

Maple Leaf Community

MAPLE LEAF COMMUNITY COUNCIL, PO BOX 75595, SEATTLE WA 98125-0595

January/February/March 2008

www.ci.seattle.wa.us/COMMNTY/mapleleaf

A Community Council Publication

Next Meeting

Wednesday

January 30

7:00 PM at Olympic View Elementary

- ▶ Meet new Seattle City Councilmembers Bruce Harrell and Tim Burgess
- ▶ Meet Timothy A. Gallagher, Superintendent of Seattle Parks and Recreation
- ▶ Community Updates: Waldo Hospital, Maple Leaf Reservoir Covering, Community Garden
- ▶ Town Hall Meeting: What do you think our 2008 goals should be?

FREE ON-SITE CHID CARE

Free on-site, professional child care is offered at our General Meetings. This complementary service is offered by the Maple Leaf Community Council to encourage families with children to attend.

NEW YEAR, NEW FACES, NEW DIRECTIONS

The focus of the January 30th General Meeting is on meeting the new people in city government who will be making decisions affecting neighborhoods like Maple Leaf, and setting Maple Leaf's agenda for the coming year. The open Town Hall meeting is the time to get your ideas out for discussion, air your complaints about how the Executive Board is performing, or to shower the Board with accolades. This is the most important meeting we can have, because it tells us what we should be doing with our time and energy. Is it important to you that Maple Leaf remains a strong neighborhood with a variety of housing opportunities, healthy small businesses and excellent schools? Is it important to you to maintain Maple Leaf's single-family areas? What do you think we can we do to keep Maple Leaf a safe, livable and desirable neighborhood? What do we need to do to support a vibrant, sustainable community?

WALDO HOSPITAL: UPDATE

by David Miller

As detailed later in this issue, in late December Prescott Development took its next step by applying for city approval to place 39 residential units (24 townhouses and 15 single-family homes) at the Camp Fire USA/Waldo Hospital 8511 15th Avenue NE site. As of the newsletter deadline, MLCC had not seen the most current site plan. This development would likely affect the urban forest on the site and may result in significant impacts, including traffic and parking problems for our neighborhood. Please attend the January 30th General Meeting for more information on how you can help.

MAPLE LEAF TRANSPORTATION

Some of you may have seen the November 26, 2007 article in *The Seattle Times* that followed an announcement of \$6 million in spending for large street-fund sidewalk projects. There were \$250 to 300 million in suggested projects submitted by neighborhoods. North Seattle accounts for the bulk of the streets without sidewalks, largely due to a historical quirk: until the 1950s, most neighborhoods north of North 85th Street were part of King County which, unlike Seattle, did not require housing developers to build sidewalks. The City estimates it will take decades to build missing sidewalks.

The Good News: One of the projects to be funded by the \$6 million is the construction of a sidewalk on 20th Avenue NE between NE 98th Street and Sacajawea School.

More Good News: Two years ago, Maple Leaf resident Amy Bernard applied for Neighborhood Street funds for a project to begin completing the walkway on 8th Avenue NE, north of NE 92nd Street. With the award, a design for walkway improvements on 8th Avenue NE between NE 92nd and NE 95th Streets has been completed and the estimated construction cost is \$120,000. A working committee of Maple Leaf residents is working to identify sources of funding for this important project. If you would like more information or can help, please contact Amy at 524-3494 or via e-mail at amy_bernard@rocketmail.com.

Future Projects: The Northgate Coordinated Transportation Investment Plan (CTIP) includes a walkway project on 8th Avenue NE from NE 95th Street to Northgate Way but no committed funds are identified for it. This will be an important pedestrian link from Maple Leaf to the community garden, community center and library. As noted above, however, there is a huge backlog of projects throughout the city and competition for funds is stiff. It is likely that Maple Leaf will have to work on identifying funding sources for this walkway on a block-by-block basis.

GRAFFITI VANDALISM (684-PKUP)

by John Wolff

Maple Leaf says "THANK YOU" to all of our residents and businesses who've cleaned up graffiti over the years. Please do not tolerate graffiti vandalism. Report it to the Graffiti Hotline: 684-7587 (684-PKUP, also for illegal dumping). For clean-up tips, go to www.seattle.gov and search "graffiti." Police reports: 625-5011. For free paint, call the ReUse Store: 386-4093.

BUSINESS PROFILE

By Dale Marston

Maple Leaf Community Yoga

8400 5th Ave NE #8, 98115

206-601-1251

www.mlcyoga.com

Email: mlcyoga@gmail.com

Kelly Pretlow discovered yoga in 1993 and was immediately drawn to this ancient art and science. She had an “aha!” moment when she took her first yoga class as a young dancer and gymnast and knew she was meant to practice yoga for her physical and mental well-being. Ten years later, as an officer in the Air Force stationed in Saudi Arabia, she led her first yoga practice at the base gym. Yoga kept her centered during difficult times.

While stationed at Fairchild AFB in Spokane, she and her husband spent weekends in Seattle looking for neighborhoods they wanted to live in after their service was complete. When they found a house in Maple Leaf, they knew they were home.

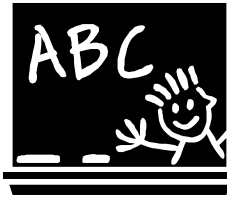
After the Air Force she enrolled at the College of Purna Yoga, the first state-licensed school for yoga teachers, and completed a 2 year, 1700 hour training program. She opened the Maple Leaf Community Yoga Studio in 2005 to expand the sense of community she liked about Maple Leaf.

Purna Yoga is a holistic approach to incorporate physical health as well as mental, emotional, and spiritual health (purna means complete). Kelly teaches alignment-based poses based on knowledge of anatomy and physiology. She refines yoga poses to modify them for an individual's needs so the pose fits the student's ability, rather than the student fitting the yoga pose. Supported poses use props such as bolsters, blankets or straps to make them safe for all skill levels.

Classes are offered for different skill levels from introduction to yoga and beyond, and last 1-1/2 hours. Sessions include 10 – 12 weeks of classes. Class sizes are kept small, no more than 10 per class, so that Kelly can provide individualized attention to help each student. Currently, morning classes are offered Sundays through Thursdays, and evening classes on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays.

Kelly also offers Restorative Yoga sessions every two weeks on Friday nights. No experience is necessary; the intent is to really relax by practicing a few poses, held for a long time to strengthen and stretch the body and clear up kinks. You don't have to be a regular student, but you do need to call and reserve in advance, since class size is limited to six students.

The next class sessions begin on February 3rd. Check out the on-line schedule of classes or call Kelly if you have any questions. Come try out any class with a reservation and a \$17 drop-in fee.



Seattle Public School Calendar

January 21	Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday
January 28	Day between semesters—no school
February 18-22	Mid-winter Vacation
March 21	Professional Development Day
March 31—April 4	Spring Vacation

Olympic View School

School Tours & Open House, February 7

Kindergarten Information Night & an opportunity to meet the teachers on Thursday, February 7th from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Kindergarten tours begin January—meet the principal, tour the school and get a first hand look at our three classes in action! Please call 252-5500 to register for a tour.

Silent Auction, Saturday, March 15

The fun OV Auction will be held on Saturday, March at the Phinney Ridge Neighborhood Center, 7-10 PM. For information about items for auction or for information about making a donation, call the school office at 206-252-5500.

Annual Plant Sale—April 25 & 26

Sacajawea Elementary School

School Tours

School Tours will take place in January and February. Please call the school office, 206-252-5550, to get more information

Math & Science Fair—February 14, 6-9PM

Each year the Science and Math Fair committee puts on a school-wide extravaganza, featuring exhibits created by students. For more information phone the school office at 206-252-5550.

MAPLE LEAF VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Executive Board: The Maple Executive Board: The Maple Leaf Community Council continues to need energetic, dedicated people to be actively involved in the community by serving a two-year term on the Executive Board. The Executive Board meets on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7 a.m. at Olympic View Community Church. You can come to any Executive Board meeting and get a feel for how you can help shape the future of Maple Leaf and keep it the greatest place to live. Contact David Miller at 528-8110.

ABUSED DEAF WOMEN'S ADVOCACY SERVICES

by Carol Brown

ADWAS Community Auction

Join us at ADWAS for our community auction on March 13th from 7:00 to 9:30 p.m. at 8623 Roosevelt Way NE. Quilts, glassware, arts and crafts will be available for your bidding pleasure. It's a great way to shop for that special need, be it birthday, baby shower, or anniversary. Desserts will be served. The ticket price is \$10 per person and 100% of the proceeds go directly to ADWAS.

Please RSVP by contacting Carol Brown at carol@adwas.org.

Share the Holiday Program

Thanks to several businesses and individual community members, families living in the transitional housing units at ADWAS were able to joyfully celebrate the holidays. Through the generosity of the community, gifts of clothing, toys, food, gift cards, etc. were donated and then distributed to women and their children during the holiday season. Thank you for remembering and supporting those in need.

MAPLE LEAF THANKS JANICE CAMP, VOLUNTEER EXTRORDINAIRE

After nearly a decade of serving as president of the Maple Leaf Community Council, Janice Camp has passed the leadership torch. She faithfully and cheerfully accommodated Maple Leaf activities into her extremely busy schedule for years. During her tenure as president, Janice dedicated many hours to the work of the board, to community art and garden projects, to writing interesting and charming business profiles, to the annual Summer Social, and to representing the Maple Leaf Community at numerous public meetings and events. She has been an excellent representative for Maple Leaf, and always exhibited intelligence, thoughtfulness, civility, grace and style as she advocated in board meetings and on behalf of Maple Leaf for full and fair discussion of issues, transparency in process and for the principles of democracy. The Maple Leaf Community is far richer because of Janice. The board is thrilled that Janice will continue to serve as an at-large board member and is more than grateful she will be our new board secretary. Thank you, Janice.

MAPLE LEAF NAMES DAVID MILLER BOARD PRESIDENT

In November, the Maple Leaf Board elected David Miller to serve as president of the Maple Leaf Community Council. David has been an active member of the board since 2005. David's activities include serving as Maple Leaf's representative to the North Precinct Advisory Committee and to the Seattle Community Council Federation, significantly contributing to the community's effort to save the former Waldo Hospital as a Seattle landmark, leading the effort for new Maple Leaf identification signs, and to helping update the Maple Leaf website. Congratulations, David, and thank you very much for dedicating your time and energy to Maple Leaf.

THORNTON CREEK WATERSHED OVERSIGHT COUNCIL

by David Pickar, davidpickar@gmail.com

As of September, 2007, I am representing the Maple Leaf Neighborhood on the Thornton Creek Watershed Oversight Council. The council includes representatives of a number of neighborhoods that the creek flows through, as well as several government agencies involved in helping local watersheds stay healthy.

Thornton Creek enters Maple Leaf very near the headwaters of its south branch, so what happens to it as it passes through our neighborhood will have an effect on the health of the creek along much of its southern route in this area, which runs through Park 6 and Park 2. These relatively undeveloped parks have a lot of potential to add to the quality of life in our neighborhood as points of access to an environment quite different from the regular urban landscape.

Over the coming months, I hope to help organize work parties, in Park 6 (which passes very near our neighborhood's community garden, as well as the Northgate Community Center and Library) to improve accessibility, make the park more inviting & safe.

I invite anyone interested in helping along the creek, or anyone with questions or concerns they would like to raise to the council, to contact me via e-mail at: davidpickar@gmail.com.

MAPLE LEAF RESIDENT NAMED AN ASPEN-RODEL FELLOW IN PUBLIC LEADERSHIP

The Aspen Institute, an international nonprofit dedicated to fostering enlightened leadership and open-minded dialogue, announced it has selected Metropolitan King County Councilmember Bob Ferguson for an Aspen-Rodel Fellowship in Public Leadership. The program honors public leaders it identifies as the "true rising stars" of American politics. He is only the second resident in the state of Washington to be so honored. Fellows are selected by invitation only. Ferguson represents North Seattle on the County Council, and he and his wife Colleen are residents of Maple Leaf.

Read more about the Aspen-Rodel Fellowship in Public Leadership at: www.aspeninstitute.org/rodel.

Reminder: Join Councilmember Ferguson at his next town-hall meeting, March 5, 7 p. m. at Olympic View Elementary School. Newly elected Seattle Councilmember Tim Burgess will be a guest at this meeting.



MAPLE LEAF COMMUNITY GARDEN —529 NE 103RD

Thanks to our dedicated volunteers and generous "P-Patchers," Maple Leaf Community Garden was able to donate a total of **180.5 pounds of produce** to the Lake City and U-District food banks. Building community is our goal, and the garden is an ideal location to meet and chat with neighbors.

Winter Open Garden Event: Saturday, February 9, from 10 a.m. to Noon:

If you haven't seen it yet, this is a perfect opportunity to bring the whole family to visit the garden at 529 NE 103rd Street. See the wonderful art created by Olympic View Elementary School students for the stair risers and tool shed and Andrew Carson's fabulous wind sculptures. Tour the garden, see the native plants that are beautiful even in winter, walk the labyrinth, relax on one of our benches, stroll the pathways, or enjoy complimentary refreshments. You can also see the winter crops planted by some of our "P-Patchers."

Garden Volunteer Opportunities:

Community volunteers are needed to help care for our garden on an ongoing basis. No special skills are necessary—just sprinkling some water, sweeping, or pulling some weeds. **A community work party will be held on Saturday, February 9, from 10 a.m. to noon in conjunction with the Winter Open Garden Event. Everyone in the neighborhood is invited to come and help pull a few weeds, rake the gravel paths, spread some wood chips and prepare the garden for spring.** There will be jobs for people of varied physical abilities and experience. Come out and meet your neighbors. Get a little exercise and fresh air. Contribute to our Maple Leaf community. For more information, contact Barbara Maxwell at 524-1502, or via e-mail at tbmax@juno.com or Jennifer Zanella, our local P-Patch site coordinator, at 527-0895 or ilgirasole@att.net.

You can see pictures of the garden ranging from its construction and grand opening to the first growing season and the Fall Event on the Maple Leaf website: www.ci.seattle.wa.us/COMMNTY/mapleleaf or garden photos taken by Doug Daily at: www.gruffducks.com/mlcg and by accessing Sevgi Baran's photos from there.

CRIME PREVENTION

Diane Horswill, Seattle Police Crime Prevention Officer, has provided an updated report on criminal activity in Maple Leaf.

Maple Leaf Burglaries:

11/03 9200 block of Roosevelt Wy NE called in at 7:03 am: Adult daughter at home says she thinks someone may be trying to break into the apartment. She called her father who, in turn, called 911. Officers checked her door and the building, but could find no evidence of a break-in.

11/04 800 block of NE 86th St. apt. called in at 9:32 a.m.: Break-in to apartment storage space.

11/05 8600 block of 17th Ave. NE called in at 4:54 p.m.: Forced entry burglary to basement of the house.

11/10 8600 block of 20th Ave. NE called in at 9:16 a.m.: Report of a forced entry burglary.

11/26 1200 block of NE 88th St. called in at 12:08 a.m.: Elderly resident says someone is trying to break into her bedroom door, which is locked. Officers check and find a sliding glass door that is unlocked, but there is no sign of entry and no property missing. Unknown if it was an attempted burglary.

11/28 1200 block of NE 88th St. called in at 4:51 p.m.: The resident came home and discovered pry marks on her door. No entry made. (This is the same block but a different house than that listed above.)

11/29 1100 block of NE 80th St. called in at 5:00 p.m.: Report of a forced entry burglary.

Maple Leaf Playground:

11/23 Officer viewed a young man hanging around the park and encouraged him to leave the area.

For more information, or to set up a block watch, contact Diane at 684-7711 or via e-mail at: horswid@seattle.gov

*Unofficial statistics

MAPLE LEAF LAND USE APPLICATIONS

The City's Land Use Code has specific requirements for notifying the public of opportunities to comment on development proposals. Depending on the type of proposal, notice may be given by a large white sign, a smaller yellow sign, or by a mailed notice. Information is also available on the Department of Planning and Development (DPD) web site at www.seattle.gov/dpd. These notices include information about the project, contact information, and how the public can comment or be notified of meetings or other DPD actions.

In 2007, the DPD received approximately 20 master use applications for proposed land use actions in Maple Leaf. More than half of these applications were for projects along Roosevelt Way NE and several of the projects approved have been completed or are currently under construction. Below are some recent applications for Maple Leaf area proposals:

Project #3008174 / 8524 8th Avenue NE: St. Catherine of Siena Parish plans to build a new hall/gym. The project may take place in two phases. In the first phase, a new building of 11,600 square feet and containing a gym, a small kitchen, restrooms and an area that can be converted into a stage will be constructed. In a second phase, an existing building currently housing the gym will be demolished, and a central plaza-like space will be constructed. Parking near the parish offices will be reconfigured and church entries reorganized. St. Catherine's has selected Harthorne and Hagen Architects for the project, expected to start in the summer of 2008. For more information, contact the St. Catherine facilities committee chair, Peter Vogeli, at 526-2895 or Paul Janos, the assigned DPD planner, at 233-7195 or via e-mail at Paul.

Janos@seattle.gov.

Project #3007277 / 554 NE 103rd Street: This proposal is to divide one lot into two lots of 4,637.2 and 5,300.2 square feet. An existing house would remain on one of the parcels.

Project #3006480 / 8511 15th Avenue NE (Waldo General Hospital/Camp Fire USA site): Application to allow cluster development consisting of 24 townhouse and 15 single-family residences for a total of 39 units. Parking for 50 vehicles would be provided within the structures. DPD will be scheduling a meeting for the Design Review Board to evaluate Prescott Homes' response to their early design guidance for the site. For information on the city review process, or to request that your name be added to the public notification of meetings, decisions, etc., contact assigned DPD planner Scott Kemp at 233-3866 or Scott.Kemp@seattle.gov. (See also the related article by David Miller.)

Important Legislation Pertaining to Single-Family Zoning

City Council Bill 116066: This bill was passed by City Council in early December and makes changes to the Seattle Municipal Code (SMC 23.34) that modifies criteria for the rezoning of single family lots. The amendments allow single-family zoned lots in the Northgate Overlay District to be eligible for rezoning to a commercial zone, through the contract rezone process under certain conditions.

The Maple Leaf board was very concerned about this complex legislation and retained land use attorney J. Richard Aramburu to review the bill, provide an analysis and prepare written and verbal comments for the City Council to consider before their vote. In his written comments on behalf of Maple Leaf, Mr. Aramburu wrote:

"Leaving aside the merits of the proposal, isolated changes in the Land Use Code for the benefit of a single property creates an undesirable precedent. If this special interest amendment is adopted, the uniformity of the code will be compromised. The subject proposal opens the door for any other applicant, in any other part of the city, to modify the general terms of the code for their own interest. If the definition of a block can be changed for the Northgate Overlay District (in reality to serve the single interest Safeway property) then it is open to change in any other location where a well-financed commercial interest presses the issue. Is this action the beginning of changes to the 25-year use of facing block fronts as the criteria for single family zoning?"

Mr. Aramburu concluded that "the proposed changes are unjustified, lack consistency with the Northgate Plan and broader city policy, are intended to benefit a single applicant, and thus should be rejected by the committee [Urban Planning & Development Committee] and council."

Potential Litigation: Mr. Aramburu is conducting a further review of the legislation to determine if the approved changes to the land use code can be appealed to the Growth Management Board. Maple Leaf is working with some of the other neighborhoods encompassed by the Northgate Plan on this issue. If litigation proceeds, there will be additional legal fees. See the Maple Leaf website (www.ci.seattle.wa.us/COMMNTY/mapleleaf) for updated information. If you support this effort and want to contribute to the legal fund, send a check to the Maple Leaf Community Council, PO Box 75595, Seattle, WA, 98175-0595 and note that your contribution is for legal fees.

Available route: 103rd: 5th - Roos. (35)

If you can volunteer to deliver newsletters, please call Sydnie at 206-524-2512.

