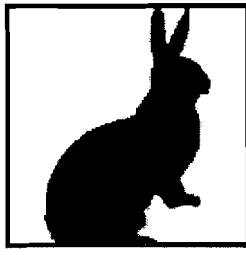


Approved  
J. M. M.



# The Valley View

Newsletter of the Greater Madison Valley Community Council

Issue 111, April 2003

E-mail: [gmvcc@hotmail.com](mailto:gmvcc@hotmail.com)

## Guest View: War

### ...And the War Came

By Jack Irwin

When you receive this paper the American-British assault on Iraq will be intensifying daily. From our valley we see anti-war protesters confronting police downtown and candle-light vigils on street corners. Reports show vast demonstrations around the world against this use of American power. Sober citizens here recoil from the thought of American dead or captured and Iraqi civilians crushed under the attack. Our country is still divided on questions of motive and cause: Are the deadly bio- and chemical weapons really there? Was Saddam truly linked to the September 11 terrorists? Is the Baghdad regime the threat to the U.S. and world order that our leaders claim?

My hope is that the campaign will

be mercifully short, decisive, and with minimal loss of life. Withdrawal or abandonment of the stated goals is no option for the U.S. In psychological and political terms, President Bush has closed all other roads. Our military could claim success if our troops catch Saddam Hussein or uncover the alleged stores of death agents. And we'd have a real triumph if we found Osama bin Laden down there in the same bunker.

Along with images flooding in from the battle scene comes the spin and propaganda of the war leadership. In spite of what the White House says, we do not have support from the world's people and the combined resources of its GNP. We are fighting virtually alone, with lip service from many whose arms we have twisted. We have grievously insulted our friends and fractured the alliances of the past half century. The mark of arrogance may stick to us when this is over.

If I were president I would have taken a different course. Along with the fight against terrorists, I would have devised a broad campaign to bring about a settlement of the Israel-Palestine struggle. I would declare that debacle to be the most serious cause of instability in the Middle East, and a basic element of the lamentable rift between the Muslim world and the West. I would say that the U.S. is prepared to give generous aid to the two suffering peoples and to join with the world in providing a military force to ensure the creation of a two-state neighborhood with security on both sides. Diplomacy and persuasion would be the tools. How the nations would flock to help us! The cost of that difficult enterprise would be trifling compared to the one we have undertaken today. The benefits of its success would be an undoubted wonder for us all.▼▼

## Good Neighbors

### A Source of Pride: Bailey-Boushay House

By Cathy Nunneley

Bailey-Boushay House is a unique gem. Our neighborhood is host to America's first skilled nursing facility dedicated to the care of people with HIV disease. Even today, more than 10 years after its founding, it is the only facility of its kind in the Northwest. Bailey-Boushay offers both Adult Day Health and Residential Health programs.

The Day Health program works in tandem with other HIV organizations in the city in order to promote independent living for its clients. Nutritious meals and snacks are provided throughout days of structured activities, quiet time opportunities, and clinical services provided by a team of dedicated professionals. One of the primary objectives of the day program is to ensure that clients receive the medication necessary to keep their disease in check. The staff coordinates medication refills and helps clients organize them into daily dose boxes. Proper attention to the complicated medication regimen is crucial to the clients' welfare.

(Continued on page 2)

### Please support our advertisers!

This month's advertisers include Café Flora, Leschi Mart, Madison Park Tree, Rover's, and Santosha Yoga.

For information on advertising in the Valley View, please call Cathy at 329-4083 or email her at [cjnunneley@yahoo.com](mailto:cjnunneley@yahoo.com).

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## Bailey-Boushay, continued

The Residential Program offers both recuperative care for acute illnesses and end of life care. Currently, about 50% of the residents have HIV disease with the other half experiencing a variety of other illnesses. The residence includes home-like private rooms, inviting dining and living rooms, a colorful greenhouse, and sun-washed solariums. Families and friends find visiting their loved ones a pleasure in this pleasant atmosphere. The vibrancy of Madison Street provides welcome diversions.

The future appears healthy for Bailey-Boushay. It has

recently contracted with Group Health to provide residential hospice care. This addition will narrow the types of "other" illnesses admitted to the facility, allowing Bailey-Boushay to maintain a sharp focus on AIDS.

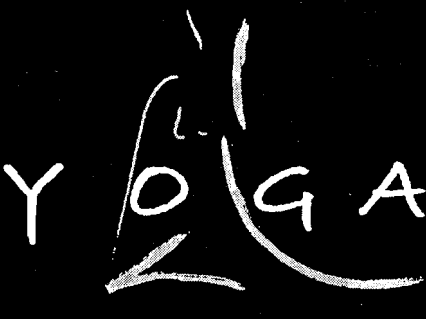
Our supportive community has embraced Bailey-Boushay House. The welcoming neighborhood helps the clients feel safe and respected. We can feel proud that our neighborhood houses this unique and important facility. To learn more about Bailey-Boushay and their volunteer opportunities, please contact the Volunteer Coordinator at 322-5300.▼▼



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## The Valley View seeks VOLUNTARY SUBSCRIPTION DONATIONS

Each issue of this newsletter is produced wholly by volunteers, but printing and postage costs add up to about \$600 per issue. Traditionally these costs have been covered by a small number of donations, ad revenues, and funds raised by the Council through our annual courtyard sale.

However, with postage and mailing expenses on the rise and an increasing number of claims on the Council's fund balances from exciting projects like the fieldhouse renovation, it's doubtful that this approach will be sustainable in the long run.

This newsletter is provided free to all households and businesses throughout our community, as well as to all members of the City Council, the Mayor's office, and the City's Department of Neighborhoods. We neither want nor intend to become a subscription-based publication, but we do request voluntary subscriptions by readers who value this publication and have the means to contribute.

If you are able to participate in this voluntary subscription program, please send a check made out to **GMVCC** to the following address:

The Valley View  
P.O. Box 22278  
Seattle, WA 98122-0278

And indicate your preferred level of support:

- \$10 per year — that's a dollar an issue.
- \$25
- \$50
- More
- Other

If you wish to make payments periodically rather than all at once, we welcome that approach as well.

We appreciate your interest in the newsletter and as always we welcome submissions or any suggestions on important topics

## School News

### News from Garfield

The school's renowned jazz band once again swept the awards at the Lionel Hampton and Bellevue Jazz Festivals. Congratulations!! Swim team won the district title.

Garfield students will be relocated to the old Lincoln High School in Wallingford for the two academic years spanning 2006 through 2008 during remodeling. The design phase will begin this Spring. Contact the school if you are interested in being involved with these exciting decisions.

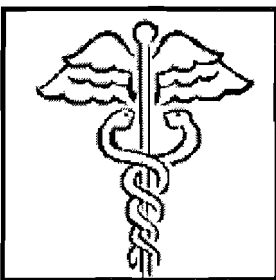
The Garfield HS Foundation has been established to develop an endowment to support the school.▼▼

### Opinion: Health Care

*Note: This is the third in a series of three articles on our health care system. Bob Crittenden is a long time resident of our community and works on these issues as well as being a physician at Harborview Medical Center. Please contact him for comments or questions; he can be reached via the community council at gmvc@hotmail.com or at our post office box shown on page 6.*

### How Healthy is Our Health Care System? Proposals for Progress

By Bob Crittenden



Contrary to common wisdom, we can change our health care system to work efficiently for Washington state residents. I propose a new plan that will not bankrupt the state or ruin the quality of health care.

The past two articles of this series explored the shortcomings of the present health care system and some of the short-term changes that can be made now. This article focuses on a longer perspective for the future.

One possibility is to adopt a Canadian-type system in which the state manages health care. The Canadian system is much more efficient and has better outcomes than ours. However, there are many barriers to this proposal such as fear of "big government" involvement or overly burdensome taxes. In truth, British Columbia health care costs are 40% less per person than our plan.

There are three major problems faced by the people of Washington:

1. The huge number of people with no insurance (almost 1 million!)

(Continued on page 5)

### News from MLK

The new reader board has been installed at the school entrance and looks great. It has already helped to publicize several events at the school as well as the community council's March meeting.

The school's new Transformation Plan was presented to the PTSA on March 3. The plan includes suggestions for uniforms. Testing will be conducted in all grades with every effort made to help each student excel. Upon review by the PTSA the plan will be submitted to the School District for approval.▼▼


### And from the Valley School

The Valley School is excited to be hosting its first ever reunion! Classes from 1989 through 1997 will be invited to the festivities on April 3<sup>rd</sup> from 5:30-7:00 at the school.

Fund raising is in full swing for the expansion of the primary wing. The added space will do much to enhance the school's environment.▼▼

\*\*\*\*\*  
 \*  
 \* **ANNUAL COURTYARD SALE** \*  
 \*  
 \* **Saturday, June 28th** \*  
 \*  
 \* The annual courtyard sale will be held the last Saturday of \*  
 \* June: **June 28<sup>th</sup>** at the Bush School along Harrison Street \*  
 \* between 32<sup>nd</sup> and Lake Washington Blvd. \*  
 \*  
 \* Please begin saving all **usable** items now. We should be \*  
 \* able to begin accepting donations directly at the school \*  
 \* around the second week of June. \*  
 \*  
 \* This year we **cannot** accept any computer components or \*  
 \* non-working electronic equipment. If you would like \*  
 \* further info or would like to volunteer please contact Cathy \*  
 \* Nunneley at 329-4083 or [cjunnunneley@yahoo.com](mailto:cjunnunneley@yahoo.com). Please \*  
 \* be generous, as this is our only fundraiser of the year! \*  
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## Department of Good Intentions

### It's My Fault

by Miriam Roskin

Neighbors keep coming to community council meetings to find out what can be done about traffic throughout our community. Concerns have run high on two fronts: first, the number of cars, and second, their speed.

The funny thing about these problems is that the first could potentially cancel out the second. That is, at a certain point the higher the traffic counts, the slower the vehicles.

While deadstop traffic jams on Dorffel Drive don't seem likely in the near future, I suggest that neighbors' efforts to reduce traffic on these roads will not only shift the problem to their unfortunate neighbors who happen to live alongside alternate routes, but will also produce faster speeds. The incentive to obey the rules starts getting a little more real when you stand a good chance of a bumper-to-bumper encounter with an oncoming car.



And yet those chances still aren't quite high enough to get through to everybody, and thus the problem of speedy scofflaws persists.

It's not just a matter of perception; we have evidence of the behavior. In fact, about a year ago some neighbors on Dorffel requested a traffic study and the City put down a traffic count box attached to some kind of cord that you drive over. Not only do those boxes count cars, but they also record speeds.

When our neighbor Jonathan came to Council to report the findings, he said that some of the cars on Dorffel were clocked at 40 mph! We all shook our heads and looked suitably grave.

Maybe you can shake your head with a clear conscience, but not me. In fact, a few months ago I happened to glance at my speedometer as I craftily navigated around the parked cars and those pesky traffic islands and circles on Dorffel. Who knew how easy it was to creep to forty? Could one of the culprits clocked by the City have been ... me?

I'm pretty sure of it. Growing up in the neighborhood, it's almost as if I'd been born with a map imprinted on my consciousness, some kind of foreknowledge of every street, turn, and shortcut linking Madison Valley, Madrona, and Denny-Blaine. Familiarity breeds contempt, and it also breeds some pretty high speeds.

Resolved: Unless there's a fire I need to get to, I will not speed on local streets any longer. Care to join me? ▼▼

## Community Council Minutes

### GMVCC Meeting of March 18, 2003

Vice President Charles McDade, acting for President Gary Emslie, called the meeting to order at 7:30; a quorum was not present.

A motion made was to approve last month's minutes. The motion was seconded and passed.

Treasurer's Report: The treasurer reported that: (1) the chief expense since the last meeting (February 18<sup>th</sup>) was to the sign company for the MLK Elementary Reader Board, at a total of \$1,088; (2) a \$60 deposit of donations and ad revenues was made; and (3) the current total balance for the account is \$5,223.57.

A discussion was held pertaining to a possible subscription payment for the newsletter in the future. It was suggested that a specific range would be offered, in order for subscribers to pay within their means but within certain boundaries to ensure satisfactory payment.

A motion was made to approve the treasurer's report and was passed.

Martin Luther King Elementary: The MLK principal, Barry Dorsey, reported on the progress of the elementary school. Mr. Dorsey voiced his enthusiasm for the new readerboard. He went on to provide an update on the school's status. As with many of the Seattle public schools, King is losing teachers - in the upcoming budget, 2.5 teaching positions as well as three staff positions, including a school counselor and instructional assistants. The school is also losing students, experiencing a decrease from 241 last year to 199 this year. The loss of teachers and students means that the school will operate only 10 classrooms during the 2003-2004 school year, as opposed to this year's 12.

The school is creating an Academic Achievement Plan (known as the Transformation Plan) in order to help students, raise the school's test scores, and to raise the quality of curriculum. In order to trigger academic growth, the proficiency of teachers must be guaranteed - also thereby making King a choice school for prospective students.

The biggest problem King faces is the decrease of students. Mr. Dorsey stated that a specialty focus for the school, such as science enrichment or a leading arts program, could help attract students to the school. In the absence of a greater number of parents and guardians recognizing King as a school of choice and a continuing loss of students, it is possible that the school district will disband King. The school is asking the help of the community to bring more to the school, perhaps by setting up an after school computer lab - this type of facility could serve multiple purposes, not

*(Continued on page 5)*

## Minutes, continued

only making King a unique school, but also helping to bring the whole community together. Other ideas included art lessons or creating a music program, possibly by finding high school student volunteer instructors and obtaining instruments through a grant. The Council discussed a range of viable activities that could truly help the school.

City Neighborhood Council: Our city rep, Adrienne Bailey, warned the community of the infiltration of crimes spreading from the central district as well as the increase of con artists throughout the city. Adrienne also reluctantly resigned her position as the Council's liaison to ML King Elementary School, as her other community responsibilities are consuming an increasing amount of time.

Fieldhouse: A report on the Field House was made. A meeting has taken place during which a draft for a fundraising letter was composed. Environmental workers and others are looking for support from environmental organizations and athletic organizations, in order to create activities that could be associated with the field house. The Arboretum Botanical Board is enthusiastic about the idea and is making suggestion to the committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30.▼▼

*Minutes prepared by Miranda Levy, GMVCC co-secretary.*

## Rest in Peace

### Jo Marie Cunningham: Neighbor and Friend

It is with great sorrow that the community notes the passing of Jo Marie Cunningham.

Born in Seattle in 1942, Jo Marie was a formidable presence in the neighborhood. As a single mom, she raised four of her own children and took in other children and raised them as her own. Esther Fields, a neighbor and friend, reminisced that Jo Marie welcomed all to her door.

Friend Charles McDade noted that her fondest goal in life was to be a "good neighbor." As a fighter for equal education, Jo Marie was an active participant with local area schools. As a past president of the Community Council, she organized neighborhood block parties to keep community ties strong and jumped straight into the fray in causes like protecting the Arboretum. Charles commented that she was a deeply spiritual person and drew much strength from her faith.

Jo Marie passed away on March 3, 2003. Her funeral was held at St. Clement's Episcopal church where she was a member. She was cremated, and her remains are buried in the churchyard at 31st and South Atlantic.

Jo Marie will be sorely missed by all who loved her.▼▼

## Health Care Woes and Solutions, continued

2. Insufficient coverage when people get sick requiring the use of personal savings to cover bills. Health care costs are the major cause of bankruptcy.
3. Overly complex insurance and care plans that are difficult to comprehend.

Several steps that can be taken to address these concerns:

1. All low-income people should be eligible for public programs. Premiums from individuals would be dependent upon income. No cost for very low-income families and small premiums (<5% of income) for those with some more money. All children should be eligible for coverage. This can all be achieved through existing plans with a marginal increase in costs.
2. All people irrespective of income should be covered by a catastrophic health care plan that kicks in at \$1000/year. This safeguard ensures that no one is bankrupted by health care costs.
3. The state should require all agencies to use well-established simple health care systems. The administrative waste is about 20% higher in Washington State than in Canada. A simple system is understandable and saves money.

I know that these suggestions seem too weak as solutions to our health care system. I, too, would like sweeping reforms that solve all problems. I have personally been waiting and working for this change for thirty years and many of my patients have died waiting. These above solutions are realistic and can pass into law this next year if we desire. They are affordable and humane. Losing a job would not mean loss of health care coverage and bankruptcy. All children would be covered. People will finally understand the health care system. Everyone benefits by cost savings from the reduction of administrative waste.▼▼



Vernal Equinox, 2003

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**THE VALLEY VIEW**  
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**Deadline:** Fifteenth of each month. Your submissions are appreciated! Mail to the address above.

**2002-2003 Officers**

**President - Gary Emslie**  
**Vice President - Charles McDade**  
**Secretary - Miranda and Claire Levy**  
**Treasurer - Candis Poncedeleon**  
**MLK School Rep. - Vacant**

**Next Community Council Meeting**

**Tuesday, April 15, 2003, 7:30 p.m.**  
Martin Luther King Elementary School Portables  
3201 E. Republican Street

**School Rep Sought**

The Council's able liaison to the Martin Luther King School, Adrienne Bailey, has resigned her position due to other pressing commitments.

Are you interested in the community's integration with the life of its schools? Do you have a few hours a week to help MLKing become a school of choice in the Seattle public school system? Would you like to help school officials develop new strategies for involving neighbors in projects to improve the school?

Please email the Council (gmvcc@hotmail.com) to learn



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**Newsletter:** For newsletter submissions and letters to the editor, please call Miriam Roskin at 325-8126 (email: mroskin@seanet.com).

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