



# THE VALLEY VIEW

Newsletter of the Greater Madison Valley Community Council

Issue 154

madisonvalley.org

April 2008

## What Should Our Parks Look Like?

by Jen Sorenson



How about some play facilities in Madison Valley?

Do you wish there were more play areas for kids in Madison Valley? Want enhanced facilities at the Arboretum or William Grose Park? Now is a great time to share your concerns with the Seattle Parks and Recreation Department. Seattle Parks is soliciting community input for a five-year Strategic Action Plan that will guide decision-making, budgets, and vision for Parks facilities and services. The department is holding over 30 public meetings in April, and intends to release a final Strategic Plan this summer.

Seattle Parks and Recreation is much more than just playfields. They manage a wide array of green spaces, sports grounds, beaches, community centers, and special destinations such as the Aquarium and the Langston Hughes Performing Arts Center. Parks also offers a range of activities year-round for kids, teens, and adults. Help shape the next five years of recreational planning in Seattle by participating in one of the many upcoming public meetings. Some of the meetings closest to Madison Valley are:

- **Saturday April 12, 10am-noon:** Miller Community Center, 330 19th Ave. E
- **Monday April 14, 6:30-8:30pm:** Graham Visitors Center, Washington Park Arboretum
- **Wednesday April 16, 6:30-8:30pm:** Montlake Community Center, 1618 E. Calhoun
- **Monday April 21, 6:30-8:30pm:** Garfield Community Center, 2323 E. Cherry

For a complete list of Strategic Action Plan community meetings, check the Parks website: [www.seattle.gov/parks/Publications/ParksActionPlanMtgs.htm](http://www.seattle.gov/parks/Publications/ParksActionPlanMtgs.htm).



## Outdoor "Spring Clean" : Sat, April 12

by Wallis Bolz

Join your neighbors Saturday, April 12, from 9:00 am to noon for Spring Clean 2008. Bring kids, wheelbarrows, tarps, gloves, pruning shears, loppers, shovels and a drinking vessel! Seattle Public Utilities will supply gloves, rakes, bags, and trash pickup. Green Footprints Action Works will supply sand, compost, logs and trees for the Planting Strip Clean and Rehab! Meet up at one of three locations:

- 25th Avenue East and E Harrison St: Right-of-Way Wetland Restoration & Beautification Project
- 28th Avenue East at E Ward St: Woody Lane, "Free the Trees" Ivy Clipping Project & Planting Strip Rehab!
- 24th Avenue East between Aloha and Valley: the Wells Alley Clean Up

➡ Please see **Spring Clean** on page 2

## One of our Neighbors: Daron Henry of *Recess Monkey*

by Shawna McGarry



Daron Henry (center)  
photo: [www.recessmonkeytown.com](http://www.recessmonkeytown.com)

Not having kids myself, I only recently learned of the popular Seattle kids' band, "Recess Monkey," whose drummer, Daron Henry, has been a Madison Valley resident for over ten years. Working on their fourth album, "Tabby Road," Recess Monkey frequently plays shows around

Seattle and its suburbs. I attended a recent show at the Henry Art Gallery and was extremely entertained by their upbeat, poppy songs and interactive performance style. The overcapacity dancing and singing crowd—both kids and parents—added to the festive scene. Many of the parents danced and sang along just as exuberantly as the children, which is a testament to how appealing the music is to people of all ages.

Band members Daron Henry, Drew Holloway, and Jack Forman met as teachers at the University Child Development School (UCDS). Daron now teaches at the Giddens School. The trio originally formed an adult band called "Waiting Room." Recess Monkey developed out of a graduate school project of Drew's, and expanded with music summer camps for kids. At the summer camps there were many stages and ways for kids to help contribute to what would ultimately be the next Recess Monkey album, including some live recording sessions. The camps became so popular

➡ Please see **Recess Monkey** on page 4



## Events Calendar

**Madison Valley Merchants Association.** Wednesday, April 9, 8:30 a.m. Café Flora, 2901 E. Madison St.

**Greater Madison Valley Community Council.** Wednesday, April 16, 7:30 p.m. Bush School's Common Room (entrance on E. Harrison St. and 34th Ave. E.)

**East Precinct Crime Prevention Coalition.** Thursday, April 24, 6:30-8:00 p.m. at Seattle Vocation Institute, Room #401, 2120 S Jackson St.

**Open Meetings with Mary Bass, Seattle School Board Director.** April 11 & 25, 6:00 p.m. Garfield Community Center, 2323 E. Cherry St.

**CANP Stewardship Meeting.** Thursday, May 1, 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. Garfield Community Center, 2323 E. Cherry St. See p. 6.

GMVCC ID Statement

**The Valley View**

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**Spring Clean, continued from p. 1**

Pick up your *Green Footprints Rights-of-Way Walking Tour* map at any one of the three clean up sites. All Madison Valley residents and businesspeople are welcome to join the effort. For more info, contact Eileen Maloney (eileen.maloney@gmail.com, 234-3636) or Wallis Bolz (wallis@allaboutcarl.com, 329-3672) 

**The Kissing School**

by Kathleen Dayton

The Madison Valley is home to The Kissing School, perhaps the only business in the country dedicated to the art and skill of kissing. The school's offices are located on Madison Street at 2808 II E. Madison between Rovers Restaurant and Fury Women's Consignment Shop. The school's kissing classes, or "playsshops", take place at the Inner Space movement studio in the same building.

Psychotherapist and healer Cherie Byrd began The Kissing School in 1998. Cherie holds degrees in East/West psychology and holistic health from Antioch University, and has followed her lifelong passion for what she describes as energy medicine and psychology, shamanic healing practices and sacred sexuality. In person, Cherie emanates a welcoming and passionate enthusiasm for her goal at The Kissing School - to teach her students to cultivate deep intimacy and passion in their relationships with themselves and others.

Couples spend the day moving through a series of guided experiences to sense and strengthen their connections to their own bodies and their partners. Activities include touch, massage, dance, and of course, much kissing. After the kissing class, interested couples can go on to take classes in "Tantric Embodiment Training" and "Lessons in Sacred Sexuality."

The Kissing School has attracted national and international interest. Cherie has done many interviews with publications and shows around the world, and often has students from other parts of the country and abroad. She frequently speaks at seminars and retreats. She has also published a book covering the essentials of her courses, *Kissing School: 7 Lessons on Love, Lips and Life Force*. More information about Cherie Byrd and The Kissing School can be found at [www.kissingschool.com](http://www.kissingschool.com). 



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# Shop for Children's in Madison Valley

By Pippa Kiraly

Meet Todd. When he was about six, Todd ended up at Children's Hospital after an accident left him paralyzed from the neck down and on a ventilator to breathe. Today, he directs his wheelchair through a sip/puff straw and volunteers on the Children's Rehabilitation Medicine unit when he isn't working at his job in the computer industry. Because of the help he received in that same unit as a child, he feels a need to give back.



A patient enjoys her rehabilitation session at Children's. Photo: Nancy Levine

Children's is a Level 1 Pediatric Rehabilitation Trauma Center, so many of the kids arrive from Washington and nearby states with complicated medical situations. Laura Crooks, director for the past 15 years says a typical child here "will have a physical therapist, an occupational therapist, a speech/language pathologist" (to help them relearn

how to swallow or write) "therapeutic recreation help to get them out into the community to practice their new skills, a rehab psychologist, a school teacher who works closely with the child's school, a social worker to help the family adjust, a rehab nurse, and a rehab physician, all working with that child and his/her family." The child's family is involved from the outset, and learns how to care for the child once he or she goes home. "Once the child can function in the community, we try to get them back to a place nearer home for ongoing help," says Crooks.

The rehab unit's stated job is to increase a child's function to maximize his or her ability to cope in the community. Otherwise some

could end up in a nursing home, or not be able to go back to school. "In the long run, it's less expensive to have the child become functional in life, a productive member of society and able to care for herself, than the alternative of sending her to a nursing home." Sometimes, insurance only pays a part, and a family can worry it will "lose its home or worry about heat versus medical bills."

Phil Smart, Sr. was the first male volunteer at Children's, beginning in 1961 and continuing for over 40 years. The Phil Smart, Sr. Endowment for Rehabilitation Medicine at Children's Hospital and Medical Center supports two major areas. It funds extra therapy or equipment for kids whose families can't pay. And, it helps support research in connected areas such as muscular dystrophy or traumatic brain injuries.

The unit has 12 beds, and children may be there for a week or a couple of months. In 2007, 105 children stayed there and 1200 came to the outpatient clinic. "A lot of things happen here which are really tragic, really devastating, but we focus on the kids. If anything happened to my kids, I'd bring them here in a heartbeat," says Crooks.



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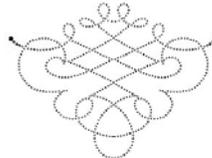
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### **Recess Monkey**, *continued from p. 1*

they had to turn kids away. Thus, for “Tabby Road”, the band decided to invite families to attend live recording sessions this spring. For a \$20 pre-CD purchase admission, families have the opportunity to attend recording sessions, sing-along on the record, and receive an advance copy of the latest CD at the end of April, two months before its official release in July. These sessions will help to subsidize the cost of production and also allow the band to do an East Coast tour this summer in lieu of a camp. Prior to the summer tour, they will continue playing events around Washington, including a dream show opening up for the Dalai Lama on his “Seeds of Compassion” tour, which stops at Qwest Field on April 12<sup>th</sup>. They are extremely honored to open for the Dalai Lama and will surely play their song, “Going to the Zoo with the Dalai Lama.”

I asked Daron if he ever gets nervous playing in front of a big audience and he explained that he and the other band members have been performing musically since they were young and that Recess Monkey’s rise in popularity has been gradual enough that they have been able to adapt. In addition, he explained that as teachers they must improvise with their students every day, which increases their ability to improvise on stage. He recently brought music to the classroom by helping teach fractions with whole and half notes. It is abundantly clear that Daron cares deeply about the work he does with children in the classroom and as a musician and that each career informs the other. Whether you have kids in your life or not, check out Recess Monkey. They have a fabulous website at: [www.recessmonkeytown.com](http://www.recessmonkeytown.com), where you can listen to their earlier albums—full of funny, educational stories to bring out the kid in all of us. (They’re perfect for children ages 3 – 10.) Our neighbor, Daron Henry, is a good example of the talent and creativity that exists in Madison Valley. 

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## It's 'Green'!

by Jennifer Karkar Ritchie



Fury: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle in Style!

Seattle is rife with environmental movements. From newly built green homes to the upcoming mandate on recycling compost, the desire to reduce our human footprint thrives in the Emerald City. It's no wonder, places like our very own Fury, located at 2810 E Madison St, is abuzz with business.

A Madison Valley staple since 1985, Fury has a reputation as one of the best consignment shops in Seattle, especially among thrifty shoppers looking for name brand pieces. You'll find an array of styles, sizes and designers with an emphasis on seasonal items and great discounts on aging merchandise. Owners

and shopkeepers, Pam Levin and her daughter Sam are gracious hosts. They have a keen eye for accepting consigned items that are well-made, unstained, stylish, and they price the clothing to sell.

Fury's designer section which features big name brands Chanel, Dolce & Gabana, Nanette Lepore, and St. John appeals to neighborhood fashionistas, while cost-conscious shoppers can select from a wide array of other, very affordable pieces from Banana Republic, Nordstrom, BCBG, and more. And, shopping second hand not only saves significant green in the way of cash, it allows environmentally-minded consumers to exercise 'reuse' when making a new purchase. Two great reasons to visit Fury. 



## SUMMER LEARNING

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#### INFORMATION:

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# Central Area Neighborhood Plan: Where Do YOU Live?

by Adrienne W. Bailey

"Where do you live?" When asked this question, what do you say? What comes to mind first, your neighborhood or the community? The Central Area is a community of many unique neighborhoods: Madison Valley, Madrona, Leschi, Squire Park, and Judkins, just to name a few. These and the various other neighborhoods are what make the Central Area such a unique community. I am not saying not to have pride in your neighborhood; just simply have greater pride and concern for our Community of neighborhoods.

In the past when we were asked this question, we would say with pride, "the Central Area" or "the CD". That pride in living in the Central Area went beyond our residing in a particular neighborhood. It was our life experience, our everyday existence. Our world was the whole Central Area Community. The neighborhood we resided in was secondary. But now, when residents are asked this question, they say their neighborhood. Quite often the only time the Central Area is mentioned is when they are pressed as to what Community this neighborhood is a part of in Seattle. This trend of distancing oneself from the Central Area Community for the sake of their neighborhood only weakens our Community...and our ability to work together for the greater good of our entire Community.

The Central Area Neighborhood Plan is all about the importance of Community. We cannot afford this myopic thinking and behavior of "my neighborhood first, foremost, and only". With all the activity surrounding Neighborhood Planning it is imperative that all people of all the neighborhoods within the Central Area get involved with the Central Area Neighborhood Plan Stewardship.

For example, decisions involving land use codes, construction, developments and housing being made in one part of the Central Area will likely have a direct at least a residual impact on other neighborhoods of the Central Area. (see article, right). This will affect the

character of our neighborhoods, traffic impact and accumulative flow, parking, safety, and the overall quality of life.

Furthermore, in light of the most recent shooting(s), the violent loss of our young people and everyone's general concerns regarding safety in our community, The Central Area Neighborhood Plan Stewardship will be having a Community Safety Forum. So mark your calendar for May 17<sup>th</sup>, 10am - 2pm at Garfield Community Center, 2323 East Cherry St (corner of 23<sup>rd</sup> & Cherry). This forum will be very informative on issues such as Block Watches, Community safety activities and Emergency Preparedness. There is still time for your input, participation and we are also in need of volunteers the day of this event.

For further information contact Adrienne Bailey ([kismit.2000@Yahoo.com](mailto:kismit.2000@Yahoo.com)). The Central Area Neighborhood Plan Stewardship meets the first Thursday of the month, 6:00pm at Garfield Community Center, 2323 East Cherry St (corner of 23<sup>rd</sup> & Cherry) . 

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## How Should Neighborhood Land Be Used?

by Kathryn Keller & Marty Liebowitz

Formation of the Land-Use, Open Space and Housing Committee of the Central Area Neighborhood Plan (CANP) Stewardship has started. The Land-Use Committee concerns itself with properly representing the goals and aspirations of the Central Area community in updating several sections of the Neighborhood Plan which deal with Comprehensive Planning, Land Use and Zoning codes, Sustainability, and design guideline overlays for the different neighborhoods of the Central Area Community. The committee wants broad neighborhood participation, and to have their work be transparent, open, and inclusive. We currently plan to:

1. Respond and reach out to citizens regarding the Multi-Family land use code update proposal now under review by the Seattle City Council.
2. Review the 2008 Comprehensive Plan amendments, including "Affordable Housing Strategies".
3. Develop any desired Central Area 2009 Comp Plan Amendments.
4. Update and take steps to enact Central Area Design Review policies, and include a Central Area Overlay District in the Seattle Land Use Code.

Neighborhood Plan update preparation activities include:

1. Understand current 2008 zoning and land use realities, and identify gaps with the CANP.
2. Collaborate with the Economic Development and Transportation and Arterial efforts/committees.
3. Determine updates that are required immediately that may be handled as separate City Council actions.
4. Determine the agenda for the Land Use, Open Space, and Housing updates, which will be done within the framework of the CANP update process.

Please contact Kathryn Keller ([ktkeller@earthlink.net](mailto:ktkeller@earthlink.net)) or Marty Liebowitz ([marty@madronacompany.com](mailto:marty@madronacompany.com)) for dates and times of the Committee meetings. 

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## MLK Proposals, *continued from p. 8*

tions. They expect to “grow” into the site.

*Some individual comments and concerns were:* Whether FAME, as a faith-based organization, is able to serve a broad population; our continuing need for community meeting space; concern that it's unknown who would sublease space from FAME; and concern whether FAME would be able to meet the neighborhood's need for a stage, cafeteria, and play area.

### 2. Bush School:

Frank Magusin, head of Bush School, spoke. Bush has 580 students, and has been here about 80 years. Bush has no immediate use for the site; Magusin mentioned the school's desire for its own play-field.

*Some individual comments and concerns were:* Would there be room for a playground? (Magusin said most likely, if the community finds that important). Fear Bush would allow community use only for a while, then “forget”. Want both youth and elderly served. Proposal for site uninspiring.

### 3. Cultural Arts Center For Madison Valley:

Andy Engelson presented his group's plan to develop a community and cultural center in Madison Valley. The proposal includes office space, meeting space, performance space and an affordable housing community. More information can be found at <http://madisonvalleyarts.blogspot.com/>

*Some individual comments and concerns were:* Are you just interested in Arts? What about children?

The presentations ended unexpectedly when a fire alarm was accidentally triggered, an exciting end to an exciting meeting!



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## What's Up On Madison

by Ann McCurdy

Our merchants—and their customers—are a generous bunch! Last month's **Madison Valley Food Drive** netted a nice big carload of food—three times the amount as last year—benefiting the Food Bank @ St. Mary's. And **Bingo Night for T.T. Minor Elementary**, sponsored by the **Madison Valley Merchants**, also brought in much-needed money for their PTA. Thanks to all!

Many thanks also to those who responded to the **Valley View's** plea for help. You'll be seeing new names as writers, ad people, and others. The dust is still settling—I'm too busy to figure out who wants to do what—but I'm thankful for help. But there's always room for more hands! Contact Ann McCurdy at [editor@madisonvalley.org](mailto:editor@madisonvalley.org) for info.

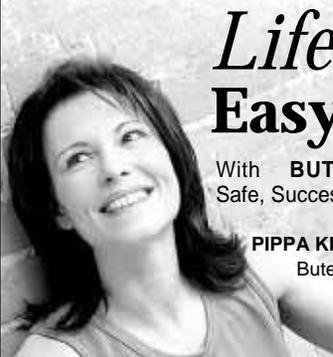
Looking for more excuses to play on your computer? Here are two: There's a **Madison Valley Community Yahoo group**, in which you can discuss issues pertaining to our neighborhood. To subscribe, e-mail [madisonvalleycommunity-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:madisonvalleycommunity-subscribe@yahoogroups.com). Finally, there's a new “**neighborhood blog**” focusing on events, people and places in Madison Valley, the Central District and Capitol Hill” Check it out at <http://98112.net>. 



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# Three Very Different Proposals for MLK

by Ann McCurdy, co-Secretary

More than 40 people attended our public forum concerning the site of the now-closed Martin Luther King, Jr. Elementary School. While this was a community council meeting, GMVCC president Wallis Bolz handed the entire meeting over to three groups, who presented themselves and their plans for the site. No votes or actions were taken: this was strictly to let the community know some of the possible futures for the location.

Attendees included Mary Bass of the Seattle School Board; Washington State House Representative Eric Pettigrew (37<sup>th</sup> District), and Seattle City Councilmember Richard Conlin. Mary Bass told the meeting that the Seattle School Board has "surplused" MLK, meaning it can now be leased or sold. The Seattle School Board has adopted a new policy governing leases and sales. The policy is available at [www.seattleschools.org/area/board/031208agenda/h02.01.pdf](http://www.seattleschools.org/area/board/031208agenda/h02.01.pdf).

## 1. First A.M.E. Child and Family Center:

Rev. Carey Anderson of First African Methodist Episcopal Church (FAME) described its Early Childhood and Family Support Services program. Established in 1980, it provides free Early Head Start, Head Start, and Child Care programs, serving children from birth to age five. FAME wants to house administrative staff at the MLK site (50 employees), and sub-lease space to other non-profit organiza-

⇒ Please see **MLK Proposals** on page 7

### Seattle Public Utilities Madison Valley Long-Term Stormwater Project SEPA Determination of Nonsignificance (DNS)

Description of Proposal: SPU is proposing a long-term solution to alleviate sewer backups and system-related stormwater flooding in Madison Valley which has occurred during very large storms.

Phase 1 would expand the existing above-ground stormwater storage facility in the 100 block of 30<sup>th</sup> Avenue East by two properties to the south. Phase 2 would be one of two proposed alternatives. Alternative A would construct additional above-ground storage in the 200 block of 30<sup>th</sup> Avenue East. Alternative B would divert approximately one-third of stormwater flows from Madison Valley to stormwater storage in Washington Park (some below ground and some above ground). Under either alternative, Phase 2 also would include improvements for flood control at Martin Luther King Jr. Way, 29<sup>th</sup> Avenue East, and 31<sup>st</sup> Avenue East.

All of the proposed above- and below-grade storage facilities are intended to store stormwater from surface runoff and the separated stormwater pipe system within the Madison Valley basin. The storage facilities all are designed for large stormwater runoff events. The above-grade facilities (grassy areas) in the 100 and 200 blocks are estimated to be filled for short periods during very large storms that may occur approximately every 3 to 4 years. The 200 block park-like stormwater facility would only be developed if Seattle's elected officials selected Alternative A for implementation. Water is expected to remain in the stormwater storage facilities for several hours until there is capacity in the combined piped system to accept this stormwater. The combined sewer system carries all drainage water from the area to the West Point Treatment Plant.

Proponent: Seattle Public Utilities  
 Seattle Municipal Tower, Suite 4900  
 PO Box 34018  
 Seattle, WA 98124-4018  
 Attn: Celia Kennedy, Project Manager, 206-684-4606

Location of Proposal, including street address, if any:

PHASE 1 is located on the west half of the 100 Block of 30th Avenue East, between East Denny Way and East John Street.

PHASE 2 - Alternative A is located within the entire 200 Block between 30th Avenue

East and 31st Avenue East and between East Thomas Street and East John Street.

PHASE 2 - Alternative B drainage pipeline route is expected to run along the roadways of 27th Avenue East, East Arthur Place, 29th Avenue East, and East Madison Street, ending at a proposed new stormwater storage facility within the south end of Washington Park next to East Madison Street.

The project sites are located within Township 25 North, Range 04 East, Section 28.

Lead Agency:

Seattle Public Utilities (SPU), the lead agency for this proposal, has determined that it does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c). This decision was made after review of a completed environmental checklist and other related documents on file with the lead agency. This information may be examined at Seattle Public Utilities offices by contacting the Project Manager listed above.

This DNS is issued under 197-11-340(2); the lead agency will not act on this proposal for 14 days from the publication date below.

Comments must be submitted by April 11, 2008

Responsible Official: Joy Keniston-Longrie  
 Major Interagency Projects Director  
 Seattle Public Utilities  
 Seattle Municipal Tower, Suite 4900  
 PO Box 34018  
 Seattle, WA 98124-4018  
 (206) 684-5972

Date of Publication in the Seattle Daily Journal of Commerce: March 27, 2008

You may appeal this determination, City Hearing Examiner  
in writing, no later than April 18, 2008 to: PO Box 94729  
 Seattle, WA 98124-4729

There is a \$50 filing fee for the appeal. If you appeal, you should be prepared to make specific factual objections.

Contact the Hearing Examiner at (206) 684-0521 to ask about or to make arrangements to read the procedures for SEPA appeals.