

MADRONA

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NEWS
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Central Area Neighborhood Plan - Where Do We Go Now?

By Adrienne W. Bailey, CANP Stewardship, Chair

The Central Area Neighborhood Plan (CANP) was validated and voted into city ordinance in 1998 to: "identify actions needed to ensure that each neighborhood will continue to thrive and improve as Seattle grows over the next 20 years." In the current plan, participants from the Madrona area communicated interest in traffic, business development, and affordable housing on the arterials of, but not limited to north of Terrace, east of 34th, and south of Pike.

The Mayor has started his own initiative to update the city's 38 Neighborhood Plans, one sector at a time. Since the Mayor and the city has yet to select the sector, the CANP Stewardship is proposing the community take ownership of our plan and the initiate the necessary work of updating and amending our Neighborhood Plan now. In the interest of maintaining some control over the quality of our neighborhoods, we need to be proactive. The more people who participate in this effort, the broader the impact the plan can have for all neighborhoods of the Central Area.

Currently there is activity pertaining to a few elements of the CANP: Housing, Land Use, building codes and Urban Design and Human Development. Committees are forming to address various elements of the existing plan, including Open Space, Economic Development, Transportation, Community Safety, and Infrastructure. The CANP Stewardship needs the skills, talents, abilities and time of the people of Madrona to work with other neighborhoods to envision and document the future of the Central Area. We need everyone to step up, sign up, and get involved so that when the City

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Madrona Community Council Minutes

By Cynthia Stross, MCC Secretary, 35th Avenue

Marty Liebowitz moved to amend the minutes of the January 8 meeting to reflect that the Madrona Community Council (MCC) discussed funding for a plaque in commemoration of Nora Wood for the Shelterhouse meeting room. Fran Wood shared a design for the Nora Wood plaque, which notes her many contributions to the Madrona community and reflects the tireless and optimistic energy she brought to many neighborhood improvement projects.

Financial Report: Steve Orser, MCC Treasurer, presented the 2007 financial report. In 2007, the MCC ran a deficit of \$4,777, largely due to the cost of the spring flower baskets and holiday wintergreens. However, the MCC has cash on hand and will consider proposals that benefit or beautify the neighborhood.

Neighborhood Improvements: Averil Rothrock reported on her successful petition to the City of Seattle to replace the street signs in Madrona, many of which are faded, illegible or damaged. She documented the condition of the Madrona signs and wrote letters to the City requesting consideration. The City has responded and stated that they plan to prioritize Madrona and replace the street signs in 2008. Thank you Averil!

Land Use Updates:

Parking Study. Marty Liebowitz reported that the City of Seattle agreed to perform a parking study to determine the impact of transient parking on the residential streets adjoining the commercial district. The City

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Make Your Own Friends

When Hadley Hillel was 10 years old his parents took him on a three month boat trip to Alaska. One day when he was bored, he conceived an onboard store called "The Fish Spa" that sold "Fish in a



box" and other items. After that, he envisioned many other stores including "Stuff a Bear", "Wizard Mart", "Bumbles", "Slugtopia", and the "iPear Store". He even set up stores in the dining room in his home on 37th Avenue. When friends came to buy items he created pre-paid payment cards and an incentive plan for those who wanted to see his new products first.

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starts the plan update process we will already have done the work and know what changes we want to make.

There are two activities that CANP Stewardship is working on and in immediate need of volunteers. The first involves empowerment for our Central Area youth. A pilot program of creating a Central Area Youth Advisory Council, which met with another county's youth commissioners was done last year and we are looking for community people to re-create, expand it to continue and work with other youth-orientated groups and organizations and have youth representative on the community councils and District Council.

The CANP is working with Seattle Police Department, Parks and Recreation and Department of Neighborhoods to host a Community Safety Forum. We would like to include existing neighborhood Block Watches in this forum, and provide information on how to form new Block Watches. The forum would allow Block Watches and neighbors to come together and share best practices and exchange information about community safety, emergency preparedness and other issues surrounding community-wide safety. We are currently in need of volunteers to help plan and put on this Forum.

The Human Development plan element also encompasses community capacity building opportunities and partnerships that respect and value of the African American heritage of the Central Area while welcoming the diversity of newer residents. This includes job skill training and entrepreneurial programs to locate and create opportunities for people to find employment and/or to start their own businesses.

The scope of the issues we can address is limited only by the energy of the people who get involved. So it is imperative for all—business and property owners, community groups and organizations, residents old and new, regardless of socioeconomic status—to come together. We must set aside our perceptions and perspectives of who we and our neighbors are, and shift our focus to work together for the mutual greater good of our community and our quality of life.

CANP Stewardship meets the first Thursday of the month. Join us for our next meeting, on March 6, 6:00pm at the Garfield Community Center, 2323 E. Cherry St.. For information about the current Neighborhood Plans, visit the City of Seattle website at www.seattle.gov/neighborhoods/npi. To receive CANP meeting announcements, send me an email at Kismit_2000@yahoo.com with "CANP Stewardship" as the subject.

*Prestige Custom Builder
paste up*

Quiquies... (cont'd from page 1)

About a year ago, Hadley woke up one morning and imagined a stuffy in the shape of a circle, with three eyes and a monster mouth. He got up, went to his mom's sewing machine, and made one. He liked how it turned out and so made six more.

The next step was what to name this stuffy. He and his friend Rosemary Timmons considered all the rarely used letters and came up with Quiquie (pronounced Cue'Kwee). It seemed like all his friends wanted a Quiquie as everyone who saw them, loved them. When friends came over he paid them to help him make more Quiquies. He added hair at the request of his friend Claire, and designed a Quiquie accessory kit that includes a toothbrush to care for their two teeth, and a night shade for the three eyes. He is currently developing earmuffs.



When Hadley trick-or-treated in his Quiquie costume with his mom Sue Wiedenfeld he drew lots of interesting looks and questions.

In December, it became clear that it was time to pursue Quiquies with a passion so Hadley established Quiquie Co, LLC and placed some Quiquies on consignment at Precocious, the new Madrona toy store. The display tells the story of Vug, the main character of his movie, and Éclair (who is pink and not yet in the store) and their navigator Theodore, his side-kick Boom Boom (who loves blowing things up) and their adventures against the Komax tribe who have stolen the parchment that contains the secret to immortality. All characters except Éclair, can be found at Precocious. The movie is not out yet but watch for it!!

What does Hadley say about his Quiquies? "Quiquies are cool! I love Quiquies and it is fun to see how much kids love them, too."

*NEW
Vida Verde Paste-Up*

Fund Established for House Fire Victims

Anyone who lives near 34th and Union surely saw the commotion or heard the noise on February 1 as half a dozen fire trucks and aid units responded to a Madrona house fire. The home, on 35th Avenue just south of Union, behind the Madrona Ale House, belongs to Emma and Wesley Cotton. The Cotton's grown son, the only one currently living in the house, was home when the fire began and got out safely.



Photo by Laurene Kelly

Helen Fitzpatrick of the Seattle Fire Department said the original call was for a grease fire in the kitchen, but when fire fighters arrived they found flames coming out of the house and up into the attic. The fire fighters broke through the roof to extinguish the flames and poured water onto the floors below. There was extensive damage to the interior of the home and it is presumed most everything inside was destroyed or damaged.

Mr. and Mrs. Cotton may be returning to Madrona once their home is repaired, and their son is currently living elsewhere. Neighbor Suzanne Edison has established a fund to help the family get through this trying time. The Madrona Community Council is taking donations and everyone is invited to contribute. Anything helps. To contribute, send your monetary donations to:

Madrona Community Council
c/o Steve Orser, Treasurer
833 33rd Avenue
Seattle, WA 98122

Please note House Fire Fund in the memo section of the check. For more information, contact Suzanne at seedison@seanet.com

*Kismet
paste-up*

Celebrate Neighborhood Appreciation Day

The annual Madrona Neighborhood and School Appreciation Day event will be March 8 in the Madrona K-8 library at 10:00am.

This is your chance to honor special Madrona neighbors and tell everyone in the neighborhood about the good things they do. Simply write a couple of paragraphs about your deserving nominee and email them to event coordinator Jon Hughes at www.gocitylife.com. You can also mail nominations to Jon at City Life Real Estate, 1435 34th Avenue or drop them off at 34th & Pike. To help plan and pull off this event, call Jon at 325-CITY aka 325-2489.

Award categories are:

- **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 both large and small, has left a personal mark on the community.
- **The Local Hero Award:** Given to a Madrona resident for an act of heroism, singular kindness or generosity.
- **The Unsung Hero Award:** Given to a Madrona resident for service to others in the larger community.
- **The Madrona Resident for Life Award:** Bestowed upon a long-time, active resident who has left Madrona and is dearly missed.
- **Madrona K-8 Student Awards (K-2, 3-5, 6-8):** celebrating student achievement.
- **Madrona K-8 Doris Baptist Hickman Staff Award:** For a Madrona K-8 staff person who has made a significant contribution to the school.
- **Go Panthers Award:** Recognizes an individual who has made extra and extraordinary efforts for the education and growth of Madrona K-8.
- **Mary Bass Award:** Given to a person who goes above and beyond the call of duty linking the community and the school.

*Kellett Interior Design
Paste-Up*

**Ben Chotzen
paste-up**

Learn About Being A Foster Parent

By *Julia Dunham, Amara Parenting & Adoption Services*

Greetings from the Foster Care Program at Amara! Our Foster Care Program continues to grow along with increasing community need. As the new, full-time Foster Care Program Coordinator, I am poised to provide comprehensive support to foster families and children, and to help educate people—especially those in our home neighborhood of Madrona—about foster parenting.

If you've ever thought about foster parenting, you are cordially invited to attend our next Foster Care Information Meeting on March 12 at 6:00pm in our office at 33rd Avenue & E. Union. The relaxed, "no pressure" setting will give you an opportunity to learn and ask questions about foster care and foster children from an active foster parents, as well as agency staff. If you can't make the March session, don't fret as Amara hosts a Foster Care Information meeting on the second Wednesday of every month.

Just as Amara believes that every child deserves a loving home, we also believe that each individual has something unique to offer a child. We respect and value the differences in abilities, race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, culture and perspective as a source of strength in our foster families.

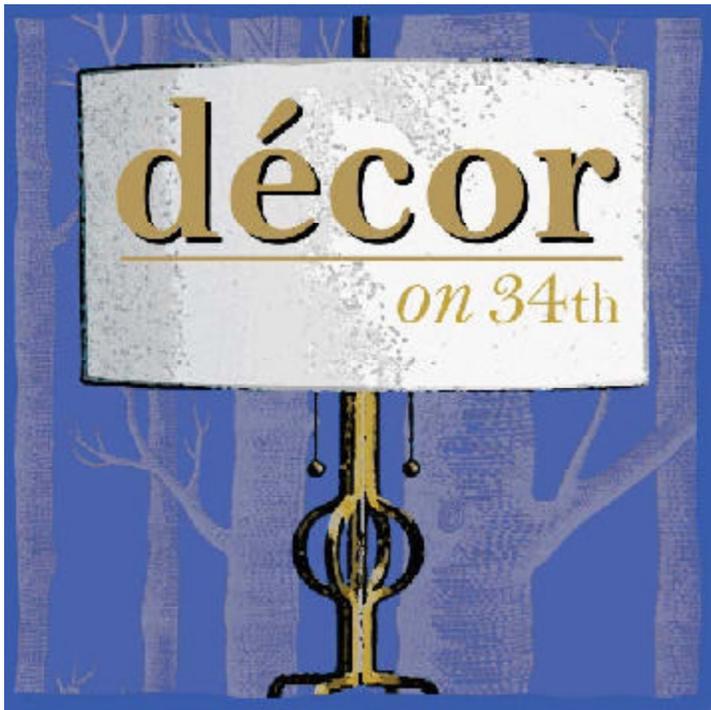
If you have questions about the meeting or Amara's Foster Care Program, don't hesitate to contact me at 260-1734, julia@amaraparenting.org or www.amaraparenting.org

Art Opening Reception at Café Verite

By *Susan Roberts, ??? Avenue*

I would like to invite all my neighbors to celebrate a showing of my recent oil paintings at Café Verite, here in Madrona, on March 7 at 6:00pm. Please drop by the reception for a glass of wine, some cheese and crackers, and some CULTURE. OK, just come for the food, I'd love to see you all!

Being an artist is a solitary endeavor and so we artists need to share our work. It is validating just to have people show up and take a look. So come, check out the art, have some wine and move on to one of Madrona's myriad restaurants! The show will be up for the month of March. My thanks to Jodie and Jessie at Cafe Verite for their support of artists.



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MCC Minutes (cont'd from page 1)

will do a parking count during high-use times, including Thursday and Friday nights and during the weekend on streets between East Pine and East Marion and 32nd to 35th Avenue. Commercial areas and public areas (such as parks) will not be included in the parking study. The outcome of the study will determine if we may pursue any kind of parking restrictions. After general discussion, the community agreed that Marty will request the study take place in April, when the local businesses have more customer traffic. The study should not take place during Spring Break as school traffic is also a factor.

Tom Flood stated that Traffic Engineers Northwest completed a parking study as part of the potential development of the parking lot at 1126 34th Avenue. The results of the study are on file with DPD under report 300596. The Traffic Engineers study determined that Madrona had sufficient available parking to support the elimination of the parking lot and the addition of commercial space.

Southwest corner of Union and MLK: The Madrona Group forwarded their drawings for structural review.

Madrona Auto property: The plans are waiting for design review at DPD. On approximately February 9 or 10, the parking study for the impacts of this proposed development got underway.

The Facts property: Neighbors reported that a Central District website (www.centraldistrictnews.com) posted that the Facts building at Cherry and MLK will be replaced with a three-story residential over retail development. The website has further details on the schedule and location for design review.

Rezone at 33rd Avenue: Tom Flood reported that he's pursuing the rezone of the block of 33rd south of Union. The City Council will vote on his petition and he noted that the rezone fits into the Comprehensive Plan.

Central District Planning Council: The MCC is a member of the Central District Council. No one from Madrona has participated in many years. This year, each District Council will develop plans for a community overlay. The community overlay plan will be discussed with the City and will go into the City building code. The overlay will trump predetermined zoning. The Central District Council (and its subsidiary Stewardship Council) meets to discuss the future of the neighborhood, including such issues as proposed revised height limits on MLK and 23rd Avenue. This is an important opportunity to affect what Madrona and the Central District look like in the future, including the number of townhouses and other development issues. The Stewardship Council meets once a month, on the second Thursday at 6:00pm at Garfield Community Center. The Central District Council meets on the first Thursday of the month, at the same time and place. The MCC seeks a volunteer to speak for Madrona at the meetings. Anyone interested can attend the next MCC meeting and request authorization.

Garfield High School: Mary Bass reported on the anticipated opening ceremonies at Garfield High School on September 26 -28, 2008. Garfield alum Quincy Jones will attend the opening of the performance hall, which is named in his honor. The event organizers expect many public officials as well as 15,000 Garfield alums!

GV Offers Guatemalan Service Trips for Adults

By Kami Betournay

Global Visionaries (GV), a non-profit organization based in Madrona, is offering its Second Annual Life Long Learner Trip to Guatemala for adult volunteers from July 2 through 13. While GV is best known for programs that teach high-school students to become global citizens, we know that the need for cultural exchange does not end when you turn 18. No one ever outgrows the relevance of teamwork, tolerance, and cross-cultural experience. The 12-day trip consists of four parts: a home stay with a Guatemalan family, language study, a community development project, and meaningful discussions with local politicians, human rights activists, and dignitaries. Participants are also asked to raise funds to help finance the community development projects on which they work.

Executive Director, Chris Fontana, along with Mario Flores and Aurelio Hernandez, Global Visionaries' in-country coordinators, will lead the adult GV team through the pre-trip preparation and the trip itself. Participants will begin a personal journey to engage with Guatemalans through work, community building, and cultural immersion. Upon arrival, participants become integrated into Guatemalan life in a way that is not possible for an average tourist. "After working in the same community for 12 years, GV staff has a second home in Guatemala and so can offer a quintessential life-changing experience for everyone who joins our team," says Fontana.

Dave Couture, a teacher at Orca School and GV Life Long Learner Participant in 2007, summarizes the effects of his involvement with the program. "The trip was an amazing experience. It enabled me to build deep relationships and has rekindled my passion for meeting, learning and cooperating with people from around the world. It will be remembered for a lifetime."

To learn more about the GV Life Long Learners Program, attend an info night on March 11 at 7:00pm at the SafeCo Jackson Street Center. 306 23rd Ave S., Suite 200 near the corner of Jackson and 23rd Avenue. You can also get information at www.global-visionaries.org/ or the office at 1130 34th Avenue.

Coleman Building renovation: Mary Bass told the MCCL that the building is expected to open March, 2009 and include a community center and either affordable housing or low-income housing.

Next Meeting: The March MCC meeting will be March 4—the first Tuesday—at 7:15 in the Madrona Playfield shelterhouse. Everyone is welcome.

*Baker Language
paste-up*

Weight Watchers Now Meeting in Leschi

By Scott Linford, CASC Program Coordinator

At the Central Area Senior Center (CASC) in Leschi, our vision is to be a resource and gathering place for the local community. In that vein, we're pleased to announce that Weight Watchers now meets at here every Wednesday evening at 5:45 pm. The CASC at 30th Avenue South & King Street is just a short drive over from Madrona—or once the weather warms up, a healthy walk.

Meetings provide a motivating and informative environment with a leader who has lost weight in Weight Watchers and kept it off. We all know that making better food and exercise choices is essential to sustaining weight loss. Weight Watchers offers an approach that's flexible and healthy, and designed to fit into all lifestyles. Best of all, it comes with the commitment and support of friends and partners at a weekly meeting.

I know Weight Watchers works because both of my parents lost significant weight on the program, and both are now in the best shape they've been in for years. The attendance at these meetings grows every week and, to me, that indicates that our community is excited about living healthy in 2008. I hope that many of us will take advantage of this resource and participate in making this a healthier community.

As always, everyone is welcome at CASC. Come by for a Weight Watchers meeting, or to use our public computer lab, or just to enjoy the view. We are here for you! Questions? Call 726 4926.

Look East for Health: Renewal in the Year of the Rat

By Haydn Engelke, MSA LAc.

According to the Chinese Zodiac, year of the Rat runs from February 7, 2008 to January 25, 2009. Those born in Rat years (1912, 1924, 1936, 1948, 1960, 1972, 1984, 1996, and 2008) tend to be leaders, pioneers, and conquerors. They are passionate, charismatic, logical realists, shrewd, ambitious, and inventive.

A Rat year is a time of hard work and renewal. It's a good year to begin a new job, get married, launch a product, or make a fresh start. Ventures begun now may not yield fast returns, but rewards will come. The best way for you to succeed is to be patient, let things develop slowly, and make the most of every opportunity.

The twelve-year cycle of the Chinese Zodiac is influenced by the five-year cycle of the Chinese Elements (Metal, Water, Wood, Fire and Earth). In 2008, the element of Earth, temper the Rat's risk taking nature with practicality and stability. This creates balance and can lead to good profits and increased productivity.

On the health front, those born in the year of the Rat may have issues with their digestive and hormonal/kidney systems. They need to be on the lookout for problems related to the stomach, spleen, pancreas, kidneys, bladder, adrenal and reproductive organs. Preventive steps include eating smaller, more frequent meals, and organic locally grown foods while avoiding rich, fatty, greasy, and highly processed foods with preservatives, artificial coloring, flavoring and chemical additives that are hard on the digestive system. Sweets, sugars and sugar substitutes should be minimized as they directly assault the digestive organ network, leading to obesity, diabetes, unstable energy and moods. Additionally, because the digestive organ network is also associated with the muscles, there is a higher tendency for muscular injuries, so warm up and stretch before exercising. Wishing you a happy and healthy New Year! easterelements@gmail.com

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Volunteers Help the YWCA Help Others

By Nichelle Hilton, E. Cherry YWCA

The East Cherry YWCA, located in Madrona just east of Martin Luther King Jr Way, is a non-profit organization working with homeless families and their social service needs. Our mission is to advance the quality of life for women of all ages, races, and faiths, and their families. In support of this mission, the YWCA provides services to meet critical needs, promote self-sufficiency, reduce violence, and achieve equal opportunities for all people.

To accomplish that, we are in need of some willing and enthusiastic volunteers to help make out programs to help get families off the streets, into shelter units and on their way to better lives successful. If you have even a couple of hours a week, we would love to have you work with us.

Family Shelters. We host two shelters that house 44 families. Ours are two of the only family units in all of King County. These units are always in need of furniture and household items.

Domestic Violence. We have support groups for families touched by domestic violence. This program is in need of **child care volunteers** as well as groups to **provide a good dinner** for 40 people on Mondays and Wednesdays.

Food Bank. Our all day Wednesday food bank is in desperate need of volunteers and food.

Young Parent Program. We offer guidance for young mothers in parenting, education and employment. We need **tutors**, and volunteers to **host a support group** on Wednesday nights that includes **child care** and a **good dinner**.

Another way you can help is the **St. Patrick's Fundraising Dinner** hosted for us by Madrona's Epiphany Parish. The March 15 dinner begins at 6:00pm in Epiphany Church's Great Hall. The evening's speaker is Jocelyn Enabulele and all funds raised will support home therapy for child victims of domestic violence. This is always a fun evening with good food, raffle prizes and we thank Epiphany and event contact Sherilyn Peterson very much. For reservations contact her at speterson@perkinscoie.com or 979-1786.

To sum up our needs, we are on the lookout of good furniture and household needs, child care volunteers on Monday, Wednesday, and Saturdays. We need food and volunteers for our food bank on Wednesdays. We also want to start a community dinner program in which your group comes in and provides a good dinner for these families on Monday, Wednesday and lunch on Saturdays. To help with any of these needs, contact me at nhilton@ywcaworks.org or 957-2020 x320. And from everyone here at the YWCA, we thank you for your generosity!!

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Slow and Steady Progress

By Judith Starbuck, Grand Avenue

There will be a little hiatus in daylighting construction until late summer when we hope to put a culvert under 38th to add two-thirds to the creek flow from the upper ravine. But we'll keep planting plants, constructing the railings and, of course, raising money. The construction fence is scheduled to come down March 5, and then you'll be able to stroll along the lake path.

Fortunately January brought us strong backs and welcome help from several groups. Zeta Psi fraternity at the UW came for the third year in a row. The Phoenix Group, The Good Steward Group and a group from Wells Fargo also swelled our work parties. The Seattle Youth Garden Works team came in February for a tour and to do a little work. Our Department of Neighborhoods grant has allowed the Seattle Conservation Corps to do a lot of planting, and young people from AmeriCorps have contributed many hours under the aegis of the Cascade Land Conservancy. So a lot of plants have gone from pot to soil and a lot of mulch has moved from pile to cleared sites in the last couple of months. Many thanks to all who helped.

But there will still be plenty to do at our March 1 and 15 work parties. If you'd like to get some exercise with a congenial group, join us! Contact Deirdre McCrary at deirdre_jaymccrary@msn.com to be notified about dates by e-mail. We can always use help with lunches for work parties, large and small.

As usual we're in fund-raising mode to raise \$200,000 to finish the daylighting. We're working on several proposals and are looking for more grants. Community financial donations are essential to show neighborhood support to those giving us matching grants. We continue to rely on your contributions for bridges and trails. We really want to build the bridge at the Spring Street entrance so we can re-open that trail. Send your donation to Joan Scott, 3700 East Marion St., 98122, or pick up an envelope from the sign at the construction site. Earmark the check for Madrona Woods Daylighting. For more information about activities in the Woods and Park, contact me, judithstarbuck@msn.com or 322-2640 or visit www.madronawoods.org.

Madrona Real Estate Recent Home Sales

ADDRESS	BD	BA	SQ. FT.	PRICE \$
2814 E. Spring	2	2.25	1660	425,000
2905 S. Wash.	3	1.5	2040	430,000
300 29th Ave. S.	4	2.75	2108	474,000
1533 33rd	3	2	2340	500,000
2914 E. Pine	3	1	1080	510,000
1114 30th Ave	2	2	2190	581,000
1113 25th Ave.	4	2.75	2510	659,050
3415 E. Howell	3	1.75	1860	719,000
1625 36th Ave	3	1.75	2150	1,179,000

Compiled by Jon Hughes, City Life Real Estate
Statistics not compiled or published by NWMLS

It's Your Money: When to Begin Collecting Social Security?

By Matt Roper, 34th Avenue

Have you been day dreaming about retirement? About trading your drive to work for a drive down the fairway; meeting in a coffee shop, instead of a board room. Before you take that leap, there are many important decisions to be made including when to start drawing social security benefits. Here are a few things to consider when making that key decision:

Reduced Benefit. An eligible worker may begin receiving benefits as early as age 62. However, a reduction in benefits applies if drawn before full retirement age (FRA). FRA ranges between age 65 and 67. The older your FRA, the greater the reduction in benefits when drawing early. For example, if your FRA is 67 (those born in 1960 and later) and you begin benefits at 62, the reduction is 30%. However, if your FRA is 65 and you begin benefits at 62, the reduction is only 20%.

Earned Income Before FRA. If you decide to receive benefits before FRA, but continue to work, \$1 in benefits is withheld for every \$2 in earnings above \$13,560 (2008). The year you reach FRA, \$1 in benefits is withheld for every \$3 in earnings above \$36,120 (2008). There is no limit on earnings the month you attain FRA.

Break Even. A simple rule is if you expect to live longer than current life expectancy (woman is age 82, man is age 78), you'll likely be better off delaying your benefits until FRA.

Spouse Benefit. A spouse may receive benefits on the greater of their earnings record or up to 50 percent of the working spouse's full retirement amount. These benefits are further reduced if drawn before the spouse reaches FRA. In addition, a non-

working spouse cannot begin receiving benefits based on the working spouse's earnings record until the wage earner begins drawing their own benefit.

Survivor Benefits. A surviving spouse is entitled to the greater of their social security benefit or their spouses. A widow/widower, full retirement age or older, will receive 100 percent of the deceased's basic social security benefit. These benefits are further reduced if drawn before the surviving spouse reaches FRA.

Opportunity Lost. If you wait to receive social security and pass away before collecting benefits, your eligible retirement benefits are lost. All your years of hard work and accrued benefits will earn your beneficiary a whopping lump sum payment of \$255 (other benefits may apply).

One last thought....The health of the social security system may not be as dire as you might think. It could be dramatically improved by one or a combination of the following; increasing the 6.2% social security tax, increasing the \$102,000 maximum earnings limit or increasing FRA. While not necessarily popular choices, they're decisions that will likely need to be made in the near future.

Mathew W. Roper is a Certified Financial Planner™ Practitioner, registered representative of Great American Advisors®, Inc. and investment advisor representative of Shelgren Financial Group, Inc. He can be reached at 713-1476 or (800) 367 4388, ext. 137.

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NEW
MADISON HOUSE AD

New French Preschool Opens

By Antoinette Sabarots Etulain, Les Enfants de Seattle

Bonjour! Last July, *Les Enfants de Seattle* a French preschool, opened in Madrona at E. Union and MLK. I am happy that my school is in Madrona, as Madrona holds a special place in my heart. I was the assistant principal for Madrona K-8 a few years back and have been a parishioner of St. Therese Parish for many years. Our school is having an Open House on March 1 from 1:00 to 4:00pm and I would love for my Madrona friends to stop by.



My husband and I both grew up bi-lingually and bi-culturally. It's an amazing experience that I want pass on to my four children, thus the impetuous for *Les Enfants de Seattle*. Research proves that the best way to learn a language is at a young age and students at our school enjoy learning French in a natural way. Both our teachers are native French speakers with a lot of experience in childhood education. They also have kids of their own and are fabulous with children! Our head teacher, Isabelle, comes from Rouen, France and has a Master's degree in Languages. Teacher Elinore is an experienced teacher from Belgium.

Our day begins with circle time where the children sing French comptines (finger songs), are introduced to French words through explicit instruction, and dance to accordion music complete with ribbons and shakers. Then we separate into small groups and go either to the Game Room or to the library to hear a story in French. We celebrate many French traditions such as Galette de Roi, where students find the porcelain statue in the cake and become king/queen for the day; Fete de Crepes; Mardi Gras; and Poisson d'Avril, French April Fool's. Children are stimulated intellectually and socially every day with instruction plus recess and art. Our teacher student ratio is 1 to 5 and we provide homemade snacks and lunches.

If you have a child between the 2 ½ and 4 ½ who you would like to experience is environment, contact us and come by for a Thursday morning tour. It's okay if you do not speak French at home or your child has no previous experience with French. We currently have openings, will offer summer camps in July and August, and are accepting applications for the 2008-2009 school year. Check us out at www.lesenfantseattle.com

*St. Therese
Paste-Up*

Happenings at Madrona K-8

By Madrona Panther Partners PTSA

Cookies Coming Soon! The Madrona K-8 Brownie and Junior Girl Scout troops will be selling their famous cookies to raise money for camp this summer. Please support your local troops.

On a cold snowy January Saturday, Fifth grade teacher Suzanne Righi, took 4th and 5th graders on a wonderful trip to Wolf Haven and the Capitol in Olympia. On January 25, the PTSA sponsored Movie Night, and kids and families enjoyed snacks while watching "Night at the Museum" on a huge screen!

The kids worked hard in their Writer's Workshops and we all enjoyed hearing some of their outstanding work at the February 11 Writer's Workshop Celebration assembly. Many students are preparing for the big Global Reading Challenge coming up soon with their eyes on the City championship. The students also began a new session of after school programs including Brazilian Dance, Karate, Drill Team, and Ceramic Arts.

It's a big time of the year for sports at Madrona K-8. Our Boys basketball team finished another fantastic year 3-5. The Girls team was on a tear and made the playoffs for the third straight year! They went 7-0 and got to the semi-finals. The volleyball and track teams just began practice and soon we'll also have two soccer teams! Because the soccer program is new, we need equipment so if you have anything to spare, drop it off at the school! The Boys team will start this spring and the Girls in the fall. Congrats to all the kids and coaches for their tremendous work and success.

Open Meetings with Mary Bass

School Board Director Mary Bass invites everyone with an interest in Seattle Public schools to join her at any of her Community Meetings. To accommodate the increased awareness, concern, and information requests of parents, students, and the general public on education issues, Mary hosts two meetings each month, on the second and fourth Friday, from 6:00pm to 9:00pm at the Garfield Community Center, 2323 E. Cherry Street. Food and beverages are provided and a supervised play area for young children is available. Questions and concerns can also be raised at the meeting or you may email your thoughts to Mary Bass at mary.bass@seattleschools.org.

*Bush School
Paste-Up*

Quiet Talaria Drives Innovation

By Danielle de Clercq, Talaria

Talaria, Inc. moved into Madrona in July of 2006, slowly taking over the building on 34th Avenue that used to house The Scottish Teashop. If you were sad to see the teashop go, you can find its products on www.amazon.com. There are currently 15 people in our office and we enjoy being part of the Madrona community.

Talaria develops and assesses evidence-based, behavior change technologies such as e-learning websites for providers, patients, and caregivers. The company has received over 25 National Institutes of Health (NIH) Small Business Innovation Research and NIH Small Business Technology Transfer grants in the past 15 years. These awards fund much of our development and assessment activities.

Talaria works with healthcare systems, universities, hospitals, and government health service agencies to distribute healthcare websites and create customized online tools to improve patient care. Because we develop the courses from start-to-finish, we often need actors or community members to play the roles of patients and providers for audio clips or video case studies. We also often need individuals to test our technologies and participate in studies to evaluate how effective our products are at teaching skills and knowledge. More information about Talaria can be found at www.TalariaInc.com.

2007 Madrona Neighborhood Events

Thanks for JON HUGHES for stepping up to organize Neighbor Appreciation Day in March. What can YOU contribute to Madrona this year???

- Jan** Ecumenical Martin Luther King Celebration—*Jan 20*
Mount Baker Presbyterian
- Feb/** Neighbor Appreciation Day —March 8
Mar **Jon Hughes** 325-2489, jon@gocitylife.com
- April** Community Garage Sale
Kim Herber 325-9923
- May** Mayfair Parade & Carnival—May 17
Paige Smith 329-3368
Madrona Blossoms Flower Baskets
Marie Doyle 323-6128
- July/** Madrona BBQ Festival ***Seeking Coordinator***
Aug
- Sept** Neighborhood Cleanup ***Seeking Coordinator***
- Oct** Kids' Halloween Party ***Seeking Coordinator***
- Nov** Madrona Community Council Officer Election
MCC Officers
Winter Greens & Holiday Lights
Marie Doyle 323-6128
- Dec** Christmas Ships at Madrona **Seeking Coordinator*

To get involved, contact these event coordinators or Madrona Community Council VP of Events Paige Smith at 329-3368 or paigeinmadrona@hotmail.com

NEW
Verite Coffee/Cupcake Royale
paste-up

Real Time Neighborhood News!

By Scott Durham, ??? Avenue

There's a ton of news that happens in our neighborhoods every day, but most of it never makes it into the daily papers or onto the TV news. That's why we created CentralDistrictNews.com, a community news website where neighbors can work together to explore and report the news and events that happen right around us.

CentralDistrictNews.com is more than a blog where people share their opinions and ideas—it's an online community. Anyone can read the information posted on the site, and anyone who joins can create their own posts about the things that are important to them. Members can also comment and rate other user's posts to help filter the news and pick the best content. And, if you've got an upcoming meeting that you want to publicize, just log on and add it to our handy event calendar.

One of our more popular features is the CD Scanner, where we have a daily report of the various incidents that police respond to in the East Precinct. So if you hear sirens or see police in the area, there's a good chance that we heard it on the scanner and have it on the site. Or if we missed it and you know about it, you can post it too.

And if you're thinking, "I live in Madrona, not the CD," we've been tracking Madrona news too, including video of the house fire last week on 35th Ave. In fact, every story in

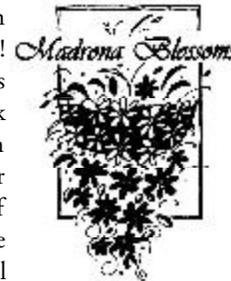
CentralDistrictNews.com can be assigned to a specific neighborhood, and plotted on a map so that you can keep track of the news right around your house.

Since the site is an open to anyone, CentralDistrictNews.com can be exactly what you want it to be. So join up, post what's important and interesting to you, and work with your neighbors to track the happenings in Madrona.

GIRLIE PRESS
paste-up

Madrona Blossoms Thanks 2007-08 Donors

Once more, it's time for us to extend a huge thank-you to all the generous Madrona residents and businesses who have supported this upcoming fourth year of Madrona Blossoms and Wintergreens! With your support, our community looks even lovelier and is such a pleasure to walk and shop and play in. We hear such wonderful compliments about the flower baskets & sparkling greens from so many of you, and so it makes doing this job—for the community—such an honor. So, for all things bright and beautiful, thank you to...



*Logo created by
Grace Schlitt-Lenz*

Businesses: Bruce G. Hanson, Atty. * City Life Real Estate * Conrow Porcelain * Executive Conversation * Jaywalk * Juniper * Madrona Community Council * Madrona Eatery & Ale House * Madrona Homemade Deli & Market * Precocious Toys * St. Clouds Restaurant * Steiner Services Group * The Madrona Company (Bowling Green) * Two Owls Boutique * Wilridge Winery

Individuals: Helen & Steven Barton * Ronald & Pamela Beard * Dennis & Maureen Beckemeyer * Ian MacGowan & Brenda Fillipi * Hugh & Suzanne Clark * Mary-Louise & Bruce Colwell * Mark J. Cook * Jessie J. Dawson * Lou Annie & Dexter Charles * Alexander & Hilary Doroski * Betty M. Evans * Joyce Felix * Debra A. Fifer * Lori Free * Susan & Albert Fuchs * Elizabeth Hale * Edwin C. James * Alice Brownstein & John Gerarden * Dolores & Clyde Jones * Gerhardt Morrison & Julie Weston * Richard Mills & Karen Covington * Ruth H. Krauss * Park & Eric Lagerberg * Jon M. & Sue H. Lahti * Sharon Holt & Larry Ockene * James A. Lasersohn * Dan & Sara Levant * Don & Diane Lovell * Charles & Andrea Matus-Magee * Amy Magnano * James Anderson & Michelle Kellert * Joseph & Marian Mullally * Raul & Christine Mustelier * Anne W. & Ethan Nelson * William Floyd Nichols * Holly & Steve Overman * Barbara Parker * Julie & Paul Pottinger * Chris & Beth Purcell * Eric Jensen & Renee Simard * Jan & Stacey Risheim * Susan Roberts * Edith Rosencrantz * David Groff & Roslyn Solomon * Paula Rothkopf * Frank & Anita Rowe * JoAnne & David Rudo * Bettye B. Salter * Bruce Rehm & Sarah Cooley * Constance Schnell * Jim & Nancy Schultz * Dave Sharp * John & Katherine James Schuitemaker * Gleason & Agnes Sims * Holly D. Smith * Lisa Soldano * Michael & Susan Taylor * Terence M. Tazioli * Pieter & Tjitske Van der Meulen * Brian E. Waiblinger * Mathew & Julie Walter * Jennifer P. Wang * Gwendolyn J. Waterhouse

The glorious flower baskets will go up again in mid-May. If you'd still like to donate, make your check out to "Madrona Blossoms, MCC" and send it to: Treasurer, 1121 37th Ave, Seattle, WA 98122. And for more information or to volunteer to join our team, email doylemf@comcast.net. THANK YOU!

Coldwell Leslie Lucas
paste-up

Tax Time Tip: Capitalize on Your Small Business

By Christie Drakeley

As an accountant, the months of January, February, and March are all about getting ready for April 15. I suspect that many of you are thinking about your taxes too. Here are some tips for you small business owners.

Deducting Home Entertainment. You may not be able to treat your employees to expensive restaurants or offer season tickets, but you should deduct expenses for entertaining clients at home. Of course you can invite your employees too.

There are two basic kinds of entertainment expenses: direct and associated. If you entertain at home for business, and the business takes place during the entertainment, then the cost is 100% deductible as a direct entertainment expense. However, if the entertainment occurs immediately before or after a business meeting, the cost is 50% deductible as an associated entertainment expense.

Let Your Company Buy You Dinner. If you are in a partnership or a shareholder-employee in a C or S corporation, and you have to work overtime, your company can, on occasion, provide you with dinner. The cost is 100% deductible for your company and you don't have to pay personal income tax on the value of the meal! Further, your company does not have to provide this fringe benefit to other employees who work late.

Give Them A Gift! You can deduct the cost of gifts made to clients and other business associates as a business expense. The limit of the deduction is set at \$25 for each recipient and gifts must be purchased with cash.

If you have questions about small business deductions or other tax-related issues, feel free to contact me at 219-1450 or drakeley@affinity-tax.com

*Rath Law
Paste-Up*

*Debra Thompson Harvey
paste-up*

Keep Gangs Out of Madrona

The Seattle/King County Gang Work Group supports a balanced strategy of prevention, intervention and suppression to reduce the impact of street gangs in our communities. Prevention strategies focus on dissuading youth from the gang lifestyle and providing access to positive resources. Intervention services focus on getting youth out of gangs and providing positive lifestyle alternatives. Suppression strategies focus on creating safer communities by enforcing laws to eliminate criminal activity.

The Seattle/King County Gang Prevention & Outreach Work Group is conducting several community forums and invites you to share your knowledge on gangs in your community. Your participation will help shape future strategy development. Please join us February 28 at the Douglas Truth Library (2300 E. Yesler Way), from 5:45 to 7:45pm. For more information, contact Camilla Campbell at 205-9326, or Camilla.Campbell@kingcounty.org.

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Chris Kamila 860.7450
chris@madronacomputer.com

Shirey Handyman
paste-up

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

WEEKLY RECURRING EVENTS:

- WEDNESDAYS 10:30-11:00am Preschool Story Times**—Presented by Seattle Public Library at Amara Parenting & Adoption Services, 3300 E. Union.
- WEDNESDAYS 8:00pm Adult Pick-up Basketball**—\$3 donation supports Madrona M-9 PTSA, Madrona K-8 gym, Allen Cheadle.
- WEDNESDAYS 5:45pm Weight Watchers Meeting**—Central Area Senior Center in Leschi, 500 30th Ave S. Scott Linford 726 49263.
- THURSDAYS 7:30pm AA/ALANON Meeting**—Epiphany Great Hall.
- THURSDAYS 6:30-7:30pm Singing in the Rain Family Choir**—Epiphany Great Hall, Sari Breznau 262-9712.
- THURSDAYS mornings by appointment Tours of The Valley School**—Prospective parents should call the school at 328-4475 to sign up and to chat with Admissions Director Gail Mensher.
- FRIDAYS 7:30am Madrona/Leschi Citizens Again the War**—Quiet demonstration, 23rd & Union, Kathy Baker kbarker715@comcast.net.

- Feb 20 9:00am-1:00pm Homeless Cooking**—Bring a cutting board and fresh ingredients. St. Clouds Restaurant, Darren Pritt darren@neighborhoodcooking.org.
- Feb 28 5:45 to 7:45pm Community Forum: Gangs in Your Community**—Learn the latest and help develop future strategy. Presented by the Seattle/King County Gang Prevention & Outreach Work Group. Douglas Truth Library, Camilla Campbell: 205-9326, Camilla.Campbell@kingcounty.org.
- Feb 29 10:00am to 4:00pm Acrylic Painting Workshop**— Learn about making changes to a painting. Rainier Valley Cultural Center, 3515 S Alaska Street, Jacqui Beck 325-7267 or jacqui@jacquibeck.com for details.
- Feb 29 6:00-9:00pm School Board Community Meeting**—Discussion with School Board Director Mary Bass. Childcare provided. Garfield Community Center (23rd & Cherry) mary.bass@seattleschools.org.
- Mar 1 9:00am-1:00pm Madrona Woods Work Party**— Meet at the construction site entrance on Lake Washington Bl, Deirdre McCrary deirdre_jaymccrary@msn.com or www.madronawoods.org.
- Mar 1 1:00-4:00pm Open House: Les Enfants de Seattle**—Visit Madrona’s new French preschool, MLK & Union, Antoinette Sabarots Etulain, www.lesenfantsdeseseattle.com.
- Mar 1 1:00-5:00pm Homeless Cooking**—Bring a cutting board and fresh ingredients. Madrona Presbyterian Church, Darren Pritt darren@neighborhoodcooking.org.
- Mar 4 7:15pm Madrona Community Council Meeting**—Madrona Playfield shelterhouse, Laura Yurdin 320-8693 or LYurdin@PointB.com.
- Mar 6 7:00pm Family Game Night**—Bring the whole family for games, snacks, prizes, and fun. Precocious Toys, 34th & Union, 322-9396.
- Mar 6 7:00pm Central Area Neighborhood Plan Stewardship**—Be part of the process to review and update this central Seattle plan, that include part of Madrona. Garfield Community Center, 23rd & Cherry. Adrienne Bailey kismit_2000@Yahoo.com.
- Mar 7 6:00pm Artist’s Reception: Susan Roberts**—Celebrate this Madrona artist’s show of new oil paintings that runs through the end of the month. Café Verite, 34th & Marion, Susan Roberts susanrobertsart@gmail.com.
- Mar 8 10:00am Neighborhood Appreciation Day** —Honoring those who make Madrona extra special. Madrona K-8 Library. Jon Hughes www.gocitylife.com or 325-CITY aka 325-2489.
- Mar 8 9:00am-1:00pm Homeless Cooking**—Bring a cutting board and fresh ingredients. Madrona Presbyterian Church, Darren Pritt darren@neighborhoodcooking.org.
- Mar 11 7:00pm GV Life Long Learners Program Meeting**—Find out about the July work/study trip to Guatemala for adults. SafeCo Jackson Street Center. 23rd & Jackson. www.global-visionaries.org.
- Mar 12 6:00pm Foster Care Information Meeting**—Talk with our staff and experienced Foster Parents. Amara Parenting & Adoption Services office, 33rd & Union, Julia Dunham 260-1734, julia@amaraparenting.org or www.amaraparenting.org.
- Mar 13 6:30pm MD&SS Dinner at the Hi-Spot**—Location TBD. Contact Audrey Seale, audreyseale@qwest.net or 329-8775 for details and reservations.
- Mar 15 9:00am-1:00pm Madrona Woods Work Party**— Meet at the construction site entrance on Lake Washington Bl, Deirdre McCrary deirdre_jaymccrary@msn.com or www.madronawoods.org.
- Mar 15 6:00pm Fundraiser Dinner for East Cherry YWCA**—Hosted by Epiphany Parish, featuring speaker Jocelyn Enabulele, with proceeds supporting the YWCA’s Domestic Violence Program. Tickets available in advance or at the door. Sherilyn Peterson 979 1786 or speterson@perkinscoie.com.
- Mar 19 9:00am-1:00pm Homeless Cooking**—Bring a cutting board and fresh ingredients. St. Clouds Restaurant, Darren Pritt darren@neighborhoodcooking.org.

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Article Submission: Contact editor Kim Herber at 325-9923, 1522 35th Ave. or send material to kdh5027@aol.com and to production editor Christine Bender at christineb@conversation.com.

Advertising: Contact Reshenna Andrews at 219-1467 or reshennaa@conversation.com. Rates are on-line at www.madrona.us.

Mailing List Additions: Contact Kim Herber (see above).

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President	<i>Position Available!</i>		
VP Events	Paige Smith	329-3368	paige_eg_smith@hotmail.com
VP Issues	Rick Kolpa	949-5681	RickK@rjhco.com
Secretary	Cynthia Stross	860-7640	cynistr@earthlink.net
Treasurer	Steve Orser	423-1412	steveorsr@yahoo.com

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