

City Expands Options FOR FARMERS' MARKETS AND P-PATCH FARMERS

Local P-Patcher brings long history and rich biography to Market Garden Program

Seattle Mayor Greg Nickels announced new policies to ensure that farmers' markets will remain a vital part of our city, and low-income farmers will be able to sell the produce they grow in the city's P-Patches.

"Buying locally produced food is a small step that can make a big difference in our fight

against climate disruption," said Mayor Greg Nickels. "Local food is more nutritious, tastier, and light on packaging, and buying local also helps reduce those greenhouse gas emissions produced by fertilizing and transporting food."

Joining him at the podium at the Columbia City Farmer's Market was Hien Nguyen, an 11 year participant in the P-Patch and Market Garden program. Mr. Nguyen brings a lot to this successful program.

Hien was an officer in the South Vietnamese Army and worked with the United States Army in Saigon during the Vietnam War. He was captured and sent to a North Vietnamese prison near Hanoi for 13 years. He worked extremely hard on the prison farm, planting beans, rice, potatoes and vegetables.

After his release, he returned to Saigon and in 1994 had a chance to move to the United States. He came

to Seattle and it became his new hometown. He and his wife have been living at High Point for 12 years and like it very much. Hien speaks four languages, English, French, Chinese and Vietnamese.



Mr. Nguyen endorses more land for Market Gardens' (left to right: James Trinh, Hien Nguyen, and Mayor Nickels).

Hien is very active in the High Point community. He helped to build two community gardens and the High Point Market Garden. He participates in the SHA Action Team to support community improvement and safety.

"This is a wonderful program. We need more of it. Thank you Mayor, thank you P-Patch, and thank you all for buying organic vegetables," said Hien.

Seattle Market Gardens' mission is to help establish safe, healthy communities and economic opportunity through development

of Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) enterprises in low-income neighborhoods.

Between late May 2007 and October 2007, the Market Garden Program earned \$16,875.82. This money is earned primarily through the CSA farming model, where people subscribe to a share of produce that is delivered to drop off sites once a week.

Subscribers either receive a full share (\$500) or half share (\$300). This year, prices are up to \$520 and \$310,

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respectively. Out of 54 subscribers, 46 are half share, 8 full share.

Fees for markets located on SDOT property will drop by 50 percent. The Parks Department will reduce charges up to 70 percent, depending on market sales. The Ballard Farmers' Market, for example, will benefit by having to apply for only one annual permit instead of monthly permits, and their street-use fees will be lowered from about \$8,500 to \$4,000.

Farmers' markets serve as important community gathering places and generators of economic activity in Seattle's neighborhood business districts. More than 530,000 people attended 11 neighborhood farmers markets in 2007, resulting in more than \$7.5 million in sales, and more than 70,000 pounds of food donated to local food banks.

The city is also developing a plan to allow residents making 80 percent of median income (about \$43,000 for a single person), to sell organic fruits, vegetables, and herbs grown in city P-Patches. This will increase the amount of locally grown produce available in Seattle. 🌍

Crown Hill Community

PUTS THE MATCHING FUND TO WORK

CROWN HILL ACTIVITY CENTER CONCEPT BEGINS TO TAKE SHAPE

This month the Neighborhood News highlights two past Neighborhood Matching Fund projects in the Crown Hill community. Way to go Crown Hill!

The former Crown Hill Elementary School at 9250 14th NW is one of four Seattle School properties being surplus. The Seattle School District pledged to work with the existing tenants of these properties to develop proposals for the sale and the re-use of these sites.

The Crown Hill School effort has resulted in the formation of a very active working group composed of existing tenants of the building and representatives from surrounding business and neighborhood organizations. In 2007, the Department of Neighborhoods awarded a Neighborhood Matching Fund award to aid this effort in developing conceptual drawings, which will assist in the visioning and fund raising process. Crown Hill, as well as the three other community-based surplus schools, will have an opportunity to access other City funds this year to assist in the cost of technical analysis and strategic planning.

In addition to the \$1 million set aside by the Pro Parks Levy to assist in the cost of developing a public park on a portion of the Crown Hill School site, an additional \$1 million of City General Fund dollars has been pledged toward the eventual cost of acquisition of the Crown Hill site. Bills were introduced in this legislative session

(House Bill 3291 and Senate Bill 6872), to establish the Communities Schools Act of 2008, which if passed, could provide additional financial support to those communities struggling with surplus public school properties.

Other state legislation under consideration would address the constitutional requirement that public school properties be sold at a fair market value price. Under the conditions of this proposal, these properties must first be offered for purchase to low-income housing programs at a cost less than fair market value. Amendments have been introduced to include community facilities as an additional category of use eligible for this provision.

Crown Hill Neighborhood Wants to Walk

As a spin-off from efforts which organized the Crown Hill Neighborhood Association last year, Walk-able Crown Hill was formed as a community-level effort to take stock of pedestrian safety issues in the Crown Hill neighborhood and generally promote pedestrian activity. This project has recently been awarded \$15,000 from the Neighborhood Matching Fund Small & Simple program to create a pedestrian improvement plan. This effort will be very serious about involving large numbers of often hard to reach neighbors, including elderly, disabled, and low income. Although residents of the Crown Hill Cemetery are deceased, the cemetery's owners plan to participate in this effort to encourage the cemetery's enjoyment and use by the surrounding neighborhood. 🌍

Cesar Chavez Park

DEDICATION

By Laudan Espinoza, Communications Assistant

On April 16th the City of Seattle, Sea Mar, and many other groups and individuals dedicated the Cesar Chaves Park. The design and architecture proved to be a fitting way to memorialize Chavez. The park is located in South Park on the corner of Cloverdale Street and 7th Avenue it was designed to “serve as a model for the integration of community, culture, and craft in an urban neighborhood.”

However, for residents of the community and the park’s creators it stands as more than a mere architectural and planning accomplishment, but will serve as a reminder to Chavez’s many commitments. Among these the designers of the park wanted to portray the importance of Chavez’s role as an environmental activist and his concern for pollution. The park is said to be a “tribute to the humanist deeds of Cesar Chavez with a musical stone sculpture, seat-walls for gathering, a bus shelter, paths, plantings and lighting.” With the help of artist Jesus Moroles and Jones and Jones Architects the community was able to redevelop a small piece unused property into a vibrant source of pride for South Park.

The area where the park is located gives its presence a special meaning. South Park is a culturally diverse neighborhood that epitomizes all that Cesar Chavez worked for concerning human rights and equality. The design of the park was an integral part



Supporters of the Cesar Chavez Park are entertained by mariachis and children singers.



of its success as it used community workshops for input. From sculptures to layout the community maintained a sense of ownership and work in the parks development. The hands on approach benefited designers, city and community remembers and helped to develop relationships with local businesses, schools, and organizations such as El Centro de la Raza in Beacon Hill, South Park Neighborhood Association, and the Environmental Coalition of South Seattle.

At a total projected cost of nearly \$420,000 it was no small feat to see the park’s dedication in April. The planning and design of the park had been talked about for years and with

an extensive network of fundraisers and community donations, as well as help from the Neighborhood Matching Fund, their dreams to honor such a remarkable man as Cesar Chavez became a reality. The innovation and beauty of the park will hopefully stand as a way to bring the South Park community together as a center for the Latino community and example of community collaboration and effort. 🌐

Green Fest continued from page 4.

Throughout the weekend, hundreds of people stopped to get their hands on these building blocks, resulting in all sorts of creative solutions - someone even constructed the monorail and condo buildings with built-in garden spaces! The other half of the DON/DPD space featured 4 comment kiosks where maps of the 6 sectors of the city were posted on 6 faces and blank paper where these open-ended questions were posed:

- ◆ What makes you happy in your neighborhood?
- ◆ What makes a health community?
- ◆ If you could change one thing in your neighborhood, what would it be?

All of these questions were translated into Spanish, Chinese, Vietnamese, Korean, Tagalog, and Somali, and the boards filled up with comments at least 4 times over each day. DPD will input all the data gathered from these boards and use it to guide the Neighborhood Plan Update process. All in all, the event was a huge success, and DON's presence has been complimented in multiple arenas, both regarding their outreach efforts and the level of interactivity in their space. 🌐

DELDRIDGE

WHITE CENTER CDA AND MAKING CONNECTIONS JOIN FORCES

The White Center Community Development Association (CDA) and the Making Connections Initiative of the Annie E. Casey Foundation have joined forces in 2008 to pursue a new mission that broadens the CDA's community development plans to include neighborhood revitalization, community building, and the family development work of Making Connections. The merger will focus on creating vibrant neighborhoods and a high quality of life for all children and families in the White Center-Boulevard Park communities. As part of this growth, the CDA has moved to a new location, the former Making Connections office at 1615 SW Cambridge St, just one block north of Roxbury, within the City of Seattle. The CDA's staff now includes former Making Connections team members, as well as new positions that are being recruited to build an organization that fosters and supports community-led neighborhood initiatives.

CULTURAL CENTER FORMS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

In an effort to create "the best environment at the Youngstown Cultural Arts Center", a community advisory committee has been formed to pursue a mission to provide accessible programs to youth, to empower members of the community to take ownership of the building, and to break down barriers to foster learning of peoples' lives, passions, and struggles. A number of members have expressed interest in participating in unlearning racism training and sponsoring events to bring people together like international food potluck dinners. A goal for the committee this year is to help raise \$20,000 to support cultural center activities. The Delridge Neighborhoods District Coordinator is a committee member.

Happenings, continued on following page...

DOWNTOWN

DOWNTOWN RESIDENTS COUNCIL REVIVED IN 2008

The Downtown Seattle Residents Council (DSRC) has reconvened and will begin holding quarterly meetings and organizing residents throughout downtown. The first meeting of 2008 was on March 5 and topics included public safety, night-life, neighborhood plan updates and City Council workplan. Confirmed speakers are Councilmember Richard Conlin, Capt. Steve Brown, Precinct Commander for the West Precinct, and Department of Neighborhoods Director Stella Chao.

EAST

CAPITOL HILL COMMUNITY COUNCIL REVIVAL

Residents from Capitol Hill neighborhoods responded to the call to revive the dormant Capitol Hill Community Council at a "standing room only" meeting held at the Capitol Hill Library. Residents from neighborhoods at Pike/Pine, Olive Way, 15th Avenue East, as well as representatives from the Capitol Hill Chamber of Commerce and the Capitol Hill Stewardship Council participated at this meeting. The meeting was organized in part by the leadership of the Miller Park Improvement Association to reinvigorate the community council and prepare the neighborhoods for upcoming challenges, such as growth and housing affordability and the upcoming construction of the Sound Transit light rail substation at Broadway. In addition, this initial meeting was in response to the recent series of high profile crimes that took place at the beginning of the year. Officers from the Seattle Police Department/East Precinct, the Department of Neighborhoods Matching Fund Program and the East District Coordinator assisted in putting this meeting together.

Happenings, continued on following page...

Neighborhood News



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City of Seattle EMPLOYMENT

Building your career and your community

What: City of Seattle Career Fair

When: May 21, 2008 from 10:00 AM
to 6:00 PM

Where: Joint-Training-Facility,
9401 Myers Way South,
Seattle 98108

Who: Anyone who wants to **know:**

- more about the amazing variety of jobs at the City
- the impact our work has on the community
- and the other benefits employees enjoy

At the Fair we will have job demonstrations, job information (full-time, temporary, and apprenticeships), job application assistance, benefit information..... and more.

HAPPENINGS

your neighborhood

EAST

"GREEN FOOTPRINTS" ORGANIZATION COMPLETES NMF/SPARKS PROJECT

Community activists completed a Neighborhood Matching Fund Small Sparks project which assisted them in organizing a new neighborhood group called "Green Footprints", in the neighborhood between Madison Valley and 23rd Ave E. The funding was utilized to do a needs assessment survey throughout the neighborhood west of the Arboretum to determinate the most important interests and concerns in the community.

The new organization obtained Washington State non-profit status and received the official title of "Green Footprints Action Works" neighborhood group. The three highest priorities in the survey were: safe playgrounds, developing a green environmental neighborhood, and addressing zoning issues to restrain the scale of buildings in the neighborhood.

YESLER TERRACE COMMUNITY COUNCIL RECEIVES AN OUTREACH & DEVELOPMENT AWARD

The Yesler Terrace Community Council received a Neighborhood Matching Fund Outreach & Development award to organize workshops to assist the residential population at Yesler Terrace with the impending redevelopment of this Seattle Housing Authority facility. Funding from the Outreach & Development fund will assist the work of the community council to outreach into the residential community at Yesler Terrace to make sure that appropriate and timely information is received and the community has an opportunity to respond and be prepared to face the challenges that the redevelopment will bring to this neighborhood. Seattle Housing Authority is planning to redevelop the housing campus into a mixed-income development that would allow sustainability, integration and affordability as with other similar sites throughout their housing facilities.

Happenings, continued on following page...

HAPPENINGS

your neighborhood

EAST

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN NEIGHBORHOOD CLEAN-UP AT FIRST HILL

Taking inspiration from the previously held Clean & Green event hosted by Mayor Nickels this year, the First Presbyterian Church of First Hill is sponsoring a neighborhood clean-up event at the beginning of next month. Residents and businesses have been invited to participate to clean-up from the church located at 8th Ave and Madison St to the south, east and north of that neighborhood located adjacent to I-5 to the west. Volunteers are expected to gather at the parking lot of the church and make their way throughout the neighborhood.

LAKE UNION

SNAP ON! PALATINE

SNAP, refers to Seattle Neighbors Actively Prepare. And that's exactly what a group of neighbors near Palatine and 45th St were awarded Small Sparks funding. The money will be used to print neighborhood maps, buy prizes for "Name the Group" contest, and to purchase first aid and disaster supplies for the neighborhood disaster kit. The group is planning to stroll around the neighborhood, get better acquainted with each other, and get familiar with their Block Response Site, First Aid Station, and Care and Shelter Station. During the event, participants are planning to make notes on the neighborhood map showing the locations of gas meters and other information that would be useful during a disaster.

NORTH

LITTLE BROOK PARK NOW CLEANER AND GREENER

The latest Clean and Green event took place at the Little Brook Park in Lake City on a cheerful overcast day. The new Parks and Recreation Superintendent, Tim Gallagher, welcomed volunteers and participated in the clean-up process. SPU's Ron Harris-White offered the crowd compact fluorescent light bulbs and accepted old bulbs for recycling. Representatives of the Seattle Police, Parks and the Office of Emergency Management were present.

Happenings, continued on following page...

City of Seattle

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HAPPENINGS

your neighborhood

NORTH

THE NORTH HELPLINE NEEDS A LITTLE HELP

The North Helpline, a non-profit emergency service center and food bank that serves north Seattle, has budgetary concerns. They have less grant money this year and they are anticipating increased usage due to the slowing economy. Also, Metro bus fares are increasing and since they provide bus passes to their customers, this will cause some problems as well. They have submitted a supplemental grant application and hope this will solve their problems. They will also start a campaign to increase public donations.

NORTHGATE URBAN CENTER PARK

Plans to turn the King County Northgate Park & Ride into an urban park were well-received by citizens at the first community meeting. This project will convert an existing 3.73 acre Park & Ride facility to a new urban park. The new park will be connected to and integrated into the overall fabric of the community. Kim Baldwin, project manager, is looking for more community input.

NORTHEAST

BIKE POLICE A WELCOME PRESENCE ON THE AVE

Recent reported incidents of violence in the University District have resulted in at least one good outcome – the Seattle Police Department Bike Patrol is back on the Ave. The bikes are a welcome sight to businesses who report that the difference is dramatic when officers are regularly patrolling on two wheels versus four. The Police Officers who frequent the Neighborhood Service Center for breaks have commented that they can be more proactive when they are on bikes.

Happenings, continued on following page...

NORTHEAST

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS REDEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

What used to be called the Friends of University Heights group has been renamed the University Heights Redevelopment Committee. This actually represents a change in their reporting status. While the "Friends" group used to be completely independent with some members sitting on both the Friends group and the University Heights Board, the relationship was a little confusing. The Friends group has now been incorporated into the University Heights Board and is actually a subcommittee of the Board. The Redevelopment Committee has been working with the Washington State legislature lobbying for the Community Schools Act which would help University Heights Center for the Community Association develop financing to purchase the building.

NORTHWEST

TOWN CENTER DEVELOPMENT BREAKS GROUND

One of the largest developments seen in Greenwood is beginning to take shape, located between Palatine Ave N and 1st Ave NW, between N 85th & N 87th St. The project will consist of five buildings, with about 50 new apartment units and approximately 80,000 square feet of retail space, surface parking for more than 300 cars and a private east-west road connecting Greenwood Ave N and 1st Ave NW. Work has begun on the first phase—a three-story mixed-use building with ground level retail shops and apartments above. The design also includes a public plaza and increased natural drainage. The development has to comply with restrictions designed to reduce impacts on the underlying peat bog.

Happenings, continued on following page...

Don't Lose YOUR TELEVISION SIGNAL!

On February 17, 2009, television stations will begin broadcasting in a different way, using only digital signals. Will your TV still receive a signal?

Answer these three questions to find out:

- ✓ **Do you have cable or satellite service?**
If yes, your TV will not be affected. You will not need to get a converter box at this time.
- ✓ **Do you have a digital TV?**
If you have had your TV for fewer than three years, it probably is digital. Check your owner's manual to find out, or call the manufacturer. If you see the letters ATSC on your TV, it has a digital tuner. If you have a digital TV, you do not need a digital converter box.
- ✓ **Does your TV use rabbit ears or an antenna?**
If yes, you will need a digital converter in order to receive a signal. Please read below on how to get coupons to help pay for the digital converter box.

To purchase a digital converter box:

Converter boxes cost between \$50 and \$70 and are available in retail stores like Radio Shack, Best Buy, and Circuit City. You can receive up to two coupons worth \$40 each to help with the purchase of a converter (one coupon per converter box). Request a coupon by calling 888-DVT-2009 or from www.dtv2009.gov. Once you have the coupon, you must use it within 90 days or it will expire and you cannot get more. The coupons may not be used to purchase a digital video recorder or a digital TV. Read about the converter coupon program at www.seattle.gov/digitaltv or www.dtv2009.gov. For more information, call the City's Office of Cable Communications at 386-1989 or 1-888-DTV-2009.

Transportation: WHAT ARE OUR OPTIONS?



**Join me at my
North Seattle
town hall
meeting!**

- ◆ **Do you have ideas to increase ridership on Metro buses?**
- ◆ **Do you have questions about the new King County Ferry District?**
- ◆ **How is King County spending “Transit Now” dollars in North Seattle?**
- ◆ **What is your opinion about the latest proposal to replace the 520 Bridge?**
- ◆ **When will Sound Transit bring light rail to your neighborhood?**

King County Councilmember Larry Gossett would like you to join him at a town hall meeting he is hosting to hear your concerns about local transportation issues. We will discuss Metro bus service, potential demonstration routes for the newly formed King County Ferry District, the 520 Bridge, and other transportation issues. For further information, please contact Michelle Clark, Legislative Aide to Councilmember Gossett, at (206) 296-0344 or michelle.clark@kingcounty.gov.

- ◆ **Wednesday, May 28, 2008**
- ◆ **6:30 p.m., reception**
- ◆ **7 to 9 p.m., meeting**
- ◆ **Roosevelt High School Commons**
- ◆ **1410 NE 66th Street,
Seattle, WA 98115**

HAPPENINGS your neighborhood

SOUTHWEST

INTERPRETIVE SIGN INSTALLED AT STORY POLE

Visitors to the Story Pole at Belvedere Park – Admiral Way Viewpoint can now get a healthy dose of history along with breathtaking views of downtown Seattle as Seattle Department of Parks and Recreation crews recently installed a 3-panelled interpretive sign at the base of the 24-foot tall Story Pole. The left panel gives the history of West Seattle; the center panel provides a history of the two poles that preceded the existing pole, a description of the existing pole, and a short bio on the carver, Michael Haladay, a 5th generation descendant of Chief Sealth; and the right panel features the words and wisdom of Chief Sealth.

WEST SEATTLE FARMERS MARKET NOW YEAR-ROUND

The Seattle Neighborhood Farmers Market Alliance announced that the West Seattle Farmers Market is now open year-round. No changes are planned. The Market is open Sundays, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., in a bank parking lot located at the southwest corner of California Ave SW and SW Alaska St.

TWO ADOPT-A-STREET EFFORTS LAUNCHED

The good folks in the Admiral and West Seattle Junction neighborhoods officially launched their respective Adopt-A-Street campaigns on Saturday, February 9. City Councilmember Tom Rasmussen lent a helping hand in the Admiral Neighborhood Association (ANA)-sponsored effort that tackled the stretch of California Ave SW, between Hanford and Hinds St, and Admiral Way SW, between 47th Ave SW to the Admiral Totem Pole. In the West Seattle Junction, the Junction Neighborhood Organization (JuNO) took on the area bounded to the north by SW Oregon St, south by SW Edmunds St, east by Fauntleroy Way SW, and to the west by 44th Ave SW.

FREE TREES FOR YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD!

**DEADLINE:
AUGUST 15TH, 2008**

Neighborhoods



For more information: (206) 684-0464

www.seattle.gov/neighborhoods/nmf/treefund.htm

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