

MADRONA NEWSLETTER

Monthly Meeting

Every First Wednesday at 7pm
Playfield Shelterhouse

LIVE, WORK, PLAY & CONNECT

Your source for neighborhood
news, events, and history.



Volunteer

Welcome Back

“Many of you have told us how much you missed having a neighborhood newspaper.



■ Pony rides taking place at Madrona Playground during Mayfair 2024.

By Amy Glick, President
Madrona Neighborhood Association

Hello Madrona neighbors. I'm thrilled to celebrate the relaunch of our printed Madrona News! Huge thanks to Zac Lee for spearheading this effort and making it happen. Many of you have told us how much you missed having a neighborhood paper. When advertising revenue declined, printing became unsustainable. However, with renewed energy and support, we are hopeful that we can keep this wonderful publication thriving! A bit about me: I've lived on 32nd

Avenue in Madrona for 11 years. Before that, I spent 14 years in Bellevue raising kids, a dog, and a commute. My family and I started out on the other coast in Boston, where we were born and raised, and then moved for work opportunities to Fort Lauderdale, FL, then Dallas, TX, and finally here. We've seen a lot of beautiful places, but Seattle—and Madrona in particular—has our hearts. We love this community: walking to our shops and restaurants, visiting our incredible library, and feeling the

unique mix of vibrancy and laid-back charm. Madrona is special because of its people—caring, engaged, and deeply invested in their neighborhood.



Continued on page 3

**My invitation:
jump in and get
involved!**

In This Issue



Blossoms Return to 34th

Spring baskets are coming back to the business district. [Page 2](#)

Spring Clean Up

Join us April 19th at 9 am to clean up our neighborhood. [Page 3](#)

One Seattle Plan

Zoning update from Friends of Madrona. [Page 4](#)

Kids Corner

Step into The Adventures of the Wizard Aquarius. [Page 6](#)

Mutt Match Up

Everyone's favorite quiz game returns! [Page 7](#)

Mayfair

Date, and featured performer announcement. [Page 7](#)

Community Events

Local activities, events, and ways to get involved. [Page 8](#)



Baskets bloom on 34th, spring of 2025.

Madrona Neighborhood Association Has a New Mailing Address

Please mail all correspondence,
including donation checks, to:

Madrona Neighborhood Association
140 Lakeside Ave. #38
Seattle, WA 98122

General online
donations can
be made by
scanning the
QR code.



Blossoms

“Every spring, when the first baskets
appear along 34th Avenue,
I feel the same little spark of joy.”

By Anne-Sophie Ledieu, Blossoms Coordinator

Every spring, when the first baskets appear along 34th Avenue, I feel the same little spark of joy — comme un petit signe que les beaux jours reviennent. It's one of my favorite moments of the year.

I love watching neighbors pause under the flowers, noticing the colors, taking photos, or simply smiling as they walk by. This tradition is part of what makes Madrona feel like a true village, and it's why I'm proud to help care for it.

Madrona's beloved hanging flower baskets will return this May, having brought color and charm to our neighborhood for more than 10 years. From spring through early fall, these baskets brighten the heart of the Madrona business district along 34th Avenue, creating a welcoming atmosphere for neighbors, visitors, and local businesses.

How it Works

Each basket is grown, installed, watered, and maintained throughout the season. This care adds up. Each basket costs about \$450 for the full growing and maintenance cycle.

The entire program is funded exclusively through donations from community members, and every contribution, large or small, helps keep Madrona blooming.

Our 2026 Goal

To continue this tradition, we aim to raise \$26,000. Reaching this goal ensures that the baskets return in May and stay vibrant through late September or early October.

How You Can Help

Your support keeps this neighborhood tradition alive. Whether you sponsor a full basket or contribute any amount that feels right, your generosity directly sustains the beauty of our shared community space.

For donations by check, please email blossoms@madrona.us for instructions. For online donations scan the QR code below.



From the
archives.

Blossoms Logo
featured in the
Madrona News
March 2011



1421 34th Avenue
Tues-Sat: 11am-6pm
Sun: 12p-5pm

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Avant Toi • Caddis • Hannah Wessel • Hansel From Basel
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Saint Rita's Parlor • Sofie D'Hoore

Spring Cleanup Day

“Community cleanups make neighborhoods safer and more attractive, protect local ecosystems, improve public health, and foster community connections.

Join us on April 19 for the Spring Cleanup.

By Cindy Krebs, Madron Cleanup Day Coordinator

Madrona's fall 2025 Cleanup Day was a great success. More than 50 people showed up on a cool, gray September morning to collect waste littering the ground throughout our community. Although we didn't have a scale on-site (we'll try to bring one next time), we estimated that approximately 100 pounds of trash was removed from public spaces, leaving the neighborhood looking fresh and clean. What's more, the people who volunteered said they had fun and felt good about the positive impact they made.

With spring just around the corner, we're ready to host our next Clean Up Day. From 9 am to 10 am on Sunday, April 19, we'll meet at the Madrona Shelter House to greet volunteers, share safety guidelines, and distribute clean up tools (trash pickers, gloves, and trash bags).

From 11 am to 12 pm, we'll gather what's been collected for Seattle Public Utilities, our co-sponsor, to haul away.

If you're interested in volunteering, visit madrona.us and click on the Sign Up tab for Madrona Clean Up Day. If you have any questions, please send an email to cleanup@madrona.us and we'll respond within a couple of days.

A Longstanding Tradition

Neighborhood cleanup days have been keeping Madrona tidy for decades. Check out this mention from Madrona News, April 1996!



Trash collected during the 2025 neighborhood cleanup.

MADRONA.HOUSE

Every home for sale in the neighborhood, updated in real time at madrona.house

A simple way to keep an eye on the neighborhood market.

Zac Lee
Neighborhood Realtor
MADRONA.HOUSE
206.670.5544
zac.lee@cbrealty.com

COLDWELL BANKER | BAIN

Letter From The President

Continued from page 1

The Madrona Neighborhood Association is a group of neighbors who care about this place and want to foster community. Our mission is simple: to help build and sustain connections. We organize events and activities that bring us together, including:

- Monthly community meetings
- Blossoms baskets on 34th
- Neighborhood clean-up days
- Mayfair, our annual spring celebration
- Thanksgiving Pie Sale
- Holiday shopping night
- Wine Tasting and Community events
- Tree lights in the business district
- The Madrona News!

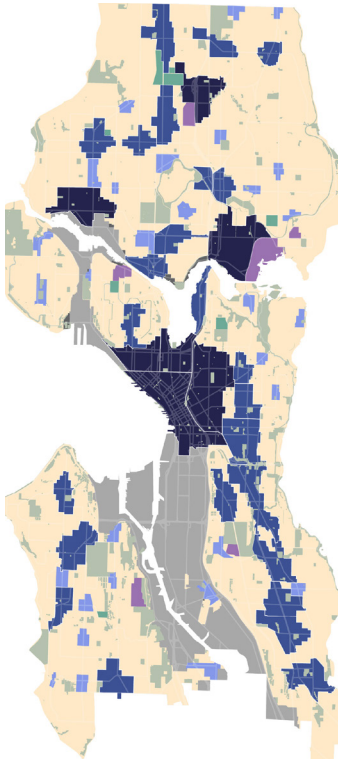
All of these events are free for the community and are made possible by MNA fundraising and many hours of volunteer work from your neighbors. That's what makes Madrona, and the MNA, what it is.

My invitation: jump in and get involved! Help shape current events or create new ones that matter to you and your family. Let's use the relaunched Madrona News to connect, share, and highlight what makes our neighborhood extraordinary. **Look for the contributor invitation in this issue and consider adding your voice.** If it matters to Madrona, it belongs here.

Thank you, and let's create "All the News That's Fit to Print (in Madrona)!"



Amy Glick, President of MNA



One Seattle Update

“Combined with changes from the fall, the map eliminates upzoning on some of the streets surrounding the core of the Madrona town center.

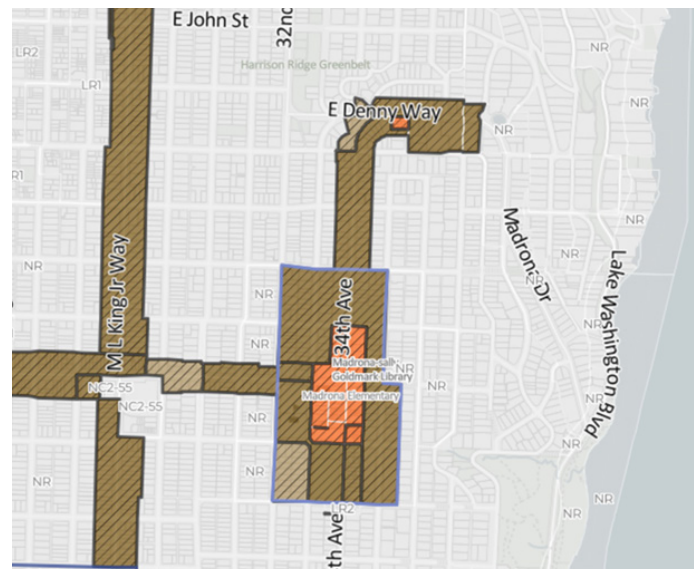
By Volunteers at Friends of Madrona Zoning Group

As a reminder, the city is updating its Comprehensive Plan in phases. In Phase I, which was finalized in fall 2025, new neighborhood center boundaries were set. The Madrona Neighborhood Center footprint established in Phase I ended up smaller than was originally proposed. Also in Phase I, the City changed the rules for neighborhood residential zoning (including how many units are allowed per residential lot, how high each unit/house can be, required setbacks, etc). Phase I left open the details around zoning within the neighborhood centers and along transit routes.

Now as part of Phase II, the City has released new proposed zoning maps. Combined with changes from the fall, the map eliminates upzoning on some of the streets surrounding the core of the Madrona town center, including eliminating the proposed upzoning of Madrona Drive. The zoning proposal within the Madrona Neighborhood Center is similar to what was originally proposed - LR3 (5 stories) and NC55 (55 feet) and a small area of LR2 (4 stories). (Note that some council members have indicated that they would like to raise the height limits in LR2 and LR3 zoning.)

Our understanding is that City Council and OPCD made changes to the proposed zoning maps because of various factors, including resident comments, historic boulevards, displacement concerns, transit considerations, and steeply sloped streets. Big kudos to all neighborhoods in the city and to Madrona especially for making your voices heard.

This spring, City Council will consider enacting legislation on these zoning proposals, and some of the details may change.



The new proposed zoning map for Madrona Neighborhood Center

More Info

You can explore more on OPCD's website:

<https://www.seattle.gov/opcd/one-seattle-plan>

The city map of the zoning proposals is available at:

<https://one-seattle-plan-zoning-implementation-seattlecitygis.hub.arcgis.com/pages/zoning-map>

Key

Brown is LR3 (which means five stories as of now, might change)

Red is NC2-55 (55 feet)

Light brown is LR2 (which means four stories as of now, might change)

Coordinator Needed for Music in the Playfield

Tuesdays in August are at risk of being a lot quieter.

Join us for an exciting series of Music in the Playfield events, taking place on Tuesdays, August 11th, 18th, and 25th, from 6 to 8 PM! While we've set the dates, we need your help to make this event a success. The Madrona Neighborhood Association is searching for enthusiastic volunteers ready to bring their passion for music and community to life. This is your chance to shine and make a real difference. Become a community rock star!

Coordinator

The central organizer. Finds bands to be voted on by the MIP team, submits permits & insurance, books professional artists & food trucks.

Team

Assist the coordinator to support all aspects of planning and preparation leading up to the event. Does not require attendance at every event.

More Info

Music in the Playfield volunteer opportunities available for any range of availability.

Apply at madrona.us/volunteers



Your Business In Madrona News

Put your business in every Madrona mailbox. **Now accepting advertisers for 2026. Contact newsletter@madrona.us to get started.**

When you advertise in the Madrona Newsletter you are doing more than promoting your business while investing directly in the community you serve. Your message will be delivered to every household and business in Madrona and will appear alongside trusted, high-visibility community content.

Advertising revenue helps make the newsletter possible, without it the newsletter would not exist.



Higher Impact

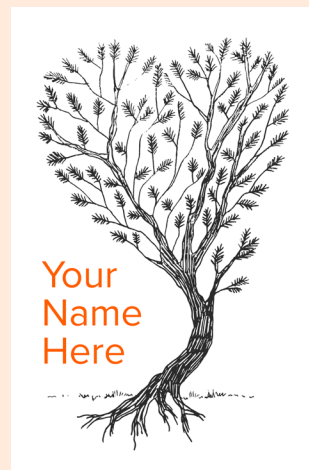
The Madrona Newsletter is a long-standing neighborhood tradition published by the Madrona Neighborhood Association and created by neighbors who care deeply about this community. The newsletter is designed to be clear, visually engaging, and easy to navigate, with a layout that reflects the character, warmth, and creativity of Madrona itself. It exists to keep residents informed about what is happening close to home while also strengthening the social fabric that connects neighbors to one another.

"Each issue is mailed directly to over 2,600 addresses, including 2,500 homes and 100+ local businesses."

The U.S.P.S. service we are utilizing ensures it reaches every household without the need for sign-ups or subscriptions. The newsletter highlights the people, places, schools, parks, and small businesses that make Madrona unique, while also

Why Advertise

- Focused on shopping locally
- Targeted cost-effective exposure
- Madrona businesses prioritized
- Builds credibility through community context



sharing practical information about events, volunteer opportunities, safety, transportation changes, and community projects. Above all, the Madrona Newsletter supports mission to build connection, belonging, and pride in the place we call home.

For more info visit madrona.us/newsletteradvertising

For many businesses, this is the most efficient and precise way to reach Madrona households. You're speaking directly to the customers in your immediate neighborhood, without paying for broader city-wide circulation you don't need. Because your ad is part of a newsletter neighbors are already planning to open and read, it's often more cost-effective than designing, printing, and mailing your own standalone piece, which can be expensive to produce and more likely to go straight into the recycle bin.

MUSIC AT EPIPHANY PRESENTS

MOZART'S GRAND MASS IN C MINOR

APRIL 24 AT 7:30 PM & APRIL 25 AT 2:00 PM



FEATURING
The Epiphany Choir

Estelí Gomez
Soprano

Ivy Zhou
Soprano

Chad DeMaris
Tenor

Kelvin Boateng
Baritone



TICKETS

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EpiphanySeattle.org

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Kids Corner

THE ADVENTURES OF THE WIZARD AQUARIUS

Chapter One

By Megan Carol Haas, Local Author

Once upon a time, there was a young wizard called Aquarius Featherwing. He lived with his parents, who were also wizards, in a comfortable stone castle next to a beautiful forest, where the trees were hundreds of years older than anyone still living. Aquarius spent most of his days busily studying in his work tower, stopping only to practice the piano or help his mother with the castle's vast and abundant flower and vegetable gardens. Aquarius enjoyed his days, but what he most looked forward to was sunset, because that meant night was coming, which was his favorite time.

Each evening, at supper, Aquarius would eat quickly and then fidget while his parents took their time over cake and coffee, telling each other endless stories about how they'd spent their workday. Anxiously, he'd excuse himself as quickly as possible, say goodnight, and promptly escape up the ancient spiral staircase to his tower workshop, which was also his bedroom, library, and most private space.

But he would not go in. Instead, Aquarius went further up the old staircase, all the way to the roof of the castle. Standing tall on the stones of the highest tower, he would breathe in the night air, filled with the scent of the gardens below, and picture himself as a bird. In his mind, he imagined each detail, from the many beautiful colors of his wing feathers to his pointy talons. And then Aquarius magically transformed himself into the magnificent creature he had imagined. With a great beating of his wings, he leapt off the castle and flew into the night.

Somewhere in his world, he knew, a child or an animal was in trouble. Perhaps an otter, too young to swim, had slipped from his den and into the river. Or maybe a kitten had wandered into the forest and was stuck at the top of one of those ancient trees. Maybe a baby elephant had decided to follow a flock of flamingos far from the jungle and across the savannah and could not find her way home. Every night, he found them and helped them.

You might wonder how a wizard turns into a bird. Well, it takes long years of practice, beginning at the age of seven. It is a big moment for a wizard when they choose what type of magic they'll study and how they will use it to help the rest of the world. Some wizards have difficulty making this decision, but not Aquarius. From his earliest days, he had loved looking upward, following the wild geese with his eyes as they winged across the sky, quietly observing the bluebirds building their nests in the trees outside the castle. How wonderful, he always thought, to be able to spring up into the air and soar above the world.

Therefore, Aquarius's choice was very easy. On his most important seventh birthday, he sat down to breakfast with his parents, Mona and Raul, and his grandmother, Grammy Featherwing. After drinking their cinnamon tea and eating some of the double-chocolate raspberry layer cake, his mother looked at him. "Well, darling? What have you chosen?"

Clearing his throat, Aquarius announced, "Bird magic," and helped himself to a third slice of cake. His parents and grandmother were not surprised. They had been watching him watch birds all his life, of course. He was congratulated by everyone, and the next day, he climbed the spiral steps to his work tower to begin his exciting new life of study and experimentation. Each day in his workshop, he read about birds: about their homes and habits, the construction of their feathers, their routes through the air, and the colors and sizes of all their eggs. By the time he was ten, he understood birds almost as if he was a bird himself—which was the point.

Then Aquarius began his most important work, studying dusty old books of spells to learn how to transform himself into one of the creatures he had loved for so long. The pile of magic books was tall, but Aquarius was undaunted. He wanted to soar like a bird, and he would practice every spell, and recite every incantation, until he succeeded.

By the age of fourteen, Aquarius had learned to transform himself into almost any bird he could imagine. He became sure of himself and strong enough to fly long distances each night, and he was eager to use his new skills. After a while, something interesting began to happen every time he took a night flight: his sharp wizard ears would hear someone in need of help. A shrill squeak, a sudden cry, or a scared howl would alert him that far below, an animal or child was in distress. In fact, he simply could not finish a flight without hearing the call of someone who needed him. If you heard someone crying for help, you would look for them, of course. And so it came to pass that every night, after supper, Aquarius went to the top of his castle, transformed into a bird, and flew across the land searching for those in trouble.

First, he rescued a bear cub, clinging to a tree in a raging river. Next, he helped release a small, polite pufferfish, who'd gotten miserably stuck under an old shipwreck. Another time, he turned seven young sisters, who had been captured by a neighboring wizard, back into stars and helped them to return into the night sky.

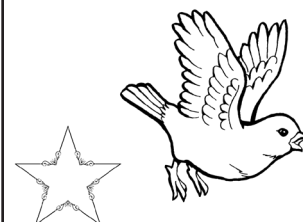
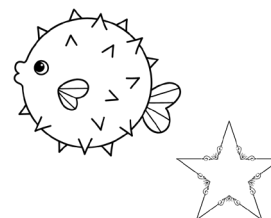
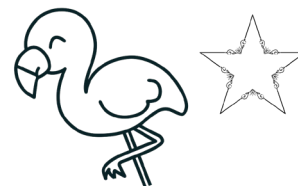
Each night was different. Everyone was always so grateful for his help that Aquarius began to enjoy solving problems and helping others. It made him feel good about himself and helped him learn about the many different people and creatures of his world. After being cooped up in a tower, studying for seven years, this was refreshing.

As Aquarius got older, he crossed the vast oceans, flew above moonlit deserts, and traveled deep into tropical jungles, helping wherever he could. Animals and young children trusted him right away, which made him feel strong. From little skunks who could not spray, to baby rattlesnakes who couldn't find their parents, to elephants and pufferfishes, every creature in the land learned his name.

About the Author

Megan Carol Haas is a Seattle creator, entrepreneur, and storyteller whose work has included co-founding the Utilikilts Company, starting two community-focused schools, and building Kinnected.org. The Adventures of the Wizard Aquarius, her first book, began as bedtime stories for her daughter.

Learn more about her writing and other work at <https://www.megancarolhaas.com/>



Mutt Matchup

Madrona's Favorite Quiz Game.

Who says people always look like their pets??? To play Mutt matchup, match the people and their dogs.
The answers are on page 8



Emma - 36th Ave



Sharif - 30th Ave



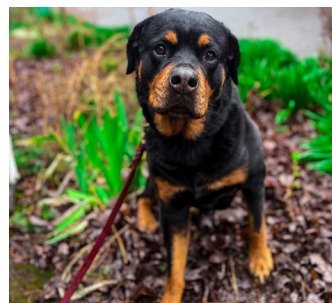
Sam - 30th Ave



Bobbie & Duvall



Barley & Mabel



Rosey

Get Involved

Madrona Neighborhood Association is always looking for neighbors who want to help strengthen our community.

Community Volunteers

- On-Call Volunteer (as needed)
- Event Prep Team Member
- Event Organizers
- Community Photographer
- Social Media Volunteer
- Sparkle Ambassadors (cleanup)
- MNA Secretary

Newsletter Contributors

- Neighborhood News Reporter
- School Correspondents
- Safety & Preparedness Reporter
- Construction & Transit Updates
- Community Calendar Curator
- Business Spotlight Writer
- Madrona Roots Historian
- Throwback Researcher
- Mutt Match Coordinator
- Photographers
- Illustrators & Designers

Interested in helping?
Visit madrona.us/volunteers

Mayfair 2026

A Fun-Filled day for Children

By Ramona Konitzer, VP of MNA

Madrona Mayfair returns to Madrona Playfield, starting with the beloved kids parade from Al Larkins Park. Mayfair will feature community booths, bounce houses, face painting, and live performances by Wren the Juggler and AlakaSam. This event is funded entirely by neighbors and local businesses. We need volunteers to help make the day happen, along with community donations and sponsors to keep Mayfair free and thriving. If you value this tradition, please step in and support it.

Featured Performer AlakaSam

AlakaSam has been performing comedy magic and twisting balloon sculptures for over 40 years! AlakaSam has performed for countless private parties and public events all over the United States. Appearances include Starbucks, Microsoft, City of Seattle, Boys and Girls Clubs, Ballard Seafood Festival, Christmas party for the children and Governor of St. John, USVI, Chemicum Salmon Festival, Safeway grand openings and corporate events including holiday parties.

While studying education and natural resources at Cornell University, Sam created a magic course curriculum and conducted an epistemological study of magic. Sam has worked as an educator for more than 40 years and for 24 years was the Lead Teacher with the Pacific Science Center's Science On Wheels program presenting hands-on science activities and shows to communities throughout Washington State. While teaching science for Pacific Science Center, Sam created and presented science magic tricks.

You can find more information about AlakaSam at alaka-sam.com



AlakaSam performing magic with playing cards at a local event.

MADRONA NEWSLETTER

PSRST STD
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Official newsletter for the Madrona Neighborhood Association. Find out more information about how you can volunteer, donate or contribute at madrona.us

Add your voice to the neighborhood news!

Articles, advertising, inquiries email:
newsletter@madrona.us

Local
Postal Customer

Upcoming Events

Submit
your event!
madrona.us/newsletter

This Month

March 11 & 19

Groundwork PNW Wine Series*
Bottlehouse • 5 PM

March 14

Glassybaby Seconds Sale
34th & E Union St • 8 AM

March 14

Saint Patrick's Day Celebration
Madrona Arms • 11 AM

March 15

Glassybaby Seconds Sale
34th & E Union St • 10 AM

March 15

St. Patrick's Day Breakfast
St. Therese • 10 AM

March 16 & 30

Family Story Time
Madrona Library • 1:30 PM

March 20

School Tour
Madrona Elementary • 12:30 PM

March 21

Oysters + Bubbly*
Bottlehouse • 3 PM

March 21

CottageCommunityBakes Pop-up
Yoka • 11 PM

March 28

Coffee & Camera Walk w/ @instateof
Yoka • 12 PM

March 30

Stations of the Cross
Epiphany Chapel • 7:30 PM

Upcoming

April 3

Good Friday Church Service
Epiphany • 7:30 PM

April 5

Easter Church Service
Epiphany • 9 AM

April 13-17

Seattle Public School Spring Break

April 19

Madrona Clean Up Day
Playfield Shelterhouse • 9 AM

Recurring

First Wednesday

MNA Public Meeting
Playfield Shelterhouse • 7 PM

Every Saturday

Run Club
Yoka • 9 AM

* Ticketed event. See business or organization website for more info.

Mutt Match-Up Answers:

Emma & Rosey - Sharif & Bobbie &
Duvall - Sam & Barley & Mabel