

LAURELHURST

L E T T E R

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September 2007

Thanks, UW!

The June 2007 *Laurelhurst Letter* reported on the LCC board's letter to UW president Mark Emmert requesting replacement of the deteriorating asphalt walkway on Mary Gates Memorial Way. During August, work on the concrete replacement sidewalk began!

Thank you, President Emmert, for pushing this neighborhood request to the top of your to-do list. This major pedestrian-safety improvement is much appreciated. ■

Environmental Toxins and Health

In May 2007 the LCC board of trustees voted unanimously to support efforts to educate our neighbors about gardening without pesticides and using safer alternatives to promote a healthy environment.

Washington has the highest rate of breast cancer in the nation and environmental toxins play a role. There are also correlations between environmental toxins and high rates of asthma in children. Kate Davies, director of Antioch University Seattle's Center for Creative Change and Environment and Community program faculty, was lead author of a report indicating these findings.

Davies recently developed a website that's a clearinghouse of information on health and environmental quality in Washington. To reach the website, sponsored by the **Collaborative on Health and the Environment – Washington**, visit <http://washington.chenw.org/RIgroup/>

Information on Pesticide-Free, Sustainable Gardening

- The Pesticide-Free Zone project, sponsored by the Washington Toxics Coalition (WTC), www.watoxics.org
- National Coalition for Pesticide-Free Lawns, www.beyondpesticides.org
- King County, www.metrokc.gov/dnrp/swd/naturalyardcare

Let's work together to keep Laurelhurst beautiful and safe. ■

Children's Plans "Tower" Over Neighborhood

More than 100 neighbors attended the August 23 public meeting of the Children's Advisory Committee to provide comments on Children's plans to expand. **Children's has identified two options, both of which have 240-foot zone height towers and the same 1.5 million square footage expansion.** For reference, the zoning height limit for single-family residential is 30 feet. The proposed towers are the equivalent of a stack of eight two-story houses — skyscrapers in our residential neighborhood. View Children's concepts at their website, <http://masterplan.seattlechildrens.org>.

Neighbors suggested alternatives to Children's proposal and urged study and mitigation of a number of environmental impacts. At the meeting's conclusion, the audience was asked to raise their hands if they supported an alternative development plan with building heights less than 240 feet and square footage expansion less than 1.5 million. It was unanimous: every neighbor in the audience raised his or her hand. The City was asked to include the results of this vote in its meeting summary. LCC has requested that the City explore holding future meetings at the Laurelhurst Community Center to provide a neutral forum and encourage greater neighborhood attendance. LCC president Jeannie Hale also requested that the model of proposed expansion be on display at the Laurelhurst Community Center for neighbors to see.

LCC has developed preliminary comments on the Children's Hospital Concept Plan and environmental scoping, which can be viewed at www.laurelhurstcc.com. LCC is in the process of developing its own development alternative to address the height, bulk, and scale issues that will be submitted to the City and the master plan advisory committee in the near future.

The next meeting of the Children's Advisory Committee will be September 26 at 6:30 p.m. Call Steve Sheppard, 206-684-0302, at the Department of Neighborhoods for the location. Neighbors are encouraged to attend, and public comment is welcome at the meeting. ■

LCC Requests Funding for Red-Light-Runner Program, Cameras at Five Corners

At its August meeting, the LCC Board of Trustees reviewed the Evaluation Report for the Traffic Safety Camera Pilot Project, other materials about the project, and a petition by neighbors urging installation of red-light-runner cameras at Five Corners. The board voted unanimously to support our neighbors' request for installation of red-light-runner cameras at this extremely dangerous intersection, where Union Bay Place NE, Mary Gates Boulevard, NE 45th, 35th Avenue NE, and Sand Point Way NE meet.

LCC has proposed to the city council slight modifications to the siting criteria under consideration, which take into account the unique characteristics of a five-street intersection. Higher traffic volumes and accompanying traffic congestion result in more frequent red-light running, which puts both pedestrians, cyclists and vehicle occupants at risk. ■

Children's To Replace Trees at Magnuson

A landscaping firm working for Children's Hospital illegally cut small, desirable native Madrones trees at Magnuson Park, where it is renting park-and-carpool space. The facilities and transportation officer from Children's hired the firm to do work to improve security sight lines and safety for employees; however, he did not consult with the Parks Department regarding tree removal. Children's must comply with a restoration program, which includes paying for damages, replanting, soil amendment, labor costs, etc. Any future violations will put Children's permit with the Parks Department in jeopardy. ■

Congratulations, Girls Softball All-Stars!

The Northeast Seattle Little League 9 to 10-year-old Girls Softball All-star team capped a fantastic season by placing second in the 2007 state tournament. This is the first time any team from our neighborhood in this age bracket, boys or girls, advanced to the state tournament. There are more than 60 leagues in our state.

Girls on the team who live in the Laurelhurst neighborhood are: **Kaitlin Cappetto**, the team's #1 pitcher who was a combined 4-1 in the district and state tournaments; **Jenay McAuley**, the team's shortstop and #1 batter; **Katherine Gavin**, the team's leadoff hitter and starting rightfielder; and **Claudette Pattison**, who played a number of positions and was a strong hitter as well. Adam Gavin was the team's manager and is vice president of Girls Softball NE Seattle Little League.

NE Seattle Little League offers baseball and girls softball for players between ages 5 and 18. Signups for next season begin in December. LCC has been a long-time sponsor of NE Seattle Little League teams. ■

LCC Acts to Keep NOAA on Lake Union

LCC joins the University of Washington in urging NOAA to keep their operations at its Pacific Marine Center on Seattle's Lake Union. The Port of Bellingham has been aggressively lobbying NOAA to relocate, since the July 4, 2006, fire at NOAA's facility on Lake Union. According to Seattle's deputy mayor, the owners of the Lake Union piers now are ready to start reconstruction.

Not only is NOAA critical to navigation and science, it is important to our Seattle economy. NOAA's presence on Lake Union over the past many years has resulted in a growing number of local businesses that support NOAA's work. These businesses and their employees, which contribute greatly to our economy, would be in jeopardy should NOAA relocate. NOAA partners with the UW on its research efforts, promoting the finest expertise on important environmental issues such as global warming. NOAA also has been a good neighbor to community groups, providing meeting space and assisting with environmental projects at Warren G. Magnuson Park.

NOAA is important to our economy and to our community. LCC believes that the fresh water location on Lake Union best meets the siting criteria, protects the ships, and saves maintenance costs. LCC has written the NOAA Administrator in Washington, D.C., encouraging him to do all he can to ensure that NOAA remains on Seattle's Lake Union. ■

Ogden Selected for Transportation Project Team

Liz Ogden, LCC board of trustees vice president, was unanimously nominated by the Northeast District Council (NEDC), which represents 20 neighborhood and business groups, to serve on the Lage Project Review Team. This team evaluates transportation projects that will be funded out of the Bridging the Gap tax measure approved by voters last fall. ■

UW Botanic Gardens Fall Classes and Workshops

Enjoy a wide selection of classes for gardeners, professionals, and nature lovers of all types!

Nature Journaling, Sat., Sept. 15, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

5 Easy Steps to Better Soil, Sat., Sept. 29; 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Home Garden Design, Wed., Oct. 3, 10, 17, and 24, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Stormwater: Turning a Potential Problem into an Asset – Practical Design Workshop for Professionals, Wed., Oct. 17, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Botanic Drawing I: Introduction to Drawing Botanical Forms, Thurs., Oct. 18 to November 15, 7 to 9:30 p.m.

Yoga in the Arboretum, Wed., Oct. 24, 31, and Nov. 7, 6 to 7:30 p.m.

For more information and registration, contact: Jean Robins, 206-685-8033, jrobins@u.washington.edu, or visit www.uwbotanicgardens.org. ■

Enotria Welcomed to the Neighborhood

Enotria principals, chef David Hahne and Amber Luton, have opened their "Italian-inspired" restaurant in the former Union Bay Cafe space. Business partner Jud Crane and Luton talked about their joint venture at the August LCC board meeting. Their enthusiasm and warmth are a good fit for our neighborhood. Hahne's most recent bistro environment was his own Pane Vino Dolce and Cave Vin, which was voted second-best new restaurant of the year by readers of *Minneapolis St. Paul* magazine.

Extensive travel in Italy, France, and Spain have inspired their Mediterranean cuisine and fine wine list. They plan to deliver "extremely high-quality cuisine in a neighborhood setting." Their menu includes small bites, salads, pizza, pasta, and entrees such as oven-roasted Manila clams, albacore tuna crudo, mushroom-stuffed pork tenderloin, and grilled lamb chops. 206-527-5039 ■

CALENDAR

September 9 (Sun.) 1 to 3 p.m.

Fire Station 38 Open House

5503 33rd Avenue NE

Architects and fire department staff will be on hand to discuss the project scope.

<http://seattle.gov/firelevy>

September 10 (Mon.) 7 p.m.

LCC Board of Trustees meeting

St. Stephen's Church

September 21 (Fri.) **Deadline for Laurelhurst newsletter copy and advertising**

September 21 (Fri.) 6 to 7:30 p.m.

Bingo is back! All ages.

Laurelhurst Community Center.

Also, Oct. 19, Nov. 9, Dec. 7

September 22 (Sat.) All Day **Sports Gear Sale to Benefit the Playground Renovation Project**

Laurelhurst Elementary School

For information contact Chip Painter, 526-8250, or Kay Rawlings, 729-5942.

September 26 (Wed.) **Children's Advisory Committee meeting.** 6:30 p.m. Public welcome. See page 1 article.

October 1-4 Celebrate National Get Organized Week. Register for workshops

about organizing your Home, Garage, Papers and Time, Children's Spaces and Toys. \$10 per workshop. To register call the Laurelhurst Community Center at 206-684-7529.

October 15 (Mon.) **Laurelhurst Golf Tournament to Benefit the Playground Renovation Project**

Sand Point Country Club

Contact Dave Watson at 790-1698, watty1019@yahoo.com.

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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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HOME CARE: Licensed/certified private-duty caregiver providing skilled nursing care and assistance with ADL's. Helping maintain independence and quality of life at home. Don Petit, 206-234-6442 or dgpetit@aol.com.

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

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

NE SEATTLE MOMS: Laurel Tree Moms and Laurelhurst Moms is now NE Seattle Moms. Membership is open to families in Laurelhurst, Bryant, View Ridge, Windermere, Wedgewood, Sandpoint, Ravenna, and UDistrict. This is a place for neighboring communities to share resources, neighborhood issues, support, etc. To join visit: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/NESeattleMoms>.

PIANOS: For sale privately including Steinway, Mason&Hamlin. esther_warkov@comcast.net, 971-255-0388, www.thepianoconnection.com. A music teacher-founded service assisting piano buyers and sellers. Maximize your investment!

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OFFICE SUITE AVAILABLE: Laurelhurst area. Share admin assistant, library, & conference rooms with attorneys & CPAs. Possible joint marketing & referrals. Call: 206-523-6470.

RENTAL WANTED: Family of four looking for a Laurelhurst home to rent during a remodel from Nov. 1 to May 31. Children are ages 11 and 14, plus a nice dog and cat. Fred Buckner, fbuckner@u.washington.edu, 206-616-9214

STANDARD CAR SERVICE: To and from SeaTac, all other occasional needs. Efficient, reliable, prompt. Fully licensed & insured. Visit www.standardcarservice.com or call 930-0316.

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WANTED: styrofoam peanuts, pillows, and bubblewrap. Please leave in driveway at 3415 W. Laurelhurst Dr. NE. Call Candy at 527-0582 with any questions.

YOGA: OmTown Yoga Fall Session of Classes begins September 17. New students are welcome! Visit us online at www.omtownyoga.com. OmTown offers outstanding instruction for all levels.

YOGAKIDS: OmTown Yoga now offers children's classes. YogaKids classes begin September 17. Visit us online at www.omtownyoga.com. OmTown offers outstanding instruction for all levels.

The Laurelhurst Letter is published ten times a year. DISPLAY ADS cost \$75 per space per issue, with a five-issue commitment paid in advance. Laurelhurst-area businesses have priority. Call Leslie at 525-0467. UNCLASSIFIED ADS are free for paid members of the Laurelhurst Community Club, except that repeat ads or ads deemed commercial (including home businesses, real estate rentals, and houses for sale) cost \$20; 25-word maximum. Sorry, no unclassified ads taken by phone. Email copy to laurelhurstnews@comcast.net, or mail it to 4721 47th Ave. NE, Seattle, WA 98105. Please include your name, address, and phone number. All ads are subject to space availability.

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