



The Valley View

Issue 69

Greater Madison Valley Community Council

October 1998

Our E-mail Address: valleyview@altadata.com

Vultures On Their Way South

Our Arboretum and Harrison greenbelt provide resting-places for migrating birds. We've sighted hawks, owls, and the beautiful wild band-tailed pigeon over our woods. If you happened to look up in the late afternoon Wednesday, October 6, you would have seen a flock (a horde, a gang?) of strange dark birds with tremendous wing spans, almost the size of a bald eagle. These were turkey vultures, thirty or forty of them, soaring and circling as they drifted south. All of the robins and smaller guys dived for cover and didn't make a peep.

The vultures summer up north in Canada and then fly south on southerly airstreams that carry them to Mexico for the winter. They are lazy fliers who don't like to flap their wings much. If the southerly flow quits while they are in our area, they'd come down and settle in our maples and cedars for a while. Perhaps they'd spy a stray rat or some dead critter mashed in the road. That's their favorite. Then when high winds pick up, they're off again. Keep a sharp eye!



Tenth Annual Spaghetti Dinner

Our community council is girding for their wonderful fall gala pasta feast. The date is Friday, November 6th at M.L.King School at 6:30PM. The entire meal of fresh cooked spaghetti with meat or vegetarian sauce, salad, garlic bread, and dessert will be prepared by a talented crew of volunteers. Live entertainment will follow. The price, always reasonable, is only \$3.50 per person, and \$12 for a family of four or more. Tickets at the door, or call 325-6308 or 322-7196.

Suzanne Wilson of the decorations committee needs helpers. Call her at 323-6599.

One Section of the Valley Left Out?

If you live north of East Roy, south of East Helen, East of 23rd Ave. East, and southwest of Interlaken/Lake Washington Blvd. and DID NOT receive a free dumping certificate from the city in early September, this may be due to a mailing problem. Call the Conservation Corps at 206/684-0190 and tell them you are an honest person who did not receive a certificate, and they will send you one.

Note: Seniors and disabled persons who have not yet used the Conservation Corps' service can still request help with the removal of unneeded stuff from your home by calling 206/684-0190.



Remember!
Trick or Treaters
will be out
on the streets
on
Saturday Oct. 31st



President's Perceptions Gary Emslie

Nature reminds us it's fall. The changing colors, wind, cloud movement, cooler evenings, and rain help us alter perspectives. As I walk our dog, Molly, I'm reminded of what a wonderful neighborhood we have. While a neighbor's fruit trees and vegetable patch are rich with produce, I'm also reminded that among us are neighbors in need. Our food banks need support. If you're moved to help, contact the good people at Seattle Food Partnership at 206/694-6749.

Other neighbors have been busy planning the tenth annual Spaghetti Dinner at M.L.King Elementary School. Don't miss this wonderful community social event. The Spaghetti Dinner is held at the M.L.King Elementary School in the lunchroom and will begin serving food at 6:30PM on Friday November 6. See you there.

The Village School Partnership has also been active. They're working with the Seattle Youth Leadership group and M.L.King, Meany, and Bush middle

school students to develop a community service project providing students with leadership skills. If you're interested in this project, please contact Stan Hiserman at 206/233-8872, ext. 3, or fax him at 206/725-1745.

Do you have ideas for the community? Get involved; attend the next Community Council meeting on October 20, 7:30PM, in the portable at M.L.King Elementary School. We sincerely want your participation.

THE FUTURE OF THE ARBORETUM WHICH WAY TO GO?

Strong players are on the side of the development scheme for the city's unique forest park. The land of the Arboretum is owned by the Parks Department and is leased to the University of Washington. The UW's Department of Urban Horticulture manages the specimen trees and plant collections, and the City does general maintenance.

A private group, the Arboretum Foundation, has commissioned a master plan that foresees a highly developed botanical garden with large new buildings, restaurants, and parking lots. The Parks Department takes a meekly supportive position on this, claiming that their budget does not meet the upkeep costs of the park.

In opposition are the city's neighborhoods that are alarmed at the proposed building and tree cutting. These groups are forming a coalition similar to the one that fought the R.H. Thompson freeway twenty years ago. That plan would have clipped the western edge of the Arboretum and wrecked the valley with six lanes of heavy traffic.

Today they want to counter the idea of bulldozing the natural landscape of the park and turning it into a tamed tourist attraction. The protesters recognize current problems and do want to

lower the traffic burden, create a separate track for bicyclists, and to find public means to enhance the park's plant displays. The coalition aims at influencing the City Council and gaining support from citizens all over the city.

Attend these two important events this month:

Sunday, October 18th ARBORETUM PRESERVATION COALITION RALLY IN THE PARK

Gather at 1PM in the Arboretum at the Pinetum, just south of the play area at 26th Avenue East and East Lynn Street. After some music and talk we'll tour the sites of the proposed buildings and new parking lots so you can get an idea of what will be in store for our beloved park if the Master Plan is adopted. For the sturdy there will be a 300-yard dash through the site of one proposed complex just to give you an idea of how big it would be.

Wednesday October 21st OPEN MEETING MCGILVRA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

At 7PM at McGilvra Elementary there will be an open meeting sponsored by the Parks Department. All parties involved in drafting the Master Plan will be present. We need a big turnout of "concerned citizens" because this meeting will be followed by two workshops that include representatives of community groups and organizations. A strong bargaining position will depend on a great turnout at this October 21st meeting.

Autumn's Bounty: A Quick Satisfying Meal Out of the Oven

This is an easy dinner recipe for four or more. Don't be afraid of the high oven temperature recommended. Our contributor this month is a family cook of forty years experience. Have confidence, try it out!

Baked Chicken Dinner

- 1 medium size whole chicken with the extra fat cut away
- Stuff with 2-4 stalks of celery chopped 1/2-1 medium white or yellow onion chopped
- Place in roasting pan with 1/2 cup water.
- Check often and add more water as needed.
- Bake at 450-500 degrees for 30-40 minutes
- Check to see that the drumsticks move easily to touch: chicken is done.

This chicken will be moist and will have a slightly smoky flavor.

- Cut 1 or 2 acorn squash in half. Remove seeds and fill with chopped apple, nuts, and cinnamon.
- Place these in a second baking dish with 1/2 cup water.
- Cover with foil.
- Place in same oven.

Squash may be ready before the chicken, so check for doneness.

Prepare a green salad while waiting.

If you'd prefer a bigger meal, boil some potatoes or make a pan of rice. Sit down and have a glass of wine while you wait.

Save the wonderful juices in the pan to use as gravy or for chicken soup the next day.

Enjoy!



THEATER REVIEW

PLAY ON!

**At Seattle Repertory Theater
Through October 31st**

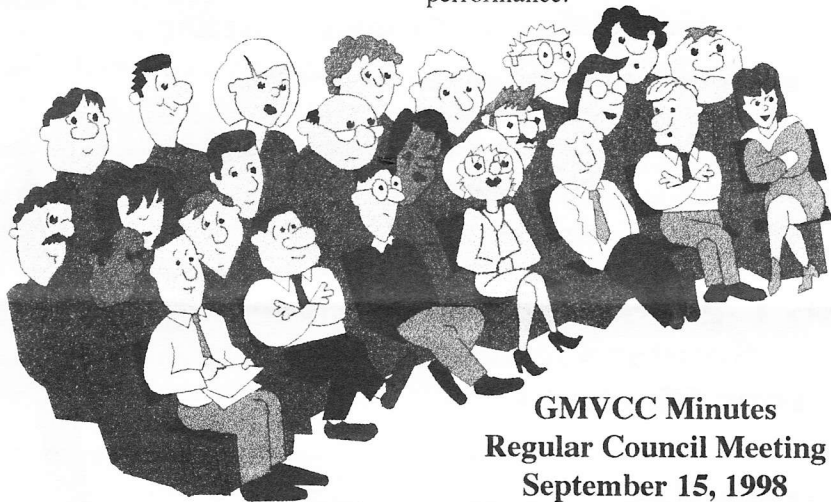
Call your friends and get down to the Rep to see this marvelous musical. Play On! is the story of a Mississippi country girl coming to pre-war Harlem in the days of the great Cotton Club. The book is loosely based on Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night" and is carried riotously along by Duke Ellington's jazz and blues compositions. The dance and song performances are stunning. Applause broke out again and again in the matinee show we attended.

Ellington was a gifted musician who led the house band at the Cotton Club for years and went on to tour the world. His granddaughter Mercedes Ellington is the choreographer for this production (out of

the Goodman Theater in Chicago) which overflows with talent. Everyone in the all-black cast seems to be a standout and almost all have an opportunity to give an up front solo performance. The rich voice of lead actress Natalie Venetia Belcon and her graceful stage presence make one wonder why she isn't a national star.

One note of interest is the history of the old Cotton Club, which was run by Prohibition-day mobsters. Its musicians and dancers were all black and beautiful, but its clientele was strictly white. Segregation prevailed, even in Harlem.

Don't miss this show. Performances run through October 31. Call Seattle Rep ticket office 206/443-2222 or Ticket/Ticket in the Broadway Market, or Pike Place Market at 324-2744 for half-price admission for day before or same day performance.



**GMVCC Minutes
Regular Council Meeting
September 15, 1998**

Vice-President Charles McDade presided. President Gary Emslie and Secretary Celine Grenier were unable to attend. Jerry Sussman recorded the minutes.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30PM; a quorum of 16 was present by 7:50PM.

It was moved and seconded that we rejoin the Seattle Community Council Federation, whose bulk mail permit we share. Annual dues to be reported at the next meeting.

The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

Treasurer David Foecke reported that we had \$1,934 in our account. Stan Hiserman of the Village Schools Partnership reported on the Youth

CAMMERAYS

CUSTOM CLOTHIER

Ellis Pereyra



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Service Project. Meany, MLK, and Bush School students will participate. He said that VSP would like to rent the Council van if a long-term rate could be agreed upon. We will negotiate.

Congratulations were offered all around on the success of the July Court-yard Sale.

Gloria Leonard of the Seattle Public Library spoke in support of Proposition 1 in the November ballot, a \$235 million bond issue.

Lisa St. George explained that the M.L.King School Playground Project is a year behind schedule. Only two bids came in out of fifty contacts. Budget cuts require \$7,200 to be transferred from trim painting on buildings to playground work.

Nancy Knapp says that citizens' objections to the Arboretum Plan will be the focus of a rally and a tour of the Arboretum on October 18th.

Eli Stahlhut will form a committee of volunteers for the Spaghetti Dinner, to be held Friday, November 6th.

The meeting adjourned at 9:45PM.

THE VALLEY VIEW

2802 East Madison St. Box 184
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Greater Madison Valley
Community Council
Member of the Seattle Community
Council Federation
Newsletter Staff

Celine Grenier
Eli Stahlhut
Jerry Sussman
Maggie Seymour

The Valley View newsletter is published
10 times each year.

Deadline - First of each month. Your
submissions are appreciated! Mail to
the address above.

1998-1999 Officers

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V. President - Charles McDade
Secretary - Celine Grenier
Treasurer - David Foecke
Site Council Reps. - Mike Seymour
Maggie Seymour
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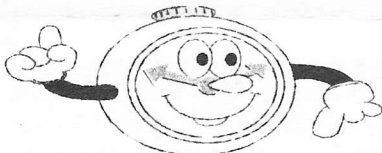
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Greater Madison Valley Neighbors & Supporters
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Next Community Council Meeting

Date/Time/Place: Tuesday October 20th, 7:30 PM
Martin Luther King School Portable Building
3201 East Republican St. (parking available on playfield)
Highlights/Topics: Spaghetti Dinner
Arboretum

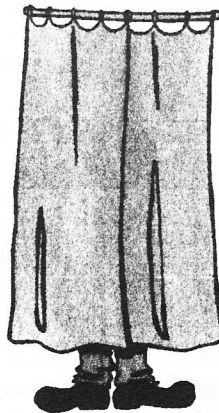


Day Light Savings Time ENDS
Sunday October 25th
Set Your Clock BACK One Hour.



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