

# LAURELHURST

L E T T E R

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

April 2020

## Caitlin Kernan, Project Manager | All Covered Painting

We started out the year strong. 2020 was on pace to beat 2019 by 30%. We had recently been able to offer health insurance to our team members, which had been a long-time goal of the company and was made possible by our loyal customers who continue to refer us to friends.

We are very concerned about the effect of COVID-19 on our team members ability to pay their bills and stay afloat since our company is shut down and our employees are unable to work.

As a very small business we do not have the means to continue to pay employees while we are not able to generate business, and the reality of zero cash flow while we were just coming out of our slow season is very scary. We are hopeful that once this passes, we will recover because of loyal customers. We look forward to serving them again.

We are encouraging clients to support us by continuing to schedule estimates. We are offering "virtual" painting estimates so there is no need to meet in person. If we can build up our workload now, it would be a great benefit to getting our crews back to work as soon as we are able to. ■

## Community Resources

Washington State Department of Health  
Hotline for King County: 206-477-3977

Website: <https://www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/Coronavirus>

King County Department of Health  
[www.kingcounty.gov/covid](http://www.kingcounty.gov/covid)

For immediate help in times of emotional crisis for you, your family, or friends in need, call the 24-Hour Crisis Line:  
866-427-4747.

Teen Link Crisis Help Line:  
866-833-6546.

*In light of the dramatic impacts of COVID-19, LCC asked some of our advertisers to comment on how they have had to change they ways they conduct their businesses during Stay Home, Stay Healthy. The stories from our small business owners and neighbors are heart wrenching. Please show your support whenever possible to these and the many other businesses and restaurants in our community. Stay Healthy.*

*If you would like to continue the conversation about how COVID-19 is disrupting our regular lives and work, send an email to [laurelhurstnews@comcast.net](mailto:laurelhurstnews@comcast.net). Coping strategies? Inspirations? Activities? Silver linings?*

## Robin E. Riedinger, DVM | Hawthorne Hills Veterinary Hospital

Clearly the situation is evolving and it is a bit hard to know what the next weeks/months will bring. We are trying to be proactive, not panic, and really think about how to respond for the next six months. The timing has been challenging as we were closed following our move, and just when we were getting back up to speed, this happens. However, we are a resilient group, we have a great client base and with their support, I think we'll be able to weather this too. Our team is small so we haven't had to lay anyone off, but we did reduce our hours (closed all day now on Wednesday and Saturday).

- We've been following the guidance from the CDC, our veterinary associations and Archbright. We watch webinars to stay informed and modify what we are doing as new information becomes available.
- We've stepped up our usual cleaning and disinfecting protocols to keep our staff as safe as possible.
- We are following the state recommendations and have cancelled all elective procedures – dental care, surgeries, and anesthesia procedures that can reasonably be postponed, thereby preserving the PPE we do have. Obviously that has impacted our business and likely will for the foreseeable future.
- We are trying to reduce our exposure, so clients stay out of the building unless absolutely necessary. We are taking medical histories over the phone or by email, then providing needed care in the hospital, but limiting which parts of the hospital we are using so that it is easier to disinfect. We had already implemented an option for clients to pay online, so have now made that standard – we can email the invoice and clients pay – avoids us handling money and credit cards.
- We are encouraging clients to continue to purchase pet products through us. We are doing curbside delivery, which reduces client and staff exposure to each other. Purchasing from us, or through our online store (VetSource), helps support our business during this time of uncertainty, and it will help us to keep our staff on payroll. Every bit makes a difference.
- We are looking at implementing telemedicine, which can work well for minor health issues. It also could help us triage cases to determine if the patient needs to be seen, or if we can prescribe at-home treatment. ■

## Chip Kennaugh | Fine Pruning

So far I have been able to work. This last week I worked on a job that had me in the backyard and had no interaction with anyone. I felt safe and the only concern I have now is to not deplete my energy too much and make me more susceptible to the flu.

Support your local plant care people. ■

**Jennifer Flynn | Quorum-Laurelhurst, Inc., President, Designated Broker**

Our lives and the business environment are in such a state of flux and unknowns right now. Guidelines and rules seem to be changing daily. Quorum-Laurelhurst has all the tools and processes in place to continue to serve and meet clients' needs in this new environment of virtual meetings and social distancing. We have been doing video on every listing for a couple years now, so online marketing remains the same, with just a few tweaks. We have tools for virtual showings and have used them many times in the past. We have tools for electronic signatures and document delivery. And, of course, we have virtual meetings.

There are also the ever-changing rules with the shelter-in-place mandate. For now, showings can once again happen for active listings, but there are strict guidelines. Only the broker and one other person at a time on the property, and at a 6-foot distance from each other at all times. Other rules must be followed, and we will keep up and make sure to adhere to all guidelines.

For me, the biggest change has been the personal one. I miss the connection of seeing others in person. And there is the challenge of helping all my agents adapt and make the changes they need to be successful both strategically and emotionally.

All of the social distancing and projections of extended impacts also raise the question: Will this epidemic change our processes permanently? Will brick and mortar offices become a thing of the past? Will open houses become a thing of the past? As the owner of a small business I am constantly assessing and trying to gauge what the future will look like. I am grateful that I can act very nimbly and make the necessary changes to continue to provide the best services. And I'm grateful for the community we have.

We are here as a resource for our community, and we will all get through this together. ■

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**Chet Crile, Broker | Windermere Real Estate, Laurelhurst**

Coronavirus is having an impact on every aspect of the residential real estate business. Listing presentations, preparing properties for market, touring buyers, coordinating inspections, arranging appraisals, and more. All facets are touched by this pandemic. When I started writing this, the 'Stay Home, Stay Healthy' order was given, and real estate services did not fall under the essential services umbrella. Now, a few days after the order went into effect, certain real estate activities are permitted.

In a time like this facing so much adversity, it's important to stay positive and get creative. Here are a few things I'm focusing on in my business:

- Reaching out to check in on the well-being of every client (past and present) – reminding them we will get through this. Although there will likely be a negative impact on the market in the near term (which isn't necessarily bad for buyers), the Greater Seattle real estate market should recover faster than most markets.
- Spring is traditionally a hot time for sellers. Listings originally targeting March or April are now a moving target – depending on when the shelter-in-place is lifted. I've been asking my sellers to put this time to good use by completing all market-prep items in and around the house, and getting the house totally organized.
- Encouraging sellers to take videos and photos of their home for the listing in the event photographers would not be allowed to work. It's not ideal to list during the shelter-in-place, but there are a lot of homebound buyers eager to look at any new inventory online.
- Sending buyers any recently canceled or temporarily-off-market listings that might fit their search criteria. Some sellers will undoubtedly feel skittish about coming back on the market in these uncertain times, and thus might consider an offer right now. If a property catches my client's eye, I will contact the listing broker to set up a virtual tour. ■

**Family Resource Home Care**

Like almost every business and industry, we too have had to continually react and adjust to our new normal due to the coronavirus. We've carefully followed all of the recommended guidelines for infection prevention, while also strategizing on how to provide for the needs of our clients and staff. The population we serve in home care includes some of those most vulnerable to effects of this illness, yet many of them are also vulnerable without the care and support we provide. We have encouraged families to weigh these risks and work with us to determine what is best for them at this time. The health and well-being of our clients, their families and our employees has been, and remains, our most important priority.

We still believe home care is the single safest method of long-term care for seniors and those with chronic medical conditions. Home care is a solution to keeping our fragile populations at home longer in order to isolate and can help prevent secondary medical emergencies caused by self-isolation such as falls, dehydration, missed medication and pressure ulcers. This support for day-to-day needs may help prevent a medical emergency during this time of overburdened healthcare systems. Home care can support recovery and sheltering in place, saving health care industry resources and hospital beds for those with COVID-19. Home care also provides tangible benefits in the form of emotional and psychological support, combating depression or mental conditions that also cause ER visits by fragile populations. This companionship is needed now more than ever as fear especially grips the minds of many who are home bound. ■

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**Matt Howell | Computer Support**

Due to the COVID-19 shutdown, I am no longer able to go on-site to customer's houses. I am, instead, offering both Remote Support (when applicable) and answering questions over phone, if I am able. ■

**UNCLASSIFIEDS**

**BABYSITTER:** Reliable 8th-grade girl from The Bush School with Better Babysitting, CPR and 1st Aid certificates looking for babysitting jobs in the neighborhood. Two year's experience. 206-972-4792 or romymckey@gmail.com.

**BEST CLEANING LLC:** 27 Years cleaning Windermere and Laurelhurst homes. Regular cleaning and special projects; references from current clients; quality guaranteed. 206-948-2433. bestcleaning@outlook.com

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**PAINTING:** Luis Ramirez 206-465-3593. Interior and exterior. Great Laurelhurst references. Bonded and insured. Any size job.

**Metro Route 78 Suspended**

Metro plans to discontinue all Laurelhurst bus service within two years. LCC has written King County Metro stating that Laurelhurst will have essentially no access to either link station with the elimination of the 78 bus route, creating a transit desert for our community. Please take the time to send your comments and concerns now. Send an email to haveasay@kingcounty.gov with the subject line: North Link Connections (Laurelhurst Community). ■

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

**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.

**SAFARI TO TANZANIA:** Wildlife/photography safari to Tanzania Jan. 12-23, 2021. Organized by Charles Sleicher, a Laurelhurst resident for 42 years. Superb itinerary includes Tarangire, Serengeti, Ngorongoro Crater, Oldupai Gorge, and Ndutu, the best place in Africa to see and photograph wildlife. For 9 persons in 3 vehicles with expert driver/guides. Each person has a window on each side plus access to roof hatch. Ideal time for good weather and the famous wildebeest migration. Lots of lions, other cats, other mammals, and over 200 species of birds. Excellent but not high-end lodging and food. \$9,850 for 11 days on site, single supplement \$900. If East Africa is on your bucket list, go! Contact charles@sleicher.net or 206-254-1576 for details. Kathryn Gardow is one of several Laurelhurst residents who have taken one of the safaris. She said she would be glad to answer questions about it: 206-527-3272.

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

**Spring Egg Hunt Canceled at Park**

Alternatives might include:

- Hiding colored eggs in your own yard's secret places
- Making a "signs of spring" scavenger hunt list
- Creating clues and pirate map to find hidden "treasures" of candy or surprises

**CALENDAR**

**May 11 (Mon.) 6:30 to 8 p.m.**

**LCC Board of Trustees**  
Laurelhurst Community Center

**June 8 (Mon.) 6 to 8 p.m.**

**LCC Annual Neighbors Meeting**  
Laurelhurst Community Center  
Program to be announced.

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

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. UNCLASSIFIED ADS are free for PAID members of the Laurelhurst Community Club, except that repeat ads or ads deemed commercial cost \$20; 25-word maximum. Email copy to laurelhurstnews@comcast.net.

**Aljoia and Ida Culver House Ravenna**

At Era Living, our number one priority has been helping to protect our residents from COVID-19, the disease caused by the novel coronavirus. Following the news of the first death related to COVID-19 in our area, we moved swiftly to add additional measures on top of existing plans and infection control protocols related to preventing the spread of communicable disease.

The resource section on our website, <https://www.eraliving.com/coronavirus/>, is designed to ensure that residents, family members, and staff have access to the latest information regarding how we are working to be as prepared as possible to protect the health of our communities.

This is an evolving situation, and we encourage you to monitor public health updates from the Washington State Department of Health, King County Public Health, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Details about each facility are posted on the ERA website. ■

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April 2020

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**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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Visit our website @ [www.laurelhurstcc.com](http://www.laurelhurstcc.com)

### Karen Pecota | Sand Point Electrolysis

The current COVID-19 pandemic has hit me hard and will continue to do so until the ban is lifted. I have not had income since the week of March 9. I don't see myself going back to work until possibly June of this year, because we have not even seen a decline in cases.

I run a small sole proprietor service business performing electrolysis. On March 16, the mandate from Governor Inslee's office called for immediate closure to all "touch-based" services or any service that works with clients in close proximity to the face. Businesses like mine ... are deemed non-essential services. I have no employees and operate a service-for-pay business. This means if I do not work, then I do not get paid.

I now worry how I will hang on to my business. If I am not working, my bills pile up for business and home and that puts my professional practice in jeopardy of existence if too many months with no pay pass and no resources are available. ■

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### Windermere Real Estate, Sand Point

The Sand Point Windermere office is closed per the governor's order. Real estate transactions can still happen but they will be virtual. All of those who have transactions in process should be able to complete them. Everyone's health and safety are the most important things. We are always here for you. ■