



Harrison Denny Community Council NEWSLETTER

MARCH 1994

Member, Seattle Community Council Federation

WELCOME TO THE NEW NEIGHBORHOOD!

by David Foecke

Harrison-Denny Community Council

On behalf of the Harrison-Denny Community Council, I would like to say hello all of the residents on the north side of Madison Street, between the Arboretum and 23rd Avenue East, who may be receiving this newsletter for the first time. Up until recently, membership in this community council stopped at Madison Street. At our last community council meeting, residents from both sides of Madison voted to begin the process of joining forces by expanding and joining our boundaries to create a new, larger, and more powerful neighborhood and community council extending from Denny Street to Helen Street, and from 23rd Avenue E. to Lake Washington Boulevard.

There are a lot of good reasons for this joining of forces. (1) The issues of greatest concern are the same on both sides of Madison Street: strong diverse communities, safe streets, good schools, attractive parks and open spaces, constructive opportunities for youth, and a strong voice that will be heard when we speak up at city hall, at the school district office, or in Olympia. (2) Census data shows that the ethnic breakdown is similar on both sides of Madison. (3) The Madison Valley Business District will now

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by Penny Bolton

Arboretum Heights Neighborhood

Welcome to our "new" community! The Harrison-Denny Community Council has been a force to reckon with in the Madison Valley/Arboretum neighborhood for several years. When you read this newsletter you'll see how many exciting activities are going on around you. We want to invite you to join in, have fun with your neighbors, and build a strong community, too.

Our community is diverse and includes the area from Denny Way on the south to East Helen Street on the north, from 23rd Avenue East on the west to Lake Washington Boulevard East and Dorffel Drive on the east. These are new boundaries, expanded as of March 1994 to include the Arboretum Heights area (running from the Arboretum up the hill to 23rd Avenue East). Our community encompasses much of the Arboretum's watershed.

Arboretum Heights has been an active neighborhood with one of the oldest block watches (on 24th Avenue East) and loads of great kids. Two years ago we knocked on our neighbors' doors and collected enough donations of money and time to rebuild our neighborhood park - Frazier Park at 24th Avenue East and East Harrison. Neighbors worked

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Harrison Denny Community Council Monthly Meetings

MARCH 15

7:30 p.m.

King School Portable
32nd E. & E. Republican

Guest Speaker

LARRY GOSSETT, JR.

Metro/King County Councilmember

Executive Board meets at 6 p.m.

APRIL 19

7:00 p.m.

King School Portable
32nd E. & E. Republican

*Presentation on Earthquake
Preparedness in the Neighborhood*

*(please note: this meeting starts 30 minutes earlier than
our usual community council general meetings)*

Executive Board meets at 6 p.m.

Welcome Arboretum Neighbors

by David Foecke

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be at the center of the new neighborhood, instead of on the edge. (4) Residents north of Madison have already participated in numerous activities organized by the Harrison-Denny Community Council. (5) With the business district at its center, our new, larger neighborhood will fit better with the "urban village" approach to city planning that is currently being developed under the City of Seattle's response to state growth management guidelines.

Our "new, expanded" neighborhood will need to elect a new set of leaders at the Annual Meeting scheduled for May of 1994. By then we will also need a new name to go along with our new identity. We would also like to develop a new "logo" that could go on new "Welcome to the neighborhood" signs.

Plan on coming to the next couple of community council meetings (see front page) to help develop these ideas. And please plan on attending the Annual Meeting in May to help elect officers to the new, expanded community council.

If you have ideas of names, or other questions about this process, please call David Foecke at 322-3626 or Penny Bolton at 325-1212.

Welcome Arboretum Neighbors

by Penny Bolton

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alongside neighbors for a long hot weekend, and our kids got a great place to play! Every August we get together for a potluck in the park.

Community feeling - neighbors caring about neighbors - is what keeps us all safe and happy where we live. By joining with the already active and organized Harrison-Denny folks, we can work towards a neighborhood to be proud of. We certainly have the people here. Now we just need to all get together!

OUT IN THE COLD

by Abby Wolk and Guillermo Galarreta

We are happy to report that going door to door in the Harrison-Denny community has at least been a heart-warming experience, even when our toes are cold and our clothes damp. We want to thank everyone who has shown hospitality to us. We are also enthusiastic about how many new families have moved into the area who are very community minded.

If we haven't come knocking on your door yet, don't be surprised if one blustery evening we pay a short visit to let you know about our fundraising for the Madison Valley Family Programs. See you soon!

Larry Gossett, Metro/ County Council Member, Visits March 15

by Dove John

Larry Gossett, our newly elected Metro/King County Council Representative, will come to the HDCC General Meeting, 7:30 - 8:30 p.m. on **Tuesday, March 15**. He wants to hear our concerns, thoughts and ideas on the key issues with which the County government is wrestling. This is a golden opportunity to put our spin on public policy!

In 1994 the Metro/County Council will consolidate Metro and the King County government; finalize the County's Growth Management Plan; develop strategies to combat the rise of neighborhood crime; and address policy issues related to public transit, the environment, land use, courts, public health and more.

Larry Gossett is former Executive Director of the Central Area Motivation Program (CAMP). He is dedicated to increasing citizen participation in government. His visit to HDCC is part of a series of neighborhood forums he will hold on program and policy reforms necessary to improve our quality of life.



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Seattle, WA 98112
324-0737

MARCH ACTIVITIES AT M. L. KING SCHOOL

During the month of February, as part of Black History Month, M. L. King students made African masks which are now prominently displayed at the entrance of the Pacific Art Museum in the Seattle Center. These beautiful masks are environmentally correct—they are on a cardboard fabric base, decorated with fabric scraps, construction paper scraps, feathers, bottle caps, jar lids, used buttons, egg cartons, yarn, raffia (grass-like material) and other throw-aways.

The third, fourth and fifth graders will go on a field trip to see their masks and other art on March 9; the kindergarten, first and second graders will visit the museum on March 18. Dr. Darryln Smith, Magnet Grant Multiple Intelligences Specialist, coordinated this project.

Dr. Smith and Kindergarten Teacher Cathy von Haartman also directed another student art project which is being displayed at the Administrative Offices of Seattle Public Schools on lower Queen Anne—wire art sculptures and mud dolls.

On March 24, the entire school will visit the University of Washington Fish Hatcheries Hatching Pond to release "our" salmon. Mr. Jim Herk, Second Grade Teacher, has coordinated this annual project. The salmon came to King as eggs and grew to fingerling status in a special tank in a hallway. Mr. Herk reports an unusually low mortality rate this year. When the children return, they will watch an environmental play, "I'll Do Anything," sponsored by the Gap Theater.

Starting Tuesday, March 1, students at King will spend four consecutive weeks having FUN - Finding Urban Nature - sponsored by the Seattle Audubon Society. Anita Lagerberg of the Audubon Society is working with Mrs. Tillie Porter and volunteer Dena Varriale to teach students outdoors about bird nests, flower powder (pollination), roots and shoots, and isopods (sowbugs and potato bugs). The fourth and fifth grade students will go outside from 2:10 to 3:00 p.m. to have FUN with nature in our own back yard.

Mrs. Tillie Porter is leading an Arbor Day project

for our students. Various types of seedlings have been ordered from the Washington Arbor Day Council, and these little trees will be planted by King students on April 27, in a nearby greenbelt.

Mr. Michael Raitt, P.E. Specialist, is working on getting a SCATS program started at M. L. King. SCATS involves tumbling, double dutch jump rope, unicycles, etc. Mr. Raitt will also select students to compete in a "Best in the West" competition for physical fitness later this spring. In February, King students watched Cooper school students perform Jump Rope for Heart skills, and March 7-10 is Jump Rope for Heart week at M. L. King.

For more information on what's happening at M. L. King, please call our office at 281-6510.

Calling All Creative Artists...

By Pearl Castle

Living within the Harrison-Denny Community Council boundaries are quite a number of artists, musicians, actors, writers and those of us who would like to be involved artistically one way or another. At our January retreat we put the promotion of the arts very high on our list of priorities for the coming year.

This includes, of course, those who might like to let some of our young people in on our expertise as artists . . . to present alternatives vis-à-vis the Youth Program or Before and After School program.

And then there is the possibility of a writers' group who might like to bring stories, etc., to discuss and exchange ideas . . . ? A dance group? Singers? Actors? The possibilities can be wonderful and enhance all our lives. How about including advancement of the Arts where we live?

Any ideas? Feel free to call Pearl Castle, 325-1546, or come to the next Community Council meeting, March 15 at 7:30 p.m. at MLK School.

PTSA invites the Neighbors

The King PTSA wants to thank everyone who helped to make our candy sale a success.

On Saturday, March 19 a photographer will be at King School to do family portraits, size 11 1/2" x 14". Cost is \$5.00, which goes to the PTSA. Additional portraits will be available. For information, call Merri Huffine at 329-5436, or Mary Gartrell at 325-8729.

Attention: All King and neighborhood families are welcome to come to MLK for the fourth Friday free movies. Free popcorn too. We show only good family movies. Show time is 7:00 p.m.

Please come out and support the PTSA on the third Thursday of every month. Next meeting is March 17.

**DO YOU NEED BEFORE AND AFTER
SCHOOL CARE FOR YOUR
CHILDREN?**

**MADISON VALLEY FAMILY PROGRAMS
at Martin Luther King Jr. School**

has space in our

Before & After School Program

Chess Club * Dance Classes * Computer Center

Financial Assistance and Scholarships Available

322-3626

Greenbelt Project Under Way

by Jerry Sussman

We have started mapping the work to be done on the 1994 reforestation project. Our landscape designer, Blair Constantine, is using topographic maps to mark the area where clearing and replanting will be done. Our neighborhood matching grant was approved in February for \$13,000; the value of volunteer hours and the loan of tools many of us pledged for the year equals a matching \$13,000.

Three of us appeared February 19 to help Blair identify the unused streets and old slide areas on the Harrison Ridge.

When the plan is ready, we will submit it to the Parks Department for approval. Before work actually begins, we will distribute to all the neighbors leaflets describing the areas to be planted. We will hold a community meeting at MLK School to answer questions and to listen to people's ideas.

Clearing ivy and first planting of native trees and shrubs will happen in March and April. We will be looking for donated plant materials to supplement the limited budget we have for purchasing seedlings. A second planting will be done in the fall.

Our objective is to stop the spread of the vines that climb trees and kill native undergrowth, and to restore the fir and cedar woods. We hope to preserve a healthy landscape for generations to come.

Youth Group Meets Mondays

People aged 7 to 17, the Harrison-Denny Community Council Youth Group is for YOU! Meetings are Mondays (except holidays) from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. in the portable and gym at MLK School.

Activities include basketball skill development and free play and snacks, reports Coralyn Mills, coordinator. Special visitors including a Chinese cooking expert are planned. And field trips have included Sonics basketball games, the Aquarium, and Funplex.

The Youth Group will be selling raffle tickets soon to help finance a trip to Disneyland in June. For additional information, leave a message for Coralyn Mills or her assistant Lester Henley at 329-6363. One of them will return your call.

Come to the HDCC Youth Group and have fun in your neighborhood.

Join Your Community!

We're Doing Great Things!

Come out for the next meeting - March 15

Council sets 1994 Goals

by David Foecke

The Harrison-Denny Community Council Executive Committee and other interested members held our second annual planning retreat on January 22 at Martin Luther King School. The broad goals that we set for the year are:

- continuing our community-building efforts,
- starting some arts programs in the neighborhood,
- supporting and promoting Martin Luther King School,
- focusing more on activities and programs for youth,
- working on economic development in the neighborhood,
- restoration and preservation of the neighborhood greenbelt,
- supporting the Madison Valley Family Programs' before and after school child care,
- working on some physical neighborhood improvements,
- helping to further develop internal council processes.

We developed a budget for the year that calls for raising \$32,600 in addition to what is raised by the Madison Valley Family Programs. We are looking forward to an exciting year. If you'd like to get involved in any of the efforts mentioned above, please call David Foecke at 322-3626, or leave a message on the council voice mail at 328-0058.

I pledge to support the Harrison Denny Community Council and its programs by:

Making a contribution of \$ _____

Volunteering for: _____

I am most interested in: _____

My skills are: _____

Name _____

Address _____

Phone(s) _____

Best time to call _____

Please tear out completed form and send to
Harrison-Denny Community Council, c/o King
School, 3201 E. Republican, Seattle, WA 98112

MARTIN LUTHER KING SCHOOL IN THE NEWS

In the last three months, Martin Luther King Elementary School has been the focus of a front page story in the *Seattle P-I*, a major story in the *Seattle Times*, three front page stories in the *Madison Park Times*, stories on KOMO-TV and KIRO-TV news, and Evening Magazine on KING-TV. Why all the attention?

Some of it has been as a result of very active marketing efforts on the part of the Site Council at MLK School (a governing body made up of parents, staff, and community members) to get the word out about the new Martin Luther King School. What is new about it? We're glad you asked.

First of all, there is a dynamic new principal. Ms. Euhania Hairston comes to King School as a Seattle native strongly rooted in the community and strongly supportive of building "community schools" that serve and are responsive to the neighborhoods they serve. As a first step, for example, Ms. Hairston requested that the Harrison Denny community council set up meetings with community members so that she could hear from them what it is they look for in their public schools. As she goes about shaping the changes at the school, Ms. Hairston wants it to be in response to community needs and interests. Four such meetings were held, two focus groups and two house meetings, all of them very informative.

Second, there is a new academic focus. Thanks to a grant received this year from the federal government, King School is now a "Technology and Arts Magnet Elementary School" with a "multiple intelligences" curriculum (which tries to identify each child's principal learning style and teach to their strength). The technology and arts focus is part of what is grabbing headlines.

There is a new dance troupe, called the King

Dancers, who perform at a variety of community and school functions; there is an emphasis on theater and other performing arts with monthly assemblies open to the public.

In addition, there is a brand new computer lab, which is now connected to the Internet global computer network, thanks to a technology sharing arrangement with neighboring Bush School, and a grant from McCaw Cellular Company.

The Internet connection has already spawned "keypals" relationships between MLK students and people in Lithuania, Poland, Australia, Canada, and more exotic places. Students are planning a school newspaper that will be produced on the computer, and then exchanged with other elementary schools around the world. They are also looking into the possibility of participating in a worldwide student-run weather monitoring project through the Internet.

Finally, there is renewed and strengthened relationship with the neighborhood. King School is beaming the community center we have lacked. The youth group (*see article this issue*) meets weekly at the school and plays basketball in the gym. The community council meets in the portable classrooms on the playground. Community volunteers are now helping out with the homework center two days a week, and at the before and after school program.

Principal Hairston likes to quote the African proverb, "It takes a whole village to raise a child." As our community ties and strength grow in our own little "urban village" we can look to and be proud of our "village school", King Elementary.

For more information about the school or about how you can get involved, please call the school at 281-6510, or our community council representative on the school site council, Peggy Sussman 325-6308.

Calendar of Events

Tuesday, March 15	7:30 p.m.	Harrison-Denny Monthly meeting Guest Speaker Larry Gossett, Jr.
Thursday, March 17	7:00 p.m.	PTSA
Saturday, March 19		Portraits at Martin Luther King School
Friday, March 26	7:00 p.m.	Free movie at MLK
Tuesday, April 19	7:00 p.m.	Harrison-Denny Monthly Meeting Earthquake Safety Presentation