

The Valley View

Newsletter of the Greater Madison Valley Community Council

Issue 91, February 2001

E-mail: madisonvalley@juno.com

President's View

by Gary Emslie

Already it's February and our weather maintains a mild touch. Sarah Trethewey reports that we are on schedule to plant the new Madison Valley P-Patch in April. Volunteers are always welcome. Let your neighborhood gardeners know of this jewel of a project tucked in at the end of 30th Ave E., at the bottom of the bluff behind City People's Nursery.

January's community meeting was held at the Bush School. Over fifty neighbors and friends attended this meeting where the school described its long range planning process. Much information was shared and many great questions were left in the school planner's hands. A sampling of the questions included neighbor's desires to have the school provide off-street parking. Building of an underground

garage near buildings that draw the most visitors to campus was one suggestion. Other neighbors voiced opinion/concern for campus lighting (security), preservation of old trees on the site, the visual impact of any new buildings, and maintaining open spaces that the community might use during non-school hours. (See related article, below.) The school will have a series of open houses so that neighbors can continue the dialog that was begun at the January meeting.

Mark your calendars: the second annual Neighbor Appreciation Day free pancake breakfast will be held in the Bush School Commons on February 10 from 8 a.m. until 11 a.m.. Come join your neighbors in conversation over breakfast. If you're interested in volunteering for this neighborhood event, just call Gary at 324-7139.

Don't forget to support your

neighborhood public school. Vote on February 6th. The Schools First campaign tells us that this levy vote is critical for the Seattle Schools. Please support your neighborhood schools. Get out and VOTE.

Do you and your neighbors have issues/concerns? Bring them to the council. It's your council and we all benefit from your involvement, regardless of the issue or concern.



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Bush School Building Plans Rocking the Neighborhood

by Jack Irwin

The community council's January meeting was held in Bush School's lunchroom, at their invitation. The new headmaster, Frank Magusin, has a big job overseeing an enormous project that may tie up our area for years to come. Bush plans to demolish and replace all the buildings on its elementary and middle school campus. Exceptions may include the newer gym and theatre structures.

Don Carlson and Bill Luria, architects of the scheme, presented two preliminary drawings and responded to questions from the audience of about fifty people. One local citizen suggested that the school was in the wrong place altogether, but most comments dealt with parking and problems of street congestion, the size and height of new buildings, and the construction schedule. Several voters wanted to know what written guarantees the school might provide to

long-suffering neighbors.

Bush and M. L. King School are the two large institutions in our little domain of Madison Valley. They share the property between 32nd and 37th Avenues and between Harrison and Republican Streets. The western and eastern parts of the area present broad contrasts: Madison Valley with its modest houses and racially mixed middle or lower income population, and the more affluent sector, mainly white, toward the lake. Our community council is constantly aware of these differences. Mr. Magusin earnestly wishes to reach out to the skeptical neighbors in both directions, and to continue (we hope) a fruitful collaboration with King public school next door. On a very local scale this is something akin to what our new President Bush promised to do in his campaign. This uniting task is formidable. When was the last time Dorffel Drive people gave a thought to the folks around Martin Luther King Way, and vice versa?

Watch the Valley View for more information and opinions from readers, coming soon!



Big News Department

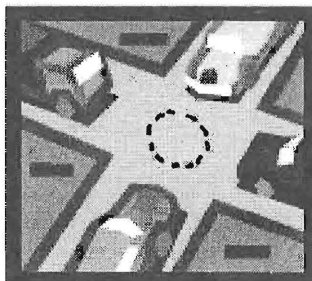
27th & Denny Traffic Circle Wins NMF Grant

by Cathy Baker

A group of neighbors near 27th & Denny have been successful in getting a grant from the City's Neighborhood Matching Fund to help them build a traffic circle at 27th & Denny. The group was awarded \$4,487 from the City. As required by the City, the local residents have committed an equal amount in cash and in-kind contributions as match for the grant.

In the next few months, the group will be developing a landscape design and

hiring a contractor to do the construction. If all goes as planned, the traffic circle will be in place by this coming summer. ▼▼



Gardening with Native Plants

Gardening with the Natives

by Cathy Nunneley

When the chill winter rain and wind keep us inside dreaming of the milder days to come, we have time to reflect on those gardening pioneers that contributed to our horticultural pleasures. This month we look briefly at two such early plantmen of the northwest.

The earliest recorded botanical efforts in Puget Sound were made by Jose Mazino in 1791. He was part of the Malaspina Expedition. Capt. Alessandro Malaspina led his explorers along the Alaskan Coast (the Malaspina glacier along the base of Mt. St. Elias is named for him) and around Vancouver Island. On the lands within Nootka Sound, Mazino collected native seeds and became the first to send them back to Europe. He is noted for the introduction of the Cascade Oregon Grape to Spain.

In the next century, the Scottish botanist David Douglas (1798-1834) dominated the field with his contributions to the appreciation and understanding of Northwest flora. He was working as a gardener at the Botanical Garden in Glasgow when he

was recruited as a botanical collector for the Royal Horticultural Society. His first trip was to the Oregon Territory in 1823. His duties were to collect dried specimens of the area's flora as well as to collect seeds for propagation in England. His efforts received great acclaim in Great Britain, as he was able to identify most of the natives we recognize even today.

Douglas was an intrepid traveler. He endured much hardship and challenges during his explorations including loneliness, mental anguish, deprivations and difficulties with the Native peoples. Between 1825 and 1827 he traveled extensively through British Columbia finally reaching Hudson Bay. During this trip, he identified the Douglas Fir, which bears his name. From 1830 to 1834 he explored California and the Fraser River area. He died during his last expedition in the Sandwich (Hawaiian) Islands. Altogether he introduced more than 50 trees and shrubs and about 100 herbaceous plants into England. He is routinely cited as the greatest contributor to the use of Northwest natives in gardens throughout the world. Not until the twentieth century was there any effort to supercede his work. ▼▼

Poets Corner

The Cage

by Amity Lumper

Upon Entering:

The sign of a sign fallen
"precious open space" it exclaims!
as ivy chokes its legs,
and our poisons wash o'er its face.

Fir and Cedar saplings
showered with autumn's
gift of leaves,
still holding to memories of "willing
hands."

The ground groans among'st
blackberry's thorns,
while the large maple gasps
for breath.even one breath of

-air it no longer remembers.

She reminds us that
we're unfettering her
only to chain her up again.

Yes, the ivy's broken free, and
indeed, blackberry's arches
are once again crippled,
but she has no air left
to breathe.to breathe.

Upon the door's closing:

Snagged by thorny arms
wound in a maze of vines

Pricked, prodded
scratched, scarred
bruised, bleeding
panicking for a way out
1-way out
no more weeds, intruders, invaders
let me out.

Upon exiting:

.out into
(civilization)
a predictable world
of asphalt
pesticides
exhaust
a place that confines
me more
than nature ever could

be confined to that place. ▼▼

The Photographic Collections of the Seattle Municipal Archives

by Miriam Roskin

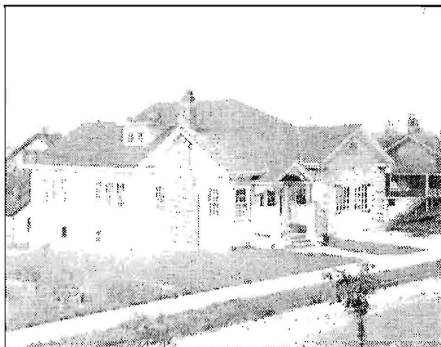
One of the best ways to tell a story or learn about our world is through pictures, and the City of Seattle offers all citizens access to a tremendous photographic resource through the Municipal Archives. Dating from the early 1900s to the present, the photographs document public works, parks, City employees, and many other facets of work and life in Seattle.

All of the photographs are public records and available for public use. One way to view them is from the Archives' website, found at www.ci.seattle.wa.us/seattle/let/clerk/archhome.htm. Or, you can call the City Archivist at 206/684-8353.

Photos of Seattle parks and the work of the Seattle Parks and Recreation Department are especially well represented by the Don Sherwood Parks History and Ben Evans Recreation Program collections. These pictures – more than 2,700 of them! – date from 1891 to 1984.

Don Sherwood worked for the Parks Department from the early 1970s to 1977. He researched parks history throughout

his career, and the image collection he compiled includes park properties, sports and recreation events, and an array of parks and recreation facilities. The largest number of photos feature Lake Washington Boulevard, Leschi Park, and Volunteer Park, each of which are in our own vicinity. Green Lake, Lincoln Park, Wood-



Firehouse at 32nd and Madison, 1927

land Park, and Ravenna Park are also featured prominently.

Ben Evans also worked for the Parks Department. The photos he collected include employees, participants in sporting events (including kite-flying contests!), the City skiing program at Snoqualmie, and Aqua Theatre productions.

The photographic collections offer much more, including over 7,000 images of the Pike Place Market, both historical and contemporary.

You can also search by neighborhood; the photo reproduced above can be found by searching on "Denny-Blaine" in the location selector within the photographic index. ▼▼

The Valley View is always interested in hearing about other good sources of information about our neighborhood and our community. If you have one to share, let us know at madisonvalley@juno.com, or call Miriam at 206/325-8126.

GMVCC Meeting of January 16, 2001

Gary called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Gary told us that the council's balance is now \$9,833.56, mostly thanks to the great courtyard sale. Great job everyone! February 10 is neighbor appreciation day so make sure to show up for the free pancake breakfast from 8 to 11 a.m. in the Bush School cafeteria!

Sarah Trethewey spoke briefly about the p-patch. We got the City grant and we will probably start planting on April 15. Volunteers are greatly appreciated.

Mary Lynn Jenson informed the council about a cellular antenna that has been recommended to go up at 1006 Turner Way East, just north of Aloha Street.

At this meeting we joined by Frank Magusin, head of the Bush School, as well as Bill Luria and Don Carlson, both part of the Carlson architects group. They spoke about the plans for the upcoming renovations on the Bush School. They told us that the master plan will probably be done by May of this year. After that will come fundraising. Some of the main goals are to make classrooms and learning space more flexible, better use of open space and better/more parking. They are looking for feedback from the community!

In the ensuing open discussion, parking appeared to be the main concern of the neighbors, with specific comments focusing on the flow of traffic, event parking and the location of proposed underground lots.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m. ▼▼

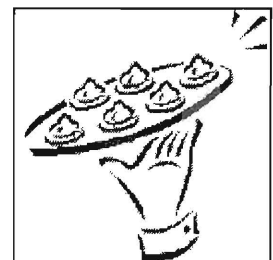
Recipe File

by Eli Stahlhut

Great for party appetizers!

Fatal Feta Cheese Spread

- 1 lb. Feta Cheese
- 1 cup Cottage Cheese
- 1/3 cup Plain Yogurt
- 6 to 10 Garlic Cloves (medium size)
- 3 teaspoons Olive Oil
- Chives (optional)



Blend all ingredients in blender. Refrigerate 4 to 24 hours before serving on toasted French bread rounds. ▼▼

THE VALLEY VIEW

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Community Council
Member of the Seattle
Community Council Federation

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Mail to the address above.

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Next Community Council Meeting

Tuesday, February 20, 2001, 7:30 p.m.
Martin Luther King Elementary School Portables
3201 E. Republican Street
(parking available on playfield)

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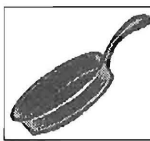
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Please contact me for mailing parties, writing, reporting, artwork, or other. My interests are:

GMVCC
2802 E. Madison Street, #184
Seattle, WA 98112



Come celebrate
Seattle Neighbor Appreciation Day
at the Second Annual Greater Madison Valley

Free Pancake Breakfast


DATE: Saturday, Feb. 10, 2001
from 8:00 am to 11:00 am

PLACE: Bush School Cafeteria
(36th Ave E. and E. Harrison)

COST: Free! Completely Free!

Sponsored by the Greater Madison Valley Community Council

The Bush School invites you to an **OPEN HOUSE**
Tues., February 13th
5:30 - 7:30 PM
in the Commons
to discuss the preliminary campus master plans with the architects, staff, and trustee members
for more information, call 206/326-7771



The Bush School
405 - 36th Ave East
Seattle WA 98112

MUSIC
BENARDYA PERFORMANCE HALL