Issue 126 December/January 2004-2005

E-mail: gmvcc@hotmail.com

Neighborhood Announcements

Sidewalks of Madison Valley

Safe Routes to School Project

Please assist the community with this worthwhile project by clearing your sidewalks of debris, plants and other impediments. The City Ordinance 114355 requires at least 8 feet of clearance above the street and completely clear sidewalks. This maintenance is the responsibility of the homeowner. If you have difficulties or concerns about this effort, please contact:

Andy Goulding 325-6308 or ARGoulding@aol.com See the related article on page 6

Webmaster Needed

The GMVCC has a new website and we need someone to maintain it. To help with this fun project, contact:

John Coldeway: jcjc@u.washington.edu

No GMVCC meeting in December! Happy Holidays!

S.T.A.N.D. Productions proudly presents Cora Jackson's

Mary Had a Little Lamb

The funniest, most joyful Christmas play ever! Gospel music, interpretative dance and acting to tell the story of the nine months preceding the birth of Jesus. See related article on page 9

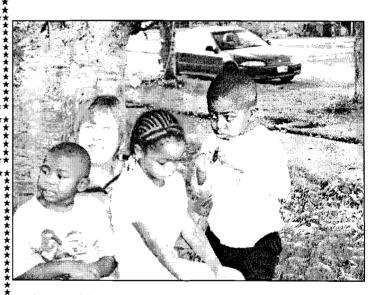
These Are Your Neighbors

The Art of Giving

By Cathy Nunneley

Barbara Lynn hasn't won any big awards. She doesn't have a gold medal. She hasn't invented any phenomenal products. Barbara's contribution to the world is one for which there are no testimonial dinners. Barbara Lynn is an ordinary woman who happens to possess an extraordinary gift: a generous heart.

Many years ago, Barbara suddenly found herself in the far too common situation of being a single mother of two young children. Her job eventually brought her to Seattle continued on page 5



Barbara and her three children, Andrea, Shaun and Jeremiah

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GMVCC Contact Information

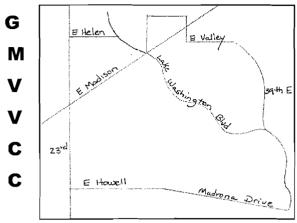
Council Affairs: Gary Emslie, President
Email: gary.emslie@bush.edu

Council business, agenda requests, inquiries, concerns

Valley View Newsletter: Cathy Nunneley
Email: cjnunneley@yahoo.com or 329-4083
Article submission, advertising, suggestions, volunteers
GMVCC P.O. Box 22278 Seattle, Washington 98122

The Illustrated GMVCC

This map illustrates the current boundaries of the Madison Valley Neighborhood served by the Greater Madison Valley Community Council.



Support The Valley View

The Valley View staff cheerfully works countless unpaid volunteer hours to bring you this newsletter. The printing and postage costs are over \$700 per month. We must have financial support from the community to continue the newsletter. Please make a contribution or place an ad with us Everything helps! Thank you so much!

Name:
Address:
Phone:
Email:
Donation Amount:
☐ Please contact me to write for <i>The Valley View</i>

Mail to: GMVCC: P.O. Box 22278 Seattle, WA 98112

Calling all Writers

Your *Valley View* editor needs help! If you enjoy the newsletter, please consider being a part of the team. It would be wonderful for all of us to have new enthusiastic writers. The only requirements are reliability, some good ideas and a computer. Contact:



Cathy Nunneley 329-4083

or

cjnunneley@yahoo.com.

Thanks a bunch!!

Community Council Minutes

NOV. 17, 2004

Gary Emslie, President of the Council, called the meeting to order at 7:30 and presided over it. Members and visitors introduced themselves.

PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

The minutes of the previous October meeting were approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Last month's income was primarily from donations, ads for the newspaper, and the spaghetti dinner. However, due to the printing and distribution of the paper as well as the expenses of the dinner it left the treasurer \$157.00 in the red this month.

SPAGHETTI DINNER

Approximately 250 people attended the function. All had a good time. Next year's dinner is scheduled for the first Friday in November. Mark your calendar.

STREET CLEANUP

Andy Goulding showed "before" and "after" pictures of three areas targeted in the neighborhood for last month's cleanup. He proposed that the GMVCC adopt the neighborhood for cleanup four times per year. Gary Emslie suggested talking to MLK Bush & Valley schools to get the students involved for cleaning up specific locations. The motion was tabled until further information was obtained.

MLK SCHOOL

Gary Emslie expressed concern for the future of the school as enrollment has dropped to approximately 160 students. There is discussion to include a Montessori School at MLK to bolster enrollment. Andy Goulding volunteered to act as aliaison between the school and GMVCC to keep the council involved.

FLOOD VICTIMS

No additional information was available this month. Gary Emslie expressed concern that the city will take the easy way out, condemn a cluster of houses, and create a deep-hole retention pond as a quick fix for future storms. This will be an eyesore, attract garbage and drug dealers, etc.

DISTRICT NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

David Alvord has volunteered to be the liaison for the GMVCC to the Federation of Community Councils. This will give the council a voice and possible influence on city dealings and priorities with neighborhoods. The council unanimously endorsed his appointment. **Thank you David!**

WEB SITE

John Coldewey reviewed the new GMVCC Website and discussed its features and links. John says he hopes to complete the website in December and will register it with the City of Seattle where it will remain as a permanent domain.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

The Neighborhood Appreciation Day Pancake Breakfast is scheduled for February. Approximately 200 people are served for FREE at the Bush School Cafeteria between the hours of 8-10:00 AM. More to come in the next issue.

ADDITIONAL NOTES

No meeting next month due to the holidays. Next meeting of the council will be the third Wednesday in January.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50pm.

The Classified Valley

For Sale: CAL 29 Sailboat

Sturdy, leak proof, fast cruiser. Good sails, includes spinnaker. Manual bronze windlass. Plow anchor, auto pilot, tiller.

Yanmar 3-cyl-diesel, only 1000 hours. Full galley, propane stove/oven, pressure H/C water. Sleeps four.

We're too old to do this anymore and this fine boat sits idle! Come take a sail on the lake and you'll love it.



A great buy at \$12,000.

Call: 325-6308.

ML King School Wish List

Last month we listed the wish list of the MLK parent group. They really do need help. Please consider this worthwhile cause for your holiday season's charity.

- 1. Madison Valley community members to join the PTSA
- 2. In kind Donations of 23 and 37 cents Postage Stamps
- 3. Volunteers for School Events
- 4. Donations to the Lunch Fund
- 5. School Uniforms
- 6. Musical Instruments
- 7. Promotional Services for the School
- 8. Grant Writing Skills
- 9. Volunteer Gardeners for the Grounds

We have a volunteer!

David Alvord, of the soon to be opened **Swedish Heirlooms** store, has volunteered to be our representative to the City Neighborhood Council. We now will have a voice for our community within this organization.

Thank you, David!



Kathryn Lowe, LMP

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ML King Happenings

Tour Schedule for MLK Elementary

Every year each Seattle Public School hosts tours and open houses for prospective parents. These tours include an overview of programs, schedules, and curriculum, and give parents an opportunity to observe classrooms. Martin Luther King, Jr. Elementary will host tours on January 4, 6, 11, 13, 18, 20, 25 & February 1 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. each day. Individual appointments with the Principal are also available on January 27 from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.—call 252-2900 to make an appointment.

WaMoola for Schools

If you are a current Washington Mutual Bank customer, with a checking account and Visa check card, there is a special way you can help support your local elementary school! With no cost to you to enroll, Washington Mutual makes the donation, and your favorite school gets cash—no strings! It's a great way to make a difference in your community. If you are not already supporting another school, consider enrolling to support MLK. It's easy! Just go to www.wamoolaforschools.com and follow the directions to enroll, choosing Martin Luther King elementary as your beneficiary school. 3 minutes at your computer could provide additional funds to a neighborhood school that can really benefit from your help. Thanks!

Webmaster Needed

Do you have web design skills that you'd like to put to use to benefit a community school? Maybe you've been looking for that perfect volunteer opportunity? Maybe you're a high school student looking for ways to fulfill your community service requirement? Martin Luther King school is looking for a new web master. If you're interested, please contact Julia Holland at stone-jules@yahoo.com.

Calendar:

Monday Dec 6, 6pm: PTSA meeting New members

still welcome!

Thursday Dec 16, 6pm: Winterfest Celebration

Monday Jan 10, 3:30pm: PTSA meeting



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Annual Spaghetti Dinner: A Fun Time For All.

The annual spaghetti dinner, held in the cafeteria of the ML King School, is a yearly tradition beloved by the neighborhood. This year we served up our famous spaghetti with both meat and vegetarian sauces, *Essential Bakery* bread, salad and luscious homemade desserts (enhanced with Joanne's wonderful lemon bars from the *Bella Dolce Bakery*).

We are grateful for a new and enthusiastic crew of volunteers who will keep this tradition alive. The original team from 16 years ago is getting a much deserved rest as younger community members take on the tasks.

This year we were treated to recitations from students from ML King School and our loyal jazz singers from Garfield High School. A big thanks to our Master of Ceremonies, **Greg Goodell** who kept things moving and had a great time himself. **Vanessa Goodell** and friends, delighted the children with face painting and **Suzanne Wilson's** decorations were beautiful.

We forgot our camera this year so we are treating you to an archives photo from about 10 years ago. Below you can see a young **Pat O'Brien-Smith** and **Gary Fujita** dishing out spaghetti for the crowd.



Thank you to our Madison Valley Businesses!!

The neighbors of Madison Valley would like to thank our wonderful community businesses. We are grateful for all the support given by them for the community. We would like to give special recognition to those business owners who contributed directly to the spaghetti dinner.

Baas Art Gallery and Framing: gift certificate

Barbara Dunshee, artist: original ceramic plate

Bella Dolce Bakery and Café: delicious lemon bars for the dessert table and a

coffee gift certificate

Bella Rose: gift certificate

Essential Bakery and Café: the loaves of bread

Ewajo's: certificate for 2 free classes

Izilla Toys: face painting supplies and gift certificate

Leschi Mart: 10 lbs of ground meat for the sauce

Monart Drawing School: a month of children's

drawing lessons

My Coffeehouse: packets of certificates for coffee drinks

Santosha Yoga: certificate for a free class

Sound Mind and Body: certificate for a free pass to the gym



The Art of Giving continued from page 1

and she quietly settled into the Queen Anne neighborhood. After looking around for a spiritual home that also offered great gospel music, she joined the congregation at St. Therese. She became entranced by the wonderful music and auditioned for the choir. Cora, the minister of music, and Barbara became fast friends. However, challenges soon emerged that changed Barbara's life dramatically.

Simultaneously, Barbara's job was eliminated and she was diagnosed with breast cancer. Her friendship with Cora became deeper as she required help with even the simplest tasks during her illness.

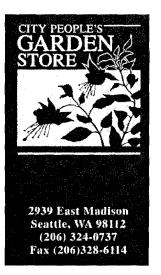
Following her recovery from the cancer, a member of Cora's family gave birth to a baby boy and was unable to care for him. Cora had already taken in his three siblings and didn't feel she could provide for a fourth. Barbara became a foster parent, and offered to raise the child. Her boys were grown and she felt drawn to the infant. She was able to rent a house across the street from Cora. To get back on her feet, Barbara's next task was to find a job.

She renewed her teaching certificate and took on a special ed classroom for autistic children. The school, Broadview-Thompson Elementary, was grateful for her calm and efficient presence in the classroom. "I went there as a temporary sub and I've been there three years now." she explained. "I have six autistic children in my class. I think I am able to cope due to my own life experiences and maturity at this point."

After adopting her infant son Shaun, she felt that he needed a sibling. She decided on a daughter, and took Andrea into her home. Another newborn, Jeremiah, came soon after. Jeremiah was originally placed with her as a foster child with a stay of one month. Two years later he was still with her and calling her "Mommy". "What was I suppose to do? Say: 'see you later kid, have a nice life - hope you find a family to raise you.' I couldn't do it." The children's birthdays are so close that at one point during each year they are all the same age. Presently, Andrea is five and the boys are about to catch up.

Do people think she's crazy? "Oh yeah," Barbara laughs. "They tell me that all the time. However, I have





lots of support. The kids have all kinds of aunties and uncles and I get a break when I need it."

The mainstay of Barbara's support is, of course, Cora and her husband Ed. Together they run a successful theatre arts troupe, S.T.A.N.D. (Song, Theater, An' Dance). She hopes to work with the company full time at some point. The children all have talents and have mentors within the company. With other neighbors, they now hold church services in Barbara's home specifically so the children are able to perform and be an integral part of the experience.

The recent flood has further challenged the family. Barbara's basement was destroyed along with her neighbors. One of Cora's sons sleeps on Barbara's couch every night because he no longer has a bedroom. The two families share a donated washer/dryer. Her rented house may be condemned by the City and, if so, Barbara will be forced to relocate. With housing prices in our valley into the \$300,000s, purchasing a home here is out of the question. The thought of living apart from Cora and her family is very painful. "Right now, we're both living in 'half a house' and we don't know what will happen."

The flooding, as with many disasters, has had a sliver of a silver lining. The neighbors have come together as never before. Barbara is an integral part of the neighborhood's victim association. Community involvement comes naturally to her as she has had experience ministering to the poor and homeless over the years.

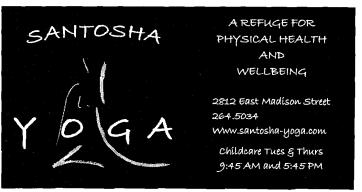
How does she cope? Barbara has a strong faith in God. "There was a point in my life when I just couldn't go on by myself. I asked God to take control and lead me where He wanted me to go. When I have a decision to make, I check within my spirit. If I feel at peace, I know I am on the right track. We are all part of one community and loving your brother is the key. Too many people are 'all about me' and that doesn't work."

As part of her community, Barbara's gift of giving encompasses all of us. There are no medals for this kind of achievement. Thank you, Barbara, for your heart of gold.



Do you have interesting neighbors?

Please let us know about **YOUR** neighbors and we will feature them in *The Valley View*. We **ALL** benefit by knowing our community. Thanks a bunch!



Around the Neighborhood

The Flooded Valley: Homeowners are awaiting the City's decision about purchasing some properties and the plan to eliminate the danger of future floods. The planning takes a lot of time including the analysis of annual rainfall in the area. SPU officials are trying to work as quickly a possible and hope to have a plan in place by February. A new drainage system is projected to be completed by 2006.

The #11 Metro Bus: The crowded situation on the #11 during the weekday work rush will not be fixed any time soon. Miriam Roskin received a response from her letter to Metro (see *The Valley View* Nov Issue). Metro says

Swedish Heirlooms

Elegant Swedish Manor House Furniture & Accessories Petite Grand Opening Dec. 15th



2921 E. Madison St. between Café Flora & City People's Tel: 206.621.1002 there is no money in the budget to add service. They expressed hope that they will study the problem and try to reallocate existing services to areas in need.

Madison Valley Merchant's Association: Businesses will be staying open later during the holiday season. Thursdays and Fridays most shops will be open until 7PM. Additionally, some owners will open their shops on Sundays to accommodate shoppers. On Thursday, December 9th, there will be special events at the shops to celebrate the season. Come out to support the business community and share the holiday spirit with delectable treats and good cheer.

Monart Drawing School sends a reminder of an ongoing offer of a free introductory class to new students. Drop in to view student works and let them open the world of art to your child.

Community Bulletin Board: Andy Goulding has volunteered to preside over the effort to obtain a notice board for the neighborhood. *Continued on page 9*



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The Valley School Enhances Their Campus with a Beautiful New Building.

Teachers, parents, students and friends of **The Valley School** gathered last month to celebrate the opening of a new building on campus. The elementary school is located in the heart of Madison Valley and is notable for its homelike campus comprised of beautifully designed buildings which integrate well among the neighboring homes. The happy voices of children playing at recess around the ancient fruit trees on the property are a welcome asset to the community.

The Valley School is the brainchild of Patricia Overy a former teacher at The Bush School. She founded the school in 1985 as a preschool and over the years and it has expanded to include all elementary grades.

Congratulations Valley School on Your Success!

Valley School founder Patricia Overy is assisted with the traditional ribbon cutting at the opening ceremony of the new building.



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SCHOOL

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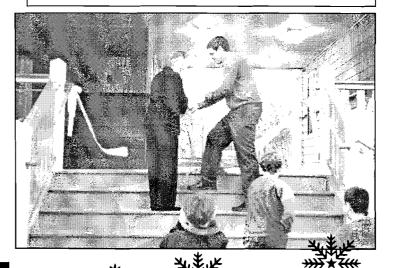
Tours begin on November 18th.

Our Open House is January 19, 2005.

Please call the office to sign up.

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Sidewalks of Madison Valley: Safe Routes to School Project

Due to the extraordinary effort and vision of Andy Goulding, the sidewalks around ML King Elementary were liberated from debris, foliage, overhanging trees and other impediments on November 7th. Eleven volunteers worked in the rain for 5 hours to make these sidewalks safe for children to walk and bike to school. Tom Gannon, the Adopt-A-Street manager from the City provided the tools, bags and gloves for the workers. Liz at Earthcorps sent over a crew of powerful and enthusiastic workers. Our own Essential Bakery provided delectable treats. Your neighbor, Mark Herkert of Madison Park Trees, donated his time and expertise as a certified arborist to

trim trees with care. Thanks to all who assisted with this effort!





Volunteers clearing the ivy.

Mark taking a break.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE

with Bailey-Boushay

Bailey-Boushay House needs volunteers to provide transportation, companionship and meal service to clients in both the Adult Day Health and the

Residential Care Programs.

This is an opportunity for \boldsymbol{YOU} to be a light in the lives of people

living with HIV/AIDS and other serious

illnesses.

Contact: David Pavlick 206-720-2260

* daytime availability, reliable vehicle, driver's license and insurance required to provide transportation.

The Safe Routes to School project is funded by the Bicycle Alliance and the Washington Dept of Health to encourage children to walk or bike to school. Future activities will include school and community walking and bicycling events, improvement of public safety and continual upgrading of streets and sidewalks.

Mark Herkert Owner / Certified Arborist

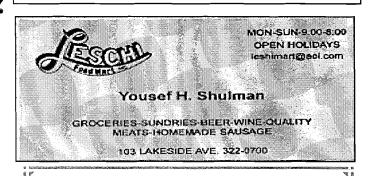
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Tuesday through Friday 7:00A to 6:30P Saturday and Sunday 8:30A to 3:30P Around the Neighborhood continued from page 6

We are hopeful that the board will serve as a way to make announcements known to everyone and to post The Valley View each month. We also anticipate a map of the Valley businesses and other pertinent information.

The Annual Pancake Breakfast: The FREE-Breakfast is the next community event coming up in February. Look for an announcement in the February issue.

Karen Ellentuck of Ellentuck Interiors Madison Street has won first place for a kitchen design at the 2004 Designer Awards.

Congratulations Karen!



Mary Had a Little Lamb

S.T.A.N.D. Productions, directed by our Madison Valley neighbor, Cora Jackson, will produce their own version of the birth of Jesus.

Friday, December 17th at 7PM Saturday, December 18th at 3PM Carco Theatre

17717 Maple Valley Highway in Renton

What would you think if your 14 year old daughter told you that she was pregnant with God's child? Everybody's talking about it especially at the beauty parlor!!! "That goodie two shoes Mary is pregnant? And the baby isn't Joseph's? Grrr!"

Bring the whole family to see this fun play. More info: 229-0536 or standproductions.org



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THE VALLEY VIEW

P.O. Box 22278
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Greater Madison Valley
Community Council
Member of the Seattle
Community Council Federation

Newsletter Staff

Cathy Nunneley, editor Miriam Roskin Jerry Sussman Ilana Guttmann

The Valley View is published nine times each year.

Deadline: 15th of each month. Your submissions are appreciated! Mail to the address above.

2002-2003 Officers

President - Gary Emslie

Vice President - Charles McDade

Secretary - Larry Kron &

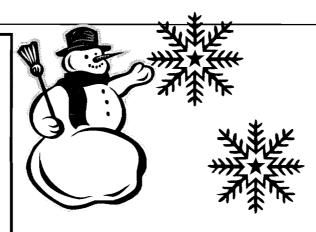
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MLK School Rep. - Joanie

Robertson and Andrew Engelson

E-mail: gmvcc@hotmail.com



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Next Community Council Meeting

NO MEETING IN DECEMBER

Wednesday, January 19, 7:30 p.m.

Martin Luther King Elementary School Portables

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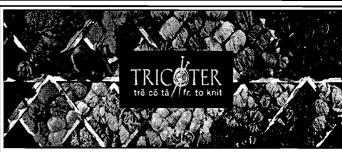
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