NEWSLETTER OF THE GREATER MADISON VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MAY — JUNE 2012 ISSUE NO. 182

Bastille Bash Planned for Madison Valley Street Festival

By Lindy Wishard

The Madison Valley Merchants Association has big plans underway for a local street festival this summer. You are invited to join the party on Saturday, July 14th to celebrate Bastille Day. Festivities will take place all along Madison Street from 3:00 -8:00 p.m. Taste your way up and down Madison as local restaurants will be offering gourmet confections. Washington wineries will also be conducting a free wine tasting. Enjoy live entertainment, complimentary spa services, shopping, and so much more.

The event will support the Children's Response Center, a non-profit group that cares for children who have experienced assault or other traumatic events. See <u>childrensre-</u> <u>sponsecenter.org</u>. We're currently seeking volunteers to help with this exciting event. For more information, please contact Lindy Wishard 206-552-0345 or <u>lindy@lindywishard.com</u>.

Bush School's Day of Service at MLK F.A.M.E. Community Center By Faye Williams



Over 120 Bush School students and teachers spear-headed by Bush student Ben Pryde (in photo, left) volunteered their services to enhance the center both inside and out. Volunteers added fresh paint to the inside and outside walls. The landscape was beautified by lawn mowing, weeding flower beds, cutting back tree branches and spreading a truck load of fresh

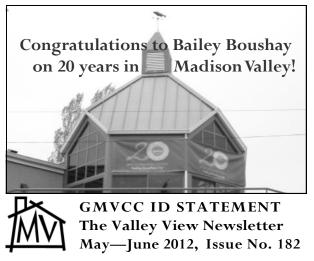
bark. Student Sonja Harroldson readily volunteered her talent when asked to create mural drawings adding new life to the center's auditorium and outside basketball court. History teacher Gardiner Vinnedge helped students freshen up the outdoor basketball court by taping up and painting throw lines. Vinnedge said that he once lived in the neighborhood and was delighted to help. Mathematics teacher Martin... *Cont'd p. 6* SEATTLE COMMUNITY COUNCIL FEDERATION MEMBER



Spring Swim at the Arboretum — Resident Dean Forbes spotted this sleek beaver in a large pond at the Arboretum in late March and snapped some beautiful photos to document our bountiful urban wildlife in the valley. This is the first beaver Dean has seen in our local wetlands and we're happy he had a camera handy so we can formally introduce and welcome the beaver to the neighborhood. You can check out more of Dean's artful shots at Dean Forbes Photography, at http://www.flickr.com/photos/dean_forbes.

Our Spring Issue... A Celebration of the Arts!

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*The Valley View reaches 2,200 homes and businesses in the Madison Valley area. It is published six times a year in January, March, May, July, September, and November.



GMVCC News Briefs

Wednesday, April 18 Council Meeting —

President Lindy Wishard called the meeting to order. A quorum was present. Introductions were made.

Playgrounds and Parks Projects: \$15 million has been allocated from a 2008 Parks levy for the renovation and creation of new parks. Ann McCurdy will try for a third time to have a play area installed in the Arboretum near the soccer field using these funds. The previous two grants were rejected because the Parks Dept was unwilling to take on the yearly maintenance costs. Karen Stockert has a proposal for an urban food forest, an area planted with a variety of fruit trees under-planted with vegetables. Food would be available to the community for harvest. It was also suggested we could map fruit trees in the neighborhood for harvest efforts. Another proposal was a "tot lot" play structure at the William Gross park. The property is in the Madrona community boundary and in the past the idea was met with resistance from neighbors. There was a unanimous GMVCC vote of support for Ann McCurdy's grant and the other proposals were also met with enthusiasm.

Neighborhood Care Group: Virginia Wyman and Christopher Laughlin shared a proposal to survey the community for services that are available for sharing. They wish to begin by offering elder care support in our neighborhood. They want to run finances through the GMVCC with our non-profit status. The members present were very supportive of the idea. It was decided to have more discussion and a legal review of the plan.

Madison Valley Business Association: A new logo has been adopted by the organization reflecting the concept of a "European Village" environment. A celebration on July 14 for Bastille Day will be held along Madison Street with many shops and restaurants participating. This is a joint even between the community and businesses.

Triangle at MLK & Madison: Lindy applied for a grant to restore that planting area and install a new neighborhood welcome sign. The grant was not funded. Another attempt will be made through the 2012 Large Project Fund.

FAME Community Center: Ron Flynn reported on progress at the center. The playground is included in the efforts. A Youth and Law Forum will be held on April 21.

Officer's Elections are coming up in May. GMVCC invites you to think of volunteering for a position!

Upcoming Council Meetings: Wed, May 16th & Wed, June 20th May — June 2012 Issue No. 182

President's Report

By Lindy Wishard

Madison Valley Greenways — Planning for greenways in Madison Valley and Madison Park is now underway. A "greenway" is a residential street equipped with special safety features to better accommodate pedestrians and cyclists. To get involved, you can contact Bob Edmiston at lenswork64@gmail.com or visit <u>www.facebook.com/</u> <u>MPGreenways</u>. You can also go online to <u>www.tinyurl.com/</u> <u>yzqkleo</u> to see an informative video on greenways.

Honey Skin Spa Now Open — Madison Valley welcomes Megan Sczesny, owner and aesthetician of Honey Skin Spa, located in Rover's courtyard in Suite IV. Honey offers a variety of facials tailored to your specific skin type, resulting in beautiful, healthy, vibrant skin. Honey also provides natural lash extensions, lash tinting, and lash dip, as well as body waxing using pure chamomile wax to minimize irritation and redness. Megan uses medical grade, organic skincare products and the same equipment as the finest five-star spas and medical offices. She has trained extensively at the best schools, and loves to pamper her clients. Call Megan for an appointment or complimentary consultation. Read more about her services on her website: <u>www.HoneySkinSpa.com</u>

Editor's Note

By N. Hawkins

I want to take a moment to warn our readers about an important public health warning in the neighborhood. Over the past year, more and more residents have been falling prey to a highly contagious **"Green Thumb Fever"**. It seems you can scarcely walk a block these days without seeing it's effects raised vegetable beds and small cottage gardens are springing



up in record numbers on front lawns, parking strips, alley ways, and anywhere residents can squeeze them in. Symptoms of Green Thumb Fever include aching backs, sore joints, calloused hands, dirty fingernails and a deep yearning to plant things in the

ground. You might also notice a tingling desire to get your hands and trousers dirty. The loamy soils of Madison Valley, and the protective slopes of our watershed contribute to excellent growing conditions that have increased the gardening epidemic locally. Preventative measures you can take to avoid catching the disease include shopping frequently... *Cont'd p.* 7

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THE VALLEY VIEW

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Let's Celebrate the Arts!

Spring Art Sale at Coyote Central on May 12, 11am to 5pm. This will be the 5th annual art sale and features 25 artists whose media include jewelry, ceramics, furnishings,

paintings, and fashion. Jemil's Big Easy Food Truck will be an added attraction. Also not to miss: **Coyote Central Celebrates World's Fair 50th Anniversary**, an exhibit in which Coyote's young artists designed and built giant lanterns as part of the 50th Anniversary celebration of the World's Fair, *The Next Fifty*.



The young artists, ages 10-18, were challenged to convey their hopes and concerns for the next fifty years through 3D shapes in the form of lanterns. They built complex bamboo and reed frames, wired in LED lights, enclosed them in Chinese silk and Japanese rice paper, and applied lined drawings and paintings to further clarify their ideas. Working with lead artists Carl Smool and Brent McDonald, their lanterns were installed for the April 21st Opening Ceremony, where they'll light up the glass-covered walkway between the international fountain and the Center House from April 21st to October 21st.

Madison Art Collective — On May 10th, from 5 to 8 pm Baas Studio is having an art opening for valley artist Karrie Baas. The exhibit, *365 in 365, An Installation* will run from May 10th - June 10th. In 2011 Karrie did blind contour drawings daily for the entire year ending on Dec 31st. The exhibit shows the complete project, where her drawings will be covering the art space from floor to ceiling. Also at Madison Art Collective, *Put A Bird On It.* Opening reception for the artists is June 14th, 5 to 8pm (runs through July 31st). This is a group show featuring Julia Ricketts & Claudia Schlosser (who work at Baas Framing Studio), Ellen Rutledge, Jeanne Keckler, Carla Dimitriou & Barbara Noonan, and Karrie Baas. All the art will feature birds in some way and they will be giving the first 100 people in the door a little gift.

A Class ACT — Local thespian Frank Lawler invites you to check out his upcoming show, The Pitmen Painters, at ACT Theatre: <u>http://www.acttheatre.org/Tickets/OnStage/</u><u>ThePitmenPainters</u>. Frank is playing Robert Lyon, an art instructor who teaches a group of coal miners from the Northeast of England how to paint. It's a comedy based on a true story by the same person who wrote the script for Billy Elliot.

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Mad About Fashion and Food — Vian Hunter House of Fashion is teaming with Luc Restaurant for Sunday night Mad Men viewing parties. Every Sunday night from 9:30-11pm at Luc. Dress up a little Mad Men in 50's and 60's inspired clothing and get special cocktails for \$6 and free

snacks. A bonus, Vian Hunter House of Fashion models will showcase vintage clothing from the era every Sunday night, and is available for purchase in her shop. Lisa's appearance on the new NBC series *Fashion Star* ended in the fourth episode, but she said the experience was immensely fun and positive, and it has helped highlight her brand on both a national and local level. The dress designs acquired by Macy's during the



competition sold out instantly downtown, but she has these same dresses and coats for sale in her Madison boutique now. When asked what she most admires about the clothing from 1950's and 60's, which inspire much of her modern line, she doesn't hesitate to answer, "They're so feminine!"

The Valley Beat — The Music Factory is looking to get the community involved in making the walkway to their main entrance look nice. It's a Seattle public walkway and they've



recently been in talks

with the city to turn it into a public park space. Proprietor and musician Ari Joshua, is looking for anyone who has extra sculptures to contribute, gardening abilities, or financial contributions to help spruce it up. The

Music Factory will soon be hosting a neighborhood recital. We'll post the details on our Valley View Facebook page.

New Class Combines Creative & Academic

Learning — Seattle's Thrive Art School is offering a new kind of art class for kids, integrating art instruction with Spanish language learning. In honor of Governor Chris Gregoire's **Arts Education Month**, Thrive owner Theresa Harris teamed up with local artist and educator Felipe Cañete (founder of Sing with Señor) to use drawing and painting lessons to teach and reinforce Spanish vocabulary. The new class, **Artful Spanish** embraces the Governor's invitation to magnify the value of learning through the arts. The six-week class combines proven art instruction methods with contagious, lively tunes in the style of Sing with... *Cont'd p.6*



THE VALLEY VIEW

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June Garden Workshops

By Kyra Butzel, City People's Garden Store

Bamboo Without Fear — **Sat, June 9, 11am-noon** Bamboo buyer for the Garden Store **Rolland Heibert** loves bamboo for its instant privacy screen, fine texture, and strong vertical structure. In this workshop, Rolland will focus on his favorite non-invasive, clumping species, and will teach about bamboo care and containment.

All About Herbs — Sat, June 16, 11am-noon Richard Greenberg of Earth Wizardry Gardens will talk about growing herbs -- both indoors and out, including container herb gardening. Richard will discuss cooking with herbs, sharing recipes from flavored vinegars to tempting sweets!

Tough Plants for Tough Places — Sat, June 30 From 11am - noon. Does your garden have bad soil, deep shade, windy exposure, hot and dry conditions, or some other difficult situation? There ARE plants you can pick for these areas that will survive and even thrive! **Richard Greenberg** of **Earth Wizardry Gardens** will introduce the right plants for these tough conditions and how to care for them.

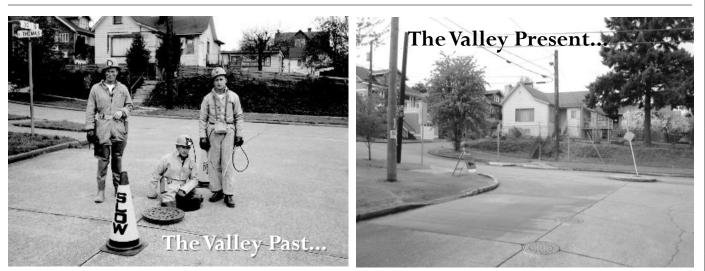
Arts Celebration Cont'd from p.6...

Señor. Lessons will focus on the Amazon, learning about the people, plants and animals of the rainforest through the kids paintigs and drawings. **Artful Spanish** will be held at Thrive Art School's Madison Valley location at 2900 East Madison Street in Seattle. Classes will be Mondays from 3:30 – 5pm, May 7th through June 11th. People can email us at <u>info@drawingschool.com</u> to enroll their child or to inquire about complete summer classes being offered.

A Culinary Gem — On a closing note, we'd like to congratulate Chef Thierry Rautureau on his continued success at Rovers, which was just awarded Four Diamonds in *Journey Puget Sound's* elite 2012 AAA Diamond List (May/June 2012). Please check out Rover's ad on page 8 for more details on how to sample his fare this season, including Sunday Brunch, exciting Wine & Culinary Classes, and upcoming events.

Community Center Cont'd from p.1...

Leeds and English teacher Melissa Manning said that the Bush School dedicates an entire day each year to community service. With the initiative of Ben Pryde they chose to volunteer their services at their next door neighbor MLK F.A.M.E Community Center to help give it a "face-lift". Dr. Norward Brooks the director of the MLK F.A.M.E. Community Center was elated at the community spirit that the Bush School has shown this past year. May — June 2012 Issue No. 182



Walk Through Sewer Inspection — This 1958 city photo documents the long history of sewer work near E. Thomas and 30th Avenue E and showcases the dapper 1950's uniforms that city workers donned. The house in the background is remarkably similar despite the passage of more than 50 years time between photos. The house is 303 30th Avenue East and was built in 1905, making it one of the older homes in our neighborhood, when the valley was still populated with fruit orchards, horse pastures and farmhouses. Photo courtesy of the Engineering Department © The Seattle Municipal Archives Photograph Collection.

Storm Water Project Update

Seattle Public Utilities is wrapping up construction activities on E. Thomas Street, between 30th and 31st Avenues. Crews



have completed the installation of a new 12" combined sewer pipeline and will begin final street restoration activities during the end of April and early May. Due to inclement weather conditions this spring, the work

has taken longer than anticipated. SPU would like to thank the community for the patience and cooperation. For detailed information please <u>www.seattle.gov/util/MadisonValley</u> or contact <u>info@madisonvalleystormwater.com</u> and ask to be added to their mailing list. Assuming there are no substantial storms over the next couple weeks, construction at the storm water tank in Washington Park is scheduled to resume in mid-May. The restart date is weather dependent and currently the soils are not quite yet suitable to resume construction activities. In the meantime, the contractor and construction management team have moved back into the project field office and are conducting site walks and coordinating planning. — The SPU Madison Valley Stormwater Project Team, 206.455.5345

Green Thumb Fever cont'd from p. 3...

at local Farmer's markets to satisfy your appetite for farmfresh produce, or by signing up for a plot at a local P-Patch. However, sometimes these measures may actually trigger a more severe bout of the fever, especially if you have a hereditary disposition to gardening in your family. If this public health announcement has made you chuckle, and you enjoy reading our newsletter on a regular basis, please consider becoming a sponsor in 2012. See graph below on how to help!



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