

The Valley View

APRIL 1995

Published by the Greater Madison Valley Community Council

Free Family Workshop

10 Evening Sessions, Starts April 19

by Damaris Pearson

A free ten-session evening workshop -- Strengthening Multi-Ethnic Families and Communities -- for parents with children ages 3 to 18, starts April 26, 1995 -- and runs through June 28. (Attendance at an orientation on April 19 is suggested but not required of workshop participants.) Each session will be held on a Wednesday evening, from 6:00 to 8:00 PM, at the King School Portable building in the playground at 32nd Ave. E. and E. Republican St. A light meal and child care will be provided.

DO YOU WANT:

- Children who are drug free, non-violent, responsive and responsible
- Positive relationships with your children
- To strengthen family and cultural values
- To reduce community violence?

If you answered "YES" to one or more of these questions, this workshop is for YOU! Register by calling D. Pearson at 725-6558 (evenings) Space is limited to 20 parents.

PARENTS CAN STOP VIOLENCE

A Sad Goodbye to an Old Friend

by Peter Triandafilou

March 16th was a sad day indeed for our community, because an important, historic building in our area -- the Washington Park Baptist Church structure located at 624 Lake Washington Blvd. E., was felled by a developer's wrecking ball.

The church was constructed in 1906, and was apparently the only religious building ever built in the greater Madison Park/Washington Park area. One of the church's founding members was Dexter Horton's daughter. The last wedding held at the church was of Chief Seattle's great-great-great great granddaughter. In 1961, Rev. Henry Hall was appointed pastor of the church, becoming one of the first African-American ministers in the Seattle area as well as in the nation to serve an inter-racial congregation. Though modest in size and design, the building was placed on the city's Inventory of Historic Architecture in 1979.

Various neighbors and the GMVCC made valiant efforts to save the church structure, and to oppose the developer John Eng's plan to construct six townhouse homes on the site. Letters and petitions were submitted as part of the public comment process. Furthermore, the Council's ABC Protection Committee filed an application to have the church designated as a City historic landmark.

The lessons learned from the series of events leading to the demolition were harsher yet. We discovered that City building rules and landmark

continued on next page

Next GMVCC General Meeting - May 16, 7:30 PM

EXECUTIVE BOARD meets 6:30 PM • ALL WELCOME

Meetings held 3rd Tuesday of month, at King School Portable, 32 Ave. E and E. Republican St

**Third Annual
PROGRESSIVE DINNER and
Silent Auction a Great Success**

**Benefits Before & After School Program
Scholarship Fund**

MADISON VALLEY FAMILY PROGRAMS

at **M.L. King Jr. School**
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Before & After School Program

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328-0058

volunteers welcome!

106 people gathered for a fabulous affair of fine dining and entertainment Sunday evening, April 2nd. They savored the delicious gourmet meal donated by six eateries in our community's E. Madison business district - **Rover's, Cafe Flora, Five Loaves Deli & Bakery, The New York Deli, Fran's Chocolates and Exquisite Desserts.** After dinner, all gathered at the Bailey-Boushay House for cake and coffee while enjoying the wonderful performances of musicians Ester LittleDove John and Bob Bruneau. They also concluded their bidding on the thirty-seven items and services donated to the silent auction by the following local businesses:

A to Z, A Children's
& Maternity Boutique
All The Best Pet Care
Another Child's Journey
City People's Garden Store
Domi Teriyaki
Ewajo Dance Centre
Gorilla Graphics
Hat & the Heart
In Bloom

Istina
Kate's on Madison
Jeff Laper,
Home Design Consultant
Madison Valley Optical
The Magic Fishbone
Maxi Nails
Museum Quality
Custom Framing

Pipeline Productions
(Northern Exposure)
Rent-A-Yenta
The Ringworks Studio
Room With A View
Sound Mind & Body Gym
Tatonka Traders
Peter A. Triandafilou,
Attorney at Law
Veritables

Over \$4,000 was collected from dinner ticket sales and contributions, and over \$1,400 was raised in the auction --making this year's event the most successful yet. All proceeds go to the scholarship fund of the Before & After School Program of GMVCC's Madison Valley Family Programs. Special kudos to Lee Desta and David Foecke for organizing the dinner and to Peter Triandafilou for organizing the silent auction.

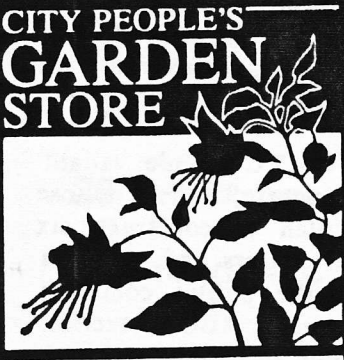
A Sad Goodbye

continued from front page

preservation laws are woefully inadequate to protect the public interest and afford community members a meaningful role in the property development process. We were also sorely reminded that our public servants may on occasion fail the citizens they are to serve, by not disclosing information promptly, by giving incorrect information, or otherwise acting in a manner which is insufficiently responsive and sensitive to our needs. We also regret that Mr. Eng made no effort to involve HIS new community in his development plans, and continues to snub us by leaving the demolition debris in an unsightly heap of gnawed lumber. To be neighborly, neighbors must be willing to work as part of a positive process of cooperation.

The Wall that Shouldn't, Couldn't

Mr. and Mrs. Keith McCaw, owners of residential property directly north of Howell (Children's) Park (off of Lake Washington Blvd. E.) applied for a variance to build a ten foot tall concrete wall (in excess of the six foot legal limit) along the park's boundary line. GMVCC (pursuant to a vote taken at the March 21 general meeting) joined with neighbors and the Parks Dept. in registering opposition to the proposed wall, based on anticipated adverse effects to vegetation, park ambiance and shoreline views. On April 12 GMVCC members and others met with the McCaws to discuss the matter. On April 13, DCLU officially denied the variance request. The owners are likely to appeal. GMVCC has an opportunity to participate as an intervenor. Please call Peter at 720-0488 for details, updates and suggestions.



**CITY PEOPLE'S
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2939 East Madison
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324-0737

A Thank You and a Plea for Help

NEWSLETTER EDITOR(S) NEEDED

by the GMVCC Board

The Board wishes to express its great thanks and appreciation to Zé daLuz, who has ended her tenure as Council Newsletter Editor. Zé dedicated her considerable talents to produce an informative, interesting and high quality publication. Her work on the newsletter will be very much missed.

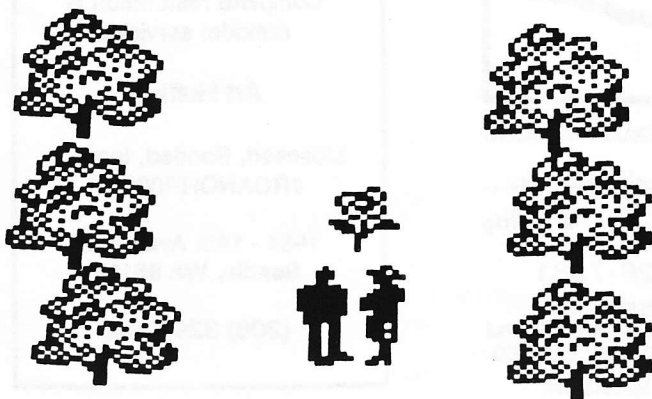
The Board is seeking one or more volunteers with some PC word-processing skills who are willing to write/edit articles and do the layout work for the newsletter, issued every two months. Please call Jerry at 325-6308 for more info.

Potluck Celebration April 28, 6:30 PM

In celebration of the City's purchase of the 3001 E. Madison land as open space, an outdoor potluck party will be held at the site, at the bottom of 30th Ave. E. and E. Mercer St., on FRIDAY, April 28, 6:30-8:00 PM. EVERYONE IS INVITED. Come join City Council member Sue Donaldson, Metro Council member Larry Gossett, and Parks Dept. staff to dedicate the new greenbelt.

Please bring a salad or casserole, Pop, coffee and a special cake will be provided. In case of rain, the potluck will be held at the MLK School Portable at the playground, 32nd Ave. E. and E. Republican St.

Let's share this wonderful good fortune!!



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CONSIGNMENT

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I pledge to support the Greater Madison Valley Community Council and its programs by:

- Making a contribution of \$ _____
- Volunteering for (please check):
 - Phonathon
 - Harrison Ridge Project
 - Electronic Village Project
 - Madison Valley Family Program
 - Other: _____

I am most interested in: _____

My skills are: _____

Name _____

Address _____

Phone(s) _____

Please tear out completed form and send to
Greater Madison Valley Community Council,
Box 164, 2802 E. Madison, Seattle, WA 98112

Logging onto the Information Superhighway from Our Community

by Sarah Ford

With the recent surge of interest in the Internet and interactive communications tools, everyone is looking for way to get "connected" to the information superhighway. In the Madison Valley area, we're working to provide such access by creating our own "Electronic Village" for students, teacher, business owners and neighbors.

Both the Martin Luther King Elementary School and the Bush School have a wealth of computer resources which they are excited about sharing with the community. Through a joint effort of the King School's Site Council, the PTSA and the Greater Madison Valley Community Council, a grant was obtained from the Seattle Department of Neighborhoods which provides for the hiring of a temporary project coordinator to help us build our electronic village.

By the beginning of the summer, we aim to offer access to computers and free training classes for all members of the community. The classes will provide information on computer basics, training on specific software applications and guidance on navigating the Internet. The project also aims to train community youth to maintain and operate our electronic village. Once trained, they will be able to assist other community members in increasing their familiarity with computers and computer technologies.

Finally, we hope to create a neighborhood electronic bulletin board -- to enhance communications within the neighborhood, as well as offer information about our community to other parts of the city and the Puget Sound region.

If you are interested in learning more or would like to get involved in the Electronic Village, please contact Sarah Ford at 329-1445 or via e-mail at saford@aol.com.



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City Buys Land at 3001 E. Madison -- Our Community's New Greenbelt

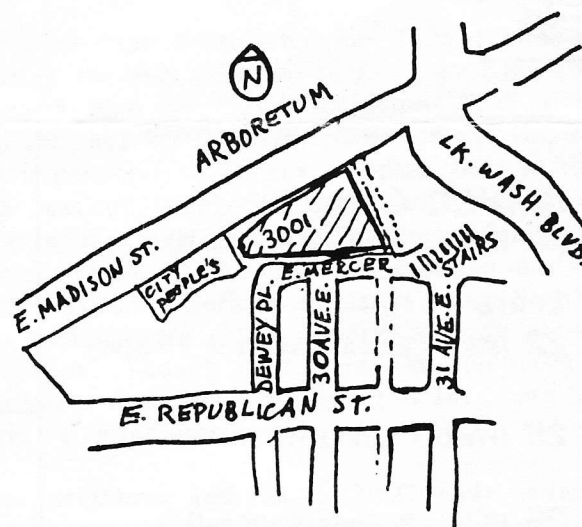
by J. Sussman

Six years of uncertainty are over. The steep wooded slope east of City People's Garden Store, on E. Madison opposite the Washington Park playing field (see map below), will be preserved as open space. The owner, Robert Regan, had planned a 30-unit apartment building there. Many neighbors opposed such a massive structure (six stories on its south side and 130 feet wide) facing their single family homes. Suzanne Wilson, Doris Magnusohn and Dee Alexander led the protest and were joined by our Council as a whole. We appealed the issuance of a permit and urged that a smaller building would be appropriate, or better still, that the City of Seattle should buy the property.

Time and economics somehow worked against the project. Mr. Regan never validated his permit, and ultimately he offered his property to the City. The Parks Department's Open Space Program listed the 3001 E. Madison property as a desirable acquisition site three years ago, but not until March of this year could they come to an agreement with the property owner. The location qualifies as desirable because its trees are a link in the greenway formed by the Arboretum, Lake Washington Boulevard East and the Harrison Ridge Greenbelt.

As the City's supply of building lots shrinks, communities often find themselves fighting developers over the last remaining woods in a neighborhood. The trees are a shelter for birds and a necessary natural feature in many streets. The greenbelts exist only because the sites had drainage problems or landslides and were dangerous or unprofitable to build on. People in our area welcome renovation of abandoned or deteriorated houses, but have strongly opposed building in greenbelts. Our experience is that houses proposed for those "difficult" wooded sites are in the quarter million to half-million dollar range. Lower cost housing does not happen that way. We would rather have the trees.

See article on facing page about April 28 dedication and potluck celebration of the greenbelt acquisition.



THE MAGIC



FISHBONE

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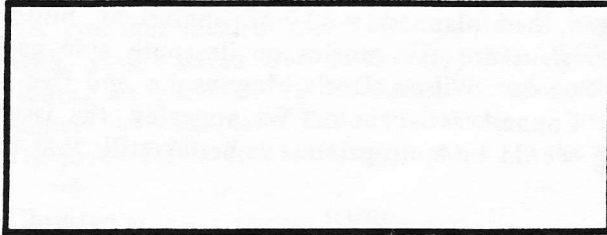
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Seattle, WA 98112
Phone 328-0058

1994 Officers:
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Secretary
Coline Grenier
Treasurer
Peter Trindathou

General Meetings are held the
3rd Tuesday of each month at
7:30pm.

Send letters, articles, notices,
recipes, artwork and poetry to
Editor at the above address.

Seattle Community Council Federation
2511 W. Montlake Place East
Seattle, WA 98112



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GMVCC Calendar

(see articles inside for details)

APRIL

22 (Sat) - Earth Day Tree Planting

26 (Wed) - Family Workshop

28 (Fri) - Potluck Celebration

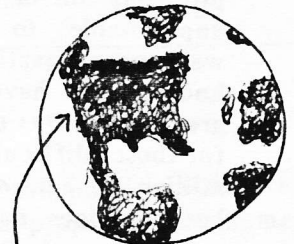
MAY 16 - GMVCC General Meeting

It's Official

The name of our organization was officially changed, from **Harrison-Denny Community Council**, to **GREATER MADISON VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL** -- pursuant to a filing with the Washington Secretary of State on March 9, 1995. Hurray!

Celebrate Earth Day April 22, 1995

Give it a hug!



You are here.

WE WANT YOU for Earth Day Tree Planting Sat. April 22, 10:30 AM

Lots of community volunteers are coming for the last big event in the Harrison Ridge greenbelt restoration project this spring. You are welcome to join in this special Earth Day activity, to spread mulch and plant bushes. Refreshments will be served. Meet us at 33rd St. and E. Denny Way:

