

# MADRONA

NEWS  
WWW.MADRONA.US

April 2008  
Issue No. 204

## “Parking Lot” Design Still Not Respecting Community Concerns

By Michael Leavitt

As many of you know, the parking at 1126 34<sup>th</sup> Ave, across from St. Clouds, may soon become a large multi-use commercial building. The proposed structure would be enormous compared to its neighbors, confronting all adjacent homes, while providing only a few residential and commercial spaces at high-end market value. The current design called for nine parking spaces accessed from the alley between 34<sup>th</sup> and 35<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Currently, that alley is not passable for traffic so new access would be required.



Proposed building for 1126 34th Avenue

At the April 2 public meeting with Department of Planning & Development (DPD) officials, members of the Madrona community once again voiced opposition to the development proposed as Project 3005396. If a piece of land changes use drastically—for example, from an open parking lot to a large structure—community opinion is legally involved via public meetings and written statements. The April 2 DPD review was the third public meeting on this project, and at each meeting

At the April 2 public meeting with Department of Planning

(continued on page 2)

## Madrona Community Council Minutes

By Cynthia Stross, MCC Secretary, 35<sup>th</sup> Avenue

Thanks to those who took the time to join us for the April 1 Madrona Community Council (MCC) meeting. The following topics were discussed.

**MCC Meeting Schedule:** The MCC currently meets every month (excluding July and August) on the first Tuesday of the month. In recent months, attendance has been low and few new agenda items have been brought for discussion. Members of the council proposed that meetings be scheduled in alternating months. Other community members resisted changing the schedule, stating that the meetings are a forum for people in the community share information and discuss topics that impact the neighborhood.

In the past, the MCC president helped to set the agenda and distribute it to the larger community. The MCC still lacks a

president. Former MCC president Bill Hanson described some aspects of the job: bringing speakers of interest to the Madrona community, keeping the agenda, and running the meetings. The community agreed that the MCC would be a stronger forum if a community member stepped forward to fill the role.

No decision was made regarding the proposed schedule change, and the May meeting remains as scheduled.

**Neighborhood Cleanup Day:** The City of Seattle sponsors a neighborhood clean-up project from April 5 through May 31. Neighbor Tema Nesoff has volunteered to organize a Madrona team to clean up the commercial district on Saturday May 10. She needs helpers—large and small! The City will supply garbage grabbers and bags

(continued on page 12)

## Madrona K-8 Principal Kaaren Andrews Recognized

By Kim Herber, 35<sup>th</sup> Avenue

If there is anyone who knows that you can't please all the people all the time, it's Madrona K-8 Principal Kaaren Andrews. Her work at the school over the past four years has drawn great criticism from some and high praise from others. Recently, the praise overcame the negativity as the Seattle School District awarded Kaaren the Thomas B. Foster Award for Excellence for outstanding leadership. The award, named for Tom Foster, a founder of the Seattle law firm Foster Pepper and a Seattle civic leader, was established in 1999 to recognize outstanding principals.



Photo by Larry Abramson, NPR

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## Parking Lot (cont'd from page 1)

30-plus attendees have expressed a unified disagreement with this development. Nearly 50 letters of discontent are also on the record with the DPD.

At the most recent meeting, the applicant presented the newest plans, community members responded, and the four DPD officials deliberated. Everyone was invited to listen without participating in the deliberations. As witness to these deliberations, neither the discussion nor any site plans were altered with respect to community members' concerns.

Many of us in Madrona fear that this development will negatively impact the open spaces and vintage character of Madrona and set a precedent for future structures on 34<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Commercial zoning is designed for urban density, low-income housing, and small businesses. These are sustainable, green elements essential to Madrona's cultural survival and long-term business. Even if the developer can't see the negative impacts of his imposing proposition as we do from our perspective, the zoning limitations still allow the architect and the DPD to respect community concern with this development.

The city will still accept written public comments for a limited time. There are other official public steps to come in the process, including an appeal. Written statements and questions about Project 3005396 can be submitted to:

- Holly Anderson, DPD staff, [Holly.Anderson@seattle.gov](mailto:Holly.Anderson@seattle.gov)
- Todd Smith, architect, [toddsmith@johnstonarchitects.com](mailto:toddsmith@johnstonarchitects.com)

You can follow the progress of the DPD reviews at: <http://web1.seattle.gov/DPD/permitstatus/Project.aspx?id=3005396>

## Kaaren... (cont'd from page 1)

District Superintendent Maria Goodloe-Johnson said Andrews' "relentless focus on the academic success of all students" has helped raise Madrona K-8 7<sup>th</sup> Grade WASL scores nearly 30 percent over the past two years. In reading, 74 percent of 4<sup>th</sup> Graders are at grade level and writing and math WASL scores have also risen. Seattle Public Schools Chief Academic Officer Carla Santorno praised Andrews' consistent work on student achievement.

"It's a little bit strange to get an award, because it's just such a team effort," she said. "It's not really me. It's the whole school," Andrews said.

Along with the personal recognition comes \$50,000 for the school to be spent on books and other supplies. Congrats, Kaaren, and congrats Madrona K-8.

## CoRRRECCIONS

Precocious Toys Family Game night is now from 5:00-7:00pm the first Thursday of each month.

In April, Pre-School Story Time at Amara Parenting is on Thursdays instead of Wednesdays and there will be no Story Times in May or June.

## Donate to the Madrona Garage Sale

By Kim Herber, 35<sup>th</sup> Avenue

The Madrona Community Council (MCC) is holding its annual Madrona Community Garage Sale on May 3 in the Madrona K-8 gym. The sale will accept reusable donations to be sold to benefit the MCC. If you have goodies to get rid of, bring them to the school on May 2 after 5:00. We take just about anything—household items, books, toys, and whatnot—and funds go back into the neighborhood through MCC-sponsored events like Madrona Mayfair and the monthly *Madrona News*. I need helpers on Friday night to organize and price donations, and all day Saturday to sell them—that means you, Frank!

To sell your own items and keep the cash, rent a space for \$15 or a space with a table for \$20. To make a reservation, contact me at [kdh5027@aol.com](mailto:kdh5027@aol.com) or 325-9923. Your spot is reserved when I receive your payment.

Lots of people from the neighborhood come by during the sale so it's a great chance to reconnect with friends and maybe find a treasure or two to take home. At the end of the day, the Northwest Center brings a truck and hauls all the leftovers away.

**Madrona Neighborhood**

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**8:00-4:00**

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Kim Herber 325-9923 or [kdh5027@aol.com](mailto:kdh5027@aol.com) for INFO

*Debra Thompson Harvey*  
*paste-up*

## Offering Food & an Opportunity to Serve

By *Patty Hebert, E. Marion St.*

Not far from Madrona there is a place where the hungry can always find help—and those wishing to lend a hand to neighbors in need are always welcome. That place is The Food Bank @ St. Mary's, located near 20th Avenue and Jackson St. It is a supplementary grocery program serving people who live within the Seattle City limits.

Hosting 7,000 customers per month with hospitality and respect requires volunteers with compassion and a commitment to serve others. St. Mary's opens its doors to the community food bank three days a week so that customers can pick up meat, fish, dairy products, baked goods, fruits, vegetables, and often baby products, hygiene necessities, clothing, and pet food. The food comes from a large number of food stores including Safeway, Grocery Outlet, Starbucks, Cafe Verite, Red Apple, Trader Joe's, plus Food Lifeline and Northwest Harvest, as well as personal contributions from P-Patches & food drives.

"We try to have enormous variety," says Director Sue Smith. "We don't want to offer food someone isn't used to, or that we wouldn't eat ourselves. We want fresh food." Smith has been working at the food bank for nine years. She says "Our aim is to offer the best food in town. We never run out of produce, dairy or meat, and we don't pre-select food, so each customer can choose their own." They also give out canned, dried, and instant goods. Smith says that the number of customers has grown dramatically, and St. Mary's has improved its physical infrastructure to keep up. They have big freezers to store food, and power pallets to unload trucks.

The Food bank is a Hub of Hospitality as volunteers of all ages plus four full-time staff members work side by side to communicate with clients in English, Chinese, Spanish, Vietnamese, Russian and Korean. Along with food, they also disseminate information about kids' dental care, free ESL classes, available shelters, and more.

Every penny counts! By turning in cardboard boxes at a nearby recycling center, St. Mary's paid for rain jackets for the volunteers. Says Smith "I appreciate every offer of help, even if it's \$5.00 per month, but big checks are a big help. Part of my job is to let folks know what we need: and we need money. The City of Seattle gives just under half of what we need, and it's enormously helpful."

The Food Bank @ St. Mary's is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization and tax-deductible. Cash or checks are gratefully accepted and can be dropped off or mailed to: The Food Bank @ St. Mary's 611 20th Ave. S., Seattle, WA 98144.

They are open for customers Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday from 10 to 1, please bring photo identification and a bag for your groceries. They are available to accept donations every day except Sunday. Food donations prior to pull dates are appreciated, as well as individual, school, troop or clubs willing to volunteer. To make arrangements, contact Sue Smith at 324-7101 ext.21.

## Madrona Mayfair is May 17

By *Susie Martin, 33rd Avenue*

Dear Neighbors! Mayfair is May 17 from 9:00am to 1:00pm so get your bikes and your crepe paper ready! This is a free, fun carnival and parade that starts at Al Larkins Park and continues at the Madrona Playfield. It is an annual event to be enjoyed by all! Come help us celebrate this great neighborhood tradition that focuses on the youngest members of Madrona.

### Mayfair Schedule of Events:

- 9:00–9:30 Rain or shine, everyone gathers in Al Larkins Park (34<sup>th</sup> & Pike) where plenty of crepe paper and balloons will be there to decorate bikes, trikes, and strollers.
- 9:30 – Everyone parades down 34<sup>th</sup> Avenue with Deano the Clown, Dee Dee Rainbow, Monad, and a Fire Engine will be leading the way!
- 9:45 - 1:00 Free pony rides, face painting, bouncy jumping, yummy baked goods, and carnival games for kids and their families.
- 10:00 Deano the Clown performs his show at the Madrona Playfield.
- 11:00 Puppet and music show at the Madrona Playfield.

We still need volunteers. If you have any of the skills listed below—or are willing to try—contact Paige Smith at [paigeinmadrona@hotmail.com](mailto:paigeinmadrona@hotmail.com) or 225-5821. Your participation will make this a special day for the neighborhood!

- Doctor or Nurse, in case anything comes up
- Set up crew to put up tents etc., decorate park
- Clean up crew to pick up trash, take down tents etc.
- Face painters—supplies provided!
- Bike decorators at Al Larkins Park
- Traffic control on 34<sup>th</sup> Avenue during parade (30 minutes)
- Baked good bakers and sellers.
- Enthusiasm! –We'll match your skills with a volunteer opportunity.

Thanks to the Madrona Community Council for sponsoring this great annual event!

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## St Clouds Café Opens at NAAM

By John Platt and Paul Butler, St. Clouds Restaurant and Catering

We are thrilled and honored to announce the opening of our new cafe at the Northwest African American Museum. The museum, located at 2300 S. Massachusetts (23rd and Massachusetts) in the old Colman Elementary School, opened last month. St. Clouds Cafe is located on the first floor.



The Museum is fantastic and we hope you'll visit, but you don't have to have paid admission to the museum to get to the St. Clouds Café. Come by for an afternoon snack and enjoy local micro-roaster Fonte

coffee/espresso drinks and Cass's fresh baked pastries. We also serve lunch, with a menu featuring Southern and African-American influenced fare, as well as the inventive bright fare you've come to expect from St. Clouds and chef Michael King. Lunch menu items include Memphis Style Slow Roasted Ribs with collard greens and corn bread, baked macaroni and cheese with green salad or slaw, and a Virginia country ham sandwich with peach chutney, cream cheese mayo and mustard greens. And don't forget to leave room for dessert—New Orleans bread pudding

with bourbon sauce. The St. Cloud Café also has beer and wine, and our usual warm, friendly Madrona-style service.

St. Cloud Café hours are the same as the museums—Wednesday through Sunday from 11:00am to 7:30pm. The schedule is slightly modified on Thursdays, when we close at 7:00pm and Sundays, when we open at noon.

The food is mighty fine, the people extraordinary, and the site a glory. We are thrilled to have the chance to help foster community in this new Urban League Village project. Come be part of it. We'll look forward to seeing you.

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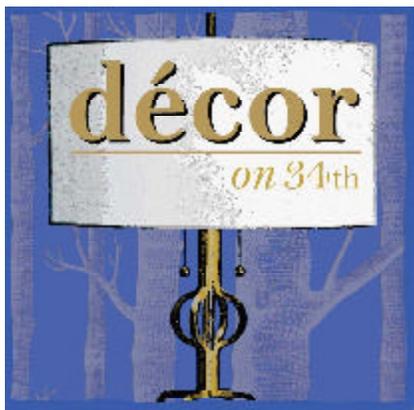
## Welcome Babies!

**Rose Victoria Pietromonaco** was born November 13, 2007 at 7lbs, 1oz. and 23.75 inches. Her joyful parents Paul and Dana Pietromonaco declare her worth the wait!

**Clara Marjorie Smith** arrived on February 13, 2008. She weighed 8lbs, 5oz, and is the second daughter for Paige & Brad Smith of Martin Luther King Jr Way.

**Brayden Masao** was born on February 23, 2008 to Bryan & Kara Masao and Big Sister Kyla of 31st Avenue. He weighed 7lbs, 7.2oz and was 19 inches long.

To announce the arrival of your new bundle of joy to the Madrona community, send the particulars to [kdh5t027@aol.com](mailto:kdh5t027@aol.com).



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## Look East for Health: Treating Allergies

*By Haydn Engelke*

With spring's sunshine and flowers come wind and pollen, which for many people signals the onset of allergy season.

What are allergies? For many of us they mean a season of runny noses, itchy eyes, sneezing, sore throats and general fatigue. Allergic rhinitis, or hay fever, is an example of misplaced immunity. It is a learned response by the immune system wherein rapid physiological changes resulting in itchy eyes and throat, sinus congestion and sneezing, asthma, and even diarrhea are produced. Typically, exposure to an allergen such as tree pollen elicits a massive release of IgE antibodies that attach to white blood cells known as mast cells. These cells are mostly located in the lungs and upper respiratory tract, the lining of the stomach and the skin. When these cells are stimulated, they release a number of chemicals including histamine which produce the allergic symptoms

While many over-the-counter remedies promise symptomatic relief, many have side effects such as drowsiness, insomnia, and thirst. Allergy symptoms are frequently treated with antihistamines agents, which treat the symptoms of allergies by suppressing the immune system.

Practitioners of Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) believe that addressing the causes of allergies, treating the whole person, and focusing on balancing the immune system leads to substantial long-term health benefits in managing allergies. For some people, allergies can be managed with Acupuncture during seasonal changes. Patients suffering from allergies should seek treatment a month prior to the start of the allergy season to lessen the effects of allergies.

If you have questions about treating allergies or other ailments with Chinese medicine, contact me at Eastern Elements Acupuncture and Massage, [www.Eastern-Elements.com](http://www.Eastern-Elements.com).

GIRLIE PRESS  
paste-up

## Make a Gift for Mom

*By Gavin & Monica Coulter, Precocious Toys*

You know the saying, If Mama Ain't Happy, Nobody's Happy? This Mother's Day, make your mama happy with a gift of glassware hand-decorated by one of her little angels during a special session at Precocious Toys in Madrona.

On April 20 and 27, kids are invited to come to the store to create a unique Mother's Day gift. We will provide glass trays and dishes they can decorate with their own designs using non-toxic glass paint from Glassline. Once the little master pieces are complete, renowned glass artist Mike Juetten will take them to his studio for firing. The pieces will be ready for pickup at Precocious on May 4.

The cost is \$25 per tray or dish and pre-registration is required. To reserve your spot, drop by the store at 701 34th Avenue, or make a reservation on line at [www.precocioustoys.com](http://www.precocioustoys.com). This is a great opportunity to honor Mom—or a Grandmother—with a lovely, one-of-a-kind work of art will be used and enjoyed for years to come.

For more info, contact Precocious at 322-9396.

## Mad-Mad Farmers Market Returns!

Wasn't it great to have all those fresh veggies and other goodies right in our own farmer's market last year? Well, the good times are back! Starting May 16 the Madrona-Madison Farmers Market returns to the parking lot at Grocery Outlet every Friday afternoon!



*James Winder  
Paste-Up*

*Bush School  
Paste-Up*

## Madrona Library Reopens May 10

The newly renovated Madrona-Sally Goldmark Branch of The Seattle Public Library will reopen to the public with a festive community celebration beginning at noon May 10. The dedication ceremony will include appearances of City Librarian Deborah L. Jacobs, Mayor Greg Nickels, Library Board Vice President Michael Parham, City Councilman Nick Licata and the Library book fairy "Lulu." There will be entertainment and Starbucks Coffee Company will provide free coffee and snacks. The branch will remain open until 6 p.m.

The library, which has been closed since last fall, is housed in a converted firehouse and is heavily used by residents and schoolchildren. The \$893,213 renovation project included new seating, upgraded technology services and equipment, better electrical, communication and computer connections, more efficient circulation desk and work areas, improved ventilation, a modern mechanical system, and an updated book collection. Seattle artists Mary Iverson and Monad Elohim designed artwork for the building. Iverson created an oil painting and Madrona's Monad made a ceramic sculpture.

The main entry was moved north toward Union Street to improve visibility, and the renovated branch will emphasize materials for children, popular fiction, DVDs, and space for holds pick-up. Heliotrope Architects designed the reconfiguration of the interior so patrons and staff could more efficiently use the branch, separating activities such as busy children's story times from the holds pickup area.

For more information about the building program or branch opening, visit the Madrona-Sally Goldmark Branch home page at [www.spl.org](http://www.spl.org) or contact Andra Addison, SPL Communications Director, at 386-4103.

## Central Area Community Safety Forum May 17

*By Adrienne Bailey*

Central Area Community Safety Forum will be held from 10:00am to 2:00pm at the Garfield Community Center (23<sup>rd</sup> & Cherry) on May 17. This is a free public information event, designed to provide crime prevention, emergency preparedness and inter-generational engagement resources and information to the residents of the Central Area. The goals of this event include increasing public involvement efforts, fostering interaction and communication amongst neighbors to strengthen and/or create Block Watches, and heightening awareness of the importance of creating neighborhood emergency preparedness teams. This event will feature presentations and brief discussions on, but not limited to:

### Neighborhood Block Watches

- What Are They?
- How to Form One

### Emergency Preparedness

- For Your Family
- For Your Pets
- For Your Neighbors

### Youth Involvement Activities & Opportunities

### Bicycle Safety & Maintenance

If you are interested in volunteering for this event or would like to get involved on and/or before the day of this event setting up, assisting the attendees and dismantling, email me at [kismit\\_2000@yahoo.com](mailto:kismit_2000@yahoo.com), put **CA Community Safety Forum** in the subject line of your message.

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## Spring Clean Downtown Madrona May 10

By Tema Nesoff, 35th Avenue

On May 10, at 9:00am, join your neighbors to help clean up our commercial area. As part of it's annual Spring Clean program, the City will supply us with bags and garbage grabbers, and come back and haul away all the junk we collect. Now in its 22<sup>nd</sup> year,



Natasha & Michelle worked hard on a sunny Saturday for the 2007 Madrona Cleanup Day.

Spring Clean runs from April 5 through May 31 this year. It is part of Mayor Nickels' Clean and green Initiative. For more info about the program visit [www.seattle.gov/util](http://www.seattle.gov/util).

For the Madrona cleanup event, bring work gloves and a willingness to spend a couple of hours providing a needed spring clean. Families and children welcome. We will meet at the shelterhouse at the Madrona Playfield.

If you have questions, contact me at [tnesoff@comcast.net](mailto:tnesoff@comcast.net).

Another City-sponsored community program to help neighborhoods keep graffiti under control is called The Red Wagon Paint-Out Program. This program trains volunteers how to remove graffiti in their neighborhood. Volunteers who complete the training receive their own Red Wagon—fully equipped with graffiti removal items, including paint, rollers, rags and screens. Madrona could use a few Graffiti Rangers so if you're interested, call 684-3056 for more info or to sign up.

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## Play Madrona Mutt Match-up

By Helen Payton, 34<sup>th</sup> Avenue

Sometimes it seems like everyone in Madrona has a dog. All of these dogs live in our neighborhood. To play Mutt Match-up, pick which dog lives with which owner by drawing a leash to connect them. The answers are on page 12.



Mr. Peabody

**Pedigree:** Harvard, waggna cum lade  
**Personal Tidbit:** Built time travel machine



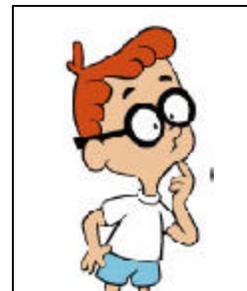
Wallace

**Home:** 62 West Wallaby St.  
**Favorite Thing:** Cheese



Brian

**Pedigree:** Mongrel  
**Personal Tidbit:** Loves dry martinis



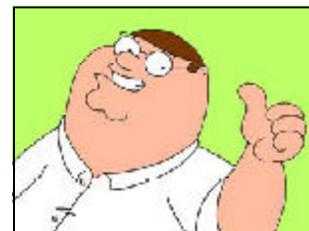
Sherman

**Home:** Rocky & Bullwinkle Show  
**Favorite Thing:** Bad puns



Gromit

**Pedigree:** Claymation Beagle  
**Personal Tidbit:** Has been to the moon



Peter

**Home:** Quahog, MA  
**Favorite Thing:** Kiss

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## Madrona Mom Publishes Baseball Book

By Monique Pope

In April 2003, Jackie Koney was about to board a flight at SeaTac airport when her cell phone rang. Reluctantly, she took the call.



Deidra & Jackie sign for fans on book tour

together! I knew she was on to something and the right people to do it.”

The two had been thinking of working on a book together but it was Deidre’s call that helped them hone in on a topic that they both were passionate about. Calling themselves the Savvy Girls of Summer, Deidre and Jackie worked for the next few years to bring female baseball enthusiasts together for fun and fandom. Along the way they also found time to write “It Takes More Than Balls: The Savvy Girl’s Guide to Understanding and Enjoying Baseball.” Released in March, the book is now featured on the shelves of bookstores nationwide and the two authors couldn’t be prouder.

“We have read dozens of baseball books and so few of them really embraced the entertainment and fun that we think is an important part of being a baseball fan,” Deidre said. “We wanted to write the baseball book that we wanted to read.”

During the time they spent researching the book Deidre and Jackie talked to thousands of women baseball fans. This led to them partnering with major league baseball teams—first the Mariners and then others—to help the teams tailor events and promotions geared to women. The authors were honored guests at several “Ladies Nights” promotions, and pre-game wine-and-cheese parties with presentations from female sports industry team executives and journalists. These events at several major league baseball teams are the backbone of this summer’s nation-wide book tour. The authors will return to Seattle in August and host a pre-game event with the Mariners and Safeco Insurance on August 26.

Savvier than ever, Deidre and Jackie through their research Deidre and Jackie have found many differences between how most men and women regard baseball. Because most women never had the opportunity or inclination to play baseball in their youth, female fans tend to “discover” baseball later in life than do men. Some women become enthralled sitting in the stands as Little League moms, while others catch the bug from—or to impress—a new date or an old husband.

“Women often bring a different perspective to the game,” Jackie said. “And these women are a sophisticated group and they don’t need a ‘Baseball for Dummies.’ Rather, these smart women want a smart book—and we think our new book is just the ticket!”

## Law for All: Safeguarding Your Home

By Lori Rath, Estate Planning & Probate Attorney

As an estate planning attorney, I help clients protect their families and assets by working with them to create and maintain an appropriate estate plan. In that same vein, I wanted to share with you what I recently learned about a City of Seattle service that helps residents increase the safety of their homes.

Property crime is relatively high in Seattle, and I hear many reports from clients and friends about home break-ins. The Seattle Police Department (SPD) offers a free service to help you increase your home’s protectiveness against crime. Upon request, the SPD will send an officer to your house to evaluate how secure your home is, and to make suggestions about how to make it even safer. This service is called a “Home Security Survey.” The friend and colleague who told me about this resource had a survey done for her own family’s south Seattle home and found it to be very worthwhile.

To request a Home Security Survey, contact Michael Yasutake at 684-7717. Mr. Yasutake is the Crime Prevention Coordinator for the SPD’s East Precinct, which includes Madrona. If you have any questions about protecting your assets with estate planning, contact me at 382-2573 or [lori@rathlawmediation.com](mailto:lori@rathlawmediation.com)

The East Precinct Crime Prevention Coalition meets the fourth Thursday of every month at 6:30pm in the Seattle Vocational Institute at 2120 S. Jackson. The Madrona Community Council is seeking a neighborhood representative to attend this meeting to discuss Madrona’s issues with the SPD and bring back helpful information to share with the neighborhood. If you are interested—go! Then report back to the MCC at any first Tuesday monthly meeting.

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## Madison Park Renovation Update

*By Diana Ackerley, Friends of Madison Park*

Even though the families of Madrona have their own wonderful playfield, we know that occasionally a few of you do sneak north to enjoy the swings at Madison Park. If you do, you know that the park has been under reconstruction for awhile, but we are almost done! It's really going to be beautiful - I cannot wait to see the community enjoy our new park! However, we have one sticking point. We are still short on funds to pay for the play equipment.

There are many RUMORS circulating that the Friends of Madison Park (FOMP) have run out of money. To that I say NO! We are still fundraising, the budget has not changed, and we have gotten excellent support from literally hundreds of donors. Still, even with incredible community support, we still need to raise another \$100,000. Although some people in the community feel that the City of Seattle should pay for the park renovation (wouldn't THAT be nice) the FOMP is busy beating the bushes and asking everyone—including our friends in Madrona—to help us get over this last financial hurdle.

To sweeten the pot, the Madison Park Cooperative Preschool confirmed a challenge grant of \$37,000. This means that the community must match this grant by the end of April in order for the park to receive these funds. This is a very generous donation from our non-profit community preschool, in addition to the \$10,285 that the Coop has already donated to the Park. This challenge means your donations are worth double through the end of the month!

For those not familiar with our efforts, here are some basic facts.

- FOMP is a group of community volunteers working with the City of Seattle Parks Dept to improve the Madison Park

Play Area. FOMP is approved by the IRS as a 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization so all donations are tax-deductible.

- The park is currently under construction and scheduled to be complete in May 2008.
- The budget for the park renovation is approximately \$850,000.
- FOMP has raised well over \$500,000 from the community.
- FOMP applied for and received \$100,000 in Neighborhood Matching Grant Funds, the MOST the City of Seattle will donate to a park renovation project.
- \$170,000 must be raised by the community by the end of April, so we can open the park on June 7 WITH the fabulous new play equipment. A June opening will also allow time for the grass to establish.
- Engraved Granite Pavers may be purchased at Park Postal thru the end of April and may be dedicated to an individual (great for children), a family, or a business. This is also tax deductible.
- All donations can be made at Park Postal in Madison Park, 4111 E. Madison St., or mailed to FOMP at 4003 E. Newton St., Seattle, 98112.
- If \$170,000 is not raised by the end of April, the park will still open in June, but without the play equipment.
- To those of you who have donated to the project: THANK YOU! If you have not yet made a donation to the park, please consider supporting this wonderful project.

*NEW  
Kids Dentistry  
Paste-Up*

**Ben Chotzen  
paste-up**

**Shirey Handyman  
paste-up**

## Letter to the Editor:

### Don't Sell MLK School Property

Is anyone else disturbed by the Seattle School Board's sale of our vacant schools to private interests? According to a 3/28/08 article in the *Seattle Times*, the Board has sold four vacant schools recently, including three that had been used as Community Centers! Apparently next on the auction block is Martin Luther King Elementary School in Madison Valley. The School Board has a very narrow and short-sighted focus in selling these properties for a one-time, relatively small cash infusion. Let's write our School Board members, City Council and State Legislators and encourage a long-term view of vacant schools that preserves taxpayer-purchased property for taxpayer-benefiting uses.

Imagine using the property for a new indoor pool—Seattle last built an indoor pool in the 1970's, or as a Park (think Nora's Woods 29th and Cherry), or even a P-Patch. And, should our population change, the site could even house a new school a few years—or decades—down the road. Conversely, if the land is sold to a developer, how will the community benefit from yet another batch of town homes? Likewise, if neighboring Bush School buys the property, who benefits other than a few students at a wealthy private school? Come on Madrona Neighbors! Demand that your School Board be a better member of our Community. Let's save ML King for all of us!

Speak out! Contact your local School Board rep Mary Bass at 252-0040 or [mary.bass@seattleschools.org](mailto:mary.bass@seattleschools.org), City Council Chairman (and Madrona neighbor) Richard Conlin at 684-8805 or [richard.conlin@seattle.gov](mailto:richard.conlin@seattle.gov) and legislative representatives Senator Adam Kline at [kline.adam@leg.wa.gov](mailto:kline.adam@leg.wa.gov), Representative Sharon Tamiko Santos at [santos.sharontomiko@leg.wa.gov](mailto:santos.sharontomiko@leg.wa.gov), Representative Eric Pettigrew at [pettigrew.eric@leg.wa.gov](mailto:pettigrew.eric@leg.wa.gov).

For the latest information, visit [www.madisonvalley.org](http://www.madisonvalley.org).

Sincerely,

Phil Brennan, 29<sup>th</sup> & Cherry  
[finleysteve@yahoo.com](mailto:finleysteve@yahoo.com)

*Baker Language  
paste-up*

## Valley School Eco-Fair

*By Cindy Monte, Enrichment Specialist*

Celebrating what the Earth gives us and how we can lessen our impact on it and give back to it is the focus of the Valley School Eco-Fair on April 24. Worms, trees and paper, packaging, rainforests, water treatment, dirt and garbage are some of the themes that students (pre-kindergarten through fifth grade) have been studying and will be presenting at the event. Other highlights include displays of the school's efforts to "go green," such as changing to florescent light bulbs, adding rain barrels to the campus and switching to recycled paper.

The afternoon event for families will also feature a tour of the children's gardens with a newly installed scarecrow created from recyclables by the fifth graders and a look at the school's significant reduction of garbage this year. To accomplish that last goal, the staff introduced compost bins in each classroom, a lunchroom bucket to collect scraps for the school chickens, and numerous humus-producing worm bins. Parents contributed by working toward no-trash lunches and other home-front waste reductions. The Eco-Fair will end with the children planting seeds on the school grounds and in clay pots that they created using materials from the playgrounds. The school's hope is that families will leave with a better understanding of our world and how to be good stewards of it.

## St. Therese Penny Harvest

*By Hana Peoples, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Ambassador*

The Penny Harvest was an amazing success! At St. Therese School, we filled 10.5 moneybags with 30lbs of pennies and other coins. Our goal was to fill 25 bags—but it's OK! This was our first time doing this and we have a small school. We still received a \$1000 grant from Solid Ground, the organizers of the Penny Harvest Drive, so we are able to make a grant to a local non-profit organization.

In Seattle alone, 55 schools participated, raising \$57,410.07! That's 625 30-lb money bags. At our school, our Kindergarten classed fill the most bags—four. As promised, the class received 45 extra minutes of free time and a pizza party. The whole school wins a free-dress day for their participation.

Our next step is planning where to give the \$1000....We, the Ambassadors, will discuss the main issues that matter and choose a local non-profit agency. Grants will be given out in May.

The Ambassadors would like to thank everyone who participated in the Penny Harvest this year. Without your contributions we would not have had such a successful Penny Drive. And it was our first time participating! We will raise even more pennies next year. Great job, St. Therese!

## Time for Financial Spring Cleaning

By Barbara W. Banon, Edward Jones Investments

You've sent in your payment to the IRS—or spent that big juicy refund. While your mind is on your money, why not do some more Spring Cleaning and “spruce up” your financial situation? As you survey your financial basement or attic, here are a few suggestions: on areas that might you want to tidy up.

**“Redundant” Investments.** Over time, you may have built a sizable investment portfolio. But if you have too many similar investments, you may actually be hindering your progress toward your goals. If you own a dozen stocks of companies in the same industry, they're likely to be buffeted by the same economic forces so replace some of these “redundancies” with different types of securities.

**Financial Records.** Now is the perfect time to organize your financial records, because you probably went through them recently to prepare your taxes. Take another look and you might see opportunities to *consolidate* some of your accounts. If you may have IRAs with different banks or financial services companies, moving them to one provider could save on fees and reduce paperwork. But, more importantly, it may also help you better manage your investments because it's easier to follow a single investment strategy.

**Systematic Investments.** Many years ago, you might have started systematically moving money from your checking account into an investment. But perhaps the circumstances of your life have changed and this money could be better used elsewhere. Scrutinize your systematic investments to see if they still make sense.

**Beneficiaries.** Beneficiary designations on financial documents — insurance policies, IRAs, 401(k)s, etc.—are extremely important because they supersede any instructions in your will. As your family situation changes through death, divorce, remarriage or the birth of children, you should periodically review and update your beneficiary designations.

**Insurance.** When you have a young family, you need a certain amount of life insurance to provide for major expenses, such as your mortgage, college for your kids, or retirement. But when your children are grown, your mortgage is paid, and your spouse has decades' worth of retirement savings, your insurance needs change considerably so take some time to review your insurance coverage with your financial advisor.

By following these “spring cleaning” suggestions, you can help put your financial house in order for the seasons to follow. Take action soon. If you have financial questions, I'm glad to help. Contact me at my Madrona office at 323-0440.

*Prestige Custom Builder*  
*paste up*

## Madrona Woods To-Do List—Check!

By Judith Starbuck, Grand Avenue

Thanks for help in March from Seattle Urban Nature board members. This month in the Madrona Woods and the lakefront natural area:

- Check out the new railing completed by John Darrah and Bill Scott.
- Check to see if the construction fence finally does go away at the end of April.
- Check to see how the new cove is filling up as the water level in the lake rises for the summer.?
- Check out the nicely graveled trail through the natural area, completed with the welcome help of students from the Seattle Academy.
- Check to make sure you keep yourself, your children and your pets on the trail to give the baby plants and newly sculpted hills a chance to strengthen and stabilize.
- Check to see what's blooming as the early skunk cabbage, osoberry, violet, oxalis, red-flowering currant, and trillium hand over the honors to salmonberry, thimbleberry, twinberry, dogwood, ninebark, goatsbeard, bleeding heart, fringe cup and other ground-cover flowers. Don't forget to look for the graceful fiddleheads on the ferns. If you want to identify these natives, go to [www.madronawoods.org](http://www.madronawoods.org) and click on Friends, Gallery, and Spring flowers.
- Check your schedule to see if you can volunteer some hours helping with spring and summer weeding, mulching, and watering.
- Check the website, the kiosks, or the sign at the lakefront for times of the upcoming work parties—usually first and third Saturdays of each month from 9:00am to 1:00pm. Let Deirdre McCrary at [deirdre\\_jaymccrary@msn.com](mailto:deirdre_jaymccrary@msn.com) know if you'd like to be notified by email.
- Check to see if you can give a little more to help finish up the daylighting and get the two remaining bridges built. Community donations of labor, in-kind services and money are essential to show neighborhood support to those giving us matching grants—we have three applications pending. Send your check to Joan Scott, 3700 East Marion St., 98122, and earmark it for Madrona Woods Daylighting. For information about the Woods and natural area, contact me, [judithstarbuck@msn.com](mailto:judithstarbuck@msn.com) or 322-2640 or visit [www.madronawoods.org](http://www.madronawoods.org)

Edward Jones  
paste-up

## 2008 Madrona Neighborhood Events

May will be a busy month in Madrona. Contact any of these coordinators to help make these events successful.

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

**May** Community Garage Sale—May 3

Kim Herber 325-9923, [kdh5027@aol.com](mailto:kdh5027@aol.com)

Neighborhood Cleanup—My 10

Tema Nesoff [tnesoff@comcast.net](mailto:tnesoff@comcast.net)

**NEW!**

Mayfair Parade & Carnival—May 17

Paige Smith 225-5821

Madrona Blossoms Flower Baskets

Marie Doyle 323-6128

**July/** Madrona BBQ Festival \*\*\*Seeking Coordinator\*\*\*

**Aug**

**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 225-5821 or [paigeinmadrona@hotmail.com](mailto:paigeinmadrona@hotmail.com)

## MCC Minutes... (cont'd from page 1)

and will pick up the bagged trash without charge. Email Tema at [tnesoff@comcast.net](mailto:tnesoff@comcast.net) for more information, or just meet the work crew at 34<sup>th</sup> and Union at 9:00 on May 10. Families and children welcome.

**Mayfair Need Volunteers:** Paige Smith still needs volunteers for the Mayfair celebration – especially for the clean-up crew. Contact Paige at 225-582 if you can help!

**Next Meeting:** The next MCC meeting will be May 6—the first Tuesday—at 7:15 in the Madrona Playfield shelterhouse. Everyone is welcome.

*Susan Roberts*  
*paste-up*

## What's NEW at the MMEM YMCA

For more info on any of these new programs, come by the Y at 23<sup>rd</sup> & Olive or visit the Meredith Mathews East Madison YMCA web site at [www.seattleyymca.org/page.cfm?ID=mm](http://www.seattleyymca.org/page.cfm?ID=mm).

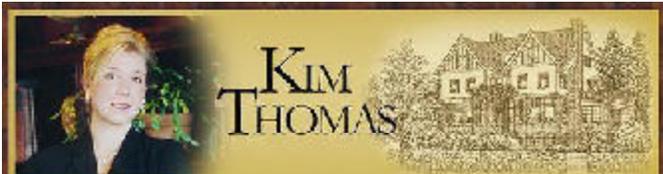
**New Mommy and Me** yoga for mothers and their children to spend time together doing yoga.

**New YMCA** and the Lance Armstrong Foundation join forces. MMEM is pleased to announce its partnership with Lance Armstrong Foundation to provide programs and services specifically to meet the needs of cancer survivors. If you are a cancer survivor and would like to assist us in designing these programs as a YMCA member let us know your needs.

**New life fitness circuit equipment** has arrived! It's one-size-fits-all circuit series with adjustable resistance controls. The circuit series consists of twelve different pieces of equipment such as shoulder press, chest press, leg curl, standing row, lat pulldown, and push button controls. If you would like to learn more about the new equipment, stop by the membership services desk to make an appointment with one of our personal trainers.

**New swimming lessons** mail-in registration now available online. Just visit the programs page of the web site and click on swimming lessons and then Mail-In Registration Form. A file will download for you to print off and send in for your swimming lessons registration. Mail-In registration begins one session prior to the session you are requesting and closes two weeks prior to the first day of the session you are requesting.

**Mutt Match-up Answers:** Brian & Peter, Wallace & Gromit, Mr. Peabody & Sherman



There is a difference between agents who simply sell real estate, and those who commit to doing whatever it takes to serve you beyond your expectations. I have been selling real estate in the Madrona area for over 13 years and I take pride in knowing that my clients received unparalleled attention in all aspects of the buying or selling process. If you would like a free market analysis of your home, or if you would like to discuss your goals as a Buyer, please email me from my website, or call 206.601.4969.

**Kim Thomas**  
[www.ThomasHomeGuide.com](http://www.ThomasHomeGuide.com)  
Windermere Real Estate/Northwest, Inc.  
206.601.4969

Windermere

# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**Weekly Recurring Events:**

- 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 30<sup>th</sup> Ave S. Scott Linford 726 49263.
- THURSDAYS 10:30-11:00am Preschool Story Times**—Presented by Seattle Public Library at Amara Parenting & Adoption Services, 3300 E. Union. No Story Time in May or June.
- 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.
- FRIDAYS 7:30am Madrona/Leschi Citizens Again the War**—Quiet demonstration, 23<sup>rd</sup> & Union, Kathy Baker [kbarker715@comcast.net](mailto:kbarker715@comcast.net).

\*\*\*\*\*

- Apr 20 Paint a Dish for Mom**—Kids are invited to create a special Mother's Day gift. Reservation required; \$25 per piece. Precocious Toys, 34<sup>th</sup> & Cherry. [www.precocioustoys.com](http://www.precocioustoys.com) or 322-9396.
- Apr 24 Valley School Eco Fair**—Celebrate Earth Day by learning how we can lessen our impact on the planet and give back to it. Valley School, 309 31st Avenue E Cindy Monte 328-4475
- Apr 25 6:30-8:30pm East Precinct Crime Prevention Committee**—Dialog between the community and the Seattle Police Department. Seattle Vocational Institute 2120 S. Jackson. [www.sngi.org/lepcc/](http://www.sngi.org/lepcc/)
- Apr 26 9:00am-4:00pm Protecting Historic Sites Workshop**—Presented by Historic Seattle; reservations required. Good Shepherd Center, Wallingford. Tickets and info at 622-6952 or [www.historicseattle.org](http://www.historicseattle.org).
- Apr 27 Paint a Dish for Mom**—Kids are invited to create a special Mother's Day gift. Reservation required; \$25 per piece. Precocious Toys, 34<sup>th</sup> & Cherry. [www.precocioustoys.com](http://www.precocioustoys.com) or 322-9396.
- May 1 5:00pm Family Game Night**—Bring the whole family for games, snacks, prizes, and fun. Precocious Toys, 34<sup>th</sup> & Union, 322-9396.
- May 1 6:00pm Central Area Neighborhood Plan Stewardship**—Be part of the process to review and update the Central Area Plan, which includes Madrona. Garfield Community Center, 23<sup>rd</sup> & Cherry. Adrienne Bailey [kismit\\_2000@yahoo.com](mailto:kismit_2000@yahoo.com).
- May 2 5:00-10:00pm Madrona Community Garage Sale Set Up**—Bring donations to the Madrona K-8 gym, Kim Herber 325-9923 or [kdb5027@aol.com](mailto:kdb5027@aol.com).
- May 3 8:00am-4:00pm Madrona Community Garage Sale**—A fundraiser for the Madrona Community Council. Madrona K-8 gym, Kim Herber 325-9923 or [kdb5027@aol.com](mailto:kdb5027@aol.com).
- May 3 1:00-5:00pm Homeless Cooking**—Bring a cutting board and fresh ingredients. Madrona Presbyterian Church, Darren Pritt [darren@neighborhoodcooking.org](mailto:darren@neighborhoodcooking.org).
- May 6 7:15pm Madrona Community Council Meeting**—Madrona Playfield shelterhouse, Rick Kolpa 949-5681.
- May 8 6:00pm Central Area Neighborhood District Council**—Help provide leadership and coordination of community communications, activities and projects to promote the well being of every neighborhood in the Central Area. Garfield Community Center, 23<sup>rd</sup> & Cherry. Adrienne Bailey [kismit\\_2000@yahoo.com](mailto:kismit_2000@yahoo.com).
- May 8 6:30pm Madrona Dining & Sipping Society**—Location TBD. Contact Audrey Seale, [audreyseale@quest.net](mailto:audreyseale@quest.net)
- May 10 9:00am Madrona Spring Cleanup**—Bring your gloves and join your neighbors to help clean up our commercial area. Meet at Madrona Playfield shelterhouse. Tema Nesoff [tnesoff@comcast.net](mailto:tnesoff@comcast.net).
- May 10 10:00am-2:00pm Homeless Cooking**—Bring a cutting board and fresh ingredients. Madrona Presbyterian Church, Darren Pritt [darren@neighborhoodcooking.org](mailto:darren@neighborhoodcooking.org).
- May 10 12:00pm Madrona-Sally Goldmark Library Reopening**—Celebration with dignitaries and snacks—everyone welcome! The library will stay open until 6:00pm. Seattle Public Library, Andra Addison 386-4103.
- May 11 Closing: Works on Paper by Pat De Caro**—Featured in the upstairs space at Francine Seders Gallery, 6701 Greenwood Avenue North [www.sedersgallery.com](http://www.sedersgallery.com).
- May 16 3:00-7:00pm Madrona-Madison Farmers Market Opening Day**—Fresh veggies, bread, and other goodies! Grocery Outlet parking lot, MLK & Union, [www.fremontmarket.com/madrona/](http://www.fremontmarket.com/madrona/)
- May 17 9:00am-1:00pm Madrona Woods Work Party**— Meet at the Spring Street kiosk. Deirdre McCrary [deirdre\\_jaymccrary@msn.com](mailto:deirdre_jaymccrary@msn.com) or [www.madronawoods.org](http://www.madronawoods.org).
- May 17 10:00am-2:00pm Central Area Community Safety Forum**—Learn about Block Watches and home safety. Garfield Community Center, 23<sup>rd</sup> & Cherry. Adrienne Bailey [kismit\\_2000@yahoo.com](mailto:kismit_2000@yahoo.com).
- May 21 9:00am-1:00pm Homeless Cooking**—Bring a cutting board and fresh ingredients. St. Clouds Restaurant, Darren Pritt [darren@neighborhoodcooking.org](mailto:darren@neighborhoodcooking.org).
- May 23 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](mailto:mary.bass@seattleschools.org).

April						
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# MADRONA NEWS

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**May 9, 2008 Next MADRONA NEWS DEADLINE**

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

**Advertising:** Contact Reshenna Andrews at 219-1467 or [reshennaa@conversation.com](mailto:reshennaa@conversation.com). Rates are on-line at [www.madrona.us](http://www.madrona.us).

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

### Madrona Community Council Officers

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

Send tax-deductible donations to: 833 33rd Avenue, 98122

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