

M A D R O N A

N E W S
W W W . M A D R O N A . U S

February 2006
Issue No. 182

Eating Good in the (Madrona) Neighborhood

By Kim Herber, 35th Avenue

One thing you can say about Madrona—you'll never leave the neighborhood hungry. From Green Eggs & Ham at the Hi-Spot or Ethiopian delicacies at Cafe Soliel for breakfast to the Imperial Mix-up at St. Clouds or a sandwich from Madrona Deli for lunch, to beef tenderloin at Dulces or a good old-fashioned burger from the Ale House for dinner, to a triple-threat cupcake at Verite anytime, we've got your tummy and your taste buds covered.

But there's always room for more food—especially if it's good. So Madrona better get ready to stop cutting carbs and forget about eating low-fat because we are about to experience two new full-service restaurants, plus a small French-style bistro.

Sapphire Madrona, the latest venture for Rick Fox and Rob Smith, owners of the Triangle Lounge in Fremont, just opened on 34th Avenue with its kitchen in the capable hands of Certified Executive Chef Steven Hazell. Seven grew up in Southern California and worked in restaurants from L.A. to San Francisco before moving briefly to Seattle in the mid-nineties to work as the Sous Chef at Café Campagne. Steven then headed to Chicago to train at the world-renowned Charlie Trotter's restaurant.

Chef Steven will share his Contemporary American/Globally Eclectic menu of entrees such as lobster and potato gnocchi, rack of lamb, grilled tenderloin, and baked trout. Because he once owned a restaurant in San Luis Obispo, the Sapphire wine list is heavy with wines from central California. He returned to Seattle in 2005 and until recently worked at Restaurant 67 at The Edgewater Hotel.

(continued on page 3)

MCC Vice President's Corner

Monthly Neighborhood Update

by Mark Melroy, 32nd Avenue

William Hanson, Madrona Community Council (MCC) President, is away attending to family matters so I am excited to write his column this month.

The Mayor is coming to Madrona March 11! More on that later—first, the news.

Our February 7th MCC meeting was very well-attended—many thanks to those who took the time to participate. The meeting was moderated by MCC Treasurer Steve Orser and the two main topics were sidewalk maintenance and a safety issue at Madrona Playfield.

Charles Bookman of the Department of Transportation explained that state law holds the abutting property owner responsible for sidewalk maintenance, even when the sidewalk is located within the adjoining road right-of-way. Liability can shift to the City if sidewalk damage is

caused by a tree installed or maintained by the City. However, homeowners can request that the city provide a temporary asphalt patch to cover dangerous sidewalks. For more information, contact Mr. Bookman at charles.bookman@seattle.gov.

A bit of background is necessary for the second topic. Earlier this month, an email about an incident at the Madrona Playfield that involved Madrona K-8 students was sent out to the Madrona Moms e-group. The initial note, which went out to over 600 families, elicited a flurry of responses, and the originator, Richard Silverstein was invited to come to the MCC meeting to discuss his concerns. The meeting was attended by the Madrona K-8 principal and vice principals, a Seattle School Board member, the Seattle Schools Equity and Race

(continued on page 2)

Photographer Mom Shows Pics at Kid Shop

For the first time in several years, photographer and Madrona Mom Leslie Duss is once again sharing her photos with the public. Her show is a collection of images of children and nature themes on display at Bootyland, a children's clothing shop on Pike, through mid-March.

These days, Leslie's life focuses on her family and full-time job. But in years past, she spent



lots of time behind the lens. Her black-and-white prints were in juried shows in Pittsburgh and shown at Benham Gallery in downtown Seattle. After a solo back packing trip in Asia, she displayed color photos of kids in several Seattle coffee shops. In 1999 she captured the WTO protests for the Independent Media Center.

In 2001, Leslie and her husband Matt moved to Madrona and lived in the little yellow cottages demolished to make way for the Bowling Green building. The

(continued on page 2)

In this Issue

- 3 Time to Celebrate!
- 4 Free Estate Planning Seminars
- 5 Look Good - Be Happy
- 6 Neighborhood Congrats
- 7 Neighborhood School News
- 8 Pet Parade
- 9 Nature Calls
- 10 & 11 Madrona Black History
- 12 Car Crash on 32nd Avenue
- 13 Community Calender

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

Relations director, a Madrona K-8 teacher, several Madrona K-8 PTSA members, and 10+ at-large Madrona community members.

In his email and in the MCC meeting, Richard described his experience when the Madrona K-8 School had a 10:30 late start day. That morning, approximately 50 Madrona K-8 students had convened in the Playfield when a fight broke out between two students. Adults who were playing at the park with small children reported attempting to stop the fight, and then left because they felt the situation was unsafe. As the father of the toddlers, when he heard what had happened, Richard called the school to report the incident to the principal. He reiterated that his main concerns were playfield safety and a large group of unsupervised students.

After some questions and comments, Kaaren Andrews, Madrona K-8 principal, recounted her recollection of that day and explained how staff at the school viewed the events. Madrona K-8 middle school starts late twice a month to allow training and strategic planning time for teachers. On this particular day, some kids arrived early and gathered at the Playfield. Kids being kids, two began to fight and a crowd formed. One student ran to the school and Kaaren quickly came over and broke up the fight. She led the students involved (mostly African American) to the gym to talk about their inappropriate behavior. As she walked back toward the school, she reported that a (white) woman playing with a child at the park questioned why Kaaren would want to work at Madrona K-8 and why she would “even believe in those kids.” Those remarks were taken as a racial context, prompting a strong response from the school and the district. A letter from the Seattle Schools superintendent Raj Manhas was given to all present in the meeting.

This information was clearly very upsetting for everyone at the meeting. During the ensuing impassioned discussion, some Madrona K-8 PTSA members expressed their disappointment that this issue, which so easily becomes complicated and volatile, was emailed to such a large group of neighbors. Others folks talked about the history of the Park, and the Master Use permit that documents how the school can use the park during school hours. Some people at the meeting felt that two kids fighting did not warrant the current level of alarm.

The exchange was still going strong 40 minutes after the meeting was to have ended. Clearly this incident has touched a community nerve with regard to issues of race, socio-economics, safety, and the quality of our neighborhood school and the Madrona community's connection to that school. To bring a close to the evening, I volunteered to work with Madrona K-8 Vice Principal Brad Brown to explore how we can strengthen the relationship between the school and the community. Neighbor and school board member Mary Bass asked to be included and will attend when possible. What about community members? We also suggested that Richard elevate his complaint to the district and the principal's supervisors.

It was an exhausting meeting that raised many interesting points to ponder. All members of our diverse neighborhood need to make an effort to know and understand each other better. One positive way to do that is for everyone to attend Madrona Neighborhood/School Appreciation Day on March 11:00am in the Madrona K-8 library. Seattle Mayor Greg Nickels will be there and I hope you will be too!

Photographer Mom *(cont'd from page 1)*

family currently lives in south Capitol Hill, and Leslie works as an editor for a Fremont consulting firm. Taking pictures provides a welcome creative outlet and so she squeezes it in between work and spending time with her 2-year-old daughter, Ana.

Leslie, who admits to being “obsessed with the still image for as long as I can remember” takes her my camera with her everywhere and posts a photo a day on her blog www.leslieduss.com. She shoots street photography, environmental portraits, landscapes, and abstracts. She embraced the preparations for her current show with great joy, and used it as an opportunity to refine her skills in composition, color, and lighting. This summer she hopes to hold photography workshops for children, arming youngsters with cameras in the spirit of the award-winning documentary “Born into Brothels” and non-profit organization “Kids with Cameras” that teaches photography to marginalized children in communities around the world.

Leslie's next show will be at Fuel coffee shop on 19th Street in May and will feature a wide range of subjects. For more information contact Leslie at leslie.duss@gmail.com.

Eating Good *(cont'd from page 1)*

Everyone at Sapphire Madrona is excited to be a part of this community and look forward to meeting you all! For Rob Smith, being in Madrona is special as he spent a lot of time here as a kid, visiting his grandmother Dorothy Fleming who lived on Grand Avenue.

Just down the block, Cremant (Kray-Mahn) is scheduled to open February 26 at 1423 34th. In France, cremant refers to the finest French Sparkling wines made by the traditional Methode Champenoise outside of the champagne region. In Madrona, Cremant means a rustic, welcoming, neighborhood restaurant with an inexpensive menu of traditional French home-style cooking.

Cremant is owned and operated by Chef Scott Emerick and his wife Tanya Emerick. Scott lived in France and trained in the Classic French method at the Ecole Superieure de Cuisine Francaise Jean Ferrandi in Paris and worked in several fine restaurants. He worked for two years under James Beard award-winning chef, Tamara Murphy at Campagne, and as Sous Chef of Le Pichet. Here he worked at Café Juanita, and most recently at Lark.

The menu at Crémant concentrates on refining classic regional French dishes—Os a Moelle Roti roasted marrow bones, Saumon Sauvage Fume Smoked Salmon; Demi Homard ½ roasted lobster, Blanquette de Jarret de Veau braised veal shank—rather than inventing new ones. The wine list features at least a dozen Cremants and regional wines by the glass, bottle, or Un Tiers—an 8oz mini decanter. Salon du Jardin, will provide a quiet, comfortable space for private parties of up to 20.

And if that's not enough, a third new restaurant, a small French bistro, is working its way through the permit process. As soon as possible, it will through open its doors at 1114 34th Avenue, between Ruby Cleaners and Conley Hats.

Cremant serves dinner nightly from 5:00pm to 11:00pm. Sapphire Madrona opens for dinner nightly at 5:00pm, and serves weekend brunch from 9:00am to 2:00pm. For information about Cremant, call 322-4600. For reservations at Sapphire, call 322-1974.

Neighborhood Appreciation Day is March 11

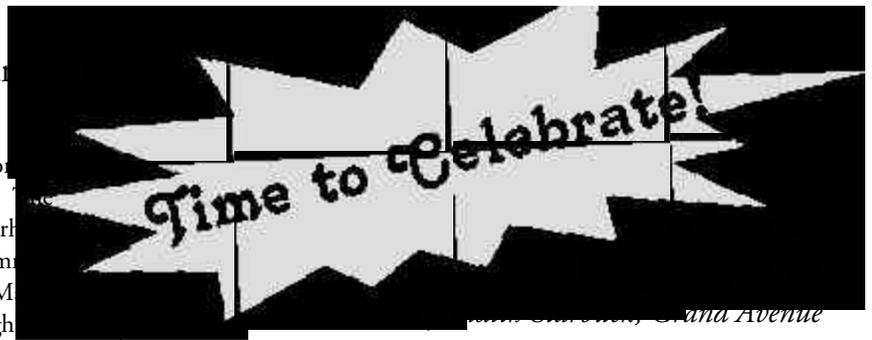
By Laura Yurdin, 32nd Avenue

Want to meet the great people of our neighborhood? Come to the March 11 Neighborhood Appreciation Day celebration! The "Who's Who" of Madrona will honor our great neighborhood and the diversity that makes Madrona such a special community. Please join us at the Madrona K-8 library at 11:00am. Madrona Mayor Greg Nickels will be in attendance, and many young neighborhood performers will entertain us with their special talents.

There is still time for YOU to honor YOUR special Madrona neighbor! You can submit nominations for Neighborhood Appreciation Day awards until February 26. There are three different awards, so see which fits best and email your entry to me at lyurdin@pointb.com. Award categories are:

- **The Nora Award:** Named in honor of Madrona activist Nora Wood, this award is given to a Madrona resident who, over time and in ways both large and small, has left a personal mark on the community. Previous winners include Bob Bass, Mary Holm, Dorothy Grant, Dee Dee Rainbow, Dr. Samuel B. McKinney, and Suzanne Sheppard.
- **The Local Hero Award:** Given to a Madrona resident for an act of heroism, singular kindness or generosity. Previous winners included Sayre Coombs, Tom Flood, Jocelyn Owens, Ann Lennartz, Anthony Matlock, and Junius Rochester.
- **The Unsung Hero Award:** Given to a Madrona resident for service to others in the larger community. Jon Hughes, the Friends of Madrona Playfield, Francois Kissel, Wayne Melonson, Julia Berry, and Martha Ortiz-Williams are previous winners.

Looking forward to seeing you all at Madrona K-8 on March 11!



The Friends of Madrona Woods invite everyone in Madrona to a party for the Madrona Park Creek daylighting project! Approvals and permits are lining up, studies have been done, experts have encouraged us, money is coming in, and soon we'll be talking with contractors about constructing culverts and the cove this summer. To celebrate this long-awaited beginning, we are holding a big bash in Epiphany Church's Great Hall on March 4 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Join us for fun and info about our project, from fund-raising and preparations this spring, through construction between June and October, and into a future of planting and monitoring. We'll have activities for the kids, so bring the whole family.

It's no secret that we want lots of people to get excited about the project because we'll need lots of help placing woody debris in the creek bed, planting native seedlings, and monitoring various species. We are also counting on our Madrona neighbors to provide food for work party volunteers, write checks, and help build three bridges and a trail for pedestrian access.

Work has picked up along the ravines. Special thanks this month to 16 8th Graders and two teachers from The Northwest School who pulled ivy and mulched with great industry and good cheer for two and a half hours February 1. Look for work party photos at our new and improved web site, www.madronawoods.org.

From now on, our work parties every third Saturday of the month will begin at 9:00am instead of 10:00am, and we'll stop for lunch at 1:00 instead of 2:00. We've invested in some rubber boots, since muddy has been the mode at our recent work, and can now provide rubber boots for anyone from size 7 through 13. On March 25 we'll be working with families from the Bertschi School as part of their Helping Hands day.

To find out more about the daylighting project, ask Peg Gaynor at peggy@gaynorinc.com. To donate money or find out how to get otherwise involved, contact Joan Scott at 324-6468 or jmscott@seanet.com. To get on our e-mail list for notification of work parties and other events, contact Deirdre McCrary at jaymccrary@juno.com.

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If you are a parent, do you know:

- *Who would care for your child(ren) if you and your spouse passed away?*
- *Who would manage and disburse your assets for the child(ren)'s benefit?*

These are just a couple of the important decisions that parents need to consider when creating a family estate plan. If you want to learn about options to consider, or have estate planning questions, plan now to attend a free estate planning seminar presented by Madrona attorney Lori Rath.

The seminar will be offered on March 8 and March 13, from 7:00pm to 8:30pm in the Madrona Plaza building, 1421 34th Avenue. Please RSVP to Rath Law at 219-1402 or lori@rathlawmediation.com. If you need childcare, get together with friends and share a sitter!

Welcome Babies!

Congratulations to these Madrona families whose homes are full of sunshine in these waning days of winter.

Parker James Smith was born November 3, 2005. He weighed 9lbs., 7oz., and was 20 inches long. Parents are Ron and Erin Smith of 29th Avenue.

Bartlett Robert Hall was born January 10, 2006 to Edie and Brian Hall of 38th Avenue. He weighed 7lbs., 10oz., and was 20 inches long.

*Rath Law
paste-up*

MV Art Walk: A Call for Artists

By Cathy Nunneley, 33rd Avenue E

The Greater Madison Valley Community Council (MVCC), in partnership with The Madison Merchant Association, is sponsoring the Spring Art Walk and Sale along East Madison Street on May 13, the Saturday before Mother's Day. Last year's art walk was highly successful and we anticipate another good turn out of artists and shoppers this year. We are currently looking for local artists to participate and share their wares with the community.

During the art walk, which is tentatively scheduled to run from noon to 3:00pm, many Madison Street businesses will host artists and their works within their shops. The Merchant Association is covering Art Walk expenses, and the MVCC will pay for publicity so there is no charge for participating artists.

If you are an artist and interested in being part of the Madison Valley Spring Art Walk, contact Karrie Baas of Baas Gallery as soon as possible at 324-4742 or karrie@baasgallery.com

Madrona Mardi Gras, Sort of...

By Audrey Seale, 36th Avenue

Laissez le Bon temp rouler! Mardi Gras proper may be February 28 but in Madrona, the Madrona Dining & Sipping (MDSS) will celebrate Mardi Gras Madrona-style on February 23. Everyone is welcome and we would love to have you join this ad hoc group of festive neighbors as we dine and sip together at Dulces Latin Bistro, 34th & Pike, starting at 6:30. We will practice toasts, tell Mardi Gras stories, and share a fun and friendly evening with our fine Madrona neighbors.

For those who have not made it to one of these evenings before, here's the scoop: Dulces prepares a three-course prix fixe menu, with several choices in each course, for \$25. For \$10 more, you can enjoy wine from Dulces' famous wine cellar matched to each course. There is plenty of time to meet everyone at the table, and we all always go home delighted by the connections we discover between the wonderful, interesting people who share our neighborhood.

We are looking for you to join us! No engraved commitment card required—just reply to neighbor Jill Alles of 38th Avenue and you are in! Please contact Jill by February 20 at 325-3014 or jill_aubry@hotmail.com. We will see you at Madrona Mardi Gras—don't forget your beads!

*Dentist
Paste-up*

Madrona SWM Seeks Success

By Brad Kinnish, 32nd Avenue

I've lived in Madrona since the summer of 2003 and love our local shops and restaurants. However, I'd love them even more if I had someone to share them with and so I explored the online dating world of Match.com and Yahoo Personals. After a less than satisfying experience, I decided to start my own dating site, grouped.com (www.grouped.com).

Grouped.com is an online dating service that connects groups of friends to other groups of friends as a way for singles to meet new people. Groups get together at events planned by one Host Group and attended by another Guest Group. These events can be anything from bowling to art shows to happy hour. The Hosts plan the event and post it for others to see. Interested Guests request and receive an invitation.

Grouped.com is different from other dating sites in that it is based on group interactions. Meeting new people can be difficult, but always seems easier when your good friends are with you. Attending events with friends provides a safer and more comfortable social setting that is much less intimidating than the usual one-on-one "dates."

Also, because the events are set up by the Host group, individuals do not have to take the time to exchange excessive amounts of email or instant messages to arrange mutually convenient



meetings. When a Host group is ready to get together, it simply posts an event. When a Guest Group is available, it simply responds. This eliminates the need for extensive online communication prior to meeting in person.

Right now, most grouped.com members are from the Seattle area, but there are also Host and Guest groups in Tacoma, Everett, Bellevue, Bellingham, Kent and many other areas of western Washington. After a recent story about the site ran in the Seattle PI, more folks join almost every day. Grouped.com is free so if you and your friends are looking to meet new people, give it a try.



Kevin O'Doherty
paste-up

Winter Skin & Hair Care Tips

By Heather Caldwell, Kismet Salon

Although it is wet outside, our skin and hair can become extremely dry this time of year. Skin needs more than a drink of water; it needs to be protected from the outdoor cold and the indoor heat.

The first steps to healthy, luminous skin are mild exfoliation two to three times a week (once or twice for sensitive skin), and a rich moisturizer at night. It's best to exfoliate in the shower or tub and apply an SPF 15 body moisturizer while you are still damp. Keep away from the overly perfumy lotions as they can irritate weather-sensitive skin.

Lips need protection from the elements so also use plenty of lip balm with sunscreen.

While you're thinking about your face, don't forget the rest of your head! Our hair and scalp suffer during the winter too. There are a myriad of products that protect the hair and keep it supple and static free. From leave-in conditioners, to pomades, waxes, and creams, choose what's best for your hair type. Your scalp also needs special care during the winter; dry indoor air and colder outside temperatures can exacerbate dandruff (really just dry skin) and eczema. Massaging your scalp with your fingertips while shampooing, or rubbing it gently with a hairbrush before you shampoo bring blood flow to the scalp and releases the dry skin flakes naturally.

And if moisturizing and massaging just aren't enough, nothing is better than a trim to help tame cold weather frizzies. Feel free to stop by Kismet for a personal hair assessment and care recommendation. It can't rain forever so hoist a drink of water and toast the Spring!

Barbara Bannon
paste-up

Kismet

Kudos All Around

Everyone in Madrona is busy doing wonderful and important things for themselves, their families, and their community. Here are just a few of the things your Madrona neighbors have been up to lately.

The **Central Area Senior Center** who received \$25,000 in donations from the neighborhood, and to everyone who sent in money. The center is facing severe budget cuts from the city.

The **Central District Forum for Arts & Ideas** on being awarded The Pride Foundation's 2006 Ted Lord Award for Allied Communities. The award of \$2,500 is given to the Pacific Northwest organization whose work best exemplifies The Pride Foundation's vision of a world free from all prejudice.

Seattle City Council member and Madrona resident **Richard Conlin** on being elected council president.

The 24 young Central Area and South End artists aged 12-15 who worked with professional artists to design and build a series of aluminum and enameled steel entry markers for the Rainier Valley Cultural Center as part of **Coyote Central's 2005 Hit the Streets program**.

Madrona crafter **Nikola Davidson** whose sushi candle craft kits were featured in *Seattle* magazine.

To **Thom Ditty**, Carleton College class of 1980, and the Carleton Alumni book club who are celebrating 15 years of monthly meetings, the last 11 held in his home on 35th Avenue. More Carls are always welcome!

To the parishioners of **Epiphany Parish** who shared their Eucharist celebration with all of Seattle via KONG-TV Channel 6 twice in February.

Madrona architects **Nancy Josephson and Stephen Day** whose self-designed Grand Avenue home is a winner in Pacific Northwest Magazine's Winter Home Design 2005 competition and featured in the November 27, 2005 issue.

The **Madrona K-8 First Move chess players** for putting up a tough match against Seattle Seahawk Shaun Alexander, whose donation helped fund the club.

To the parishioners and guests of **Madrona Presbyterian Church** who hosted Madrona's ecumenical Martin Luther King Day celebration, which was featured on KOMO TV Channel 4.

The **Overton Berry Trio** on its recently released CD "Live at Admiral," which was recorded at West Seattle's Admiral Congregational Church in April 2005.

Madrona K-8 first-grade teacher **Maxine Parker** who was named the local 2005 Teacher of the Year.

Eric Liu, author of "Guiding Lights: The People Who Lead Us Toward Our Purpose in Life" for hosting the first ever Guiding Lights Weekend, a conference on the art and power of mentoring.

Rheumatologist **Dr. Steve Overman** whose book, "You Don't Look Sick: Living Well with Invisible Chronic Illness," was selected as a finalist for USA Book News' Best Books of 2005 in the Health category.

The group of **St. Therese Students** caught by the TV cameras hamming it up with Cisco at the Seattle Home and Garden Show.

To **Dorothy and Roger Sale** for their sponsorship of, and participation in, the 29th Annual League of Women Votes auction fundraiser.

To Villa Victoria's **Naomi Andrade Smith** for re-inaugurating her business in the Genesee neighborhood off Rainier Avenue S.

Madrona K-8 third-grader **Perry Ortiz-Williams** who was recognized by the Seattle Business Journal for his fundraising efforts on behalf of Plymouth Housing Group, and for being named 2005 Outstanding Young Philanthropist by the Washington chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals.

To **Patrinell Wright** who looks ravishing in red as part of the campaign to raise awareness of the dangers of heart disease and stroke to women.

Ben Chotsen
paste-up

Vanderspek
paste-up

Connect with Madrona K-8 Panther Partners PTSA

*By Shelley Huestis, 31st Avenue,
Madrona PTSA Secretary*

Thank you to everyone who attended one of the Madrona K-8 School tours during January and February.

If you were not able to attend a tour but would still like to learn more about Madrona K-8 PTSA activities, contact Panther Partners, our PTSA organization, at our NEW telephone number: 252-0444, ext 97872, or by email at pta@gomadronak8.org.

All our Madrona neighbors are also welcome to attend any of Partners general membership meetings on Wednesdays, March 15, April 19, May 10 and June 14 from 6:30 to 7:30pm in the school library. You can also check out our PTSA website, www.gomadronak8.org for our monthly 2005-2006 newsletters, weekly flyers, our school's academic achievement plan, our 2004-2005 Annual Report, contact information for our committee chairs and grade representatives, and other helpful information.

And if you are interested in volunteering at Madrona K-8, contact our Volunteer Coordinator Michelle Manion at t252-3108 or mmmanion@seattleschools.org. If you are specifically interested in getting involved in the PTSA's many arts activities, contact the PTSA office.

Thanks so much for supporting Madrona K-8 Panther Partners PTSA. Please stay in touch!

Sport and Fun at St. Therese

*By Lisa Hanses,
St. Therese Communications Chairman*

Congratulations to our 7 and 8th grade Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) girls' basketball team. They finished their season 5-1 and will once again play in the CYO playoffs the end of the month.

We are also very proud of our Kindergarten and 1st grade Rotary Pee Wee boys & girls basketball team for winning the championship game at the Boys & Girls Club earlier this month.

February at St. Therese means it's time for Mardi Gras! Put on your Zydeco dancin' shoes and Mardi Gras masks and join us on February 25 for a family-oriented event put on by the Parent Organization Leadership Team (POLT). There will be Zydeco music and plenty of Bon temp! Raffle tickets will be sold for \$1 each and drawings held through the night; prizes include a television and an iPod shuffle. The cost of the evening is \$30 per family or \$15 per person. This covers all of your food and drinks, and tickets can be purchased at the door.

Everyone in Madrona is welcome and responsible for joining in the fun!

Tour the Valley School

*By Gail Mensher,
Director of Admissions, The Valley School*

The Valley School is offering tours through March 2 in the regular admissions season. Applicants for pre-kindergarten through second grade will visit on March 4 and March 11. Older students visit by arrangement.

Applications are due March 9. Letters of acceptance are mailed on March 23. Call the office (328-4475) for more information.

Catholic School Commitments

By Lisa Hanses, St. Therese Communications Chairman

At St. Therese School, faith is at the forefront. Our School-wide Learning Expectations (SLE) describe our overall school goals, and declare every St. Therese student is:

- A child of faith
- An inspired learner
- An effective communicator
- A community participant

Appropriately enough, the first SLE deals with Faith and defines a St. Therese student as a child of faith who:

- Models the teachings of Jesus
- Practices forgiveness and works towards reconciliation
- Has developed a personal relationship with God through prayer liturgies, and participation in the sacraments
- Has self-respect, respect for others, and respect for all God's creations
- Has knowledge of the Bible and the history of the church

As a Catholic school, faith is a key to who we are as a community. Moreover, as a parish school, our mission is an outreach of the faith expressed at St. Therese Church. We ensure our teachers receive the catechetical training needed to share the faith. St. Therese parish is a community called to be Eucharist in the world. That statement is made real in St. Therese School through our liturgies, Monday prayer service, community service projects, religion classes, daily prayer and intentions and in all the ways we work with our students. Teacher and families work toward making faith relevant and relational, and encourage our children of faith to make their little part of the world better.



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Play Madrona Mutt Match-up

By Kelsey Roy, 35th Avenue

Sometimes it seems like everyone in Madrona has a dog and some people have two! All of these dogs live in my neighborhood. To play Mutt Match-up, pick which dog lives with which owner by drawing a leash to connect them. The answers are on page 12.



Zack

Favorite treat: Lil'weenies
Age: 9.5 years



Jill

Favorite color: Purple
Lived in Madrona: 6 months



Tootsie

Favorite treat: Beef sticks
Age: 18 months



Isabelle & Laila

Favorite color: Blue & Pink
Lived in Madrona: 11 & 7 years



Harper

Favorite treat: Frosted Paws Ice cream
Age: Ageless beauty



Rose

Favorite color: White
Lived in Madrona: 10 years

Bush School Paste-up

Explorer West Paste-up

Letter to the Editor: Cat Consciousness

I have two dogs. Inadvertently, I also have cats—in my garden. I am not sure of the exact number, but at least five cats visit my garden regularly. They visit to bury their feces in my garden mulch; they also visit to hunt birds.

We planted our small garden with trees, shrubs, and ground covers to attract birds. Our garden is a certified “Backyard Wildlife Habitat,” and we love watching the birds in our yard and at the bird bath. We keep track of the various species that visit, and delight when someone exotic flits by. One of our neighbors shares our hobby and puts out food to attract more birds.

We are frustrated that the birds in our yard are in danger because visiting cats frequently lie in wait amongst our plants. Periodically, we find a thick splattering of feathers near the bird bath, evidence of a massacre. Recently, a cat ran through our garden on a return trip from the neighbor’s with a bird in its mouth. We worry that birds will stop coming to our garden for fear of a cat attack.

I understand that cats are natural predators. A study done in Wisconsin in 1996 estimated that free ranging cats kill as many as 219 million birds per year. One rural cat was recorded to have killed 1,690 small animals and birds in just 18 months! Bells on collars do not reduce a cat’s effectiveness as a hunter, and a cat’s instinct to hunt is present regardless of how well-fed it is.

As a bird-loving gardening enthusiast, I sincerely wish that Madrona cat owners would keep their pets in their own yard (or inside their house), or supervise their outdoor activities to prevent them from killing birds and/or using a neighbor’s garden as a litter box. Cats do not need to run free. A backyard enclosure, furnished with cat toys, and attractive plants and mulch is a good way for cats to exercise and enjoy fresh air. Many web sites including www.abcbirds.org/cats/ address the problems associated with free roaming cats. I encourage my cat-loving neighbors to explore ways to keep their cats safe and secured.

Sincerely,

Christine Mustelier
900 32nd Avenue
323-8122

St. Therese Paste-Up

Gypsy Moth Spraying Nearby

Madison Valley is scheduled to be sprayed this Spring as an effort to control an infestation of gypsy moths. Gypsy moths cause significant damage to plant life in the northwest and studies of the moths' movements indicate that the valley is at risk.

The project team held a meeting at Meany Middle School on February 9. They explained that the spray being used is called DTK, and has a healthy safety record with the Environmental Protection Agency. It is the herbicide of choice for organic gardeners in that it is biological not chemical.

The spraying is scheduled for late April and early May, although the exact dates are yet to be determined. It will be accomplished by helicopter in three separate applications at one week intervals. The 100 acre target area is just north of Madrona. Its boundaries are: E. Republican to the north, E. Howell to the south, 21st Avenue E. to the west, and ML King Way to the east.

For further information, visit the Department of Health at the state www.doh.wa.gov or city www.metrokc.gov level. Questions and concerns may also be directed to John Lumberg at 360-586-8459.

Learn about Landslides

Have all these weeks of rain got you concerned about the stability of the ground below your home? Do you have a problem with a steep slope? If so, the City of Seattle Department of Planning and Development (DPD) and Seattle Public Utilities invite you to attend a free meeting to learn how to protect your property. There will be presentations and individual consultation on best practices for managing landslide-prone properties.

The next meeting is February 25, from 10:00am to noon in the cafeteria of North Seattle Community College, 9600 College Way North. No registration is required.

Joining City of Seattle staff will be members of the American Society for Civil Engineers, the Association of Engineering Geologists, the International Society of Arboriculture and Associated Building Contractors. Presentations will include a discussion of the causes of landslides and proper drainage and vegetation for sloping sites. There will also be time for a question and answer session and one-on-one discussions. For more information, visit www.seattle.gov/dclu/news/20060119b.asp

Madison Valley Homes Condemned after Flood Damage

Seattle Public Utilities met with the Madison Valley Flood Victims Association in January to discuss the condemned homes at 30th Avenue E. and E. John, and what to do with open space once the houses are demolished.

SPU's proposal includes grading the 5-acre parcel into a gradual slope with an emergency drain at the bottom. The slope will be very shallow and able to handle storm water in an emergency; the basin will hold at least a million gallons of water. SPU agreed to drain water accumulation within 48 hours, and will also place pipes in the neighborhood to drain water from backyards. Neighbors considered choices for a perimeter path, benches, and plantings.

This plan is only a temporary fix and ongoing studies will determine a long term solution. SPU expects the permit process to take a few months. Interested neighbors may also contact Project Manager Fitsum Abera at 615-0865.

E n Cinque paste up

I Remember When... **Madrona Black History—Al Larkins**

By Mark Fleury

Quick! Which Seattle jazz musician's name is attached to a local civic landmark?
Quincy Jones? Ray Charles? Ernestine Anderson? Diane Schuur? Kenny G?
Good guesses—but all wrong.

On a quiet spot in Madrona—at the corner of East Pike St. and 35th Avenue—lies a lovely green expanse of gentle slopes and curving paths landscaped with maple, pine, and fir trees. It's named after Al Larkins, a Madrona jazz musician. Al played bass and tuba in many local groups, including the Rainy City Jazz Band, one of the city's most popular and long-lived, jazz ensembles of the late 1940s. Larkins also was a civic leader—a social teacher at Franklin High School, choir director at Madrona Presbyterian Church, and PTA member at Madrona School.

Al lived for many years on 30th Avenue and his daughter, Emilee attended Madrona School. Emilee and her husband John Capps still live in Madrona on 31st Avenue. In 1968, Al and his wife Ginny moved into a home on 37th Avenue that Ginny still calls home today.

Born July 15, 1924, in Baltimore, Larkins came from a musical family. His older brother Ellis became Ella Fitzgerald's piano accompanist. Al played tuba in the Baltimore Park and National Guard bands before graduating from Douglass High School. He then joined the Navy as a musician and was stationed at the Sand Point Naval Air Station. In 1943 he played in legendary Seattle band the Jive Bombers. A jump band in the style of Louis Jordan, the Bombers performed jive vocals and got the crowd up dancing. They sometimes played civilian gigs around town, in uniform, and after the war, the band continued as a civilian group.

"He was a phenomenal bass player," recalled Buddy Catlett, who played bass with Louis Armstrong for years. "Al 'blew' the bass like it was part of his arm."

Like many Seattle musicians of his era, Larkins was a part-time musician. After graduating from the University of Washington, he started his teaching career at Woodrow Wilson Junior High School. He spent his last nine years in the classroom at Franklin High School he taught social studies. He also taught music at the juvenile detention school at Echo Glen.

Al was often called by local and touring musicians to sit in on gigs. He performed with Maurice Chevalier, Jack Benny, and Sarah Vaughn. He was a big fan of Duke Ellington and often took his daughter with him to see Duke and other jazz greats like Father Earl Hines. While Duke once offered him a job, Al preferred to remain with his family in Seattle. He played professionally and for fun with many other Madrona musicians, including Melody Jones and Ralph Davis. He was best known

Cont'd on page 11

*Baker Language
paste-up*

Madrona Computer pasteup

Michael Cuccina's pasteup

Cont'd from page 10

to the public as the bassist in the Rainy City Jazz Band. Formed in 1947 on the crest of the Dixieland Revival, by 1948 Rainy City was a fixture at the Club New Orleans. Larkins joined the band in 1950 and played in it until his death in 1977.

The revival of New Orleans jazz, which expressed a desire to return to the rootsy fire of early jazz, began in San Francisco as a reaction to the commercialization of swing music. Although the movement paved the way for a Louis Armstrong renaissance, most revivalist musicians were white. Black musicians, by contrast, considered New Orleans and the pejorative name "Dixieland" nasty reminders of the false, pastoral "Old South" portrayed by minstrel shows.

But on the Seattle music scene, such racial lines were never as dramatically drawn. Larkins and Seattle clarinetist Joe Darensbourg, a black Creole who became one of the revival's most important figures, both played Dixieland. Still, tensions occasionally surfaced, particularly over the reprehensible lyrics of a tune like "When It's Sleepy Time South," ironically, an Armstrong favorite. The late pianist Johnny Wittwer once recalled, "I remember playing with Al once in the Rainy City Jazz Band. We were waiting to hear what tune to play and Gordy says, 'South' and Al says, 'Never.'"

Larkins, who sometimes hummed as he played, was highly respected as a musician and played in a variety of groups over the years. He performed at a legendary 1949 concert at the old Trianon Ballroom, Seattle's swing-era dance palace, on the same bill with Ray Charles and the great saxophonist Gerald Brashear. In the '50s, Larkins was a favorite with vibraphonist Elmer Gill's trio at the popular Ebony night club. He was the first black member of the World's Fair Marching Band and played with his brother Ellis at the first Bumbershoot Festival, in 1972. Ralph Davis, who played with the Al Larkins Trio along with pianist Ernie Hatfield at the Seattle Tennis Club, said "Al was one of a half a dozen or so musicians around here who could have made the big-time."

The "big time's" loss was Madrona's gain. Al was one of the first African-Americans in the neighborhood, and served as co-chair of the Madrona School PTA. At Christmas he liked to join his Madrona neighbors building bon fires at Madrona Beach and performing with other local musicians when the Christmas ships came.

It's fitting that the city has honored his memory in such a beautiful spot in Madrona. The city purchased the lot in 1973 after fire destroyed structures that stood there. The city wanted to subdivide the lot and develop it for housing. However, the community and the Madrona Community Council opposed the development and negotiated use of the lot as a park, which was completed in 1975. In 1979, with the blessing of Larkins' Madrona family members, the park was named in his honor. Today it is a favorite with Madrona residents and the occasional musician who stops by to pay respects to Mr. Alvin Larkins.



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High Speed Crash on 32nd Avenue Speedway

By Christine & Raul Mustelier, 32nd Avenue

It was a Sunday morning like any other until we noticed that the back of our neighbor's station wagon was smooshed like an accordion. After a glance across the street, we were shocked to see the wrought iron fence enclosing Madrona Presbyterian Church's "Peace Garden" flattened! We were flummoxed until our neighbor, Martha Rowland, owner of the smashed station wagon, told us what had unfolded in front of her house the previous evening.

At 6:00pm on January 28, a Toyota sedan traveling south through the 800 and 900 blocks of 32nd Avenue crashed into the rear Martha's parked car, propelling it into the street. The speeding Toyota continued its trajectory, flying over the street curb, across the sidewalk, through the church's iron fence, and finally coming to rest in the "Peace Garden" five feet from the church's front door and just yards from the neighboring "Kids Zone" day care center. The young driver and his passenger, apparently unhurt, fled the crash site on foot.

From the extent of the damage and the distance traveled, police estimate the Toyota was traveling at approximately 60mph. Speeding on 32nd Avenue between Union and Cherry is a daily issue. It is one of the few streets in all of Madrona, where parking is not allowed on both sides of the street. Consequently, it's easy for drivers to speed down this residential street that is routinely used by pedestrians, many of them children on their way to and from the Madrona Playfield, Madrona K-8, and St. Therese School.

This accident highlights a long-standing neighborhood problem. We and many of our neighbors want to reinstate parking on both sides of 32nd Avenue between Spring and Cherry to make our street less attractive for speeders, and increase the safety of our neighborhood. Getting this done requires approval of 60% of the residents on 32nd. If you are interested in helping bring about this change, contact us at 323-8122.

*Leslie Lucas
paste-up*

Sign Up Now for Little League

Boys and girls, grab your gloves and get ready for another season of Seattle Central Little League (SCLL)! Sign up is underway and applications MUST be received by March 1 so don't wait. Kids 5 to 7 years old play T-ball; 6- to 8-year-olds play coach pitch; 9- and 10-year-olds play in the Minors; 11- and 12-year olds in the Majors; and 13- and 14-year-olds in the Juniors. To get a registration packet and application:

1. Download one from www.eteamz.com/SeattleLL.
2. Call 706-2648 and request one be mailed to you.
3. Pick one up at any community center or school.

Practices are once a week beginning the week of March 13. Opening Day is April 1, and all game are played on Saturdays at the Garfield Community Center fields, 23rd and Cherry. The SCLL boundaries are I-90 north to the Ship Canal and from downtown to Lake Washington. So tell all your friends, send in your registration, and come out to play!

Mutt Match-up answers: Isabelle, Laila & Tootsie; Jill & Harper; Rose & Zack

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Calendar of Events

It's calendar time again! Check below and online for events in your neighborhood. If you have events to add to the on-line or want to have them included in the printed calendar in next month's *Madrona News*, please send an email to Erika Shaffer at Erika@sutherlandgold.com

HOMEWORK HELP CENTER - Madrona-Sally Goldmark Branch – Weekly - Monday 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m., Tuesday 3 p.m. to 7 p.m., Wednesday, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., Friday, 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAYS 10:30am PRE-SCHOOL STORY TIMES—Madrona Sally Goldmark Library, Lynn Lorenz 684-4705

WEDNESDAYS 9:30am, MADRONA MOMS RUNNING GROUP - meet at 36th and Pine, Nikki.lundin@comcast.net

WEDNESDAYS 8-10:00pm, PICK-UP BASKETBALL FOR ADULTS—Madrona K-8, \$3 to benefit the school, SteveOrser@yahoo.com

THURSDAYS 7:30pm, AA/ALANON MEETING— Epiphany Great Hall

THURSDAYS — MONDAYS 8:30pm LIVE MUSIC—St. Clouds 726-1522, calendar of performers at www.stclouds.com/NewFiles/music.html

FRIDAYS 7:30am, MADRONA/LESCHI CITIZENS AGAINST THE WAR—Demonstration, corner of 23rd and Union

SATURDAYS 9:30am, MADRONA MOMS RUNNING GROUP—meet at Madrona Beach Parking Lot, Nikki.lundin@comcast.net

- Feb 22 **Powell Barnett Park Design Meeting**, 6:00pm, Central Area Senior Center, 500 30th Avenue S, Project Manager Andy Sheffer 684-7041
- Feb 23 **Madrona Dining & Sipping Society**, 6:30pm, Dulces, RSVP to Jill Alles, 325-3014 or jill_aubry@hotmail.com.
- Feb 23 **East Precinct Crime Prevention Coalition**, 6:30 PM, 2120 S. Jackson, Seattle Vocational Institute, Mary Williams, 587-4950
- Feb 25 **Madrona Woods Work Party**, 9:00am-1:00pm, Meet at 38th and Marion, Deirdre McCrary, jaymccrary@gbronline.com
Come join us to have some fun and help keep up
- Feb 25 **Learn About Landslides from DPD**, 10:00am, North Seattle Community College cafeteria, 9600 College Way North, www.seattle.gov/dclu/news/20060119b.asp
- Feb 25 **Friends of Madrona Ravine Work Party**, 9:00am-noon, Meet at the bus stop on Madrona Drive next to the Pine Street Pedestrian Bridge, Linda Hanson, 322-5554
- Feb 25 **St Therese School Mardi Gras Celebration**, 6:00pm, 900 35th Ave
- Feb 26 **Neighbor Appreciation Day Nominations due!** lyurdin@pointb.com.
- Feb 26 **Grand Opening**—Cremant restaurant, New Gardens 34th Avenue
- Mar 1 **Seattle Little League Applications due!** 706-2648 or www.eteamz.com/SeattleLL.
- Mar 2 **Open Studio**, 3-6PM, 2912 E cherry, Victoria Mackenzie Shelby 323-3630
- Mar 4 **Madrona Woods Celebration!** 2:00pm, Epiphany Church's Great Hall, Deirdre McCrary, jaymccrary@gbronline.com
- Mar 4 **Valley School Tours**, pre-kindergarten through second grade applicants; older students by arrangement. 310 30th Ave. E, 328-4475, www.thevalleyschool.org
- Mar 7 **Madrona Community Council Meeting**, 7:15 PM, Madrona Playfield shelterhouse, Bill Hanson, 322-3450
- Mar 11 **Neighbor Appreciation Day Celebration**, 11:00am, Madrona K-8 library, featuring Mayor Greg Nickels. lyurdin@pointb.com.
- Mar 11 **Valley School Tours**, pre-kindergarten through second grade applicants; older students by arrangement. 310 30th Ave. E, 328-4475, www.thevalleyschool.org
- Mar 15 **Homeless Cooking - St Clouds**, 9 – Noon, 726-1522
- Mar 15 **Madrona K8 - PTSA Meeting**, 6:30pm, School Library—childcare provided during meeting. Shelley Huestis 322-8004, www.gomadronak8.org
- Mar 18 **Madrona Woods Work Party**, 9:00am-1:00pm, Meet at 38th and Marion, Deirdre McCrary, jaymccrary@gbronline.com
- Mar 23 **East Precinct Crime Prevention Coalition**, 6:30 PM, 2120 S. Jackson, Seattle Vocational Institute, Mary Williams, 587-4950
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February

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Newsletter of the Madrona Community Council

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March 10, Next MADRONA NEWS DEADLINE

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

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

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