



June 2012
Issue No. 244

Mike Walker at the Hi Spot Café

Seven days a week, baking starts at 1:00am to produce the cinnamon rolls, biscuits, fruit scones, biscotti, and other delectables for Hi Spot Café aficionados and newcomers. The recipes were passed down from the restaurant's original owner, Pat Barry, who moved her restaurant to Madrona in 1983. She and her partner connected the storefront to the house before naming the new venture the Hi Spot Café. As the page 2 photo shows, the original Hi Spot collected a diverse array of clients, and this practice has continued with current owner Mike Walker. According to Walker, good word of mouth about the Café attracts new generations when families bring grandmothers, grandchildren, and visitors to experience Madrona at its neighborly best. Walker also offers value, using all-natural ingredients, such as butter and organic currants. This quality is offered at the restaurant and also via a catering service out of the Hi Spot kitchen.



Mike Walker

Mike notes that he and co-owner Joanne Sugura were the fourth owners of the Hi Spot. Both were employed by The Pink Door—she as chef, he as manager—but each yearned to work as independents. So they purchased the Hi Spot in 1994, operating it jointly until the early 2000's, when Mike became the sole owner.

As owner of the Hi Spot for the last 18 years, Mike notes that the neighborhood and the restaurant have witnessed change. In the early years, Mike considered it semi-dangerous to be open at night. People were robbed. Drugs were openly offered on many Madrona blocks, and users left needles on the street. As a result, few diners were interested in visiting Madrona for an evening. This challenge--together with the 80-hour work weeks associated with serving breakfast, lunch, and dinner--led Walker to focus on the breakfast and lunch menus for which the Hi Spot is well known.

Interestingly, one of the ways the restaurant became better known was via a 1992 feature as part of CBS's Breakfast for your Head campaign. The film showed people sipping lattes and consuming cinnamon rolls with the tag line of "The Hi Spot Café in Seattle and CBS are Breakfast for your Head." Results included mentions in

(continued on page 2)

Council Corner

By the time this summary appears in print, the Mayfair Block Party in its new day-long configuration will be over, and thanks to our advertisers, our volunteers, and Stacey Kryman's vision and hard work, our signature annual event will have come close to paying for itself. Look next for news of a summer all-Madrona garage sale on June 23 and a musical evening with neighbors Phil and Vivian Williams, who have offered a performance as

a benefit. The Council is planning activities for all ages; for current information about events in Madrona, visit our newly revised website, courtesy of Jason Cook, at www.madrona.us. If you would like to influence the character of those events--or help make them happen--come to our next meeting on June 5, or any future meeting on the first Tuesday of the month, September through June.

Meet Susan Minogue, MCC Vice President

In the role of MCC Vice President, Susan Minogue often serves as the communications officer for MCC. Similarly, she enjoys developing community around family life, her work, and other volunteer activities. But let's start with her MCC role where Susan is a link between the Madrona community and the Community Council, between the MCC and other neighborhood community groups, and between Madrona and city-wide activities. It is she who arranges for



Susan Minogue

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Hi Spot... (cont'd from page 1)

travel guides and sojourns to the Hi Spot from visiting tourists and locals who wanted their pictures taken in front of the iconic Hi Spot sign. Then and now, the restaurant attracted customers from all over the city—a situation that contributes to the Hi Spot's longevity in its current location.



1983 Hi Spot Café clients

Although his university training was in visual communication and broadcasting, Walker says that restaurant work got into his blood at an early age. Now, after 28 years in restaurants, Walker still enjoys the work and delights in knowing so many of his Hi Spot clients by face and name. According to Walker, among the highs of café ownership are being part of a neighborhood and being his own boss. The latter advantage is offset somewhat by the fact that ownership is a 24/7 job and the restaurant is open seven days a week, so the business “never leaves your mind.” Fortunately Walker is much aided by employees who tend to stay with him: his chef has been with him 15 years, and Walker enumerates wait staff and baristas who have been with him from 5 to 16 years.

Walker observes that survival in the competitive restaurant business means embracing the neighborhood. This he has done, helping to make Madrona an attractive place not only through the neighborhood hub role the restaurant plays but also by raising funds for neighborhood enhancement projects like Madrona Blossoms. Having just signed a new 15-year lease for the Hi Spot location, Walker has signaled his intention to remain a neigh-

bor for many more years. To learn more about the Hi Spot visit hispotcafe.com or call Mike at 325-7905.

Madrona Community Council Meeting *Draft Agenda for June 5th

7:15pm at Madrona Playfield Shelterhouse. All Welcome!!

- » Mayfair follow-up
- » Garage sale on June 23rd
- » Street committee update
- » Report from Central Area District Council
- » MCC business—meet in executive session over summer

*Please be aware that draft agendas can and do change.

Madrona Garage Sale Date Set

Back by popular demand, the Madrona Neighborhood Garage Sale date is set for June 23. As in years past, Madrona neighbors are encouraged to host a sale on that day. The Madrona Community Council will again coordinate these sales by producing a map of June 23 Madrona sales that will be promoted online and available for distribution at home/garage sale locations. Last year the sale attracted 27 participants, bringing many shoppers into the neighborhood.

If you'd like to host a garage sale at your place and have it listed on the neighborhood map, please contact madronasale@gmail.com by June 18. Include your name, address, and a one sentence description of the things you plan to sell. These might include children's gear, books, household items, small or large furniture, toys, women's clothes, sports equipment, records, etc. Participants who want their sale listed on the community map are asked to provide a \$20 donation to the Madrona Community Council via Paypal found on the MCC website at www.madrona.us. All money raised supports other Madrona neighborhood activities, such as the Halloween Party, the Mayfair Block Party, and the *Madrona News*.

The MCC is looking for volunteers to help coordinate the event. This would include putting up signs, creating the map, and working on the day of the sale. Please send an email to madronasale@gmail.com if you are able to volunteer.



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Susan Minogue... (cont'd from page 1)

SDOT, Waste Management, Metro, and other organizational representatives to attend MCC meetings. She also organized Mayor McGinn's town hall at Madrona K-8, a neighborhood emergency preparedness meeting, and together with president Holly Smith she attended the recent Neighborhood Appreciation event to present awards on behalf of MCC. She attends monthly Central Area Neighborhood District Council meetings to be briefed on news, events, issues, and questions in nearby neighborhoods and to share Madrona news and events. That group takes issues to the City of Seattle on behalf of member community council groups. Susan supports MCC president Holly Smith by assembling the monthly MCC meeting agenda. She supports other people working on MCC subcommittees, communicates on the website and via various outlets, and tries to keep everyone in the communication loop about MCC meetings and activities.

Susan and her architect-husband Jim Cary moved to Squire Park 13 years ago where Susan worked with that community council. After moving to Madrona four years ago, Susan began attending MCC meetings just to see what was going on. About two years ago she stepped into the VP role to fill a void that had opened. She suggested MCC adopt a model that worked well for Squire Park: expand the board beyond its officers to include at-large board members who commit to attending meetings and participating in events. Since the MCC adopted this model, the Board has doubled in size. Susan particularly likes the distinctive personality of Madrona, characterizing it as a residential neighborhood that is urban but offers tremendous natural amenities. But she cautions that these benefits call for a significant amount of community support both to sustain and leverage them.

Susan's enthusiasm for community building extends to young Madrona via volunteer activities at Madrona K-8 where son James attends kindergarten. She enjoys taking part in field trips and working in the library because these and other activities help her get to know children one by one. She takes special delight when those relationships are rewarded with interactions such as a playground hug, a shy "hello," or an invitation to tie an undone shoelace.

In addition to volunteer work, Susan keeps busy with her family's life, and as a freelance writer who prepares copy and edits for online retailers, a Big Four accounting firm, and travel companies. The communities forged by those activities also are wide and deep.

Susan is all about demystifying what the MCC is, inviting other people into every discussion, and forging additional links within Madrona and between its neighbors and the City of Seattle. She observes that what the MCC becomes is inevitably a product of who shows up at the 1.5-hour meetings and what they take on. But she observes that meetings also are a time to get to know interesting people who talk and laugh together once a month as they take on today's pressing concerns and consider important issues that impact Madrona's future.

Good Neighbors

By Loring McAllaster, E. Denny Way

When Epiphany School proposed expanding the campus into its single-family-zoned neighborhood some years ago, a group challenged the school on both administrative and legal grounds. A similar project years before had not met neighbors' expectations, and there was concern the same could happen again.

The group of concerned neighbors called itself Neighbors of Epiphany School. A series of meetings between the school, Neighbors, and the Seattle Department of Planning and Development followed. In the spirit of inclusiveness Neighbors was able to contribute to the planning process, resulting in a redesigned campus and the new Madrona Hall.

Unused funds collected to cover expenses for the Neighbors group are now available and will be used for:

- A memorial tree and etched stone in memory of the late Arthur C. Stewart and in honor of his wife Olga for their work in sounding the alarm that led to the partnership between the school and its neighbors was dedicated May 17.
- A gift of books for the Epiphany school library, with appropriate dedicatory plate.
- A gift of books from Epiphany School and Neighbors to the Madrona Sally Goldmark Branch Library, dedicated to Madrona children.

These actions top off a very satisfactory relationship between the Epiphany School and the Neighbors. Special thanks go to Matt Neely, Head of School, his predecessor George Edwards, Tina Helsell, former Chair of the School Board, her predecessor Lee Stanton, and the many wonderful neighbors of Epiphany School.



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Epiphany Parish Homeless Men's Shelter

By Charley Bush, E. Columbia

Epiphany Parish responded positively to the request of Operation Nightwatch to open its facilities to overnight stays by Seattle's homeless men. Although much smaller in scale than the long-standing St. Therese shelter project, Epiphany has been hosting eight men chosen and transported by Operation Nightwatch each Friday night since February. More than 30 men and women parishioners have volunteered to be hosts, two for each overnight stay. Parishioners are providing toilet kits, wash cloths, hand towels, and clean socks. Parish youth also are providing "go bags" containing nonperishable food items for the men.

Because the guests are so comfortable in the Epiphany Christie House library, the Friday group tends to be the same men. They have taken responsibility for setup and then cleanup of the facility and sleeping accessories such as mats and blankets. The guest-host familiarity has provided for conversation and the development of friendships. All parishioners who have participated to date have overwhelmingly reported this to be a very satisfying experience. Indeed, there is support developing for an expansion of the program to include Saturday nights as well.

Julia's Place

Julia's Place at Madrona Grace planned to open its shelter to 14 people in mid-May. To volunteer, telephone volunteer coordinator Megan Handley at 289-0657 or learn more at shelter@madronachurch.org.



Epiphany Summer Concert Series
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Directions: Epiphany sits just North of downtown Madrona. From Madrona take 34th Avenue down the hill and it will turn into Denny. (1805 38th Avenue). The concert will be in the courtyard.

What to bring: Bring your kids, friends and family, lawn chairs, drinks, PICNIC, and maybe a blanket. (All are welcome!) Questions: call Epiphany Church @ 206.324.2573

Neighborhood News and Notes

Women on Wednesday hiking group gathers every Wednesday in warmer months for hikes in the I-5 corridor, mostly Snoqualmie summit and beyond, with occasional forays into the Darrington area to the north and Mt. Rainier to the south. Members of the group keep a good pace, often hiking five to seven miles a day and frequently gaining up to 2400 feet in elevation. If you feel you are able and would like to join us, contact Betsy Bell at 933-1889 or email betsy@hihohealth.com.

Dan Levant, founder of Madrona Publishers, Inc., died in April. *Madrona News* readers will recall that an interview with Mr. Levant appeared in the February issue.

In April, Eli Sanders, who lived in Madrona and attended Garfield High School, was awarded the 2012 Pulitzer Prize for feature writing for his June 14, 2011, article "The Bravest Woman in Seattle." The article was first published in *The Stranger* and can be accessed online at <http://www.thestranger.com/seattle/the-bravest-woman-in-seattle/Content?oid=8640991>

This summer the Madrona Dining and Sipping Society plans to repeat summer favorites like the patio dinner at the Hi Spot Café and an evening under the stars at Bottlehouse. Maybe even another Madrona picnic before summer is over? The only way you will hear about these events is to add your email address to the MDSS email list. To do this, contact Audrey Seale at audreyseale@comcast.net.

Judson McLaury, who has been copy editing the *Madrona News* for the past three years, has accepted an offer to become the assis-

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News and Notes... (cont'd from previous page)

tant editor of *The Federal History Journal*. Judson will no longer be available to copy edit the *Madrona News*, but we congratulate him on his new job, thank him for his time and care, and wish him well with this new opportunity.

The *Madrona News* calendar has been prepared by Nikki Bains for the past three years. Nikki has moved on to other opportunities, and we thank her and wish her well.

Spectrum Dance Theater's *Love* opens June 21 and runs June 21- 23 and 28-30. Please contact Shirley Wong at 325-4161 or shirley@spectrumdance.org if you are interested in ushering or related tasks. Please contact Kate Ashworth at kate@spectrumdance.org if you are interested in helping with production tasks.

Madrona artists were in the winner's circle recently. Lin Holley won the Juror's Choice Award at a Washington Clay Arts exhibit that coincided with the National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts (NCECA). Her winning piece titled *Offerings*, was an assemblage ceramic sculpture of Raku, terra cotta and mixed media. Ginny Conrow, whose studio and store are located on 34th Avenue, won the People's Choice award for her piece *Starburst Platter* at the Kirkland Arts Center show: *Platter Techtonics/Specific Rims* that coincided with the March NCECA conference.

Café Presse restaurant at 1117 12th Avenue is sponsoring a benefit for Green Plate Special on May 29 at 6:30pm. The restaurant invites neighbors to meet chef Laura Dewell, co-founder of Green Plate Special, learn more about the garden and how it grows, and enjoy a four course seasonal menu prepared by

Dewell and featuring produce grown by Green Plate participants at the Union and MLKing Blvd GPS site. The cost is \$55 per person, which includes wine selected by Café Presse wine director Marcel Boulanger, as well as tax and tip. All proceeds will go to Green Plate Special's youth programming. For reservations, contact Café Presse at 709-7674.

Some people may not realize that it is illegal to remove anything from a public park such as Madrona Woods other than what they or their dog brought in. Taking natural things out also can be damaging to sometimes delicate ecosystems. Even branches and other downed wood should be left to decompose as they would in a natural forest, but it is especially important to protect and nurture living native plants. Recently some sword ferns in the Woods were severely damaged by people harvesting fiddleheads, and it will take them a long time to recover. All of us can be stewards and try to educate such offenders if we come upon them.

The *Madrona News* does not publish in July or August. The deadline for the September issue is August 14 for which we seek volunteers for both a copy editor and a calendar editor. To learn more about either opportunity, contact madronanews@gmail.com.

On May 4 neighbors who have lived in Madrona for 40+ years met at a local home to talk about their experiences in the community now and in years past. The event was a lot of fun, and it provided information for future *Madrona News* articles. But everyone present agreed there are likely to be many more perspectives on the history of the 1960s and '70s in Madrona than represented by the 13 who could make it on May 4. If you are interested in helping gathering a group for a similar chat about Madrona of 40+ years ago, please be in touch with madronanews@gmail.com.



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Thank You, 2012 Madrona Blossoms Donors (So Far...)

By Marie Doyle, 37th Avenue

We extend a huge thank you to all the neighbors and businesses who donated funds for the 7th year of the Madrona Blossoms project. We're humbled, but so grateful

for your generous support and enthusiasm for the lush, colorful flower baskets that decorate our community from spring to fall.

Enjoy the flowers—thanks to these generous donors:

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*A special donation of one flower basket, in memory of favorite neighbor and flower lover, Katie Stelter Belisle, from her friends Audrey and Anne.

There's still time to help. If you'd like to donate to the project, send checks payable to "Madrona Blossoms, MCC" to Madrona Blossoms Treasurer, 1121 37th Avenue, Seattle, WA 98122. And if you'd like to help on our committee, please email doylemf@comcast.net.

Thank you, neighbors!




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Young Madrona

Longtime educator and Madrona resident Ron Jones gathered the following submissions to showcase what children are thinking, writing, and doing in Madrona schools.

Madrona K-8

On May 9 Mr. Hughes asked his 5th-8th grade journalism class to write on two topics. Below are their comments about Madrona K-8.

- I have learned tolerance at Madrona K-8. At my old school I didn't have any African American friends. Here I have made many friends and ... dive into their culture. I'm a better person and learned to work hard from my teachers. J (8th grader tracking to honors/AP in language arts at Garfield)
- I'm a whole new person in 8th grade at Madrona. I care more about myself and my life. I have begun to think deeper about my future." M (8th grader, off to Garfield. Madrona Neighborhood Appreciation day: Middle School Student of the Year winner)
- Madrona is more than just a school; it is a family. I sometimes sit and think about my eight years here and the impact the school has had on my life. I think about the reading programs that improved my skills, the endless hours of writer's workshop, and the challenging math and science. M (8th grader, Student Council President, tracking to Garfield AP/Honors)
- People outside of Madrona K-8 have judged this school by how it looks or what they want to see. But if they came into the school they would be amazed. They have no idea what they are missing out on. M (5th grader, advanced math/reading)

St. Therese

School Ending

By Maggie, 8th grade

This is my 9th year at St. Therese School. I never thought of graduating and leaving until now. I have been here since kindergarten. During these years, I have watched my friends grow and

the school develop. I experienced what it is like being a Catholic and learning my faith at St. Therese, and I will carry this to high school and throughout my life. St. Therese taught me well. Here I learned school can be a second family. St. Therese is a great community and I will miss it dearly when I move on to John F. Kennedy Catholic High School.

Thought for my Grandparents

By Jess, 8th grade

I don't know where to start,
But I'll be the first to say
You inspire me each and every day.
On the brightest days and saddest nights,
You remind me that things are all right.
You watched the world throughout your life
And witnessed the most remarkable times.
I know you went through more than me
Your wisdom and trust shape my hopes and dreams
But remember that you made us grow,
Forever and now we love you so
For when the sun sets in the west
You will always be my grandparents,
You're the best.

The Valley School

Valley School fourth graders read *The Seven Wonders of Sassafras Springs*, then each wrote about a wonder in their own lives.

Below is Chloe Rimmerman's wonder:

I remember it like it was yesterday. Our car was lugging along in the bright sunlight, a cool calm day, and my elated expression when I saw the little white bird that would become so dear to me. After we got home, I put him in his cage, and... left his door open. My mom had turned on the music, and soon the long echoing cries of my dove Eros were drowned in the fast beating rhythms of Michael Jackson. Eros seemed almost to be singing along, and soon I got tired of the Michael-dove duet, and I left the room (forgetting that both his cage door and the house door were open). Soon I remembered and rushed into the room, only to find the cage door swinging on its hinges. Then I heard a loud cooing noise. I ran over and found Eros all fluffed up sitting on the stereo, innocently listening to *Thriller*. I can't thank Eros enough for his love of music. The reason I'm thankful that Eros loved music is because if he hadn't liked music, he probably would have flown out the door. That's my wonder.

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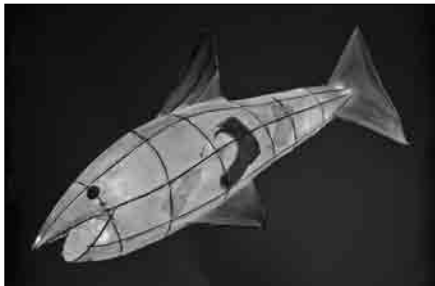
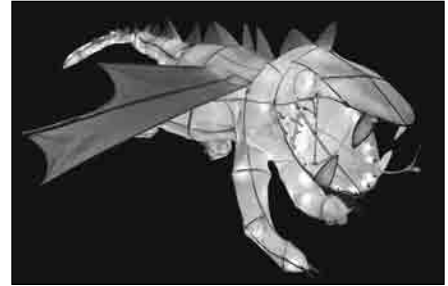
Milo Greenberg's April contribution to this feature was incorrectly attributed. Milo is a student at The Valley School.

Young Writers... (cont'd from previous page)

Coyote Central

Coyote Central artists whose ages are 10-18 designed and built giant lanterns as part of the Seattle Center's 50th Anniversary celebration of the World's Fair, the Next Fifty. As the pictures below show, the students built complex bamboo and reed frames, wired in LED lights, enclosed them in Chinese silk and Japanese rice paper, and applied lined drawings and paintings to further clarify their ideas. Evocative and larger-than-life, the lanterns will light up the glass-covered walkway between the international fountain and the Center House from early June until October 21 before returning to Coyote headquarters at 23rd and Cherry.

Photographs by Chris Barnett who can be reached at ChrisBarnettPhotography.com.



Struttin' Our Stuff: Celebrating the Creativity of the Leschi Community

By Diane Snell, Leschi Community Council

Come to Leschi on June 9, 11:00am-4:00pm, to stroll the lake-side business area where more than 40 artists will display work, including paintings, drawings, leather work, jewelry, dolls, sculptures, and more. We are pleased to have renowned jewelry artist Esther Ervin (from Madrona) participating in the Art Walk, and Leschi resident Darcy Thompson will show her recycled art in the form of garden art and jewelry.

Mary Ellen Anderson will bring her giant Earth Ball to the event, a surefire attraction for the kids. The Baker Pre School will display artwork from their students. Edward Jones will open its doors and offer its bare walls for artists to hang their works. Dentist Michael Bilikas's office will also be open; his walls display the photographic works of Garfield High School students.

For other types of fun, head down to the water behind the retail businesses where CrossFit is located. Three music groups will perform during the day: The Professors, ContactParty, and Nzira Marimba Band.

Leschi Community Council will have an informational table with displays of work done in local parks, and we will have a rare copy of the long-out-of-print *Leschi Diary* for sale. This should be a day to remember, so save the date on your calendar.

Safer Sidewalks, Mature Trees for Madrona

By Aly Frei, E. Howell

As part of their charge to repair sidewalks, Seattle Department of Transportation plans to remove nearly 30 decades-old trees from the 34th and Union neighborhood core. Although removing the trees would eliminate litigation fears related to the sidewalks' condition, doing so would disregard the city's commitment to urban forestry. Plans to remove street trees (replacing them in other parts of the neighborhood, but not on 34th or Union) lack creativity and, Madrona residents fear, will destroy our neighborhood's charm and threaten businesses, property values, and quality of life. These concerns were first raised by an MCC subcommittee that has now become an autonomous action group formed to supersede SDOT's tree removal plans with a comprehensive design that improves safety and access while retaining beauty, focusing on preservation, and honoring history. Committee members have rolled up their sleeves to find innovative solutions for sidewalk repair and tree preservation; they intend to hire arborists, urban planners, and other experts as consultants. The committee would like to see Madrona become a demonstration site for strategies that enhance the charm, preserve the history, and ensure safe mobility in our wonderful neighborhood. I can accept donations to support the committee's ability to hire consultants; please mail checks made out to Safer Sidewalks/ Mature Trees to me at 3418 E Howell 98122. For more information, contact me afrei@becomingparents.com or Sarah Westneat at sarahwestneat@comcast.net.

Business Briefs

The Molly Moon mini-store at 1408 34th Ave. reopened on May 1. The store now has an ice cream dipping-cabinet that offers five flavors to scoop into cups or house-made waffle cones. Sundaes, milkshakes, hand-packed pints, and Molly Moon's signature ice cream sandwiches also are available. The store intends to be open daily from noon to 10:00pm.

According to a Seattle Times article, Michale Beraki of Beaverton, Oregon placed the winning bid of \$295,100 for the liquor store located at 23rd and Union. Having won the auction, Beraki can open a store at the current location, open a store in a nearby location, or sell the rights to open a liquor store to another party. To stay in the current location Beraki must negotiate a lease with building owner Tom Bangasser. The latter has told the *Central District News* that he is interested in keeping a liquor store in the building.

Both Med Mix and the Neighbor Lady opened recently at or near the corner of 23rd and Union. The latter is a mostly vegetarian restaurant and bar open from 4:00 until bar closing every day. Med Mix offers a wide range of food, including gyros, fried chicken, falafel, baklava, and other treats daily 10:00am-11:00pm.

Business Owners of Madrona (BOOM) held their May gathering at Bottlehouse to share member news and gear up for the May-fair Block Party, Madrona Blossoms, and what everyone hopes will be a warm summer. As has occurred in the past, BOOM invited Madrona Community Council officers and board members to the event to encourage interaction between the two groups. BOOM's next membership get-together is scheduled at the Hi Spot Café for August.

Brianne Ingertila opened Sage Salon at 1123 34th Avenue in mid-May, fulfilling a lifelong dream to open an environmentally friendly, all organic/natural salon. This full-service hair salon also offers massages in the evenings. Brianne, who attended the Aveda Academy, characterizes Madrona as a hidden nook in the city where people are friendly, businesses are welcoming, and there is a real sense of neighborhood. Salon hours are not yet confirmed, but the website will list them at www.sagehair.net, or telephone Brianne at 687-0317.

We're On Our Way in Madrona Woods

By *Judith Starbuck, Grand Avenue*

We're delighted that we can now move forward with clearing, planting, and maintenance in the last restoration piece of the entire Madrona Woods—the 1.5 acres in the southeast corner. This progress is due to two successful grants, one for \$10,000 from King County's Wild Places in City Spaces program, and the second for \$500 from Washington Native Plant Society to buy plants. A new partnership with Friends of the Cedar River Watershed also makes it possible to tackle this last remaining section. Our first joint work party will be June 8 from 9:00am-3:30pm from Deloitte Consulting; it includes a presentation on the connections between Madrona Woods and Cedar River salmon migrations. Register to participate for any part of the work day via email to nisa@cedarriver.org.

Community support is important to our grantors as well as to our overall success, and volunteer hours are one way to show it. Hours can be spent in field labor, providing food/drinks for a work party, trail maintenance like pruning and raking, monitoring, or an administrative task. Of course money is another way to show community support. It's easy to make a tax-deductible contribution online at the Seattle Parks Foundation website: click the Donate button and choose Madrona Woods from the "Donation Designation" dropdown box. Checks made out to Friends of Madrona Woods can be sent to treasurer John Lahti at 1715 33rd Avenue, Seattle, 98122-3329.

We'll have a big planting push in the fall, and we hope to gather lots of laborers on Green Seattle Day Nov. 3. Put it on your calendar. But you don't have to wait; come (and bring students who need to do community service) on June 8 or to our next regular work party on June 23 from 10:00 am-1:00pm. To sign up or to learn about future work parties, go to cedar.greencitypartnerships.org and click on CEDAR. Put in Green Seattle Partnership and select Madrona Park. Indicate that you'll be attending. Or sign in when you show up to get your gloves and tools at the entrance at Spring Street and Grand Avenue. The new MCC website (madrone.us) features a link to our own newly renovated website where you will see work party announcements and all kinds of interesting information. Or go directly to www.madronawoods.org. I'm available to give tours or answer questions most any time; contact me at judithstarbuck@msn.com.

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Mayfair Block Party

Madrona's Mayfair is a decades old tradition, but this year there were new twists, including an afternoon-long Block Party in the Madrona business district. The day began with a new event as well—a well-attended pancake breakfast at Madrona K-8 School. There bike and trike riders put final touches on their conveyances before gathering at Al Larkins Park for the parade, sponsored this year by the Madrona Dining and Sipping Society. At 9:30 the parade began, led by a fire truck and aided by police officers who halted traffic on the parade route to Madrona Playfield. Riders were accompanied by moms, dads, grandparents, friends, and neighbors, many of whom walked with riders and others of whom took photos from the sidelines. One neighbor commented, “it’s Occupy Madrona—junior division.”

Riders took their task seriously, intent on keeping up with the flow. At one point, John Platt from St. Cloud's stepped into the street to photograph his son, but like many other little ones, young Jack was much too invested in the parade to pose for papa. As the crowd approached the Playfield, there were happy cries such as “Mommy, Mommy, I see the bouncy house.” Indeed, once bikes were parked, a swarm gathered for pony rides, bouncy houses, face painting, Mother's Day card making, helium balloons, and many other activities. The morning also offered performances by Charles the Clown and the Reptile Man. Many thanks to major sponsors MCC and Business Owners of Madrona and those who funded various events including Ewing & Clark for pony rides, Harvard Avenue School for face painting by Tangerine Tales, Madrona Family Dental/Dr. Tarr for sponsoring Charles the Clown and the Reptile Man, and Meter Music. Thanks also go to Seattle Parks and Recreation for providing the bouncy houses, to Cleanscapes for donating trash/composting/recycling, to Tougo Coffee and Sponge for providing Mother's Day craft activities, to Girlie Press for printing the posters and to Seattle Gymnastics Academy, Cupcake Royale, Bottlehouse, Key Bank, Nena, Mychale Beebe/Seattle Chiropractic, Restaurant Bea, Pritty Boys Pizzeria, St. Cloud's Restaurant, and Madrona Moms.

As in past years, playfield events were organized and coordinated by the Madrona Community Council and Stacey Kryman who spearheaded the event for MCC. MCC's Nikki Lundin organized volunteers, and many others were on site to help out with various activities.

At exactly noon, organized Playfield activities came to a halt when the crowd moved north to the Amara Parking Lot to enjoy music from the “Not Its.” Dressed in pink and black, the band played many child-centric tunes, including *When I'm Five--* dedicated to anyone who has ever attended kindergarten. The band's appearance was sponsored by major sponsor Lakeview Orthodontics and Dr. Riolo. Little ones danced and bounced to the tunes, but it was easy to see that some were tuckered out from their busy mornings.

But many children and many more adults partied on into the late afternoon, enjoying band performances and visiting kiosks in the Amara parking lot, stopping into Bottlehouse to hear more bands, or sipping, dining, and shopping at the many Madrona restaurants and stores offering specials throughout the day.

In addition to the fun, the weather was again perfect.



Garfield High School

Garfield students' spring musical is *Hairspray*, performed entirely by students with musical accompaniment, sets, technical tasks, and staging also provided by students. Madrona's Isabelle Marshall plays the lead role of Tracy, and many other Madrona students are involved including Anna Jacobsen, Hallie Huffaker, Cara McCoy, Jasmine Burr, Skye French, Miles French, and exchange students Mayu from Japan and Marie from Germany. The musical is scheduled for 7:00pm in the Quincy Jones Performance Center on May 23, 24, 25, 30, 31, and June 1 and 2.

Madrona K-8

Madrona K-8 was a shining star in the regional Math Olympiad competition that drew competition from ten teams throughout the city. Madrona K-8 4th grade teams took 1st and 2nd place and the 2nd grade team took 1st. Additionally several students placed in individual competitions.

Ease on down the road to Madrona K-8's springtime production of *The Wiz* the evening of June 15 at the school. The students are hard at work preparing for this full production in which every student plays a part. The production is getting professional level help from kindergarten teacher Vernon Larsen, a local choreographer and a former cabaret artist and performing arts instructor in New York City.

Summer readers can shop for great books at Madrona K-8's spring scholastic book sale. Award winners, page turners, and the latest praiseworthy books for all ages will be available on June 6 from 6:30-7:30pm at the school. Proceeds benefit the school library fund.

Madrona K-8 is teaming up with the Pacific Science Center for our annual Science Fair. The eighth graders are going on a cruise for their end of the year trip. The Talent Show, Sports Banquet, and 8th grade graduation are all happening soon, and we also recently had our New Family Welcome Night for incoming students and their families. The only thing left to figure out is who will be in the dunk tank at Field Day!

Madrona K-8 showed the power of its commitment to social action at the Carry 5 Walk for Water on May 6 with 38 team members. Madrona was also one of the top five fundraising teams by collecting \$1,400! The walk raised \$33,000 for water projects in Ethiopia, Bangladesh, Honduras, and India. Thank you to all who volunteered, walked, and donated.

Green Plate Special is finishing up the school year with Madrona K-8's 7th-grade science class. With support from their teacher, Ms. Nicole Johnson and the YMCA's after school program at Madrona, GPS has worked with this group twice each week since February. The students have planted much in the garden at Union and ML King, and prepared their own labeled garden beds.

Saint Therese Catholic Academy

St. Therese Catholic School is partnering with the Knowledge is Power Program (KIPP) and Seton Education Partners to re-open this coming August as a blended technology learning center called St. Therese Catholic Academy. The transition will be funded by a \$500,000 grant provided in large part by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Blended learning is a 21st century teaching method championed by Scott Hamilton, KIPP founder, that integrates technology into a classic classroom format. This new model encourages creativity and knowledge and builds character, thus preparing students to excel academically, physically, socially, and spiritually in high school, college, and beyond. Among features of KIPP are individualized and small group instruction, increased computer-based learning, and frequent communications between home and school. Additionally, KIPP follows an extended school day and year format. Blended-learning schools like the KIPP:Empower Academies and Rocketship Schools in California have consistently outperformed national academic averages. Saint Therese offers classes from preschool through 8th-grade; tuition is based on income but financial assistance is available. To learn more about St. Therese Catholic Academy's blended-learning program, visit www.sainttheresesea.org.

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Curmudgeon's Corner

By Malcolm Harker, 37th Avenue

Previously on Madrona Abbey...

Good Evening! 2012 is Pledge Year, and we're redoubling our efforts to get those nasty Republicans off our backs. There's so much more to being rich than they'll ever know, so send us all your money, then sit back while the Brits show us how it's really done.

Please note that this episode has scenes which some viewers might find disturbing, including coffee without a pretty pattern in the foam and wine being poured by servers who have no intention of studying liberal arts or holistic medicine.

Here in The Peaceable Kingdom, we have our own dramatic dilemmas:

- Now that I've sold my Microsoft shares, should I invest in Google or Facebook?
- Do solar panels come in a nicer color than black?
- Can I use a Groupon glassybaby deal to take care of all the family's Christmas presents for the next five years?
- Is it OK to trade my Volvo for an Audi like everyone else, or should I really get a Prius? Maybe I could buy a Chevy Volt for the tax credit, park it in the street, and keep the Q5 in the garage? Fortunately, now that we mostly drive ourselves, there's less risk of an Irish nationalist chauffeur seducing a rebellious daughter.

More tea vicar?

Play Madrona Mutt Matchup

By Andrea Matus-Magee, Randolph Place

Who says people always look like their pets??? To play Mutt Matchup, match the people to their dogs. The answers are on page 14.



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Brien, Rebecca & Benjamin - 31st Avenue



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The Host Gift—Some Etiquette

*By Mark Stephen Souder,
Madrona Wine Merchants on 34th Avenue*

So, you've been invited to dinner? Wine makes a perfect host gift, and below are tips to guide you in choosing.

The true test of a host gift is a bottle (or two) that you would be happy to drink yourself. But be forewarned: It's very likely that your host already chose specific wines for the meal and won't open your offering. If you are set on drinking something you brought, arrive with a chilled Prosecco or Champagne which might signal the host you'd like a little pre-dinner bubbly, though it could also be saved to go with the dessert course. But a host gift is just that. It belongs to the host no matter how much you want to drink the bottle you brought. And no you don't get to take it home if it doesn't get opened.

There is no reason to break the bank when buying a host bottle. Even if your hosts are connoisseurs who collect \$50-plus wines, there are plenty of wines in the \$15 to \$30 range that won't embarrass you. There are many Pinot Noirs (always a safe bet for a red wine) along with heavier Bordeaux wines in the medium price range. Just remember that it's tacky to brag about the price.

If your host asks you to bring wine, the more the merrier. Consider bringing two or even three bottles. By having several bottles open at the same time, you can educate yourself on wine/food pairing to see what works and what doesn't. The fun of being asked to bring wine is that you know you'll get to try what you brought.

Not sure what wine to bring? In addition to the wines mentioned above, a Pinot Grigio (dry, crisp white) or an un-oaked Chardonnay

are good choices. Or think about dessert with a Late Bottled Vintage Port or ice wine. When in doubt, ask your wine merchant for help.

Whatever you decide to bring, it's always nice to put a little effort into presentation with a simple (or fancy) wine bag. Follow this advice and the dinner invitations will flow. Upon reading what I had written above, a friend told a story about how one individual stopped the flow of invitations. Seems my friend had brought a gift of wine to another's party. Since it didn't get opened, it stayed with the host. The following night, the friend threw a party that included her host from the previous evening who brought the wine she'd given him the previous evening. When it didn't get opened, he took it home.



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A Snapshot in Time

Elbert F. Blaine and partner Charles Latimer Denny developed Denny-Blaine Lake Park in 1901. Pictured in the foreground is Minerva Fountain, named after Blaine's wife. That name was rarely used and has since virtually disappeared. Names now used include Denny-Blaine Lake Park or Denny-Blaine Pond. The stone-based streetcar/bus stop may have been designed by the famous neighborhood architect Ellsworth Storey.



The darker house pictured in the background is where Sara and Dan Levant lived when Madrona Publishers was founded. This 1910 photograph came to us from Sara Levant, who said well-known Madrona activist Nora Wood had given it to her many years ago.

--Thanks to Sara Levant for the photo and to Junius Rochester for providing additional historical information about the photo.

Do you have historical photographs or information you would like to share with *Madrona News* readers? If so, be in touch at madronanews@gmail.com.


Gardens Galore

The Central District Garden Tour (GT12) will take place from 11:00am to 4:00pm on June 9, featuring 11 private gardens and five points of interest as "Check It Out" tour features. New restaurants at 23rd and Union, as well as invited food trucks, will be available to provide lunch options. Local music groups will perform at 23rd and Union, where GT12 headquarters and a plant sale are located. Advance tickets are \$7 and are available at City People's, Leschi Market, Central Cinema, and online. For more information on this year's tour or to buy tickets online, please go to gardentour.centraldistrictseattle.org/. Day-of-tour tickets are \$10 at GT12 headquarters; all proceeds go to the Central District Public Art Coalition. Please call 324-5161 with questions. Thanks to generous public support, the CD Garden Tour of 2011 raised \$7,000 for CD Public Art. Check out the progress at: artproject.centraldistrictseattle.org.



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MADRONA COMMUNITY CALENDAR

WEEKLY RECURRING EVENTS:

- MONDAYS** Tom Bennett and The Rolling Blackouts playing every Monday at St. Clouds. www.tombennettmusic.com
- MON & THURS** 5:50am – 6:50am **Bootcamp Class**—Get up early and get fit! Madrona Beach. Nikki Lundin, www.nikkfitt.com
- 1st & 3rd TUES** 8:00pm **Song Writer's Salon**—A not-so-open mic at Bottlehouse; contact comalrkin@gmail.com for information about performing
- TUES & FRI** 5:50am – 6:50am **Bootcamp Class**—Get up early and get fit! Madison Park. Nikki Lundin, www.nikkfitt.com
- WEDNESDAYS** 3:30pm – 4:00pm **BOOM (Business Owners of Madrona) Meeting**—Bottlehouse 1416 34th Ave. Officers meet from 2:45pm-3:30pm with open forum from 3:30-4:00. Contact Soni Dave-Schock at madronabusineses@gmail.com
- 6:00pm – 7:00pm **Spiritual Reading and Prayer**—Madrona Grace Presbyterian Church, 832 32nd Avenue. www.madronachurch.org
- THURSDAYS** 10:00am **All Threads Together**—Conversation and knitting, crocheting, needlepoint, etc. Epiphany Library, Trish Stone, twallistone@yahoo.com
- 11:00am **Family Story Time**—Bring your preschoolers and toddlers to enjoy stories, rhymes, songs. Madrona Library, 684-4705
- 6:00pm – 8:00pm **Wine Maker Reception & Free Tasting**—Support our local winemakers at Bottlehouse, 1416 34th Ave www.bottlehouseseatle.com
- 7:30pm **AA/ALANON Meeting**—Great Hall, Epiphany Episcopal, 1805 38th Avenue, 324-2573
- FRIDAYS** 7:30am – 8:30am **Madrona/Leschi Citizens Against the War**—Quiet demonstration, 23rd & Union, Kathy Barker www.kbarker715@comcast.net
- 3:00pm – 7:00pm **Farmer's Market**—Grocery Outlet parking lot
- SATURDAYS** 2:00pm – 4:00pm **Free Wine Tasting at Madrona Wine Merchants**—1127 34th Avenue. For more information consult www.MadronaWineMerchants.com
- WEEKENDS** 9:00am – 5:00pm **Donate Used Goods**—Northwest Center Big Blue Truck. Grocery Outlet. www.bigbluetruck.org
- June 2 9:00am–3:00pm **Neighborhood Work Party for the Leschi Natural Area**—Rain or shine we meet at the Park entrance at 36th Ave and East Terrace. Gloves and lunch provided for participants. Contact Bunny and Fran Wood 323-2296 or Diane Morris 322-7648
- June 2–July 14 **The Back View Exhibit at Prographica**—3419 East Denny Way www.prographicadrawings.com
- June 5 7:15pm **Madrona Community Council Meeting**—Everyone welcome! Madrona Playfield Shelterhouse. Holly Smith, ho2bye@yahoo.com
(No meetings in July or August)
- June 6 7:30pm **Leschi Community Council Meeting**—Central Area Senior Center, 500 30th S. Diane Snell jdsnell1@comcast.net
(No meetings in July or August)
- June 20 9:00am–1:00pm **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 *(Additional summer dates are July 25 and Aug. 15)*
- June 23 10:00am–1:00pm **Friends of Madrona Woods Work Party**—Meet at the toolbox at Spring & Grand, Deirdre McCrary deirdre_jaymccray@msn.com (Work party also on June 8, 9:30am-3:30pm)
- July 6, 13, 20, 27 6:00pm–8:00pm **Epiphany Summer Concert Series**—1805 38th Ave. See ad on page 4 of this issue for details
- Aug 7 **Neighborhood Night Out**—www.natw.org/nno/

Umoja Fest Activities Scheduled for August 3–5

Umoja is a Swahili word that means unity, which is the main theme of the festival. An artistic and cultural extravaganza that uniquely touches the spirit of the community, the Umoja Fest scheduled for Aug. 3-5 is a unifying community celebration that brings people of all ethnic backgrounds together for a celebration of culture, education, social festivities, and networking. Event highlights include the African Heritage Parade, Children's Day, UNCF Walk and Cook Off for Education, three stages of live music, a vendor marketplace and a Community Resource Fair. For details, see umojafamilyfest.com.


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Newsletter of the Madrona Community Council

Published monthly except for July and August, with a circulation of 2450, reaching homes & neighbors throughout Madrona & Central Seattle.

Aug 14, 2012 Next MADRONA NEWS DEADLINE

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