

LAURELHURST

L E T T E R

Published by the Laurelhurst Community Club ... serving 3,000 households and businesses

February 2008

Neighbor Appreciation Scheduled for May

Due to a number of scheduling conflicts in February, LCC will honor neighbors at the annual meeting in May, which will feature a special Neighbor Thank You celebration. The date will be announced in the March newsletter.

It's not too late to nominate someone – a neighbor, business owner, or community leader – who goes above and beyond to make Laurelhurst a very special place to live. To submit a nomination, please contact event coordinator Maggie Wiseman at 206-226-0543 or email maggiew@windermere.com ■

Save Laurel Terrace

Newly proposed legislation would pave the way for acquisition and demolition of the 136-unit Laurel Terrace garden condominium, resulting in the loss of much needed affordable housing in our area.

HB 3071 would give Children's Hospital the power to terminate the condominium with only 80 percent of ownership, instead of the 100 percent now required by law. HB 3071 appears to have been drafted for the sole purpose of making it easier for Children's Hospital to take over a neighborhood-cherished, affordable housing community and demolish it for the construction of an excessive facility – one that does not have the basic City and State approvals that are required for development and bed expansion. ■

Stork to Visit Eagles?

Exciting news! Neighbors have confirmed that bald eagles are building a nest in a Black Poplar tree on the Talaris (Battelle) property! The location is across the street from 3921 NE 41st. ■

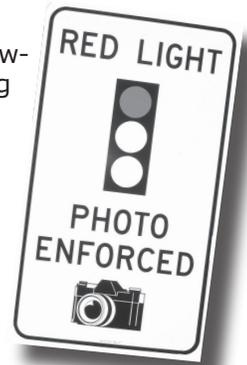
Red-light Runner Camera for Five Corners

Soon, Five Corners red-light runners may think twice about barreling through a red light, which places pedestrians, cyclists, and vehicle occupants at risk. If your car crosses the crosswalk after the light turns red, expect a \$124 ticket in the mail.

At the Mayor's press conference to announce funding at Five Corners January 2, 2008, Jean Amick made the following remarks: "It is a real pleasure to be here this morning to celebrate the city's positive response to our Northeast Seattle petition requesting Red-light runner cameras be installed here at Five Corners. ... My husband, Russ, and I have enjoyed leading this popular cause." The mayor, councilmembers Nick Licata, Tom Rasmussen, and Richard Conlin each spoke at the press conference.

In September the LCC board voted unanimously to support our neighbors' request for installation of the cameras at this dangerous intersection. Neighbors submitted a petition with more than 400 signatures in support of camera installation to the City Council.

Three cameras will be placed to cover the eastbound, westbound, and northbound approaches to the Five Corners intersection where Union Bay Place NE, Mary Gates Boulevard, NE 45th St., 35th Ave. NE, and Sand Point Way NE meet. The city expects to have the new cameras installed and operational on or about March 31, 2008. ■



Pilot Private Security Program Extended

South Laurelhurst neighbors embraced a pilot project for private security, which began during Thanksgiving and now will extend into summer due to the number of participating families within its boundaries and planned extended coverage area. To date, about 100 households in the initial pilot area have signed up. Starting April 1, coverage will extend east to 45th Ave NE, west to include Surber Drive, and north to NE 41st St. If your home is in the extended pilot area, you will receive a letter in March encouraging participation. Project funding is dependent upon subscribers.

With enough paying subscribers, the patrol will continue for another five to six months with increased coverage to five to six days a week during the summer months. The focus of the security patrol is exclusively on residences and streets; coverage does not include the parks, schools, or the Beach Club.

Contact Karmann Kaplan (525-2546 or email karmannk@laurelhurstcc.com) or Brian McMullen (367-9325) for additional information or questions about this pilot security project.

Crime prevention is a priority of LCC, and LCC will continue to do all it can to keep Laurelhurst a safe place to live. Contact LCC Crime Prevention co-chairs Maggie Weissman, 527-6646, and Brian McMullen, 367-9325, to report activities that affect the safety and security of our neighborhood.

Always call 911 to report suspicious activity. Under the city's new neighborhood policing program, officers are assigned in part based on the number of reported incidents in an area. ■

Children's Acquires Neighborhood Properties Valuing More Than \$9.4 Million in Eight Months

The information, researched by LCC's land-use consultant Carol Eychaner, reflects King County records pertaining to property acquisitions near Children's Laurelhurst Campus as of January 24, 2008.

- CHRMC has purchased five single-family houses around the perimeter of its campus. All purchases were made since June 2007. The total cost of these acquisitions is more than \$4.1 million.
- CHRMC has purchased 20 units in Laurelon Terrace, representing 15.2% of the total ownership. All purchases were made since October 2007. The total cost of the Laurelon Terrace acquisitions is more than \$5.3 million.
- The total acquisition cost of the single-family and Laurelon Terrace properties, since June 2007, is \$9.4+ million.

Downtown Property Acquisitions

In three separate transactions, CHRMC acquired two adjacent city blocks in the underdeveloped, Denny Triangle urban center (downtown) – one full block plus all except for the corner parcels of another block. The acquisitions were an 11-story biotech building with lab space (October 2006), a surface parking lot with a small, one-story retail building (May 2007), and a 7-story building (December 2007)

The underlying zoning of the two blocks is DMC 340/290-400 (340' height limit). Development of these properties would more than fulfill Children's long-term goal for a research center with a total of 1 million gross square feet, or 600,000 net square feet. The total acquisition cost of the downtown properties is approximately \$188.5 million. ■

How Many Beds? An Independent Analysis

Using Washington state's standard methodology for calculating hospital's bed needs, Field Associates, specialists in healthcare and hospital planning, prepared "Study of Bed Projections for Children's Hospital and Regional Medical Center, Based on Department of Health 12-Step Method." This independent study on Children's need for beds, reported findings quite different from those proposed by Children's.

Two of the most surprising findings are:

- **"CHRMC proposes ten times more new capacity than this study finds is warranted through application of the Department [of Health]'s method."**
- **"In Seattle, Swedish Hospital's inpatient pediatric services now care for more King County children than does CHRMC."**

Further excerpts from the study:

"Children's Hospital and Regional Medical Center (CHRMC) is proposing ... approximately 350 new inpatient beds. ... Based on the Department's published method of distributing hospital beds across the state, this study finds no support for the addition of inpatient beds to CHRMC's current capacity of 250 beds until after the the year 2015. A small increase in beds – up to 40 – may be warranted by the year 2026. (This is at the very end of CHRMC's 15- to 20-year master plan planning horizon).

Under the Department of Health's projection method and using the data currently available, CHRMC's addition of any more than 40 pediatric inpatient beds before 2026 would create an oversupply of such beds in Washington. The CHRMC proposal to add 350 beds would create an imbalance in the distribution of hospital beds among the institutions that provide inpatient pediatric care for Washington's children. ...

In light of such an oversupply... the CHRMC Master Plan can be expected to have unwanted impacts on the financial and program viability of other hospitals and to unnecessarily increase the cost of health care both locally and in the state. ..."

A January 14, 2008, Seattle *PI* editorial cast doubt on the hospital's projected need to expand and raised questions about the wisdom of building heights that are only allowed in urban centers. The piece concluded that the hospital should be working with the Laurelhurst community to resolve differences. ■

A Round of Applause to NE Seattle Moms

Thanks to everyone who donated supplies to help out the December flood victims in the Chehalis area. Here's a tally of what this amazing group donated:

- about 3,000 diapers!
- 3,300 wipes
- 170 bottles of water
- 8 big cans of formula
- lots of baby food
- a box of food
- a stroller
- bags of clothes
- bags of toys
- TONS of new socks and undies
- 2 buckets of lots of cleaning supplies

One NE Seattle Mom posted this on their Yahoo group site: "One volunteer asked where our big load of stuff was from, and she cried when I told her it was from the NE Seattle Moms. She was so touched that moms got together to help other moms."

NE SEATTLE MOMS: Membership is open to families in Laurelhurst, Bryant, View Ridge, Windermere, Wedgewood, Sandpoint, Ravenna and U District. Share resources, neighborhood issues, support, etc. To join visit: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/NESeattleMoms>. ■

Make a Splash!

Support Outdoor Public Pools? For information contact Seattle Pools Project: www.seattlepools.org

CALENDAR

Month of February

Historic Photographs Display

Seattle Library Northeast Branch displays historic photos of northeast Seattle neighborhoods, including Laurelhurst.

February 21 (Thurs.) Deadline for Laurelhurst newsletter copy and advertising

March 1 (Sat.) 8 p.m.

Gallery Concerts: Best of the Baroque

St. Stephen's Church
To purchase tickets, contact www.brownpapertickets.com or call Gallery Concerts at 206-726-6088.

March 10 (Mon.) 7 p.m.

LCC Board of Trustees meeting

St. Stephen's Church

March 18 (Tues.) Children's Advisory

Committee meeting. 6 p.m. Public welcome. Location TBA

Master Gardener Clinic, Mondays, 4 to 8 p.m.; Center for Urban Horticulture Atrium. Free

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COMPUTER HELP - RAPID RESPONSE: Experienced teacher/tutoring. Hardware/software installation. Microsoft certifications: Word, Excel, Access. Laurelhurst refs. Matt, 525-8077.

DOG WALKER: Experienced, honest, reliable dog walker with excellent references and reasonable rates. www.walkdogwalk.com, e-mail walkdog-walk@gmail.com, or call Erin Eskenazi at 384-2125. Licensed and insured.

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FOR LEASE: Commercial Office Spaces at 3513 NE 45th St., 1324 sqft and 1242 sqft. Also 1047 sqft retail/office. Call Bob or Pearl Spiger 425-488-7078.

HOUSE FOR RENT: Beautiful Sandpoint Country Club neighborhood. 4 bdrms, 3 baths, 2 family rooms, fireplace, in-ground pool, mt views, security. Available Feb 1. \$3,200 per month. No smokers. Please call Karen, 206-517-3036.

HOUSE FOR RENT: E Laurelhurst Drive NE, Views, 3400 sq ft., 4/5 bedrooms, 1 Full, 2-3/4 baths. 2-car carport. Lake access across street. Available approximately April 1. 206-679-3679.

HOUSE FOR SALE: Whitewash brick tutor, 3200 sq ft, remodeled, lg fam rm on main floor, 4 bedrooms. 5600 sq ft lot. \$1,525,000. 4541 51st Ave NE. 524-4121

HOUSE FOR SALE: Laurelhurst family home. 4 bdrm, 3 1/2 bath, flat fenced yard, 2-car garage, 2 blocks from park (in LBC area!), huge playroom, great kitchen with eating nook and open family area. Contact Kay at 729-5942.

HOUSE WANTED: 3 or 4 bedroom home in Laurelhurst. Locating from North Carolina to Seattle in August; hoping for Laurelhurst home. lizstankavage@yahoo.com or 919-382-7573.

LANDSCAPE DESIGN: Innovative sustainable residential garden designs for you to enjoy. Dog Day Design, Patricia Gibbon, MLA and Master Gardener, 715-6541.

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PAINTING SERVICES: Joe Jabon. Cell: 383-6725; Email: joejabon@gmail.com. Affordable residential painting...Bonded and Insured...Great references.

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WANTED: Laurelhurst Elementary is looking for an upright piano for students! If you have a one to donate (or sell), contact Brooks Romano at 522-7109 or Pam Goddard at 526-1092. Thanks.

WANTED: Part-time bookkeeper/file clerk for personal home office. Hours flexible. 525-3613.

WANTED: Part-time medical receptionist (12-16 hrs/wk) in Laurelhurst office. Please fax resume to 206-527-0297. Or call 206-931-2180.

WANTED: Danish Prof. of Medicine and wife seek MIL or house to rent in walking distance of Laurelhurst Elem. for the month of May 2008. Bentzens, 525-5066 or bentzen@comcast.net.

WANTED: Host family with HS-age son (16-17) for Stephan (17) from Germany, June 15 to July 31, 2008. He speaks fluent English, plays soccer, tennis, piano. Call Gisela, 206-525-5774.

The Laurelhurst Letter is published ten times a year. Email unclassified advertising copy to laurelhurstnews@comcast.net, or mail copy to 4721 47th Ave. NE, Seattle, WA 98105. All ads are subject to space availability. Visit www.laurelhurstcc.com for advertising information.

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