

Madrona NEWSLETTER

October-November 1991

Member of Central Seattle Community Council Federation

Another Letter to the Madrona Community

The Accelerated Progress Program Perspective

The situation we find ourselves in at Madrona School because of the bulge in enrollment caused by APP's growth of 115 students this year was not something anyone anticipated or wished to have happen. The circumstances came at an awkward time when both the neighborhood program (ECM) and the Accelerated Progress Program (APP) had begun to work together on a genuinely equal basis.

Parents of children enrolled in APP have a history of active involvement in the building and have offered strong and sustained support not only to APP but to children in both programs in the school.

APP has been housed at Madrona since it began 13 years ago. For years, APP Grades 1-5 co-existed with Grades K and 4-6 of the regular program. During years when District policy shuffled grade or "cluster" configurations affecting the ability of neighborhood children to attend Madrona, APP has provided ongoing stability within the building.

During the 13 years at Madrona, APP families have "bonded" to Madrona. Some of us have had children in this school for many years. We have seen the school grow and improve greatly. We like to think we had something to do with that, especially those of us who committed much time and effort to PTSA and to the Madrona school community.

What bothers us is that in the open letter and petition to the community in last month's newsletter, it seems that it's just fine for APP to give up Madrona and move to another area of the city much less accessible for a large part of APP's student body. APP children come from all parts of the city, so a central location is the most equitable for a program that must serve all who qualify. APP children go on to Washington Middle School and Garfield High School and there is a certain logic in keeping all three sites in the same general part of the city.

The APP Task Force and parent body is committed to keeping its elementary Grades 1-5 together, housed at one site.

Through the first month of the 1991-92 school year, the situation at Madrona seems to be working very well despite the large enrollment. Building lunch and recess schedules have been modified resulting in what appears to be less crowded playgrounds and lunchrooms than in previous years. The APP parent group believes the situation at Madrona is workable and has suggested that the ECM and APP programs remain co-housed at Madrona.

Since there are plans to renovate the Madrona facility at some point which would necessitate uprooting both programs, leaving the two programs together postpones unnecessary moves until the entire school needs to be moved for the renovation. Finding siting solutions is rarely easy, complicated by limited building availability, cluster guidelines, desegregation guidelines, transportation problems, and limited school district financial resources.

We are asking that it not be disregarded that APP does have an historical and practical bond to Madrona; that yes, we do want to keep our program intact and yes, ultimately we will move if there is absolutely no other choice. But, it doesn't mean that we don't want to stay at Madrona or continue being a part of the community. We have had a lot to do with what Madrona School is now.

This is not a situation where there is only one right viewpoint or one easy solution. We appreciate the opportunity to present information about APP to the community. Thank you.

--Mary Elayne Dunphy, Chris Mabe, Kris Barker, Cindy Wilmoth,
Parents of the APP program.

Madrona Community Calendar

Saturday & Sunday, Oct. 19 & 20
Shelter House Work Party
Madrona Playfield, 9:00 a.m.

Monday, October 21
Open Space Candidate's Forum
Mountaineers Bldg. 6:30-9:00 p.m.

Thursday, October 29
Co-Sponsored Candidate's Night
Madrona Elementary 7:30-9:00 p.m.

Wednesday, October 30
Budget Hearings
Municipal Bldg. 11th Floor 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, October 31
Budget Hearings
600 4th Ave. 9:30 a.m.

Tuesday, November 5
Board Meeting
Madrona Elementary 7:30 p.m.

President's Corner

by Jill Gordon

Madrona is a great place to live. Could this be the common ground, the basic idea that brings and keeps our neighborhood together?

When we were planning the community council's agenda for the coming year, we came to a sudden halt. We stopped to ask ourselves, what does the community want? Are we representing them? Who is Madrona and what does Madrona need?

Not really earth-shattering questions. Questions that many groups have faced before. But it reminded us how important it is to understand our community and its needs.

One of Madrona's greatest assets is its diversity. We appreciate our differences. People move or live here because of the culture created by variety. Yet the diversity of Madrona makes it difficult to know what the neighborhood wants and needs.

The Madrona Community Council is all of you. By simply living, working or attending school here, you become a member. The council sponsors many projects; Mayfair, the Home Tour, the annual Cleanup. We are planning others like the renovation of the shelter house at the Playfield.

We want to create programs that attract and benefit all of the people of Madrona. That is difficult to do without input. We want to hear from you. Call me at 329-9836 or your neighborhood representative listed in the newsletter. Come to one of the Board meetings or program, find a way to let us know what Madrona needs.

However you choose to participate, do participate. We want to make our actions a fun way to meet neighbors and bring our neighborhood together. Our common goal is to keep Madrona a great place to live.

Matching Fund Celebration

Our organization's projects are part of the reason that the Neighborhood Matching Fund has been recognized as one of the ten most innovative government programs in the nation by the Ford Foundation and Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government, beating out nearly 2,000 state and local government programs from all across the nation. Our members have been invited to help celebrate this prestigious award with a party on Friday, October 25, 7-11 p.m. at Seattle Central Community College, 1701 Broadway, Room BE2114. The party is in honor of the neighborhood leaders who have completed neighborhood projects with the help of the Neighborhood Matching Fund. For more information call 684-0464.

Crime Beat

Residents wanting information on starting a Block Watch or on how to solve a crime problem, call Dave Black, Black Watch/Crime Prevention, 322-0242.

Council Schedules Special School Meeting

Please mark your calendar and schedule some time for a special Community Council General Meeting November 26 on what the neighborhood wants for Madrona Elementary School. Are we happy with the ECM/APP (Early Childhood Model/Accelerated Progress Program) co-program and cohabitation? We need to tell the school board what we want so they can factor this into their decision on the school's future. School Board members have been invited and are expected to attend.

Madrona Community Council Board Members

President: Jill Gordon

1st Vice-President: Sally Alhadeff

2nd Vice-President: Shirley Solomon

Treasurer: Susan Stocking

Secretary: Dorothy Grant

Blockwatch: Dave Black

Business Community Relations:

Amanda Wood/Michael Kingsley

Education: Michael Pitre

Historian: Betsy Darrah

Land Use: Monica Lake

Library: Nancy Pew

Newsletter: Sally Alhadeff/Susan Roberts

Open Space/Habitat: Curt Miller

Site Council: Gray Pedersen/Michael Pitre

Transportation: Kathy Gordon

Neighborhood Representatives and At-Large Members: Jerry Arbes, John Capps, John Ewald,

Monica Lake, Ed Munoz, Orlando Nuckols

and Barbara Stenson

The Madrona Newsletter is published monthly except the summer months and December. Submit handwritten or typed copy for the newsletter to the editor, Sally Alhadeff, 922 34th Avenue, Seattle 98122, 324-9865. The deadline is the first Saturday after the Board meeting. Call Susan Roberts regarding newsletter ads, 329-7322.





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Councils Co-Sponsor Event

The Madrona Community Council, the Leschi Improvement Council and the Harrison Denny Community Council are presenting an opportunity to meet and question the candidates for Seattle City Council and King County Assessor on Tuesday, October 29. All candidates have agreed to appear at the Candidates Forum to make brief position statements and answer questions from the audience. Also, information will be available about candidates for the School Board and other races, and on the many important ballot issues, including:

- Initiative 119: Death with Dignity
- Initiative 120: Abortion Rights
- Initiative 553: Limits on Terms of Elected Officials
- Initiative 559: Property Taxes
- Proposition 1: Metro-County Merger

This is an excellent opportunity to let the City Council candidates know what is important to us. Come with your questions. The meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, October 29 at Madrona Elementary School.



HISPOT CAFE

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LIVE-ACTION, IMPROVISATIONAL DOCU-DRAMA!

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ARE TOO.

ARE NOT.

ARE TOO. NOT. WAITER, CHECK PLEASE.

SHOWING EVERYDAY BUT TUESDAY...

BASED ON A TRUE STORY!

Public Hearings on Budget

Two public hearings will be held on the City Council's recommendations regarding the Mayor's proposed 1992 budget. Copies of the full budget are available at Seattle Libraries, at the City's Office of Management and Budget and at the City Council's reception desk on the 11th Floor of the Municipal Building. The Mayor's proposed budget includes:

- \$4 to \$5 million by raising fees on real estate transactions.
- \$2.5 million from fees collected by legalizing punch cards and pull tabs.
- 767,000 by increasing parking violations fines by \$4.
- \$400,000 from new admissions tax on out-of-town shows.
- Closing the Wallingford-Wilmot Library and reducing library hours Monday-Thursday; increasing spending for a computerized catalog system for the public library.
- Restoring 11 of 17 police department positions left vacant in the mid-year budget cuts.
- Delaying opening summer park programs by one week, eliminating supervised swimming at certain beaches, reducing hours at 7 community centers and closing the Hutchison Community Center.
- Increasing spending for the latch-key children and parent literacy programs.

In addition, most of the utility budgets proposed by the Mayor will require increased financial support from ratepayers in 1992 including:

- **City Light:** A proposal to shift the four-month winter rate period from December to March (current period) to November to February (effective November 1, 1992) would more closely align the higher winter rate period with the utility's high cost period. The proposal will also result in a one-time \$10 million increase in electric rate revenues in the first year the change is implemented.
- **Solid Waste:** An increase in rates effective mid-year 1992 will be proposed and will be transmitted along with a projection of the financial requirements of the solid waste utility.

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The Conscientious Commuter

by Kathy Gordon

How do we get to work? Have we considered energy conservation as a part of our community decision? Yes, bus connections to the U district are unacceptable. Certainly parents need to get children in and out of child care. Okay, jobs require some flexibility in hours; professionals' hours are long and the remaining personal time very precious and understandably protected. Yes, the rainy season is as long as the days are short. All of us can come up with good reasons to take the easy way. Still, that inner voice inside nags us to value air quality and to conserve our finite natural resources. We learned last year just how far this country is willing to go to secure foreign sources.

What we must do is a little hard-nosed negotiating with our conscious to get down to what is essential and what is not.

- Does our job require us to work on site? Could we work at home once in a while?
- Do we need a car for work or just to get to work? Have we looked at all the non-driving options? One of the advantages of living in Madrona is that many of us are within an hour's walk to work! Fair weather walking is good for couch potatoes as well as fitness buffs. There are safe and fast bike routes. Bus service to downtown is direct, frequent and reliable.
- If we need a car, is it essential every day? Or could we use another mode once a week to buy a bit of inner peace?
- If we must drive everyday, are we getting the most out of the tank? Car in tune?
- Regular hours are conducive to car or van pools; even erratic hours don't preclude us from picking up folks going in our direction. (More on this later).

The "Conscientious Commuter" will feature thoughtful perspectives of Madrona residents who are committed to making oil smart alternatives attractive to more neighbors. The Madrona Commuter Committee is hoping many neighbors will be willing to make small changes. Every drop counts. Watch this column for tips and thoughts and join us with your ideas.

In October, all commuters to the U District (students, staff, faculty and U District employees) will be surveyed to determine present patterns, barriers and interests. Please call 328-1327 to get your name on the mailing list.

Central Branch Preschool's Annual Halloween Party

Save October 27, 1-5 p.m. for the Central Branch Preschool's Halloween Party at 3605 S. Mt. Baker Blvd in the Mt. Baker Clubhouse, facing the park. Call 723-1187 for information.

This annual non-scary event benefits the school's scholarship fund. There is free admission and 25-cent tokens for face-painting, games, art activities, the famous maze, and refreshments. All two- to seven-year-olds and their families are invited.

New Businesses Open

Several new businesses have opened recently including the Experience of Life Bookstore, Rip's Mini-mart and Cool Hand Luke's Cafe.

Cool Hand Luke's is destined to become a neighborhood gathering spot for great food and maybe a few games of cribbage, backgammon or chess (and it's non-smoking, too!). Sharon Luke, co-owner along with husband Curtis says, "We called ourselves a cafe so we could serve all kinds of food". They specialize in Chinese BBQ and have their own special oven for this slow-cook process where they do whole roasted chicken and Chinese style spare ribs. "We also want to do different kinds of foods, pasta, salads, and we have added a "veggie corner" including tofu dishes, spinach pesto lasagna and a Szechuan corn dish." Sharon added, "Anything that you want, that we have in our refrigerator, we'll do for you."

The menu is on a big white board and features five specials daily. They also always have "Sticks" of either chicken, beef, scallops, prawns or veggies served with a sesame soy sauce or a spicy peanut sauce and can be ordered as an appetizer or a dinner. Sharon says they are trying to keep their prices under \$6 so that it's affordable for people with kids.

Many of their recipes come from their restaurant-oriented families and Sharon says they both grew up in the restaurant business. They appear to be continuing that tradition as their children Chelsea, 5, and Jordan, 3 1/2 help make customers feel at home.

Their hours are Tuesday-Friday, 11:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays they feature breakfasts and are open from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Community Bulletin

Fall Leaf Depot. Need a place to put your fall leaves? Our resident Master Composter suggested that we find a central location. Local organic gardeners Sally Alhadeff and David Baylon will take bagged leaves of any kind. Deliver to 922 34th Avenue.

Local Babysitter Available. Good with kids ages 2 1/2 and up. Responsible, experienced, 14 years old. Dominic Baylon 324-9865.

Local Artist. Susan Roberts is showing her work through the month of October at the Hi-Spot. You are invited to come on in and take a look.



Madrona Shelter House

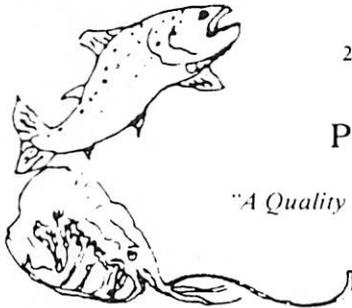
The second Neighborhood Matching Fund project, improvements to the shelter house located in the Madrona Playfield (the old brick building), will begin October 19 & 20 at the first scheduled work party. The project includes demolishing the interior, sheetrocking and plaster repair, sandblasting, painting, floor refinishing, carpentry, electrical wiring, gas piping, plumbing and other tasks. Marty Liebowitz and Kathleen Roark will be coordinating the effort. Anyone wishing to volunteer either labor or materials can call Marty at 325-1224, or Kathleen at 328-2296. A pick-up is also needed for one day to haul away debris from demolition.

Kathleen is coordinating a mural for the interior and would like all neighborhood artists to come out of the woodwork and join her in the design and execution. The building, when completed, will be the home for the Community Council and will be the center for future neighborhood programs. Repairs to the building should be completed by the end of the year. Plans and a color board will be shown at the next General Meeting, October 29 at Madrona Elementary.

I-90 Access

A hearing was held at Colman School October 3 to review a westbound off ramp at 23rd and Judkins and other ramps around Rainier Avenue. The MCC board did not endorse the 23rd Avenue ramp because of historical opposition by Judkins residents but did recommend increased access to our area and reviewing other ramp possibilities especially the reopening of an Eastbound ramp at 35th Avenue South. The new bridge construction should allow the building of an adequate acceleration ramp at relatively little cost.

It is important for people to write Department of Transportation (DOT) before October 20 to urge increased access. Most of the people DOT has heard from in the last 1/2 years have opposed ramps and they could conclude to drop access considerations because the greater community and Madrona citizens are satisfied travelling an average of an additional 2 1/4 miles with an additional 12 lights taking an additional 8 to 10 minutes. Write to Richard F. Johnson, Washington Department of Transportation, 15325 SE 3rd Place, Bellevue, WA 98007.



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Jonathan Susskind
Seattle P-I

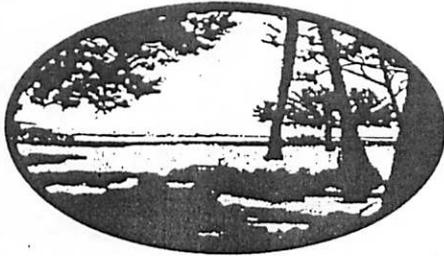
Tuesday - Thursday, 5:30 - 9:30

Friday & Saturday, 5:30 - 10:00

Open Space Candidate's Forum

Are you concerned about the dwindling of Seattle's open space, about trail access, about loss of wildlife habitat? Find out what citizens are doing and learn how Seattle City Council candidates stand on these issues. Attend the Open Space Candidates Forum on October 21 in the Tahoma Room of the Mountaineers Building, 300 Third Avenue West.

From 6:30-7:30 p.m. there will be a reception and information fair through which to browse and gather information from citizen groups working on open space issues. From 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. will be introductions, presentations and questions for City Council candidates on where they stand on open space issues. This is your chance to address your questions directly to the candidates. For more information, please contact Don Bullard, 284-9702, or Anne Knight, 329-9329. Sponsored by an Open Space Coalition of neighborhood and citywide organizations concerned with open space issues in Seattle.



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