October 1995

A Greater Madison Valley Community Council and friends newsletter

A Smashing Success! by Pearl Castle

Our Courtyard Sale - way back in July - was a huge success. We made more money...\$2,300111 And more of us were involved than ever before. We had more wonderful stuff: futons, beds, wonderful clothes & collectable toys. We had everything.

A special thanks, of course, to Bush School. The courtyard is so beautiful, it enhances our treasures and lends a picnic atmosphere to the day.

And thanks, too, to the Sussmans who have allowed us to use their deck, basement, dining room, etc for the past 6 years for stashing and price marking.

And to Cathy Nunnely for organizing and donating the cookies and beverages. Big thanks to their daughters, Clair and Miranda, who personned the refreshment table all day.

And to Eli Stanlhut and her trusty helper, Maggie Seymour, who headed up the clothing committee and worked every day the week before and all day during the sale.

And to Marilyn Henry who was starting cashier for the 6th straight year and Cara Newman who took over.

Dianne Dohley

SALON

2911 E Madison Seattle, Wa 98112 - 328-5168

**Forestry and History at King School** by J. Sussman

Ten volunteers, experts, and good community people are teaching at Martin Luther King Elementary School this month. The subject is the story of the Northwest forests and the lives of Puget Sounds residents from the native people in ancient times to the present day. We show artifacts of work and home life, and we are teaching children how to identity many native trees and plants.

The contributing teachers include Eli Stahlhut, Carrie Petersen, Blair Constantine, a landscape designer, Carol Ross, David Braun, a PhD in forestry, and Esther Mumford, noted writer and authority on the black community of the Northwest, and Scott Sander, a Seattle Uuniversity student.

Our reception has been warm and gratifying. The students are impressed by the pictures of the great firs and cedars, and the classroom teachers are taking quick advantage of our presentations to work on new vocabulary and concepts of time and community. We deal with ideas of the forest ecology and the relation of people to this natural world.

The project leaders have written a book called City Woods that will be distributed throughout the school in mid-October. Funds to carry out the work at the school were provided by the Bullitt Foundation and the Seattle's Department of Neighborhood. We invite parents and neighbors to visit the classes. Please call the M. L. King Elementary school office, 281-6510, for information. Ms. Hairston, the school principal, supervises the program and will tell you about availability of the book.

## ISIS COLLECTIBLES

511 - 28th Ave. East SEATTLE Washington, 98112 323-1795

TUESDAYS TO FRIDAYS 12-6 SATURDAYS BY APPOINTMENT ANTIQUES · COLLECTIBLES GIFTS · CONSIGNMENTS

#### **President's Corner**

by Peter Triandafilou

It's been a while since our last newsletter (July 1995 issue). But be assured that many of our neighbors not only enjoyed the summer's lovely weather, but also were quite active in several Council matters — and so many great things were accomplished.

GMVCC sponsored two well attended neighborhood parties, in Frasier Park and the 200 block of 31st Ave. E. Special kudos to Charles McDade for his generous time and efforts in organizing the parties. All those who came, bearing delicious eats, freely mingled, chatted and got to know one another better.

The parties provided us a wonderful opportunity to drum up interest and excitement in the free computer classes offered in August, as part of the City grantfunded Madison Valley Electronic Village Project (see accompanying article).

The turnout to the classes was exceptional, bringing folks of all ages together to learn computer basics and take an exciting ride on that information superhighway known as the Internet. Many then helped on a Saturday morning to set up a computer lab in the portable, and offered to volunteer on future projects. This is an example of community building at its best.

Several neighbors worked on our applications for King County grants, attending focus meetings, completing grant forms, etc. Special kudos to Bush School staffer Valerie Vogrin, who skillfully handled the difficult job of writing the grants. Competition for the grants was fierce. One of our grant requests was partially funded, to allow us to provide van service for the community (see accompanying article). Unfortunately, the Council did not receive the three-year grant sought to provide middle school and high school-age neighborhood children with a comprehensive program of computer education, recreational and cultural activities, mentoring, conflict resolution and tutoring.

This has not diminished GMVCC's commitment to support and nurture the youth in our community. The Before and After School Program continues to offer caring, meaningful child care and enrichment activi-



ties (see accompanying article). We will be exploring the availability of recreational and mentoring activities at the Meredith Mathews East Madison YMCA. And the Council, under Jerry Sussman's leadership, has started teaching classes in the King School under the grant-funded Urban Forestry Project.

Are we a great neighborhood or what?! Now that fall has arrived, we're getting ready to buckle down to yet more, important work, including neighborhood planning (see accompanying article). Everyone is welcome and strongly urged to participate. But first another party! — the Council's 7th Annual Spaghetti Dinner, on Friday evening, November 3rd. Come and Mangia!! I hope you can all attend this fabulous feast, with raffle and local entertainment. It's true, a neighborhood that eats together thrives together. I really hope you can attend. You might even win one of the funky raffle prizes.



### DID YOU KNOW ABOUT THE ....?

#### Child Care and Enrichment Program

GMVCC has proudly begun its fourth year of the Before and After School Program, to serve families in the neighborhood. Morning and afternoon sessions are offered to provide quality child care and enrichment activities, including a special Language Lab (German and Italian) and Computer Lab, and homework tutoring. New this year, the YMCA of Greater Seattle has assumed management of the program, with the continuing able, attentive assistance of Site Coordinator Giovanna Robinson and Child Care Leaders Alethea Stachow, Katrina Duane, Robert Genovese and Adam Lee. While enrollment is high, there are some spaces available. For more information about the program, please call Giovanna at 328-0058. For registration information, please call YMCA Office Manager Kathy Banks at 322-6969.

#### **GMVCC** Receives a New Grant

The Council has received a \$28,000 grant from King County, under its Safe Communities/Youth Partnerships Program. With the funds, GMVCC will obtain and operate a van to provide transportation to our community members to the Portable and other sites for events and activities. We need volunteers to get this program going. If interested, please call Peter at 720-0488.\

#### Neighborhood Planning Update: Central Area Planning Forum - October 21

The Neighborhood Planning process is underway. The Central Area in particular, with the guidance of the Central Area Action Plan - Implementation Team (CAAP-IT) and other local organizations, has begun a serious effort in focusing on planning and to encourage wide participation of all interested persons in the process. CAAP-IT, with the support of GMVCC and others, will host a Central Area Planning Forum, on Saturday, October 21, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., at the Washington Middle School, 2101 South Jackson. This is an important opportunity for you to meaningfully participate in the planning effort affecting our neighborhood and the Central Area.



The Madison Valley Electronic Village Project by Dug Steen, project coordinator

Free computer classes? When the flyers went out to Madison Valley residents, many couldn't believe that the Madison Valley Electronic Village Project was sponsoring free computer classes at Martin Luther King Elementary School. But those who did believe showed up in force sometimes close to thirty a night - to learn about computers and the internet with their neighbors. The classes were a success.

But the Madison Valley Electronic village Projects is not just about free computer classes. In fact, we currently have three main golas in the project:

**Open Lab**: The portable building at the school has recently been outfitted as a community computer lab. There are six desktop computers and about a dozen laptop computers connected to the M. L. King computer network and to the Internet. The computers and a laser printer will be available for community use in the coming months. Furthermore, we will be using neighborhood grant funds to employ community youths as lab consultants.

**Internet Presence**: With the help of the computers in the Martin Luther King Elementary Network we will be able to create and maintain a number of World Wide Web pages specifically afor the Electronic Village Project. These pages will provide information about our community for people at the open lab or in their homes.

**Computer Classes**: We will continue to offer free computer classes for the community. We plan to expand the general community classes we have been giving to more specifically include our community youth. Beyond that, however, the how, what, and when of these classes has yet to be decided. Look for a flyer in your mailbox soon.

As you can see, we have plenty of exciting resources and exciting plans for their use. If you would like to help us make these plans a reality, please attend the volunteer meeting on November the eight, 6:30pm at the Portable. We are interested in finding community youth who are experienced computer users and would like to apply for a job as a lab consultant. I you have any questions about the program or the volunteer meeting please call me at 281-6510.

Tel. & Fax: (206) 720-0488

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# Mark Your Calenders

## <u>OCTOBER</u>

17 (Tuesday) 6:30 pm GMVCC Executive Board Meeting 7:30 pm GMVCC General Meeting

**21 (Saturday)** 9:00 am CENTRAL AREA PLANNING FORUM 5:00 pm at Washington Middle School

**23 (Monday)** 6:00 pm King School SITE COUNCIL Meeting

#### 30 (Monday)

6:30 pm City Council Hearing - potential changes to Mayor's proposed budget, Council Chambers, 11th flr, Municipal Bldg.

## NOVEMBER

<u>3 (Friday)</u> 6:00 pm GMVCC 7th Annual SPAGHETTI DINNER and Raffle

7 (Tuesday) ELECTION DAY 6:30 pm King School PTSA Meeting

8 (Wednesday) 6:30 pm Electronic Village Volunteer Meeting at the portable

**15 (Friday)** 7:00 pm Newsletter Meeting. Call 860-6843 for questions

**21 (Tuesday)** 6:30 pm GMVCC Executive Board Meeting 7:30 pm GMVCC General Meeting

**27 (Monday)** 6:00 pm King School SITE COUNCIL Meeting

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This newsletter is published by the Greater Madison Valley Community Council -Member, Seattle Community Council Federation

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