

LAURELHURST

L E T T E R

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July 2006

Annual Neighbors Meeting Highlights SR520, Zoning, Environment

David Allen, senior planner for the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT), made a presentation on the SR520 bridge replacement/expansion project design options. He described the floating bridge — susceptible to earthquakes and wind storms — as “an anchored boat with a road on top,” pushed around by wind, which creates stress on the structure. Plans call for either a 4-lane or 6-lane replacement, both of which would include pedestrian and bike lanes.

Featured guest councilmember Richard Conlin, a Trans-Lake Washington Committee member since 1998, has no doubt that whatever decision on the SR520 replacement made now will be much better than one that would have been made nearly a decade ago. The search for the best solution has been a long process with many challenges and complexities. “What are the impacts on neighborhoods of whatever alternatives?” Conlin and the committee are trying to identify “what will work best and mitigate the negative issues.”

Councilmember Conlin also addressed “neighborhood character” and zoning concerns in single-family neighborhoods. Megahouses are reducing the supply of more affordable housing within the city. To address this, he is working on a proposal in the city council to reduce the height of single-family homes from 30’ to 25’, the height permitted on multi-family construction. In addition, he is studying land-use code as it addresses lot coverage and is preparing to propose modifications that would maintain proportion between the

size of the house and lot.

Councilmember Conlin praised Laurelhurst neighbors for their “great sense of involvement, community, and history” and said he looks forward to working with us on the issues that affect our neighborhood.

Brice Maryman, UW Department of Landscape Architecture lecturer and urban designer, talked about **Open Space 2100**, which “seeks to develop a comprehensive open space network vision for Seattle’s next 100 years that will complement the city’s predicted growth and density, and to build the broad constituency and strategies required to implement this vision.”

This coalition of urban leadership is sponsoring public discussions and strategic planning processes to engage and collaborate with citizens to create livable, healthy urban watersheds and neighborhoods for the next century. To learn more, visit www.open2100.org. Work from the February 2006 Green Futures Charrette, in which more than 300 Seattle citizens participated, is on display through July at the Odegaard Library on the UW campus.

Creative and energetic students in the **UW Restoration Ecology Network** have been removing blackberry bushes and planting native vegetation in the Union Bay

Natural Area (UW Botanical Gardens) at the corner of **NE 41st St. and Surber Dr.** Neighbors were very enthusiastic about the students’ display and presentation. To volunteer to participate in the maintenance of the this neighborhood wildlife habitat, request an application from laurelhurstnews@comcast.net. ■

Special thanks to Villa Academy for providing the meeting space, Great Harvest Bread Company for cookies and bread sticks, and Starbucks Coffee in University Village next to Crate&Barrell for beverages.

Laurelhurst Elementary Playground Renovation Project Underway

The first of three public meetings was held June 19, but it’s not too late to contribute your ideas! Playground co-chairs Coco Sherman and Melissa Kane introduced a team from Barker Landscape Architects, who have been selected for the redesign. A lively discussion and lots of ideas were generated by neighborhood participants – especially kids! – to guide the design process. In the fall, design concepts will be presented for com-
continued on page 2



New Board Members, L to R: Marian Joh (treasurer), Brian McMullen, Barb Bender, Susan Rupp, Liz Ogden (vice president). Not pictured: Nan Haigwood. Meet the new trustees on page 2.

Meet your new LCC board members...

The slate of candidates for the LCC Board of Trustees was accepted by unanimous consent at the Annual Neighbors Meeting June 7. Board members John Clark, Dermot Noonan, and Tom Maider retired.

Meet the six new board members:

Barb Bender and her husband John moved to Laurelhurst in 1998. They have two children, Madeline (5) and Henry (3). Barb, a Block Watch Captain, has been on the board of the Sandhurst Co-op School, is active in PEPS, and volunteers at St. Joe's Baby Corner. Barb worked at McCaw Cellular Communications for nine years. She grew up in the Yakima Valley and graduated from the University of Washington with a B.A. in Communications.

Nan Haigwood was appointed to fill a vacancy on the LCC board in January 2006 and is the lead on parks issues. She spent eight years as a Master Gardener serving on both the State and King County Foundation Boards. She managed the greater Seattle area Defensive Driving Classes for AARP. She loves living in Seattle and is hoping to make Laurelhurst an even better place to live through community action on the LCC board.

Marian Joh (Treasurer) and her husband, Jason Andrews, have three children: daughters Ellis (5) and Ava (16 months) and son Ethan (almost 3). Marian, Chairman and CEO of Andrews Space, has an accounting/economics degree from Western Washington University and has held senior management, operations, accounting, and financing positions in the

technology industry. She is interested in serving on the board to contribute to the local community.

Brian McMullen, a Washington native raised in Federal Way, has lived in Laurelhurst for the past 2 1/2 years and wants to get more involved in the Laurelhurst community. He and his wife, Ramona Emerson, have two children (ages 5 and 3). Brian, whose hobbies are golf, running and biking, is a partner in a local consulting firm that focuses on clients in the high tech and health care industries.

Liz Ogden (Vice President), former LCC trustee, was appointed to fill a vacancy on the LCC board in February 2006. She coordinated the North Laurelhurst Transportation Plan in 2002 and has been the lead for LCC on many land use, shoreline, transportation, and traffic issues. Liz grew up in the neighborhood. She and her husband, Tony, co-own Underfeet, a floor covering business. Their daughter, Galen (6), often assists LCC at community events.

Susan Rupp became a Laurelhurst resident 12 years ago when she married Jim, who was raised in the neighborhood. Susan is involved at Laurelhurst Elementary, where their children, Brendan (10) and Kimberly (7), are students. Her family enjoys all the neighborhood has to offer. She has been a human resources professional for a privately held timber and land company since 1990. Susan looks forward to continuing a family tradition of community involvement by serving on the LCC Board. ■

Check out Montlake traffic online before you go!

It's now easy to view traffic conditions on the Montlake corridor before leaving home. Just visit the City's webcam at www.seattle.gov/trafficcams/Montlake_25th.htm. Get a look at traffic on other roads in the vicinity, too, and plan your trip before you hit the street.

Neighbor Mary Tolena (Anderson) lauds this service and says, "Knowing conditions like this before I leave home will certainly influence my time of departure and choice of route!" ■

Throw a Block Party: Tuesday, August 1

National Night Out Against Crime is an opportunity for individual neighborhoods to strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships. Seattle Night Out is sponsored by the Seattle Police Department.

The registration deadline to apply for for a block party street closure is July 24. To find out more, contact your Block Watch Captain or visit the Night Out website: www.seattle.gov/police/nightout.

CALENDAR

July 11 (Mon.) LCC Board of Trustees meeting, 7 p.m., St. Stephen's Church.

July 21 (Fri.) Deadline for Laurelhurst Newsletter copy and advertising

July 24 (Mon.) Night Out Street Closure applications due.

Master Gardener Clinic, Mondays, 4 to 8 p.m.; Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Center for Urban Horticulture Atrium. Free resource staffed by volunteers trained by Washington State University Extension to advise on plant selection, insect identification, and managing disease problems.

University District Farmers Market, Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. (May 6 through December 30). Buy direct from more than 50 Washington state farmers.

Visions for Seattle's Green Future, through July 31. Open Space Seattle 2100 Exhibit, Odegaard Library, UW.

...Playground *continued from page 1*

ments. The design phase is funded by a grant from the City's Department of Neighborhoods. The committee plans to apply for a matching grant to help fund construction of the new playground. For more information, contact Coco (525-9850, cocosherman@comcast.net) or Melissa (527-8547, mmkane@mindspring.com).

"Well-Built Playgrounds for Well-Built Kids" is the winning slogan by kindergartener Maureen Ye.

UNCLASSIFIEDS

AVAILABLE VARIETY SERVICES: Housecleaning, laundry, ironing, alterations, cooking, etc. Mary, 286-8093.

CHILDREN'S MUSIC CLASSES: Rising Song offers parent/child Kindermusik classes (newborn - 7 yrs) and piano lessons (from 5 yrs). 726-3677 or www.risingsongschool.com.

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

DEBRIS REMOVAL: Garages, yards, attics. Major credit cards accepted. Happy Hauler, 784-0313.

EYE EXAMS: "Clear vision begins with healthy eyes." Comprehensive, thorough eye health exams with Dr. P.J. Bingham @ Market Optical in University Village. 522-9323

FOR RENT: Laurelhurst home near Villa, 3 Bd + 2 Ba + Family. \$1500/mo. Avail: mid Nov. to early Jan. 522-8926.

FOR SALE: 5-gear Brompton folding bike. Like new. Green&silver. Extras. \$900. Six Smith & Hawken canvas/wood folding director chairs @ \$20. Joan, 522-5905.

FOR SALE: Antique pie safe, exc. condition, \$600; Hoover vacuum with bags, \$20; antique Jenny Lind 3/4 bed, \$200. Leslie, 525-0467.

HOME MAINTENANCE: Gutter cleaning and pressure washing driveways, stairs, walks, decks, patios, tile, bricks, aggregate, rubberized surfaces. Exp., local refs. Will also house sit. Thomas, 478-8776.

JOB WANTED: Housecleaning, light gardening, part-time babysitting or elder care. Exp., refs., own car. Prefer NE Seattle. 206 674-5356.

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

NANNY: Professional/energetic Nanny with 3 years of experience taking care of children of all ages. I am college educated and live very close to Laurelhurst. Please contact Kerri, 380-1718.

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

SITTING SERVICE: Need someone to watch your children or your pets this summer? Call "Two Sisters Sitting Service." Loving, responsible care in your neighborhood. Fiona is 14 1/2 and Siobhan is 11. Call 206-524-6150.

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.

SUSAN'S CLEANING SERVICE: Cleaning specialist. Dependable, reliable, efficient. Licensed/bonded/insured. 781-8876.

Laurelhurst Moms is an informal e-mail network that aims to help support each other as parents and neighbors. Open to parents from Laurelhurst and neighboring communities; closed to the public for security reasons. To join, visit: <http://groups.google.com/group/LaurelhurstMoms>. E-mail LaurelhurstMoms@googlegroups.com with questions.

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.

Volunteer Your Time and Talents at Ronald McDonald House

Help provide a warm and welcoming home-away-from-home for families with seriously-ill children. Many opportunities exist for both individuals and groups.

Did you know our neighborhood RMH is the second largest in the world? If you're interested in volunteering, contact Judy Adams at 838-0606. www.rmhseattle.org.

Laurelhurst Community Center

Gym is open this summer Monday through Thursday, 3:30 to 9 p.m., and Friday, 3:30 to 6 p.m. Teen activities are offered all day every Wednesday beginning July 12.

Adult Drop-in Basketball is Tuesday and Thursday, 7 to 9 p.m. \$2 per visit.

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