

LAURELHURST

L E T T E R

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June 2007

Concerts in the Park

Enjoy live music in Laurelhurst Park on the following Thursdays beginning at 6 p.m.
Great for picnics!

July 12 – Lost in The Fog
(Bluegrass/Americana)

July 17 – Deems Tsutakawa
(Smooth Jazz Pianist)

July 26 – Two Scoops Combo
(Rockin' Boogie Woogie)

August 2 – Little Bill & The Blue Notes
(Classic Rhythm & Blues)

August 9 – Michael Powers Group
(Blues & Smooth Jazz Guitarist)

Advisory Committee for Children's Expansion

Thirty-five people applied to serve on the Children's master plan advisory committee. Children's submitted its list of preferred candidates, and the Department of Neighborhoods (DON) will develop a final list for City Council approval. The goal as stated in the city's code is to achieve "a balanced, independent and representative committee."

LCC is working with DON and the City Council to ensure maximum Laurelhurst representation on the committee and to ensure adherence to the Major Institutions Code (MIC) requirement that representatives live in adjacent communities directly impacted by the proposed expansion. LCC interests are to protect our neighborhood's livability and vitality while allowing Children's to grow to meet its needs.

DON's preliminary list of committee members includes the following Laurelhurst neighbors: Cheryl Kitchin, Kathleen Sabo, Gina Trask, Miriam Muller, Bill Nichols, Doug Hanafin, Catherine Henning, and Delores Prichard, with Kim Dales as alternate.

For additional information, visit the website <http://masterplan.seattlechildrens.org>, or contact LCC at chmcexpansion@laurelhurstcc.com. ■

Laurelhurst Gym Hours, Staffing, Budget

At the April LCC board meeting, Dena Schuler, Community Center coordinator, and Kate Gray, Seattle Parks and Recreation recreation manager, briefed the board on issues relating to a change in Laurelhurst gym hours and cleared up misunderstandings about a letter sent home to Laurelhurst Elementary School parents. It was helpful to learn hours at other north Seattle community centers dropped, too, due to budget constraints.

In light of overwhelming response from neighbors, Schuler is working hard, within the parameters of the current budget, to respond to the community's request to provide programming opportunities both at the gym and the new community center. To accommodate interest for after-school gym hours, Schuler changed the spring hours from 5 to 9 p.m. to 3:30 to 8 p.m. The gym and the community center will remain closed Saturdays from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day. This is the case at all community centers. During basketball season, both the gym and community center will be open Saturdays.

Kids need a safe, welcoming place to hang out after school, and parents and the LCC board appreciate the willingness of park representatives to readdress facility hours and discuss funding issues with the Community Center Advisory Council. LCC is very involved in the city budget process and comments and testifies each year on our community's budget priorities. LCC plans to work with the Parks and Recreation Department and the Advisory Council to ensure an appropriate level of funding in the next budget cycle. This would include requesting staffing hours to meet the needs of the community center's service area and a proposal to hire a recreation leader – a position that allows for greater interaction with children – instead of a recreation attendant. ■

Replacement of UW Walkway Initiated

Laurelhurst neighbor Les Podgorny brought the issue of the deteriorating asphalt walkway on Mary Gates Memorial Drive NE to LCC's attention. In response to complaints about this once-temporary sidewalk, which is adjacent to University of Washington (UW) property, LCC wrote a letter to UW president Mark Emmert to request scheduling its replacement with a concrete sidewalk. The walkway extends from the University's Botanical Gardens up to the Ceramic Metal Arts compound.

The asphalt walkway is heavily used by students and faculty, graduate student families, and by Laurelhurst neighbors. It's condition is uneven, deteriorated, narrowed by grass overgrowth, and often submerged in puddles at its low points. Some portions are barely two feet wide; the minimum sidewalk width under the City's Code is five feet. Property owners are responsible for the condition of sidewalks abutting their property, and there are liability issues.

President Emmert responded, "I will look into this right away and see what we need to do. Our 'to do list' is long, but we will add it to the list." ■

Save your used sports gear for a fall sale to benefit the Laurelhurst School Community Playground Renovation Project. More information to follow. Questions: Committee co-chairs Kay Rawlings (729-5942 rawsee1@comcast.net) or Chip Painter (526-8250 cpainter@windermere.com)

LCC Endorses "Clean Up Your Act"

LCC appreciates the work of the councilmembers and the Urban Development and Planning Committee on this package of legislative proposals. For more than three years, LCC has worked with absentee landlords and other property owners in the neighborhood to secure compliance with Code provisions relating to weeds and vegetation, junk storage, and housing and building maintenance.

Neighbors take great pride in their homes and in the Laurelhurst community. When homes are neglected, it's cause for concern. LCC seeks voluntary cooperation from offenders when we receive complaints, pointing out possible Code violations and asking for compliance to avoid violations from the Department of Planning and Development (DPD). We handle these complaints in a very positive manner as our goal is to seek compliance with community standards and the Code.

The enhanced penalties in the Clean Up Your Act package will serve as strong incentives to ensure compliance with Code standards and public health and safety mandates. LCC appreciates DPD's efforts to work voluntarily with seniors, the disabled and those without resources to ensure that they have the support they need to comply with the Code. As Councilmember Peter Steinbrueck stated, this is a quality of life issue. ■

Kudos to UW Student Accountability

The LCC board of trustees unanimously endorses the UW's proposed two-year pilot project for a Student Accountability Program. UW students should be held accountable for illegal off-campus conduct that affects the University's relationship with the community or poses a threat to the health, safety and security of members of the University community. The University has a responsibility to teach its students to be good citizens, and there should be consequences when students engage in behaviors such as noise violations, public lewdness, theft, and destruction of property. The first citation would involve a warning letter from the University; the second, a mediation with the accuser; and the third, a police citation and possible disciplinary action by the University.

While the pilot project covers only a small area of the University District, LCC hopes the program will be successful and can be extended to the broader University community, including Laurelhurst and other northeast Seattle neighborhoods impacted by illegal conduct of University students.

Since 1995, the Laurelhurst Community Club has supported legislation at the state level creating an off campus student code of conduct. Laurelhurst joined its neighboring communities in the most recent master planning process in supporting inclusion of an off campus code of conduct. The pilot project and statement of principles are a good start to addressing the problems that have existed for many years. ■

Encouraging Sustainable Gardening

At the LCC May board meeting, Elaine Willey from Seattle Tilth discussed the recent successful natural pest control workshop at the community center and presented current research on the effects of pesticides, herbicides, and insecticides on the environment and human health. Willey urged LCC to support efforts to promote non-toxic methods for pest, weed, and plant disease control without the use of harmful chemicals.

The board voted unanimously to support efforts to educate our neighbors about gardening without pesticides and using safer alternatives to promote a healthy environment. LCC plans to include information on these important topics in the newsletter and on our website. Learn more about improving our environment by using organic gardening techniques at www.seattletilth.org. ■

Salmon Bake

**Thursday, July 26,
5:30 to 8 p.m.**

It's back! Join your neighbors and friends in celebrating the return of the Salmon Bake. Along with delicious food, enjoy live rockin' boogie-woogie music, a kids' carnival with jump toys, and face painting. But, of course, the best part is the salmon plate, which features alder-smoked salmon, coleslaw, watermelon, and a roll. Tickets are sold at the event for all activities and food. ■

CALENDAR

Summer Sports Clinics. Laurelhurst Community Center is offering clinics for soccer, baseball, and roller hockey. Call 684-7529 for information. Enrollment is limited; register early.

June 22, (Fri.) 7 to 8:30 p.m.;
Cosmic Rollerskating at Laurelhurst Gym, \$2 per person.

June 23 (Sat.) Last day to register for July 13 **3-On-3 Youth Basketball Tournament** for boys and girls ages 10-14. Contact Laurelhurst Community Center, (206) 684-7529.

June 25 - Aug. 31, 1:30 to 5 p.m.
Montlake CC Pre-Camp
Ages 3 to 5. Madison Beach Boathouse. \$97 per session. Contact susanjanuary@comcast.net.

June 28, July 19, Aug. 23 (Thurs.);
Drop-in Storytime, Laurelhurst Community Center; \$2 per child.

June 29 (Fri.) **Deadline for Laurelhurst newsletter copy and advertising**

June 29 (Fri.) 7 p.m. Movie Night at Laurelhurst Community Center; Free

July 9 (Mon.) 7 p.m.
LCC Board of Trustees meeting
St. Stephen's Church

July 10-14 Seattle Community Church Vacation Bible School
"Pirates of the Galilee - Find the Treasure Within." Contact HT or EJ Lee (206) 527-2232 or officeadmin@seattlechurch.org.

July 20 (Fri.) 10-11:30 a.m. The Laurelhurst Loop-Dee-Do, Ages 18 and up. \$19; contact Laurelhurst Community Center, (206) 684-7529.

Master Gardener Clinic, Mondays, 4 to 8 p.m.; Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Center for Urban Horticulture Atrium. Free

University District Farmers Market, Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. University Way NE and NE 50th St.

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EXPERIENCED NANNY: College educated, looking for summer childcare work starting end of June. Please contact Kerri at 206-380-1718.

FOR RENT: Beautiful Kona (Hawaii) Condo, in exclusive gated community on Mauna Lani Golf Course. Sleeps 6; 2 bdrm, 3 baths. Next to the pool. Discount available. NSNP. E-mail wileys4@comcast.net.

FOR RENT: Cabo San Lucas, Pueblo Bonito Blanco,

Two Luxury Suites, week of March 31- April 7, 2008. Each unit sleeps 4-6. \$1,500 per unit. Roberto Rodriguez, 206-427-6920, robertosforhair@yahoo.com

FOR SALE: Dining table w/6 chairs, solid pecan wood, circa @ 1920, trestle style, 2 leafs, 32"x74" \$1,250 obo. Dennis, 522-3683.

FOR SALE: 1926 Craftsman, 3 bed, 1 ba, 1 1/2 story. 1010 sq ft + 770 sf basement. Walk 10 min to U Village. Avg condition, Zillow.com: 4836-38th Ave NE 98105; \$530,000. Call Lisa 360.678.0897.

FOR SALE: Kimball console piano/bench, exc cond, \$875 obo. Basketball backboard & hoop, \$20. Rowing machine, \$5. 524-1727.

FOR SALE: Terrific house on one of the friend-liest streets in Laurelhurst - 4339 NE 43rd. moes123@comcast.net

HOUSE WANTED: Family seeking home in Laurelhurst or Windermere. No agents please. Please call (206)372-7480.

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WANTED: Responsible professional, former Laurelhurst resident trying to move back seeks house sitting position while in transition for the summer or longer. Susan 206.229.8386. susanjanuary@comcast.net

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