

September/October 1992

# NEWS

# Madrona

Newsletter Of The Madrona Community Council

Member of Seattle Community Council Federation

## From the President.....

Welcome to the "new year" for the Madrona Community Council. If the first board meeting and our annual planning meeting are any indication, it should be a busy year for Madrona. There are lots of ideas and issues facing the Council and the neighborhood this year and many issues citywide. Our first project of the year will be establishing a budget and setting priorities for the Council. We will be taking a serious look at some of the long standing Council projects with the idea of changing them to meet the changing needs of the neighborhood.

This year my goal is to get more people involved in the workings of the Community Council. *We want to remind you that everyone who lives or works in Madrona is already a member of the Council.* The elected board members want to hear your ideas. What do you want the Community Council to do and what programs and projects are important to you? The Community Council is a great opportunity to meet your neighbors and to help keep up with what is happening in your neighborhood and throughout Seattle.

I encourage everyone to attend the Madrona Community Council meetings. *The meetings are held the first and last Tuesdays of the month at 7:30 in the Shelter House at the Madrona Playfield.* If you can't attend the meetings, but have ideas you would like to share, contact your neighborhood quadrant representative at the numbers listed on the back, or me at 329-9836.

The members of the Board and I are looking forward to an exciting year with the Madrona Community Council, and hope that you will be a part of it.

For the Board,

Jill Gordon, President

## Madrona Autumn Art Adventures

This summer's art program at the Madrona Shelter House provided many exciting hours of creative enjoyment for children, ages 2 to 11. Once again classes will be offered for budding artists to explore a wide variety of art mediums such as clay, wood sculpture, collage, painting, printmaking and more. The instructor, Lynn Brevig, is a local artist with many years of experience teaching kid's art classes throughout the Seattle area.

Two four-week sessions of classes will be offered on Wednesdays at the Shelter House during October and November, beginning October 7th with a pre-school age Art Playgroup meeting from 9:30-11:30am, and elementary age after school classes meeting from 3:30-5:30pm. Sign up now for four-week sessions at very reasonable prices or inquire about scholarships. For more information and registration call Lynn at 528-0186.

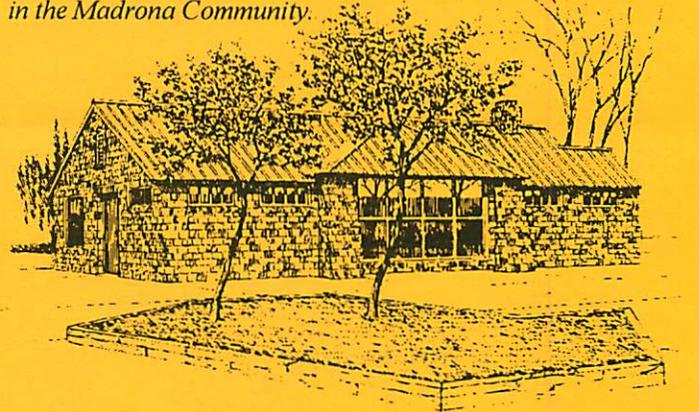


## Shelter House Remodel Dedication

Please join us for the dedication of the newly remodeled meeting space in the Madrona Shelter House. The Shelter House, located at the Madrona Playfield, 34th and East Marion, was renovated by the Madrona Community Council with a matching fund grant from the Department of Neighborhoods. The work was completed at a cost of \$11,000 in materials and City administrative costs and the equivalent of \$14,000 in volunteer labor and donated materials. The project was finished in the Spring of 1992.

The dedication of the meeting room will include formally naming the room, brief messages from representative of the City departments involved and a chance to meet and thank the many volunteers who spent countless hours on the project. Come by to admire our new meeting room, see what the Community Council is up to, and meet your neighbors.

*The Shelter House dedication will be Tuesday, September 29 at 7:30pm. Don't miss this opportunity to become involved in the Madrona Community.*



The Madrona Shelter House was built during 1938-39 by Roosevelt's New Deal agency, the Works Progress Administration, for \$7387. During this time, the WPA built similar shelters in other parks including Colman, Washington Park, and West Seattle. The shelter house became the site of ongoing and serious ping-pong competitions, but in recent years fell into disuse and was used by the Parks Department for storage. The community began restoration in 1991, and we look forward to spirited ping-pong matches and other uses in the future.

## Wake Up, Smell the Coffee ...and Get Registered By Oct 3!

In addition to great food and excellent espresso, the Hi-Spot Cafe is now offering voter registration every day during regular business hours through the October 3rd deadline. Each of the Hi-Spot's twenty staff members has been deputized by the State to register new voters, and they are all volunteering their time to get the job done. Aside from becoming a responsible member of society, each person registered at the Hi-Spot receives a FREE LATTE, but you must also promise to vote on November 3rd. So drop by, have a latte as you enjoy the Hi-Spot's cozy ambience with good old family values, ...and register to vote!

## Madrona History Project

The scope of this year's Madrona History Group has broadened considerably from our initial "gatherings" of last spring. Everyone with input or interest is encouraged to help document the development of our wonderfully diverse community. If you are at all tempted by the idea of meeting old friends and making new ones, now is the time to join one of the many activities being organized. Future newsletters will feature reports on the various projects.

**Community Archives.** Barbara McKeon and Nancy Pew, librarians at Douglas Truth and Madrona libraries respectively, are arranging for community archives at the Madrona facility. With expert assistance, files will be established for use now by the community as well as for preservation of future reference materials. Neighbors are encouraged to consider contributing documents, photographs (or copies of the original materials) to the project. Please call Barbara at 684-4703 to discuss the possibilities.

**Madrona Notables.** Gray Pederson will be overseeing the compilation of biographies of Madrona notables, that is, those people whose contribution goes beyond the neighborhood to the larger city, and indeed the world. There are many, so he will appreciate help. Call Gray at 325-6156 with names of notables for his list as well as with your knowledge about or interest in researching individuals. As a professional historian and teacher, Gray can offer suggestions of how to go about research. Note: this is a good project for students as well as adults.

**Madrona Authors.** Mary Carbray has already collected over 20 names of Madrona authors. We are aiming to honor our *literati* at a reception for the Madrona Goldmark Library's 20th anniversary in February. If you know an author, be sure to call Mary (328-1844) to get them on the list and/or to help her locate these individuals for invitations to the party.

**1940's and 50's.** Barbara Stenson will begin organizing a specific focus on the 1940's and 50's after the November election. Those of you who live in Madrona during those years especially, stay tuned for further information on how Barbara might use your information and help.

**1960's.** Carol Richman has begun compiling the history of the activist 1960's. If you have stories to tell, — and if you lived here then, who doesn't — contact Carol (324-7513) to find out how your input can be added to the project.

**Early History.** Through the year Nina Randolph, Dorothy Grant, Kay Gordon and others will be interviewing residents of Madrona to record stories of earlier times. If you know of someone who should be interviewed or if you are interested in working with this group, let Nina know (322-6706).

From the Seattle Star, October 3, 1929

### HOME PARADISE HAS CITY SPIRIT

Madrona-Denny-Blaine Praised for Beauty and Friendly Aspect

BY KIRK HERRE

Without qualification, as far as this article is concerned, Madrona-Denny-Blaine district represents as fine a type of residential district as Seattle can boast.

Other districts may have their lonely splendor, but not so Madrona. The latter

has community interest and that definite friendly spirit that permeates the district.

...Every resident of Madrona-Denny-Blaine is a worker for the district and the city. In beautifying their homes and making of them places of wonder and delight, they are performing a distinct service to Seattle.

**Architecture.** Madrona's architectural history will be the focus of a group being assembled by Bruce Hubbard. Architects, designers, realtors, and others interested in our diverse housing stock are encouraged to join in learning about this aspect of our history and presenting a program in April. Call Bruce (325-2243) to find out how to get involved. During the April program, Michael Wilson will also present materials on how to find out the history of you own home.

**School Reunion.** With the old Madrona School a prospect for demolition, time may be running out for former students and parents to revisit its hallowed halls. Deedee Rainbow has agreed to organize a grand reunion of former students and their parents for sometime next summer. Such fun will also be a worthwhile way to reconnect old friends, to collect stories of how a once effective community-based school functioned, and to build support for the future, new Madrona community school. Much help is needed for finding and contacting people. Don't wait to be called to volunteer! Call Deedee (323-7787) to get on her committee.

Obviously, this year's projects are driven by the interests of organizers. Future initiatives are limited only by the imagination and commitment of the people who can carry them out. Suggestions have included bio-sketches of Madrona musicians and artists, as well as collecting stories of this community's acceptance of gay and lesbian neighbors over the years. Call Kay Gordon (328-1327) if you have an interest around which to organize or want to get involved in the Madrona history project.

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## Community Bulletin Board

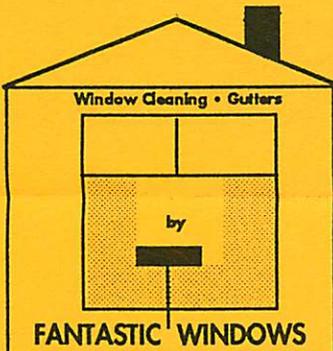
☛**Spanish Group.** Madrona residents interested in forming an advanced Spanish conversation/practice group, please call Corbin Houchins at 329-1073(H) or 343-9597(W).

☛**Halloween Fun.** Central Branch Preschool's annual Halloween Party to benefit its scholarship fund...with games, face painting, mask making, a maze, refreshments...free admission...2 to 7 year olds and their families...costumes optional. A non-scary event that one fan says is better than Disneyland! Sunday, October 25, 1-5pm, in the Mt. Baker Clubhouse, 3605 South Mt. Baker Boulevard, 723-1187.

☛**Traffic Calming.** Gripes about traffic on your street - too much and too fast? Many of our residential streets are especially dangerous for children and pets, and traffic circles are notoriously difficult to obtain. There is interest in forming an Ad Hoc Committee on Traffic Control with the goal of drawing City attention to Madrona as a high traffic area and exploring traffic calming possibilities. For more information or to volunteer, call Karla at 323-3078.

☛**Did you know** that you and your neighbors can be part of one easy solution to traffic calming? Keeping our streets narrow by not parking your car on the sidewalk or planting strip helps to slow traffic through our neighborhood. So please do your part to keep our street safe, keep our sidewalks accessible, and preserve our planting strips. Thank you!

Storefronts • Residential



by  
**Geha Sorger**  
Owner

329-4265

## New Resources on Urban Wildlife

We are pleased to announce that the Madrona Community Council has presented the Goldmark Library with 33 new books and two audio tapes on all aspects of bird watching and attracting birds, butterflies and other wildlife to the neighborhood. You will find *A Kid's First Book of Birdwatching*, *The Birdfeeder Book* and *The Backyard Bird Watcher* among many other interesting titles. Check them out and enjoy new activities with your family. Or start a new interest and join us in our efforts to make Madrona an attractive place for urban wildlife.

The donation is made possible through a grant from the Washington Department of Wildlife. We thank our friends at the Cooperative Wildlife Program for their continued support of Madrona's Backyard Sanctuary Project. For more information on this project or to get a free Madrona Urban Wildlife poster, call Curt Miller at 323-1524.

### Neighborly Notes

Kudos and a big thank you to Carrie, Esther, Ethel and Bill at the Cafe Madrona and Jimmy at the New Edition for their extra efforts at keeping the sidewalks and bus stop in front of their businesses neat and clean. Thank you, the neighborhood appreciates it.

## PARKING BREAK.



**CALL 1-800-487-RIDE**

Call one of your neighbors  
to help with your real estate needs:

Barbara Cahill  
Loreen Officer  
Audrey Seale  
Vesna Somers  
Susan Stocking



Windermere Real Estate  
4015 East Madison  
Telephone 324-0000

Seattle, 98112

# MADRONA BISTRO

1416 34th Avenue 328-2987

You are Invited to  
Our House for Dinner.

Open evenings, Tuesday through Saturday.  
Reservations accepted.

## New Computers and Fall Programs at the Madrona Goldmark Library

Library users can now use the new public access computers to locate books and other materials throughout the library system. Please come in and try it out! We hope to be able to accept new "requests" soon.

Story times for children under six years old will be held on Wednesdays at 10:30am on October 7, 14, 21 and 28. Children and their parents and caretakers will enjoy stories, songs, puppets and simple craft projects.

Each weekday afternoon the library holds SPLASH (Seattle Public Library Afternoon Happenings) from 3pm-5:30pm. Elementary school age children come to the library to read, do homework, play quiet games and do art and science projects. If you would like to volunteer to help the staff work with the children, contact Nancy Pew at the library, 684-4705. We look forward to seeing our neighbors at the library.



## Volunteer to Adopt-A-Street

In an effort to improve the visual image and community pride in our neighborhood and to discourage littering, a new volunteer group is forming to "adopt" Union Street from Martin Luther King Way to 36th Avenue. Volunteers will help pick up litter along the corridor on a periodic basis, help report damaged street signs and street trees, and monitor and report abandoned or illegally parked vehicles. The Adopt-A-Street program is promoted by the Seattle Solid Waste Utility in an effort to "Slam Dunk The Junk and Make Seattle Shine". Call Madrona resident Frank Walsh at 329-1146 for more info and to volunteer to help.

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# NEWS

## Madrona

Newsletter Of The Madrona Community Council

The Madrona Newsletter is published monthly except during the summer months and December. Send news articles, items for the community bulletin board, neighborly notes, additions to the mailing list and changes of address to Jerry Arbes, Newsletter Editor, 1122 36th Ave, Seattle 98122, 329-9329. The deadline is the first Saturday after the Board meeting. Call Susan Roberts (329-7322) regarding newsletter advertising.

Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend the meetings of the Community Council which are held the first Tuesday (Working Meeting) and the last Tuesday (Program Meeting) of the month at 7:30 in the Shelter House at the Madrona Playfield. Please call your neighborhood representatives if you have questions or would like to become involved in the Community Council.

President	Jill Gordon, 329-9836
Northwest Quadrant	Orlando Nuckols, 328-0795
Northeast Quadrant	John Ewald, 328-1749
Southwest Quadrant	Karla Neugebauer, 323-3078
Southeast Quadrant	Lynne Iglitzin, 324-4814