



The Valley View



February 1996

Volume 1

Greater Madison Valley Community Council

Issue 1

1996 PROGRESSIVE DINNER AND SILENT AUCTION, FEB 25

You are cordially invited to a wonderful evening of fine dining, and entertainment. GMVCC is sponsoring the Fourth Annual Progressive Dinner and Silent Auction, Sunday, February 25 starting at 5 p.m.

The different courses of dinner will be served at Rover's, Cafe Flora, The New York Deli and Five Loaves Bakery. Fran's Chocolates also provides a delectable treat. Coffee, dessert, and entertainment follow at the Bailey-Boushey House, together with a silent auction of interesting items and services provided by local shops. Participating restaurants and businesses generously donate the meal and auction prizes. All proceeds go to the scholarship fund of the Council's Before and After School Program.

We'd love to have you join us. Please call David at 322-3626 for tickets or more information.

V-TEC IS HERE

FREE COMPUTER LAB NOW OPEN

The grand opening of our computer lab on January 11 was well attended by many neighbors as well as city officials, including Superintendent of Seattle Public Schools John Stanford, city council member Tina Podlowski, and Jim Dier, Department of Neighborhoods Director.

The lab know as V-TEC (Village Technology & Educational Center) makes computers and the internet available to residents of the Greater Madison Valley.

This incredible resource is free to all community residents and families with children that attend MLK School! V-TEC is staffed by paid high school students as well as adult volunteers.

The schedule for the lab is:

Mondays and Wednesdays 6:30pm - 9:00pm and Saturdays 10:00am - 4:00pm

At the portable, located at 3201 E. Republican in the MLK school grounds.

WINTER SOUNDS AND CLATTERS

by J Sussman

Old Mother Nature has been drubbing us hard this winter. Week-long rains washed mud down our hillsides and hard-freezing nights broke up pavements, leaving wheel-killer potholes everywhere. We sympathize with people who have really suffered in Puget Sound river valleys and in Oregon. Here our job is to report local problems and urge the city to get them fixed. Runoff from the city-owned greenbelt slope along 32nd Avenue East near John Street has caused dangerous ruts in the roadway, wrecked fifty feet of sidewalk, and contributed to flooding in the valley below. The condition gets worse each year. The Councils Land Use Committee has contacted the Parks, Drainage, and Engineering Departments, calling for action. An effective drain line about a hundred feet long under the foot of the hill would catch most of the water and lead it to the storm sewer at John Street. This chronic mess on 32nd needs a high priority work order.

KID'S KORNER by Robbin Buckley



NEWSLETTER UPDATE

The Newsletter has been kind of a catch-as-catch-can since we lost our last regular editor, Ze deLuz, who did such a wonderful job keeping it on schedule and newsworthy. So this particular issue is kind of catching up as it were!

The new editors of The Valley View are Pearl Castle and Darrell Welsh and we are also introducing Kids Korner created by, Robbin Buckley.

As we go on we will strive to keep you in tune with what's going on in the Greater Madison Valley Community Council area as well as at the MLK Elementary School and our Before and After School Program.

If you would like to volunteer, please let us know, WE could use:

- Your ideas for Community Council project
- Tutors for MLK youngsters
- Drivers for our new van
- Suggestions for the Newsletter, articles, poetry, etc.
- Donations are always helpful! (Financial, that is!)
- Etc. - what will you do?

COURTYARD SALE

It's only February and we're already reminding you of our getting-to-be-famous Courtyard Sale! That's because some of you will be Spring cleaning. Box up all your discards for the sale! We of course want especially wonderful things... those odd collectibles that don't work in YOUR home anymore... That designer outfit that grew too big or too small... Books, etc., etc., You know! The sale is July 13.

Help make that day another lucky event for the community!

Please call Maggie (328-8220) or Eli (322-7196).

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

by Peter Triandafilou

EXTRA! EXTRA! The Council is still very much alive and kicking. Do not let the fact that the last newsletter was in October 1995 fool you. We have been VERY busy. Many worked on setting up the The V-Tech computer lab (co-sponsored by GMVCC) which had its grand opening at the Council's Portable in January 11th (see article). We purchased a 15-passenger van, for use to transport children and adults to local schools, the Portable and other area destinations (see article). We also held a retreat at the Portable on January 21.

The Council's Mission - and Your Role

Obviously, the mission of the Council is to support and improve upon the assets and activities of our community, and to participate in city and county-wide issues of concern to our area. We have so much to be proud of, based on our many great accomplishments over the last few years. We are in our fourth year of running a before and after school day care and child enrichment program. We got the City to purchase and preserve as open space two greenbelts -- at 32nd Ave. E. between E. Harrison and E. Denny Way, and at 3001 E. Madison) and performed reforestation and clean-up at those greenbelts -- paying stipends to high school students during the summer for their assistance. We published a book and taught a course at the King School about the history and plants in our community. And more recently, we set up the V-Tech computer lab. We're in the vanguard, doing projects that few (if any) other communities are doing, and City representatives and folks from other Seattle neighborhood are very impressed (particularly given our community's relatively small size of about 1800 households).

At this time, our Council's main mission is to continue to support its current projects and activities, to ensure they are a success. We have been successful in the past because of the generous volunteer help of many neighborhood residents. If we are to continue to succeed, however, we truly must get more people to volunteer. I urge you to attend our monthly general meetings (third Tuesday, at 7:30 at the Portable), and to offer to help -- be it a few hours, or more. We need you. Your community needs your help and your input. Feel free to call me (day: 340-9664; eve: 720-0488).

LAND USE CORNER

by J Sussman

On the traffic front, we are looking to the Engineering Department to make 34th Avenue a safer place for vehicles and innocent citizens. That road curves down to the right as it approaches Denny Way (going north). Too many drives come speeding down 34th, do not see or cannot make the curve, and straight on into the trees on the left of the roadway, flying over the bank there. No one has died in these numerous episodes; we don't want anyone to die there! The neighbors rightly deplore Seattle's unofficial criterion that citizens must die at such sites before the city will heed complaints. The family living at that corner and the Transportation Committee man of Madrona City Council, Bill Hanson, have appealed to the city for a solution. Bigger DANGEROUS CURVES signs, fluorescent road markers, speed bumps, and heavy steel barriers are all under consideration. We are adding our voices to the appeal and hope we can report results soon.

MADISON VALLEY WELCOMES NEW BUSINESS

by Darrell Welsh

During a recent walk through the neighborhood I had the opportunity to meet the new owners of the newest shop in the Valley.

APPLES to ZINNIAS, 325-6750, opened on January 30th 1996 at 2811a Madison Ave. Apples to Zinnias is a full service florist specializing in custom made gift baskets for any occasion and Holiday baskets. Please take the time to stop by and welcome Thomas and Richard to the neighborhood. Their hours of operations are Monday through Saturday 9 am to 6 pm and Sunday 10 to 3 pm. The shop is right next door to the Madison Valley Mini Mart.

THE COMMUNITY VAN HAS ARRIVED - NOW LETS USE IT!

If you saw the beautiful silver-gray 15 passenger van parked outside the Portable at the grand opening of the V-TEC lab it belongs to us!

We bought it with a grant from King County, to provide safe transportation for community youths ages 10 to 18. The need for student transportation between homes and local schools for those who do not have it needs to be addressed.

The exact itinerary will be based on demand. If you are interested in getting door to door transportation for children who live in the Greater Madison Valley Area, fill out the yellow flyer enclosed in this news letter. For more information contact Peter Triandafilou at (days) 340-9664 (eve's) 720-0488.



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NEWS FROM M.L. KING SCHOOL

by Site Council Secretary Marilyn Oleson as reported to Peggy Sussman

In March 75 children, and 8 adults from M. L. King will spend three days and two nights at the Olympic Park Institute. There they will study the native plants and wetlands of the Rain Forest. Teachers will follow up last fall's forestry projects with a review of learning about cedar, fir, and hemlock trees.

Jan Lind-Sherman, M.L.K.'s first grade teacher, is taking a semester sabbatical next year. Through the wonders of electronics. The children at our school will participate in her trip through 18 countries. They

will be using a wonderful interactive educational program conceived by their teacher called,

"Where on Earth is Mrs. Lind-Sherman?" The program will include projects and games to acquaint the children with world geography. Watch this space for more information.

The site council is the Governing Body of M.L.K. School and its official voice

Members of the Site Committee include: the Principal Euhania Hairston, plus representatives from Teachers, Parents and the Community. They meet at 6pm on the 4th Monday of each month at the school and deal with all aspects of the School Administration.

The Site Committee has sent a letter of intent to the Department of Neighborhoods requesting a grant to beautify the school. The grant could include Steamcleaning and Painting of the schools exterior; new furniture for the classrooms; and plantings.

Have any suggestions? Send them to the news-letter staff.

Schools out early March 20th

As you may know, M.L.King School is a Vanguard School and on March 20th students will be released from school at 12:30 so teachers and staff can meet to check out and discuss scholastic achievements to date.

The ongoing assessment is part of the Vanguard program.

ALERT

Watch for May 3rd Auction News.!!!

MEETING

On March 25th a joint meeting of M.L. Kings Site Council and P.T.A. will be held at 6pm

THE MADISON VALLEY RETREAT

by Darrell Welsh

January 21st the Madison Valley Community held its annual retreat and pot-luck luncheon, at the M.L. King school portable. Many issues were discussed from how to handle the traffic and parking problems that plague our area to what role we as a community are going to play in growth management.

One of the items most heavily discussed was the role that this news letter plays in our community. We realize that this is a main source of information for you our neighbors. Our goal for 1996 is to have a copy of this news letter to you every month

We discussed the electronic village V-TEC and the fact that it is here for the use of every one in the community, and the new Passenger Van its uses and what it will mean to our area.

Block parties, Block by Block events and Block captains were other ideas put to the community for discussion, along with the thought of a neighborhood parade, or a Cabaret Show. These ideas are in their infancy and will need your support and input to get them off the ground.

We are however in the planning stages of the first Gardens By Candlelight Tour. We are in need of 4 volunteers to help put the finishing touches on the tour. A tentative date has been set and applications will be in next month's news letter. If you are interested in helping please send your Name, Address, and Phone Number to this paper. We are looking for Artists, Tour Guides and persons to help with Ticket Sales.

The retreat was a huge success and a great way for us to get ideas to help make The Madison Valley an even better place to live. We can't do it without you, join us the 3rd Tuesday of every month at the Portable 7:30 pm. We look forward to seeing you there. With your help it will be a another great year.

THANKS

The editors of The VALLEY VIEW would like to thank the staff of the V-TEC Lab, with special thanks to John Dirkman, and Dug Steen. The student staff helped the new editors produce this issue of the Newsletter

We would like the community to know that this issue was produced totally at the V-TEC COMPUTER LAB.

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU

Though the Spaghetti dinner was way back in November we want to thank all of you who made it a great success! First, those of you who came!

And the superb working crew- the cooks who started at 4:00 ...the set up folk, the decorating crew, those who made all the fabulous salad and desserts. The servers, greeters, and child care crew Thank you. Thanks to Capitol Hill QFC that donated many necessities and the Leschi Food Mart that gave us a goodly part of the ground beef used in the sauce. And, of course- the rousing dance troupe, choreographed and directed by Dr. Daralyn Smith was indeed a fitting climax enjoyed by all.

To all, thank you, thank you, thank you!!!!!! It couldn't have happened without you!!

VALLEY EVENTS

February 20

6:30 pm Executive Board GMVCC-King Portable.

7:30 pm Regular Meeting GMVCC-King Portable.

February 25

5:00 pm Progressive Dinner (See Article)

February 26

6:00 pm MLK Site Council Meeting-King Portable.

March 19

6:30 pm Executive Board- GMVCC-King Portable.

7:30 pm Regular Meeting- GMVCC-King Portable.

March 20

MLK Classes Dismissed

March 25

6:00 pm Joint MLK PTA & Site Council Meeting

The Computer Lab at MLK School also offers classes. Class dates are March 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th - from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Classes will be held in the MLK School Computer Lab Room 12.

Instructor: Mrs. Tillie Porter

ISIS COLLECTIBLES

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SEATTLE Washington, 98112

323-1795

TUESDAYS TO FRIDAYS 12-6
SATURDAYS BY APPOINTMENT

ANTIQUES · COLLECTIBLES
GIFTS · CONSIGNMENTS

This resolution brought before the January retreat opens this subject for further discussion and action in the Community Council.

A MATTER OF CONCERN

by Del Castle

Since the O.J. trial, the Million Man March, and the recent celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. day, it has become a matter of concern to many that race relations, discrimination, and bigotry are a continuing and serious question in our country. What is involved is not only fairness, equal opportunity, affirmative action, and other aspects of race relations, but the very nature of democracy.


In view of the coming elections, the seeming inability of the government to function in a responsible manner and with politicians at each other's throats, race relations is being ignored. We have yet to hear any of the candidates speak out on the subject of race relations. Yet, until racism and other forms of discrimination are given serious consideration, our democracy is in danger.

With this in mind, the question arises can we as a community help in some small way to bring this question before the electorate?

If the civil rights of some are diminished, the civil rights of all are diminished.

If it is a question of democratic rights, we as a democratic grass roots organization may have some input. We would like to see suggestions from our members brought up for discussion. We think a way to make some small contribution to strengthening civil rights and the democratic process can be found by us.

Can we raise our voices and our expectations?



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Dianne Ashley
SALON

Tel. & Fax: (206) 720-0488

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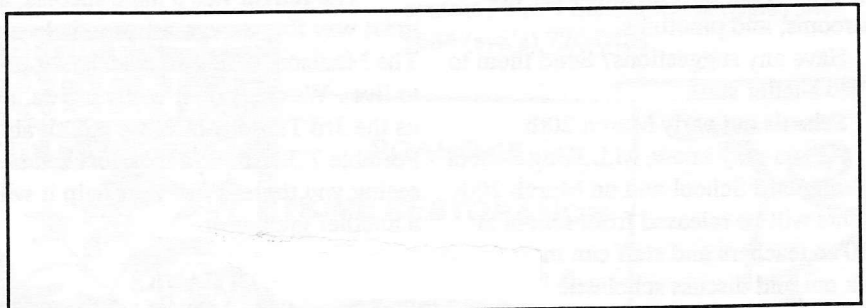
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PROGRESSIVE DINNER, FEBRUARY 25