardship with increasing awareness of the importance of water quality and serving as an ecosystem health indicator. But, as Brennan notes, there are minimal data to support those assertions and it is difficult to include them in calculating any economic benefit. The long-term consequences on the environment are still unclear as well.

What next?

Just as the environmental impact of geoduck farming continues to unfold, the economic impact story is evolving. Two studies to better understand the economics of the geoduck industry are due to be completed in June.

Decker, of Washington Sea Grant, is working with the Pacific Shellfish Institute to collect accurate data about costs and economic contribution. Katharine Wellman of Northern Economics is working on a study to help with marine spatial planning, a project that encompasses all fishing, shipping, shellfish and any activity that uses the waterways — which is of interest to the state departments of natural resources, ecology and health.

Source: Much of the economic history comes from a report produced by Northern Economics

Looking for a grant to 'spark' an idea

The Greater Tacoma Community Foundation is now accepting applications for "Spark Grants."

Spark Grants is a grant program designed to help bring people-powered ideas to life within Pierce County. According to organizers, "this is not your typical grant — it's designed to support everyday people who want to spark positive change."

The program leverages \$1,500 "micro-grants" to fuel go-getters, grassroots organizers and connoisseurs of community who have great ideas on how to make their neighborhood a better place.

According to a recent press release, projects funded by this program are inspiring, actionable and relevant to their local community. A wide range of projects are eligible, but priority will be toward those who bring diverse groups together, build on community strengths or offer exciting ideas to address.

The grants are available only to those who live or work in Pierce County.

For information, visit gtcf.org/spark-grants. Applications are available at gtcf.org/apply-for-spark-grant. The application due date is March 4, by 4 p.m.

Want more info?

The next Shoreline Master Plan hearing is at the Peninsula High auditorium on Monday, Feb. 2 at 5:30 p.m. For details, go to the Pierce County Department of Land Services at piercecounitywa.org/index.aspx?NID=956. More information can be found by visiting the Marine Spatial Planning msp.wa.gov/learn/about, the Coalition to Protect Puget Sound Habitat (regular updates) at coalitiontoprotect-pugetsoundhabitat.org along with Washington Sea Grant studies at wsg.washington.edu.

for the Washington State Department of Natural Resources; from a report for Pacific Shellfish Institute by Northern Economics and from a paper currently under review at the journal Marine Policy, "From Cannery to Culinary Luxury: The Evolution of the Global Geoduck Market" by Gina Louise Shamshak and Jonathan R. King.

The KP News welcomes your comments. Please send them to editor@keypennews.com.

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Doris Elaine Sorrels

Doris Sorrels was born on July 27, 1923, on a family farm near Story City, Iowa, which her Norwegian ancestors had homesteaded before the Civil War. Sorrels died on Jan. 4, at the age of 91 years, at St. Anthony Hospital in Gig Harbor. Her maiden name was Ryan.

Doris grew up on a farm with corn, cows and chickens, along with other critters she all tried to turn into pets. The bull was a special challenge. Her school house had only one room. She saw her male classmates disappear into World War II.

After graduating from high school, Sorrels worked in a bank, and then moved to southern California to join

her older sister, Marguerite, where Sorrels worked as a school secretary.

Doris met and later married Earl Sorrels while he was attending Cal Aero Technical College and was also employed as Howard Hughes personal airplane mechanic. They married in Seattle in January 1949, while Earl was working for Boeing. Their marriage lasted until Earl's death in December 2012.

Doris Sorrels had several other jobs while moving with Earl during his careers with the USAF, Civil Service, and the aerospace industry. The job she liked the most and held the longest was with NASA Ames Research Center, where she worked in communications and spoke with all the astronauts and Jacques Cousteau on a regular basis.

Doris and Earl moved to the Key Peninsula in 1977. They are now at rest together in the Willamette National Cemetery in Portland.

Doris is survived by her sister, four children, seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Memorial services will be held at 11 a.m. on Feb. 21, at Agnes Dei Lutheran Church, 10511 Peacock Hill Ave NW, Gig Harbor.

Lynn Ann Higgins

Lynn Ann (Larimer) Higgins 55, of Vaughn died on the afternoon of Dec. 22, 2014 at St. Anthony's Hospital in Gig Harbor.

She was born on Sept. 27, 1959 in Seattle to Constance and (Ralph) Lynn Larimer.

Lynn Ann is survived by her husband of 22 years, Brett Higgins, sons Brandon and Christopher Engbretson, [two] grandsons Gavin and Grant Engbretson. Also surviving; sister, Pam Mearns, brother Don Larimer, as well as many nieces, nephews and cousins.

Lynn Ann lived in the greater Puget Sound area her whole life. She graduated from Mountlake Terrace High School in 1977 and went on to work in the jewelry business. She took some years off to be a mom to her two sons before returning to work in the jewelry business in 1990. In 1995 she and her husband moved to the Key Peninsula where they fell in love with the area and especially the people they met.

Lynn Ann was the proud mother and grandmother as well as a "second mom" to many of her co-workers and young people she met along her journey through life. She had the brightest smile, gave the biggest hugs and would always be there for people who needed someone to talk



Lynn Ann Higgins

to.

Besides her love of family and friends, Lynn Ann loved her visits to Disneyland, her local sports teams: Mariners, Seahawks and the Sonics (when they were in Seattle).

She had a special place in her heart for her pets and just about any animal, including her teddy bears.

A celebration of life will be held at the Key Peninsula Civic Center 1-3 p.m. on Feb. 14.

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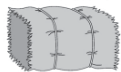


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Out & About

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Photo by Ed Johnson, KP News

On Jan. 15, the students and faculty of Key Peninsula Middle School were treated to a performance of "11 Days in the Life of Dr. King" by a troupe from The Broadway Center for the Performing Arts.



Photo by Ed Johnson, KP News

A pod of harbor porpoises have been seen by many in the area since the beginning of January. Pictured here are a group spotted in the waters off the Purdy Spit. To report sightings of harbor porpoise within the South Puget Sound, call Cascadia Research Collective at (800) 747-7329. The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife are working on a collaboration with Cascadia Research, as well as other researchers, to document harbor porpoise return to the area as well monitor harbor porpoise population statewide.



Photo by Frank Slater, KP News

Where in the World...

At the site of Mother Nature's November clobbering of resort and other properties along the beach in Mazatlan, Mexico, are Karen and Joe Barrow of Longbranch, left, and Janice and Hugh McMillan of Lakebay showing off a copy of the Key Peninsula News as crews in the background reconstruct a demolished seawall at the popular Inn at Mazatlan.

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Right: A recent sunrise rises above Henderson Bay.

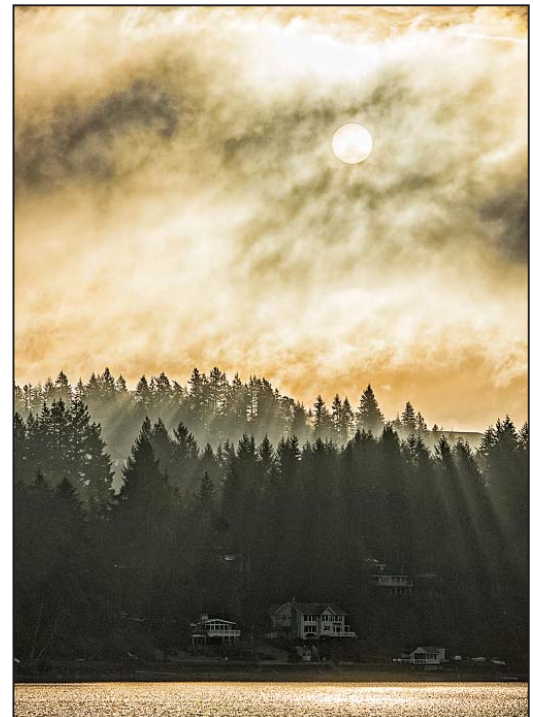


Photo by Ed Johnson, KP News

Bottom left: A clump of downed maple trees closed Lackey Road near South Vaughn Road and took out the main power lines between Home and Vaughn before 7 a.m. on Sunday, Jan 18. Residents had power restored in about four hours.