



The best of the season to you and yours

# KEY PENINSULA NEWS



Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Wauna, WA  
98395  
Permit No. 2  
BOX HOLDER

www.keypennews.com

THE VOICE OF THE KEY PENINSULA

December 2016 Vol.43 No. 12



Former Lakebay resident Megan Blunk won a gold medal at the Paralympic Games in Rio de Janeiro in September. *Photo: Scott Turner*

## Gold Medal for Local Paralympic Champ

IRENE TORRES, KP NEWS

Megan Blunk, 27, played on the USA women's Paralympic wheelchair basketball team in Rio de Janeiro in September. Though she didn't get a lot of playing time, she said, "it was nice to see everything come together. To see them play so consistent, so solid, with everyone at the top of their game, focused and composed, taught me a lot."

After the win, Blunk traveled to Alabama to coach wheelchair basketball at a USA development camp. She and the gold-medal USA teams were later invited to the White House to meet President Obama. They spent four days in Washington, D.C., where they received official congratulations and recognition at the USA Awards Show. They were also guests at a summit conference to receive training on public speaking and becoming an entrepreneur to help the young athletes start a career.

Riding high on "commotion and hype," in her terms, Blunk returned to the University of Illinois, where she just graduated,

CONTINUED PAGE 2



Elizabeth Baker, left, and her guide, Jillian Petersen. *Photo: courtesy Jillian Petersen*

## Local Trainer Guided Paralympian in Rio Games

IRENE TORRES, KP NEWS

Key Peninsula resident Jillian Petersen, 33, went to the 2016 Paralympic games as a guide in the triathlon for Elizabeth Baker, 43. Petersen just missed qualifying to compete in the 2012 Olympics herself, and raced with the International Triathlon Union (ITU) as a professional.

USA Triathlon chose Petersen to guide Baker just eight weeks before the start of the games in Rio de Janeiro in September.

"Jillian came out of nowhere," said Baker. "She's a professional triathlete and a personal trainer. Guides for triathlons (swimming, bicycling and running) have got to be better than you on their worst day."

Petersen had never guided an athlete. She had been in line as third backup guide for another racer during a qualifying event in April 2015, when a faster race time earned Baker a place on the USA Paralympics team.

Petersen said she and Baker were forced together for two weeks. "In such tight quarters, you get to know each other, whether

CONTINUED PAGE 3

## Large-Scale Geoduck Farming Possible in Burley Lagoon

SARA THOMPSON, KP NEWS

Taylor Shellfish Farms of Shelton, the state's largest shellfish grower, recently applied for a permit to convert part of its Burley Lagoon operation to geoduck farming. The farm is over 300 acres in size, with about 100 acres planted with manila clams and oysters at any given time. Taylor proposes to convert approximately 25 acres from clams and oysters to geoduck.

A public meeting on the application took place Oct. 25 at Peninsula High School, with more than 100 people attending. It included an open house with information provided by Taylor and the Pierce County Department of Planning and Land Services (PALS), followed by oral presentations and public testimony.

"The proposal for this farm is different from any we have approved in the past," said Dave Risvold, environmental biologist with PALS. "Previous farm proposals have been located along long, exposed sections of shoreline, whereas Burley Lagoon is relatively enclosed. The proposed farm is considerably bigger than past proposals and the shoreline area is more heavily developed than has been the case with most of our previous farms."

To address these concerns, the county and Taylor agreed that an environmental impact statement (EIS) would be the most appropriate process.

Risvold said that since the early 2000s, when rapid expansion of geoduck farming (including illegal activity) resulted in public outcry, the county has been thorough in evaluating proposals for geoduck farms. Reviews have paid close attention to the effect on the environment, aesthetics and recreation. The main difference from earlier reviews is that with an EIS, there will be more opportunity for public input.

Most public comment at the meeting focused on concerns about loose plastic from the geoduck gear, noise and the deleterious effects on other wildlife caused by the high concentration of geoducks and the low-pressure, high-volume hoses used to harvest them.

Diane Cooper, of Taylor, reviewed the history of Burley Lagoon. The Tye Oyster Co. started farming it in the early 1900s. The Western Oyster Co., owned by the Yamashita family, purchased the farm in 1952.

The lagoon is deeded for shellfish farming only. In 2012, Taylor began leasing the farm and took over the operation. The processing of shellfish was moved from the lagoon to Shelton, techniques were modernized, and some old equipment was removed.

Cooper described geoduck farming as less intensive than that of oysters and clams. Oysters mature in three to four years, clams in two. The active work of farming them is continuous. Predator exclusion nets cover the clams.

CONTINUED PAGE 2



**GEODUCKS FROM PAGE 1**

Oysters may be in bags or may be protected by nets, depending on the beach and current. Geoducks, in comparison, are planted in protective plastic tubes that are left in place for one to two years and then removed. (Recent practice has replaced solid tubes with mesh tubes.) The geoducks are harvested four to five years later.

Three scenarios will be initially evaluated for the EIS. The first is that all 25 acres would be planted at once, though typically sites are planted in a patchwork over several years because of the limited availability of seed. The second scenario is that two-thirds of the area would be planted at any given time. The "no-action" alternative would leave the 25 acres in its current use for clams and oysters.

The issues identified for the EIS were environmental (sediments, aquatic vegetation, water quality and fish and wildlife), noise, recreation and aesthetics.

Risvold expects the first draft of the EIS will be completed in early 2017, when it will be available to the public for additional comment. A final EIS will be written and presented at public hearings and to the Key Peninsula Land Use Advisory Council sometime in 2018. A

final EIS with the PALS recommendation will be presented to the Pierce County hearing examiner. That decision then goes to the Washington State Department of Ecology for review.

All previously approved permits have been appealed to the state Shoreline Hearings Board.

For more information, go to [www.co.pierce.wa.us](http://www.co.pierce.wa.us).

On Nov. 14, the Washington State Court of Appeals affirmed both the Superior Court and Shorelines Hearings Board decisions to deny a 5-acre geoduck aquaculture permit in Henderson Bay to the Chelsea Farms shellfish company of Olympia. Chelsea proposed installing more than 56,000 plastic tubes planted with geoduck and covered in plastic netting.

The Coalition to Protect Puget Sound Habitat petitioned the hearings board to intervene after Pierce County approved the farm's permit in 2013. The board found that the buffers Pierce County approved for the farm would not adequately protect fragile eelgrass meadows, which are protected under the state Shoreline Management Act.

**GOLD MEDAL FROM PAGE 1**

to pack up and move back to Washington and decide what to do next.

"After eight years of working toward one goal, and I hit it, now what?" she asked.

She had not been back home in Illinois long before her residence was burglarized. Her USA team backpack, new phone and computer were stolen, together with a hard drive containing all her notes for a book she's writing. "I felt devastated and defeated," she said.

She had her gold medal with her, so it was not lost. Suspects were arrested within a few days. "Surprisingly, I got almost all my things back," she said. "It's almost like it was supposed to happen. You get what you can handle. I am thankful."

Blunk grew up near Lakebay and graduated from Peninsula High School in June 2008. She was paralyzed from the waist down by a motorcycle accident that July.

She has not slowed down. She has been working with the Tacoma Titans, a co-ed wheelchair basketball program for adults and children, sponsored by Tacoma Metro Parks and the Boys and Girls Club. The Peninsula Athletic Association (PAA) offered her a volunteer position in November coaching third to fifth grade girls' basketball.

Andy O'Brien of Wauna, a certified physical education teacher, is the assistant coach. "He's the most positive, outgoing person, I'm excited to be working with him," said Blunk.

Blunk's schedule is filling up. "I'm getting organized and settled in again," she said. She's been invited to speak at the Army Pre-Deployment Ball Dec. 8. Her focus will be to lessen the soldiers' fear of coming home with a disability.

After earning her master's of social work degree with a focus on mental health, Blunk is looking for an opportunity in a University of Illinois accredited internship such as a juvenile detention center or inpatient mental health unit. She hopes to complete the internship between May and December 2017. Until then, she said she is excited to work as a coach and mentor for young athletes. She plans to do a lot of promoting and help build programs.

"I'll go anywhere and work with anyone if they will pay for gas and bridge tolls," she said.

With only six players on her new team, Blunk told the KP News, "It's been hard for PAA to recruit. If anyone knows any girls interested in playing basketball, let them know late registrations are accepted."

Follow Blunk's blog at [meganblunk.com](http://meganblunk.com).

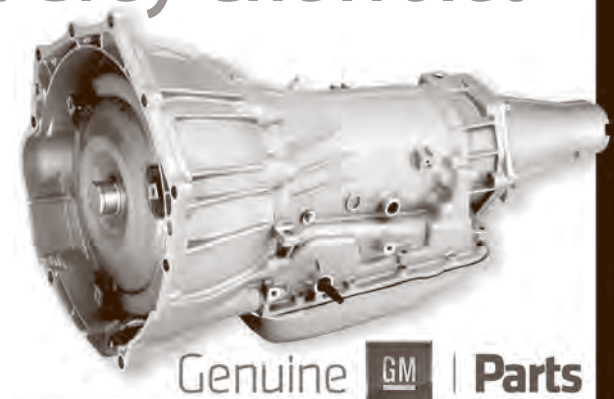
www.greychevrolet.com

**GM TRANSMISSIONS — Now at Grey Chevrolet**

- Remanufactured transmissions are built specifically for each GM vehicle
- **3-year/100,000-mile nationwide limited parts & labor warranty\***
- OE quality that incorporates all the latest engineering updates
- Plug-n-Play design for low hoist time
- Typically available the same or next day
- Toll-free Powertrain Contact Center (866) 453-4123

**INSTALLATION  
AVAILABLE**

**360-876-8091**  
parts@greychevrolet.com  
www.greychevrolet.com



**GREY CHEVROLET**  
4949 HOVDE ROAD, PORT ORCHARD, WA 98367

Genuine  Parts

www.greychevrolet.com

**KEY  
PENINSULA  
NEWS**

EXECUTIVE EDITOR: Ted Olinger

COMMUNITY PAGES EDITOR: Connie Renz

CONTRIBUTORS: Lisa Bryan, Matthew Dean,  
Ed Johnson, Alice Kinerk, Karen Lovett, Colleen Slater,  
Sara Thompson, Rodika Tollefson, Irene Torres, Danna  
Webster, Carolyn Wiley

COLUMNISTS: Rob Manahan, Anne Nesbit, Frank Slater,  
Rob Vajko, Cathy Warner, Dan Whitmarsh

AD SALES: Brett Higgins, Wendy Kleven

BOOKKEEPER: Heather Christman

PRODUCTION DESIGN: Tim Heitzman

WEB MASTER: Brett Higgins

DISTRIBUTION: Vic and Connie Renz,  
Phil Bauer, Bill Dietz, Frank Slater, Bob Wilkins

www.keypennews.com

for the latest breaking news

253-884-4699 Fax 253-884-4053

news@keypennews.com

17010 S. Vaughn Rd, P.O. Box 3,  
Vaughn, WA 98394

Copyright 2016, all rights reserved; reproduction without permission prohibited. **Key Peninsula News supports our community** with news and features on the peninsula and adjacent areas. Owned and published by the Key Peninsula Civic Center Association, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation, in Vaughn, Washington. The name, goodwill and copyright are financial assets retained by the owner. **Be a supporter:** The Key Peninsula News depends on support from advertisers and subscribers. Copies are mailed presort standard to all residents and post office box holders of the Key Peninsula. Single copies are available at the newspaper office and distribution points on Key Peninsula. **Be a contributor:** Letters to the editor are published as space allows, must be signed and include a daytime phone number for verification. Key Peninsula News reserves the right to edit all submissions. Deadline is 15th of month before publication. Mail to P.O. Box 3, Vaughn, WA 98394 or email [news@keypennews.com](mailto:news@keypennews.com). **Strengthen your community newspaper by donating** or send a subscription to a friend living off the KP.



Competitor Elizabeth Baker, left, with guide Jillian Petersen, taking a break in Rio. *Photo: courtesy Jillian Petersen*

**LOCAL TRAINER** FROM PAGE 1 you want to or not,” Petersen said. “We get along great. She’s like my long-lost sister.”

Baker traveled from her home in Chattanooga, Tennessee, to train with Petersen for a week at her home on Lake Minterwood. The following week, they raced in Pensacola, Florida. “She was vested in my race as if it were her own,” Baker said.

Baker has Stargardt’s disease, a juvenile form of macular degeneration that has progressively diminished her central field of vision. “My sight went from 20/60 to 20/140 when I was a freshman in high school,” she said. “I can read 28 font, but I can’t find my own bike.

“When we swim in open water, we have to follow the buoys to take the best route to the finish line; I can’t see it,” Baker said. That is where Petersen comes in. Bound by a 50- to 55-centimeter tether joining them at the wrist, the guide steers the swimmer on the most direct course, coaching, encouraging, directing, while keeping pace side-by-side with the contestant.

The cycling portion of their race in Rio was difficult for Petersen. The Matrix tandem bicycle was heavy and tired her out. “That bike hurt so bad,” she said.

Later, during the footrace, “I was killing myself, running faster than I wanted to,” Petersen said. “For the first mile of the run, I couldn’t talk. Then I got my legs under me and checked my watch. I told Liz, ‘Honey, I am sorry to do this to you. You’re going to have to pick up the pace.’”

They passed Melissa Reid and her guide, Nicole Walters (from the United Kingdom),

and moved into third place. “Then I saw it happen before it happened, and there was nothing I could do about it,” Petersen said.

“All of a sudden, I felt dizzy,” Baker said. “I couldn’t see straight. I couldn’t control my legs. I lost motor control. I went down.”

Petersen was shouting, “but I couldn’t hear the words come out of my mouth because the crowd went insane.” Baker got up to run again, but Reid and her guide had passed them.

Petersen did not know what to do when Baker fell. “I reached out to help her, but didn’t want to do anything that would disqualify her.”

“Jillian never stopped talking to me on the last leg of the race,” Baker said. “Her supporting words—‘You’re a supermom, I know you have it in you, you’re a superwoman, you’ve already done an amazing job, you can do this’—were so encouraging to me. She treated me like a real athlete.”

Baker fell again before getting up and walking across the line to finish fourth. She collapsed later in the medical tent.

“It was gut-wrenching,” Petersen said. “I felt like I’d killed her. I thought I’d pushed her too much.”

Baker said she had strep throat since the race in Pensacola. In Houston for athlete processing, she did two open water swims and ended up in an emergency clinic with a head and chest cold. She was taking antibiotics and feeling better by the time she got to Rio. An American doctor gave her Sudafed in an amount permitted under mandatory drug testing, to help her breathing.

“She was sick the whole week before,” Petersen said. “For her to be able to race to that capacity is amazing. Everything Liz has done and accomplished, she treats it like it’s nothing. As a trainer, I work to find what motivates them. She motivated me.”

Back in Gig Harbor, Petersen is a swimming teacher at the YMCA and working as an intern at BeBetter Gym, where she plans to start a practice in January as a personal trainer.

“Liz really wants me to guide her if she competes again, looking toward the Tokyo Paralympics in 2020,” Petersen said. Baker told her, “I’m not doing it without you.”

Video of Baker’s race and collapse are online on YouTube: Search for women’s Paralympic triathlon Rio.

JOIN GLEN COVE REPAIR  
IN SUPPORTING LOCAL FAMILIES  
IN THE PENINSULA SCHOOL DISTRICT

# Spirit of the Holidays Food Drive

BENEFITING FOOD BACKPACKS 4 KIDS



MAKE A MONETARY OR  
NON-PERISHABLE DONATION OF  
\$5 OR MORE AND RECEIVE:

- AN OIL & FILTER CHANGE
- TIRE ROTATION • SAFETY CHECKUP

FOR JUST **\$19.99\*** PLUS TAX— A 50% SAVINGS

\*\$49.99 FOR SYNTHETIC OIL OFFER VALID THRU 2016



ABOUT FOOD BACKPACKS 4 KIDS:

“FOOD BACKPACKS 4 KIDS DISTRIBUTES MORE THAN 400 WEEKLY BACKPACKS TO CHILDREN FROM EVERY SCHOOL IN THE PENINSULA SCHOOL DISTRICT. EACH BACKPACK CONTAINS BETWEEN 5 AND 8 POUNDS OF NUTRITIOUS FOOD, STRUCTURED TO PROVIDE SUPPLEMENTAL FOOD TO FEED A FAMILY OF FOUR FOR THE WEEKEND. THAT’S MORE THAN 3,000 POUNDS OF FOOD DISTRIBUTED EACH WEEK.”

CALL TO MAKE YOUR APPOINTMENT TODAY! 253-884-1838

15312 92ND ST KPN IN KEY CENTER



Assistant Fire Chief Hal Wolverton, left, presents the Lifesaving Badge to firefighter Ed Swanson at the fire commissioner's meeting Nov. 8. Photo: Vanessa Taylor

## KP Firefighter Receives New Medal for Service

TED OLINGER, KP NEWS

Key Peninsula firefighter/EMT Ed Swanson received the first Lifesaving Pin ever awarded by Fire District 16 in recognition of his actions to save the life of a KP resident in September.

"Eddie received a Meritorious Service Certificate and a Lifesaving Pin that he is to wear on his Class B uniform," said Assistant Fire Chief Hal Wolverton. "We've never done this before. If Eddie hadn't recognized the severity of what was going on, that patient probably wouldn't have made it."

On Sept. 9, Swanson and his partner, firefighter/EMT Ken Foss, responded to a call of a man in his mid-60s experiencing chest pain. They were the only aid unit available at the time; the paramedics were on another call, their shift Battalion Chief Bill Sawaya was at a fire investigation, and the nearest backup paramedics were at least 30 minutes away in Gig Harbor.

"They got there and put the heart monitor on the patient," Wolverton said. Though Swanson has no training in rhythm interpretation or cardiology, he recognized the patient was having a serious and time-sensitive cardiac event. "Typically what happens is, our aid unit will wait for the paramedic unit to show up and take over patient care," Wolverton said. "Eddie realized that there wasn't time for that."

Swanson and Foss quickly loaded the patient and arranged to meet the Gig Harbor medic unit halfway up the peninsula and transfer the patient to them for transport to St. Anthony Hospital.

"St. Anthony is the closest cath lab we can take these patients to," Sawaya said. "They do a STEMI procedure, where they stick a wire catheter up a femoral artery into the heart to break up a clot." ST-elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI) is a very serious type of heart attack where one of the heart's major arteries is blocked.

"Under 90 minutes is considered good," he said. "That's from the time of event,

meaning someone first has pain, to the time that they're in the cath lab."

"But, as things usually go," Wolverton said, "St. Anthony's already had somebody in their cath lab, so they had to divert into Tacoma, and that's where time really comes into play."

"The saying is, 'time is tissue,'" Sawaya said. "The more time that passes during the occlusion (blockage) of oxygenated blood flow to the tissue, that's the tissue dying. So every minute counts."

Swanson and Foss transferred the patient at the Home fire station to the Gig Harbor medic unit, which proceeded to Tacoma General Hospital, cutting 30 minutes or more from the trip.

"The patient's right coronary artery was 100 percent occluded on arrival, and they were able to clear the clot and return flow to that part of the heart," Sawaya said.

"For us to go from all the way down there (south of Home), all the way to (Tacoma and) the time flow was returned to the heart was 107 minutes," he said. "That's incredible for the distance, for all the things we had to do. If it weren't for Eddie's quick recognition that this was a life-threatening situation, we probably would have had a bad outcome."

It was after following up with the patient, now recovering at home, that personnel from St. Anthony brought the matter to the department's attention.

"They thought it was a fairly significant event," Wolverton said. "An EMT is not supposed to know these things, so they thought it was a pretty remarkable thing."

"There's been meritorious awards in the past, but giving them a symbol that they can wear proudly on their uniform daily is new for us," Sawaya said. "People can ask him, 'Hey what's that for?' and he has to tell them the story."

Swanson is a lifelong KP resident who started as a volunteer firefighter in 2006 and was hired by the department in 2014. In the meantime, he worked as an emergency room technician where, Wolverton said, "he must've picked up some things."



# Save Energy. Save Money.

**Conservation programs that help upgrade your home -  
Save money and GO GREEN!**

**DUCTLESS HEATING & COOLING SYSTEMS**

**\$1,000 Rebate**

- Single-family electric heated homes
- Upgrade from baseboard and wall heater, cable heat, or a forced air furnace

**HEAT PUMPS**

**\$400-\$1,250 Rebate**

- Visit our website for a list of qualified contractors

**HEAT PUMP WATER HEATERS**

**\$300-\$500 Rebate**

- Cut your monthly water heater energy consumption by 50%

**Rebates up to \$1,250!**





Rebates are subject to change at any time.

FOR DETAILS AND CURRENT INFORMATION:  
[www.penlight.org/rebate-programs](http://www.penlight.org/rebate-programs)  
[energyspecialist@penlight.org](mailto:energyspecialist@penlight.org) | 253.857.5950



**Peninsula Light Co.**  
1926 The power to be... 2016

**Key Peninsula Civic Center Association**

INVITES THE COMMUNITY TO A

**Community & Volunteer  
Appreciation Night**

**Holiday Concert  
featuring Wickline**

www.wicklinemusic.com

Open to all - Come sing along to your favorite holiday songs

**5:30-7:30 Sunday, December 11**

FREE ADMISSION - FAMILY FRIENDLY EVENT

Light refreshments will be served

Key Peninsula Civic Center, 17010 S. Vaughn Road 253/884-3456 www.kpciviccenter.org The Key Peninsula Civic Center Association, through its facility and the efforts of its members, fosters and promotes the civic, social, cultural and general well-being of the Key Peninsula community. The Key Peninsula Civic Center is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.



**Seasons Greetings  
from Sunnycrest Nursery**

IT'S TIME TO "DECK THE HALLS" AND YOUR HOME...

**Cedar Garland**

\$1.25/foot  
Fresh greens  
in many varieties

**Poinsettias**

2, 4 in. & larger  
Beautiful reds  
and other colors

**Floral Designs**

Tree trimming  
Custom arrangements  
for holiday entertaining



GIFT DELIVERIES EVERYWHERE IN THE CONTINENTAL U.S.

**Fresh, Fragrant Evergreen Wreaths**

Mix of noble, pine and cedar. Special orders welcome. 24" boxed \$29.99 plus tax/shipping

BEAUTIFUL TREES FROM SUNNYCREST FARMS

**Noble and Grand Fir Trees**

Freshly cut trees on sale until Dec. 24

ADD BEAUTY TO YOUR LANDSCAPE FOR YEARS TO COME

**Big Selection of Live Christmas Trees**

Pine, spruce, Noble firs and other evergreens

FRESH FLOWERS \* SCENTED AND DECORATIVE CANDLES \* CARDS

**Gift Ideas for your Favorite Gardener**

HAND TOOLS \* GIFT CERTIFICATES \* PLANTS WITH WINTER INTEREST

THINK LOCAL \* GIFT LOCAL

**New Key Peninsula  
Marine Chart Gifts**

Sweatshirt hoodies, aprons, coffee mugs, coasters, note & postcards for sailors and landlubbers alike



**OPEN WINTER HOURS**

MON-SAT 9am-5pm

SUNDAY 11am to 4pm

9004-B KPN Highway

**IN KEY CENTER**

All Bank Cards Welcome

253 **884-3937**



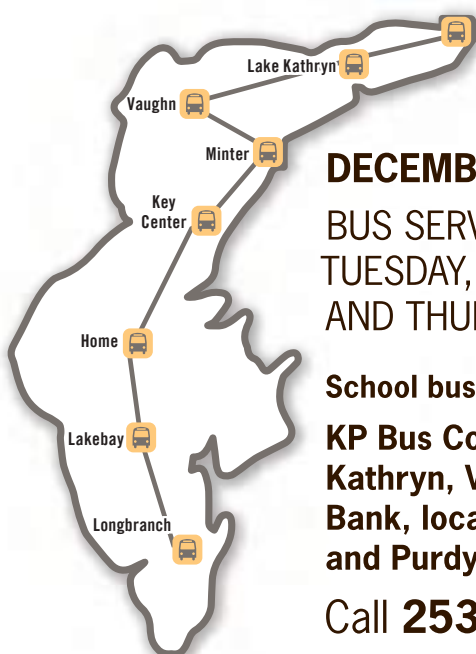
www.sunnycrestnursery.com

AN INNOVATIVE TRANSPORTATION PROJECT ON OFF-DUTY SCHOOL BUSES

**KP SCHOOL BUS CONNECTS**

**FREE Community Transportation for All Ages**

Under age 12 accompanied by an adult



**DECEMBER 1-15**

BUS SERVICE  
TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY  
AND THURSDAY

School buses aren't just for kids anymore.

**KP Bus Connects Key Center, Lake Kathryn, Volunteer Park, KPCS/Food Bank, local stops, Peninsula High School and Purdy Park & Ride**

Call **253-884-BUSS**



A partnership with the KP Community Council, Puget Sound Educational School District, Peninsula School District and the Gary E. Milgard Foundation. See complete 2016/17 school year schedule at kp.council.org

## Frank Slater

A VIEW FROM HERE



### Democracy First

The slogan “Make America great again” raises the question: What made America great to begin with?

The original settlers on our eastern shore were primarily English Protestants in search of a place where they could worship as they chose and have a better chance to enjoy the fruits of their labor. By the late 1700s, they had lived 150 years under English monarchy and developed a thorough distaste for government by a monarch with absolute power.

During the Second Continental Congress in 1776, a resolution was proposed to declare the United Colonies free and independent states, saying in part: “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. That to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed.”

In 1787, delegates from the various states met to form a constitution to replace the Articles of Confederation. Its preamble states: “We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution of the United States of America.”

The framers of our Constitution divided the government into three coequal branches to provide checks and balances on each other: the legislative branch to write the law, the executive branch to faithfully execute the law, and the judicial branch to ensure that the dictates of the Constitution are followed.

The framers were aware that the majority could be every bit as tyrannical as any king or emperor. Their major goal was to protect the rights of the individual in particular and minorities in general.

The essential mechanisms to do so are stipulated in the First Amendment of the Constitution: freedom of religion, freedom of speech and the press, the right of the people to peacefully assemble, and the right

to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

In the days following our presidential election, I heard complaints about the election results and complaints about the complainers. “Can you believe those idiot protestors?” “They should shut down the schools if the students walk out.” “We need martial law.”

I remind my friends and neighbors that it was protestors who dumped tea into Boston Harbor in 1773. It was protestors who wrote our Constitution. It was protestors who secured the right of women to vote. It was protestors who were beaten and murdered to bring equal rights to all Americans. It was protestors who were shot down at Kent State, bringing the nation’s scrutiny to bear on the Vietnam War. To take a broader view, it was protestors who breached the Berlin Wall and tore down the Iron Curtain.

We may not think all of these causes equally just (and violence and vandalism are not). That is our right. And that’s the point.

We are not defined by race, creed, ethnicity, religion, wealth, education, geography or political affiliation. We are defined as one people who support and defend the principles set forth in our Constitution, in which the power to govern resides in the people.

We are a nation of protesters. To deny that right is to deny our heritage and deprive us of our greatest strength: the right not to remain silent. What remains is for us to listen to each other.

*E pluribus unum. Out of many, one.*

*Frank Slater is a Korean War veteran and retired math teacher who lives in Vaughn.*

## Rob Manahan

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT



### Teacher’s Note

I am reflecting on the recent national, state, local and even school district events that have occurred following our presidential election. In some instances, we have seen a heightened number of hate-related incidents toward some populations—including women, sexual minorities and people from various racial, religious and ethnic groups.

I have always believed that through education, we can change the world. Our foundational beliefs, which I have stated over and over again, are that we want every

student, staff member and community member within our school population and community to feel loved, respected, valued and capable—and that they belong. These foundational beliefs are what allow people to feel safe taking risks in learning and growing outside of their comfort zone. It saddens me that at this time in our nation, we are seeing these five basic emotional needs come under attack.

I want those whom we serve to know that we will support and protect you and to know that these rights apply to all those we come in contact with. Such respect is not dependent on your race or ethnicity, on family background, religion, customs or beliefs. In the Peninsula School District, we affirm that you are respected, valued, loved and an important member of our school community whatever your sexual orientation, gender identity, physical or academic needs. We will support you, embrace you and value you as individual human beings.

I urge you to be kind and caring to one another. Redouble your support for one another. And even though we cannot always control what is going on in the larger world around us, we can define our own school and our own community.

I am reminded that education is more than just teaching kids. It is about uplifting humanity. Education is more than getting kids across the finish line of high school graduation. It is about changing the destinies of people, families and generations to come. Education is about empowering people to overcome barriers that in the past have dragged down individuals, families and even whole communities.

Nelson Mandela said, “Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.” Education replaces war with tolerance, compassion and understanding, and provides solutions that can offer lasting change and sustainable outcomes.

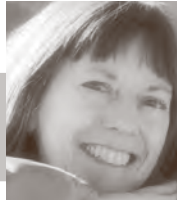
In the Peninsula School District, we pledge to keep our students safe and welcome at school. If this is not the case for you or others you know, please tell a trusted adult so that we might address it immediately.

I have been so impressed with this community and the support you have for one another. Let’s recommit to these efforts and ensure that we truly do change the world for today and future generations to come.

*Rob Manahan, PhD, is the superintendent of the Peninsula School District.*

## Cathy Warner

KEY PEN & INK



### Beating the Winter Blues

Five years ago on the winter solstice when my husband and I moved to Bainbridge Island from California’s Santa Cruz Mountains, our new neighbors, lifelong Washingtonians, asked how we were going to handle the rain.

We knew rain: One year, 12 inches fell in less than 24 hours, turning our road into a river. Another year, our daylight basement, septic tank and leach fields flooded when a clogged culvert routed all the road’s runoff through our yard. Every winter, trees fell, taking power lines with them. Rockslides and mudslides were routine, closing the handful of routes to work and school, stranding thousands of people for hours or days.

They didn’t ask how we were going to handle the short days now that we’d moved 900 miles north, leaving 70 minutes of daylight behind.

We knew dark: Our Santa Cruz Mountains home sat at the bottom of a ridge, surrounded by towering redwoods. November through February, the sun never rose above the ridge, our decks stayed wet and slippery, and I couldn’t see a thing indoors without the lights on.

Dark, cold, wet: Puget Sound has those qualities as well. Since hibernating wasn’t and isn’t an option, I’ve developed some strategies to beat the winter blues. Perhaps some of them will help you whether or not you’re new to this region my father calls “the land of aluminum skies.”

Swap out incandescent bulbs for LEDs and you’ll increase your lamps’ light. Add floor and desk lamps to dark areas.

Keep your drapes open all day if privacy from neighbors allows. To maximize daylight, trim overgrown bushes and remove or cut back tree branches that block windows.

Sleep with your bedroom curtains open. I’m lucky enough to have a southeast-facing bedroom and it’s delightful to watch the sunrise, even if it slips straight into clouds a few minutes later.

Stay awake and warm when working at home by brewing a pot of hot tea, listening to background music, wearing a bathrobe over your clothes or a base layer under. When all else fails: Vacuum! It’s guaranteed to increase your energy and body temperature.

Find a view. Though evergreens are beautiful, I can feel walled in by trees. Looking out over the water, even on gray days, provides a sense of expansiveness, lifts my spirits, and can be accomplished as easily as a drive down the Purdy Spit, a walk on the beach, parking at an overlook or a ferry ride.

Putter in the yard. Unless it's pouring rain or the ground is frozen, I can usually find winter garden chores: deadheading, raking leaves, planting bulbs, ripping berry canes out of planted areas. I stay dry and warm down to 40 degrees by using a kneeling pad and wearing a hat that covers my ears, toe warmers in my waterproof shoes, a base layer under jeans and sweatshirt, a rain suit over my clothes, and nitrile exam gloves under a pair of gardening gloves.

Dream about days to come. Six months from now, we'll be reveling in the glorious days of summer, soaking up 16 hours of daylight, made all the more precious by its lack now.

*Cathy Warner lives in Wauna.*

## Rob Vajko

KEY THOUGHTS



### Don't Be So Surprised

Dear Politicians, Pollsters and Pundits:

Please stop telling us that you are "stunned" and "in shock."

Please stop telling us you can't believe that the American people elected someone like Trump to be the next president of the United States.

The reason you are incredulous is the very reason why Trump won the election—because you haven't been listening.

Trump got the White House with zero experience quite simply because he has, in fact, zero experience. "Political experience" has become a phrase no longer palatable to the American people. They are tired of campaign promises that they know will not be kept. They have no idea whether president-elect Donald Trump will keep his, but they do know, without a doubt, that politicians have lied to them time and time again.

They are tired of working harder and harder and getting farther and farther behind.

The people of the United States have been trying to tell their leaders for years that they don't want to keep funding programs that

aren't working. We've spent almost \$20 trillion just on housing and medical care for the poor in the past 50 years and yet the poverty rate remains as high as it was when the programs began.

They are tired of paying taxes and being asked continuously for more money for more programs because the government doesn't know how to budget and allocate. We have nine different agencies or departments that oversee food and agricultural systems in the U.S., including responding to natural disasters, protecting from terrorist attacks and paying farmers to destroy or not grow crops.

They are tired of politicians who are in the pockets of lobbyists and who've stopped representing the people who elected them. They are tired of paying higher and higher prices for health care because big pharma is in control.

They are tired of living with the fear that all the money they've given the government for Social Security won't be there when they need it because the government used it to fund programs the American people never approved or wanted. How is it that the government can get away with what would put any financial investment group in jail?

They are tired of having representatives who don't live under the same restrictions and fears that the people do because the politicians have their own safety net that the rest of the American people don't get.

They are tired of feeling like undocumented foreigners have more rights than they do while their own safety is being sacrificed on the altar of political correctness.

They are tired of cushy government jobs where representatives get paid large sums of money but don't even bother to show up to vote on the issues that matter most to those who have to work 60-hour weeks just to make ends meet—if they can find work at all.

They are tired of living in debt and having no way out.

Trump didn't get elected because the American people think he's great. He got elected because the only alternative was someone who would continue to turn a deaf ear to them and their concerns.

When the body that is supposed to represent the people stops listening to the people, the people do indeed have to do something radical to be heard. I think that the American people believe that maybe, just maybe, someone might now be listening.

*Rob Vajko lives in Purdy.*



## CIVIC CENTER

## CORNER

### Winter Warm-up & Chili Competition a Big Success!

Our Ninth Annual Winter Warm-up on Nov. 12 was a huge community success, thanks to emcee Spencer Abersold, aka "the Walrus," and entertainment by Vaughn Elementary's Whole Note Huskies, the "Vaughtastic" choir and the Bluegrass Minstrels. Special thanks to Peninsula Light for sponsoring our much appreciated first ad in the Gig Harbor Gateway.

Thanks to our wonderful vendors and their generous raffle donations: 2ndChance Bottles4U, A Hen and Her Chick, Aloha from Paradise Signs, Angee Bees, BG's Gourmet BBQ Sauce, Bill Fold Family Farm, Carnaby Street, Country Creations, Crafts by Crystal Dawn, Crystal Designs by Rita, D&F Trophy/Trophies With A Twist, Donna's Creations, Ekizabeth Photography, Faye Hale, FlyWright Cards, Girl Scout Troop 40956, Griffins Creations, Handmade With Love, Harbor Candy Soapery, Harbor Homegoods, Hubbell Cozy Home Crafts, Jeanne's Designs, Joan's Handmade Crafts, June Moon Jewelry, KP Historic Society and Museum, Mama's Bowtique, Mossport Studios, My Legacy Creations, Nilsen Woodworks, Norma Toland, One-Eyed Kitty, Otterly Awesome Crafts, Patty Finnigan Design, Paws In Time, Positive4Girls, Purdy Organics LLC, RJ Silverwears, RoLo LLC, Rubber band gun underground, Shelly Iverson, Sobek Studios, Sound Shores Studio, Squirrel Tail Farm, Stitchin' Fun, Suds and Verse, Sundance Designs, SuperTot, Two Chicks Dyeing, Two Little Pumpkins, Vintage Art by Angela, Weaving with Heather. Special thanks to Magnus Nilsen of Nilsen Woodworks for donating the unique and wonderful home-crafted cedar potting bench raffle prize.

Congratulations to Chili Competition winners: Bernard & Renee Givens, first place; Sarah Anderson, second place; and Faye Hale, third place. Our competition wouldn't have happened without Key Peninsula Fire Commissioners Frank Grubaugh, Stan Moffett and Shawn Jensen, who diligently tasted and judged the chili entries. Kudos to Pat Medveckus, who ran the chili competition as well as our kitchen!

Special thanks to our wonderful Cat Tales 4-H group, Marianne, Alex, Carla, Marcia, Joey, Alexis, Tommy, Caitlin and Timmie, who assisted vendors throughout the day. Your tireless and conscientious work kept all flowing smoothly. And great thanks to our hardworking board: Kris Barton, Phil Bauer, Scott Dervaes, Peggy Gablehouse, Tracy Geiss, Claudia Jones, Sharon Kaffer, Claudia Loy, Dale Loy, Bruce Macdonald, Pat Medveckus, Mark Roberts and friends Nickayla Nichols, Laurie Austin, Dianna Calhoun, Tim Calhoun, Rich Goddard, Jena Henak, Matt Kaffer, Roger Kaffer, Steve Kaffer, Beth Porter, Kim Wiley and Thor Williams.

#### Congratulations to the KPCCA 2017-2018 Board

*President (4-month terms)* Ted Ralston, Bruce Macdonald, Phil Bauer;  
*1st VP* Scott Dervaes; *2nd VP* Pat Medveckus; *Secretary (Jan-Apr)* Bruce Macdonald;  
*Treasurer* Tim Kezele; *Past President* Mark Roberts;  
*At Large* Keith Axelsen, Tracy Geiss; *Human Resources* Sharon Kaffer.  
*Members joining the board (2017-2019):* Kris Barton, Scott Dervaes, Norm Gannon, Eric Geiss, Tracy Geiss, Sharon Kaffer, Tim Kezele, Bruce Macdonald, Kirsten Roberts, Mark Roberts, Rick Sorrels, Ed Taylor.

#### Upcoming Events at the Civic Center

**Volunteer & Community Appreciation Night December 11**  
**Skate Night every Friday night 6-9 pm while school is in session**

Key Peninsula Civic Center, 17010 S. Vaughn Road 253/884-3456 [www.kpciviccenter.org](http://www.kpciviccenter.org) The Key Peninsula Civic Center Association, through its facility and the efforts of its members, fosters and promotes the civic, social, cultural and general well-being of the Key Peninsula community. The Key Peninsula Civic Center is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

## Dan Whitmarsh

WRITING BY FAITH



### Now Is the Time

Time has a funny way about it. Moment by moment, it slips quietly by. Seasons and holidays return, whether we are ready for them or not.

The ancient Greeks used two words to describe time. Chronos referred to seconds passing into minutes into hours and into days, summer giving way to fall and winter, November passing into December. Chronos is the way we grow older, time and this world flowing past us like water through a riverbed.

Their other word for time was kairos. Kairos describes the important moments that happen, the day or season in which something of great significance is occurring.

In chronos, Dec. 7, 1941, was 24 hours long. In kairos, that day shattered and reordered the entire world. It lasted until World War II was over. We could say it still carries on, the standard by which all disasters are now measured.

Nov. 8, Election Day, only lasted 24 hours. But it was a kairos moment, a day that America seemed to convulse and quake. Repercussions of that day's events will last for generations to come, for good or for bad.

The days before the election indicated that our country was divided, and the response proved it. Some woke up elated and hopeful; others awoke angry and fearful.

People are hurting. Our country is angry. Some protests have become violent, but so too have some people used Mr. Trump's victory as an excuse to engage in religiously, racially and sexually motivated attacks on our population. The early days of the transition process don't portend well for our country's future.

In a few weeks, Christians across the country will celebrate another kairos moment, the coming of God to Earth in the form of a baby named Jesus. Christmas may include singing and laughing and feasting and presents, but it is ultimately about a refugee family fleeing from government tyranny and about God entering human existence in an act of sacrificial love.

The Sunday after the election, I stood in front of the Lakebay Church congregation and said we have one calling in life: the work of reconciliation. I told them that our model is the story of Jesus, who left behind power and privilege to identify with the poor and the powerless; who, from love, sought out his enemies and called them to peace.

This is a kairos moment. The world needs reconcilers, people who will listen before judging, forgive when wronged, and seek the good of others before acting out of self-preservation. We need men and women who will partner with suffering people to stand against systems and structures that dehumanize and crush hopes and dreams, be they rural farmers or those caught in urban squalor.

Will you join in the voices of destruction, bigotry and divisiveness? Or will you join us in the hard work of peacemaking and reconciliation?

On behalf of the Key Peninsula ministers, I pray that the light of Christmas drives away the darkness in our lives. May we all be peacemakers, wherever we find ourselves.

*Dan Whitmarsh is pastor at Lakebay Community Church. You can reach him at dan@lakebaycovenant.net.*

## Anne Nesbit

SIREN'S SONG



### Time to Talk

A documentary film exploring teen sexual assault, the role of social media and the impact of bullying from the perspective of the assailants and bullies was screened at Peninsula High School Nov. 2. "Audrie and Daisy" tells the story of two young girls who were raped by boys they considered to be their friends. The girls were later harassed online and taunted at school in the wake of their assaults. One of the girls attempted suicide. The other girl succeeded.

Carly Irvine from the Sexual Assault Center for Pierce County was at the screening to facilitate a student discussion afterward.

"It is just one of those things that nobody wants to talk about, therefore discussion tends to be strained," she said. "Most victims never report to law enforcement and many victims never tell anybody, so we have to assume that a movie like 'Audrie and Daisy' hits pretty close to home for more people than we could anticipate."

The film asks viewers to question truth, power, memory and trauma. It addresses a legal system that struggles to prosecute these crimes in a society that struggles with victims' rights in communities that don't want to believe it can happen in their own towns.

Suicide rates are climbing in the United States, especially among young girls. The rate for girls between the ages of 10 and 14 tripled over the last 15 years from 0.5 to 1.7 per 100,000. Pair this with the lack of

restraint that popular culture encourages in boys and we have an alarming and emotionally charged situation.

How do we prepare our young men and women for the future?

We must raise our girls to embrace who they are and aspire to be their very best. But we must do this in a society that glorifies perfection as defined by the media. How do we empower our girls to successfully navigate the teen years with their self-esteem intact? Girls are inundated by fantasy images of women who are sexualized, airbrushed, manicured celebrities who undermine the self-esteem and self-acceptance parents work so hard to instill. How can parents combat this?

We can talk about gossip and rumor and exclusion. We can limit exposure to the media and popular culture when our girls are very young. We can make time to listen. We can help her process the messages in social media. We can talk with her about the differences between sex in the movies and loving relationships in real life. If we have a daughter who is experiencing pain, we can acknowledge it. But we also need to help her keep things in perspective. Stay calm and listen to what she is experiencing without projecting your own experiences onto hers. Your daughter's experience is not yours.

Boys become what they see. The bad guy who is sexually successful is a dominant image in our society. Upsetting stories about boys' sexual aggression continue to make the news. Sadly, these boys become the symbol of all males. We hear less about the quieter boys, although they make up the majority. The "anything goes" of teen sexuality creates pressure to perform as well as pressure not to violate.

How do we handle this? It requires open dialog. First, one must validate the confusing nature of emerging sexuality. Add alcohol, social pressure and the images promoted by a culture dominated by social media, and the resulting anxiety and pressure to act can result.

But anxiety can be empowering. It can slow people down. Learning to manage anxiety helps a boy develop confidence. He learns how to listen to what he feels and that enables him to listen to others. He can develop his judgment and manage the delicate balance between sexual impulse and sexual actions.

Drugs and alcohol seductively defuse the anxiety that can become a building block of character. They make it difficult to define, interpret and understand what personal intimacy means, and they make it impossible to discover the unwritten rules that exist

between two people.

Intimacy can be learned in environments that are supportive and open and where the effects of drugs and alcohol on human behavior have been discussed. This happens far more often than the sexual aggression that makes the news. However, it is the close relationship you have with your children and their confidence in you that make the difference.

For more information, go to [www.sexualassaultcenter.com](http://www.sexualassaultcenter.com), or call the 24/7 crisis/information line at 253-474-7273, or Yes! to Hope Hotline at 253-444-5351.

"Audrie and Daisy" is available to watch on Netflix.

*Anne Nesbit is a volunteer battalion chief and administrative assistant at the Key Peninsula Fire Department.*

## Add to the News

Your Key Peninsula News depends on advertisers, supporters and volunteers. Help build a stronger community with your donation of time or money. Or both. Call 884-4699.



PRESENT

## A Festive Christmas Revelry

with special guest quintet  
Bowties and Berets

**Free Community Event**  
**Saturday, Dec 10 at 6pm**  
**Waypoint Church Hall 12719**  
**134th Ave KP N, Gig Harbor**

\$6 Suggested donation to benefit  
Hope Recovery Center

An original painting of the Revelry  
by Tweed Meyer will be auctioned

[Thebluegrassminstrels.com](http://Thebluegrassminstrels.com) or our  
Facebook page for more information



## Letters to the Editor

### CenturyLink Service Issues

We recently disconnected from the internet and then realized we really did need it at our house and tried to get back on with CenturyLink. We were told that our area is "exhausted" and no one can get new internet or phone service here. I am the only person on my street that cannot have internet. We have been loyal customers for close to 40 years.

Apparently there is a device that needs to be replaced for anyone else to get internet and phone out here. I was told that if we get signatures from people who are unhappy with their service, CenturyLink will get the device replaced sooner than otherwise.

We called AT&T because they own Direct TV, which we have, and were told internet could be provided by CenturyLink through our Direct TV. The person we talked to said there was 100 percent availability in our area.

CenturyLink again told us, "no availability." So, we are at a loss.

*Peg Foley Shaffer/Longbranch*

### KP Postal History

I commend the Key Peninsula News on the November article, "The Key Peninsula's Peculiar Postal History." This was an especially interesting, well-researched and well-written article. It cleared up many questions I've had about the names and locations of the various post office locations. Keep up the great work!

*Merry A. Kogut/Herron Island*

### Election Reflection I

Elections go one way or another and those who backed the winning candidate often feel renewed confidence and a sense of power. Those who backed the losing candidate have to figure out how to make their voices heard in the policy discussions and political action that follow. But something beyond economic opportunity and national security grabbed my attention both during and after the election, and it is not pretty.

Expressions of racism, bigotry and hate rang clear during the Trump campaign. They were made by the candidate himself, his organizers and those who supported him. I suspect that many of his supporters do not share these feelings and believe, as I do, that in a civil society there is no room for these expressions.

Since the election, there have been incidents locally that raise concern. Women have been verbally accosted by individuals in pickup trucks plastered with Trump stickers.

People of color have been harassed on their daily errands. Children of color report verbal abuse and threats in school.

I want to think the Key Peninsula is a safe place for all, but I am not sure that is the case.

I call on all of us to reject bigotry. It has no place in our community. I call on adults and children alike to speak out against hatred when they see it, whether privately or publicly. America is a land of freedom, equality and equal rights for everyone on her soil.

*Ken Wassum/Vaughn*

### Postelection Reflection II

In hopes of getting away from the drama of the presidential election, I switched to the CD that had been living in my car, unplayed for several years. Great song from 1992: 10,000 Maniacs, "Candy Everybody Wants." I don't remember listening to the lyrics before, but heard them this time.

"If lust and hate is the candy,  
If blood and love taste so sweet,  
Then we give 'em what they want.  
So their eyes are growing hazy,  
'Cause they wanna turn it on,  
So their minds are soft and lazy,  
Well, hey, give 'em what they want."

I can't pretend to know a voter's motivation, but if we are guided by social media without confirming the legitimacy or veracity of the narratives we're fed, we follow a pretty bleak path, lured by the most captivating vitriol, shiny objects or candy.

*Mark Michel/Lakebay*

### Postelection Reflection III

A wise person told me that we vote our lifestyle. I'm not sharing how I voted, but I will tell you that education, compassion and children are at the forefront of my decisions.

Let me tell you a little about my fifth-grade students. They are smarter than kids were even 20 years ago. They sometimes get fooled by false information on the web, but they are becoming adept at finding proof. They know the meaning of the word "discrepancy." They know how to have civil discourse when discussing differing ideas.

They have already learned compassion. Most of their lives are tough. Many live with one parent, grandparents or someone in our community who cares. Many are on free or reduced breakfast and lunch. Some want to conceal their racial background. Others live with the damage of being born to a mother with a drug addiction. One lives with a broken heart for the same reason.

These kids wanted to make me feel better

after a recent personal loss. They wrote notes, they offered hugs and even stayed in during recess to show sympathy.

These fifth-graders give me hope.

I'm glad I voted, I'm glad it's over, and I pray for a modicum of respect for and from those who won and lost.

*Denise Oblson*

*Fifth-grade teacher/Evergreen Elementary*

**Letters to the Editor** Opinions expressed are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the views of the publishers or staff. Letters to the editor must be signed and include a daytime phone number for verification. No anonymous letters will be published. Letters are used on a space-available basis and Key Peninsula News reserves the right to edit for length and content. Mail letters to: P.O. Box 3, Vaughn, WA 98394, or email to [news@keypennews.com](mailto:news@keypennews.com).

## NEW BEGINNINGS REAL ESTATE, LLC.

At "The Landing" in Key Center

Office ☎858-7053

Bernie 253-514-0659

[Bernie@New-BeginningsRE.com](mailto:Bernie@New-BeginningsRE.com)

Donna 253-606-8480

[Donna@New-BeginningsRE.com](mailto:Donna@New-BeginningsRE.com)



**All Under One Roof...**

**Toy Drive for  
"Toys For Tots"**

Now thru Dec. 15

**Just Give Us a Call!**

**DK** Property Management, LLC  
dba LZ Property Mgmt.  
☎884-2076

Donna Lester - Owner/Designated Broker

15510 92nd St. KPN, Suite B

PO Box 688

Wauna, WA 98395

For Current Available Rentals, please visit:  
[lzpropertymanagement.managebuilding.com](http://lzpropertymanagement.managebuilding.com)

## Key Peninsula Community Services

17015 9Th St Ct KPN Lakebay, WA. 98349

### Senior Center & Food Bank

Helping our citizens to eat and live healthy

PO Box 392 Lakebay WA. 98349 253-884-4440 Fax: 253-884-6196

Email: [KPCSDirector@centurytel.net](mailto:KPCSDirector@centurytel.net)

*Please consider donating to KPCS as  
your year end giving plan. When  
you give local, your community  
receives direct services.*

*Wishing all of you a Wonderful  
Holiday Season*



[www.keypeninsulacommunityservices.org](http://www.keypeninsulacommunityservices.org) and [www.facebook.com/KeyPenCS](http://www.facebook.com/KeyPenCS)

# Large-Scale Earthquake Drill Has Mixed Results

MATTHEW DEAN, KP NEWS

The four-day Cascadia Rising earthquake drill, conducted in June, is in its final stages of analysis. Some participants called state-wide response a failure, while others found it a useful lesson.

Assistant Chief Hal Wolverton of the Key Peninsula Fire Department said, "It's a success because now we've identified the areas we need to work on."

The drill was intended to test local, state and national responses to a potentially catastrophic earthquake. While there is no evidence that such an event is imminent, there is still cause for major concern.

The Cascadia Subduction Zone, a tectonic plate boundary that runs along the Pacific Northwest coast, is capable of generating massive earthquakes. According to the United States Geological Survey, the last Cascadia quake occurred in 1700 and measured above 9.0 on the Richter scale. The USGS and the Federal Emergency Management Agency suggest that a major quake occurs along the subduction zone every 200 to 500 years, meaning that the risk of another major quake only increases with time.

A 9.0 earthquake is capable of triggering volcanic activity, causing a massive tsunami and liquefying the ground. Research suggests that the last Cascadia earthquake did all of this, and induced landslides, drowned coastal villages and shifted the tidal zone up to cover and destroy entire forests.

The Cascadia Rising scenario was designed to evaluate the Pacific Northwest's ability to respond to significant damage to buildings and infrastructure in the wake of a major event like the 1700 quake. A special focus was placed on efficient communication between all levels of government.

The drill began June 7 and ended June 10, involving more than a dozen agencies, 16 counties and six National Guard task forces in Washington alone. Portions of Oregon and Idaho also participated in the scenario.

While the full-scale, multistate drill occurred, however, some groups chose to address the disaster on a more local level. In the event of a Cascadia earthquake, it's likely that the Tacoma Narrows Bridge would be heavily damaged or destroyed, cutting off parts of Pierce and Kitsap coun-

ties from the rest of the state.

"When we realized that, the Gig Harbor chiefs and us, we said 'OK, look, if this is the way it's going to be, we need to work on our interoperability and not worry so much about what's happening on the other side of the bridge,'" Wolverton said.

Local agencies, including KPFD, held a more limited-scale drill that focused on communications, dispatching and resource management. Emergency services met with local ham radio operators to re-establish local communication between fire stations and emergency shelters. KPFD also worked with the MultiAgency Communications Center in Gig Harbor to help coordinate recovery efforts in the area and move assets effectively. Other efforts concentrated on improving the food, water and medical resources at area fire stations.

Elsewhere in the state and at higher levels of government, drills were less productive. The official Washington State After-Action Report for the Cascadia Rising drill states, "The professional responders—fire services, law enforcement, public works, public health and emergency management organizations—among others, have not sufficiently planned and rehearsed for a catastrophic event where they themselves are in the impact zone."

The report criticized the lack of comprehensive emergency plans, increasing reliance on the Red Cross for emergency health care and slow reconstruction of the damaged transportation network. Drill results also suggested that the average Pacific Northwest resident is not adequately prepared for a large-scale earthquake. The negative findings from the drill have led some news outlets, including The Seattle Times, to label the drill a failure.

Others, however, remain optimistic despite the lack of preparedness, seeing the drill as an opportunity to correct mistakes and evaluate little-used systems.

"A tremendous amount of progress was made," Wolverton said. "We increased communications with the schools and I think some local people realized that if the 'big one' happens, we're going to be on our own and 911 isn't going to be available. People need to be able to sustain themselves for at least three days...Everyone has to be more prepared than they are now, and that includes the fire department."



*The Key Peninsula Civic Center and  
Friday Skate Night  
wish you and your family  
a wonderful holiday season*

JOIN US FOR FRIDAY SKATE NIGHT  
December 2      December 9  
and December 16

NO SKATE NIGHT DEC 23 OR 30 DUE TO HOLIDAYS

Key Peninsula Civic Center, 17010 S. Vaughn Road 253/884-3456 [www.kpciviccenter.org](http://www.kpciviccenter.org) The Key Peninsula Civic Center Association, through its facility and the efforts of its members, fosters and promotes the civic, social, cultural and general well-being of the Key Peninsula community. The Key Peninsula Civic Center is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

## The Mustard Seed Project

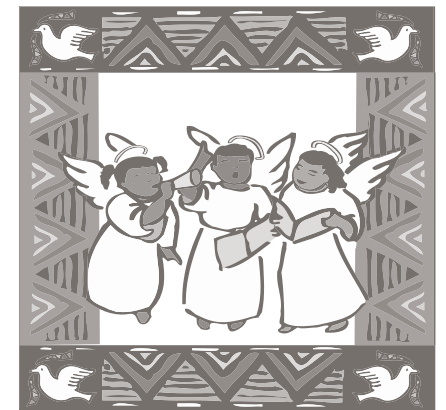
Building an Elder-Friendly Key Peninsula

### HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!

--And blessings to all in 2017--

Please join us in our 7th Annual  
"Random Acts of Caroling"  
We'll deliver joy and musical glee  
to Key Peninsula seniors -  
**Saturday, December 17th**

Call us at 884-9814  
by **December 13th** to sign up  
as a caroler  
&/or to suggest *carolees*



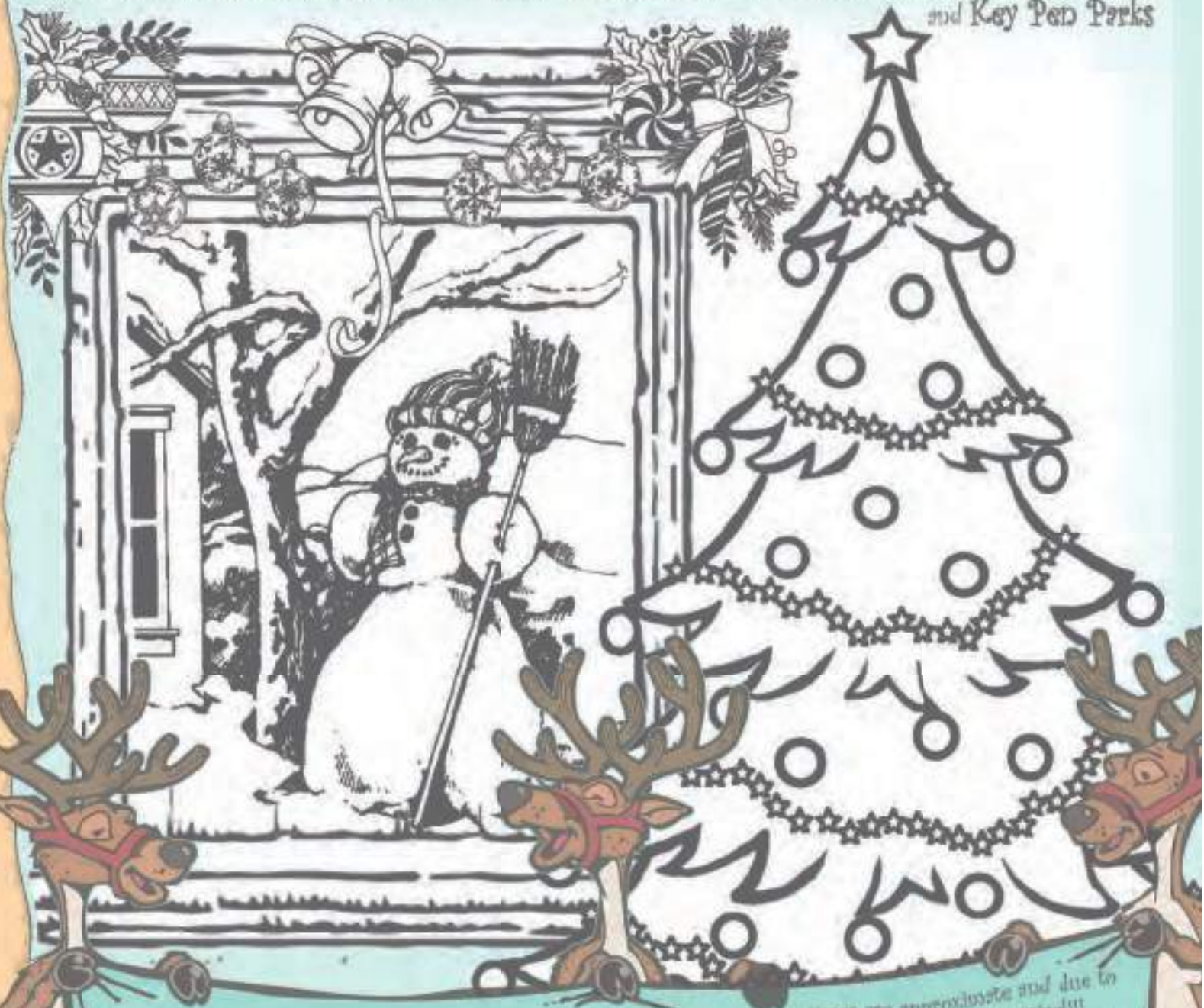
**WE THANK THE KEY PENINSULA COMMUNITY  
FOR YOUR INCREDIBLE SUPPORT IN 2016!  
TOGETHER WE ARE BUILDING  
AN ELDER-FRIENDLY KEY PENINSULA!!**

**REMEMBER: OUR GERMAN MUSTARD & CARWASH TICKETS MAKE THE BEST STOCKING STUFFERS & HOSTESS GIFTS (AND HELP TO FUND OUR PROGRAMS)**

# Santa Claus is coming to town...

brought to you by the -  
**Key Peninsula Business Association • the Fire Fighters Union • Pierce County Fire District 16 and Key Pen Parks**

- Key Peninsula Business Association**
- 20th Legislative Democrats
  - All Annual Offices
  - Amstel Guild Thrift Store
  - Arroyo Legal Services, LLC
  - Bakers House
  - Bel Miller
  - Blind White Shop
  - Blue Willow Lavender Farm
  - Book Trivia, LLC
  - Cape E Ferry and Vineyard Center/LLC
  - CloudCast Web Solutions
  - Crosses Specialty
  - Clark West Construction, LLC
  - Close to Home Express
  - Committees to Schools of Peninsula Center
  - Conflant Pharmacy - Lake Edison Village
  - DC Property Management, LLC
  - Don's Diner
  - EEI, Chief Engineering
  - Enter Soles Cruise Travel by Sea
  - Elle Anderson Family Restaurant
  - Elle's Antiques & Gifts
  - Food Backstage & K&B
  - Food Market at Key Center
  - Four Wheel Riding Center
  - Frank's Grand Lodge
  - GA Harbor Chamber of Commerce
  - GA Harbor Real Estate
  - Glen Harbors Attorney at Law
  - Gotta Travel
  - Home Decorating and Design
  - Joe's Motel
  - Julie's Restaurant
  - Keller William Realty - Paul Steyer
  - Key Center Auto Repair
  - Key Center Family Dentists, John & Glenn VDA
  - Key Center Pierce County Library
  - Key Medical Center
  - Key Pen Parks
  - Key Pen Parks and Recreation Facilities
  - Key Peninsula Civic Center Association
  - Key Peninsula Community Center
  - Key Peninsula Family Resource Center
  - Key Peninsula Farm Council
  - Key Peninsula Health and Professional Center
  - Key Peninsula Historical Society and Museum
  - Key Peninsula Lions Club
  - Key Peninsula News
  - Key Peninsula Parents Club
  - Key Peninsula Teachers
  - Key Peninsula Veterans
  - Key to Learning Children and Teachers
  - Key's Patching Computer, Inc.
  - KP Indoor Garden Store
  - KP School Bus Company
  - Larry's Sewing
  - Longevity Improvement Club
  - LLP, Financial Services
  - Lynn's Homeport Restaurant
  - Matt's Dry Cleaning
  - New Beginning Real Estate
  - NW Farming, LLC
  - Peninsula Gateway
  - Peninsula Light Company
  - Peninsula School District
  - Phyllis Meyer
  - Pierce County Fire District 16
  - Pierce County Fire Department and Station
  - Red Barn South Facility
  - Rest Stop - 24/7 Family Care
  - Ruth's Bookery
  - Salon 300 Hair and Spa
  - Servants 4 Less - Family Edition and Spa
  - Shore Motel
  - SKILLSTOCK Consulting
  - Southern Coast Dining
  - St Anthony Hospital
  - Supernatural Nurseries and Florist
  - The Gun Doctor LLC
  - The Master's Seed Project
  - The Tax Shack
  - Travis Middle Aged Center
  - Two Wheel Auto Alliance
  - YSA Cultural
  - Washington State Parks
  - Westwood Motel and Apartments
  - Westwood Real Estate
  - WYCOF Camp Center
  - WYCOF Camp Seaview



Santa will fly from 5:30pm to 7:30pm\* each night. Please keep in mind that times are approximate and due to temperamental reindeer, Santa will stick to main roadways. Listen for our elch bells to signal our arrival!

\*Due to Weather and Reindeer Games, exact times are not possible

<b>Sat, December 3</b> with Annual Santa Breakfast at Key Center Fire Station 8:00am Pee-Register with Key Pen Parks Lake Winterwood	<b>Thu, December 8</b> Greentree	<b>Sun, December 11</b> Horse Jackson Lake Joanna Bush Farms	<b>Sat, December 17</b> Lake of the Woods Bel Ridge
<b>Sun, December 4</b> Tree Lighting - Key Center (Dark) Wild and Ties Bel Mar Emerald Shores	<b>Fri, December 9</b> Horseshoe Lake - 5:45pm Crestview Heights - 6:45pm	<b>Mon, December 12</b> Horseshoe Lake Estates	<b>Sun, December 18</b> Lake Holiday
	<b>Sat, December 10</b> Palmer Lake	<b>Fri, December 16</b> Skate Night at KP Civic Center Vaughn	



**DEC. 1 TO DEC. 15****TOYS FOR TOTS**

Donate unwrapped toys for children of all ages in the drop-off box at New Beginnings Real Estate in the Key Center Landing Building, 15510 92nd St. KPN, Suite E. Drop-off times are Monday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. 884-2076

**DEC. 1, 8 & 15****CAT TALES**

Cat Tales holds regular club meetings 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the VFW Room at the Key Peninsula Civic Center. 884-4182

**DEC. 2, 9 & 16****SKATE NIGHT**

Friday Skate Night held at the KP Civic Center 7 to 9 p.m. Admission is \$5. 884-3456

**DEC. 3****SANTA BREAKFAST**

Have breakfast with Santa and enjoy crafts, etc., at the Key Center fire station. Advance tickets are \$5 and are available at the fire station office or at [keypenparks.com](http://keypenparks.com). Tickets are \$10 at the door. Seating times are 8:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

**DEC. 3 & 20****TECH HELP**

Meet with a librarian to receive personal help by registering for an appointment online at [getsmart.pcls.us](http://getsmart.pcls.us) or call 548-3309. Dec. 3 appointments are 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.; Dec. 20 appointments are 2 to 4 p.m.

**DEC. 3 & 17****SUPPORT GROUP**

The Lakebay Depression and Bi-Polar Support Group meets 11:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. at Key Peninsula Lutheran Church, 4213 Lackey Road KPN. Contact Kimberly at 253-4270 or [DBSALakebay@gmail.com](mailto:DBSALakebay@gmail.com).

**DEC. 5, 12 & 19****QUILTERS MEET**

Key Peninsula Quilters meet 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the Brones Room at the Key Center Library. This is an open group for personal projects, by hand or machine, which include quilting, embroidery, general sewing, knitting and crochet. Come for the whole time or drop in to work for a while.

**DEC. 5, 12, 19 & 26****BLOODMOBILE**

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

**DEC. 6 & 20****SENIOR SHOPPING**

Seniors grocery shop at various stores with a "Dutch" lunch. Transportation is provided. 884-4440

**DEC. 8****PET NEUTER PROGRAM**

The Northwest Spay and Neuter Center animal shuttle is at the KP Civic Center 7 to 7:30 a.m. to pick up dogs and cats. Animals will be returned to the civic center at 9 a.m. the next day. Appointments are required. Call 253-627-7729 ext. 217, or email [shuttle@nwspayneuter.org](mailto:shuttle@nwspayneuter.org) for questions or to schedule an appointment. The Northwest Spay and Neuter Center offers affordable spay and neuter services for cats and dogs including special programs for feral cats and pit bull dogs.

**DEC. 10****GINGERBREAD HOUSES**

All ages can make and decorate a gingerbread house from 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Key Center Library. All supplies, while they last, are provided. Registration required. An adult must accompany young children. 548-3309

**EVERYTHING OWLS**

Paul Bannick presents "Owl: A Year in the Lives of North American Owls" at 2 p.m. at the Key Center Library. The Friends of the KC Library sponsor this program. 548-3309

**FESTIVE CONCERT**

The Bluegrass Minstrels present "Festive Christmas Revelry" at 6 p.m. in WayPoint Church Hall, 12719 134th Ave. KPN. Special guests are Bowties and Berets. A one-piece art auction will be held for artist Tweed Meyer's "Painting of the Revelry." A \$6 donation to benefit Hope Recovery Center is suggested.

**DEC. 11****KEY SINGERS' CONCERT**

"Noel, Sing Noel" is a musical gift to the community from the Key Singers at 3 p.m. at McColley Hall, KP Lutheran Church, 4213 Lackey Road KPN. A variety

of musical selections from traditional to contemporary and sacred to whimsical will be presented with cabaret seating and light refreshment. Admission is free, but food and money donations for the KP Food Bank are welcomed.

**DEC. 12****CROCHET OR KNIT**

The Loving Hearts group meets 1 to 3 p.m. at WayPoint Church. Yarn donations are always needed. [lovingheartsonkp@gmail.com](mailto:lovingheartsonkp@gmail.com) or Virginia, 884-9619

**DEC. 14****ASHES MEET**

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

**GARDEN CLUB MEETS**

The Bayshore Garden Club meets 11 a.m. at the fire station in Longbranch. Wendy, 332-4883

**KP COUNCIL**

The KP Council meeting is 7 p.m. at the KC fire station.

**DEC. 17****CAROLING**

"Random Acts of Caroling" departs Key Center at 10 a.m. for the annual community tour. All ages are welcome. Please contact The Mustard Seed Project at 884-9814 by Dec. 13 to sign up or suggest destinations.

**ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT**

The Alzheimer's Association family caregiver support group meets 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. on the third Saturday of each month at The Mustard Seed Project, now at the Crandall House (formerly Road House Restaurant). This group provides a consistent, caring place for people to learn, share and gain emotional support from others who are also on the unique journey of providing support to person with memory loss. Ray Steiner, 253-820-2213

**HOLIDAY CONCERT**

Key Peninsula artist Tammy Jacobson presents a holiday concert at 2 p.m. at the KC Library. 548-3309

**DEC. 19****LEGO FUN**

Kids 8 to 18 build and program a robot using Lego Mindstorm kits 3:30 to 5 p.m. at the KC Library. Maximum of 25 allowed. Registration required at [piercecounitylibrary.org/calendar](http://piercecounitylibrary.org/calendar). Register 4 at a time. 548-3309

**DEC. 24****CANDLELIGHT SERVICE**

Grace Church holds a candlelight service at 4 p.m.

**DEC. 26****POTTER PARTY**

The KC Library hosts wizards and muggles of all ages at a Harry Potter Party 3 to 4 p.m. Play games, make crafts and get a sweet off the trolley. Costumes are encouraged. Registration required at [piercecounitylibrary.org/calendar](http://piercecounitylibrary.org/calendar). Register 6 at a time. Limit of 100. 548-3309

**OFF THE KEY****DEC. 2, 3, 4, 9 & 10****PLAY PRESENTED**

Paradise Theatre presents "A Christmas Story" on weekends at 3114 Judson Street in Gig Harbor. Times are 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays and 2 to 4 p.m. on Sundays. [Paradisetheatre.org](http://Paradisetheatre.org) or 851-7529

**DEC. 3****HOLIDAY GALLERY**

Come meet the artists and find a perfect holiday gift at a Pop Up Holiday Gallery from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Jewelry, pottery, paintings and chocolate are just some of the handcrafted items available at 1950 Pottery Ave. (in the Atrium), Port Orchard. See samples of work at [facebook.com/HolidayPopUpGallery](http://facebook.com/HolidayPopUpGallery).

**GINGERBREAD HOUSES**

Gig Harbor Library; [www.piercecounitylibrary.org](http://www.piercecounitylibrary.org).

**BREAKFAST WITH SANTA**

Boys and Girls Club; [www.penmetparks.org](http://www.penmetparks.org)

**TREE LIGHTING**

Gig Harbor's free annual tree lighting includes music, Santa's arrival, fun and refreshments. [Gigharborguide.com](http://Gigharborguide.com)

GREETINGS *from* YOUR PENINSULA FRIENDS

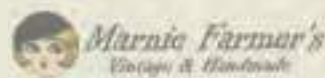
# Shop Local

HOLIDAY 2016

THIS SPECIAL HOLIDAY SECTION IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY THESE SPONSORS



NEW BEGINNINGS  
REAL ESTATE, LLC.



KEY PENINSULA  
**Counseling**

*Lulu's Homeport*  
Restaurant & Lounge

DK Property  
Management, LLC



## Give Yourself a Gift—Shop Local

KP NEWS STAFF

Holiday season is always special on the Key Peninsula. Our local festivities evoke memories that span more than a century. As each of us prepares to embrace and enjoy—or simply survive—the adventures of the days ahead, our thoughts naturally go to giving both wisely and well.

One of the best and easiest ways to help the Key Peninsula community is by shopping in the Key Peninsula community. It's easy, it's smart, and it helps all of us.

For every dollar we spend locally, 68 cents remains here in our community. Nothing stays when we

buy online or across the Narrows Bridge.

Local businesses support more than merchants and jobs. Our schools, churches, social services, Little League and Scouts all depend on their support—the same businesses that support the KP News. Nonprofit organizations like ours receive an average of 250 percent more support from small-business owners than they do from large businesses.

When we buy local, rather than from a nationally owned business, significantly more of our money is used to make purchases from other



*Holiday Cheer*

*Your friends at Glen Cove Repair*

15312 92nd St KPN in Key Center 253 884-1838



*Warm Holiday Wishes*

*Our specialty is friendly animal care*

Bayside Animal Lodge 253 851-9170



*Season's Best*

*We make your holidays beautiful*

Florist, nursery and gifts at Sunnycrest 253 884-3937



*Where Santa Shops*

*Art, antiques and all things vintage*

Marnie Farmer's Home Décor 253 851-0988



*Happiest Holidays*

*We're always here to talk*

Michelle and Chad/KP Counseling Center 253 884-3644



*Merry Christmas, Happy New Year*

*From Tom, Lanette and Bo*

Lakebay Construction 253 884-1920

local businesses, service providers and farms, strengthening the economic base of our community.

Local business owners live in this community and are invested in our collective future. Unique and lively businesses drive property values up, contributing new tax revenue and creating and supporting local jobs, attracting more business and bolstering the growth of our community.

So before you point your car toward the nearest big-box store in Gig Harbor or mall in

Silverdale or Tacoma, think of the variety of products and services available here on the KP, and of the value they bring.

The advertisers you see here and throughout the pages of this newspaper every month make the Key Peninsula a better place for all of us. Please let them know you appreciate their support; they make this newspaper possible.

Whatever holidays you celebrate, whatever traditions you honor, we at the Key Peninsula News wish you the very best for the season and a Happy New Year.



*Always Warm, Always Cheery*  
**Close to Home Espresso**

Open early every day- next to Food Market in Key Center



*Wishing you a safe holiday season*  
**Your District 16 Fire Department**

Key Peninsula Fire Department 253 884-2222



*Merry Christmas*  
**Lystad Construction**

Residential and Commercial 253 255-7012



*Holiday Greetings*

*Let's get you home for the holidays*

Bernie and Donna at New Beginnings 253 858-7053



*Happy Homeport Holidays*  
**Merry Christmas one and all**

Lulu's Homeport 253 884-3743



*Merry Christmas & Happy New Year*

**Your rental specialists**

Donna Lester - Owner/Broker 253 884-2076

## Key Pen Holiday Memories

COLLECTED BY COLLEEN SLATER, KP NEWS

### FAMILY DINNERS — *Dulcie Van Slyke Schillinger*

My fondest memories of both Thanksgiving and Christmas Day were the big family gatherings for the turkey dinners. My great-grandfather, E.T. Buckell, would select and buy the turkey and deliver it to my mother, Dorothy Van Slyke, my Aunt Elsie Olson or my Aunt Edna Buckell to cook. Everyone else brought something to add and a table would be stretched out the length of the front room and dining room. Many times, 35 to 40 parents, aunts, uncles and cousins would all be seated for the meal.

My grandmother, Agnes Bill, would lean over the shoulder of each child, starting on one end of the table, and cut their meat for them. The first time my sister-in-law, Betty Van Slyke, attended the family affair, Grandma Agnes leaned over her shoulder and, never stopping to think Betty was not a child, asked, "Can I cut your meat for you, Ducky?" Betty looked up and said, "I think I can cut my own meat, thank you." Naturally, everyone was laughing and applauding by then. It was fun.

### WHITE PINE TREE — *Frank Slater*

In October and November of 1944, my sister and I were commuting with father to his job at Polson Logging Co. public landing. Our commute was down the Queets River road and along U.S. Highway 101 to the landing, about a quarter mile past Eudie's Lunch, at the end of the Lake Quinalt school bus route.

Cutting brush along the highway was not a high priority during the war and one of our favorite pastimes was to debate which white pine would make our nicest Christmas tree. White pine was our tree of choice because when it was fresh, you could hold a cluster of needles in an open flame and it would glow red and turn to ash but not burst into open flame.

By the middle of December, we had chosen our tree, and on the last day of work or school before Christmas break, on the way home we would cut and take it home where we left it outside to stay wet and fresh until midday Dec. 24.

After lunch that day, we brought the tree in, trimmed it, including candles, and put the presents underneath. After supper, we lit the candles, put out all the other lights and enjoyed the candlelight on the tree.

During this time, Peggy and I were allowed to choose one present each to open, the others being reserved until after Santa had been there to fill the stockings. When the candles burned down, Peggy blew out the lower ones while I did the higher ones.

### SPECIAL PRESENT — *Colleen Slater*

One of my favorite Christmas gifts was a musical jewelry box when I was 7 years old. I didn't have much jewelry, but recall I did keep my white Sunday gloves in it, plus small mementos. It was the Christmas I had learned the truth about Santa Claus, so knew the gift was from my parents. The puzzling thing was a faint odor of chocolate. I asked my mother, and she admitted she and Daddy had eaten the chocolates because it was too many for a little girl to have. I wished they'd saved me just one, but the beautiful music box was special enough to forgive them.

### NEW YEAR'S EVE CELEBRATION — *Bert Wolfe*

New Year's Eve is something we celebrate at home (driving after consuming adult beverages is always a bad idea). So, every year we fix a very special dinner that consists of three main things: fresh prawns, Champagne and chocolate éclairs.

It's a simple dinner with one twist. We have to shuck and vein the shrimp very quickly as our cat shows up shortly after we open the wrapping and will happily eat them all!



## Hearty Thanks

Our community newspaper is made possible by loyal advertisers who, every month, provide generous financial support to keep these pages alive. Please express your appreciation to this partial list of "Shop Local" heroes:

Angel Guild	Key Peninsula Healthy Community Partnership
Appleby Plumbing	Key Peninsula Parks
Aspen Surveyors	Kiwi Fencing
Bayside Animal Lodge	Lakebay Construction
BC Ironworks	Lakebay Marina
Blend Wine Shop	Longbranch Community Church
Bluegrass Minstrels	Longbranch Improvement Club
Brookside Vet	LPL Financial
Camp Stand By Me	Lulu's Homeport
Charboneau Construction & Supply	Lystad Construction
Close to Home Espresso	Marnie Farmer's Home Décor
Dave Leger, the Handyman	Mission Possible
DK Rentals	The Mustard Seed Project
Edible Arrangements	New Beginnings
Expressions Music	Paul's Trucking
Floatation Device	Pen Light
Gentilly Home Services	Peninsula Iron
Glen Cove Repair	Rainier Construction
Grace Church	Rolfzen Construction
Grey Chevrolet	Rusty Wheel Farm
Home Excavating	Sunnycrest Nursery & Floral
Hope Recovery Center	Tacoma Pierce County Health Dept.
Key to Life Church of the Nazarene	Two Knight Vapors
Key Peninsula Baptist Church	Waypoint Church
Key Peninsula Bus Connects	
Key Peninsula Business Association	
Key Peninsula Carpenter	
Key Peninsula Civic Center	
Key Peninsula Community Services	
Key Peninsula Counseling	
Key Peninsula Fire Department	





**DEC. 3 & 4****TIDE FEST ARTS FAIR**

Gig Harbor High School, [www.tidefest.com](http://www.tidefest.com)

**DEC. 4****HOLIDAY CONCERT**

Peninsula Community Chorus Holiday Concert; [www.peninsulacommunitychorus.com](http://www.peninsulacommunitychorus.com)

**PETER AND THE WOLF**

“Peter and the Wolf” featuring Christophe Chagnard and Sean MacLean; [www.harborhistorymuseum.org](http://www.harborhistorymuseum.org)

**DEC. 7****DEMOCRATS MEET**

26th Legislative District Democrats meet 7 to 9 p.m. at Givens Community Center, 1026 Sidney Rd, Port Orchard.

**DEC. 7, 14, 21 & 28****SUPPORT GROUP**

The Freedom from Tobacco Support Group meets on Tuesdays 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at St. Anthony Hospital. The meetings are free. 223-7538

**DEC. 8****CONCERT**

The Chapel on Echo Bay presents Eric Tingstad and Nancy Rumbel; [www.foxislandchapel.net](http://www.foxislandchapel.net)

**DEC. 9****ST. LUCIA'S FESTIVAL**

Light Up the Night at St. Lucia's Festival; [www.harborhistorymuseum.org](http://www.harborhistorymuseum.org)

**DEC. 9 TO 11****CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS**

Celebrate the holidays with historic downtown Gig Harbor merchants. [Gigharborwaterfront.org](http://Gigharborwaterfront.org)

**DEC. 10****BOAT PARADE**

Gig Harbor's annual lighted boat parade can be viewed after dark from Skansie Park or along Harborview Drive; [www.gigharboryc.com](http://www.gigharboryc.com)

**DEC. 10-11****SANTA'S BOATSHOP**

Gig Harbor's historic Eddon Boat Yard; [www.gigharborboatshop.org](http://www.gigharborboatshop.org)

**DEC. 11****HARK THE HARBOR**

Gig Harbor community caroling event; [www.gigharborwaterfront.org](http://www.gigharborwaterfront.org)

**DEC. 17****BLUEGRASS CONCERT**

The Olalla Community Club, 12970 Olalla Valley Road, Olalla, presents a holiday concert featuring the Steelhead Bluegrass Band, which plays traditional bluegrass and Chris Stapleton music. Potluck at 6 p.m., concert at 7 p.m. Potluck host is Nolan, 253-857-5650. Cost is \$15-\$20. [Olallahouse.org](http://Olallahouse.org)

**WINTER CONCERT**

Gig Harbor Peninsula Civic Orchestra Winter Concert; [www.ghpcorchestra.com](http://www.ghpcorchestra.com)

**DEC. 28****MENORAH LIGHTING**

Annual menorah lighting at Uptown; [www.uptowngigharbor.com](http://www.uptowngigharbor.com)

**WEEKLYEVENTS****MONDAYS****PLAY TO LEARN**

Play to Learn, provided by Children's Museum of Tacoma, is held Dec. 5 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at the KP Civic Center. This is a free drop-in program for preschoolers under 6 and their adult caregivers.

**MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, FRIDAYS**

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

**TUESDAYS**

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

**STORY TIMES**

Every Tuesday, discover books, learn nursery rhymes, sing songs, play with blocks and do arts and crafts at the KC Library. Music/Motion Story time (0-2 years old with an adult) is at 10 a.m. and Preschool Science Story time (2-5 years old) is at 11 a.m. 548-3309

**TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS****PRESCHOOL PLAYTIME**

The Children's Home Society KP Family Resource Center offers a preschool/toddler indoor park program 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. in the KP Civic Center gym. Caregivers must stay with child. Drop-ins are welcome; stay as long as you wish. A \$1/child donation is suggested. Tami, 884-5433

**WEDNESDAYS****WRITERS MEET**

Lakebay Writers is a workshop for people who love stories. Share yours. Hear others'. 1 to 4 p.m. at the KC Library. Loren Aikins, 884-2785

**WRITERS WORKSHOP**

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

**WEDNESDAYS & FRIDAYS****SENIOR MEALS**

Nutritious meals for ages 60+ are served at noon at 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. Have fun improving your speaking ability. 858-5761 or 548-3511

**SENIORS LUNCH**

The KP Senior Society meets at 12 p.m. for a potluck, games and fellowship in the Whitmore Room at the KP Civic Center. All are welcome. 884-4440

**FRIDAYS****STORY TIME**

Families with young children enjoy winter stories 1:30 to 2 p.m. at the KC Library. 548-3309

**SATURDAYS****WRITERS GUILD**

The Writers Guild meets the first and third Saturdays 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the KC Library. 884-6455

**PUBLIC MEETINGS**

**Dec. 5, McNeil Island meeting**, 6 p.m., Lakebay Marina. Discussion will be held about turning McNeil Island into a park. [markscott@lakebaymarina.com](mailto:markscott@lakebaymarina.com)

**Dec. 6, Artists Blend**, 4 to 6 p.m., Blend Wine Shop, for all artists; [kathybauer100@gmail.com](mailto:kathybauer100@gmail.com)

**Dec. 7 & 21, KP Lions**, 7 p.m., KC fire station; 853-2721

**Dec. 7 & 21, KP Veterans**, 7 p.m., KP Lutheran Church; membership for veterans and military service members and families over 16 yrs. 509-8656 or [keypenveterans@outlook.com](mailto:keypenveterans@outlook.com)

**Dec. 8, KP Civic Center Assn. Board**, 7 p.m., Whitmore Room, KP Civic Center; 884-3456

**Dec. 8, Peninsula School District Board**, 6 p.m., district office

**Dec. 8, TWAA Board**, 7 p.m., VFW Room, KP Civic Center; [kathybauer100@gmail.com](mailto:kathybauer100@gmail.com)

**Dec. 12, KP Parks**, 7:30 p.m. at Volunteer Park office; the public is encouraged to attend. 884-9240

**Dec. 13 & 27, KP Fire Dept.**, 5 p.m., KC fire station; [keypeninsulafire.org](http://keypeninsulafire.org)

**Dec. 14, KP Community Council**, 7 p.m., KC fire station

**Dec. 15, KP Citizens Against Crime**, 7 p.m., KC fire station

**Dec. 19, KP Democrats**, 7 p.m., Home fire station; [johnpatkelly@aol.com](mailto:johnpatkelly@aol.com)

**Dec. 21, Longbranch Improvement Club**, 6:30 p.m. social, 7 p.m. meeting, LIC; 884-6022

**Dec. 21, KP Advisory Commission**, 6:30 p.m., VFW Room, KP Civic Center; Toni Fairbanks, 253-798-7156

Submit your calendar items to [connierenz@hotmail.com](mailto:connierenz@hotmail.com) before the 15th



A memorial bench at Peninsula High School destroyed by an arsonist was replaced the next day. *Photo: Ed Johnson, KP News*

## Burned Memorial Bench Replaced at PHS

COLLEEN SLATER, KP NEWS

Peninsula High School personnel, students and the community at large were shocked by the destruction by arson of a memorial bench honoring former counselor Colleen Blauvelt by a yet-unknown person on Sept. 26.

Jonathan Crane, along with friends and parents from Boy Scout Troop 220, built three benches in 2014 as part of his Eagle Scout project. Crane dedicated the center bench to Blauvelt, who died in May 2013. She was his counselor.

Jonathan's father, John Crane, said, "When we heard about it, I wanted to replace it, but when I went up to see the damage, the bench was already replaced."

Peninsula School District replaced the bench the day after the fire.

Blauvelt was a counselor at PHS for 13 years and had been a special-education teacher. She attended Franklin Pierce High School, where a favorite uncle was a counselor, and she followed his example.

After she was diagnosed with cancer, Blauvelt worked until she was physically unable to do any more.

"She was an advocate for her kids," said PHS Assistant Principal Melissa McNeish. Blauvelt was involved with setting up an advisory program that emphasized assisting all students. Blauvelt's daughters, now both teachers, were on the PHS swim team and their mom was like an assistant coach, McNeish said.

"The heart of what made my mother a memorable counselor was her passion," her daughter, Kellie Blauvelt, wrote in an email to KP News. "She had a passion to serve

her school and her community, but most importantly she lived to serve her students. When students walked out of her office, they knew she cared about them."

An investigation is underway by the Pierce County Sheriff's Dept. Anonymous tips may be sent to: [www.tpcrimestoppers.com](http://www.tpcrimestoppers.com).

**TODAYS  
SPECIALS**

RESTAURANTS, BARS,  
CAFÉS, BISTROS,  
COUNTERS & CARTS

**KEY PENINSULA  
EAT & DRINK  
DIRECTORY**

Be a part of our new  
quarterly Key Peninsula  
food & drink directory.


FOR YOUR FREE LISTING

Send a ten-word description,  
name, hours, address, phone  
number and (optional) website to  
**[news@keypennews.com](mailto:news@keypennews.com)**

great  
NEWS of GREAT  
joy  
for ALL  
people

**Christmas Eve 5pm & 7pm  
Christmas Day 11am**

**WayPoint Church**  
12719 134th Ave KPN  
[waypoint-church.org](http://waypoint-church.org)



**Stay Clear!**


A downed power line may not be a dead line.  
It could cause serious injury or death.

If someone is injured by contact with a power line, call 911 and keep others away until help arrives.

If a power line falls across or near your vehicle while you are in it, stay inside until help arrives. If you must exit, jump clear so that no part of your body is touching the car when you land. **KEEP BOTH FEET TOGETHER**, and shuffle or hop at least 30 feet away from the vehicle.

**Peninsula Light Co.**

Outage Reporting:  
**877.853.1388**  
[www.penlight.org](http://www.penlight.org)



## Key Pen Parks

*The key to your next adventure!*

like us on  
**facebook**

follow us on  
**twitter**

www.keypenparks.com  
253-884-9240

# December 2016


---

## Breakfast with Santa

December 3, 2016  
Key Center Fire Station

Tell Santa all your holiday wishes at this festive event. Breakfast, crafts and more! Advance tickets are \$5 per person and are available through the Key Pen Parks website or in the office during regular business hours.

Seating times are 8:30, 9:30 and 10:30 am  
Tickets at the door will be \$10. Shop smart and get your tickets early!



## Parents' Night Out

What every parent *wants* for Christmas. *needs!*

Drop the kids off & enjoy an evening out to do whatever you want! Go holiday shopping *without the kids*, enjoy dinner *without the kids*, go see a movie *without the kids*.

Meanwhile ... it will be a pajama party for the kiddos with games, snacks, crafts and a movie. Bring pillows and blankets! Fun is provided by and helps support Girl Scout Troop 40956.



Fridays Dec. 16 and 23  
4:30 to 9:30 pm  
\$20 per kid for the 4 hours (max charge \$50/family)  
An extra \$10 lets your child stay until 11 pm

Boys and girls potty-trained to 12 years old  
Space is limited, pre-registration & payment is required, so sign up today!  
Go to [www.keypenparks.com](http://www.keypenparks.com) for more info!

---

## An All Hallows Eve thank you!

So many members of our community came together to put on one spooktacular All Hallows Eve Celebration on Oct. 22. We are sincerely grateful to our sponsor, Bruce Titus Tacoma Subaru, and to several organizations who were key in providing volunteers: Red Barn Youth Center, KP Baptist Fellowship and KP Community Council Youth Council. Thank you to the below individuals:

Chelsie Allen-Hawkins	Carly Clemo	Cheryl Hinkle	Sophia Maffei
Mary Jo Anderson-Clapp	Mr. Dickerson	Shawn, Sami, Isabel and Sara Jensen	Jennifer Miller
Aleah Bainter	Rosie Dickerson	John Kelly	Enrique Orellone
Mindy Baxter	Drake Erickson	Timothy Kezele	Jonathon Quintero
Morgan Blalock	Kaleah Erickson	Brianna Klahold	Cheyenne Reed
Kathan Carter	Mrs. Erickson	Lizzie Krum	Susan Ricketts
Cierra Clapp	Lindsey Ferguson	Rita Lanier	Faith Smith
Morgan Clapp	Mrs. Erickson	Michelle and Willy Madlinger	Armon Weaver
Ms. Clapp	Nate Griffin	Robin and Mike Pam Leazer	Elea and Thor Williams
	Ariane Harmic		Adam and Cindy Worden
	Jerry and Marilyn Hartley		Bobbi Worden
			Frank Worden

# Pierce County Council Visits Key Peninsula

MATTHEW DEAN, KP NEWS

The Pierce County Council held its weekly meeting in the gym of the Key Peninsula Civic Center Nov. 1, allowing Key Peninsula residents to present their concerns and comments directly to council members.

While the council is limited in its powers by state and federal law, it still possesses the ability to levy taxes, approve countywide ordinances and pass land use regulations. The council is also responsible for nonstate infrastructure; roads like State Route 302 are controlled and maintained by the Washington State Department of Transportation, but other public roads are the responsibility of the council. This also means that where the state does not intervene, the domain of the county similarly includes things like water management, business licenses, sewers and some elements of criminal justice.

The council is composed of seven members, each representing about one-seventh of the county's population. The residents of their district elect members to four-year terms, with the most recent election held in 2014. Key Peninsula's current council representative is Derek Young (D), who also represents Gig Harbor, Ruston and the surrounding areas of Council District 7.

Because the Key Peninsula has no municipalities or municipal government, any regulations or repairs on the Key Peninsula are controlled by the county council, as are the budgets and allocation for local institutions and projects. Examples include behavioral health facilities, animal control and benefit programs for the homeless/disadvantaged.

Councilman Young visited the civic center in mid-October to discuss local issues with residents and with the Key Peninsula Community Council. Many of the talking points from October came up again at the council meeting, where Community Council President Chuck West appealed to the council for more budget consideration. West cited county tax documents showing the outflow of money from the Key Peninsula and the relatively small amount of money returning in categories like flood control and public library facilities. West also emphasized the need for additional road maintenance on the KP. The council members did not comment on these issues.

An additional presentation was given by Sara Thompson of The Mustard Seed Project, who detailed the group's plans to construct senior housing facilities on the Key Peninsula in the coming years.

Another major topic of the night was the state of mental health and drug abuse treatment on the Key Peninsula. West commented on the issue, drawing from his experience as a Key Peninsula Fire Department battalion chief. "Unfortunately, we go and pick these people up and there's not much we can do for them; we leave them in a hallway in an emergency room ... and then later we see that person again," he said. "There is definitely a need for mental health and substance abuse facilities."

Several community members agreed during the open forum portion of the meeting. "I'm a runner; I run up and down Wright Bliss, and Mr. West has seen my collection of syringes that I pick up off the road on a monthly basis," said Jeremiah Saucier, director of the Crossroads Treatment Center and a member of the community council. The county council members also declined to substantially comment on this issue.

Other KP residents took the opportunity to comment on their issues of choice. Several commented on county transportation and alternative public transport options, and Maureen Reilly of The Mustard Seed Project invited the council to attend a local transportation summit Nov. 17. Some residents addressed specific area concerns like a lack of streetlights on certain roads. Representatives from the Key Peninsula Youth Council requested better computer resources for local schools and asked for extended and more reliable coverage from CenturyLink.

After the forum was complete, the meeting was adjourned. A full video archive of the meeting can be found on the Pierce County TV website at <http://online.co.pierce.wa.us/cfapps/council/iview>.

IMMEDIATE OPENING,  
PART-TIME SALES POSITION  
**ADVERTISING  
ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE**

Sales and customer service for KP News. Work from your phone and computer, earn commission on ad sales plus the satisfaction of improving our local economy and making our community better. Apply to [news@keypennews.com](mailto:news@keypennews.com) or call 884-4699

# Thank you

*The Key Peninsula News wishes to thank everyone who helped support us with their donations in 2016. Whether or not you have chosen to be acknowledged publicly by us below, please know that this publication would not exist without you. Best wishes for the holidays from all of us to everyone in our community.*

Kathleen and Thor Albro  
Dolores Argabright  
Ken and Judy Austin  
Keith Axelsen  
Baillie & Associates  
Scott and Gretchen Bassett  
Carla Berst  
Kathleen Best  
Avery Bevin  
Ruth H. Bramhall  
Gayle and Shirley Brewer  
George and Lisa Bryan  
Marguerite Bussard  
Richard J. Callahan  
John and Helen Carlson  
David Carr  
Anne Cashman  
Kip Clinton  
Ron and Jan Coen  
Ann Craven  
Roy and Marge Danforth  
Michael and Sharron Dean  
Robert and Anne Delaney  
William and Marjorie Dietz  
Jilly Eddy and Marsha Kremen  
Robert Evans and Eloise Richardson  
Carole Fancher

Kerri and Terry Forrey  
Bruce and Jane Glundberg  
Jim and Gail Goedert  
Margaret Golston  
Stephen and Wendy Gray  
Beth Griffin and Boshon Sprague  
Larry and Fern Hagen  
Sylvia Hasse and Virginia Lierbergesell  
Leonard and Loretta Hawkins  
Russell Haydon and Marsha Williams  
Phyllis Henry  
Robert and Dianna Home  
Diane Huff  
Virgil and Norma Iverson  
Ed Johnson  
Tim and P.J. Kezele  
Eleanor H. Klauminzer  
Merry A. Kogut  
Steven and Martha Konicek  
KP Bus Connects dba M & J Harris  
Jerry and Arlyce Kretschman  
Lakebay Marina  
Barbara Lutzewitz  
Bruce and Margo Macdonald  
Bert and Lani Magnuson  
Frank and Denise Malfet  
Dr. and Mrs. Herbert Marra  
Dave and Barb Martin

Mary Mazur  
Georgianna Mccart  
Pearlita McColley  
Norman and Lisa McLoughlin  
Mark Michel  
Matthew and Lisa Mills  
Carmen Miravalle  
Mary and Stan Moffett  
Joyce K. Moore  
Bernard and Bonnie Mora  
Ann Morris and James Sobieck  
Thomas Morris  
Jim L. Moss  
Cindy Mullins  
Sharon and Jack Nell  
Laure and John Nichols  
Sheila Hunt Niven  
Marjorie Nygard  
Denise Ohlson  
Darlene Olson  
Steve and Linda Owens  
John and Laurie Peltier  
Joseph Pentheroudakis  
Alberta Ramsdell  
Olive Bell Reid  
Dawn Richey  
Mary Ripley  
Jerry and Robin Sage

Maryellen Sandquist  
Marilyn H. Sherrod  
Lynn Smith  
Walt and Janice Smith  
Chuck and Cathy Soule  
Robert and Voski Sprague  
Peter and Janet Stanley  
Doug Stencil  
Patricia and Todd Taylor  
Jeanie Thomas  
Sara Thompson  
Virginia Thompson  
Tom and Billie Thorson  
Georganne and Bill Trandum  
Christine and Jeffrey Tritt  
Ann-Marie and Herald Ugles  
Barb and Clark Van Bogart  
Dick and Marlies Van Cise  
Maryellen Watson  
Danna Webster  
Steve and Sharon West  
Doug and Betsy Wheeler  
Mike and Margaret Wilcox  
Bill and Jill Wiley  
Clayton and JoAnn Williams  
Hedy Willis  
Robin Winslow



**LYSTAD  
CONSTRUCTION**  
CUSTOM QUALITY CONSTRUCTION  
*Serving the Puget Sound*

Licensed Bonded Insured    LYSTAC\*891BQ


**Oliver Lystad**  
General Manager / Lead Estimator  
Vaughn, WA 98394

Patios - Driveways - Stairs  
Retaining Walls - All Finishes


**C 253.255.7012**

oliver@lystadconstruction.com  
www.lystadconstruction.com

**Concrete  
Flatwork  
Concrete Pumping  
Foundations  
Residential  
Commercial**



## We work for you, not Wall Street.



**Mark Christel**  
253-432-4637  
www.markchristel.com

LPL Financial  
Member FINRA/SIPC

Have you ever wondered who your financial advisor really works for, you or the firm? Our goal is your success as an investor. We work strictly for you. And we are backed by the strength and reliability of LPL Financial, the largest independent broker/dealer in the nation.\* We focus on one bottom line: yours.  
**Please call to learn more and schedule a free consultation.**

**LPL Financial**  
STOCKS • BONDS • MUTUAL FUNDS • IRAs  
\*As reported by Financial Planning magazine, June 1996-2016, based on total revenue  
14315 62nd Ave NW Gig Harbor, WA 98332

**Todd Rosenbach**  
253-884-4787  
www.toddrosenbach.com

LPL Financial  
Member FINRA/SIPC



*pointing the way to Jesus...*

**THREE SUNDAY SERVICES**  
9:30am, 11am & 6pm

Children's Christmas Pageant  
Dec 18th, 6pm  
Christmas Eve 5pm & 7pm  
Christmas Day 11am


12719 134th Ave KPN · 853-7878 · www.waypoint-church.org

*Children's Programs at All Services*



High School & Middle School Youth Group  
Meets Monday Nights  
6:30-8:30pm

Go to [five17.com](http://five17.com)  
for more info



**Yoga @ the Key Peninsula Civic Center**  
Mondays & Wednesdays 8:30 - 9:30 am  
Bring your own mat, blanket or towel

Cost

Drop-in	.....	\$12.50
4 classes	.....	\$40.00
8 classes	.....	\$80.00

*Cash or Check*

Key Peninsula Civic Center, 17010 S. Vaughn Road 253/884-3456 www.kpciviccenter.org The Key Peninsula Civic Center Association, through its facility and the efforts of its members, fosters and promotes the civic, social, cultural and general well-being of the Key Peninsula community. The Key Peninsula Civic Center is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

KP Boy Scout Robert Quill, 16, of Troop 220, at his Eagle Scout project rebuilding the KP Civic Center sign Nov. 13. Quill noticed the sign needed work in April and planned to finish the project over the summer, but was seriously injured in June when he was struck by a van while riding his bicycle (See KP News, September 2016). Quill is the third scout to work toward Eagle Scout rank by building, repairing or, in this case, replacing the sign. A high school senior in Running Start at Olympic College, he also continues physical therapy to recover from the accident. Quill plans to fulfill the remaining requirements to become an Eagle Scout by his 17th birthday in February. Only 4 percent of scouts achieve the rank. *Photo: Ted Olinger, KP News*





**In September the Angel Guild  
awarded a grant to:**

Peninsula Light  
Project Help \$3,000

**ANGEL GUILD THRIFT SHOP**  
IN THE KEY CENTER CORRAL  
253-884-9333 angelguild9013@hotmail.com  
**Open 10 am to 4 pm Tuesday through Saturday**  
An independent non-profit philanthropy not affiliated with any other organization.

## COME SWIM WITH US!

*Easterseals Washington Camp Stand By Me NEW Community Swim Program*

**We have re-opened our doors to the community!**

Join us for Open Swim weekdays from 9:30am-10:30am. Registration is required.  
Call 253.884.2722 or visit [www.easterseals.com/washington/communityswim](http://www.easterseals.com/washington/communityswim)  
for more information on the program and the schedules for  
Aerobics Classes, Lap Swim and Family Swim.



Camp Stand By Me • 17809 South Vaughn Road KPN  
[www.easterseals.com/washington](http://www.easterseals.com/washington)



Once dismissed as “shell shock,” Post Traumatic Stress Disorder is now a recognized medical condition. Diagnoses and successful treatments have both increased in recent years. *Photo: Adobe Stock*

## Local PTSD Treatment for Vets Is Improving

LISA BRYAN, KP NEWS

Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) is a familiar term, but understanding it is key to survival for combat veterans off the battlefield. Untreated, PTSD increases the risk for depression, substance abuse and suicide. Symptoms can surface shortly after a traumatic event or 50 years later.

According to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, there has been a 25 percent increase in reported cases of PTSD in veterans of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan compared to Vietnam veterans, indicating a need for further research to find better options for treatment and prevention.

Karl Marlantes, a former Marine and Vietnam veteran, recipient of the Navy Cross and critically acclaimed author of “What It Is Like to Go to War,” describes in layman’s terms what happens when someone goes into combat:

“When a normal person hears a sound, the input goes through the ear and into

the cerebral cortex, the thinking part of the brain. As a combat soldier, by the time you’ve completed that thought process, the enemy has pulled the trigger and you’re dead. What the human brain does in response to these massive adrenaline loads is reorder the neural pathways. The input no longer goes into the thinking cerebral cortex, but instead goes straight into the amygdala, the fight-flight-freeze response area of the brain. When there’s a sound, the seasoned soldier no longer thinks, but reacts, turns and fires.”

The problem now is the soldier has adapted to combat. His brain is changed. It took extreme adrenaline loads to rewire those pathways. Now he’s back in civilian life. The problem is getting the brain to change back.

“Somebody shoves you in a bar and you hit him,” Marlantes said. “Now you’re in a bar fight and you’re in jail. Sometimes they use medicine to calm people down, but for the vast majority of people, their brain has undergone a physiological change.”

Recognizing the need to treat this illness, Vet Centers were established by Congress in 1979 to provide free counseling to all eligible veterans and active duty personnel. They are staffed mostly by combat veterans and function autonomously from the VA, meaning even active duty personnel are assured complete confidentiality and protection from the possible stigma expressed by their superiors, peers or subordinates.

Former U.S. Army Sgt. Ed Dvorak of Lakebay said his first PTSD episode came during his 50th birthday celebration, which left him crying uncontrollably as friends and family watched in confusion.

After serving in Vietnam for two years on long-range patrols, Dvorak returned to civilian life and settled into law enforcement. “Ironically, high-adrenaline jobs are a natural draw for many PTSD sufferers, as they are extremely functional under stressful circumstances,” Dvorak said.

As a police officer, Dvorak often dealt with suicides but couldn’t relate to what

made people do it. “All that changed upon retirement and I found myself without that structured foundation,” he said. “My PTSD kicked in and I sank into deep depression.”

Dvorak sought help from the Vet Center in Tacoma, where both active duty personnel and veterans are supported on a confidential basis.

After initial one-on-one counseling, Dvorak joined a group of a dozen Vietnam vets with extreme combat service. “We approached it by learning about PTSD, almost like a college course, because you can’t learn to cope without fully understanding the condition,” he said. They signed contracts formalizing their commitment to show up every week no matter what. “We essentially formed a squad and looked out for each other, forming really tight bonds,” he said. “It’s much easier to speak openly with other veterans with similar experiences; the fear of judgment evaporates.”

Marlantes appreciates feeling understood and accepted by other veterans, yet sees our broader culture at war with itself over what we ask our young people to do in our name. “Culturally, our lack of openness and ability to embrace the warrior culture continues to drive these combat experiences underground, which only perpetuates shameful feelings for our returning warriors,” he said. “As veterans, we tend instead to minimize and not talk about what it’s like to go to war.”

In a 2008 interview with *Time* magazine, Lt. Gen. Eric Schoomaker, the Army surgeon general, described PTSD in service members as “a normal reaction to a very serious set of events in their life.” In 2011, the Army’s No. 2 officer and top mental-health advocate, Gen. Peter Chiarelli, told *Time* he began referring to PTSD as PTS. “I drop the D,” he said, saying the use of “PTSD” suggests the ailment is pre-existing, when in reality it is a predictable reaction to combat stress.

Marlantes prefers the term PTS without the D. He and many others see it as a natural neurological reaction to extreme adrenaline overload. Removing the “D” normalizes it, he said, though other veterans fear the new term diminishes the severity of the condition and could lead to less support treating it. Marlantes still views it as less a disorder than a remarkable natural adaptation to the extremes of combat.

The Tacoma Vet Center is located at 4916 Center St. in Tacoma and can be reached at 253-565-7038 or 877-927-8387.

## Open for fun all week, all winter

**December 16 - Ugly Sweater Party**  
Contest and raffle  
Family friendly 5:30 - 7 pm  
Adults - 7pm until the music stops

**New Year's Eve Polar Plunge**  
Join the "I Mooned the Moon  
at Lakebay Marina" festivities—  
• Beer Tasting • Live Music & Dancing  
• Custom T-shirts • Door Prizes

**Every night of the week**  
**Sunday & Monday** - Football  
**Tuesday** - Open mic night  
**Wednesday** - Family night games,  
movies, craft table  
**Thursday** - live solo acoustic music  
**Friday & Saturday** 7-11pm - live  
band for dancing

**LAKEBAY MARINA RESORT**

**2 for 1  
Well Drink  
\$4.99**  
(not including Happy Hour)



**Thank  
You  
for Visiting!**

We're next to Penrose Point State Park on the Key Peninsula  
LakebayMarina.com | Facebook.com/LakebayMarinaResort  
Latitude 47° 15' 29" Longitude -122° 45' 29"

## Lakebay Construction, LLC

Formerly Lakebay Roofing

**Roofing specialist serving the  
Key Peninsula since 1982.**

**FREE ESTIMATES, EMERGENCY REPAIRS**

**LICENSED AND BONDED**

**\* Algae Resistant Architecture Shingles \* Metal \***

**\* Cedar Shakes & Shingles \* Torch Down \***

**\* Flat Roofs \***

Office (253) 884-1920

Cell (253) 432-3316

**Tom Rolfzen**

LAKEBCL861N5

Advertised in the  
KP News for 30 years.



## Property Crime Plagues the Peninsula

MATTHEW DEAN, KP NEWS

Even as overall crime rates decrease in Washington, property crime continues to heavily affect rural areas like the Key Peninsula.

According to the Pierce County Crime Data website, the total number of property crimes on the Key Peninsula has jumped 14 percent since last year, and property crimes make up about two-thirds of all reported crime on the KP.

Property crime encompasses any criminal offense where the primary target is a piece of property or an object, not a person; this includes arson, theft, vandalism and similar infractions. The leading categories are burglary and theft, especially theft from vehicles.

Property crime problems in Pierce County have led the Sheriff's Department to create a special Property Crime Unit with four investigators and a supervisor. The unit focuses on larger-scale property crimes and tracking down specific repeat offenders.

Many Key Peninsula residents are intimately familiar with property crime from their own experiences or those of friends and family.

Jeffrey Tritt, a Key Peninsula homeowner for over 20 years, has had his boat stolen twice, his truck stolen once, and a 350-pound driftwood horse sculpture dragged out of his front yard. These kinds of problems haven't been limited to his own home, either: Tritt has stumbled upon the aftermath of several burglaries in his neighborhood. "I know many victims of crime," he said. "It's polite cocktail conversation to talk about who got hit and how much they took."

Tritt continues to hold the police in high regard. "They are overburdened and understaffed," he said, echoing a sentiment expressed by many law enforcement officers and lawmakers, including Pierce County Councilman Derek Young. The region's geography also creates problems for emergency services of all kinds and especially police; local officers may have to respond to areas as far apart as Fox Island and Longbranch.

Pierce County Sheriff's Department Investigator Dan Wulick suggests that the best measure KP residents can take is to "limit your ability to become a victim. Even if you don't have money for cameras or alarms, you can still do the basics." Some simple suggestions include removing objects of

value from vehicles, locking car and house doors, and keeping homes and outbuildings well lighted to increase visibility and deter prowlers.

Wulick also recommends connecting with neighborhood watch groups. "Neighborhood groups are doing a fantastic job," he said. Communicating with neighbors will make it easier for them to identify suspicious people or unusual situations on your property or identify stolen property. "It's old-school, but it works," he said.

Since property crime often occurs despite preventative measures, Wulick suggests documenting serial numbers on big-ticket items like televisions, computers and firearms. This will make it easier for the police to find and confirm stolen property. Wulick also says that even if the crime is minor, reporting it can make a big difference. If a report of stolen property is logged, that property can be recovered even if the thief is arrested six months later. "It's in there if we do find the guy," Wulick said, also noting that small reports can be added to a criminal's charges. "If you get the guys, it matters," he said.

Some residents feel as though their reports of property crime go unnoticed, and they never see any tangible results. Even in this case, Wulick says that crime reports are worthwhile. "It's the statistics that help us understand where there's a problem," he said. Statistics can help influence the location and type of police patrolling, but, "if nobody ever reports it, it never goes in our system."

Wulick emphasized that deputies are working as hard as they possibly can. "The guys are out here because they want to be out here. These guys live out here, and they're driven to make it a safer place," he said.

Emergencies and in-progress crimes should always be called in to 911. Nonemergency crimes can be reported to the police at 253-798-4721 or online at [www.co.pierce.wa.us/index](http://www.co.pierce.wa.us/index).

## Best Music Lessons

Begin or Brush-up

one month  
minimum

ALL  
Instruments

GREAT  
STUDIO



(253) 857-3788

[mary@expressionsmusic.com](mailto:mary@expressionsmusic.com)



The bar is open again at Buck's Steakhouse and Sports Bar. Photo: Ted Olinger, KP News

## New Restaurant Comes to Key Center

DANNA WEBSTER, KP NEWS

Joni and Clint Pipkin were working to establish a new gourmet hot dog food truck business in mid-September when they noticed the coffee stand in the parking lot at O'Callahan's Pub was gone. Thinking that would be a great place for their food wagon, they made an appointment to talk to the pub's owner, Greg Calahan. After listening to the food truck proposal, Calahan said he had a better idea for them.

A whirlwind two weeks later, Buck's Steakhouse and Sports Bar was about to become the newest restaurant in Key Center.

"How much I learned in two weeks is shocking," Joni said, reflecting on what it takes to get a restaurant up and running.

The Pipkins have been married for 36 years and business partnerships are a familiar mode of operation. Their last restaurant experience was 20 years ago in Montana when both their resort cafe and pizzeria became popular gathering places. "We're used to being part of the community and doing things that help (the community)," Joni said.

In addition to business ventures, the couple has six children, 15 grandchildren and one great-grandchild, some involved with Buck's.

One of their first calls was to their daughter's mother-in-law, Cindy Galford. They asked Galford to come out of retirement in Pennsylvania to assume bookkeeping and management duties for the steakhouse.

Galford had lived in Washington before and built a career as the general manager of Old Country Buffet restaurants, a Puyallup diner that grew to a corporate chain with locations in Washington and California. "I'm thankful they asked me to come out of retirement and come out and play," Galford said.

The Pipkins appreciate the local support they have received, starting with Calahan, who Joni said was "absolutely awesome helping facilitate this whole thing."

Next came help from Mark Regan, a Food Services of America agent. He introduced them to Cattle Country Angus, a supplier of quality, organic, grain-fed beef raised in Washington, Montana and Idaho. Buck's signature steak will be the Cowboy Rib-Eye from Cattle Country.

Their chief support comes from the staff of nearly 20 employees, all but one of whom live on the Key Peninsula and "are willing to go that extra mile," Galford said.

Buck's recruited two cooks from Gig Harbor restaurants who have their own specialties to offer. One of the servers, Diana Nole, is also a baker and has added dinner-plate-sized cinnamon rolls, blueberry muffins and Buck's signature bread pudding to the dessert menu. The restaurant will also serve breakfast all day.

Buck's Steakhouse is all about food and families. "No stage. No pool tables. Rowdiness—down," Joni said. "We want families to come and feel comfortable. We will focus on the food but will be a sports bar on game days."

Business is good. "It's been a great reception," Joni said. "We are really looking forward to making it bigger and better than ever."

For those wondering about the name: "My son is going to hate me for this. Buck is his middle name," Joni said. "Everything I name, I name after my kids."

And what about the food truck? The Pipkins are hoping that sometime in December the parking lot will showcase their top-of-the-line food truck. It has a unique paint job featuring scenes of Washington state and will sell, yes, gourmet hot dogs.



Strengthening the Key Peninsula  
Connecting the Community

## Thank You Key Peninsula!

The **KP Partnership for a Healthy Community** wishes to thank everyone who has come to a meeting, completed a survey, or simply, helped us spread the word.

**We have done great work this year!**

Take a look at a few of the collective, long-term visions you helped create-

### **We envision a community:**

*-that is unified in its desire to have a strong voice*

*-where residents have access to medical, dental, mental, & substance abuse care*

*-that is fed*

*-that can find affordable housing options & age in place*

*-that fosters cooperation, collaboration, and communication in order to best utilize its strengths & assets*

*-that fosters its youth & families*

**We look forward to more successes in  
2017!**

**Key Peninsula Partnership for a Healthy Community**

**[www.kphealthycommunity.org](http://www.kphealthycommunity.org)**

This Partnership is made possible by the generous funding of the

**Gary E. Milgard Family Foundation**

and by the support of the

**Key Peninsula Community Counsel, a 501 (c)3 non-profit organization.**





Derek Young (D) represents the 7th District, including the Key Peninsula, on the Pierce County Council. *Photo: courtesy Derek Young*

## A Postelection Conversation with the KP's Councilman

SARA THOMPSON, KP NEWS

Pierce County Councilman Derek Young loves his job.

"I have everything," he said. "I represent both the most liberal and the most conservative areas in Pierce County. My district runs the gamut of urban, suburban and rural with Ruston and parts of north and west Tacoma, the peninsulas and the islands. And, if I'm not mistaken, Representative Derek Kilmer and I are the only people in office whose districts cross Puget Sound."

Young ran for the county position in 2014 after serving on the Gig Harbor City Council for 16 years. He describes his work as a county councilman as very similar: "Same language, different accent."

Young saw the negative impact of suburban sprawl when he was growing up in Gig Harbor and his goal is to build sustainable cities while protecting rural areas and agricultural resource lands.

Young said the logging and shellfish industries are special concerns for the Key Peninsula. He noted that lands logged on the KP tend to be privately owned, small parcels, but that companies do the logging. He would like to see a tree-retention policy, which would require a meaningful buffer along roads and other measures.

Young also favors a zoning approach to shellfish aquaculture to prevent farming in areas of critical habitat. This would include intertidal areas where eelgrass grows.

Adequate funding for mental-health needs in Pierce County has been one of

his longstanding concerns. Several years ago, both the state and federal government made deep cuts to community mental-health funding. Pierce County is the only urban county in the state that failed to fund the resulting gap. According to Young, while the average number of inpatient mental health beds in the country is 26 per 100,000, Washington state stands at 16 and Pierce County at just two. A joint venture between CHI Franciscan and MultiCare Health to build a 100-bed facility at Allenmore Hospital in Tacoma will make a difference, but funding continues to be a problem.

Young and Councilmember Connie Ladenburg (D-4th) sponsored a study to evaluate county needs and have proposed a one-tenth of 1 percent increase in sales tax to raise \$10 million annually. Five of seven council members must approve it. Young expects the proposal to pass this year.

Although Young knew that the sheriff's department was underfunded when he ran for office, the depth of the problem came as a surprise. Eighty percent of the county general fund goes to law and justice services, so when the economic downturn came in 2008, the major budget impact was on those areas. One of the contributing factors was understaffing at the jail, resulting in overtime costs. The cuts have been reversed, and with new hiring those overruns should be corrected. More patrol officers have been hired, but Young noted that has been mostly for urban areas. The Key Peninsula has largely been hit by property crimes, which are seen as less urgent.

Young expects that improvements in mental health and substance abuse treatment should help reduce property crimes. In addition, a community liaison position for the peninsulas was recently approved. This officer will be available to patrol but also to work on issues that might require a period of time to resolve, such as reported drug activity.

Parks funding was a relatively unexpected issue when Young came to office, but he

was pleased to have found a likely solution. When Key Pen Parks was established, one of the unintended consequences was the loss of county funding. Young has worked on a budget amendment that will bring that money back to KP parks. In addition, he plans to increase the construction impact fee for parks from \$300 to \$2,500.

Young also discussed broadband access. "It's our modern day equivalent of electrification." He is sponsoring a study to evaluate broadband countywide and thinks the solutions will involve both financial and regulatory strategies. "Telecoms use public right of way, and the philosophy of public good coming from the use of public right of way goes back to Roman times," he said.

Finally, reflecting on the election results, Young said he has always worked hard to collaborate and does not expect significant changes in his approach or outcomes. He said that the change in county executive might offer the biggest learning experience, since a new executive may want to make his own mark and have a different way of working with the council.

At the state level, the balance of power has not changed. Though he supported the Democratic candidates in the election, Young has a good working relationship with the local reelected representatives and said that will continue.

The national level results will lead to less federal funding for social services. "The buck really stops at the local level," Young said. "We are the ones who provide the services and it will be us who decides how to deal with cuts and if we will need to find more funding."

Of more concern to him was the tone of the election. "I hope Trump can offer some healing remarks," Young commented, "but it will also be up to our community leaders to engage in conversations to understand and to heal."

Councilman Young can be reached at [www.co.pierce.wa.org](http://www.co.pierce.wa.org) or 253-798-6654.

## Lakebay's Roofing Specialists

Full service roofing, building and maintenance

ROOFING • REPAIRS • ADDITIONS • REMODELS • DECKS • FENCING  
COMPLETE YARD CARE • PRESSURE WASHING • HOUSE CLEANING



### Rolfzen's


HOME SERVICES, LLC

253 884-2186

ROLFZHS889KQ Formerly known as Lakebay Roofing, Inc

# HOME

**EXCAVATING & DOZING**



**NATURE TRAILS,  
BEACH ACCESS,  
SITE CLEARING & PREP.,  
LOGGING,  
ROCK WALLS & STEPS,  
DRAINAGE SYSTEMS,  
ROAD GRADING,  
DEMOLITION,  
STUMP REMOVAL,  
GRAVEL &  
TOPSOIL DELIVERIES,  
& MUCH MORE.**

***DIFFICULT JOBS ARE OUR SPECIALTY!***

**(253)884-5798**

# BLEND

## WINE SHOP

*Blending friends, neighbors, community and the world...one bottle at a time!*

**Excellent selection of holiday and gift wines!**

**We can Special Order wines by the bottle or by the case.**  
Quick delivery. No shipping charges

**Hundreds of wines in stock from all over the world!**  
We carry a large selection of Northwest wines

**Ice Cold Draught Beer on Tap!**

Visit us online for more info about upcoming events, concerts and regularly scheduled activities.

**blendwineshop.com**

You can also follow us on Facebook

**Wine Tasting every Friday • 5-7pm**

Tue-Thu & Sat: 12 to 6pm  
Fri: 12 to 9pm • Sun & Mon: Closed

## 253-884-9688

8914 Key Peninsula Hwy N  
Lakebay, WA 98349  
(Across from the Fire Station in Key Center)

## Missing KPMS Weather Balloon Found

ALICE KINERK, KP NEWS

A weather balloon carrying an array of instruments and cameras launched from Key Peninsula Middle School was unexpectedly found in October, more than a year after it vanished.

Have you ever wondered where a balloon ends up after it disappears into the sky? Key Peninsula Middle School science teacher Richard Miller and his research partner, Ed Bressette, have been releasing balloons in an attempt to answer that question since 2013. Aided by a team of middle school students, they analyze the local jet stream, control the amount of helium and factor in current weather conditions before an exciting countdown.

Predicting where touchdown will occur is important when you are launching an expensive meteorological balloon carrying a box with sensors, a small flash memory (SD) card and multiple GoPro cameras, especially when you have students back home eager to review the data.

When they sent a balloon up most recently in June 2015, Miller and Bressette anticipated a short flight with quick altitude gain, then movement east from KPMS with landfall somewhere on Tiger Mountain, about 60 miles away. Cameras and a mountaineering spot tracker attached to the balloon should have allowed them to track its progress for almost the whole flight. Instead, the team lost contact with the balloon when it reached 80,000 or 90,000 feet. They waited for the connection to re-establish as the balloon descended, but it didn't.

Distraught, Bressette drove to Tiger Mountain and posted flyers on hiking trails asking folks to keep a lookout. All previous launches had been tracked without interruption and recovered immediately. As the 2015 hiking season came and went without a phone call the two worried that their equipment had landed high in a cliff-side treetop or a spot so precarious it would never be seen again.

But in October 2016, Bressette received an unusual text message: "Hi, I found a piece of a box in the woods. Are you missing a box?" The hiker had retrieved the box and had the cameras wrapped in paper towels in his living room.

While the cameras were damaged beyond repair, Bressette was able to remove and access the SD card with his laptop. It contained a video of the balloon taking off from KPMS and its flight to the mountain.

Bressette presented an edited version of the video at the KPMS Science Night Wednesday, Nov. 2, and later posted it on YouTube: Search for KPMS balloon launch 2015.

The team has worked with students to launch three other balloons in recent years, from both Mount Rainier and KPMS.

"You learn about so much," Miller said. "You learn basic chemistry, you learn about helium and hydrogen and how they are lighter than oxygen, about the need to calculate a payload and how much it's going to weigh versus how much helium is in the balloon."

For participating students, the project delivers a breadth and depth of science content unmatched by textbook learning.

"We do a computer projection of the path of the balloon," Miller said. "Weather, winds, all of the atmospheric stuff you need to know to put something up into near space. We get up well above the atmosphere, where the great majority of the oxygen and nitrogen is, so when our balloons free-fall, they're falling above the atmosphere, so it gives us a chance to talk about that—the physics of the parachutes deploying, the technology of putting the tracking devices on it."

The most recent balloon went up with humidity, oxygen, temperature and UV sensors so that students could analyze the effect of elevation. Unfortunately, after a year exposed to the elements on Tiger Mountain, all the data, other than UV data, was lost.

Seeking funding after the NASA partnership with KPMS ended several years ago, Miller and Bressette formed The Key Peninsula Science Education Foundation to help fund their ambitious projects. "It gets students excited about science, math and technology, which is crucial for their economic opportunities and the well-being of society," Miller said.

Miller and Bressette are planning their fifth balloon launch for spring 2017.

For more information or to donate to The Key Peninsula Science Education Foundation, contact Richard Miller at millerr@psd401.net.



The fateful launch of the long-lost weather balloon from KPMS in June 2015 showing balloon, parachute and instrumentation box. *Courtesy Richard Miller*



Many readers are reporting illegal garbage dumping on the rise on the KP. A truckload of trash bags and the remains of an animal carcass were recently found on a secluded stretch of road near Crescent Beach. Report illegal dumping at [www.co.pierce.wa.us](http://www.co.pierce.wa.us) or call 253-798-4636. *Courtesy photo*



**Longbranch  
Community Church**  
*www.longbranchchurch.net*  
**Come and join us Sunday mornings**  
Worship Service and  
Children's Church 10:30  
Classes for Adults and Teens 9:00  
16518 46th St. KPS, Longbranch  
**884-9339**  
*God's Blessings to You – Pastor John Day*

**SOCIAL SECURITY  
DISABILITY**  
ADVOCATE/ REPRESENTATIVE

*The Difference is Personal Service*  
**96% approval rate 2006-2015**  
**57 of 57 completed cases approved in 2015**

**MISSION POSSIBLE**  
**Employment Services, Inc.**

**360-798-2920**  
*www.mpes.net*



**Rainier CONSTRUCTION**  
**General Contractors**  
 Licensed/Bonded/Insured  
 Lic#RAINIC\*883KP

Specializing in –  
 - Site Development & Build  
 - Custom Design & Remodel  
 - Complete Home Renovations  
 - Custom Additions  
 - Garages & Outbuildings

- Custom Outdoor Living Spaces  
 - Concrete & Aggregate  
 - Patios & Decks  
 - Siding & Roofing

**FREE ESTIMATES**

**(360) 265-0914**  
 rainierconstructionllc@gmail.com  
 LIKE us on Facebook and view our photo gallery

www.facebook.com/keypennews

**f** **KEY PENINSULA NEWS**

www.keypennews.com

**SAVE \$15**  
 When you spend \$100 or receive a 2 FREE fruit salads, smoothies or parfaits at pickup  
 CODE: 1411518  
 EXPIRES: Dec 2016

4901 Point Fosdick Drive  
 Gig Harbor, WA 98335  
 253-85(fruit)3-7848  
 Located in Uptown

**edible arrangements**  
 edible.com

\*Offer cannot be combined with any other offer. Restrictions may apply. See store for details. Edible®, Edible Arrangements®, the Fruit Basket Logo, and other marks mentioned herein are registered trademarks of Edible Arrangements, LLC. © 2016 Edible Arrangements, LLC. All rights reserved.

**Grace Church, EPC** **+**

10:30 am Worship on Sunday  
 Prayer Meeting every 2nd Monday at 6:00  
 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 4:00

*Ed Longabaugh, Pastor edL86@gmail.com*  
 2406 McEwan Rd, Lakebay (just N of Home)  
 253-857-7284 www.epcgrace.org

**CHARBONEAU JC**

**Excavating**  
**253-857-5125**

TOPSOIL • CRUSHED ROCK • CRUSHED BARK • TRUCKING  
 STUMP HAULING • LAND CLEARING • DRAINAGE SYSTEMS  
 SITE PREP • ROAD BUILDING • INSTALL BLOCK WALLS

**DAVE THE HANDYMAN**

davideleger@gmail.com  
 DAVEHH\*86409

20321 10th St. KPS  
 Lakebay, WA 98349

David Leger  
 Call or Text  
 253-358-6488

**Aspen Land Surveying LLC**

at The Landing in Key Center  
 (half a block east of the stop light)  
 253-303-0270 www.aspenland.com

Have your historic event in our historic building.

Parties • Weddings • Reunions  
 Memorials • Fund-Raisers • More  
 www.longbranchimprovementclub.org  
 4312 Key Peninsula Highway South  
 call 253 884-6022

The Longbranch Improvement Club  
 BETTERING OUR COMMUNITY SINCE 1921

**Gentilly Home Services**

Home • Office • Out Buildings • Repairs  
 Replacement • Alterations • Decks • Fixture  
 Replacement • Windows • Doors • Minor  
 Plumbing • Water Damage  
 • Lights • Cabinets ...and more

Mike Gentile  
 PO Box 496  
 Vaughn, WA 98394  
 Handyman  
 #GENTHS933ME

Phone: (253) 884-2491  
 Cell: (253) 376-6227

**Equine, Livestock & Residential Fencing Since 1989**

Warick & Janice Bryant

**KIWI FENCING COMPANY, Inc.**  
 Custom Farm & Fence Solutions

13108 125th St KPN  
 Gig Harbor WA 98329  
 www.kiwifencing.com  
 #KIWIFCI055DA

800-598-3374  
 253-851-5494  
 fax 253-851-5550  
 cindy@kiwifencing.com

**Applebys Plumbing**  
**24-Hour Emergency Service Repair**

**PLUMBING & DRAIN CLEANING**  
**(253) 370-2293**  
 Gig Harbor/Lakebay

•Hot Water Heaters •Plumbing Services  
 •Repairs, Repipes, Remodels •Gas Lines  
**WA Cont. Lic. #APPLEPD077LD**

**PENINSULA IRON**  
 11020 SR 302 NW, GIG HARBOR, WA 98329

**CUSTOM STEEL & ALUMINUM WELDING**  
**GATES ~ RAILINGS ~ TRUCK RACKS**

KEITH HILLSTROM **OFFICE (253) 857-2056**  
**SHOP (253) 857-8844**  
**FAX (253) 857-2059**

**KEY PENINSULA CARPENTER**  
 All Phases of Carpentry & Painting

Owner/Operator  
 Free Estimates/Same Day Call Back  
 License - Bonded - Insured

**CALL STEVE**  
**253-884-6693**  
*Stevestem@gmail.com*

Steve's Home Repair & Remodel Lic # STEVHR064J2

**CHARBONEAU JC**

**Construction & Supply**  
**253-857-5125**

LANDSCAPE ROCK • CRUSHED GRAVEL • RIVER ROCK  
 PIT SAND • BEAUTY BARK • TOPSOIL  
 STEPPING STONES • WALL BLOCK • PAVERS • BRICK  
 DRIVEWAY CULVERT • DRAIN PIPE AND FITTINGS • MORE...

**Close to Home Espresso**

Open early every day — Key Center

**BC Iron Works LLC** #603620032  
 Custom Metal Fabrication

Ken & Stacy Bowersock  
 Owners  
 BCIronworks2@gmail.com  
**BCIronWorksLLC.com** (425)245-2809  
 17505 Roberts Rd KP N (360)689-2834  
 Vaughn, WA 98394  
 Security Gates, Security Doors, Handrails, Truck Racks  
 Custom Built Trailers, Driveway Barricades  
 All phases of Welding, Fully Mobile

**Looking for new business?**

Your business card here reaches  
 9,000 local customers every month

Call 253 884-4699 and get started.

Personal Electronic Vaporizers / Electronic Cigarettes  
 e-Liquid, Mods & Hardware — All Vaping Needs for 18+

**TWO KNIGHT VAPORS**

15610 92nd St KPN Suite A in Lakebay  
 (253) 858-1096

Thank you!

Say thanks to the advertisers whose support makes this paper possible.  
 Call (253) 884-4699 or email ads@keypennews.com if you'd like to join them.



PHS senior Seahawk No. 37 Blake Cantu (SS/TE), seen here during the Fish Bowl in September, was named the South Sound Conference Defensive MVP of the League for the 2016 season. Senior Kenny Easton (RB/MLB) earned MVP for offense. The Seahawks ended their season Nov. 18 with a playoff loss to Meadowdale (34-29) and a 10-2 record. They rank 26th in the state. *Photo: Ed Johnson, KP News*



"Bookworm" by Friends of Key Center Library earned one of three Best in Show honors in the scarecrow contest that was part of the annual KP Farm Tour in October. Honors also went to "Meat Pies" by The Yankee Clipper, "Race Ya' to the Farm Tour" by Kathy Lyons, "Amazing Catch" by the Longbranch Improvement Club and "The Blender" by Blend Wine Shop. *Photo: Rosina Vertx*



Key Peninsula volunteer firefighter Todd Jacobsen with his wife, Junko, and daughter, Hana (16 months), enjoy their first Trunk or Treat party at the Longbranch Improvement Club Oct. 28. *Photo: Lisa Bryan, KP News*



The 9th Annual Winter Warm-up & Chili Competition at the KP Civic Center was a holiday season highlight Nov. 12. Bernard and Renee Givens won first place for their chili. *Photo: Ed Johnson, KP News*



Key Peninsula Middle School science and art teacher Chris Bronstad demonstrates his skill at Blend Wine Shop in Key Center Nov. 4 during an exhibit of his artwork. His collection will be on display until early December. Blend co-owner Molly Swensen said about her portrait, "I forgot how good I look." *Photo: Don Swensen*