

# LAURELHURST

L E T T E R

Published by the Laurelhurst Community Club ... serving the Laurelhurst community since 1920

November 2020

## Time Again to Give a Gift of Holiday Warmth

LCC is hosting a sock, gloves, hat, and scarf drive for the charities supported by SPD, including the Pioneer Foot Clinic for the homeless and Mary's Place Shelter. The challenges of cold weather and low supplies during the Covid-19 are real, and we can all pitch in right now to provide needy folks with new and warm items for men and women in sizes M-XL.

Please mark your calendar to drop off items on **Sunday, Dec. 13, between 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.** at the Laurelhurst Community Center parking lot. Drive through and volunteers will be there to take your donations. To volunteer, email [lccvolunteers2020@aol.com](mailto:lccvolunteers2020@aol.com).

Neighbors have always donated generously. Donations through the LCC Foundation are tax-deductible. Contact LCC treasurer Emily Dexter, [emdexter@comcast.net](mailto:emdexter@comcast.net) to request a receipt. Thank you! ■

## Find It, Fix It

This smartphone app offers mobile users one more way to report selected issues to the City of Seattle. Reporting an issue is as easy as snapping a photo with your smartphone, adding detailed information, and hitting submit.

The map's "drag and drop" feature or the phone's own technology can be used to pinpoint the location.

The app offers the following service request categories:

Abandoned Vehicle; Bike or Scooter Share Issue; Clogged Storm Drain; Dead Animal; Graffiti Report; Illegal Dumping; Overgrown Vegetation; Pothole; Sign and Signal Maintenance; Streetlight Report; Other Inquiry. ■

*Happy  
Thanksgiving*

## Subscribe Now to LCC's Private Security Patrol

Neighbors recently received in the mail information on the patrol and how to subscribe for 2021. Word is out that Laurelhurst neighbors and patrols are watchful and alert. This collaboration helps deter incidences; however, crime in Seattle – and in Laurelhurst – is increasing.

Over the past twelve years, LCC has had very positive response to this program designed to deter an increase in burglaries, car prowls, auto thefts, and vandalism in Laurelhurst.

The annual cost per family is \$200 for the period ending December 31, 2021. Sign up now to ensure coverage during the holidays.

This is what your family receives in return for your participation:

- Uniformed, off-duty Seattle Police officers patrol the neighborhood up to five nights/days a week for four hours each shift. Officers are in uniform, carry police radios and their police firearms, and drive unmarked personal vehicles. They monitor incoming 911 calls and will respond to any Laurelhurst calls if on patrol and will work with the official response from the on-duty police officers.

- Vacation check. You can notify [crimeprevention@laurelhurstcc.com](mailto:crimeprevention@laurelhurstcc.com) of your vacation plans and officers will do a walk around of your premises during each shift to secure open doors, packages, or remove door tags.

- LCC contact link. Email [crimeprevention@laurelhurstcc.com](mailto:crimeprevention@laurelhurstcc.com) to request vacation checks or to report any criminal activity (after you have called 911), neighborhood concerns, etc.

To participate, please either use LCC's secure online payment option (preferred) at [www.laurelhurstcc.com](http://www.laurelhurstcc.com), or send your \$200 check payable to LCC to the PO Box listed on the back of the newsletter. If you pay by check, please be sure to include your name, address, email, and emergency contact information.

If you have questions, please contact Brian McMullen, Crime Prevention co-chair: 206-367-9325 or email [crimeprevention@laurelhurstcc.com](mailto:crimeprevention@laurelhurstcc.com). ■

## Jeannie Hale, Dedicated LCC Advocate, Retires

In an October letter to trustees, Jeannie wrote, "It has been my honor to serve as LCC president for so many years and later as co-president. When I became president, LCC gradually transformed to a working board. Everyone then had some kind of responsibility and this has continued... making LCC one of the most effective community councils in the city."

Under Jeannie's 20+ years' tenure, LCC set up its first website, an email network that transformed into our Constant Contact program, and "calls and concerns from neighbors," a focus at each meeting to help neighbors to maneuver through city bureaucracy to resolve a myriad of issues. With her leadership, LCC was successful in receiving many city grants for pedestrian safety improvements – including the extended planted median on NE 41st St. adjacent to the Battelle/Talaris site, the pedestrian refuge island on Surber, the large traffic circle at the end of the boulevard on 43rd Ave. NE, and many other traffic circles, speed bumps, and chicanes. With assistance from neighboring communities, LCC was successful in the long-sought sidewalks on NE 30th St. behind University Village and

*continued on page 2*

## Crime On the Rise

Crime is up significantly across Seattle. In Laurelhurst, SPD statistics, as summarized by Brian McMullen, show that in the months of August and September 2020, there were a total of nine car thefts, five burglaries and seven car prowls. Two neighbors, one of whom experienced a car theft and the other a prowler, reported that there was a streetlight outage by their houses, which they felt contributed to their vulnerability to the theft or prowler. The outages had been reported but had not been repaired. Also, in September, a neighbor's car windshield was cracked and the hood was badly dented and scratched when a large rock (found at the scene) was thrown at the car. Another neighbor's car was stolen when a young driver mistakenly left the keys in the ignition. This car was found by SPD during an arrest at a house located on or near Aurora Avenue and returned to the neighbor. Another neighbor reported that in late September prowlers used an amplified electronic signal to open his garage doors. The thief or thieves took two bicycles and valuable tools and attempted to take an electric bicycle, as well. A house key left in a door was also taken.

Prius catalytic converters are a hot item and trafficked easily and profitably for the rare metal Palladium, which is currently in short supply due to its high demand for use in electronics manufacturing. Removal of a catalytic converter takes under five minutes. The catalytic converters in Prius models prior to 2011 contain more Palladium than current models, so earlier models are at greater risk. Because of increased thefts, the wait for repair could be weeks. To prevent an expensive theft, install a security panel. ■

## Street Light Out?

If so, please report it. Note the number on the pole and then report problems online at [www.seattle.gov/light/streetlight](http://www.seattle.gov/light/streetlight) using the Streetlight Trouble Report Form, or by phone at 684-7056. Or try the Find It/Fix It app. ■

## LEAP TIP: Handling Utilities After an Earthquake

Large earthquakes can fell power lines, break water and gas pipes, and overwhelm emergency repair personnel. Protect your family and home by teaching all household members where to find and how to turn off your utilities. Share the location of your utility controls with cluster neighbors so they can handle this task if you are unable to do so.

If you don't smell or hear natural gas, you probably don't need to shut it off. Just in case, locate the shut-off valve and know how to turn off the gas. If you do turn off the gas, Puget Sound Energy (PSE) will need to relight the pilot when it is safe. PSE recommends installing an automatic earthquake shut-off valve.

Every household member also should learn how to shut off water at the main house valve. This prevents debris from pipe breaks from contaminating precious, clean water stored in hot water and toilet tanks. Know where and how to turn off the electrical master switch in case of flooding or a live exposed electric wire in the house.

Label your shut-off valves. Hardware stores, outdoor outfitters, and Amazon sell pre-labeled tags.

Teach everyone in your household when and how to use a fire extinguisher and identify a clear exit path. Know which types of fire your extinguisher is meant to combat. Remember PASS: Pull out pin. Aim at fire base from about 10 feet away. Squeeze lever. Sweep side to side until: (a) fire is out, (b) extinguisher is empty, or (c) exiting is the safest strategy.

The ability to control utilities quickly after an earthquake may dramatically contribute to your family's and your neighborhood's safety and survival. Know "how to" before you "have to"! ■

## Is Your Sidewalk Clear and Safe for Neighbors?

The dark and rainy season will soon be here all too soon. Walkers, joggers, dogs, and children on bikes and scooters frequently need to dodge overgrowth that encroaches on sidewalks.

Do your shrubs or hedges sprawl across the walk or overhang the sidewalk's edge? Do tree branches droop causing passersby to duck? Plantings grown so tall that drivers can't see past them? If so, it's time to get out the pruners.

City Code requires property owners keep adjacent sidewalks, roads, and alleys clear of all obstructions. This means shoveling snow in the winter, raking leaves in the fall, and repairing damaged sidewalks. Encroaching shrubs and hedges must be cut back, and a minimum eight-foot clearance must be maintained above sidewalks (14 feet above roads and alleys). Vegetation that obscures an intersection at a distance of 30 feet should be trimmed.

Your neighbors will thank you for keeping them safe. ■

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*Jeannie Hale Retirement continued from page 1*

the creation of Blakeley Crescent Park with a grant from the Seahawks and others. During her tenure, LCC was successful in legal matters relating to University Village, Seattle Children's, Battelle/Talaris, the UW, and other land use matters.

LCC treasurer Emily Dexter, remarked, "Our entire neighborhood owes much of our community spirit to your tireless and long time commitment to making Laurelhurst the community it is today." President Colleen McAleer responded, "It takes time, effort and commitment to have done all of this good work for the residents of Laurelhurst and the City."

Our community thanks you for your dedication and service, Jeannie. ■

[www.laurelhurstcc.com](http://www.laurelhurstcc.com)

**UNCLASSIFIEDS**

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. 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; after three entries of the same "free" ad within one year, the fee is \$20 per issue. Student ads for services are \$15 per issue. 25-word maximum. Ads are subject to space availability. Email copy to laurelhurstnews@comcast.net.

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**Each month, trustees review Calls and Concerns from neighbors. Please contact any trustee to bring up something you would like LCC to be aware of or consider action on or if you need assistance maneuvering City government offices.**

**Comment on SCH Phase 3 by Nov. 17**

The Standing Advisory Committee for SCH meets **November 18 at 6 p.m.** Neighbors can ONLY comment in writing. *Comments must be submitted at least 24 hours* in advance to Maureen. sheehan@seattle.gov.

Neighbors in LCC's northern and eastern borders will be severely impacted by SCH plans for Phase 3 (near 44th Ave. NE and NE 50th St.) Contributions of over \$5,000 have been made by neighbors to LCC to fund initial legal filings to determine whether Phase 3 is classified as "exempt" or a "Major" Amendment to the SCH master plan. The goal is to require SCH to conduct a Supplementary EIS that will rigorously examine the impacts of the proposed Phase 3 project. ■

**Is It Spring Yet?**

Neighbors **Don and Myrna Torrie** donated 50 daffodil bulbs that Don coerced into the hard ground on the traffic median abutting Talaris. Look for their bright blooms come spring. Thank you! ■

**RAPID COMPUTER HELP:** PC/Mac. Upgrades; hardware, software installation; troubleshooting, repair. Spyware, virus removal. Windows, MS Office certifications. Local References. Matt, 206-498-8901.

**TUTORING:** Customized tutoring available to fit your learners needs. Thirty years of experience. References available. Online or social distancing. Text 617-501-4304. Email Lucasliterature@gmail.com

**WANTED:** Laurelhurst Homes - As Is. Top Dollar Paid. I will buy your house as is. Don't worry about problems or cleaning up or preparing for sale. Quick and easy cash sale. I live in the neighborhood. Call Mike, LREA, at 206-459-9375.

**SUBA Annual Meeting**

Save Union Bay Association (SUBA) will host its annual public meeting on **Wednesday, November 18, at 7:30 p.m.** via Zoom. The link is available on the website: <http://www.saveunionbay.org/Home.html>. Please join us for a lively discussion about management of aquatic weeds in Union Bay. ■

**Sign up for LCC's Constant Contact electronic newsletter for time-critical communications: email laurelhurstnews@comcast.net.**

**CALENDAR**

**November 9 (Mon.) 6:30 to 8 p.m. LCC Trustee Meeting**

Virtual meeting via Zoom <https://washington.zoom.us/j/98019884654>

Meeting ID: 980 1988 4654  
 One tap mobile (Seattle) +12063379723,,98019884654# US

**December 13 (Sun.) 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. LCC Sock Drive**

Laurelhurst Community Center Parking  
**Drop off donations for Elizabeth Gregory House**, a U District women's shelter: Huda Giddens at 4338 NE 44th St. (Leave in green bin at front of house.)

**Gently used shoes needed** for the homeless and distributed through Blessed Sacrament parish's Outreach to the Poor in the U District. Drop off in white plastic container in front of 3891 44th Ave. NE.

**2020 Husky Home Football Schedule**

Sat., Nov. 14, Oregon State  
 Sat., Nov. 21, Arizona  
 Sat., Dec. 5, Stanford  
 Fri.-Sat., Dec. 18-19, Pac-12 Championship Game weekend.  
 There is a possible fourth home game the weekend of Dec. 18-19. Attendance will be limited to about 1,000 due to Covid. No tail gating.

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November 2020

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Katherine Burk, Sec.	849-4955	Jan Sutter	683 9280
Kay Kelly	409-7001	Don Torrie	524-4316
Jim Rupp	524-5880		

**Newsletter:** laurelhurstnews@comcast.net;  
Leslie Wright, editor, 206-229-1505

**Security Patrol:** crimeprevention@laurelhurstcc.com

**Aircraft Noise Hotline** 206-433-5393

**Animal Control** 206-386-7387

**Community Center** 206-684-7529

**Laurelhurst Beach Club (business)** 206-729-3724

**Police, Non-emergency** 206-625-5011

**Street Light Out, City Light** 206-684-7056

**24-Hour Crisis Line** 206-461-3222

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CHOOSE A BROKER FROM YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD.



## 5K Turkey Trot for Food Bank and Fun

### Ninth Annual Laurelhurst Thanksgiving Day Turkey Trot – Pandemic Style

Begin at NE Corner of Laurelhurst Park (by the overpass) any time between 9 and 11 a.m. You will be given a map of the course and a ticket for the pie raffle.

Please wear masks if in crowds and maintain 6 feet or more distance from those not in your immediate family. Due to Covid-19, there will not be a mass group start or gathering at the end.

Non-perishable food or cash / check donations accepted for the University District Food Bank.

Please contact Brian Larson at [brianjonlarson@me.com](mailto:brianjonlarson@me.com). ■

## Engage with Your City

Let your council member and mayor know what's on your mind.

**Jenny A. Durkan, Mayor**  
Phone: 206-684-4000  
Email: [jenny.durkan@seattle.gov](mailto:jenny.durkan@seattle.gov)

### Alex Pedersen, District 4 Northeast Seattle

Chair: Planning, Land Use & Zoning  
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Phone: 206-684-8808  
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