



# THE VALLEY VIEW

Newsletter of the Greater Madison Valley Community Council

Issue 146

madisonvalley.org

May 2007

## Around the Valley

### Come to the Madison Valley Art Walk!

by Theresa Harris



Madison Valley will join Seattle's vibrant visual arts scene again as the Madison Valley Merchant's Association teams up with local artists for the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Art Walk and Sale on Saturday May 19<sup>th</sup>, 12:00 to 5:00 p.m.

The art walk supports our established community artists as well as new talent. A diverse array of art will be showcased, including paintings, ceramics, glass, jewelry, collage, photography and sculpture. Balloons will be placed outside each participating business, where guests can enjoy refreshments, peruse the art, and meet the artist.

This year's event will be unique since many of the emerging artists are under the age of twelve. Students of Thrive Art School (2900 E Madison St.), will be showing their work, which will be professionally matted and displayed along with other local artists' works.



Local artists' work will be for sale and five percent of the proceeds will go toward Thrive Art School's scholarship fund. This is a valuable opportunity for children to feel like a part of the community and to receive recognition for their work.

**On Saturday May 19<sup>th</sup>, from 12 to 5pm, be sure to take a stroll down Madison and celebrate our local talent!**

### Open House for Arboretum Master Plan

by Ann McCurdy

Do you wish the Arboretum had bicycles trails, improved lighting, more parking, or just more beautiful plants? In May 2001, the Seattle City Council approved the long-range master plan for the Washington Park Arboretum that will serve as a road map for improvements at the Arboretum for the next 20 years. Seattle Parks & Recreation, the University of Washington and the Arboretum Foundation developed the plan over the last seven years. Seattle Parks & Recreation and the University of Washington are scheduling an Open House to discuss the current status of the master plan and would like to invite all the surrounding community organizations to attend.

The meeting will be 6:30 - 8:00 p.m., Wednesday, May 30<sup>th</sup> at the **Graham Visitors Center in the Arboretum.**

### Miller Greens Update

by John Potter

On February 7, concerned Madison Valley residents attended an Early Design Guidance Meeting for the proposed Miller Greens project on 24<sup>th</sup> Ave. East. The developer is requesting a rezone of the site from 4 single family residences to 11 condominium units. The results of this meeting have now been distributed by the Department of Planning and Development (DPD), which identified three significant areas of concern with the Miller Greens proposal:

- The current design is centripetal and turns away from the sidewalk, street and its neighbors;
- The current design needs improvement in order to provide for a continuity of urban form, including landscaping patterns along both streets; and
- The proposal of a community room, not generally favored by the public input, is probably not a good fit for the project.

A number of specific design changes were requested and a second Early Design Guidance meeting will be held Wednesday, May 2 at 8:00 p.m. at Seattle Central Community College, 1701 Broadway, Room 3211. Design changes presented then will need to "Demonstrate a significant response to the Guidelines cited."

To follow this development project, contact Michael Dorcy of DPD, (206) 615-1393, and reference DPD Project No. 3004806.

### Events Calendar

**Wednesday, May 2:** Early Design Guidance Meeting for Miller Greens Condominium Project. 8:00 p.m. at Seattle Central Community College (1701 Broadway) Room 3211. See article, above.

**Wednesday, May 9:** Madison Valley Merchants Association Meetings are the second Wednesday of each month at 8:30 a.m. at Cafe Flora. All are welcome to attend.

**Wednesday, May 16:** Greater Madison Valley Community Council Meetings are the third Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the Bush School Community Room (entrance on E. Harrison St. and 34<sup>th</sup> Ave. E.) All are welcome to attend.

**Saturday, May 19:** Madrona Mayfair. 10:00 a.m. -1:00 p.m. All-neighborhood parade down 34<sup>th</sup> Avenue from Al Larkins Park (34<sup>th</sup> & Pike) to the Madrona Playfield. Everyone will gather in Al Larkins Park at 10:00 where crepe paper will be available to decorate bikes, trikes and strollers. Deano the Clown will be there, along with lots of games, a bouncy house, face painting, and a great bake sale!!! Join the fun!

**Sat, May 19<sup>th</sup> :** Fifth Annual Madison Valley Art Walk, Noon-5:00pm on East Madison Street. See article, this page.

**Thursday, May 24:** The East Precinct Crime Prevention Coalition (EPCPC) and Seattle Neighborhood Group Meetings are the fourth Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at 2120 S. Jackson St., Second floor, Room 212. All are welcome to attend, and this meeting is the best way for all groups to get their issue on the front burner of the East Precinct.

**Wednesday, May 30:** The Washington Park Arboretum Open House 6:30-8:00 p.m., at the Graham Visitors Center at the Arboretum. See article, this page.

GMVCC ID Statement

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Theresa Harris, Janelle Graves, Ann Hirschi, Wallis Bolz, Jennifer Karkar Ritchie, John Potter, *contributing staff*

**GMVCC Contact Information**

**Council Affairs:** Tom Scearce, President

president@madisonvalley.org · 971-5123 (daytime)

*Council business, agenda requests, inquiries, concerns*

**Valley View :** Ann McCurdy, editor

editor@madisonvalley.org · 568-7372

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**December 2006 Flood News**

**Kate Fleming Memorial Fund Over \$15,000**

by Janelle Graves

Charlene Strong thanks everyone who donated to the Kate Fleming Fund. The fund, started after the tragic death of Charlene's partner, Kate Fleming, during the December 14, 2006 flooding, has raised over \$15,000 to date.

Currently, Charlene is living in an apartment and the fund has been invaluable in allowing her to make rent payments AND continue to pay her house mortgage. The financial burden remains large, but she is managing in part due to the fund.

You may not know that Charlene was instrumental in the recently passed domestic partnership legislation. She testified before the Senate Government Operations and Elections Committee in Olympia and shared the story of how she was denied access to her dying partner's hospital bedside because they were not married. Many of the rights Charlene was denied at the time of Kate's death will no longer be denied to other couples thanks in great part to Charlene's dedication to the cause.

If you would like to donate to the Kate Fleming Memorial Fund you may do so at any Washington Mutual branch. The account number is 3061486459. Wire transfers may be made using the routing number 325070760. You may also donate to the fund via mail at:

The Kate Fleming Memorial Fund  
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**Flood Relief: City and SPU Ready to Move on Claims**

by Wallis Bolz

Four months and five days after the Dec. 14, 2006 flood that killed Madison Valley resident Kate Fleming, City Hall marched into the Valley to announce that flood relief had come. Deputy Mayor Tim Ceis presided at an April 19 meeting with the Madison Valley community to present both the results of an investigation of the Dec. 14, 2006 flood at 30<sup>th</sup> & East Mercer Street and a significant new effort on the part of Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) to expedite claims processing.

Both Ceis and Chuck Clarke, Director of Seattle Public Utilities, expressed dissatisfaction with the torpid pace of claims processing. (Keep in mind that SPU is paying the claims.) To expedite claims processing in the Risk Management division of Executive Administration, Seattle Public Utilities has installed two community advocates: LaTosha Taylor, 684-5869, and Jim Otte, 684-0153. Call them if you are unable to get your claim paid.

Deputy Mayor Ceis said the city is ready to address the issue of diminution of value (of property) and general damages. Fred Podesta, Director of Executive Administration, said that the City of Seattle will permit property owners who have already settled claims against the city in connection with the Dec. 14, 2006 flood to file again on the issue of diminution of value and general damages.

In a bold refutation of the city's long-standing policy regarding

⇒ Please see **Flood** on page 7

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## Minutes of the GMVCC for April 18

President Tom Scarce called the meeting to order at 7:30.

**Treasurer's Report:** Jennifer Janzen reported that advertisement revenue has boosted the bottom line to nearly \$15,000.00.

**Green Footprints Project:** John Potter reported that the group's purpose is to construct a long-term plan for trails, trees, and plantings from 23<sup>rd</sup> Ave. E. to the Arboretum. To date, the project has commitments from 115 volunteers totaling 2,500 volunteer hours worth \$50,000.00. The group has requested Matching Federal Funds of \$40,000.00 to continue the project.

**Central Area Neighborhood Plan and the City Comp Plan:** Adrienne Bailey explained that the City of Seattle has 38 Neighborhood Plans. The plans, completed in 1999, identify actions recommended by these neighborhoods to ensure that they will continue to thrive and improve as Seattle grows over the next 20 years. The Central Area Plan, which includes much of Madison Valley, is 10 years old and needs updating. The City needs volunteers to update these. Volunteers can choose a particular category of interest. A list of the neighborhood plans is available at <http://www.seattle.gov/neighborhoods/np/plans.htm>

**First AME Head Start:** Andy Goulding proposed that the GMVCC submit a letter to the School Board that would allow non-profit groups (such as the First AME Program) to rent or buy the MLK School, which now lies vacant. (First AME Head Start is an agency which provides free Head Start/ECEAP education and social services to low income children and families in Capitol Hill, the Central Area, Rainier Valley, and North Beacon Hill communities.) The idea is to occupy the empty space and communicate the neighborhood's desire to maintain MLK school as an active and useful community space and for the School Board to review all options before selling the property to a developer.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.



## It's a Boy!

Lindsay Felcyn Zaccara, Glenn Zaccara, and their son, Casey, welcomed Dodge Christopher Zaccara, 7 lbs. 13 oz., to their family on March 29. (Ann McCurdy has taken over Lindsay's editorial duties at the Valley View for the time being.) Congratulations to the Zaccaras!



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## Some of Our Neighbors

### Our Neighborhood Heroes at Station 34

by Janelle Graves



Madison Valley is the home to Fire Station 34 (633 32nd Ave. E) and the sixteen men and women who serve our community. Working in shifts of four, our neighborhood firefighters are on call to assist us in our time of need. Supporting our community also includes some fun events, such as when the station brought their engine to the Madison Valley Potluck BBQ last summer. The firefighters want us to know that anyone is welcome to stop by for a tour of the station between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. You may even have your blood pressure checked! Daycare and school groups can call headquarters at 386-1400 to schedule a tour.

According to Station 34, the best way to show our appreciation for the firefighters working in our neighborhood is to help them do their job as quickly and safely as possible. A few minor adjustments on our part can make a major impact on the people we rely upon to keep us safe.

- *Be sure that your address is marked clearly and is visible—day and night—from the street.* This simple fix can ensure more immediate response times.
- *Park as close to the curb as possible – especially in narrower streets.* Emergency vehicles have to navigate our narrow roadways. Pull your street-side side view mirrors in to avoid damage to both your car and emergency vehicles.
- *Always pull to the right when emergency vehicles are responding.* By law, you must yield the right-of-way to emergency vehicles using a siren, air horn, or a red or blue flashing light. Pull over as far to the right as possible, and stop when you see or hear an emergency vehicle approaching from any direction. If you are in an intersection, drive through the intersection (without speeding up) before you pull over.
- *Trim your hedges three feet around fire hydrants so that they are accessible to firefighters.* Property owners are responsible for maintaining vegetation around fire hydrants on their property. Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) receives numerous complaints concerning overgrown vegetation near fire hydrants. When we do not take care of the hydrants in our neighborhood, SPU has

to use their resources to take care of them.

- *Keep all house alarms up to date.* Firefighters spend a lot of time responding to false alarms. If you have a faulty alarm that needs updating, please complete the update. Do not simply disconnect your alarm.
- *Check smoke alarm batteries twice a year.* If you have not done so already, do it now. A good idea is to replace batteries twice a year when the time changes.
- *Be sure that your family has devised an emergency escape plan – including two possible exit routes.* Practice fire drills with your entire family so that there is no confusion during an emergency. Be sure to designate a place to meet in case of an emergency.
- *Have the appropriate fire extinguishers throughout your home, and know how to use them.*
- *Take CPR classes.* Simply stated by one of our firefighters, take CPR, and “save a neighbor.”
- *Be sure that your kids always wear helmets when riding bikes, skateboards, skates and scooters.* To help your children understand the importance of helmet safety, the Seattle Fire Department created a fun lesson plan which may be found at: [seattle.gov/fire/pubEd/preschool/newsletter/SmartKids\\_SafeKids\\_Spring2006.pdf](http://seattle.gov/fire/pubEd/preschool/newsletter/SmartKids_SafeKids_Spring2006.pdf).

Fire safety education kits are also available for free loan from the Seattle Fire Department Education Office by calling 206.386.1338.

**Interested in saying “Thanks” to our firefighters?** There are two small garden plots in front of the Fire Station that need some maintenance and tender loving care. Are there any neighborhood gardeners who would like to take on this project? Contact Janelle Graves at [tjsgraves@comcast.net](mailto:tjsgraves@comcast.net).

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## Valley Recipes

The Valley View is alternating publishing recipes from the August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2006 Potluck Barbeque winners with recipes from some of our merchants. This recipe is a favorite from Café Flora.

### Yam Corn Chowder

Makes 7 cups

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 yellow onion, diced
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 4 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 ribs celery, diced
- 2 teaspoons dried oregano
- 1 teaspoon cumin seeds, toasted and ground
- 1 large yam, peeled and cut into ½ inch dice (about 2 cups)
- 1 bay leaf
- 1 poblano chile, roasted and chopped (or chipotle or red bell pepper)
- 1 10-ounce package frozen corn, thawed
- 4 cups vegetable stock
- 1 cup half-and-half or milk
- 1 teaspoon Tabasco sauce
- Salt and freshly ground pepper for seasoning

Heat the oil in a heavy-bottomed soup pot over medium heat. Add the onion and ½ teaspoon salt, and sauté until the onion is soft and translucent, about 10 minutes, stirring often. Add the garlic, and cook for 1 minute more.

Add the celery, oregano, and cumin, and sauté for 2 minutes. Add the diced yam, bay leaf, chile, corn, and vegetable stock. Bring to a boil, lower the heat, and simmer, covered, for 10 minutes.

Remove 2 cups of the soup from the pot, puree it in a blender, and return it to the soup pot.

Add the half-and-half, and simmer gently for 5 minutes. Do not boil, or you will curdle the soup. Add the Tabasco sauce, and season with salt and pepper.

From *Café Flora Cookbook*, ©2005 Catherine Geier and Carol Brown

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## Valley Gems

### Color Me Summer

by Jennifer Karkar Ritchie

Whether it's for a special event, a sunny vacation, or just to brighten up winter skin, many people want to be tan. Years ago, we would head to the beach or a tanning bed, but current information on the dangers of UV rays has taught us to take shelter instead and slather on the sunscreen.

Still, for many yearning for glowing skin, one local source for that glow is neatly tucked away right here in Madison Valley. Located at 2900 E. Madison St., with its physical entry on E. Ward St., **Miss Madison's** offers customers an opportunity to get the look of sun-kissed skin with a fast, safe spray tan.

Owner Kari Aggerholm opened Miss Madison's in July, 2004. Her entrepreneurial spirit and business savvy, combined with her love for the Madison Valley community, inspired her to create a boutique that uses plant-based solutions to give people a golden glow.

For \$25, customers get to step into the "Magic Tan" spray booth and, within seconds, walk out with a new bronze color. The tan only lasts one week, but new Miss Madison's customers can take advantage of a one-time special of two treatments for \$30. She also offers a discounted rate for students.

Miss Madison's stocks an array of products as well, including swimsuits, cosmetics, skincare products, self-tanning solutions, and jewelry. And the boutique recently introduced the addition of spa services such as facials, waxing, and body treatments. Time to shed that winter coat and pasty complexion!

See you next month with another great find.

### My Spray Tan

by Janelle Graves

Have you ever seen the episode of *Friends* where Ross over-bleaches his teeth and they seem to glow in the dark? After having a spray-on tan at Miss Madison's, I felt a bit like Ross. But I LOVED it! Prior to a recent trip to Maui, I visited Miss Madison's for my third time. I decided to move up a level for a darker tan - which explains my very white teeth. Before this amazing transformation, I had forgotten that my skin does not necessarily have to match the whites of my eyes and teeth.

Four quick poses - front, side, back, and other side - is all it takes to go from pasty Seattleite to sun-kissed god or goddess. I couldn't recommend it more highly.

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## Green, *continued from page 8*

**Phase 3: Neighborhood Planning and Design** —The maps are source material for our neighborhood ecology plan. Landscape architect Peggy Gaynor and artist Buster Simpson will work with us using their expertise to help identify opportunities for siting natural drainage features, appropriate places to plant our future Heritage Trees and placing public art to create environmental awareness and help us bridge gaps in our diverse starting points. We hope for trails that link us and our urban wildlife to the Arboretum and the Madison Valley business district. Through a series of public meetings with neighbors we will generate the **Green Footprints Neighborhood Action Plan** to serve as the basis for future projects.

Neighborhood cohesion is a big issue we intend to address through our efforts. By getting out of our cars and looking closely at streets, planting strips, and trees, and meeting the people in our community, we hope to demonstrate the idea that we are linked together in an ecological whole. If our application is successful, we will begin our project in July and complete it in the Fall of 2008. A base of volunteer support is being mobilized but *we need your help too!*

**Do you want to be a Mapping Volunteer?** The time commitment is 12 hours (Fall 2007 or Spring 2008) which includes two 2-hour training sessions and two 4-hour data gathering sessions. All ages welcome!

**Other help?** 15 to 40 family-friendly hours (from Fall 2007 to Fall 2008) to participate in survey preparation, and designing components of the Neighborhood Action Plan.

To sign up by email, contact our volunteer coordinator, Eileen Maloney. [Eileen.maloney@gmail.net](mailto:Eileen.maloney@gmail.net). To learn more, contact Ann Hirschi, Chair, Green Footprints Action Works, at 323-2731.



**Big Fun for Everyone!**

Our lease is up so we're moving to a brand new bigger space with more toys, games, activities, and books for kids of all ages! Help us lighten our load by coming to our **Big Moving Sale** May 21st through May 27th. And be sure to join us for our **Grand Re-Opening Celebration** Saturday June 2nd and Sunday June 3rd at our new space only one mile West at 1429 12th Ave (in between Pike & Madison)

## Flood, *continued from page 2*

chronic flooding in the Valley—do nothing and pay claims as they appear—SPU Director Clarke said he will spend as much money as it takes to effect a “permanent fix” in the Valley, indicating that he was willing to spend up to \$100 million to resolve flooding issues within the 790-acre Madison Valley watershed.

“We are not going to sit on our hands,” said Clarke. “Coming back to meetings means we are not being effective.”

Clarke said Madison Valley is the highest risk area in the city for flooding and expressed regret regarding the City of Seattle’s legacy of racial and economic discrimination in the Valley. Clarke admitted that the utility had rushed to a fix after the Aug. 22, 2004 flood—both interim and long-term, but in the wake of the Dec. 14, 2006 storm, it was time to “step back, take a deep breath,” and look again at how to address surface water management within the watershed.



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## What's Up on Madison

by Ann McCurdy

After 6 ½ years in the Valley, **Ellentuck Interiors** (2717 E. Madison) will be moving on to larger quarters in Georgetown. Besides being an award-winning interior designer, Karen Ellentuck has been actively involved with the Madison Valley Merchants Association. We will certainly miss her and wish her all the best at her new location at 5030 First Avenue S. In her place will soon be **Sweet Petula**. Opening this June or July, Sweet Petula will offer "simple luxuries for bath, body, and home" with luxurious bedding and loungewear, and their own line of handmade bath and body care. After seven years in Burien, owner Cory Smith has decided to move to Seattle. The Valley will soon smell sweet!

The **Madison Valley—Capitol Hill Farmer's Market** has a new location. Previously located across the street from Mt. Zion Baptist Church, it will now be in the parking lot of the Grocery Outlet store on Martin Luther King Jr. Way and E. Union St. Their grand re-opening on May 4<sup>th</sup> will include blue grass music. The Farmer's Market will be open from 3:00-7:00 p.m. on Fridays throughout the summer. Please support your local farmers!

A **new mixed-use building** is being proposed for 2320 E. Madison. Just north of Philadelphia Fevre Steak & Hoagie Shop, this empty lot previously contained a fire-damaged house. Plans call for a three-story, mixed-use building with four or five apartments, retail space, and parking within the structure. How they'll fit it all in, we don't know. Go to the DPD web site ( [seattle.gov/dpd](http://seattle.gov/dpd) ) and look up project #3006349 for more information.

## Green Footprints

by Ann Hirschi

A proposal to up-zone a large, tree-covered lot near my house generated lots of interesting dialogue about what we want as a neighborhood. Do we have any hope for a "Green Future?"

Some of us located on the east slope of Madison Valley above the Arboretum decided to look for some answers. We submitted an application for a Dept. of Neighborhoods Large Project grant as the Green Footprints Action Works (GFAW).

Our overarching goal is to reduce our ecological footprint while building neighborhood connections both literally and figuratively. Our steep hillside used to be covered with trees. We border the Arboretum and the Madison Valley retail area, but have poor linkages to them. We want to be responsible neighbors. Our current steering committee of six came up with this plan of action after many hours of seeking neighborhood input:

**Phase 1: Resource Evaluation** — Neighborhood volunteers will collect information such as existing tree canopy, invasive species, water seeps, wildlife corridors and public open space. Consultants from Seattle Urban Nature (SUN) and the Seattle Audubon Society (SAS) will help train resident volunteers to identify trees, birds and habitat, and make a record using simple mapping techniques.

**Phase 2: Data Analysis and Resource Map Creation** —With this information, we will generate natural resource maps of our neighborhood. We hope to sponsor an SPU nature-scaping workshop so private property owners can participate with wildlife-friendly gardening.

⇒ Please see *Green* on page 7



## ThomasHomeGuide.com

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've been selling real estate in your area for over 13 years and I take pride in knowing that my clients receive unparalleled attention in all aspects of the buying or selling process. If you would like a FREE market analysis of your home, please call.



**KIM THOMAS**

Windermere  
Madison Park  
206-601-4969  
[kimrthomas@aol.com](mailto:kimrthomas@aol.com)

Windermere  
Windermere Real Estate/Northwest, Inc.

