

# Harrison Denny Community Council NEWSLETTER

#### **NOVEMBER 1992**

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It was 80 Years Ago Today ...

Allow your mind to soar over the holidays and light on the Big Reunion scheduled for February, 1993!! Eighty years ago, Harrison Elementary School was built on 32nd Avenue and East Harrison. Through the years, although many changes have occurred (including a change of name to honor Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.), the school has always been a treasured asset to our community. The school currently serves children in grades Kindergarten through Fifth.

We know grandparents who went to school here, whose children have gone here, and whose grandchildren also have gone here!! So... in February we're going to celebrate the whole history of this school by getting as many ex-pupils together as possible. Tell your kids! Tell your neighbors! We're calling up all the former (and current) teachers, and principals, and PTA members, and pupils, and volunteers. It's going to be a blast!

Want to help? Want to let us know of someone we should contact? Call Pearl Castle at 325-1546.

# Do you care about our kids?

Last month, two lucky young men from our neighborhood received full scholarships to the annual Building-A-Vision Conference in Yakima. The trip would have been a great opportunity for these boys and, through them, many others. Unfortunately, the gentleman who had agreed to chaperone them on the three-day trip cancelled at the last minute. This was a big let-down for the boys, who were ready and waiting to go.

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In light of this regrettable incident, I'd like to ask those of you out there who have a talent, a need, or a desire to work with youth to step forward. We need your time, energy and support for these kids who are asking for guidance and help. Last week a gentleman from outside our

neighborhood came by to volunteer to help our kids — we'd like to see some more neighborhood men involved!

Please fill out the coupon and send it in!!

#### Our next project...

We're trying to find someone to donate a van to HDCC. Neighborhood youth have volunteered their time to fix it. We'll then use the van for outings and other council activities. We need a mechanic, tools, auto parts, and space to work. If you can help get this project off the ground, please call 860-8039 and talk to Pamela.

The next Youth Meeting will be November 23, 1992, at 7pm, at the office (2915 E Madison, #204).

Our kids are important — they are the future!!

#### Commanity Center takes a new direction

North, that is....We heard some really good news at the last meeting of the Community Center Committee! A potential site has been identified — the Washington Park Field House. Spurred by the previous (very successful) efforts of the Madrona Community Council to rehab their fieldhouse, David Foecke has talked with the Parks Department about the possibility of us rehabbing this one. Initial reaction is favorable, and the Council plans to work up a draft proposal for grant funding this improvement.

The space is located just off Madison Avenue and Lake Washington Blvd., in what most of us think of as the Arboretum, but is actually Washington Park. The building is about 3 times larger than our current office, but needs paint, insulation and heating (at a minimum). We haven't worked out any details but are very excited to have a starting point. If our Dept. of Neighborhoods grant for the rehab is approved, we would get funding in January 1994 for this project. We are also talking to the Parks Dept. about possible uses before that date (perhaps a summer sports program?).

The work of the Community Center Committee is far from over! As we proceed with the Fieldhouse Project, we'll be researching and writing the grant application. We'll also be brainstorming on other money sources, skilled volunteer resources, and material donation possibilities. Plus, we'll be explaining our plan to everyone in the neighborhood and getting their support. Our next meeting will be November 24 at 7pm, at 2915 E Madison, #204. Hope to see you there.

#### Plan Ahead for Phonathon

Our second bi-annual phonathon is planned for three evenings in December – the 1st, 6th and 13th. We raised approximately \$2,000 in our first effort earlier this year, and hope to do better this time around.



It is critical for us to raise money from our own community to match the funds we currently receive from the Department of Neighborhoods through the matching grant program. The December phonathon will start us off on good footing for the new year.

If you are willing to volunteer one night of phoning, please call Pamela at 860-8039. Food and camaraderie guaranteed!!

**Harrison Denny Community Council** 

Mailing Address. 2915 E Madison Street, Suite 204, Seattle, WA 98112; telephone 860-8039. 1992 Officers: President, David Foecke (323-4709); Vice President, Charles McDade (325-3218); Secretary, Winnie Coleman (324-2170); Treasurer, Pearl Castle (325-1546). General Meetings are held the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:30pm. The newsletter is published 10 times a year. Send letters, articles and notices to "Editor" at the above address.

## Spaghetti Dinner for 200? No Problem!

At 2pm Friday, November 6, Charles McDade and Pearl Castle arrived at Bush School with a carload of ingredients for Harrison-Denny's secret spaghetti sauce. With Charles browning 20 pounds of ground beef and Jerry Sussman opening umpteen cans of tomato sauce and putting huge pots of water on to boil, it was about an hour before you knew what was happening!

Then about 4:30, David Foecke, Peggy Sussman, Cathy Nunnelly, and Dru Kennan arranged the tables, put on tablecloths and distributed flowers brought by Eli Stahlhut and Del Castle. Molly O'Brien-Smith brought tons of mixed greens for the gourmet salad she and Winnie Coileman tossed in readiness for Polly Peterson's delicious vinaigrette dressing. The garlic bread, all cut and foil-wrapped, arrived from Dee Anderson's kitchen ready to fill the room with that special aroma, whilst Marilyn Henry's gourmet vegetarian spaghetti sauce was also hand-delivered ready to serve.

Tom Waggoner and Jerry Sussman were the chief cooks, while Jo Marie Cunningham was the troubleshooter, keeping everything on an even keel! At 6pm, Zé daLuz and Pat Close-Hastings were at the door; and Cathy Nunnelly and her two trusty helpers iced the soft drinks and set up the beverage table. Jim Ragland hooked up Karen Kress's tape deck & microphone, Kathy Titus organized all those wonderful desserts you all made!

Peggy, Tom, Dru and Jerry were just about ready to serve, and then you came, and your kids came, and it all began... the Fourth Annual Harrison Denny Spaghetti Dinner! Everyone was enjoying themselves so much Pearl had to fight for attention to give away the raffle prizes! She led a great sing-along, and Karen's dance-along ended the celebration perfectly.

Thanks: to all of us for doing it all together... to Bush School for use of their terrific kitchen and lunchroom... to the Clean-Up Crew (Libby Sinclair, Bob Crittenden, Marilyn & Bob Henry, John Coleman, Del Castle, & David Foecke)... to Leschi Market for 10 pounds of beef... to our raffle donors (Thierry at Rovers; Luata Lawrence for massage; Zé for handmade sweater).

## The Village School

at

Martin Luther King Jr. Elementary

Community Day School Association
Chess Club ☆☆ Ewajo Dance

☆☆ Homework Center★★

Financial Assistance and Scholarships Available Transportation available from other schools

860-8039

# Save Our School - Red Alert!

Those of you who were at the October HDCC general meeting don't need to ask how serious the problems are at Martin Luther King Jr. Elementary, but for those who didn't attend, here are a few of our unanswered questions:

- How has our enrolment declined from approx. 300 to approx. 120 in 6 years?
- Why don't our school district boundaries mesh with our neighborhood boundaries?
- Why are we the only school not mentioned in the district's 10-year capital improvement plan?
- Why were parents turned away or discouraged from choosing MLK Jr. this year?
- Why has the school district cut our budget, when they are responsible for the problems?

These questions will be brought up again at the November 12 PTA meeting, which unfortunately is after our newsletter deadline. And we will bring them up again to the School Board, if necessary, until we get answers — not excuses!



Parents of school-age children and parents of preschoolers: we need your help to fight for our school. If you don't send your kids to MLK, and don't plan to, please let us know why. If you do send your kids there, or plan to, please join us in making the school district and school board accountable for the way the school's being run. Please come to the General Meeting November 17; we'll have a speaker from the Powerful Schools Program.

We may be on a downward spiral which ends in financial infeasibility and closure — but we can change that. MLK Jr. has been here for 80 years, and the PTA, the principal, the parent/staff management team, the students, the neighbors — all want another 80!

We are forming a committee to plan our strategy for restoring our school to good health — please call 860-8039 to join!

#### Graffiti Solations

What do you think when you see ugly, scary graffiti? Don't you wish someone would take responsibility for cleaning it up? Well, don't wait for the City – only one person is assigned to clean up graffiti!

What can we do about graffiti? We can clean it up by painting over it, and we can discourage more by creating murals on empty wallspaces. Graffiti can attract gang-related activity and lead to neighborhood deterioration — murals attract attention in a much more positive way! Murals can educate, motivate, and decorate. If you have an idea for creating a mural, or if you know of an available space, call the Community Council at 860-8039.







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Nov. 17	7:30-9	HDCC General Meeting	Office
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Nov. 18	7-9	Block Watch Meeting	Office
Nov. 23	7-9	Youth & Employment	Office
Nov. 24	7-9	<b>Community Center Committee</b>	Office
Dec. 1	5:30-8:30	Phonathon	Office
Dec. 2	8:00AM	<b>Business Roundtable</b>	Rover's
Dec. 6	5:30-8:30	Phonathon	Office
Dec. 8	7-9	<b>Executive Committee</b>	Office
Dec. 11	7:00	HOLIDAY PARTY w/MLK Jr. PTA	MLK Jr School
Dec. 13	5:30-8:30	Phonathon	Office
Dec. 14	7-9	Mardi Gras Planning Meeting	Office .
Dec. 17	5:30-8:30	Phonathon	Office
Dec. 30	7:00	First Book Club Meeting	Office

#### Logo Contest

The newsletter committee is soliciting ideas, suggestions, drawings, etc. for a name and logo. Artistic talent and perfection is not necessary, we're more interested in the **idea** than how it looks. We'd like it to reflect some aspect(s) of our neighborhood and/or council, so people identify with it. Send ideas to the Editor, 2915 E. Madison St., #204, Seattle, WA 98112.

## Very Special Thanks To

Kent Johnson, for all the work you've done on the Village School portable plans....Eli and Fred Stahlhut, for all the wonderful newsletters we've enjoyed this year... Collin Darrah, for helping install new playground equipment at MLK Jr. School... Mark Goodspeed, Rick Jost, and Kent Johnson and son, for rebuilding and moving the 33rd Avenue East mailboxes... Jo Marie Cunningham, for being active on more committees than anyone else I can think of... Marjorie Josaphat, for jumping joyfully into the unexpected... Pearl Castle, for being an inspiration to me... All members of all committees, for sharing and caring enough to attend meetings and make things happen... Everyone who came to the Diversity Fair, the Spaghetti Dinner, the Rummage Sale, the Community Forums, or any other council meeting!