



March 2015  
Issue No. 271

### Author Series Launches in Madrona

Collaboration among the Seattle Library Foundation, Sally Goldmark branch staff Kate Sellers and Rachel Scott, Madrona PreK-8 School and its PTSA, Seattle Public Schools, and the Madrona Community Council paid off big with the first of what all hope will be a continuing author series at the school library. Featured on Feb. 2 was local award-winning children’s author Ben Mikaelson. Earlier in the day, Mikaelson spoke with middle school students, encouraging them with a talk titled “Becoming the Author of Your Life.” Mikaelson also led a writing workshop for 3rd and 5th graders. He was peppered with questions from the students, but clearly had plenty of energy left for a public evening event titled “Finding the Heart of the Story.”

Mikaelson’s best-selling books often revolve around a young person who feels out of step with others, a situation that Mikaelson himself experienced as a white child in the Bolivian Andes. Thanks to encouragement from adults who related to him at critical life junctures, Mikaelson went from often feeling the “odd duck out in a society where I didn’t fit” to an author whose work resonates with and encourages young people. Book topics range widely, but always focus on subjects important to him, especially on young people facing difficult dilemmas. Many of his books are set in the outdoors because Mikaelson himself loves being with nature. Two of his books soon may become movies.

Asked to provide guides for writing, Mikaelson said he always asks himself “what if?” His advice to young people in his rapt audience was simple: follow your own genius and start now with your dreams. Learn more about Mikaelson’s fascinating life and books at [www.benmikaelson.com/](http://www.benmikaelson.com/).

### Draft Agenda, Madrona Community Council

March 3, 2015 at the Madrona Playfield Shelterhouse, 7:15pm

- Discussion of how 23rd Ave construction will affect Madrona (representatives from SDOT)
- Trees and sidewalks - discussion/approval of letter to city re: future funding
- Recap of Neighborhood Appreciation Day
- Discussion of emergent need for a Design Editor for *Madrona News* and a Volunteer Coordinator for Mayfair on May 16
- Brief neighborhood updates: Mayfair, 34th Ave Parklet, interaction with BOOM, etc.
- Review of Kraus Fund Applications
- Budget report
- New Business

#### Madrona News Production Editor Needed

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#### .....Council Corner, *By Deirdre McCrary, E. Marion* .....

The Madrona Community Council (MCC) is a forum for many of the changes you have seen and will see in and around Madrona. Seeking advice, consent, and transparency, some developers present their plans at our meetings. Others, usually distressed neighbors, are looking for community support to amend or repair a planned development, address a parking or traffic issue, or enlist a City agency to fix a problem. In Feb., for example, the Council heard from neighbors objecting to the pending licensing of a second recreational pot store within one block in the heart of the Central District. They requesting MCC support in the form of a letter for their petition to the City and Liquor Control Board to strive for greater equality among neighborhoods by limiting the number of recreational marijuana stores allowed in a single community.

In addition MCC continues to work with local groups and Seattle’s Dept. of Transportation on mitigating the conflict between having tree-lined streets and having smooth and ADA-approved sidewalks. We expect to hear more in the future from the Madison Park group that is working on making the streets around Bush School safer for pedestrians. Changes are inevitable, but we are fortunate to have a forum in our community where neighbors can at least discuss the pros and cons and, best-case scenario modify, stop, or promote proposed changes.

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# Our Little Creek with a Mind of Its Own

By Judith Starbuck, Grand Ave.

Our Madrona Woods restoration group hopes you're enjoying the Madrona Creek as much as we are. I especially love the sound of it from the bridges. Landscape architect Peggy Gaynor of Gaynor, Inc. is the mastermind behind the Madrona Woods restoration, and in particular the day lighting of Madrona Creek. Our Jan. work party included repair to that creek, with Peggy's guidance on patching and shoring up places where the water was going where it wasn't intended to flow. Below is my interview with Peggy and some of her thoughts on creek maintenance.

JS: Did you foresee how many times our group would need to bring the creek back into its constructed banks when it had either gone off to the side or into a hole?

PG: No. We have discovered a lot of concrete debris that was dumped in the ravine where the creek flows. The dumping was done back in the days when environmental concerns were

not on the radar. This has created voids under the surface, and water has a way of finding the path of least resistance—these voids in this case. A number of times the water has seemed to disappear into a hole, and we've had to patch the streambed to get it back on course at the surface. We don't want the stream to continue underground and possibly undermine Lake Washington Boulevard. We use a natural clay called bentonite, which expands when mixed with water and seals off these areas like the caulk in a bathtub. First we fill the void with mud and gravel, then a mix of bentonite and sand topped with a protective layer of rocks and gravel to plug the "leaks." But some leaks have required more than one fix.

JS: How does our creek compare with other day lighted creeks you've worked on?

PG: This creek day lighting was more challenging than many due to elevation change (over a 750 foot elevation gain from Lake to headwaters) and the unknown soil/landfill issues along

(continued on page 5)



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# I Remember When: Madrona, the Lost Paradise, Part II

By Aaron Dixon from May 2005 Madrona News

In 1965, the Watts Riot sparked rebellions across America. The Vietnam War was exacting a toll on the lives of young men and leaving their families in despair. Civil Rights leader Medgar Evers had been gunned down in Mississippi and the next year Malcolm X fell victim to assassination. In our fair Seattle, a young man was killed by an off-duty policemen in Chinatown. The peaceful Civil Rights Movement was losing steam and an emerging Black militant movement was filling the void.

My junior year of high school I worked at Swedish Hospital so I could buy my own fine clothes and music records. I was independent and free; unsure of what I wanted to do other than write and find adventure. After graduation, I floundered in my entry into adulthood. When the articulate firebrand Stokely Carmichael, chairman of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) spoke at Garfield, I was there in the front row with my best friend and fellow Madronian Mike Dean. Carmichael spoke about Whitey, the Honky, the Man. He spoke about Black Power, justice, and the right to self-determination. America's quiet racist practices were slowly rising to the surface and as my generation came of age, we were less tolerant than our parents were. Carmichael lit a flame of rebellion in

my consciousness. The tame, secure, peaceful life of Madrona slowly began to fade. The world outside of Madrona became my world of reality, a world of anger, militant thought, and action. For me, it was a time to choose, to stand up. My view of whites, of my parents, and of America, was no longer the same. Madrona Park became the field where we gathered for military drills. Our parents' Madrona basements became places to hold clandestine meetings and weapons classes. Young black men in Black Panther uniforms patrolled 34th Ave. with rifles and shotguns. Fear, along with pride and true justice, replaced our childhood sense of unconditional security as we lost our naiveté. We were growing up and it was our early experiences in nurturing, tolerant Madrona that prepared us to challenge the injustice and inequity. And America changed forever.

## City of Seattle Grants

Seattle Department of Neighborhoods' popular Neighborhood Matching Fund (NMF) ([www.seattle.gov/neighborhoods/nmf/default.htm](http://www.seattle.gov/neighborhoods/nmf/default.htm)) offers three funding opportunities. These grants support efforts of community members as they work on projects to build stronger neighborhoods and communities. More than 5000 projects have occurred across the city since this program began 27 years ago.

The Small Sparks Fund provides awards of up to \$1,000 per

*(continued on next page)*

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Seattle Grants (cont'd from previous page) project for small community projects as well as supporting activities such as Neighbor Appreciation Day, Neighborhood Night Out, Earth Day, and others. Applications are accepted year-round. The Small and Simple Projects Fund provides awards of up to \$25,000, and provides opportunities to apply with deadlines of Feb. 2, June 1, and Oct. 5.

The Large Projects Fund (LPF) awards up to \$100,000 per project, but is open to applications only once a year with a 2015 deadline of May 4 by 5:00pm. It is mandatory for interested community groups to attend one of the following six LPF workshops offered before applying:

- March 10; 6:00-8:00pm. at High Point Community Center, 6420 34th Ave SW – Multipurpose Room
- March 18; 6:00-8:00pm. at Northgate Community Center, 10510 5th Ave NE – Multipurpose Room
- April 1; 6:00-8:00pm at Garfield Community Center, 2323 E Cherry St. – Multipurpose Room
- April 9; 6:00-8:00pm. at El Centro de la Raza, 2524 16th Ave S – Room 106

The NMF program has staff to advise community groups on ways to develop successful applications and projects. Community members are strongly encouraged to contact a Neighborhood Matching Fund Project Manager before applying at 233-0093 or [NMFund@seattle.gov](mailto:NMFund@seattle.gov).

## Guided Meditation Intensive with Pieter Drummond

**Monday, March 23–Friday, March 27**  
7:45–8:15 am and/or 8:30–9 am

In preparation for Holy Week (the week before Easter), Pieter Drummond, Madrona resident and Epiphany parishioner, is offering a week-long guided meditation intensive every morning in the Chapel.

[epiphanyseattle.org/meditation](http://epiphanyseattle.org/meditation)

**Plan Ahead for Easter at Epiphany, April 5**  
Services at 9:30 & 11:30 am in the Church  
[epiphanyseattle.org/holy-week-2015](http://epiphanyseattle.org/holy-week-2015)

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## Play Mayfair Madrona Mutt Matchup

*By Susan Fondren and Jennie Grant*

Math is the topic for March. For the humans, How many digits of Pi can you recite? For the pets, In what way are you mathematically inclined? The answers are on page 10.



Alex -  
10 Years in Madrona

Pi Digits: 3



Robbie - Age: 9

**How mathematical am I?**  
Love large numbers of naps, turning 2 meals into 4 by stealing food, and acting 2 even though I'm...



Chris -  
16 Years in Madrona

Pi Digits: 27 (Yes, Really.)



Pear & Paco - Ages: 11 & 12

**How mathematical am I?**  
Pear: I walk as many miles as possible on walks.  
Paco: I want the temp to be as many digits as possible.



Gillian and Brad -  
17 Years in Madrona

Pi Digits for Gillian: 3

Pi Digits for Brad: 5



Emma - Age: 2.5

**How mathematical am I?**  
Master of angles in catching up to and herding other dogs who are faster.



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## Creek Maintenance... (cont'd from page 2)

the creek corridor that were described above. So far this is the only day lighted stream that goes from its headwaters in springs in the hillside between 37th and 38th streets into the lake.

Though the distance is short, just over a quarter of a mile, it's providing fresh water and nutrients for salmon migrating along the shore of Lake Washington.

*JS: How do you see creek maintenance in the future?*

PG: Future maintenance should be more of a partnership between Seattle Parks and Friends of Madrona Woods, and it will likely involve some additional expertise and consultation for long-term solutions, especially for the "leaks" and sinkhole issues. Experts could include geotech engineers and even stone masons. It will still be up to Friends' volunteers to keep watch on the creek and notice when it seems to be going astray and needs attention.

Madrona Woods work parties are held on the fourth Sat. of each month from 10:00am to 1:00pm; the next is scheduled for March 28. Check the website for details of when and where to meet at [www.madronawoods.org/get-involved/work-parties/](http://www.madronawoods.org/get-involved/work-parties/). You can also go to [cedar.greencitypartnerships.org](http://cedar.greencitypartnerships.org) and click on CEDAR. Put in Green Seattle Partnership and select Madrona Park to find details and indicate that you'll be attending.

You can find announcements of work parties and all kinds of interesting information and photos on our website: [www.madronawoods.org](http://www.madronawoods.org). And we have a Facebook page too.

## Madrona Parents Start the Seattle Atheist Church

*By Stephen Walther and Ruth Walther, E. Terrace St.*

The two of us--parents of three children and a dog named Rover--have started an Atheist Church that will meet every Sunday.

"Why do atheists need a church?" you might ask. For the same reason that Christians need a church. We want to build a community of people who share our values. We are raising our children as secular humanists and our children face constant peer pressure from Christians.

The goal of the Atheist Church is to create a positive environment where families and individuals can gather on Sunday mornings. Each Sunday, the Atheist Church hosts a brief and uplifting sermon followed by punch and cookies. The environment is family-friendly with a crafts table for young children in the back of the room.

The Sunday sermons focus on positive atheist topics such as the nature of wonder and how humans are intrinsically moral animals. Sundays should be a special day when people are inspired and when they can focus on the positive aspects of life.

Everyone is welcome to attend the Atheist Church. Bring your grandma, bring your baby, bring your next door neighbor. The only people we exclude are people who don't have a positive attitude.

The first meeting of the Seattle Atheist Church is on March 8 at 10:00am at the University Heights Center at 5031 Univ. Way NE. You can learn more about the Seattle Atheist Church at the website <http://SeattleAtheist.Church>.

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# Neighborhood Appreciation Day 2015

On Feb. 7 the Madrona Community Council teamed up with old friends and new to celebrate Neighbor Appreciation Day. When MCC board members realized that 2015 would be the 20th year of Seattle's Neighbor Appreciation Day, we decided to do our best to gather together people who'd been part of this Day in the first year and those who'd received awards over the past 20 years. The results were gratifying.

In 2015 our honored guest was Norm Rice—Seattle's 49th mayor—who first proclaimed Neighbor Appreciation Day in 1995; Mayor Rice also was with us in Madrona when we celebrated the Neighbor Appreciation event for the first time. His ties to Madrona continue to be deep and wide. Also with us in 2015 were more than 20 award winners from previous years as well as their friends, family, and neighbors. Pictured below are both current and prior award winners.

## The Nora Award

Named in honor of Madrona activist Nora Wood, this award is given to a Madrona resident who, over time and in ways large or small, has left a personal mark on the community.

### 2015 Winner



Barbara Parker

### Past Nora Award Winners



Audrey Seale, 2011, Paul Butler, 2004, Kim Herber, 2012, John Platt, 2004, Maureen Beckemeyer, 2013, Mary Holm, 2001, Jim Diers, 2002, Carla Caldwell, 2009

## The Local Hero Award

This award is given for an act of heroism, singular kindness, or generosity.

### 2015 Winner



Holly Boone

### Past Local Hero Award Winners



Judith Starbuck, 2007, Sayre Coombs, 2003, Junius Rochester, 2005, Mary Galloway, 2013, Harriet Cody, 2012

## The Tyrone Love Unsung Hero Award

goes to a Madrona resident for service to others in the larger community. This award is named after community youth activist and mentor Tyrone Love who dedicated much of his life to the youth of the community.

### 2015 Winner



Risa Blythe

### Past Tyrone Love Unsung Hero Award Winners



Deirdre McCrary, 2013, Burke Shethar, 2012, Kim Herber, 2006, John Platt, 2002, Paul Butler, 2002, Marie Doyle, 2001, Jon Hughes, 2003

## The Madrona Resident for Life Award

is bestowed upon a long-time, active resident who has left Madrona but remains dearly missed. Pictured is **Jon Hughes** who missed Madrona too, enough to return and teach at Madrona K-8 School.



## Madrona Good Neighbor Award

goes to an organization whose work benefits the Madrona community.

### 2015 Winners



John Platt and Paul Butler, St. Clouds

### Past Good Neighbor Award Winners



Mary McDaniel and Jim Diers

*Be thinking about nominations you want to make of Madrona neighbors for next year's awards. The usual date is the first Saturday before Valentine's Day.*

# Madrona K-8 School Awards - 2015

Madrona K-8 Student Awards celebrate student achievements:



K-2 — Miles Edward



3-5 — Keymani Washington with Ms. Carrie Schwochow



Middle school 6-8  
Chardonnay Beaver

## Madrona K-8 Doris Baptist Hickman Staff Award

is for a Madrona K-8 School staff person who has made a significant contribution to the school.



Rachel Madding with K-8 principal Mary McDaniel

## Kaaren Andrews and Mary Bass Award

is for a person who goes above and beyond the call of duty linking the community and the school.



Stacey Kryman



Megan Wittenberg

## Go Panthers Award

recognizes an individual who has made extra and extraordinary efforts for the education and growth of Madrona K-8.



Former Mayor Norm Rice with staff from Madrona K-8

## Letter to the Editor

I had trouble understanding the summary report on the blocking of Dorffel Dr. in the Jan. newsletter, so I downloaded the full report, the tenor of which suggests that no one but Dorffel Dr. residents should be taking that route. I take Dorffel Dr. three or four times a week with a cruising speed of 20 mph, five mph below the speed limit. I have not witnessed anyone driving that stretch at over 25 mph, nor have I been impressed by heavy vehicle traffic. Rather than adding new impediments to traffic flow, I would suggest removing those now in existence. I invite my Denny Blaine neighbors to drive by my house any time that route takes them where they want to go, and I would appreciate the return of the favor.

*Peter Stewart, 37th Ave.*

## NW African American Museum Exhibits

Until May 3 the Museum is hosting “Funky Turns 40: Black Character Animation Art from Black Cartoons of the 1970s.” This special touring exhibition commemorates the 40th anniversaries of 1970s Saturday morning cartoons that featured positive black characters for the first time in television history. The exhibition features sixty original production cels and drawings used to produce these treasured cartoons. In a separate show also found in the Museum, Seattle-based fine art and commercial photographer Robert Wade’s photographs include a sampling of dynamic community leaders Norman B. and Dr. Constance Rice, Adriane Brown, Larry Gossett, Marcellus Turner, Barbara Thomas, Claude Harris, Gregory Dean, Dr. Quintard Taylor and Mariane Lenhardt. This show is on view through Apr. 5. Visit [www.naammw.org/](http://www.naammw.org/) to check opening days and times for both shows.



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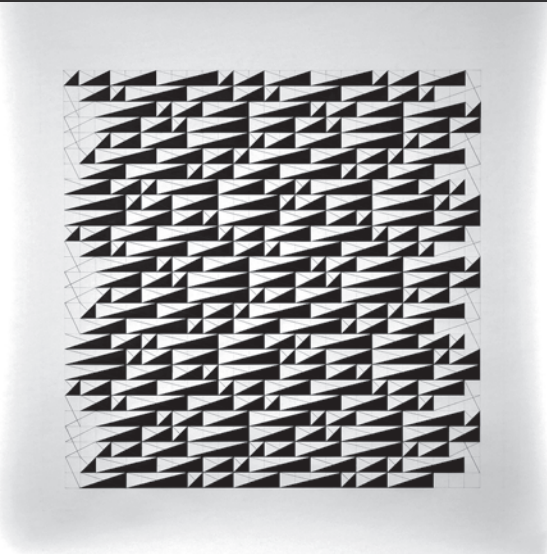


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# NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOL NEWS

## Garfield High School

Garfield High's PTSA is pleased to announce its Spring Gala and Auction scheduled for March 28 at the Showbox SoDo. The Raise the Woof! Gala showcases the exceptional talent and diversity in our school community and raises funding for key PTSA-sponsored programs that help all Garfield students. In the stylish nightclub atmosphere of the Showbox SoDo on March 28 you'll enjoy delicious food prepared by Madrona's favorite chef, John Platt of St. Clouds Restaurant, plus festive drinks, a silent auction, raffles, and performances by talented students. And then dance until midnight to Moxie. All are welcome to come out and Raise the Woof for Garfield! To attend, volunteer, or make a donation, contact Marie Doyle at [doylemf@comcast.net](mailto:doylemf@comcast.net) or Beth Roberts at [bethroberts\\_@hotmail.com](mailto:bethroberts_@hotmail.com).

## St. Therese Catholic Academy

On March 21, the annual St. Therese Catholic Academy Auction will be held at the Northwest African American Museum. A benefit for tuition assistance and innovative blended technology, the event features a cocktail hour with silent auction and a three-course dinner accompanied by an exciting live auction. The Madrona community is invited to support the auction by buying raffle tickets that include a trip for two to Maui, a Seahawks package, and an iPad Air. Limited tickets will be sold and purchasers do NOT need to be present at the auction to win. To buy your tickets or for more information on the auction, visit <http://stthereseatlseattle.maestroweb.com>.

## MADRONA COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Please send your calendar items for the next month to [madronanewscalendar@gmail.com](mailto:madronanewscalendar@gmail.com)

- Mar 2 9:30am–10:15am **First Mondays with Mary**—Join Madrona K-8 principal Mary McDaniel for an informal conversation regarding the school. <http://madronak8.seattleschools.org>
- Mar 3 7:15pm **Madrona Community Council Meeting**—Everyone is welcome to share updates on neighborhood activities and issues. Madrona Playfield Shelterhouse. Contact Holly Smith, [ho2lye@yahoo.com](mailto:ho2lye@yahoo.com)
- Mar 4 7:00pm **Leschi Community Council Meeting**—Central Area Senior Center, 500 30th Ave. S. Diane Snell for more information [Jdsnell1@comcast.net](mailto:Jdsnell1@comcast.net)
- Mar 7 9:00am–3:00pm **Neighborhood Work Party for the Leschi Natural Area**—Rain or shine we will 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
- Mar 8 **International Women's Day**
- Mar 17 **Happy St. Patrick's Day!**
- Mar 14 2:00pm–5:00pm **Madrona Art Walk**—See art work displayed and listen to live music at a variety of Madrona businesses. Contact BOOM Madrona: [madronabusineses@gmail.com](mailto:madronabusineses@gmail.com)
- Mar 18 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. [neighborhoodcooking@gmail.com](mailto:neighborhoodcooking@gmail.com)
- Mar 28 10:00am–1:00pm **Friends of Madrona Woods Work Party**—Meet at 38th and Marion, or contact Peter Mason [petermason065@gmail.com](mailto:petermason065@gmail.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.

Non-Profit Org.  
US Postage  
PAID  
Seattle, WA  
Permit No. 6873

**March 4, 2014 Next MADRONA NEWS DEADLINE**

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