

MADRONA NEWSLETTER

Monthly Meeting

Every First Wednesday at 7pm
Playfield Shelterhouse

LIVE, WORK, PLAY & CONNECT

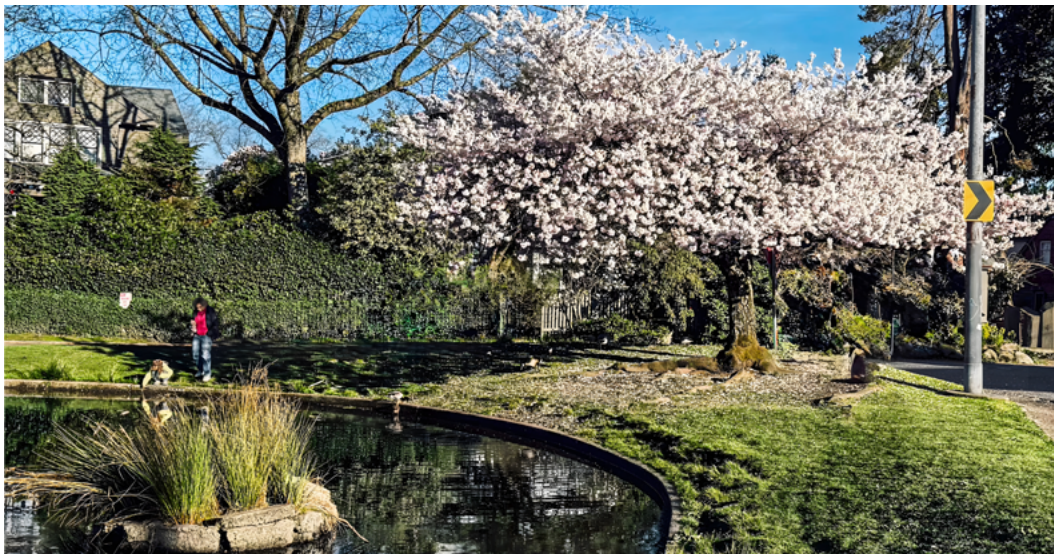
Your source for neighborhood
news, events, and history.



Volunteer

Returning Home

"I get the best feeling when I come back to this amazing place - **Madrona!**"



■ Denny Blaine Lake Park in bloom on March 30th, 2026.

By Amy Glick, President
Madrona Neighborhood Association

Wow, it's already April, and Spring has arrived! After spending some time in Asia, it felt wonderful to return home. I get the best feeling when I come back to this amazing place—Madrona! Spring is truly showing its beauty with blooming cherry blossoms. Despite the random snow flurries, Spring is off to a beautiful start here in our neighborhood.

I'm happy to report that many of you enjoyed the relaunched newsletter.

The feedback we've received was very positive, so a big shout-out to everyone who worked hard to bring it to life. A special thank you goes to Zac Lee for his energy and persistence as editor. It was heartwarming to hear how excited everyone is about the return of the Madrona News.

Throughout March, I was fortunate to walk along 34th Avenue many days and connect with many of our local businesses. We shared our enthusiasm for

Blossoms, which will be here soon. Some new spots and changes to existing businesses are in the works along 34th, bringing fresh energy to the business district. With Spring approaching and the excitement of Mayfair, I hope our great neighbors will be out and about again. Perhaps sunshine will come too!

I'm excited to clean up our neighborhood with all of you on April 19th—please introduce yourself and say hello!

In This Issue



50 Years of Mayfair

Mayfair's semicentennial celebration happening May 16 [Page 2](#)

Spring Clean Up

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

Madrona Elementary

An update from the PTSA [Page 4](#)

Blossoms

New plants and fundraising update. [Page 5](#)

Emergency Hub Captain

Madrona emergency hub in search of new captain. [Page 5](#)

Kids Corner

Mutt Matchup and The Wizard Aquarius [Page 6](#)

From the Community

Notes from a neighbor, and ways to get involved. [Page 7](#)

50 Years of Mayfair

“What began as a simple neighborhood gathering, decorating bikes and riding them in a parade down to the playfield, has grown into a beloved annual event.”

By Ramona Konitzer, VP of MNA

For 50 years, Mayfair has been one of Madrona's most cherished traditions, bringing neighbors together each spring for a morning of fun, connection, and community spirit. What began as a simple neighborhood gathering, decorating bikes and riding them in a parade down to the playfield, has grown into a beloved annual event, with generations of families returning year after year.

Mayfair has always been centered around kids and families, with games, activities, entertainment, and plenty of ways to play and connect. Maypole dancing in the 80s and 90s morphed into inflatables and face painting. A one-time booth where kids could see a “wild red bat” has been replaced by magicians. Each year builds on this tradition while adding new energy and excitement.

But Mayfair doesn't happen without volunteers.

“
Maypole dancing in the 80s and 90s morphed into inflatables and face painting.

This event is entirely community-powered, and we need your help to make it a success. We're looking for volunteers to assist with set-up, run activities, help during the event, and collect donations. We're also looking for bakers to contribute treats for the bake sale, one of our key fundraisers that helps keep Mayfair free for everyone.

Whether you can give an hour, take a shift, or bake something to share, your participation makes a real impact. Sign up at madrona.us/mayfair

Join us on Saturday, May 16th. Line-up starts at Alvin Larkins Park at 9:15 am.



■ Kids parade at Mayfair 2024.

Featured Performer

Wren the Juggler

Wren has been entertaining audiences of all ages in Northwest Washington for over a decade by sharing his genuine love of juggling from fairs to corporate events, traveling circuses to elementary schools! Whether on stage with his family-friendly juggling show, on stilts dressed as a juggling cowboy or pirate, or helping spread the joy of circus through his interactive Juggle Zone, Wren the Juggler brings his enthusiasm, positivity, and joy and shares it with one and all.

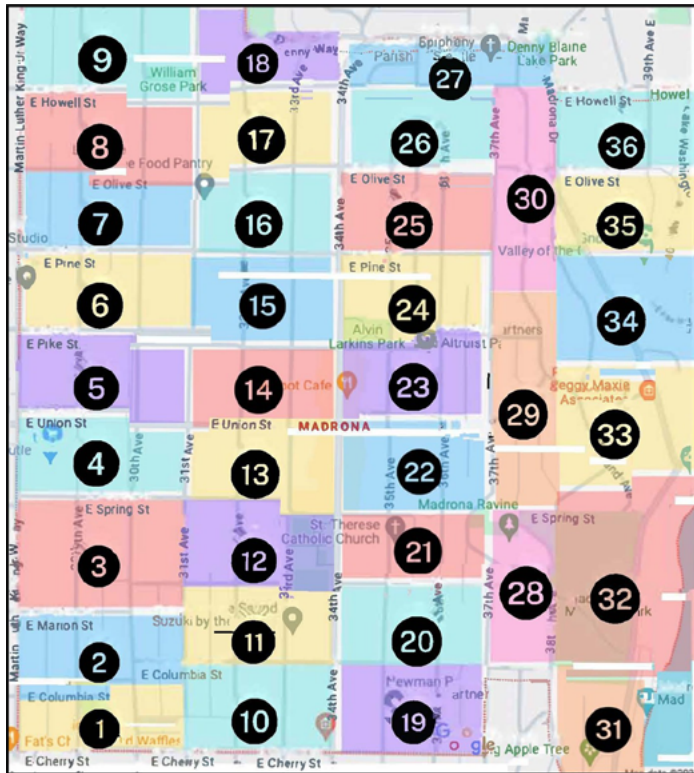


MADRONA.HOUSE

Every home for sale in the neighborhood, all in one place 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



Cleanup Day Zone Map

Spring Cleanup

“Bring a friend, and feel free to sign up with your neighbors!”

By Cindy Krebs, Madrona Cleanup Day Coordinator

To ensure all areas of our community are covered and to keep the clean-up effort manageable for volunteers, we established 36 cleanup zones (see map). Volunteers may choose to focus their efforts in the zone closest to their home or business, or to help throughout Madrona. In the past, most volunteers worked in multiple areas.

Madrona's approximate boundaries are Martin Luther King Jr. Way, East Denny Way/East Howell Street, Lake Washington Boulevard, and East Cherry Street. The locations that present the greatest opportunities for cleanup include: East Union Street, 34th Avenue, Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Lake Washington Boulevard, Madrona Playfield, Madrona Park, Alvin Larkins Park, and Denny Blaine Lake Park.

How it Works

Sunday, April 19

9am - 10 am Check in and pick up supplies at Madrona Playfield.

11 am - 12 pm Drop off the trash you collected and return supplies.

Join us at any time during check-in and help as long as you can. Bring a friend and feel free to sign up with your neighbors!

You will receive a litter kit at check-in. Each kit includes a grabber, a large bag, gloves, and a safety vest.

Ready to Sign Up?

madrona.us/madronacleanup



HERITAGE

Heritage strives to honor the tradition of finding, creating and nurturing a unique place to call home.

LANCE NEELY | 206.854.2140
FOUNDER & DESIGNATED BROKER

1418 E WARD ST | SOLD | 2.6M



CENTRAL DISTRICT FARMERS MARKET

(FORMERLY MADRONA)

**OPENING
MAY 15TH**

**FRIDAYS
3PM-7PM**

**MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. WAY
AND E. UNION STREET.**

Music in the Playfield Welcomes a New Coordinator

Our summer concert series will continue Tuesdays, August 11, 18, & 25 from 6-8 PM.

Kyle Parker-Robinson has been part of the Madrona community for over 13 years and brings a deep love of live music to the role. A multi-instrumentalist with a background in jazz piano, he is also a software engineer and parent of two young kids. He will coordinate performers, permits, and logistics for the 2026 concert series. We are now accepting band and performer submissions for this year's series.

Submit Your Band

Submit your band through the Madrona Neighborhood Association website.

madrona.us/musicintheplayfield

Band Requirements

Open to all, but we encourage bands based in Madrona or surrounding Seattle communities to apply. All music styles are welcome.

Help Wanted

Volunteer to help Kyle with all aspects of planning and preparation. Does not require attendance at every event.

Madrona Elementary

“Madrona has been recognized for making significant progress in key areas and for achieving some of the **largest annual academic gains in the state among certain student groups.**”

By Christine Khosropour and Arti Desai, for the Madrona Elementary PTSA

It's been a while since Madrona Elementary has been featured here! Madrona Elementary is proud to share the many strengths that make it such a vibrant and inspiring place for students to learn and grow.

Under the leadership of Principal Regina Carter, an award-winning educator and recipient of the 2025 Thomas B. Foster Award for Excellence for advancing educational justice and racial equity, Madrona has been recognized for making significant progress in key areas and for achieving some of the largest annual academic gains in the state among certain student groups. The school serves approximately 230 students in grades K-5 and is a source of pride for the community.

At the same time, Madrona's student population reflects real challenges, with about 40% of students coming from low-income households and 12% experiencing homelessness, making community awareness and support all the more impactful.

We are proud to call Madrona our neighborhood school and look forward to sharing news about the school with the community in the months ahead.

Spring Highlights

There's been no shortage of exciting learning and community-building this spring!

In celebration of Black History Month, the Madrona Drama Troupe brought history to life with powerful performances honoring influential Black leaders. Students shared their work at a school assembly, hosted an evening performance for families, and were even invited to perform at Lowell Elementary—an incredible recognition of their talent and hard work.

Our fifth graders also embarked on their much-anticipated trip to Camp IslandWood, where they had four days to explore the outdoors, build confidence, and deepen their connections with one another through hands-on learning experiences. After the trip, one fifth grader said “we all feel like brothers and sisters to each other.”

We're also thrilled to share that Madrona advanced to the finals of the 2026 Global Reading Challenge, a citywide program through the Seattle Public Library that encourages a love of reading among 4th and 5th graders. Students worked in teams to read a set of 8 books and put their knowledge to the test in a trivia-style competition—an impressive accomplishment that reflects their dedication and enthusiasm for learning.

Madrona Elementary continues to be a vibrant hub of creativity, curiosity, and achievement. If you're interested in supporting these kinds of enriching opportunities for students, we welcome your involvement—whether through volunteering, attending events, or contributing to future programs. Please reach out at ptsa@madronaptsa.org.



Madrona Emergency Hub Needs New Captain

Have you ever wondered what happens during a disaster when the systems we rely on every day are not available? “The Seattle Emergency Hub groups educate and organize people in their neighborhood about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their area.” Hubs are locations to gather after a disaster, so that neighbors can help neighbors until first responders arrive.

Madrona's hub is seeking a new captain.

Hub Captain Role

In your neighborhood:

Conduct exercises, such as annual drills or training sessions.

Participate in outreach events, such as community group meetings and local festivals, at least once a year.

Hold your own meetings with your hub volunteers

Plug into the citywide Hub Captains Network for mentoring:

5 meetings a year, every other month, of all the Hub Captains.

Reading emails from other Hub Captains sharing info.

Participate in yearly drills to learn from others what to do at your hub.

Attend any Deep Dive that interests you or others at your hub to build your information bank.

If you are interested in volunteering as a hub captain or getting involved in broader emergency preparedness in our neighborhood, please reach out to Cindi Barker at cindilbarker@gmail.com.

More info at seattleemergencyhubs.org

AWN | COMPASS

Spring is in the air, Madrona

We love our work – building futures, finding dream homes, and connecting with people.



Anne Willoughby Nelson
206.660.3055 | annewilloughby.com



Chris Koehler
206.954.6847 | chriskoehlerrealestate.com

Compass is a licensed real estate broker and abides by Equal Housing Opportunity laws. Agent license #43082, 501 E Pike St, 200A, Seattle, WA 98122 | 206.330.0314

Blossoms

"A small tradition **with a big impact**"

By Anne-Sophie Ledieu, Blossoms Coordinator

For more than twenty years, our hanging flower baskets have brought color and joy to 34th Avenue. They're a small tradition with a big impact, and once again our community is showing just how much these blooms mean to Madrona.

Thanks to generous neighbors and local businesses, we've already raised 85% of the funds needed for this year's baskets. I'm deeply grateful for this early support, it truly reflects the heart of our neighborhood.

This season, we're introducing a new selection of flowers chosen to better withstand the summer heat, so the baskets can stay vibrant and healthy all the way through October.

If you've already contributed, thank you. If you're planning to, your support will help us cross the finish line and keep Madrona blooming beautifully.



To support the program, please scan the QR code or email blossoms@madrona.us to receive instructions on how to donate by check.

If you choose to donate online and prefer not to cover the Zeffy processing fees, just follow the instructions at the top of the first page.



Downtown Madrona Blossoms with Baskets of Color

By Maria Renz, 34th Avenue From the Archives.com

This summer the Madrona business district will come into bloom when hanging flower baskets are installed.

Colorful flower baskets similar to those in Pioneer Square and West Seattle will be put up on telephone and utility poles, and building facades in two areas—on 34th Avenue between Pike and Spring, and on Union Street between 33rd and 35th. The Madrona Community Council (MCC) is purchasing the baskets as part of a beautification effort to improve the neighborhood and attract visitors to neighborhood businesses. From park to park, Madrona will be blossoming!

Many thanks to Judy Honican and Suzanne Sheppard for donating the funds to get this project started. Marie Doyle and Kim Harnish will be working with the MCC to raise funds for on-going maintenance for the flower baskets. They also hope to add banners and plan to have a design contest to create seasonal themes.

If anyone is interested in getting involved with the downtown Madrona Beautification Project, contact me at

Sidewalk Improvements on MLK

By Zac Lee

Many of you may have noticed (or been impacted by) the recent sidewalk project on Martin Luther King Jr Way between E John St. and Howell. According to the city, the west side of the project is planned to be completed by April 10th, and the east side by April 17th.

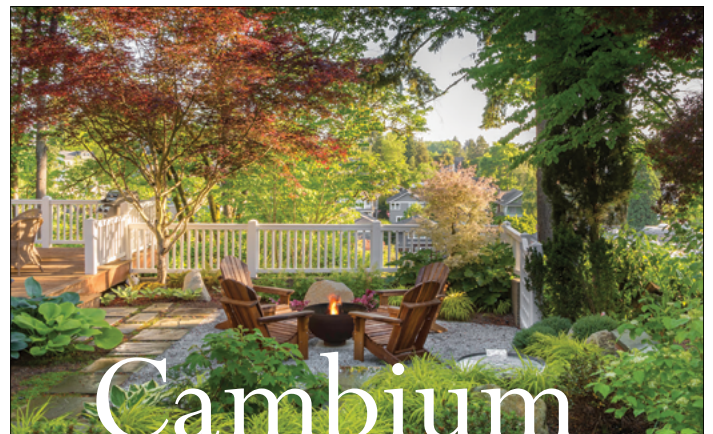
SDOT owns almost all the trees along that stretch of MLK, and over the years, their roots have buckled and uplifted the sidewalk. The project is funded in large part by the Seattle Transportation Plan Levy.

For specific questions about this project, please contact Jinny Green at jinny.green@seattle.gov. General program information is available by searching for "Sidewalk Repair Program" on seattle.gov.

STEM, Drama & More!

Register for Epiphany Summer Camp!

Learn More



Cambium

Landscape Architecture

DESIGN CONSTRUCTION MAINTENANCE



Pacific Northwest living
Tel 206 860 7625
cambiumlandscape.com

Kids Corner

THE ADVENTURES OF THE WIZARD AQUARIUS

Chapter 2 - Aquarius and the Moon

By Megan Carol Haas

One night, Aquarius the Wizard was in his tower, studying bird songs and feather shapes. His head buzzed with bird thoughts, and he knew it was time to take a little break for some tea and cake. His tea table was next to the window, where the moon always looked in and kept him company during his tea-time.

The moon knew all about Aquarius. She had watched over him as a baby, and then as a child, when his magic was new and shiny. Now, he was a serious young wizard, and she was quite pleased with how he was growing and succeeding. The moon was curious about his magic, but she was even more curious about his tea and the cake, which had been baked by Mona, Aquarius's mother.

When Mona was a baby, she did not try to eat the shiny buttons she found on the floor of the sewing room or pull the tails of the castle kittens. Instead, Mona wanted to be in the kitchen or in the garden. As soon as her little hands could hold a shovel, she planted her own kitchen garden, full of herbs and flowers. Every day, she dragged a sturdy pink parasol into the flower bed to take her nap under it. Every night, she slept among the pumpkins, wrapped in a wooly blanket.

Mona grew like a wild, joyful, beautiful plant, and by the time she was twenty years old, she had built a series of gardens that stretched the length of the castle and were filled with fountains, bird songs, and every variety of plant and fruit tree. Mona's gardens were a feast for the senses, rich with beautiful colors and delightful smells. Mona chose as her workshop a tower directly above the castle kitchen, where her love of plant magic soon expanded into cooking magic.

The moon had watched Mona raise Aquarius and saw the way her cooking gave him strength and knowledge. The moon was always watchful as Mona sat by baby Aquarius's cradle.

With each bite Mona fed him, she whispered that she loved him like the birds love the sky, like the tree loves the leaves, like the seeds love the soil, and like bread loves jam.

If the moon could have wept at these moments of sweetness, she would have. But instead, she wished that she was Aquarius, and that Mona was her mother, and longed for a taste of those tiny, peppery radishes or a bite of fresh bread, spread thick with butter and dripping with honey.

Magic is simple: it is the power to transform what we see in our hearts and minds into something real.

That night, as the moon watched Aquarius sit down at his wooden table to enjoy his pot of lemon tea and eat his slice of delicious, frosted ginger apple cake, she knew her magical moment had come.

The moon had never spoken to anyone before. But she gathered her strength, and even though she was millions of miles away, she spoke with her soft, icy voice inside Aquarius's head, and it sounded as close as a whisper.

"Aquarius," she said sweetly in his ear. "Do you know how much I am longing to taste, and feel, and touch everything the way you do? Dearest boy, let me sit with you and share your tea and cake. Won't you transform me, just for a moment? You are so powerful. Won't you make me human?"

Well, there is no safe way to answer that kind of question. Aquarius was not a dodo bird. He was a very smart wizard, and all wizards have studied the moon. He knew she was ancient and wild and possibly very, very sneaky.

Would it be totally against the rules to grant her request?

Stay tuned for another installment next month!

Mutt Matchup

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



Quincy



Janet W - Spring St



Juno



Rita S. - 34th Ave



Stevie



Chrishna - 34th Ave

About the Author

Megan Carol Haas lives in Madrona. Support a local author and purchase the full book at Madrona Family Dental! Or online at Amazon or Barnes & Noble, available in e-reader, audible, or paperback.

For more information about Megan and The Adventures of the Wizard Aquarius, please visit: www.megancarolhaas.com/aquarius



From the Community

Be the Change

By Jacqui Beck

“ We must be the change we wish for.
– Mahatma Gandhi

“ It may be when we no longer know what to do, we have come to our real work, and when we no longer know which way to go, we have begun our real journey. The mind that is not baffled is not employed. The impeded stream is the one that sings.
– Wendell Berry

In this challenging time, I agree with Mahatma Gandhi. We must step up and be the change.

I always feel inspired by Wendell Berry. As long as we keep doing things as we've always done them we remain safe, but we aren't stretching and growing. As challenging as it is, let's lean into the profound discomfort of digging deeper and doing things we don't know how to do.

Jacqui Beck is an artist, art educator, and creativity coach living in the Madrona neighborhood. Her award-winning expressive acrylic & mixed media paintings are collected and exhibited in the US, Canada, Europe, and New Zealand. She has a master's degree in counseling psychology from the University of Victoria.

www.jacquibeck.com



Get Involved

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

Newsletter Contributors

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

Community Volunteers

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

Interested in helping?
Visit madrona.us/volunteers

Put your business in every Madrona mailbox for as low as \$125 per month.

Contact newsletter@madrona.us to get started.

When you advertise in the Madrona Newsletter you are 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.

Four ad size options are available. Costs range from \$125 to \$395 per month. See website for more details.



Why Advertise

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

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 citywide 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.

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



Scan above for info or visit madrona.us/newsletteradvertising

MADRONA NEWSLETTER

PRST STD
ECRWSS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
EDDM RETAIL

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

This Month

April 13-17

Seattle Public School Spring Break

April 19

Madrona Clean Up Day
Playfield Shelterhouse • 9 AM

April 24

Opening Reception
Dirkse/Prim Gallery • 5 PM

Upcoming

May 2

Justabreadbaby Pop-up
Yoka • 11 AM

May 7

Multicultural Night
Madrona Elementary • 5:00 PM

May 15

Michael Weinstein Exhibition
Domicile Gallery • 7:00 PM

May 16

Mayfair
Madrona Playfield • 9:30 AM

May 20-24

Insidious Trilogy: A Theatrical Event
On The Boards • 7:30 PM *

Recurring

First Wednesday

MNA Public Meeting
Playfield Shelterhouse • 7 PM

Every Saturday

Run Club
Yoka • 9 AM

2nd and 4th Monday

Family Story Time
Madrona Library • 1:30 PM

Submit
your event!
[madrona.us/
newsletter](http://madrona.us/newsletter)

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

Mutt Matchup Answers:

Rita & Juno - Janet & Stevie - Chrishna
& Quincy