

MADRONA NEWS

February 2004
Issue No. 160

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Democracy is NOT a Spectator Sport!

By Cathy Barker, 37th Avenue

An unprecedented turnout of hundreds of people from about two dozen precincts gathered at the Madrona School on February 7 for the Democratic precinct caucus. Caucuses are usually poorly attended, with only the dedicated committed enough to attend a mysterious, open-ended function on a weekend. The state-wide bigger-than-usual turnout of 2004 is attributed to opposition to the policies of George Bush, especially the war in Iraq. Because of the large crowd, there was tremendous confusion and excitement!

“This is very unusual,” said longtime Madrona resident Lynne Chelimer, who has attended Democratic caucuses since 1968. Lynne thought that anger at George Bush was the reason that larger number of caucus participants came out this year than in the Vietnam era. Karen Covington, a first-time caucus participant, agreed. “I am very upset at Bush’s maneuverings,” she said. Although Karen (and most participants) was unclear about what actually happens at a caucus, they did know that it’s the forum to make their voices heard.

As the caucus began at 10:00 am, people arrived and signed in with their Precinct Committee Officer (PCO) or representative, and indicated in writing their candidate of choice, or if they were yet undecided. People then separated into rooms by precinct (that’s the four-digit number on your voter registration card) and waited for the votes to be tallied. Candidates that received less than 15% of the total vote were excluded from further consideration and their supporters were allowed to move their vote to another candidate. These folks were aggressively wooed by caucus members representing other candidates because the final vote count determined how many delegates each candidate was awarded from that precinct.

Precinct votes yielded 28 delegates for Dean, 20 for Kerry, 8 for Kucinich, and 1 for Edwards. Anti-war candidates Dean and Kucinich made a much greater showing in Madrona than statewide, no surprise in this traditionally activist neighborhood. In general, backers of Kerry cited his electability. But pragmatists and idealists were united in their desire for regime change, and there was a spirit of excitement and cooperation among all caucus members. Caucus participants regrouped by precinct and elected delegates and alternates to represent their candidate at the King County convention. Some local delegates and alternates will go on to the Congressional and state gatherings, and then the Democratic National Convention in Boston in August.

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MCC President’s Corner

Monthly Neighborhood Update

By Bill Hanson, 32nd Avenue

Due to the Democratic caucus, Madrona Appreciation Day has been rescheduled to February 28 at 10:00 am in the library at Madrona K-8. Laura Yurdin, Mark Melroy, and Jon Hughes have planned a great event to honor people who make our community and school so strong so please come!

If you’re already dreaming of spring, have I got a job for you! We need volunteers to help organize Mayfair, our annual kids parade and carnival and two or three parents

would be perfect. Jen Norling, who headed up the event last year, is available to provide guidance and assistance. Please contact her at 325-8481 or jennifernorling@comcast.net for additional information and to step up.

We had a great February Madrona Community Council (MCC) meeting. Over 30 people attended to hear about community issues, including crime prevention and plans to help integrate

(continued on page 2)

Viva Villa Victoria!

By Kim Herber, 35th Avenue

For a neighborhood like Madrona that prides itself on good food and community, it was a shock when our great neighborhood take-out, Villa Victoria, suddenly closed last summer. The storefront, with its delectable Mexican tamales, simply disappeared into the night. While I’m sorry to say that Villa Victoria will not be reopening soon in Madrona, I am pleased to report that its owner, Naomi Andrade Smith, is back in the kitchen and again cooking up hearty food filled with love and care.

When she closed her business last June, Naomi envisioned opening again soon in a larger, more traditional restaurant setting. She scoured central Seattle for just the right location, sealed a deal, and secured financing. She attributed the discomfort in her belly to nerves and stress but eventually yielded to her husband’s urging to see a doctor. Sure that everything would be fine once her business was again up and running, instead she found herself headed for surgery to treat painful pancreatic cancer. All plans for expanding Villa Victoria were instantly put on hold as Naomi and her family turned their energy toward ensuring her recovery.

Now, four months after her surgery, Naomi feels able to think about getting back to work,

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

felons released into the neighborhood. Sonja Richter from the East Precinct (684-7717) explained the importance of starting Block Watches and how to go about it. This topic was also covered in the January *Madrona News*. Unfortunately, gang and drug activities are increasing in Madrona so we all need to be aware. If you see something that does not look right, call 911 and report it. If you are a victim of crime, report it and make sure you get an incident report number, even if all you lost was an old lawn mower. Calls and reports get police attention and lead to more patrols in our neighborhood. Another thing we can do ourselves is to develop a system for sending "alerts" to the neighborhood at large. I maintain a greater Madrona email list, although it's getting outdated. If you'd like to be added, please send me your email at hansonwilliam@msn.com. This is especially important if you're not already on the Madrona Moms or PSTA email distribution list.

Such a list would also be very helpful when the Felons Going Home Program becomes operational. EuGene Lewis, pastor of the Emerald City Church on 25th Avenue is coordinating this program in our area and came to the MCC meeting to explain it. The Department of Corrections is currently piloting a program to set up Neighborhood Readiness Teams to track released felons and keep them from being repeat offenders. Neighbors will know who these people are, where they live, and what they are supposed to be doing but the felons will not know the members of these neighborhood teams. If you'd like to know more or help establish a Neighborhood Readiness Team in Madrona, call EuGene at 322-0717 or (253) 632-1730.

Another meeting topic was a brainstorm of ideas on neighborhood projects the MCC could consider implementing. If you would like to help out on any of these projects/programs or have another suggestion, let me know.

- Award a \$1000 scholarship to at least one graduating Madrona high school student. Jessica de Barros is interested in heading up this effort, which would honor a young person who demonstrates financial need; has overcome challenges to get a high school education; and has shown the potential to contribute to our community. Scholarships would not necessarily be awarded to students with the best grades. Such a scholarship could truly make a life-changing difference for a student who may not otherwise attend college.
- Install a decorative arch at the 34th and Spring entrance to the Madrona Playfield.
- Plant more Madrona trees in our neighborhood. Seedlings less than 6-inches tall have the greatest chance of survival.
- Provide plants to beautify traffic circles and either have neighborhood volunteers or hired professionals maintain them.
- Create a grand Madrona neighborhood entrance at Martin Luther King Way and Union Street.
- Lay out a neighborhood fitness walking circuit with maps posted around the neighborhood and benches placed along the route. Mary Gallwey is willing to lead this effort.
- Spruce up "downtown Madrona" with hanging plants, banners, and lights. Suzanne Sheppard and Marie Doyle have agreed to explore various ideas.

We will discuss these ideas and more at our next MCC gathering on March 2. We meet at 7:15 pm on the second Tuesday of every month in the Madrona Playfield shelterhouse at 34th Ave and E Spring Street. All are welcome.

Democracy (cont'd from page 1)

The third and final task of the caucus was to propose resolutions that might eventually be taken up by the Democratic Party as platforms. Local individuals proposed a host of ideas, from very close-to-home issues such as the establishment of an emergency encampment for the homeless citizens of the city, to more international issues such as the end to the occupation of Iraq and the easing of debt to the World Bank for poverty-stricken countries. The caucus ended at noon.

Jane Palmer, who was informed only the day before the caucus that she was the new Precinct Committee Officer (PCO) for 1916 after Jim Compton unexpectedly resigned, did a masterful job despite having to acquaint herself with the rules and procedures overnight. Only five of the 11 PCOs were present, and some precincts had to elect a chairperson before their votes could even be counted. Yes, it was sometimes disorganized. Yes, it did seem that no one was really in charge. Caucuses are grass-roots democracy, and democracy isn't always tidy, and the occasional confusion took nothing about from the palpable enthusiasm in the room.

Although caucuses are the original method for selecting candidates in the U.S.A., only 14 states and Washington, D.C. still participate in them; the other 36 states hold primaries. Many Madrona residents fondly remember when caucuses were held in homes, with evenings filled with wine and arguments. However, others object to the lack of secrecy and the complicated procedures that cause caucuses to draw far fewer participants than primaries. Both a 2004 primary and a caucus were planned for Washington, but the Legislature canceled the Democratic and Republican primaries, saving the state \$7 million. If you missed the caucus, there is still plenty of opportunity to be involved in the 2004 Presidential election by working for the local Democratic or Republican party, the candidate of your choice, registering voters, and writing to the local or national press about the issues you feel are important. The caucus is only the first step in what may be the most important election of our lives.

Susan Stocking paste-up



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GET CONNECTED IN MADRONA!

One of the best communication tools technology has brought to us lately is the magic of email. It offers an easy way for communities to share information, and get important messages out quickly and efficiently. Madrona Community Council President Bill Hanson maintains a **confidential** email list of Madrona neighbors that he uses to send out items of vital community interest—including “alerts” about the recent burglary spree. If you would like to be added to this list, please send your email address to Bill TODAY. It’s the best way we can all stay connected and protected as neighbors, so contact Bill at hansonwilliam@msn.com

Emmett Louis Till’s Story Told

To celebrate Black History Month, Cinema Diaspora (along with other co-sponsoring organizations that include CARA’s Black People Project, Langston Hughes Performing Art Center, 911 Media Arts Center, NAACP Youth Council, NW Film Forum and African American - Jewish Coalition for Justice, American Civil Liberties Union, US Women and Cuba Collaboration Project) will present the West Coast premiere of “The Untold Story of Emmett Louis Till” by director Keith Beauchamp. This is 90-minute documentary investigates the murder and unjust case surrounding Emmett Louis Till’s 1955 death. Many consider this case to be the true catalyst of the American Civil Rights Movement.

The premiere will take place at Langston Hughes Performing Arts Center at 104 17th Avenue South, corner of 17th and Yesler on February 28 at 7:00pm. A minimum donation of \$25.00 includes a 6:00 pre-screening reception with director Keith Beauchamp and a post-film question and answer discussion. On February 29, the film will be screened at Benaroya’s Nordstrom Recital Hall at 200 University Street. Minimum donation of this event is \$10.00. For tickets and information contact Stephanie Cholmondeley at 860-7764, www.cinemadiaspora.com or the Central Cinema at www.central-cinema.com.

Environment paste-up

Susan Goedde paste-up

Winter into Spring *By Judith Starbuck, Grand Avenue*

In spite of torrential rains, wind and snow, everyone working on Madrona Woods restoration has been out putting lots of new plants into the ground. The St. Therese sixth graders and the Epiphany fifth graders have almost finished planting all their seedlings and spreading protective mulch on their plots. An Epiphany parents donated several yew trees that are a welcome addition to the forest habitat. We’ve been collecting rain in containers so the student can water in their new plants well. Neighborhood volunteers clear blackberries and planted nine donated Douglas Fir trees in January.

In conjunction with the *Forest Survival* ethnobotany game, both schools took in a Burke Museum traveling exhibit on the Northwest Environment and Native Peoples. It included examples of several tools made from the plants native to this area and used in everyday life when the forest supported native groups.

The optimum time for planting is almost over, and vigorous clearing now threatens nesting birds and small animals, so work parties will focus on mulching, careful weeding, and planting. We continue to have work parties from 10:00 am. to 2:00 pm. most third Saturdays of the month; we meet at the 38th and Marion entrance. If you would like to be on our e-mail list to receive notices of work parties and other activities, send your email address to Patrick at shadydogs@msn.com.

For more information about the Spring Street stream daylighting project or to comment or get involved, please contact Joan Scott at 324-6468. Watch the kiosks for announcements and more information on any of the above or contact me at 322-2640, judithstarbuck@msn.com or Ann Bucher at 323-8325.

Reading Across the Years

By Sherri Sklar, YMCA of Greater Seattle

Intergenerational Innovations, the only organization in Washington solely committed to programs connecting seniors and children, is working in partnership with the YMCA of Greater Seattle and their after-school programs in elementary schools. Intergenerational Innovations is currently looking for volunteers from Madrona to participate in the Y-sponsored after-school programs at Thurgood Marshall Elementary, Bailey Gatzert Elementary, and TT Minor. All schools are in the Central District and the programs run from 3:00 to 5:30 on school days, and all day when school is out of session.

The vision behind the Intergenerational Innovations program is to establish connections between elders (55+ years) and young people in collaborative volunteer service to each other and the community. Creating relationships with youth provides volunteers with joy-filled friendships, meaningful service to the community, and fun opportunities for personal satisfaction. There are endless ways for seniors to contribute, such as becoming a reading buddy, a homework helper, and most importantly providing support and encouragement to students who need to feel valued and loved.

The program began in 1991 and in 2002-03 year connected more than 4,000 students and 1,000 elders. 81% of the students demonstrated improved academic skills and self confidence. Nearly 90% of students and elders surveyed reported an overwhelmingly positive experience. If you or a senior you know is interested in working with children, contact me at 344-3183 or

3 sherrisklar@hotmail.com. Make a difference in a child’s life today!

“FLAVA” Coming to Madrona

What is Flava? It's a new retail store opening in Madrona in early March in the old Villa Victoria space at 1123b 34th Avenue. The owner, Ayala Thomas, spent 16 years as a regional buyer for a local leading specialty retailer. She has a love for sweet things for the home, good deals, and meeting great people. At Flava, Ayala will assemble an eclectic assortment of treasures ranging from a set of antique Swedish children's chairs to an arbor for your garden, plus lovely soaps, jewelry, candles, unique cards and wrapping paper, and knick knacks with an Asian flair.

Ayala left her job a year ago to stay home with her son. Now that he's attending Madrona's Millar's School twice a week this is her chance to pursue her dream of having a small store and stocking it with the things she loves. But because she is a mom, Flava will make kids priority one. The store will dedicate a corner to babies and children, with lots of perfect shower gifts. Flava will also provide a Furniture Finder service for its busy customers. Ayala can help you find that certain antique or vintage piece you've been looking for but don't have time to find on your own.

If there's one thing Ayala loves almost as much as her family and precious things for the home it having a great party! Plans are already underway for a Grand Opening Mixer at Flava. To receive an invitation email Ayala at amiathomas@msn.com or slip your address through the mail slot. Flava is a touch of the old a little of the new, bringing a new kind of Flava to you.

Villa Victoria (cont'd from page 1)

although not in the same way she once did. While she avoided the perils of chemo therapy, the scar across her belly, which looks like an exotic Maori tattoo, reminds her to always consider her priorities. For now she is content to spend time cooking wonderful meals for her husband and teenaged daughter, and researching her family history through on-line searches and visits with relatives throughout America and Mexico. Her heritage tells the story of American, from her African/Scottish trader great-great grandfather and his Chickasaw wife, through her Native American forbearers who walked the Trail of Tears in Oklahoma, and her Mexican-born ancestors who taught her to love tamales and rice as comfort food.

Still, food remains her passion and Naomi is beginning to test the waters by offering small cooking classes in her Lake Washington home. Before long she hopes to also be teaching classes at Whole Foods in the U-district and testing and collecting recipes for a Mexican-themed cookbook. By the time she hits the magic five year mark when cancer patients consider themselves "cured," she may be ready to tackle running a restaurant again. But in the meantime, a slower but no less spicy life suits Naomi Andrade Smith just fine. To send good wishes or find out about upcoming classes, call 329-1717 or visit www.villavictoriacatering.com

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St. Therese Church Offers Lenten Retreats

As the season of Lent approaches, St. Therese Catholic church is hosting three spiritual retreats, and community members are welcome. Also, Ash Wednesday masses will be held February 25 at 9:00 am, and 7:00 pm. .

On February 28 from 9:00am to 1:00pm, local artist and musician Karen Mathieson will lead the annual Madrona Churches Lenten Retreat for members of all the neighborhood churches – Epiphany Episcopal, Madrona Presbyterian, St. Therese, and the fellowship of Park Shore Retirement Community in Madison Park. Through journaling, reflecting on sacred texts, artistic renderings, narratives and other approaches, Karen will help participants make Lent a more profound season. If you would like to participate, contact the St. Therese Parish Office at 325-2711 ext. 10 by February 23. Free lunch will be provided.

Fr. Jim Harbaugh, S.J., Priest Administrator of St. Therese and an experienced retreat leader, will lead a two-day Lenten Retreat for Men with the theme The Parables of Jesus for Today's Christian: What's Priceless. This retreat will be held at St. Madeline Sophie in Bellevue at 4400 130th Pl. S.E. on March 5 from 6-9:30 pm, and March 6 from 8:00 am to 5:30 pm. Both days will include reflections by Fr. Jim, witness talks by parishioners, personal reflection, small group discussion, prayer and song. A suggested \$40 donation covers all materials and meals, and Seán Walsh at 999-3213 can provide more information.

St. Therese's Sister Parish Ministry will offer a half-day spiritual retreat called Nourishing our Pilgrim Heart—Tending to Our Journey with Each Other and the Earth on March 6 from 12:30-4:30 pm. St. Therese has had an active relationship with a sister parish in Chiapas, Mexico, since 1997. The retreat will be held in the Epiphany Episcopal Church Parish Center and childcare is available. For more info or to RSVP call Maureen Horgan at 860-5086.

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Delivering the Goods *By Lisa Kotzen, 37th Avenue*

Every month my girls and I load our car with the fruits of the efforts of the wonderful volunteers who come to St. Clouds to prepare a meal from scratch for the residents of a homeless shelter called the Men's Inn. We deliver the food downtown and we are showered with thanks and appreciation from the shelter for the meal prepared by the wonderful Wednesday cooking crew. I want everyone involved to know how grateful the shelter is to receive such a tasty and diversified menu! When I inquired where they receive their food on the other nights during the month they moaned and groaned saying sometimes the food they receive is not recognizable and that they all wait in anticipation for the meals prepared by St. Clouds. So please accept a big thanks from the Men's Inn.

John Platt and Paul Butler of St Clouds host Homeless Cooking at St. Clouds the third Wednesday of each month from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm to cook up homemade meals for over 100 homeless adults and children at four shelters. February will be an exception when the group will get together on February 25 instead. John and Paul are always hoping for newcomers as well as continued support from "the regulars." If you come, bring some food, a cutting board, a knife or peeler, and your go-for-it attitude! Regarding the food, bring as little or as much as is comfortable for you. The point is to cook from scratch, so bring raw materials—veggies, fruit, berries, greens, olives, cheese, sesame oil, ginger, coconut milk, curry paste, cream, butter, eggs, potatoes, rice, pasta, etc—and we'll together make it all sing. John pre-purchases the central protein so there's no need to bring meat or fish, although cash contributions are most welcome. They're even tax deductible if they make the check out to MPC-Boomtown Cafe. Otherwise, bring whatever you want and John will find a way to use it! For more info, contact John Platt at john@stclouds.com or 726-1522.

Judy Honican Paste-up

Fighting Litter Throughout Seattle

By Charles M. Bagley, Queen Anne Community Council

I was pleased to be invited to speak at the Madrona Community Council (MCC) meeting February 3 about litter. Community councils should consider litter an important blight on their neighborhoods. My surveys of litter in residential parts of seven Seattle neighborhoods show that Madrona is among the more heavily littered, with a median of 12 litter pieces per block, versus six in Ballard and two in Laurelhurst. Clearly, there is room for improvement.

Litter comes largely from three sources:

- Deliberate littering by young males
- Things blowing away by accident
- Things blowing out of the back of trucks, especially pickups

Litter does not build up indefinitely but reaches equilibrium where new litter deposits are matched by constant litter disappearance by blowing or washing away, biodegradation, or being picked up. To keep a sidewalk or street looking clean, litter must be picked up frequently. Occasional pickups by Adopt-A-Street or spring cleanup campaigns have no detectable benefit beyond a few weeks.

On the other hand, daily litter pickup programs such as those of some individual downtown Seattle businesses reduce visible litter by 85-95%. The MCC should urge daily cleanups of Madrona streets and sidewalks by all residents. Also, it should approach businesses and encourage them to do daily litter pickups for the sake of the neighborhood and their own business image. Typically, this takes less than 15 minutes of effort from just one employee.

One especially irksome type of modern litter is plastic packing peanuts, bane of all conscientious recyclers! Being non-biodegradable, they pollute forever and so require extra vigilance. To keep them under control, return them to shipping firms for reuse. If you must put them into your garbage, be sure they are in tightly tied bags. It is a violation of Seattle City Code to put them in loose! But best of all—don't use them! Use and ask others to use crumpled newspaper, recyclable plastic bubble wrap, or 100% biodegradable starch peanuts. Starch peanuts are available in 12 cubic-foot bags from Washington Packaging in Ballard (286-1000) for around \$15, and from U-Haul and Fred Meyer in bags of 1.5 cubic-feet for \$4.00

If you are interested in fighting litter in our neighborhoods, join me and others who meet regularly to discuss techniques for making neighborhood businesses more active in litter control. I am also looking for litter activists to meet with City government and push for action. To help, contact me at 282-1578.

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A Madrona Mom Finds Her Glow

What makes a practical person, an engineer and a mother, decide to take the soul OUT of the church, OUT of meditation centers, OUT of evening bedtime prayers, and put it INTO real life? For local author Sally Velette the drive began in a hard-charging career and crashed through illness and into the light of self-reflection and knowledge. It's been a bumpy journey but one she gladly shares in her first book "Coming To Your Senses: Soaring With Your Soul," which will hit bookstores very shortly.

Sally tells an extreme version of a story that's familiar to many working parents. A self-described "adrenaline junkie" driven by a need to please others, she excelled in high school and college and quickly jumped into a demanding professional life. She worked in marketing and technical support here for Hewlett Packard and then in a Los Angeles advertising agency, where she became a VP. She returned to Seattle as sales manager at Interpoint, a mid-sized military electronics manufacturer where she became corporate executive and general manager. But just as her career hit the stratosphere, her body gave out. Chronic Fatigue Syndrome left Sally bed-ridden and barely able to function.

Sally battled the illness for two and a half years and credits her survival to reversing her people-pleasing, over-achieving habits. This epiphany is the foundation for her book, which offers eight steps to stir the soul with a variety of easy and fun exercises. "It's clearly for the adrenaline junkies, the classic overachievers like me who got burned out. But it's also for anyone who wants to increase their own wattage, and for people going through a major life change—a divorce, marriage, job change, illness, graduation or retirement—for anyone who just wants to lose life's heaviness and take the weight off their shoulders." Her book "Coming To Your Senses: Soaring With Your Soul" is available on Amazon.com or at www.gettheglow.com. Sally can be reached at sally@gettheglow.com.

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Neighbor Appreciation Day Postponed

By Mark Melroy, 32nd Avenue

The Madrona Community Council invites you to the 2004 Madrona Neighborhood & School Appreciation Day Event. Festivities will be held February 28th at 10:00 am in the Madrona School library. An award ceremony will be conducted to honor six very special people—three from Madrona School and three from the Madrona neighborhood—that help make our community strong. Come celebrate their achievements and show your appreciation for their contributions. Please note that this event was originally planned for February 7 but had to be rescheduled to allow for the 2004 Washington State Presidential Caucuses.

Local dignitaries including Seattle Department of Neighborhoods Director Yvonne Sanchez, and Madrona's own Mary Bass, Seattle School Board President, and Richard Conlin, Seattle City Council member, will be on hand. The event will also include music performed by Madrona School students,

Verite, Madrona's new coffee house, will provide delectable mini-cupcakes. We will also have flying trapeze artists, giant pink elephants and fire breathing dragons—if you're willing to pretend! See you there!

Trades Professionals Aid Madrona Church

After a three-week postponement, scaffolding will go up at Madrona Presbyterian on February 27 in preparation for a dramatic makeover of the 95-year-old church. The work will be done gratis by 100 members of the Seattle Building and Trades Locals. According to organizer Jack vanHartesvelt of Mercer Island Presbyterian that labor plus the expensive materials and equipment sold at cost would otherwise total several hundred thousand dollars. 15 young men from Seattle University and the Mercer Island will also volunteer their time, and The Westin Hotel is providing food for the workers. The project is part of the recognition that money due the black congregation of Madrona 50 years ago was instead used to build the Mercer Island church.

Jonathan C. Hughes

Attorney at Law

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Amanda Sargent

paste-up

I Remember When...

Madrona Black History: The Seattle Black Panther Party

In April of 1968, a delegation of Black Students Union members from Garfield High School and the University of Washington traveled to San Francisco State University to attend the second annual West Coast Black Student Union Conference. A day after arriving, Madrona brothers Aaron and Elmer Dixon, Larry Gossett, Carl Miller, Anthony Ware attended the Oakland funeral of Lil Bobby Hutton who had been gunned down only days earlier.

That evening Bobby Seale, accompanied by Kathleen Cleaver and Warren Wells, gave the keynote address and by the time it was over the young men from Madrona knew that they were going to be Party members. A week later Bobby Seale and George Murray came to Madrona to crisp the first chapter of the Black Panther Party outside California. A month after the Party office opened near 34th & Union, 300 people had signed up to join the Party.

It wasn't long before the Seattle Panthers began armed patrols of the police and defending the rights of the Black Community. In 1969, the first Breakfast Program for School children was established and that same year saw the opening of the First Medical Clinic in the Northwest. The Seattle Chapter also was charged with the overseeing Black Panther offices in Tacoma, Portland, and Eugene. By late 1969, three Panthers lost their lives. The Seattle Chapter, whose leadership also included Madrona's Guy Kurose, went on to establish a Bussing Program to Prison, a Liberation School, Legal Aid Program, the city's first Free Food Program, and the First Medical Clinic, which have served thousands.

In the summer of 1968, the Seattle Chapter was raided and Aaron Dixon was arrested for possession of a stolen typewriter, the arrest touched off a 3-day in which 69 people were arrested and led to a two-year war between the Panthers and Seattle Police. To make the point that they really meant business, the Panthers once held a parade on 34th Ave with each man displaying a gun and often drilled on Madrona Playfield. A jury later acquitted Dixon.

Today, Aaron Dixon is a father of five who continues to work to improve the lives of minority youth and young adults. He recently helped a group of young women enter a video spot in MoveOn's "Bush in 30 Seconds" contest. He currently runs Harder House, a transitional-living facility for homeless young African Americans, located in North Seattle. It's a project he began with the help of life-long friend and fellow minority youth mentor Guy Kurose. Dixon plans to rename the home for Harder House in honor of Kurose, a black belt karate master and instructor, who passed away from cancer at age 49 in 2002.

Main Source: www.itsabouttimebpp.com/

Verite paste-up

Vanderspek paste-up

Proliferating Poetry

By Mary Myslewicz, Madrona K-8 Parent Volunteer Coordinator

What better way to get children excited about literacy than to provide them with a visit from a world-renowned poet? As a result of Madrona's partnership with the Seattle Arts and Lectures-Writers in Schools Programs, we were treated to a visit by poet Nikki Giovanni on January 12. Madrona Middle School students had the privilege of listening to Ms Giovanni tell stories, read her poetry, and thoroughly entertain everyone in attendance. A few students even had the opportunity to read some of their own poetry from an anthology they had written for her. Below are a couple of examples of our student's excellent writing.

Essence

By Travon Lomaz, 8th Grade

Inspired by Nikki Giovanni's poem "SKYDIVING"

*As I leave this earth, there won't
be anymore tears.
no more sorrow or departure of air
as you sigh with grief.
I leave no memories or even thoughts,
only my essence.
pure and sweet, like the touch of a man's
caring hands. Think of it
as a bus stop, and you wait
for the truth to come turning
smoothly around the corner. As you breathe,
I will be watching over you
while the sweetness of my essence
will guide you. Essence.....*

*Nikki, Nikki, Nikki, can't you see?
Sometimes you just hypnotize me.
It's just your flo-etic way.
That's what I have to say.*

*I admire you, how you do what you do,
I see why my mom loves your poems,
Because when people think it's over
You just keep goin' and goin'.*

*You are the New Poem Anthem
Praise to you!*

By Rouday Austin, 8th grade

*St. Therese paste-up
paste-up*

Another Great Year at St Therese School

By Jeanne Stephens, St Therese School

Thanks to a generous \$15,000 Sharkey Family Foundation grant (for each of the next three years), St Therese is artistically enriched from kindergarten through eighth grade, delivering a lot of bang for the buck! The kids wasted no time getting the most of this new program. Last fall, a group primarily of seventh grade girls elected to take capoeira, an Afro-Brazilian dance that began in the 1700's with slaves surreptitiously practicing their self defense moves. That class and the current African drumming class are taught by music and dance artists from Madrona-based Arts Corps. In November Art Corps hosted the first of two annual art showcases where art by 125 St Therese students was displayed and our capoeira class performed.

Arts Corp artist Lauren Atkinson has been working with our elementary grade students once a week since the beginning of the school year. Using the Monart approach to art education, Ms Atkinson systematically teaches line form and theory, perspective, design and helps students develop a visual vocabulary. She has each grade draw to get a sense of both what interests them and what they can do. "A lot of adults underestimate what children can do with art," Ms. Atkinson notes.

The youngest students began to express themselves with collages and in January they did self portraits. Another project involved the students documenting their dreams in art form. Future projects include having students do a painted, mixed-media piece on card board, and creation of paper quilts by each elementary class. Ms Atkinson, who has worked in different capacities with children for 20 years, finds St Therese "very joyful because the kids are so happy; they are open to new things. There are no behavior problems because the children feel happy and safe and are doing nice work." As one can imagine there is a great deal of art being produced!

This is the first time Arts Corps has taught a program in a school. Arts Corps began in 1998 to offer after school art programs at community centers to reach children who do not normally have access to art, such as those in low-income housing. It is expansive to imagine how art has made connections among students in the county, with masters over the centuries and across continents, and with the muse within our St Therese students. Come see the great work our little masters have created.

Celebrate Mardi Gras at St T's

Last year's big Mardi Gras event was a huge hit for all ages with live music, a fierce gumbo competition, and lots of dancing. We expect just as much fun this year when this family event sponsored by St. Therese School and Parish hits Madrona on February 21. The craziness begins at 6:00 pm and if you've got a righteous gumbo recipe, the 2nd annual Gumbo Cook-Off is your chance to see how it measures up. If gumbo is not your thing, you can help round out the meal by bringing any Louisiana-style dish: jambalaya, red beans and rice, dirty rice, or cornbread.

Everyone in the neighborhood is welcome. The school is still recruiting volunteers for this event and St. Therese parents can earn 8 parent hours cooking for or helping with Mardi Gras. For more info, contact Sandy Gunder at 720-7278 or sandyg@saintthereseparish.org.

By Richard Silverstein, 37th Avenue

Madrona K-8 proud of 2003 Golden Apple Award Winner

By Madrona K-8 PTSA

Madrona K-8 is fortunate and proud to announce that Darice Johnson, seventh grade language arts and social studies teacher, won the state-wide Golden Apple Award. Darice came to Madrona from the African American Academy in the fall of 2003 and her energy and creativity have impacted on the whole school.

In the classroom Ms. Johnson and her students live by two sayings: "Stand up for what is right, even if you are standing alone" and "The dictionary is the only place where success comes before work." Johnson uses a variety of teaching strategies including an "Honesty Chair" that encourages students to share feelings and explore solutions to challenges, and a basketball hoop at which the students line up to test vocabulary learning. Such creative tools help nurture her students' sense of personal and social responsibility and to help them achieve success.



After studying in South Africa under a Fulbright grant, Johnson returned home vowing that she would touch the life of every one of her students in a meaningful way and that "not having" would not be an excuse for not learning. Her commitment to students goes beyond her regular classroom schedule. She also coordinates the Yearbook Crew in the Academy's after-school program and teaches in Seattle's Rainier Scholars program for academically gifted students of color.

Ms. Johnson and the other award winners will be featured on KCTS Channel 9 at 8:00 pm on February 26. Congratulations!

Joe Gast
paste-up

Sound Mind and Body Paste -Up

Madrona has had a rash of home burglaries over the past few weeks. In the 1100 block of 37th Avenue there were three burglaries in just two weeks. In each crime, the burglar kicked in a door to gain access, stole mostly portable items like jewelry or cash, and made a hasty escape. He or she appeared to have cased the alley because two of the robberies happened when the occupant left for a mere 30 minutes.

My neighbor, Marie Doyle, compiled this list of preventive measures after speaking to the Police Department. If you wish further information, call the East Precinct and talk with Watch Commander Officer Greeley at 684-4318, or Crime Prevention Officer Sonja Richter, who spoke on this same topic at the February Madrona Community Council meeting, at 684-7717.

- 1. Strengthen lock plates.** When a door is kicked in it's usually because the door jamb fails. Check the screws on your strike plates. They should be at least **three inches** long, and attached to the framing around the door, not just the door frame. The deadbolt throw, the part of the lock that enters the strike plate when you turn your key, should be at least **one inch** long, although many are only .5 inch. Any reputable lock store will sell you a "reinforced strike plate with 3-4-inch long screws" that you can install yourself with the help of an electric drill.
- 2. Bolt French doors.** Install bolts at the top **and** bottom of both doors.
- 3. Lock gates.** If you have a gate from an alley or into your yard, **lock it.**
- 4. Use lights.** Lights that are always on do not encourage neighbors to monitor your property. **Outside** motion-activated lights that come on when someone passes by and signals you and your neighbors to have a look outside are the best. Use timers on your **inside** lights when you're away during the day and at night. Set the timers to come on in the middle of the night (2:00-3:00am), as if you're up getting a drink of water.
- 5. Store valuables.** Don't leave purses, keys, backpacks, computers, etc. in sight from windows or doors. Also, **no jewelry in bedrooms!** Thieves look there first.
- 6. Use your home alarm.** Alarm systems only work when they're turned on.

Remember, if you see someone in your neighborhood who looks, acts, or dresses suspiciously, do not hesitate to ask if they need any help or what they might be doing. Expressing such concern might make a potential burglar think twice before acting. A few more good tips:

- Close curtains when you're away so that thieves can't see in.
- Lock doors and windows on second stories and above.
- Pay attention to barking dogs; they may be alerting you to an intruder at your neighbor's house.
- Put house numbers on alley gates, fences, or doors so that cops don't waste time trying to find your house.
- And finally, do not hesitate to call 9-1-1, even if it's only to report "suspicious activity." You never know.

FOUND
Set of golf clubs
at 33rd & Howell in late December.
Call Rick Reanier at 323-8450

Neighborhood Congrats

More Madrona folks doing wonderful things. Kudos to:

All the ladies who staff the polling station at Madrona K-8 on Election Day.

Madrona News advertiser **Gene Dexter** of **Dexter's Limos** for a behind the scenes profile of his life as a hip-hop producer and promoter that ran in the *Seattle Times*.

Shelley Huestis and all the other **Madrona Moms** who are delivering home cooked meals and best wishes to **Torsten Oh** and sons **Kai** and **Leif** while their mom **Mickey** recuperates from successful open-heart surgery.

"Cupcake visionary" **Jody Hall**, whose **Verite Coffee** café continues to create a buzz with stories in the *Seattle Weekly* and the *Seattle PI*.

Actress **Jody McCoy** for her great success in the **Issaquah Theater's** current production of "To Kill a Mockingbird," where she plays both cranky old Mrs. Dubose and Miss Maudie, the sweet woman who bakes the best cakes in Maycomb.

Brothers **Linus** and **Henry Mumford** who were honored by the Red Cross as "Everyday Heroes" for helping to rescue their father **Peter** when a skiing accident left him buried in snow.

The Madrona K-8 Community for throwing Principal Rickie Malone the wedding of a lifetime.

Supreme for being named one of Seattle's 10 best restaurants for "comfort food" by AOL's 2004 City's Best Guide.

New Years Babies

The Madrona Moms egroup continues to grow by leap and bounds and babies! Welcome to:

- Aaron Michael Bailey was born January 14 to Tiffany Larscheid, Demian Bailey and big sister Zoey.
- Noah Giovanni Brown born to Pamela Charles Brown and Desmond Brown on January 20. He weighed 9 pounds and was 19 inches long and Big Brother Jordan, 2 1/2, adores every bit of him.

Scott Warner paste-up

Madrona Automatic

"Views from the Double Wide" Opens at Verite

Madrona artist Jamie Ewing will exhibit his work for the first time in the Northwest right here in the neighborhood when "Views from the Double Wide: a Portrait of MacKinaw County" opens at Verite Coffee on

February 27. The show features a collection of works that brings to life the fictional writings of a 12-year-old boy who lives in a trailer park in a fictional town in the south. "I believe that every person has a story to tell," says Ewing, "and I intend on telling every story that I can possibly create!"

Ewing works on a large scale in oil, incorporates

painted glass in a shadow box effect, and throws in found objects. Jamie starts each piece by collecting vintage photos, photos of friends and family, and even magazine clippings. He then writes a story outline, based on one person's point of view. Outline in hand, he mixes together life and fiction to tell a story, a story that can be found right on the surface of the painting when Jamie writes right onto the painting so text becomes as important as a brush stroke.

Jamie Ewing comes to Seattle from North Carolina, via New York City. He started out his artist career as a men's fashion designer and traveled through several different art fields before settling on oil paintings. Over the years, his works have been shown in galleries in New York, Virginia and North Carolina, and represented by galleries all across the USA and Canada.

When not painting, Jamie, an incurable people watcher, can be found outside playing with his two dogs, painting in his at-home studio, or working on the recently purchased 32nd Avenue home he shares with partner Michael Novasio.



Madrona Computer pasteup

MADRONA

Community Bulletin Board

on the
web at
www.madrona.us

Neighborhood events are listed for FREE! Send your info to Kim & Christine (see back page).

- MON & WED 7-8:45pm ADULT OPEN VOLLEYBALL**—Garfield Community Center 684-4788
TUES & THURS 7-8:45pm ADULT OPEN BASKETBALL—Garfield Community Center 684-4788
WEDNESDAYS 10:30am PRE-SCHOOL STORY TIMES—Madrona Sally Goldmark Library, Lynn Lorenz 684-4705
 8-10pm **BASKETBALL FOR ADULTS**—Madrona K-8 gym, Steve Orser 423-1412 (\$3 “cover charge” supports the Madrona K-8 PTSA)
THURSDAYS 9:30 KINDERGARTEN TOURS—Madrona K-8 School, Mary Myslewicz 252-3102
 9:30 **SENIOR WALK: SOUND STEPS**—Open to walkers age 50+ Garfield Community Center, call 233-7255 for weekly walk location
 7:30pm **AA/ALANON MEETING**—Epiphany Parish Great Hall 38th & Denny, 324-2573
THURSDAYS — MONDAYS Evenings LIVE MUSIC—St. Clouds 726-1522, calendar of performers at www.stclouds.com/NewFiles/music.html
SATURDAYS 10-11:00am & 3-4:00pm FAMILY FLOAT SWIM—Medgar Evers Pool 684-4766
SUNDAYS 2:00 STORY TIME—Izilla Toys, 2840 E Madison 322-8697

- Feb 16-20 SEATTLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS WINTER BREAK**
Feb 20 11-4:00 SENIOR TRIP: WONDERFUL WOODINVILLE—Transportation provided from Garfield Community Center, call Clo Bakari or Cheryl Brown at 233-7255 to register (\$6.50)
Feb 21 10-2:00 MADRONA WOODS WORK PARTY—38th & East Marion entrance, Ann Bucher 323-8325
 10:00am **ARBORETUM WINTER GARDEN TOUR**—Washington Park Arboretum, Graham Visitors Center 685-8033
 10:30-noon **37TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT TOWN HALL**—Garfield Community Center, Rep. Sharon Tomiko Santos (360) 786-7944
 6:00pm **MARDI GRAS CELEBRATION & GUMBO COOK-OFF**— St. Therese School, Sandy Gunder 720-7278
Feb 24 9:45am SENIOR WALK: EXPLORE A SEATTLE PARK—Transportation provided from Garfield Community Center, call Clo Bakari or Cheryl Brown at 233-7255 to register
Feb 25 9-1:00 HOMELESS COOKING—St. Clouds Restaurant, John Platt 726-1522
Feb 26 8:00pm GOLDEN APPLE AWARD CEREMONY TELECAST—featuring Madrona K-8 teacher Darice Johnson, KCTS Channel 9
Feb 27 9-5:00 SENIOR TRIP: PLACES OF WORSHIP—Transportation provided from Garfield Community Center, call Clo Bakari or Cheryl Brown at 233-7255 to register (\$5.50)
EXHIBIT OPENING: VIEWS FROM THE DOUBLE WIDE— new works by Jamie Ewing, Verite Coffee, 1101 34th Street (corner of Spring)
 7:00pm **ERITREAN DINNER BENEFIT FOR ARTS CORPS**—featuring live music, Eritrean Association of Greater Seattle, 1528 Valentine Place South, kids welcome! Arts Corps 329-4442, ext. 6 or lara@artscorps.org
Feb 28 9-1:00 MADRONA CHURCHES LENTEN RETREAT—with harpist Karen Mathieson, St. Therese Parish 325-2711 ext. 10
 10:00am **MADRONA NEIGHBORHOOD & SCHOOL APPRECIATION DAY**— Madrona K-8 School, Jon Hughes 219-1441
 1:00pm **FRIENDS OF FLO WARE BLACK HISTORY CELEBRATION**—Flo Ware Park 28th & Jackson, Leschi Community Council Thurston Muskelly 325-3683
 7:00pm **“THE UNTOLD STORY OF EMMETT LOUIS TILL”** — documentary by Keith Beauchamp, Langston Hughes Performing Arts Center, Stephanie Cholmondeley 860-7764
Feb 29 NO SERVICES; MAJOR RENOVATIONS—Madrona Presbyterian Church, 10:30 services moved to Mercer Island Presbyterian and transportation from Madrona provided, 232-5595
 2:00pm **“THE UNTOLD STORY OF EMMETT LOUIS TILL”** — documentary by Keith Beauchamp, Benaroya’s Nordstrom Recital Hall, Stephanie Cholmondeley 860-7764
Mar 2 7:15pm MADRONA COMM. COUNCIL —Madrona Playfield shelterhouse, Bill Hanson 322-3450
Mar 3 11:30-3:30 SENIOR TRIP: TODAI SEAFOOD BAR—NO Transportation provided! Call Clo Bakari or Cheryl Brown at 233-7255 to register (\$12.95 plus tax and tip)
Mar 5 10-4:00 SENIOR TRIP: LA CONNOR— Transportation provided from Garfield Community Center, Call Clo Bakari or Cheryl Brown at 233-7255 to register (\$8.00)
Mar 5 & 6 LENTEN RETREAT FOR MEN—with Fr. Jim Harbaugh, S.J. of Epiphany Episcopal Parish, St. Madeline Sophie (Bellevue), Seán Walsh 999-3213
Mar 6 12:30-4:30 SPIRITUAL RETREAT—Nourishing our Pilgrim Heart—Tending to Our Journey with Each Other and the Earth, Epiphany Episcopal Church Parish Center, Maureen Horgan 860-5086.
Mar 7 NO SERVICES; MAJOR RENOVATIONS—Madrona Presbyterian Church, 10:30 services moved to Mercer Island Presbyterian and transportation from Madrona provided, 232-5595
Mar 9 9:45am SENIOR WALK: EXPLORE A SEATTLE PARK—Transportation provided from Garfield Community Center, call Clo Bakari or Cheryl Brown at 233-7255 to register
 7:00pm **2004 REPUBLICAN PRECINCT CAUCUS**—Visit www.kcgop.org for locations
 7:00pm **MADRONA VALLEY NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION MEETING**—1426 27th Avenue, George Martinez 329-8851
Mar 10 6:30pm MADRONA K-8 PTSA MEETING—School library, Jon Hughes 219-1441
Mar 12 10-6:00 SENIOR TRIP: WINE & BEER TASTING— Transportation provided from Garfield Community Center, Call Clo Bakari or Cheryl Brown at 233-7255 to register (\$8.50)
Mar 17 9-1:00 HOMELESS COOKING—St. Clouds Restaurant, John Platt 726-1522

February

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MADRONA NEWS WWW.MADRONA.US

Newsletter of the Madrona Community Council

Published monthly except for July and August, with a circulation of
2300, reaching homes & neighbors throughout Madrona &
Central Seattle.

March 5, 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.

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Advertising: Contact Steve Orser at 423-1412 or
steve.orser@quadrantcorp.com. Rates are on-line at
www.madrona.us.

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

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Printed by Overnight Printing — 621-9412

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