



THE VALLEY VIEW

Newsletter of the Greater Madison Valley Community Council

Issue 152

madisonvalley.org

February 2008

Sixty Years of Feeding Others

by Pippa Kiraly

All donations to the Madison Valley Food Drive (see box, right) will go to The Food Bank @ St. Mary's. An unpretentious building a block south of Jackson on 20th Ave S, three days a week it serves customers from all over Seattle. Serving 6,000 people per month, it is the largest food bank in Seattle next to Northwest Harvest.



Customers waiting outside the Food Bank @ St. Mary's

Outside, you see people carrying milk crates and boxes, unloading trucks, or helping customers. Inside, narrow passageways are lined floor to ceiling with the ubiquitous crates. Gradually you see the process. Customers

enter one side, where they can pick up meat or fish straight from a chest freezer. Next, they head to pick up dairy products, baked goods, fruits and vegetables, and finally find themselves outside again, with their bags or boxes full of food, and often baby products, hygiene necessities, clothing, or pet food as well. On the way, they pass the Resource Board, containing information such as where to take the kids for dental care, free ESL classes, or shelter for tonight.

The atmosphere is one of hospitality and respect, always a central tenet of the bank's mission.


The Food Bank @ St. Mary's has been in operation for over 60 years now, since its inception as a tiny food pantry in the early 1940s. It has only four full-time staff, all of whom speak more than one language and one who speaks five or six. Volunteers of all ages and backgrounds, some of whom are customers as well, speak still other languages, and fliers, signs and announcements are translated into Chinese, Spanish, Vietnamese, Russian and Korean. Volunteers from several middle and high schools help on a regular basis.

"I like having kids help," says director Sue Smith, who began working at the food bank nine years ago. "We get Seattle University students coming to do their community service hours and then they stick around after." She tells the story of a small girl volunteering with her dad in the fish and meat area who was asked by a customer what kind of fish she was offering. "Frozen," she answered confidently, and when asked for further elaboration, added, "Delicious!"

The food comes from a large number of food stores including Safeway, Red Apple, Trader Joe's, Grocery Outlet and Starbucks, plus Food Lifeline and Northwest Harvest, not to mention contributions from food drives and P-Patches. "Our aim is to offer the best food in town," says Smith. "We never run out of produce or dairy or

➡ Please see **Food Bank** on page 7

Madison Valley Food Drive!

The Madison Valley Food Drive runs from Valentine's Day, February 14, to St. Patrick's Day, March 17, to benefit The Food Bank @ St. Mary's. There will be boxes for food, hygiene, and baby products at many of the businesses up and down Madison Street. Look for the posters in the windows. Please, no food past its expiration date! Cash or checks will also be gratefully accepted and can be dropped off or mailed to The Food Bank @ St. Mary's, 611 20th Ave. S., Seattle, WA 98144. 

Green Footprints Friend-raiser on Feb 7

by Wallis Bolz



Please join us for an update on the Green Footprints Action Works (GFAW) ecology project on February 7 at Bailey-Boushay House, from 6 to 8 p.m.

Since last fall, our neighbors have been collecting data on the flora, fauna and hydrology of the hillside community above the Arboretum. The "Friend-Raiser" will include an update on the mapping effort, volunteer recognition and our first community discussion of the Green Footprints vision for its neighborhood plan. Come help us construct a vision for our urban neighborhood—now that we know what our neighborhood looks like today, what do we want our neighborhood to look like in 20, 50 and 100 years?

In June 2007, GFAW received a \$28,893 grant from the city of Seattle's Department of Neighborhoods to construct an ecology map of our neighborhood and identify opportunities throughout the neighborhood to improve our green infrastructure. Our partners in this effort include the Seattle Audubon Society and Seattle Urban Nature. Our neighborhood is the hillside community of 2,520 residents bordering the Washington Park Arboretum. Our project boundaries are Galer Street, 23rd and 24th

➡ Please see **Green Footprints** on page 6



Events Calendar

Madison Valley Merchants Association. Wednesday, February 13, 8:30 a.m. Café Flora, 2901 E. Madison St.

Green Footprints Friend-raiser. Thursday, February 7, 6:00 p.m. at Bailey-Boushay House. See article above.

Food Drive. Feb 14 - Mar 17 at participating merchants. See above.

Greater Madison Valley Community Council. Wednesday, February 20, 7:30 p.m. Bush School's Common Room (entrance on E. Harrison St. and 34th Ave. E.)

East Precinct Crime Prevention Coalition. Thursday, February 28, 6:30-8:00pm at Seattle Vocation Institute, Room #401, 2120 S Jackson St.

GMVCC ID Statement

The Valley View

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P.O. Box 22278, Seattle, WA 98122

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GMVCC Meeting Minutes for January 16

by Ann McCurdy, co-Secretary

NOTE: Meeting was held in the Bailey-Boushay House because the Bush School did not have space available. We apologize to those who did not get the message and went to the wrong location. Next month we will return to our usual location at Bush.

Wallis Bolz called the meeting to order at 7:35.

Treasurer's Report: December deposits totaled \$725, due to Valley View ad revenue and a \$100 donation. Expenses were slightly higher this month. The beginning balance was \$15,097.95 and the ending balance was \$14,520.36. We found a good, reliable printer, so we expect expenses to be slightly lower next month.

Martin Luther King Jr. Elementary School: This school has been closed since fall of 2005. On January 9, the School Board voted unanimously to "surplus" the building, which means it may be leased or sold. Community members attended the meeting and urged the School Board to ensure that the building remains a community asset. Board member Mary Bass said the community

needs to be vocal about its wishes to make that happen. Entities who have publicly expressed interest in the property are the Bush School and First AME Church (for their Head Start program and other family support services). The Community Council is inviting all interested entities to attend our March meeting, and to submit a proposal for publication in the Valley View.



MLK School remains unused, but two parties are interested in changing that.

The Valley View: Present and Future: Ann McCurdy is stepping down as editor and ad salesperson after the June edition, and she is concerned

that there may not be anyone to take her place. The newspaper is doing well, with an updated mailing list, standardized ad sizes, a professional layout, good ad revenue, and lowered print costs, but it is a fair amount of work to produce each month. Alternative ideas, in case no one steps up to publish the Valley View, include: beef up our website, publish a quarterly newsletter or a shorter newsletter, host a Yahoo group, ask for help with content from the Merchants Association. We will look for volunteers before pursuing alternatives. Wallis and Ann will also talk to a local web designer about helping with our website.

⇒ Please see GMVCC on page 6

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Bailey-Boushay Dinner Raises More Than \$270,000

by Ann McCurdy

On Sunday, January 13, the 16th Annual Chefs' Dinner raised more than \$270,000 for Bailey-Boushay House. The appetizers and seven-course dinner were prepared by 14 chefs, including Honorary Chef Joseba Jiménez de Jiménez of The Harvest Vine and Janine Doran of Café Flora.

The event exceeded its goal of \$200,000, and was the most successful Chefs' Dinner to date, exceeding last year's funds raised by more than \$40,000. There were over 500 participants and volunteers, including the chefs who donated their time, talent and food.



A Gathering of Great Chefs for a Great Cause

Bailey-Boushay House had more good news in December, when they announced that their building on the corner of E. Madison St. and Martin Luther King Jr. Way has been gifted to Virginia Mason. Bailey-Boushay has been operated by Virginia

Mason since it was opened in 1992 by AIDS Housing of Washington (now called Building Changes), and operations will not change. The change of ownership has been determined to be the most cost-effective way to ensure Bailey-Boushay's future. Bailey-Boushay House is America's first skilled nursing facility planned, funded, built

➡ Please see **Bailey-Boushay** on page 5

Sweet Seconds

by Jennifer Karkar Ritchie

Spotting a new awning among the mainstays of Madison Valley businesses is easy, especially when it's bright orange and bears an adorable name like Sugarlump.




New Kid in Town

Located in the old Pregnant Pause spot at 2709 East Madison, Sugarlump, www.sugarlumpshop.com, adds brightness to this section of tiny shops. Much like its predecessor, Sugarlump is stocked full of consigned children's clothing and now features an array of new items like books, blankets, shoes, onesies, and diaper bags—perfect for giving as gifts.

Owner Sarah Isakson, a mom herself, worked briefly at the Pregnant Pause, and after its closing, seized the opportunity to open her own shop. Sugarlump's newly updated bright sky-colored walls and white lampshades create a welcoming atmosphere, and her highly organized selection makes shopping by size a snap—even for us clutter-phobes.

Sugarlump consigns kids clothing size 0-8. Each piece must be in good condition and be made from quality, durable materials. Consigners can opt to take a store credit, cash or donate their cash from sales to a local kid's charity (currently Treehouse). Shoppers with tots will find a play area for children and a wide selection of both girls and boys clothing. Maternity wear is also available. And, unlike megastores, there's only one of everything, which guarantees your kids will be dressed uniquely.

I hear there's another baby boom in the forecast; luckily we're well equipped with Sugarlump. 



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What's Up On Madison?

By Ann McCurdy

Not only was Joseba Jiménez de Jiménez of **The Harvest Vine** the honorary chef at the 16th Annual Chef's Dinner for **Bailey-Boushay House** (see article, p, 3), The Harvest Vine was voted as one of "Seattle's 10 Very Best Restaurants of 2007" by Seattle Magazine. Congratulations!

Ewajo Dance has moved! Ewajo has been teaching dance to adults and youth (as young as 3!) since 1975. Formerly above Essential Bakery, they will now be offering classes in two new locations: T.T. Minor Elementary School and Broadway Bound at University Height Center. We'll miss you!


What's happening to Ewajo's old location? **Glow Natural Health** (2719 E Madison St) has already expanded into the space. This allows Glow to have two new naturopaths, and to offer their services (such as massage and naturopathy) every day of the week. They also host Pilates classes by **Peahi Pilates**, and soon will have a new awning so people can stop saying, "So, just where is Glow anyway?"

The Clinic for Cosmetic Solutions (3138 E Madison St) closed last year and after some beautiful renovations, the location now hosts **Longévité Medical and Cosmetic Clinic**. Headed up by nurse practitioner Sima Rafii, **Longévité** performs both medical and cosmetic skin treatments. Treat your acne, warts, and rashes, or treat yourself by removing brown spots or unwanted hair. You deserve to look beautiful.

Saint Germain has a new name and a new menu! Previously an intimate place to go for *tartines* (little French open faced sandwiches), it is now called **La Côte Crêperie** (2811 E Madison St)

and is more casual, serving crêpes, soups, ciders and beer. Saint Germain was owned by Jean-Michel Omnès, and opened with the help of **Voila!** owner Laurent Gabrel. Now, Omnès has returned to France, and Gabrel is running both restaurants. La Côte opened January 18, serves lunch and dinner, and I just had a great lunch there today. Yum!

Santasha Yoga Studio (2812 E. Madison St.) has a new owner! Beth Dial took over the business in November from original founder Rebekkah LaDyne. As the new director, Beth promises to continue offering familiar classes and instructors, plus three new instructors and additional classes, including pre- and post-natal workshops.

Who knows when **Madison Lofts** will finally be complete? I'm afraid to quote another date, but I'm happy to announce one of its future tenants: **VanQuaethem Chiropractic and Massage** (www.MadisonParkChiropractic.com). After five years in Madison Park, they have outgrown their space and will soon be moving their four chiropractors and two massage therapists to 2914 E. Madison St. They are hoping to have their Grand Opening in early May, which I guess answers the question about the completion of Madison Lofts. 

Flood Control, *continued from p. 8*

and NOAA Fisheries.

- Built a physical scale model of the combined sewer in 30th Ave. E. to provide needed data for analyzing flows in the system during large storms.
- Evaluated a wide variety of options for the long-term solution and narrowed the range of options down to two preferred ones.
- Sought and received broad community input on the two alternatives under consideration for implementation.
- Purchased two homes in the 100 block to provide flexibility for implementing the long-term solution.

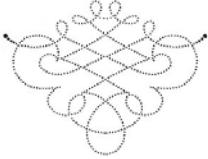
"The next step is to provide all of our information on the project analyses, which includes input from the community, to our elected officials in order to reach a decision about which long-term solution alternative to implement. We are in the process of providing this information to our elected officials now.

"We plan to send out an informational newsletter to the broader community in the coming weeks to communicate our status to date, details regarding the Outdialer program and information about the two homes on the west side of the 100 block, next to the above ground storage facility, which were purchased late last year.

"In the coming months, SPU will develop a community involvement plan for the final design and construction phases of the project. We will be seeking additional input from you and the broader community as we develop this plan. The details of the plan will depend on which alternative is chosen. Our community involvement plan will consider the needs and interests of all residents and other stakeholders that will be affected by the project."

For information on Madison Valley flood control project, go to: seattle.gov/util/About_SPU/News/Current_Issues/MadisonValleyFlooding/

or contact: **Celia Kennedy, Program Manager**
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Take my Job, Please!

By Ann McCurdy

I will be stepping down as the *Valley View* editor after our June edition. This is a fun volunteer position that does take some time. If we don't have an editor, we're not sure how the *Valley View* will continue. (See GMVCC Minutes, p. 2) If you would like to see the *Valley View* continue, even if you're not sure how to help or how much time you can contribute, please contact Ann McCurdy at editor@madisonvalley.org or at 568-7372. Many hands make light work—the more volunteers who step forward to write articles, find ads, or edit (part-time?), the easier the job, and the better for the community.

Bailey-Boushay, continued from p. 3

and staffed to meet the needs of people living with AIDS. The facility provides care for people living with HIV/AIDS and other complex, life-threatening diseases, promoting their health, well-being and functional independence.

Congratulations to Bailey-Boushay House, and thanks to our local chefs at The Harvest Vine and Café Flora for their support. And look for the celebratory heart balloons at Bailey-Boushay House this Valentine's Day! 

Bailey-Boushay House

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Green Footprints, *continued from p. 1*

Avenues East, East Madison Street and the Washington Park Arboretum.

In the fall of 2007, eighty-five neighbors attended training workshops conducted by Seattle Urban Nature and the Seattle Audubon Society, and by Christmas completed their survey of residential properties in 38 of the 46 blocks that comprise our neighborhood. These neighborhood surveyors counted trees, collected data on invasive species and water sources, and interviewed neighbors to collect information about wildlife in the neighborhood, pet ownership, pesticide use and gardening practices.

As of January, 2008, after six months of work, GFAW has accumulated more than 1000 volunteer match hours—a third of the way toward our project goal! GFAW is a non-profit 501 (c) 3 corporation that promotes a vision of sustainable, safe and connected neighborhoods in Seattle. Find out more at www.greenfootprintsactionworks.org. To volunteer, contact Eileen Maloney at eileen.maloney@gmail.com or (206) 325-9192. 



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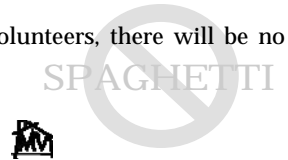
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GMVCC, *continued from p. 2*

Madison Valley Flood Control Update: Community members are concerned about the lack of communication lately with SPU. SPU Deputy Director Linda De Boldt has stopped meeting with the Engineering Sub-committee, and appears to want to proceed without it as SPU considers flood control options. Peter Triandafilou and Wallis will contact SPU Director Chuck Clarke to work toward getting the community, and its representatives, back in the flood control loop. Wallis will contact Richard Conlin about what's going on with SPU.

No Spaghetti Feed: Due to lack of volunteers, there will be no spaghetti feed this year.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.



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Food Bank, *continued from p. 1*

meat, and we don't pre-select food, so each customer can choose their own."

The staff spends time and effort developing relationships in the community. The nearby Vietnamese grocery is one example of this. "We try to have enormous variety. I may not know what to do with lemon grass or cactus, but our customers do," says Smith. "I don't want to offer food someone isn't used to, or which we wouldn't eat ourselves. We want fresh food."

The bank also accepts canned, dried and instant goods. It has a regular delivery program staffed by volunteers to help people who are unable to come to the bank, a no-cook food program for homeless people without cooking facilities, and baby food. It has a reputation for reliability among the suppliers. "We always show up to pick up stuff," says Smith, "even on a holiday. We promise to show up, and if you come, we promise to have food for you."

Although the food bank operates out of space donated by St. Mary's Church, it's a separate organization. "The bank buys health benefits for its staff and has non-profit status through the church," says Smith. "I want to offer the best" for her staff says Smith. "It's my job to figure out how to keep this going, and sometimes it's


scary. I appreciate every offer of help, even if it's \$5 per month, but big checks are a big help. Part of my job is to let folks know what we need: and we need money. The City of Seattle gives just under half of what we need, and it's enormously helpful."

She says the number of customers has grown dramatically, but that the bank now has the physical infrastructure to handle it, with big freezers and power palletes to unload trucks. Cardboard boxes flattened and taken to the recycling center paid enough for the bank to buy rain jackets for the staff. Every penny counts. "I feel blessed to work with these people. They work so hard," says Smith. "This matters to them, and to me. It's personal to me. I'm a mom. I don't want any one in the community to go home have to tell the kids 'We don't have food for supper or breakfast.' That's why we're here."



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Come to our next Community Council Meeting!
 Discussion to include updates on SPU's flood proposals, and proposals for use of MLK Jr. Elementary. See Calendar on page 1 for details.

SPU Not Ready To Pick Flood Control Alternative

by Wallis Bolz

Residents of Madison Valley will recall that in October 2007, Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) took comments on six alternatives to alleviate flooding in Madison Valley, including two preferred alternatives: 200 Block Above Ground Storage and NW Diversion & Stormwater Storage in Washington Park.

The 200 Block option includes the acquisition of all private property in the 200 block of 30th and 31st Avenues East, demolition of housing and the construction of a detention pond; and the expansion of the current detention pond at 30th Ave. E. and E. John St. Late last year, SPU acquired the two homes south of the current detention pond.

The NW Diversion option redirects a portion of the Madison Valley watershed to a storage vault beneath the Washington Park Playfield. Instead of flowing to 30th and E. John St., and then to the storage vault in Washington Park, surface and stormwater from the Northwest portion of the watershed will flow through a new pipe whose route follows 27th Ave. E. and E. Madison St.

In response to queries from members of the Madison Valley Engineering Sub-Committee regarding SPU's progress toward selection of an option, SPU sent the following email, dated January 11, 2008:

"Over the past year, we [SPU] have made good progress on the long-term solution project and are continuing to move toward the implementation of the project. We have:

- Developed a detailed computer model of the combined sewer system that allows us to better understand what is needed to prevent flooding caused by major storms, in the area around 30th Ave. E. and E. John St.
- Held many coordination meetings with external agencies necessary for this project including: Seattle Parks and Recreation Department, King County Wastewater Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Washington State Department of Ecology,

⇒ Please see **Flood Control** on page 4

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