

January 2011  
Issue No. 230

## Madrona Says a Reluctant Goodbye to Dulces

*By Kim Herber, 35th Avenue*

It's hard to go—when you don't really want to go. For Carlos Kainz and Julie Guerrero, their restaurant in Madrona has been their home away from home for nearly 17 years. But times change and so that restaurant—Dulces Latin Bistro—finds itself in the same situation as many upscale establishments. There aren't as many deep-pocket diners coming up from downtown for cocktails and Osso Bucco as there used to be. The local work-



wearly couples out for a special date night dinner and crème brulee are now young families looking for a more casual dining experience. And so it's time for a change, whether the folks at Dulces or Madrona want it or not.

"It's been tough the last couple of years and the appreciation I have for everyone who supported us is deep," says Julie. "But we're not moving that far and I hope our friends will follow us."

Where exactly they will end up is unclear. Plans to open on Capital Hill were tabled and so Carlos and Julie are on the hunt for a new place to showcase their award winning wine and food. Until they get settled, Madrona will miss Julie's creative cuisine, Carlos' 1000-bottle wine list, their live piano music, Tango Night, and the palate-expanding weekly Wednesday free wine tastings. We'll miss the white table clothes and the Austrian crystal stemware. We'll miss feeling pampered and special by dining in an elegant restaurant just a few blocks from home.

Dulces will close the end of the month. During the last five days, they will offer a 20% discount to neighbors to thank them for their support over the years. Stop in for one last fine pairing of food and wine and to tell Carlos and Julie thanks for the memories.

## Madrona Community Council Secretary's Corner

Four new board members elected at the January Madrona Community Council (MCC) meeting, in addition to the three new people elected in December, will bring new talents and ideas to the Council and will spread responsibility and representation among a greater number of people. Newly elected members are Jason Cook, Kim Herber, Stacey Kryman, and Bill Mahoney. Board members are expected to attend regular meetings and promote the mission and goals of the MCC. The MCC still lacks a president and will lose one vice

president when Jeremy Hudgeons moves in February. Our long-time treasurer, Steve Orser, also seeks a replacement. Vice president Paige Smith ran the January meeting and she, along with vice president Holly Smith, has assumed some of the president's responsibilities until a new president is elected. The officers and board members will hold a special organizational meeting prior to the February general MCC meeting.

Board members Karin Richard, Susan Minogue, and Barney Mansavage have

*(continued on page 2)*

## Coops Do Double Duty

*By Tara Conklin, 32nd Avenue*

Backyard chicken coops are increasing in popularity throughout America, but many urban chicken farms struggle with how to house chickens



without turning a backyard into a barnyard. Madrona architect Traci Fontyn of Fullerton Avenue recently established Kippen

House, a business that designs and builds aesthetically pleasing chicken coops that allow urban residents to maintain the beauty and functionality of their limited garden space. Unlike other chicken houses or pens, Kippen Houses also have built-in garden space so customers don't have to choose between raising vegetables or raising chickens.

Traci, a registered architect, started Kippen House in 2010 after being laid off from her job with an architecture firm. Finding herself suddenly a stay-at-home mom, Traci sought ways to blend her passion for design with her new focus on family life. She started with her own backyard garden and quickly became enamored with the endless  
*(continued on page 2)*

## In this Issue

- 2 ..... Banners Promote Madrona
- 3 ..... Get Involved in 2011 Activities
- 4 ..... Seeking Help & Nominations
- 5 ..... Neighborhood School News
- 6 ..... Explore Local Stairways
- 7 ..... Community Calendar

## Chicken Coops... (cont'd from page 1)

possibilities for self-sufficiency and sustainability presented by the urban agriculture movement. Raising chickens was a logical next



step, but how to find the right chicken coop? It didn't take long before she had rejected the available, factory-made options and decided to design one herself. After testing out numerous prototypes on her toughest customers (son Madden and husband Cory), Traci hit on a design that is functional

and flexible while maintaining a modern design sensibility.

Kippen House coops are modular and can be configured to fit virtually any space or design preference. The garden space can be either virtual or roof-top, and Traci works individually with all her customers to configure a coop that meets their unique requirements for size and shape. The chicken coops are hand-built from Douglas fir, which has a high natural resistance to moisture absorption, decay, and insect infestation. Kippen House has designed and built many chicken coops for urban farmers in Seattle and Portland. The company has been featured on numerous urban agriculture websites, blogs, and magazines. For more information, visit [www.kippenhouse.com](http://www.kippenhouse.com).

## New Banners Promote Madrona

By Nikola H. L. Davidson, 31st Avenue

Thanks to a grant from the City of Seattle's Office of Economic Development and the hard work of volunteers from Business Owners of Madrona (BOOM), Madrona now has street banners decorating the heart of its commercial district.

Designed by Penny Laine in close collaboration with Soni Davé of Bottlehouse, John Platt of St. Cloud's, and Nikola Davidson of EarthSystems NW, the banners evoke the urban charm of Madrona. Both designs—one reads “Stroll-Shop-Savor Madrona” and the other “Dine-Delight-Discover Madrona”—invite visitors to explore all that Madrona businesses have to offer. The purpose of the banners is to remind shoppers and diners that they are in heart of Madrona, and to encourage them to return soon!



The original grant from the City paid for more banners than actually have been installed. Because of restrictions from Seattle's Department of Transportation and METRO, BOOM was not allowed to adorn several of the poles.

Feedback on the banners, which were installed at the end of December, has been overwhelmingly positive. Says Juniper store owner Lisa Clinton, “I like that they are different and subtle. The wording is relaxed just like Madrona - offering up neighborhood pleasures!”

All local business owners are invited and encouraged to join BOOM. The group has moved its monthly meeting from Friday morning to the first Wednesday from 1:00 to 2:00pm in the big conference room at Amara, 34th & Union. For more info, contact at Soni Davé at Bottlehouse or [soni@bottlehousesattle.com](mailto:soni@bottlehousesattle.com).

## Secretary's Corner... (cont'd from page 1)

been busy in their new roles. Karin is the organizer of the highly successful Friday children's storytime at the Madrona Playfield shelterhouse, and she is also partnering with the Garfield Community Center to host a sewing class there. Susan is developing strategies for communication between the MCC and the neighborhood, and documenting procedures to ensure continuity. Barney is the liaison between Madrona K-8 School and the MCC. This spring the school will apply for a grant to fund a reader board that will be shared with the community. Barney is already raising funds and working on details of the sign design and placement.

Next on the MCC agenda are preparations for Neighborhood Appreciation Day and Mayfair. Join us at the next meeting-- February 1, 7:15 pm, Madrona Playfield shelterhouse--to hear all about that and more!



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## Ring in 2011 on 34th Avenue

Madrona welcomed in the new year with wonderful parties on 34th. Festivities began at Dulces with a full house of reservations. Those neighbors who joined in the Madrona Dining & Sipping Society (MD&SS) table enjoyed a great multi-course dinner with delightfully paired wines. Dessert with fortified port was a fine ending to a fabulous meal, and kept the dining room full and service running at full tilt.



Audrey Seale, Collin Hennessey & Lin Holley ring in the New Year.

Meanwhile, down the street at St Clouds, John and Pablo cleared the main dining room to make room for a band and dancing! Not until midnight when the buffet opened did the revelers take a brief break before partying on until the final 2:00am drink call.

The next MD&SS event is an evening with Trimpin on February 10 at the Central Cinema (21st & Union). After Happy Hour, dinner, and an 8:00pm

showing of the documentary "Trimpin, the Sound of Invention," our local MacArthur Fellowship/Genius Award winner will discuss his unique art/music/engineering work, and his upcoming opera premier. RSVP to Audrey Seale at [audrey.seale4@gmail.com](mailto:audrey.seale4@gmail.com) to reserve your spot.

## Get the Events Ball Rolling!

It's a clean slate of activities for the upcoming year! Thanks to everyone who took the lead on an event in 2010, and also to those who baked cookies, blew up balloons, put in a pair of work gloves, sent in a cash donation, painted a face, or showed up at a meeting. It takes lots of energy and ideas to make it all happen. Now is the time to ask yourself:

### HOW WILL I BE INVOLVED IN MADRONA IN 2011?

#### 2011 Madrona Neighborhood Events

- |                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| <b>Jan</b>      | • Martin Luther King Day Celebration—<br>Jan 15 Madrona Presbyterian Church |
| <b>Mar</b>      | • Neighbor Appreciation Day   |
| <b>Apr</b>      | • Community Garage Sale   |
| <b>May</b>      | • Neighborhood Cleanup  |
|                 | • Mayfair Parade & Carnival   |
|                 | • Madrona Flower Baskets  |
| <b>July/Aug</b> | • Madrona BBQ Festival  |
| <b>Sept</b>     | • MCC Officer Election  |
| <b>Oct</b>      | • Kids' Halloween Party   |
| <b>Nov</b>      | • Winter Greens & Holiday Lights  |
| <b>Dec</b>      | • Christmas Ships, Bon Fire & Carols at<br>Madrona Beach                    |



To get involved, contact these event coordinators or Madrona Community Council VP of Events Paige Smith at 225-5821 or [paige.eg.smith@gmail.com](mailto:paige.eg.smith@gmail.com).

## Play Madrona Mutt Matchup

By Bell Thompson, 32nd Avenue

Hi! I'm the new Madrona Mutt Matcher! I am 10 years old and I go to Kimball Elementary, on Beacon Hill. I like going to dance classes at Spectrum Dance studio. I like knitting. I play trumpet, I make movies. Who says people always look like their pets??? To play Mutt Matchup, match the people to their dogs. The answers are on page 4.



Chris - 35th Avenue



Mark



Olivia - 32nd Avenue



Toby



Liz - 34th Avenue



Wanda



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## Madrona News in Jeopardy

By Kim Herber, 35th Avenue

I'll be the editor of the *Madrona News* for only five more issues! I've been putting the newsletter together for more than 10 years now, and I think it's time for someone else to take over. If you love the *Madrona News*—and I hear that lots of people in the neighborhood do—here's a HUGE opportunity to keep this long-running institution going.

The Madrona Community Council (MCC) sponsors the *Madrona News*, but it is really an independent entity supported by local advertisers. The editor has total control over what is published each issue. In my time, I've made a dedicated effort to reach out to people in the neighborhood and have them write about what's going on in Madrona. If someone has news, the *Madrona News* is ready to help get the word out, whether it's to promote fledgling business, publicize an upcoming event, share the haps at a local church or school, profile a neighbor with an unusual hobby, or tell a tale of personal local history.

The new editor will not be going it alone as the *Madrona News* currently has a great support staff—Production Editor Susan Steele, Editorial Assistant and Copyeditor Judson MacLaury, Calendar Editor Nikki Bains, Proofreaders Lori Rath and Julie Wroble, Risa Blythe and her team at Girlie Press printer, Distribution Manager Holly Smith, and a long list of columnists and regular contributors. We are again in need of a permanent Advertising Manager, and the MCC's awesome Treasurer Steve Orser is filling in through summer.

Even with a new editor, the future of the *Madrona News* is still uncertain. Should it remain a paper publication? Should it continue to be mailed to every home in Madrona for free? Should it go on line? Should it change format? Do we need it at all? The editor and members of the MCC will put their heads and hearts together and decide. If you have any thoughts, contact MCC VP Paige Smith at [paige.eg.smith@gmail.com](mailto:paige.eg.smith@gmail.com).

So, if you know how to plan and edit a monthly newspaper, I'm calling on YOU. The *Madrona News* does not publish during the summer and I'll be here through June. Come September, someone else will take my place as editor—or not. If you are interested, I can tell you all you need to know! Drop me a note at [kdh5027@aol.com](mailto:kdh5027@aol.com).

## Seeking Neighbor Appreciation Day Nominations

Neighborhood Appreciation Day is just around the corner. The Madrona Community Council (MCC) and Madrona K-8 School will co-host the event in mid-March but the time is now to send in your nominations for the four neighborhood awards. It just takes a few minutes to nominate someone who you feel is a special neighbor or who uniquely contributes to our community. Send your nomination—a few sentences describing your nominee and how he/she contributes to Madrona—to Paige Smith at [paige.eg.smith@gmail.com](mailto:paige.eg.smith@gmail.com).

Award categories are:

**The Nora Award:** 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, Jim Diers, Suzanne Sheppard, John Platt & Paul Butler, Walter Bodel, Bill Hanson, Sarah Westneat, Carla Caldwell and Rich Appleton.

**The Local Hero Award:** Given to a Madrona resident for an act of heroism, singular kindness, or generosity. Previous winners include Sayre Coombs, Tom Flood, Jocelyn Owens, Ann Lennartz, Anthony Matlock, Junius Rochester, Floyd Goffney, Judith Starbuck, Laura Yurdin, Emma Kearney and Amy Bush.

**The Tyrone Love Unsung Hero Award:** Given to a Madrona resident for service to others in the larger community. Previous winners include Jon Hughes, the Friends of Madrona Playfield, Francois Kissel, Wayne Melonson, Julia Berry, Martha Ortiz-Williams, Kim Herber, Fred Strom, Cecil "Mac" McKenzie, Tyrone Love, and Burke Shethar.

**The Madrona Resident for Life Award:** Bestowed upon a long-time, active resident who has left Madrona but remains dearly missed. Previous winners include Jon Hughes (who has since moved back to Madrona!), Shelley Huestis, Dr. Henry Kuharic and Joanne & Bill Scott.

If you've never attended a Neighborhood Appreciation Day event or would like to know who has been honored in years past, check out the Neighborhood Appreciation Day page at [www.madrona.us](http://www.madrona.us).

**Mutt Match-up Answers:** Chris & Toby;  
Olivia & Wanda; Liz & Mark



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# Neighborhood School News

## Tours & Events at Madrona K-8

By Madrona Panther Partners

The annual Madrona K-8 Bingo night is January 21 at 6:30 in the school library. This is one of Madrona K-8's greatest events and it is open to all community families. Come join us for a night of family fun and prizes. Everyone is welcome! The school is also collecting items from its Wish List at this event. The entire list can be viewed at [madronapantherpartners.org](http://madronapantherpartners.org). Most items listed are classroom basics—pencils, Kleenex, markers, crayons—requested by Madrona K-8 teachers. Teachers receive a budget for supplies each year but many also purchase other items for the classrooms out of their own pockets.

If you have a child who is a prospective Madrona K-8 student, come visit the school, see classes in session, meet the principal and teachers, hear from current families, ask questions, and learn more about all that is going on at Madrona - now and into the future.

All Open Houses and Tours start in the school library. Tours are intended for parents/guardians and most are generally geared toward incoming kindergarten families.

- **Day Tour:** January 19, 9:15-10:15am.
- **Evening Open House:** February 8, 6:30-7:30pm.
- **Day Tour:** February 17, 9:15-10:15am. This tour is geared to incoming middle school students and families.
- **Day Tour:** March 2, 9:15-10:15am.
- **Day Tour:** March 8, 9:15-10:15am.



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## From The Valley School

By Gail Mensher, Admissions Director

On January 13 child psychologist Lenore Ruben spoke to Valley School parents, teachers and the wider educational community about "Fostering Resilient Children." Lenore presented the latest research and her own perspectives on this important topic in the emotional health of children. A lively discussion period followed as Lenore fielded queries with her usual sage and practical advice.

Tours of The Valley School for parents and all other interested adults are in full swing and continue through the end of February. Children applying to pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, first grade, and second grade can visit on February 26 or March 5. Older students are invited for a morning visit in January or February. The adults-only Open House is February 3 at 7:00pm. All interested adults are cordially invited to hear directly from two classroom teachers about their programs during the evening. No reservations are necessary and all are welcome.

To sign up for a tour of the school, contact me at [gail@thevalleyschool.org](mailto:gail@thevalleyschool.org), 328-4475, or visit [www.thevalleyschool.org](http://www.thevalleyschool.org).



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**KINDERGARTEN INFO NIGHT**  
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## Madrona Featured in “Stairways” Blog

If you're curious about Madrona's stairways and want to discover some of the hidden sights along the way, the blog “Seattle Stairway Walks” can get you started! Just check out the blog's Madrona entry ([seattlestairways.blogspot.com/search/label/Madrona](http://seattlestairways.blogspot.com/search/label/Madrona)). It includes pictures, maps, and directions for a 1.7 mile loop covering the “best” stairway paths in Madrona. The route goes briefly along Lake Washington, climbs through Madrona Woods, and continues up to Leschi Natural Area. The blog entry also mentions side trips to Nora's Wood at 29th and Columbia, as well as the “hidden footbridge” across the ravine at Pine St. off Madrona Drive.



Randolph Place Stairway

Blog creators Jake and Cathy Jaramillo live in West Seattle and hope their blog motivates urban hikers to explore Seattle's neighborhoods from the unique perspective of its many stairways. “Seattle's topography is so different from anywhere else, and there's just so much to see on foot!” says Cathy. They've documented six stairway walks and hope to cover many more in some twenty Seattle neighborhoods.

Cathy first started exploring Madrona when she was CFO of local firm Executive Conversation based in Madrona Plaza. But the genesis of Seattle Stairway Walks goes back more than a decade when the couple lived in Southern California and discovered Ada Bakalinsky's book, “Stairway Walks in Los Angeles”. It introduced them to neighborhoods and architectural treasures they wouldn't have known any other way. When they moved to Seattle, they brought the concept with them and began to explore the city's 480 public stairways.

The Jaramillos are excited about the blog's mention in the January issue of Sunset magazine, and hope to eventually publish a Seattle Stairway Walks guidebook.

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## Law for All: New 2011 Federal Estate Tax Law

By Lori Rath, Attorney



Under the new Tax Relief, Unemployment Insurance Reauthorization, and Job Creation Act, the federal estate tax, which briefly disappeared for 2010, has sprung back to life. As of January 1, 2011, the federal estate tax was reinstated and applies to estates of over \$5 million (as compared to the \$3.5 million exemption that was in place in 2009). The \$5 million exemption is per person, so married couples have a total exemption of \$10 million. The new estate tax rate is 35%. The lifetime gift tax exclusion is also \$5 million per person and the gift tax rate is 35%. Individuals can still give an annual tax-free gift of \$13,000 per beneficiary. The amounts for tax-free gifts remain the same for 2012 but beginning that year will be indexed for inflation.

The federal estate tax exemption of \$5 million is the highest the exemption has ever been, and the increase means that a much smaller number of estates are subject to the tax. For many Washington residents, however, tax planning remains essential because Washington still has its own state estate tax with a much lower exemption amount of \$2 million. The Washington law is not likely to change any time soon. In addition, the new federal \$5 million exemption applies only through the end of 2012. It remains uncertain what the federal exemption amount will be in 2013 and beyond, and it is very possible that it could go down again. It never hurts to plan ahead.

Lori recently joined the firm of Lasher Holzapfel Sperry & Ebberson as an “of counsel” attorney. If you have questions about estate taxes, trusts, probate, or estate planning, contact Lori at 654-2410 or [rath@lasher.com](mailto:rath@lasher.com).

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# MADRONA COMMUNITY CALENDAR

## WEEKLY RECURRING EVENTS:

- MON & THURS TUESDAYS** 6:00 AM **Bootcamp Class**—Get up early and get fit! Epiphany Parish Great Hall. Nikki Lundin [www.nikkifitt.com](http://www.nikkifitt.com)  
 6:00PM – 7:00PM **Spiritual Reading and Prayer**—Madrona Presbyterian Church, 832 32nd Avenue. [www.madronachurch.org](http://www.madronachurch.org)  
 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM **Library Book Club**—Contact the Madrona library for this month's selection. 684-4705.  
 7:30 PM – 9:30 PM **Adult Sewing Class**—Madrona Shelterhouse. Register for class through Garfield Community Center. Call 684-4788.
- WEDNESDAYS** 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM **Free Winetasting**—ONLY TWO MORE TASTINGS IN MADRONA—Jan 19 & Jan 26. Dulces, 1430 34th Avenue.  
 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM **Bible Study**—Epiphany Christie House Library, 1805 38th Avenue, 324-2573. [www.epiphanyseattle.org](http://www.epiphanyseattle.org)
- THURSDAYS** 9:00 AM **Valley School Tours**—Run through February. Reservations required. Lynn Addison [lynn@thevalleyschool.org](mailto:lynn@thevalleyschool.org) or [www.thevalleyschool.org](http://www.thevalleyschool.org)  
 11:00 AM **Family Story Time**—Bring your preschoolers and toddlers to enjoy stories, rhymes, songs. Madrona Library 684-4705  
 7:30 PM **AA/ALANON Meeting**—Great Hall, Epiphany Episcopal, 1805 38th Avenue, 324-2573.
- FRIDAYS** 7:30 AM **Madrona/Leschi Citizens Against the War**—Quiet demonstration, 23rd & Union, Kathy Barker [www.kbarker715@comcast.net](mailto:k_barker715@comcast.net)  
 9:30 AM-10:30 AM **Children's Story Time**—Local storytellers! Madrona Shelterhouse. Karin Richard at [k\\_e\\_richard@yahoo.com](mailto:k_e_richard@yahoo.com) or 262-1537.
- WEEKENDS** 9:00 AM- 5:00 PM **Donate Used Goods**—Northwest Center Big Blue Truck. Grocery Outlet. [www.bigbluetruck.org](http://www.bigbluetruck.org)

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- Jan 21** 6:30 PM **Bingo Night at Madrona K-8**—All community families invited for a night of family fun and prizes. School library. [www.madronapantherpartners.org](http://www.madronapantherpartners.org)
- Jan 22** 10:00 AM-1:00 PM **Madrona Woods Work Party**—Meet at Spring & Grand entrance. Deirdre at [deirdre\\_jaymccrary@msn.com](mailto:deirdre_jaymccrary@msn.com)
- Jan 22** 10:00 AM-12:00 PM **Epiphany-Early Learning Preschool**—Open house to learn about the new Reggio Emilio-inspired, non-sectarian, preschool serving children ages 2-5 opening in September 2011. Epiphany Parish Great Hall. Julie Bisson 324-2920 or [julie.bisson@soundchildcare.org](mailto:julie.bisson@soundchildcare.org)
- Jan 23** 12:00-4:00 PM **Adult Sewing Class**—Bring your own machine and work your own project with a sewing expert at Madrona Playfield shelterhouse. Register through Garfield Community Center, 684-4788.
- Jan 30** 10:00 AM-1:00 PM **Catholic Schools Open House**—St Therese School. Gina Purdy 324-0460.
- Feb 1** 7:15 PM **Madrona Community Council Meeting**—Everyone welcome! Madrona Playfield Shelter House. Paige Smith, [paige.eg.smith@gmail.com](mailto:paige.eg.smith@gmail.com)
- Feb 2** 7:30 PM **Leschi Community Council Meeting**—Featuring Art Historian Dr. Susan Platt, presenting a slide show and talk on African American artists, Roosevelt Clark and Marita Dingus. Central Area Senior Center, 500 30th Ave S., Diane Snell [jdsnell1@comcast.net](mailto:jdsnell1@comcast.net)
- Feb 2** 1:00 PM-2:00 PM **Business Owners (BOOM) Meeting**—Newcomers welcome! Amara conference room, 34th & Union, Nikola Davidson, [Nikola@msnu.com](mailto:Nikola@msnu.com)
- Feb 8** 6:30 PM-7:30 PM **Madrona K-8 Open House**—Meet teachers, staff, principal, and students [www.madronapantherpartners.org](http://www.madronapantherpartners.org)
- Feb 10** 6:30 PM **An Evening with Trimpin**—Meet our kinetic sculptor/sound artist/musician/composer, watch the documentary "TRIMPIN: The Sound of Invention" and hear him speak. Central Cinema, RSVP to Audrey Seale [AudreySeale@qwest.net](mailto:AudreySeale@qwest.net)
- Feb 16** 9:00 AM-1:00 PM **Homeless Cooking Wednesday**—Bring a knife and a cutting board. Donations of fresh food (no protein) and money always welcome. St. Clouds Restaurant. John Platt, [john@stclouds.com](mailto:john@stclouds.com)
- Feb 16** 6:30 PM-8:00 PM **Kindergarten Open House**—St Therese School. Gina Purdy 324-0460.
- Feb 17** 9:00 AM **Madrona K-8 School Tour**—Meet teachers, staff, principal, students and families [www.madronapantherpartners.org](http://www.madronapantherpartners.org)

January						
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February						
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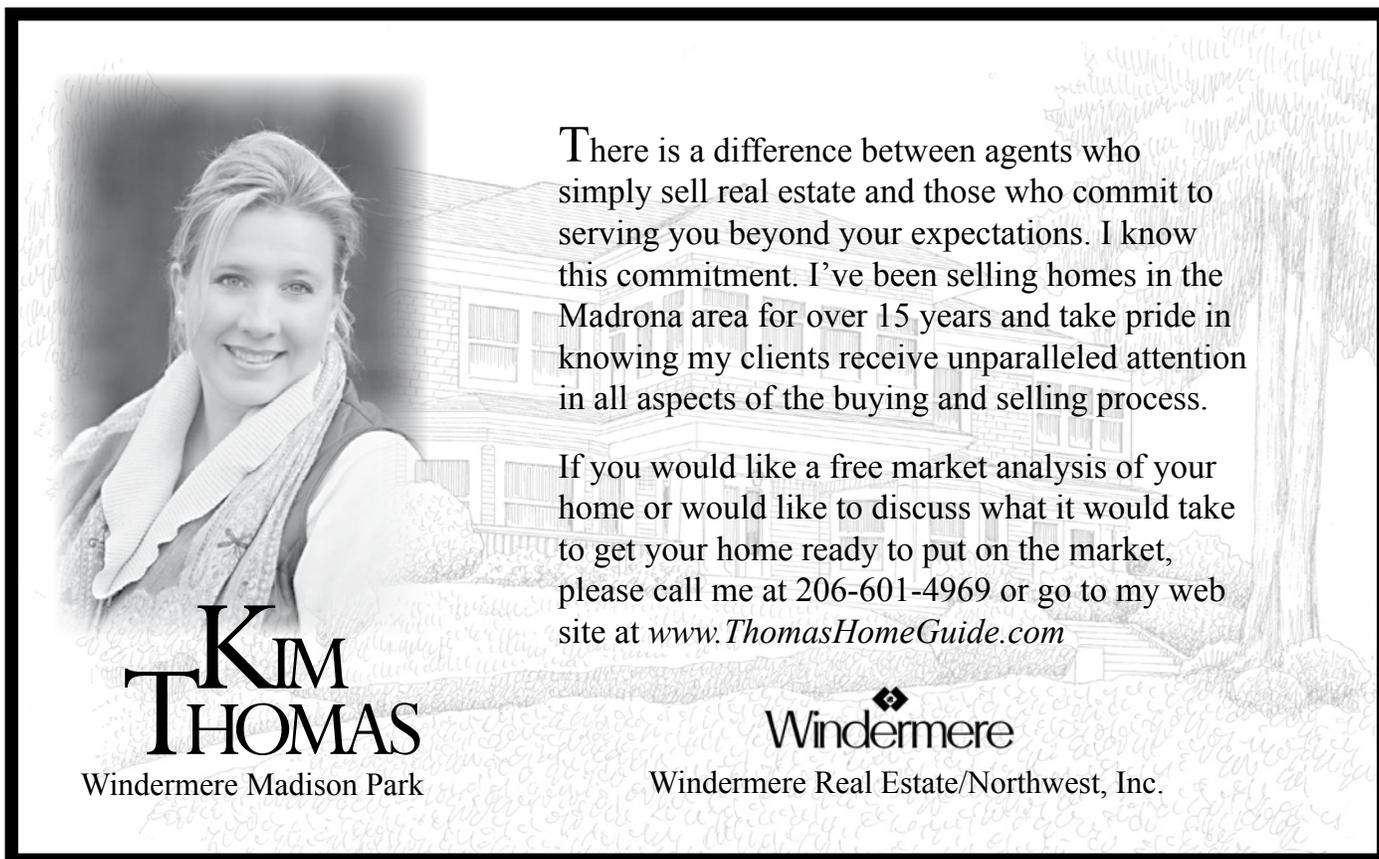
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