

MADRONA

NEWS
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Newly Released Madrona Creek Dedicated and Adored

By Judith Starbuck, Grand Avenue

Madrona Creek was still slowly making its way to the new Madrona Park cove on November 26 when friends, neighbors and local dignitaries gathered at the shore of Lake Washington to dedicate the newly daylighted stream. Mayor Greg Nickels, Parks Superintendent (designate) Tim Gallagher, County Councilmember Larry Gossett, and City Councilmember Richard Conlin came to congratulate the Friends of Madrona Woods and celebrate the completion of the first phase of the Madrona Creek daylighting. They praised Friends of Madrona Woods for their efforts and dedication to restoring habitat for salmon and people along Lake Washington.



The creek water was released on November 15 but traveled slowly, saturating long-dry ground and filling pools along the way. Those at the dedication had to use a bit of imagination to envision the future of the small trickling stream. But the thanks and praise flowed freely, despite the creek flow falling short of the lake shore. Judith

Starbuck, representing Friends of Madrona Woods, thanked all those who had helped make this success possible. Polly Hicks from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and Jessica Saavedra from King Conservation District joined the program, representing two of our granting organizations.

(continued on page 2)

Library Panel Selects Work by Madrona Artist

By Caroline Young Ullmann, SPL Communications

The Seattle Public Library (SPL) board of trustees has selected artwork created by Seattle artists Mary Iverson and Monad to display in the renovated Madrona-Sally Goldmark Branch. Monad is well known in Madrona as the owner of the Pure Manifestations gallery/restaurant on 34th Avenue. His ceramic sculpture called "Sleepy Goat" represents our power to make our dreams a reality, and Iverson's large oil painting "Cargo" depicts ship containers and cargo cranes.

These two pieces were recommended to the SPL board by the Madrona-Sally Goldmark Branch Artist Advisory Panel. This six-member group, which included local community members/artists Jacqui Beck and Tom Flood, reviewed submissions by 20 artists. The panel liked the linear aspect of Iverson's painting

(continued on page 2)

MCC President's Column

By Laura Yurdin, 32nd Avenue

Hello Neighbors! Thanks to Cynthia Stross, our new MCC secretary, for taking great notes at our meetings. We have published the meeting minutes in the newsletter on page 14.

It is with great sadness that I write that we are moving out of Madrona. My husband and I have been looking for a house for a few months and did find a great one- but it is in Mount Baker. It was a tough decision for us, as we both really love Madrona. I've lived here for over six years and it has been a joy to get to know the people who make up this great neighborhood. There have been so many days that I've been out

walking in Madrona and have thought about how fortunate I am to live in such a great, diverse and thriving neighborhood. The good news is that we are nearby—just down lake from here. As a result, we are looking for someone to fulfill the role of the president. The president job is a lot of fun. You get to facilitate the MCC meetings, answer questions for people in the neighborhood, help resolve any issues such as questions around land use, parking, etc. You can help connect people when they have questions or need assistance. It is a great way to get to know

(continued on page 2)

In this Issue

- 3 Christmas Services
- 4 .. Winter Traditions from Around the World
- 5 Senior/Disabled Tax Deduction
- 6 MLK & MD&SS in January
- 7 Meet Cynthia, the new MCC Secretary
- 8 Madrona Auto Past & Future
- 9 Changes at MLK & Union
- 10 Neighborhood School News
- 11 Thanksgiving Cooking Photos
- 12 End of Year Donations
- 13 Welcome New Shabby Chic Shop
- 14 December MCC Minutes
- 15 Community Bulletin Board

Madrona Creek. (cont'd from page 1)

Just a week later, Mother Nature contributed a deluge, filling the ponds and channel and propelling the creek all the way into the lake. The creek has become much more timid since then and is again progressing toward the cove on its own steam. The new shoreline of the cove has already been discovered by many birds, including a heron, and is the frequent playground of a river otter whose previous home was disrupted by the construction.

This dedication ceremony was a momentous occasion but not the final one. We still need to raise about \$300,000 in 2008 to bring the remaining two-thirds of the creek out of underground pipes and add it to the free flowing stream. We are delighted to report that we received a \$15,000 grant from the Department of Neighborhoods for plants and planting, a \$5000 grant from the Seattle Garden Club for plants, and a City of Seattle Climate Action Grant valued at \$6,500 for a week of EarthCorps time. Many thanks to all three supporters! The Mayor has recommended us for an \$80,000 Aquatic Habitat Matching Grant for next year's construction. We're also waiting to hear whether we'll receive any of the several grants we've already applied for, and are always looking for more grant opportunities.

Community financial donations continue to be essential for extras like the bridges and trails as well as to show neighborhood support to those giving us matching grants. We appreciate the financial support we've received from our neighbors in Madrona over the years. If you want to help out—or help out again—send



Judith Starbuck of Friends of Madrona Woods with Seattle Mayor Greg Nickels

donations for the Madrona Community Council/Madrona Woods Project to Joan Scott, 3700 East Marion St.

Our upcoming work party schedule is a little erratic, as we shuffle dates and add events to accommodate the schedules of the groups that have volunteered to come help. It now looks like we will forgo formal work parties for the rest of the year and start anew with planting at the cove on January 12, 19 and 26. If you'd like to join the fun, check the kiosks, the lakefront sign, www.madronawoods.org or contact Deirdre McCrary at deirdre_jaymccrary@msn.com for final dates and times. For more information about activities in the Woods and Park, contact me, judithstarbuck@msn.com or 322-2640.

Library Art.. (cont'd from page 1)

because it echoed the rows of book stacks and thought the playfulness of Elohim's piece will appeal to children.

Monad creates whimsical sculptures and paintings that celebrate his love for life, the power of human imagination and a positive view of the world. He has created permanent installations for 4Culture (formerly the King County Arts Commission), the Fort Vancouver Regional Library District in Vancouver, Washington, and the Sedro-Woolley Elementary School.



Iverson uses complex networks of overlapping planes and guide lines in her paintings to create dramatic perspectives that deal with themes of accumulation and the passage of time. Iverson has exhibited her work at Seattle's Center on Contemporary Art and the Lead Gallery, the Whatcom Museum of History & Art in Bellingham and the Kimball Art Center in Utah.



Both pieces will be in place when the branch reopens next spring. The interior is being renovated so patrons and staff can more efficiently use the space. The work also includes new seating, upgraded technology services and equipment, better electrical, communication and computer connections, improved ventilation, a modern mechanical system and an updated book collection that emphasizes material for children, popular fiction and DVDs. For more information, visit www.spl.org.

MCC President's (cont'd from page 1)

people that live in Madrona, as well as give back to the community. You definitely have help from the other MCC officers. Steve Orser, Rick Kolpa, Paige Smith and Cynthia Stross are there to help out, so the time commitment isn't overwhelming. If you are interested, please reach out to any of the existing officers. I thank you all for all you've done to make this neighborhood so special and I wish you and your families all the best in the future. Happy Holidays!

Madrona Churches Invite Everyone to Celebrate Christmas

The staff and parishioners of all three Madrona churches, Madrona Presbyterian, Epiphany Episcopal, and St. Therese Catholic, would like to send wishes for Christmas peace and joy to all of our Madrona neighbors! We want to thank you for sharing so many gifts, big and small, with our community. In 2008, may we all continue to find the joy that there is in giving, sharing with people of every faith, race, language, and way of life, and above all, in the complete giving of ourselves to God. Below are the schedules for holiday services this Christmas season. All are welcome to join us for our celebrations.

Madrona Presbyterian:

The church is on the corner of 32nd Avenue and East Marion Street.

Christmas Eve: 7:00pm service

St. Therese Catholic:

There will be several services with live music.

The church is on 35th Avenue between East Spring and East Marion streets.

Christmas Eve Mass:

5:00pm Children's Choir and Pageant

7:00pm Jubilation Gospel Choir

9:00pm St. Therese Choir (singing begins at 8:30)

Christmas Day Mass:

10:00am Shades of Praise Gospel Choir

Epiphany Episcopal:

The church is located on Madrona Drive at 1805 38th Avenue.

Christmas Eve:

5:00pm Family Eucharist (with childcare)

9:00pm Festival Eucharist with Chancel Choir and Instruments

Christmas Day: 9:30am Holy Eucharist (one service only)

HOLIDAY AD
paste-up

Winter Traditions From Around the World

By Taryn Zier, *Sponge Language School*

Each of us enjoys special winter traditions with our families year after year. For the Madrona neighborhood, it's the annual visit of the Christmas ships at Madrona Beach that occurred this year on December 16. My family gathers at a local Christmas tree farm, picks out the perfect tree, and then decorates our find while listening to festive music and sipping apple cider.

People around the world celebrate winter in a variety of ways, be it age-old festivals, religious holidays, or plain old fun in the snow. The teachers at Sponge, a children's language center in Leschi, enjoy sharing their cultures and recollecting their favorite winter traditions below.

Wintertime holds two important holidays for China: Dong Zhi and the Chinese New Year. Dong Zhi, similar to American Thanksgiving, is a time for thankful families to gather on the winter solstice and eat tang yuan, a sweet soup made with glutinous rice flour balls symbolizing family unity and prosperity. Chinese New Year celebrations are the biggest of the year. In 2008, they begin on February 7 and end more than two weeks later with the Lantern Festival.

Japanese New Year is also a major holiday. Observed on January 1, highlights include special games and osechi ryori—multiple food dishes that represent happiness, prosperity, good fortune and celebration, all served in a bento box. In both China and Japan,

children celebrate the New Year by eagerly awaiting little cash-filled envelopes from their parents or other relatives.

Back in North America, people from all over flock to Québec City in February for the largest winter carnival in the world, the Carnaval de Québec. The city constructs a massive and spectacular ice palace as a residence for the official carnival mascot, Bonhomme, an enormous, smiling snowman with a woven sash and distinctive hat, or tuque.

Spain shares many common winter festivities with the United States, but has its own customs as well. In an ancient celebration of the winter solstice, people light hogueras, or bonfires, and jump over them to ward off illness in the coming year. Both Spanish and Latin American children particularly look forward to Epiphany on January 6, when they receive gifts in their shoes from the Three Wise Men.

Whether participating in a holiday tradition passed down through the generations or playing with friends in the snow, winter is a beautiful and wondrous time all over the world.

Taryn Zier is currently learning how to talk about winter in Spanish at Sponge with her children, ages 1 and 3. Sponge offers Mandarin, Spanish, Japanese and French immersion classes for children ages newborn to five years. For more information, visit www.spongeschool.com or call 227-7138.

The holidays are here!



Come see our fabulous
Christmas trees and
winter holiday decor

All new winter inventory!
Throws, Lamps, Art,
Candles, Towels
As well as Merrilights,
candlesticks, and vases
by Merrilee Moore

@1421 34th Avenue
Tel: 219-1500

It's Your Money: Senior/Disabled Property Tax Exemption Qualifications

By Matt Roper, 34th Avenue

King County is an expensive place to live, but there are exemptions available to help offset some of these costs. One such exemption is the Senior/Disabled Property Tax Exemption. This grants elderly individuals with limited financial resources OR disabled individuals, with the following two benefits:

- The value of your residence is frozen as of January 1 of the initial year of qualification.
- Property taxes are reduced. Your residence is exempt from all excess levies and may be exempt from a portion of regular levies, depending on income.

Unfortunately, there are thousands of eligible individuals not taking advantage of this exemption. Based on the King County website, 26,000 qualified seniors and disabled have yet to register for the exemption. So if you or someone you know may qualify, contact the Assessor's Office for additional information. It could help save a considerable amount of money in the future.

Who is Eligible. Individuals whose annual income is \$35,000 or less AND are 61 years of age or older, OR are retired because of physical disability, qualify.

Qualifying Income Criteria for 2005 & Beyond (Income Levies Exempt)

- \$30,001 - \$35,000 (100% of excess levies)
- \$25,001 - \$30,000 (100% of excess levies, plus \$50,000 or 35% of valuation up to \$70,000, whichever is greater, exempt from all property tax).

- \$25,000 or less (100% of excess levies, plus up to \$60,000 or 60% of valuation, whichever is greater, exempt from all property tax).

Note: "Income" represents virtually all taxable & non-taxable income, including; social security, capital gains (cannot deduct capital losses), pensions, etc.

How to Apply. The process of applying is fairly straight forward. Contact the King County Department of Assessments, Exemptions Unit at 206-296-3920 & request the Senior/Disabled Property Tax Exemption Forms or go to www.metrokc.gov/assessor/forms/forms.htm and print the forms yourself.

After you obtain the forms, complete them in their entirety. If you feel you may qualify for an exemption from any prior three years, make sure to complete forms for 2004, 2005, 2006, and 2007. You'll need to provide detailed financial information that should be located on your annual tax return. Once you supply the necessary information, mail the form, along with *a copy of your entire tax returns* to:

Department of Assessments
King County Administration Building
500 Fourth Avenue, Room 740
Seattle, WA 98104-2384

You will be notified ONLY if your application is DENIED. If your application is accepted, you need file only once every four years to maintain the exemption. The Assessor's Office will notify you when it is time to refile.

Mathew W. Roper is a Certified Financial Planner™, registered representative of Great American Advisors®, Inc. and investment advisor representative of Shelgren Financial Group, Inc. He can be reached at (206) 713-1476 or (800) 367 4388, ext. 137.

This is not intended as financial, tax, or legal advice. Consult your attorney, financial advisor, or tax advisor for your specific situation.

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*Kismet
paste-up*

*Debra Thompson Harvey
paste-up*

*Vida Verde
Paste-Up*

Commemorate Dr. King on January 20

Following a tradition of several years, three local churches—Madrona Presbyterian, Epiphany Episcopal, and St. Therese Roman Catholic—will come together for a special service to honor the memory of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. This event also includes faith community participants from beyond Madrona, Madison Park's Parkshore Retirement Community and the members of the Mount Baker Park Presbyterian Church.

The event travels from church to church and this year the celebration will be held at 2:00pm on January 20 at Mount Baker Park Presbyterian Church. The entire Madrona community is invited to attend and be part of honoring a man of peace, love, and faith. This is an ecumenical service led by Madrona Presbyterian's minister Kelle Brown and featuring live music and readings of Dr. King's works.

Mount Baker Park Presbyterian Church is located just off South McClellan Street at 3201 Hunter Blvd. South. For more information, call the church at 722-5884.

Street Light on the Blink?

In these dark and stormy nights, even Madrona can be scary if our street lights don't come on when they should. Are all the lights on your street working properly? If not, you CAN do something about it and bring your block the light it deserves. Every pole has a number on the side that faces the street, although you may have to step off the curb to see it. For repairs to damaged or off-again, on-again street lights, call 684-7056 and report the pole number, the street name, and the nearest cross street. City Light will take care of it.

*Landmark
Scooter & Ken*

Start Your 2008 Social Calendar with the Madrona Dining & Sipping Society

By Audrey Seale, 36th Avenue

The Madrona Dining & Sipping Society, aka the MDSS=NAFAIS (not as formal as it sounds). This is Madrona after all!

After a wonderful October meal shared by over two dozen Madrona neighbors at Dulces Latin Bistro, the MD&SS slipped into its annual holiday hiatus. We will resume our communal dinners on January 10 at 6:30pm with a unique and irreplaceable offering.

That evening Mike Walker is opening the Hi-Spot just for us so we can share a meal and build the connections that makes Madrona such a special neighborhood. Guest chef Lysle Wilhelmi, long time neighbor, former chef/owner of the Madrona Bistro, and current co-owner of the Wilridge Winery (with her husband Paul Beveridge), will prepare a special dinner to begin the New Year.

For those of you who shared the summer dinner event on the Hi-Spot patio or heard the rave reviews, you know we can expect another wonderful evening. Due to the limited seating space, a maximum of 35 reservations are available on a first-come, first-served basis. The arrangements are for a prix complet meal—3-course dinner, two glasses of Wilridge wine, tax and tip—for \$50 per person. Reply to me at audreyseale@qwest.net or 329-8775 to save your spot, and put the date on your 2008 calendar now!

For the rest of 2008 we will hold special group dinners on the second Thursday of each month. We have also discussed some dinners outside the 34th Ave. Madrona neighborhood, but still staying nearby, so if you have some local favorites, let me know and I'll see if we can explore the greater Madrona neighborhood restaurants too.

Many of you have mentioned to me that you've followed our dining adventures and meant to join us sometime. There's no time like the present so send me your email and I'll add you to our MDSS email list so you receive early notice of upcoming events, and convenient reminders of scheduled dinners.

Is it too early to say Happy New Year?

*Prestige Custom Builder
paste up*

Look East for Health: Managing the Consequences of Holiday Overeating

By *Haydn Engelke MSA LAc, MLK & Union*

The holidays are a time of celebrating with family, friends, and enjoying plenty of wonderful foods! Whether it's turkey and stuffing, ham, pumpkin pie or Christmas cookies and fudge, food is an integral part of the holiday season. For many of us so is weight gain, post meal fatigue, and indigestion.

In Chinese medicine, feeling our best means having good energy. We get our energy from the air we breathe and the food we eat. Unfortunately, even if we eat well, we often have poor digestion that translates to low energy, fatigue, and other health problems. Many people think they digest their food well but still complain of heartburn, rumbling, bloating, gas, constipation, or diarrhea, all of which are signs of poor digestion.

The Chinese view food as medicine that we get to eat three times a day, and see digestion as equally important to health as the food itself. They think of digestion as a pot of nutritious soup simmering over a low flame. In your body, food added to the soup enhances or hinders how well the soup cooks. For example, if you add ice cold foods, it dampens the flame and the soup stops cooking. To bring the soup back up to simmering takes a lot of energy. Eating a lot of raw fruits and vegetables has the same effect.

Rather than enhancing our energy level, eating the wrong foods—or even eating the right foods but in the wrong way—can actually deplete our energy. A better plan is to “predigest” foods, if possible, by cooking them slightly to make the nutrients more available. Here are a few other things that you can do to improve your digestion and get the most nutrition from the food you eat:

- “Predigest” your fruits and vegetables by sautéing or steaming them briefly. Very cold or raw foods take a lot of energy to digest and, if eaten frequently, can put a strain on your digestion.
- Drink room temperature or warm liquids; avoid iced drinks.
- Eat smaller meals more often to keep your blood sugar even.
- Eat at least two hours before bedtime to give your system time to digest. Eating too close to bedtime can cause heartburn or insomnia.
- Ginger and Hawthorne are two common herbs used in Chinese medicine to help digestion. Ginger is good for calming an upset stomach and can be found in teas or grated raw into hot water. Hawthorne eases digestion and comes as capsules, teas, or candy.

If you have questions about these or other traditional Chinese treatments, contact me at Eastern Elements Acupuncture and Massage, 229-5084 or www.Eastern-Elements.com

Edward Jones
paste-up

Meet the New MCC Secretary

Hi Madrona! My name is Cynthia Stross and I am the new Secretary for the Madrona Community Council. I'm very pleased to get more involved with the Madrona community and would like to introduce myself.

I grew up in north Seattle and since I was a child, I always loved Madrona—and I still do. After some time on the East Coast, I came back to Seattle where I work as a lawyer at Savitt & Bruce, a civil litigation firm in downtown Seattle.

Eight years ago, my husband and I bought our first house in Madrona on 30th Avenue. Two years ago, we made a seven block “Madrona Move” to our current house at 35th and Pine. Long time Madrona residents probably know the house as “the dentist’s office.” Dr. Koon practiced dentistry out of the house starting in 1935 and his son Dr. Bud Koon continued to serve the Madrona community from there until his retirement 10 years ago. Their old office is now the playroom for our kids, Sophia (4 years) and Conrad (9 months).

I heard the Madrona Community Council lacked a secretary and decided that I could fill the position. I enjoy learning about the local happenings, meeting more of my neighbors and keeping informed about local developments. The meetings (so far) are short and sweet and I encourage you to come! The next one is January 8 at 7:15 in the Madrona Playfield Shelterhouse.

GIRLIE PRESS
paste-up

Madrona Auto —Then, Now, and Tomorrow

By Tom Flood, 33rd Avenue

Sadly, the old gas station on the corner of 34th Ave and E. Pike St. is returning to the Earth. The excavator and dump trucks will soon finish the work that Nature and Time began over 75 years ago.

Built in 1931 as Kriegel's Service Station exclusively offering Texaco products, the architectural anomaly welcoming visitors to Madrona has had a fruitful life providing a livelihood around automobiles for local families. Initially, the Kriegel family made their livelihood on the site in the 30's and 40's, the Gallando family in the 50's, the Luttons from the late 60's until the early 90's and for the last 13 years, our family.

The space has been my art studio since 1995. Numerous commissions have been created there and many crazy experiments and ideas have been hatched. We even worked on a car or two. Over 3000 kids have taken classes at the studio ranging from go-cart construction to welding, boat building and even mosaics. We ran a reputable alternative art gallery for 3 years and hosted many outdoor concerts in the summer months. With a nod to the past, we recently co-founded two of the largest biodiesel co-operatives in the city: fuel distributor Madrona Biofuels and the Dirty Hands Co-op, our own waste oil refinery. Both of these endeavors serve more than 50 local families' automotive fuel needs.

Unfortunately, the buildings on the property have outlived their utility. We have been patching, repairing and tarping the structures for years, delaying their imminent demise. The December 3 rainstorm dumped over 60 gallons of water through the leaky roof damaging equipment and tools—again.

As you can see from the big white Land Use sign, we are proposing that seven live-work townhouses replace the old gas station. We view the new building as a living sculpture as it will exceed the highest LEED certification standards. We are striving to redefine what sustainable, smart multifamily development should be in this country and we are pushing Seattle's policies and standards.

The three-story L-shaped building will be pushed to the sidewalk's edge facing 34th Ave. and E. Pike St. to enhance the "pedestrianism" of the business district. This orientation will create an interior courtyard allowing light and space for the adjacent properties and the first floor retail units. Each of the units will be a 500+ sq. ft. retail space opening onto the sidewalk with roll up doors into the courtyard. The two floors above will be 3-bedroom, 1.5-bath loft-style apartments with large windows and an open floor plan. Each unit will have a private rooftop deck and gardening area. Although the City's municipal code requires us to provide only one parking space for a project of this scale, the courtyard also offers alternatives to off-street parking for the residents and business owners.

It is a very exciting project that will enhance our neighborhood. We hope artists, artisans, therapists, and architects—anyone who runs a business from home—will be part of this project. Nobody will be sadder than we are to see the old gas station demolished. But it is with optimism and a love of this neighborhood that we present Pike Station.

Remember When...

Changing Times & Tires at Madrona Auto

Thanks to Marge Lutton, Tom Flood & Margaret Reishel

Today we know it as that distinctive beige stucco building at 34th & Pike with the blue glass in the parking lot and live music in the summer. And colorful as that may be, it's nothing compared to the long and varied history of the space now known as Madrona Automatic.



It was built in 1930 and for the next 35 years it provided dawn to dusk full service station amenities to the cars and people of Madrona, first as a Texaco and then a Gull franchise. While gas was pumped for customers at the drive-through in front, battery installation, tire repairs, and other maintenance were handled in the service building out back. Over the years the service station was owned and operated by several Madrona and Leschi families, including Richard & Hortense Kreigel of 34th Avenue, Eugene & Anna Grow of Railroad Ave S., Lewis & Emma Carter of Cherry St., Walter & Florence Thorn of Empire Way, and Pete & Theresa Galando of Lane St., with Pete Jr. as the station attendant. In 1937 it got its address. In 1939 the station's telephone number was Prospect-9877; in 1956 the number became EA4-3555.

The last gas was pumped from Walt's Payless Gas Station in 1965 and Gull sold the property to Madrona residents Rudy & Margorie DeVaul. Marge remembers removing 22 junked cars in various states of decomposition from the lot before she and her husband officially opened their body and fender shop in 10960. Until 1985, Rudy's Auto Repair was a neighborhood hub where car problems, advice, and neighborhood news were exchanged freely.

For the next decade, the lot and the building were used by the DeVaul family for storage and as a place to do odd jobs. In 1995 Marge, now Marge Lutton who still lives on 34th Avenue, rented it to Tom & Diane Flood who performed minor auto repairs and shared the space with artist Tom Moore. Gradually paint replaced grease as the property's lifeblood. Today, Madrona Auto is the home of a frame shop run by Margaret Reishel. Local Hero Tom Flood hosts many art programs, including the go-cart classes from Coyote Jr. High, from the back studio.

Were any of its mid-century owners or customers to visit today, they would easily recognize their former service station as the building itself is nearly unchanged since its construction. For us in 2001, it appears now as it did then, a distinctive beige stucco building at 34th & Pike, a Madrona landmark and living link to our neighborhood's past and recent history.

Reprinted from Madrona News, March 2001

New Building at MLK & E Union

By *Marty Liebowitz, 39th Avenue*

At the December Madrona Community Council (MCC) meeting, the Madrona Company presented our ideas and concept drawings for a new building on the southwest corner of MLK and E. Union, across from Grocery Outlet. The MCC meeting was well attended and included adjacent neighbors. While in the feasibility stage of this project, we're identifying potential commercial tenants, and other building uses that would work well at this location.

The project consists of a 4-story building with underground parking. The first floor will be reserved for commercial tenants such as retail, a restaurant, laundromat, or other businesses. Some neighbors have requested a bakery or vegetarian restaurant. The second floor will have either office spaces from 150 to 600sq. ft, or residential units, or a mixture of both. Also, if a prospective tenant indicates they'd like a specific space or a major portion of a floor, we'd welcome discussing such a proposal before construction.

The third and fourth floors will be residential units, from studios to a few 3-bedroom units. We'd like a mix of tenants, from singles to families, and so plan on offering a variety of units. To promote a portion of the residential units being affordable, we discussed our desire to have the site designated as eligible for the City's Tax Abatement Program. This program allows the owner an abatement of property taxes for 10 years with the tax savings used to off-set lower rents of units to people at 60% or 80% of median income. Many areas of the city are currently part of this program and, at the request of several people at the MCC meeting, we will investigate the program further and provide information about local buildings currently involved with this program at a future MCC meeting.

As we are still in the feasibility study stage, we welcome neighborhood input and plan to make our presentation to the community council of the neighborhood west of Madrona. Soon we will apply for Design Review, a public design forum run by the City and required prior to receiving a building permit. If you have questions or usage suggestions about the project, or are considering a space in the building, contact me at 325-0422 or info@madronacompany.com.

Ben Chotzen
paste-up

A Call to Local Artists/Activists

By *Sarah Banks, 37th Avenue*

Is the new installation on the west corner of MLK & Union a sign of our times, or art? When is a sign not a sign?

Is an oil barrel ART or SIGN ADVERTISING? This was the issue in a recent exchange of letters between the City of Seattle's Sign Inspector and the owner of the property where the 'piece' of art had stood since late summer. The cited piece of Political Art was a barrel of crude, overflowing with blood and emblazoned with the motto GOT OIL. Might it be compared to Warhol's Campbell soup can? Was Andy Warhol advertising for the Corporation or was something deeper at play?

To paraphrase a Madrona resident's musings on the recently decommissioned art work: its intent was as political art, kinetic art, conceptual art—no one should misconstrue this piece as a sign used for commercial advertisement.

Where today a new work replaces the crude barrel, the Ad Hoc Artists of MLK & Union (AHAMLK) are exercising our First Amendment Rights. The City contends that our expressions to date fall between SIGN ADVERTISING and ART, thus limiting the space available to us to a mere 24 square feet. Our current installation is deemed to be a SIGN because it has included 'medium used for informative purposes'. This is undoubtedly so—we wish to inform, even to remind, and possibly to exhort.

AHAMLK seeks artists ready to embed visual messages as subtly as a FOX journalist embeds the Pentagon's missives. Together we can realize our potential—and take back full lot coverage for truth in ART! To discuss concepts for a new installation, contact me at seb.saranjan@gmail.com or Kathy Barker of Madrona/Leschi Citizens Against War (MCAW) at kbarker715@comcast.net



MCAW supporters mark five years of Friday morning protests.

Neighborhood School News

It's All about the Kids!

By Jon Hughes, 34th Avenue

The Madrona K-8 Panther Partners (PTSA) has begun its annual fund. Thanks to the Madrona Community Council for allowing us to put an insert about what's going on at the school into this issue of the *Madrona News*. As you'll read, the PTSA provides many additional services to the students and staff at Madrona K-8. Our school has special needs, and the PTSA proudly steps in to do what it can to serve all our students. Many of our school families make contributions that fit their budget. We hope that interested members of the greater Madrona neighborhood community will also join in and contribute what they can to keep great programs thriving for the kids. Contributions are tax deductible and the Madrona K-8 PTSA is a 501(c)(3) organization.

There is some exciting collaborative news comes from the school parent groups in the central elementary school cluster. The Center Cluster includes Montlake, Madrona K-8, Lowell, Stevens, McGilvra, Leschi, T.T. Minor, Bailey Gatzert, and Thurgood Marshall schools. Parent groups from many of the schools met last month—maybe the first time ever—the to begin the process of working together for all the children in our community. A special thanks goes out to the Stevens PTSA co-Presidents, Sandi Payne and Wendy Saffel, for initiating this effort. Their energy and commitment are things that Stevens benefits from and now the entire cluster can tap into.

At our initial meeting at Stevens we discussed ideas on how to increase parent participation, speakers and topics for PTA meetings, and the great non-profit organization www.donorschoose.org that matches donors with volunteer opportunities. In January this team will meet again at Thurgood Marshall. Madrona PTSA President, Christina Williams, has already set up some great events for PTSA spring meetings from ideas sprouted in the initial cluster meeting.

At Madrona K-8 we have students and families from a variety of ethnicities, religions, and cultures. It was great to see everyone interacting and getting to know each other at our Winter Celebration on December 19. Happy Holidays to all from all the families, staff, and students at Madrona K-8! I hope everyone has a great Winter Break and we'll see ya next year!

*St. Therese
Paste-Up*

News from The Valley School

Tours of The Valley School for prospective parents launched in November and will continue through February on Thursday mornings by appointment. Call the school at 328-4475 to sign up and to chat with Admissions Director Gail Mensher about The Valley School educational experience. Applicants for pre-kindergarten through second grade will visit on two Saturdays in March (1 and 8), and older students will spend a morning during a regular school day. The annual Open House is scheduled for February 7.

On the social outreach front, Valley School families collected many boxes of canned goods for the "Cans for Kids" program through Northwest Harvest and each grade adopted a family or two to support with gifts through First Place for Kids Holiday Campaign.

Classes enjoyed their own holiday feasts at school as well.



Third graders enjoy a serenade by singer and Valley parent Josh Parks

*Baker Language
paste-up*

*Bush School
Paste-Up*



Photos by Sam Ditty



Thanksgiving Neighborhood Cooking

Some 50 friends and neighbors, including many families, turned out Thanksgiving morning to prepare a traditional meal for the homeless under the direction of local cooks that included Eckert White, John Phipps, Soung and Yurim Yi. The kitchen at the Madrona Presbyterian Church hummed with activity and good cheer. The delicious results were delivered to homeless teens and adults at Peace for the Streets and many others at Tent City. To get involved with future homeless cooking events, visit www.neighborhoodcooking.org. If you would like more information on how you can help, you can email organizer Darren Pritt and Darren@neighborhoodcookingl.org.



*City Life Real Estate
paste-up*

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Joan Paulson 954-5074

*Coldwell Leslie Lucas
paste-up*

Boxing Day, Anyone?



In many parts of the world, the day after Christmas is known as Boxing Day. The term originates in Victorian era Britain, when the rich would box up gifts and bring them to the poor. Even today many people use the days right after Christmas as a time to clear out items they no longer need or use and donate them to charities.

The folks at Grocery Outlet have contracted with the Northwest Center to make it easy for Madrona families to pass on their used goods. A Northwest Center donation truck is parked at MLK & Union ready to accept used clothing and household items.



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Support Local Non-Profits

This time of year, many of us participate in United Way or other fundraising campaigns at work. As you complete your United Way paperwork, remember that you can designate your dollars to ANY 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Just tell United Way where to send your contribution and they will distribute it to your organization(s) quarterly. To ensure that your donation is processed correctly provide the group's tax ID number on your contribution designation form.

Madrona has many worthy non-profits that would love your ongoing financial support—or an end-of-the-year tax deductible gift. To name a few:

- Amara Parenting & Adoption Services: 91-0577487
- Central Area Senior Center: 91-1156571
- Community Day School Association: 91-0987650
- Coyote Central (formerly Coyote Junior High): 91-1444797
- East Cherry YWCA: 91-0482890
- Epiphany School: 23-7014921
- Genesis House: 91-0874756
- Global Visionaries: 71-0872239
- Madrona Community Council: 94-3202136
 - Madrona BBQ
 - *The Madrona News*
 - Friends of Madrona Woods
 - Friends of the Ravine in Madrona (FORM)
 - Madrona Blossoms/Wintergreens
- Madrona K-8 PTSA: 91-1229255
- Meredith Matthews East Madison YMCA: 91-0482710
- Neighborhood Cooking Foundation
- St. Therese School & Parish: 91-0577134

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- ❖ Neighbor Appreciation Day Event
- ❖ Spring Neighborhood Garage Sale
- ❖ Mayfair Parade & Games
- ❖ Madrona Blossoms Flower Baskets
- ❖ Summer BBQ Festival
- ❖ Kids' Halloween Party
- ❖ Wintergreens and Garlands

and

THE MADRONA NEWS!

Send your tax deductible gift to: MCC Treasurer,
833 33rd Avenue, Seattle, WA 98122

Madrona Real Estate
Recent Home Sales

Compiled by Jon Hughes, City Life Real Estate

ADDRESS	BD	BA	SQ. FT.	PRICE \$
501 27th Ave.	3	1		305,000
1835-B 24th Ave	2	1.5	900	345,000
1607 26th Ave.	4	2	1930	401,000
1834-A 24th Ave.	3	2.25	1570	414,000
509 32nd Ave.	2	1	2200	430,000
105 26th Ave. E	2	1.5		499,950
2708 E. Denny	3	2	1640	500,000
823 26th Ave.	2	1	1700	530,000
3003 E. Pine	3	2	1660	550,000
1318 Lk Wash.	4	2.75	3600	752,000
2753 S. Wash.	5	3.5	4300	922,000
219 Lk Wash.	3	2	2380	1,200,000
3507 E. Shubert	4	2.5	3100	1,250,000
434 35th Ave.	5	3.75	6750	2,695,000

Statistics not compiled or published by NWMLS

New Shabby Chic Store Opens

Happy Holidays from Madrona's newest shop, Artradina's Thriftique. The boutique opened in early December on 34th Avenue in the space formerly occupied by Hitchcock. Artradina's Thriftique is the joint adventure of husband and wife team of Artranetta Gray and Paul Gray, owner of the popular Barber Lounge. This new neighborhood shop specializes in shabby chic, with a little of the unexpected. Many of the items on the shop are one-of-a-kind finds that make unique and personal gifts.

One of the fun things about Artradina's is you'll never know what you may find! You will always find new treasures. Each month we will feature creations from a Seattle artist so come in and check out the offerings from these talented local artists. Also, we will soon be accepting consignment items. If you have beautiful things that you are willing to part with you will be able to drop them off at the shop on Mondays and Tuesdays by appointment only. To set up a time, call Artranetta at 325-5399.

Artradina's Thriftique hours are Wednesday thru Saturday from 10:00am to 6:30pm and Sundays from 10:00am to 2:30pm; the shop is closed on Mondays and Tuesdays but consignment items can be brought in if you make an appointment. The Barber Lounge is right next door and is open Monday thru Saturday from 9:00am to 6:00pm, closed Sundays.

Happy Holidays from Artranetta and Paul Gray. We hope to see you soon!

*YMCA
Paste-Up*

*Shirey Handyman
paste-up*

The meeting started at 7:15 pm at the Madrona Shelterhouse and adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Agenda Topics

1. Update on the Madrona Library construction: Valerie Garrett-Turner, the branch manager of Madrona Library, reported on the status of the library remodel.
 - a. The contractor completed the demolition and is currently framing the interior. The furniture has been selected. She described it as neither contemporary nor traditional but in keeping with the architectural style of the building. Two pieces of art have been chosen by unanimous decision of the City Office of Cultural Affairs.
 - b. She expects the library to reopen in late March or early April 2008. The various library departments have scheduled their "stakeholder meetings" at which they coordinate the logistics of the opening. In her experience, the scheduling of the stakeholder meetings indicate that good and substantial progress is being made and the project is moving forward toward completion.
2. Update on the redevelopment of the gas station property at 34th and Pike: Tom Flood reported on the status of the development.
 - a. The developer filed the application for the Master Use Permit on Monday, December 3, 2007. The plan includes six live/work townhouses and one residential unit. The structure will be "L"-shaped with an interior courtyard. It is a stick-frame structure and he has not made decisions regarding the exterior design or materials.
 - b. They are working with the Cascadia Chapter of the Green Building Challenge. The development will capture its own water, provide for grey water treatment, and grow food on the premises. Mr. Flood currently plans to retain three units, sell three units, and the developer will retain one unit.
3. Update on the redevelopment of the southwest corner property at Martin Luther King and Union Street: Marty Leibowitz and the Madrona Company reported on the redevelopment.
 - a. The 14,000+ square foot property includes the current building and the vacant lot to the north of the building. The building is in poor condition and cannot reasonably be rehabilitated.
 - b. Mr. Leibowitz presented design plans that show two five story buildings on the property, connected by a front lobby and separated by an interior courtyard. The plans show one level of below-grade parking, first floor retail space and three additional floors for office and residential space, with high-tech wiring throughout. The building will likely include a telecommunications facility on top. The Madrona Company is studying the potential to capture rainwater at the property and incorporate it into structural art at the site.
 - c. The plans call for the planting of a green buffer along the alley to the south, installation of a planting strip along Martin Luther King, which they intend to plant with native, drought-resistant greenery. Along Union Street, there will be a cutout for parking such that traffic will flow more easily through two lanes eastbound on Union Street. The Madrona Company may seek to have the Metro bus stop move further south on Martin Luther King in order to free space in front of the building for parking.
 - d. The Madrona Company typically leases to retail tenants that have no more than four locations; they hope to find tenants that will provide desired services to the neighborhood, such as restaurants, cafes, laundry.
 - e. They are researching the feasibility of applying for a property tax abatement from the City of Seattle. An abatement is available in areas zoned "urban center". It allows the owner to avoid paying property tax on some percentage of the residential space where the savings are used to buy down the cost of rent for qualifying low-income tenants. In the event that the Madrona Company applies for the abatement, they would seek an expression to the City of community support.
 - f. The plans have not yet been through the first round of design review by the City; the Madrona Company is soliciting input from the community in advance of submitting plans to the City of Seattle.
 - g. Questions were asked regarding guarantees that the Madrona Company would pursue the plans as presented (including the water feature, building to green standards and providing space for low-income rentals). There are no guarantees that any of the features described will be included in the final development. The Madrona Company seeks community input and response to the plans and will return to the Madrona Community Council meeting after design review.
 - h. They hope to break ground on the project in approximately 18 months.
4. December Newsletter Stories
 - a. Stories will include pieces on the Madrona Creek dedication. The event drew several public officials including Mayor Nickels, Larry Gossett and Richard Conlin.
 - b. Other items will include news about new businesses, Christmas services and services in honor of Martin Luther King Day.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

WEEKLY RECURRING EVENTS:

- WEDNESDAYS** 10:30-11:00am **Preschool Story Times**—Presented by Seattle Public Library at Amara Parenting & Adoption Services, 3300 E. Union
- WEDNESDAYS** 8:00pm **Adult Pick-up Basketball**—\$3 donation supports Madrona M-9 PTSA, Madrona K-8 gym, Allen Cheadle
- THURSDAYS** 7:30pm **AA/ALANON Meeting**—Epiphany Great Hall.
- THURSDAYS** 6:30-7:30pm **Singing in the Rain Family Choir**—Epiphany Great Hall, Sari Breznau 262-9712.
- THURSDAYS** mornings by appointment **Tours of The Valley School**—Prospective parents should call the school at 328-4475 to sign up and to chat with Admissions Director Gail Mensher.
- FRIDAYS** 7:30am **Madrona/Leschi Citizens Again the War**—Quiet demonstration, 23rd & Union, Kathy Baker kbarker715@comcast.net

- Dec 1-24** **Seward Park Clay Studio Holiday Show & Sale**—Sale Hours: Mondays-Fridays, 12-6:30 pm, Saturdays and Sundays 10 am-6pm. Free admission, www.sewardparkart.org.
- Dec 21** **Ending Madrona Toys for Tots Drive**—Bring new, unwrapped toys for local needy children. Drop off location is the office of Barbara Banon, Edward Jones financial advisor, 3304 East Spring St.
- Dec 21** **1-Hour Early Dismissal**—Seattle Public Schools. Winter break through January 4.
- Dec 24** 9:00am-1:00pm **Homeless Cooking**—Bring a cutting board and fresh ingredients. Madrona Presbyterian Church, Darren Pritt darren@neighborhoodcooking.org.
- Dec 24** 5:00pm **Family Eucharist**—With childcare. Epiphany Episcopal Church, 1805 38th Avenue at Madrona Drive, 324-2573, www.epiphanyseattle.org.
- Dec 24** 5:00pm **Christmas Eve Mass**—With Children’s Choir and Pageant. St. Therese Catholic Church, 936 35th Avenue between Spring & East Marion, 325-2711 www.saintthereseparish.org/
- Dec 24** 7:00pm **Christmas Eve Service**—Madrona Presbyterian Church, 32nd Avenue and East Marion Street, 328-2704, www.madronachurch.org.
- Dec 24** 7:00pm **Christmas Eve Mass**—With Jubilation Gospel Choir. St. Therese Catholic Church, 936 35th Avenue between Spring & East Marion, 325-2711 www.saintthereseparish.org/
- Dec 24** 9:00pm **Christmas Eve Mass**—With St. Therese Choir (singing begins at 8:30). St. Therese Catholic Church, 936 35th Avenue between Spring & East Marion, 325-2711 www.saintthereseparish.org/
- Dec 24** 9:00pm **Festival Eucharist**—With Chancel Choir and Instruments. Epiphany Episcopal Church, 1805 38th Avenue at Madrona Drive, 324-2573, www.epiphanyseattle.org.
- Dec 25** 9:30am **Holy Eucharist**—Epiphany Episcopal Church, 1805 38th Avenue at Madrona Drive, 324-2573, www.epiphanyseattle.org.
- Dec 25** 10:00am **Christmas Day Mass**—With Shades of Praise Gospel Choir. St. Therese Catholic Church, 936 35th Avenue between Spring & East Marion, 325-2711 www.saintthereseparish.org/
- Jan 3** 7:00pm **Family Game Night**—Bring the whole family for games, snacks, prizes, and fun. Precocious Toys, 34th & Union, 322-9396.
- Jan 5** **Back to School**—Seattle Public Schools
- Jan 5** 1:00-5:00pm **Homeless Cooking**—Bring a cutting board and fresh ingredients. Madrona Presbyterian Church, Darren Pritt darren@neighborhoodcooking.org.
- Jan 12** 9:00am-1:00pm **Homeless Cooking**—Bring a cutting board and fresh ingredients. Madrona Presbyterian Church, Darren Pritt darren@neighborhoodcooking.org.
- Jan 8** 7:15pm **Madrona Community Council Meeting**—Madrona Playfield shelterhouse, Laura Yurdin 320-8693 or LYurdin@PointB.com.
- Jan 10** 6:30pm **MD&SS Dinner at the Hi-Spot**—Make your reservation now for this the prix complet meal—3-course dinner, two glasses of Wilridge wine, tax and tip—for \$50 per person. Audrey Seale, audreyseale@qwest.net or 329-8775
- Jan 12** 9:00am-1:00pm **Madrona Woods Work Party**—*Tentative*: check website to be sure we will be working today. Deirdre McCrary deirdre_jaymccrary@msn.com or www.madronawoods.org
- Jan 16** 9:00am-1:00pm **Homeless Cooking**—Bring a cutting board and fresh ingredients. St. Clouds Restaurant, Darren Pritt darren@neighborhoodcooking.org
- Jan 19** 9:00am-1:00pm **Madrona Woods Work Party**—Meet at the construction site entrance on Lake Washington Bl, Deirdre McCrary deirdre_jaymccrary@msn.com or www.madronawoods.org.
- Jan 20** 2:00pm **Ecumenical Martin Luther King Jr. Service**—Featuring Madrona Presbyterian’s minister Kelle Brown, live music, and readings of Dr. King’s works. Mount Baker Park Presbyterian Church, 3201 Hunter Blvd. South, 722-5884.

December

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Newsletter of the Madrona Community Council

Published monthly except for July and August, with a circulation of 2400, reaching homes & neighbors throughout Madrona & Central Seattle.

January 5, 2008 Next MADRONA NEWS DEADLINE

Article Submission: Contact editor Kim Herber at 325-9923, 1522 35th Ave. or send material to kdh5027@aol.com and to production editor Christine Bender at christineb@conversation.com.

Advertising: Contact Reshenna Andrews at 219-1467 or reshennaa@conversation.com. Rates are on-line at www.madrona.us.

Mailing List Additions: Contact Kim Herber (see above).

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