

KEY PENINSULA COMMUNITY SERVICES

Just South of the Home Bridge



January 2026

From the Food Pantry

Thanks to emergency funding from Pierce County, KPCS distributed \$50,000 to Key Peninsula food partners to restock shelves and stabilize food access for local families. Working alongside Food Backpacks 4 Kids, KP Bischoff, FISH, and Rotary Little Pantries, we are preparing our community for the needs of 2026. We are deeply grateful for Pierce County's continued commitment to ensuring our neighbors have reliable access to food during times of uncertainty. KPCS also received Community Needs Funding to advance our new Food Pantry project. With a pre-application meeting scheduled in January, we are moving closer to securing an engineered steel building—potentially a 1,000-square-foot pantry that will dramatically expand our capacity to serve the Key Peninsula.

Pictured: Teresa Conness and KPCS with Food Backpacks 4 Kids



What's Happening at the Senior Center This Month?

As we head into 2026, we're bringing the heart of our Senior Meal Site fully back to life. That means fresh, delicious meals, welcoming smiles, and tables filled with conversation and connection. Take a look at our menu, we think you'll find plenty to enjoy. And getting here is easy: our shuttle bus is ready to pick you up, just give us a call.

But it's more than a meal. We're filling the calendar with opportunities to gather, laugh, and connect, including Trivia, Veterans and Friends Coffee, Book Club, trips to the Gig Harbor History Museum, and Family Trivia Night, complete with a baked potato bar and fun prizes. Come for the food, stay for the community, and help us make 2026 a year of full tables and full hearts.

Homeless Outreach

In December, Delci spoke before the Pierce County Council in recognition of Homeless Persons' Memorial Day, a time of remembrance, compassion, and shared responsibility for one another. As the new year begins, our outreach team, Delci, Erin, and Judy, continues regular check-ins across the Key Peninsula during the coldest months, offering winter supplies, hygiene items, laundry assistance, and help navigating resources. Out here on the KP, these small, consistent connections make a powerful difference.

We are deeply grateful for the partnerships and community support that make this work possible. January is a reminder that showing up matters, and we are proud to start the year with compassion, hope, and steady presence.

Calling all history detectives—we've got a WWII mystery to crack!

This incredible Army jacket appeared unexpectedly in a clothing donation, and our team was instantly hooked. It's officially found a forever home with us, but its story is still waiting to be told. We've identified the left-arm patch as the 6th Army Corps and confirmed the rank of Staff Sergeant, but the rest of the clues remain a mystery. Who wore this jacket? Where did it travel? And what stories could it tell? If you recognize any of the markings, know a thing or two about WWII uniforms, or just love unraveling pieces of history, come by and help us sleuth it out. Let's see if we can bring this soldier's story back to life.

And thank you all so much for the warm welcome back—it really does feel good to be missed.

-Brandon



FAMILY story movie

January 9th at 12:45pm



Lester Francis Schrenk

Military/Civilian/Mascot: Military
Nationality: American
Unit: 92nd Bomb Group / 327th Bomb Squadron
Service Numbers: 17156397
Highest Rank: Sergeant
Role/Job: Ball Turret Gunner

Documentary about a WWII Gunner who was shot down, became a POW, survived and became friends with the German Ace who shot down his plane. This is a family story shared with us by Sharon Nelson.

Join us on January 9th at 12:45pm in the multipurpose room with popcorn.

KEY PENINSULA VETERANS & FRIENDS COFFEE
COME FOR COFFEE, SNACKS AND CONVERSATION

JANUARY 21, 2026

1P

KEY PENINSULA COMMUNITY SERVICES (KPCS)
17015 9TH ST CT NW
LAKEBAY, WA 98349
(253) 884 4440

Senior Center Trip to the Harbor History Museum
Saturday, January 17th
Meet at KPCS at 1:00 PM

See the Special Exhibition
Little Bitty Boom Town
Gig Harbor in the 1920's

A Glow Up at The Senior Center!

Our Senior Center is receiving a much-needed glow up, and we couldn't be more excited to welcome you into the refreshed space.

With fresh paint, new furniture, and an expanded library stocked with games and puzzles, the center feels warmer, brighter, and more inviting than ever. One of the biggest transformations is our library area, now designed as a cozy place to gather; whether you're meeting a friend to chat for the afternoon, challenging each other to a game, or settling in with a puzzle and a cup of coffee.



This update was made possible thanks to the generosity and support of the Peg and Rich Young Foundation and Pierce County Human Services Aging and Disabilities Resources. Their investment helped us create a space that reflects what our senior center is all about: connection, comfort, and community.

If you haven't stopped by recently, we invite you to come see the changes for yourself. Pull up a chair, bring a friend, and enjoy the space, we made it just for you!

We also added a Lending Library to the Library! What is a Lending Library? It's a place to share items that are often only needed for a short time but shouldn't end up in the landfill. We are now welcoming donations of clean, gently used mobility and support items for our new Lending Library.

This program helps neighbors access short-term items they may only need for a few weeks—keeping useful equipment in circulation and out of the landfill.

Items we are currently accepting include: **Donation guidelines:**

- Walkers
 - Crutches
 - Shower seats or benches
 - Canes
 - Other small mobility or safety aids
- Items must be clean, fully functional, and in good condition
 - No broken parts, rust, or missing pieces
 - For safety reasons, we are unable to accept items that are damaged or unsanitary

Donations can be dropped off at KPCS during regular business hours. If you're unsure whether an item is a good fit, please give us a call and we're happy to help.

Thank you for helping us support independence, reduce waste, and care for our neighbors.



Lessons from my visit with: New Year's Resolutions

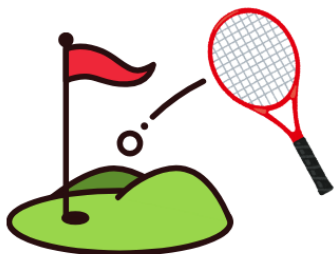
In a nutshell, they don't work. But, we keep making them. Why is that? Is it because we feel that this is the year we can make that change? Or is it because that is what we always have done? I really don't have an answer and that's okay. I suspect there may be a scientific answer in one of those psychology journals.

My last year's resolution was to give up eating cookies, especially the warm homemade ones from the Metropolitan Market. Or cookies from a package, or cookies from a tray or... Well, you get the idea. Still, I thought I really could keep that resolution if I could just hold out for 30 days. Some of those who know me are smiling and even laughing because they have seen me at pot lucks heading for the desert table rather than to one of the tables with the luscious salmon and other wonderful homemade dishes. As my Grandfather said "Desert first, then the main course." Hmm, that might explain things a bit.

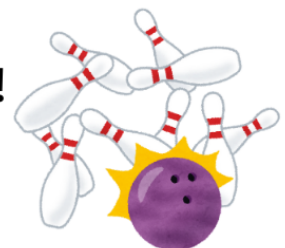
How about you? Are you going try again?

Me? Yup. I am going to try again, and this one is going to stick. A wise person said recently... say to yourself, "don't believe everything I think" Whoa, what a concept: don't believe everything "I" think. I am amazed how that can stop me thinking, judging, regretting, having anxious thoughts, getting too serious, or just stuck on one repeating mental headline. I find that every now and then I stop and say out loud "Don't believe everything I think" And it really works, even just for a moment. It stops my inner voice long enough to notice and just take a breath and smile to myself. It is amazingly simple yet does require a concentrated effort to keep reminding myself with that little phrase. So, in the end can I make a behavior change that helps me to become less worried, angry, upset, smug, or even that I have the need to be right? I will let you know next year.

With love,
Bobbi



Senior Wii Sports Leagues Starting Soon!
Practice Games Every Tuesday At 12:30
In The Multipurpose Room



NEW 24-Week Tai Chi for Better Balance starting Tuesday, January 6th

This class is guaranteed to make a difference in your life.

It meets just two days a week, and the benefits go far beyond the classroom.

Our Fall Prevention & Better Balance class is designed to help you move with more confidence, improve strength and stability, and reduce the risk of falls. And yes, there's a fun incentive too! Participants who complete the class receive a free T-shirt, thanks to the generous support of WREMS, who believe so strongly in fall prevention that they provided a grant to help us fill every seat. So if you need a little extra motivation, here it is:

Come learn, build better balance, connect with others—and earn a T-shirt along the way.

We can't wait to see you in class!



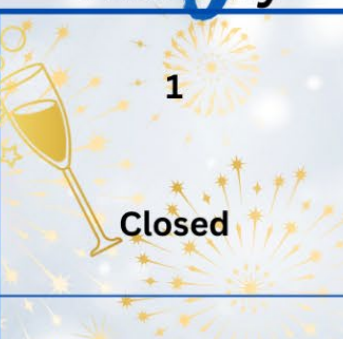
Tai Chi and SAIL Class instructor,
Bobbi



January 2026 KPCS Activities Calendar

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Closed	2 10:00AM Senior Center Program Planning Meeting 12:00PM Senior New Year Party 1:00 Fiber Arts	3 8:30AM SAIL
5 3:00PM SAIL	6 8:30AM SAIL 9:45AM Tai Chi 12:30 Play Wii	7 9:30AM Cards & Games 12:30PM Book Club 1:00PM PCHS Mobile Health 3:00PM SAIL	8 8:30AM SAIL 9:45AM Tai Chi 11:00AM Pierce County Social Services/ADR 3:00PM ADHD	9 12:45PM Movie & Popcorn <i>Sharon Nelson Family WWII Story</i>	10 8:30AM SAIL
12 3:00PM SAIL	13 8:30AM SAIL 9:45AM Tai Chi 10:00AM Tacoma Pro Bono 12:30 Play Wii & Tea	14 9:30AM Cards & Games  3:00PM SAIL	15 8:30AM SAIL 9:45AM Tai Chi 1:00PM Bingo 3:00PM ADHD Support Group	16 4:30-6:30PM Community Baked Potato Bar & Trivia 	17 8:30AM SAIL 1:00PM Harbor History Museum Trip
19 3:00PM SAIL	20 8:30AM SAIL 9:45AM Tai Chi 12:30PM Play Wii	21 9:30AM Cards & Games  1:00PM Veterans & Friends Coffee 3:00PM SAIL	22 8:30AM SAIL 9:45AM Tai Chi 12:00PM Birthday 3:00PM ADHD	23 12:45PM Movie & Popcorn <i>Philadelphia Story</i> 	24 8:30AM SAIL
26 9:30AM Walmart Trip 3:00PM SAIL	27 8:30AM SAIL 9:45AM Tai Chi 12:30PM Play Wii	28 9:30AM Cards & Games 3:00PM SAIL	29 8:30AM SAIL 9:45AM Tai Chi 12:00PM Family-Style Potluck 3:00PM ADHD Support Group	30 9:30AM Clear Water Casino	31 8:30AM SAIL

January 2026

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		1 	2 BBQ Chicken Pork 'n' Beans Green Beans Roll, Fruit
6 Roasted Pork Roasted Veggies Roll Applesauce	7 Shrimp Alfredo Green Salad Broccoli French Bread	8 Lasagna Green Salad Green Beans Garlic Bread	9 Breakfast Scramble Hashbrowns Biscuit Fruit Parfait
13 Pork Burritos Spanish Rice Fruit	14 Clam Chowder Coleslaw Bean Medley Cornbread, Fruit	15 Meatloaf Brussels Sprouts Baked Potato Green Salad Roll, Fruit	16 Chicken Broccoli Casserole Green Salad Fruit, Roll
20 Meatball Sub Sandwich French Fries Zucchini Parmesan Fruit	21 Baked Cod w/ Lemon Slices Coleslaw Rice Pilaf	22 Tater Tot Casserole Green Salad Peas Roll, Fruit	23 Chicken Alfredo Brussels Sprouts Jello with Fruit
27 Pulled Pork Sandwich Sweet Potato Fries Broccoli Salad Fruit	28 Fish Tacos w/ Slaw & Lime Crema Refried Beans	Potluck & 29 Meatball Soup Green Salad Cheesy French Bread, Fruit	30 BBQ Chicken Pork 'n' Beans Roasted Potatoes Roll, Fruit

Lemonade, Milk, Coffee & Tea available with each meal

CALL 253-884-4440 BY 10 AM TO RESERVE YOUR PLATE

Age 60+: \$3 suggested donation — no one is turned away!

Age 59 or less: \$29.34 each required

Kitchen Volunteers always eat free!



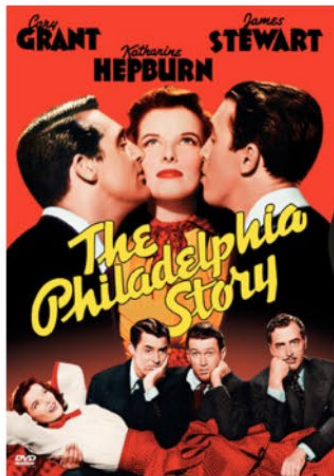
These services are supported by funding from Pierce County through its Human Services Department.



We have so many volunteer opportunities, so please think about helping out KPCS:

- Bus Driver
- Kitchen Greeter and Server
- Website/Newsletter
- Food Pantry Greeter

Please fill out a volunteer application and join our Volunteer Team. We couldn't do this without all of you!

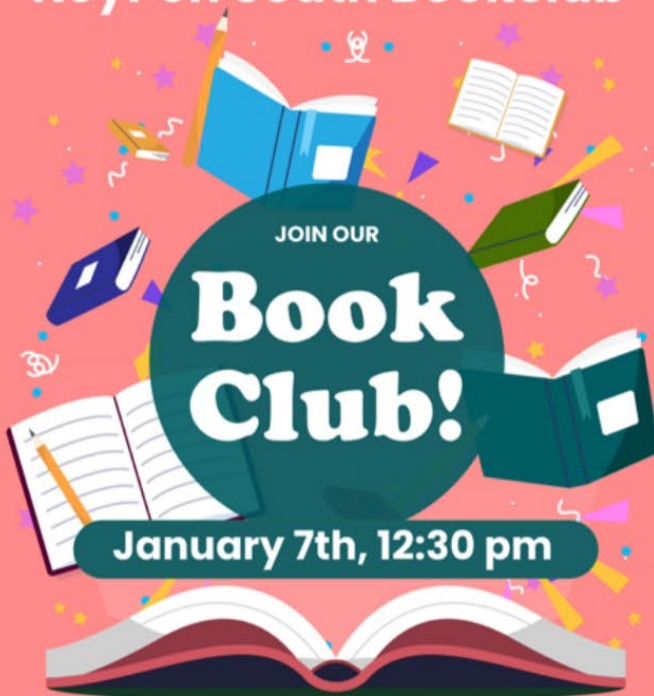


Friday 1/23/25
12:45 in the library

Pull up a chair and let's have a few laughs while watching *The Philadelphia Story*



KeyPen South Bookclub



January 7th, 12:30 pm

Key Peninsula Community Center
17015 9th St Ct NW
Lakebay, WA 98349

**YOU'RE NOT ALONE - COME CONNECT,
SHARE AND LEARN IN A SUPPORTIVE
ENVIRONMENT.**

SUPPORT GROUP FOR ADHD

Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder

WHAT TO EXPECT:

A welcoming judge-free space with peer support and helpful strategies for managing ADHD.

MEETS EVERY THURSDAY 3PM-4:30PM

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**AFTERNOON SAIL HAS OFFICIALLY SURRENDERED
TO WINTER DARKNESS AND WILL NOW START AT
3:00 PM UNTIL DAYLIGHT RETURNS TO
SOMETHING RESEMBLING NORMAL.**