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The Voice

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*Articles translated
into six languages*

The newspaper of Neighborhood House

Juneteenth heralds summer



PHOTO BY CHARLES REDELL, VOICE

Above, young Yesler Terrace residents celebrate Juneteenth during a community event. Juneteenth is a holiday traditionally celebrated by Black Americans to mark the end of slavery in Texas two years after the end of the Civil War. In recent years, the holiday has received wider notice and celebrations have begun to crop up all over the country. The party at Yesler Terrace is often pointed to as a model for the holiday because that celebration is about the freeing of the slaves and celebrates the diversity of the community as well.

Taking it to the people; early

McIver visits the city's neighborhoods to find out what residents think about the city's budget

By CHARLES REDELL
Voice editor

"People need to know it's going to hurt this year. They need to know that we've cut in excess of \$100 million out of the budget in the last two years ... that we'll be looking at \$25 million next year."

This is how City of Seattle Councilman Richard McIver explains spending the past month visiting different communities around the city for a series of town hall meetings on the budget. But for this council member who is the chair of the Finance and Budget committee, there is something more to these informal meetings than just telling people what to expect. He is also looking for ideas and input from the people he serves.

"I think we should have forums like this every year," he said. "I think it is interesting to go out and talk to the community about what their priorities are, what their concerns are and if they have any concerns about cutting."

The way he runs these meetings allows for a lot of ideas to be heard and discussed. At one gathering in the Rainier Valley, McIver's intention that it be an open and informal forum was clear from the start. He perched himself comfortably on the edge of the stage in the Rainier Valley Cultural Community Center and
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Study: state's children losing health insurance

When Washington moved immigrant children to Basic Health, many didn't make the switch

By CHARLES REDELL
Voice editor

In October 2002, the state ended a program meant to provide health insurance to low-income immigrant children not eligible for the federal Medicaid program because of a lack of immigration paperwork. At the time, the almost 29,000 covered individuals had a one-time opportunity to

transfer to the state's Basic Health Program with no waiting period. This spring however, a study was released by The Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured showing that not only did very few of those people get transferred over, but now, almost two years later, those that did are dropping off the roles and are most likely no longer insured.

The problem started when the voters of

Washington passed an initiative in 2001 that would expand the Basic Health Program - which provides low-income health insurance to qualified people - by 25 percent. When the legislature next met, finding funds to do so had become difficult due to a major economic downturn. As a result, the legislature ended the state's Medicaid-like program and transferred its clients into the Basic Health Program. This allowed the state to stop paying for an expensive program and made it possible for those who would lose that coverage to transfer into Basic Health without having to wait for spots to free up.

According to Dave Wasser, spokesman for the Health Care Authority, which oversees Basic Health, the Authority worked hard to help people transition.

"It was a several pronged approach," Wasser said. According to him, the Health Care Authority sent out letters to all of the covered individuals but "we knew that would not be adequate."

He went on to say that the Health Care Authority enlisted the help of advocacy groups and clinics working with immigrants around the state to reach more people.

"We knew we had to get out there and
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Quotable

"I think we're talking to real citizens and not what I call 'semiprofessional City of Seattle watchers.'"

City Councilman
Richard McIver

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Jesse Epstein Building
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Non-profit org.
U.S. postage PAID
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Health Notes

A column devoted to your well-being

Start early for good dental care

By **MARTHA MORENO**
Special to The Voice

Dental professionals are now urging parents to start caring for children's teeth from the time they are born. This may be surprising to many parents who still believe that dental care starts at school age or when permanent teeth start to grow.

Why is oral health so important?

Poor oral health can lead to many other problems for your children including missing school. In fact, more than 50 million school hours are lost every year because of dental disease and treatment. Yet, there are many advantages to good oral health. According to the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, "Children with healthy mouths chew more easily and gain more nutrients from the foods they eat. They learn to speak more clearly and quickly. Finally, preventive dentistry means less extensive (and less expensive) treatment for your child."

What happens during a child's dental visit?

Preventive dentistry aims to protect your child's teeth. The initial visit usually involves giving your child a fluoride varnish, dental education on what to expect in the months ahead and some tips to promote healthy habits. This begins to build a relationship between the dental team and the family. The dental visit becomes more comprehensive as the child gets older and includes X-rays, a more thorough cleaning and placement of sealants to protect against tooth decay.

When should I first take my child to the dentist?

Your child should see the dentist when

they turn 1 year old or when the first tooth comes in. This will teach children early on that the dentist office is not a place to fear. Establishing a dental home early and a good relationship with your dentist can make all the difference for your child.

What kind of home dental care do young children need?

Clean your child's gums with a soft baby washcloth or soft infant toothbrush and water. This sets a wonderful example for when their teeth grow in and teaches your child that cleaning their teeth is necessary, fun and easy. Parents should supervise and assist children in brushing until they reach age 9 or 10. Before this, children lack the coordination to properly brush their teeth so parents really need to help out. Brushing at least twice a day in a circular motion for two minutes provides the best results.

How can a baby bottle hurt my child's teeth?

Baby bottle tooth decay is a big concern for infants. Children run a higher risk of getting early childhood cavities from using the bottle at night, napping with a bottle or nursing for long periods of time. Dentists recommend weaning children off the bottle by their first birthday. A good alternative is to use a "sippy" cup (a cup with a small spout). Encourage your child to use it at meals or when thirsty.

Martha Moreno is the health services coordinator for High Point Medical and Dental Clinic. High Point Medical and Dental Clinic is part of Puget Sound Neighborhood Health Centers. PSNHC provides medical and dental services at 15 different locations in the Seattle area. You can visit PSNHC on the Web at www.psnhc.org.

West Seattle DSHS office moves to Burien

Agency consolidates space, saves money and continues the same services

KING COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY

The state Department of Social and Health Services community services office in West Seattle closed last month, but residents of West Seattle and White Center can get help at the DSHS Burien office.

By early fall, residents throughout the area will be served by a new DSHS family services center being built in White Center. In the meantime, the Burien office is located at 1581 Ambaum Blvd. S.W.

There will be no changes to assistance as a result of the closure of the West Seattle office or the eventual consolidation of the West Seattle and Burien offices at White Center. Individuals can take care of much DSHS business, including eligibility

reviews, change of address, replacement of medical coupons and EBT cards, over the phone or through the mail.

The closure of the West Seattle CSO was planned to cause as little disruption as possible. If you need to take public transportation to reach the Burien office, call Metro Transit's Rider line at 206-553-3000 for route information. Bus 135 runs frequently from the Burien Park & Ride, and stops right in front of the office.

Consolidating the West Seattle and Burien offices helps DSHS continue to provide good service while establishing an appropriate presence in communities; addressing major reductions in budget and using office space wisely.

Council asks residents how to solve budget mess

Continued from front page

spoke directly to about 25 or 30 people who spread themselves through the first few rows of the auditorium. There was no microphone, no need to sign up to speak and no speeches.

After a short introduction during which McIver walked the audience through the problems facing the city's budget this year – a public safety budget that takes up more than half of the General Fund, new libraries and community centers opening that will cost an additional \$5 million and an initiative passed by state voters three years ago to limit property tax increases and thus revenues – he asked for questions and comments from the audience.

"My question to you is 'what thoughts do you have in helping us approach this problem,'" he asked.

Right from the start, the difficulty of crafting a balanced budget that would satisfy a majority of people, much less make all of them happy, was clear.

The first person to speak talked about the Business and Occupancy Tax – which is paid by businesses – and said that it needs to be raised. The very next person said raising that tax was the wrong thing to do. This pattern continued through the evening.

"People are having as hard a time as we are," McIver said.

The process that must be followed to pass a balanced budget is difficult. First the City Council passes a resolution stating their priorities. Then the Mayor sends the Council his version of a balanced budget this fall. After that, the hardest work begins as the different members of the Council work to protect their personal priorities and the views of many public officials and private citizens have to be taken into account.

So why add a step by going to the public before any ideas are put out on the table? McIver says that new ideas, good ideas, come from people at meetings like this.



PHOTO BY CHARLES REDELL, VOICE

A Seattle resident asks a question during a recent budget forum.

"I think we're talking to real citizens and not what I call 'semiprofessional City of Seattle watchers,' so I think we're getting a good grassroots cross section of people," he said. "I think this input will be good to have. I think people understand where you are. It gives the community a better understanding of our budget."

Over the summer, the Mayor's office will work on putting his budget proposal together, which is due to the City Council by Sept. 27. Comments can be sent to the Mayor before then by writing to Mayor Greg Nickels, PO Box 94749, Seattle, WA 98124 or by calling 206-684-4000.

Once the budget is before the City Council, there will be two public hearings at 5:30 p.m. on Oct. 4 and Nov. 4 in Council chambers. Comments to individual Council members can be made before that by writing to them at City Hall, 600 Fourth Ave. Floor Two, PO Box 34025, Seattle, WA 98124.

More information is available at www.seattle.gov.



One to grow on

Garden tips for community gardeners

By **ANZA MUENCHOW**
Special to The Voice

With the long hot days of summer here and so little rain coming down, it is important to keep our plants well watered. Be sure to provide your vegetable garden with 2 to 3 inches of water each week. It is best to use drip hoses or soaker hoses to keep water off the leaves and in the soil. If you must use overhead watering – where a lot of water is lost to evaporation – run the sprinklers in the morning. This will limit the amount of water that evaporates and give the leaves a chance to dry. Leaf problems like tomato blight and powdery mildew (on squashes) are a lot worse when you have wet leaves.

Remember to stay hydrated yourself. People should have six to eight glasses of water per day. You will need more especially if you are working in your garden in the heat.

Besides giving your garden a lot of water, a thick mulch on top of topsoil will keep the root zone of your plants cool and moist. Summer is a great time to add 4 inches of compost on top of your soil. The microorganisms and the earthworms will thrive if you do. Cedar Grove Compost is a great product made by Seattle's solid waste program from our yard waste. If you can find other gardeners and share a truckload of compost, all of your gardens will flourish and you all will save money as well.

Planting tips

For a continuous harvest of great garden

vegetables, plant more zucchini and lettuce in early July. Also plant another crop of bush beans, kohlrabi and cucumbers. An early July planting of these may allow the plants to survive longer into the fall for extended harvests. You can also try planting my favorite summer lettuce, Black Seeded Simpson. It has beautiful light green, frilly leaves and never gets a bitter taste even in hot weather. Kohlrabi is another one of my favorite vegetables to plant now. It is a little like a turnip, but it forms a bulb shape above ground. Green or purple, the kohlrabi is delicious cooked or eaten raw in salads.

Harvesting tips

Onions and garlic are sensitive to the length of daylight and as the days get shorter they may flower and go to seed. If the stems are not withering in early July, bend them over and flatten them. After a week or so the greens should be dry and can be harvested. This will free up some space to plant kales and broccolis to harvest in the winter. Purple Sprouting Broccoli is a good over-wintering variety. Siberian or Red Russian Kales are delicious too. Plant now so the plants are at least a foot tall before frost comes in October. The kales are especially sweet after that first frost and you'll be glad you planted them for winter snacking.

I'm looking forward to that first red, ripe tomato. Maybe next month.

Send questions to anzam@msn.com.

The Voice

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The Voice, the newspaper of Neighborhood House, is published monthly with the support of the Seattle and King County Housing Authorities. Neighborhood House helps diverse communities of people with limited resources attain their goals for self-sufficiency, financial independence and community building. The Voice contributes to that mission by providing low-income people, immigrants, refugees and other concerned parties with timely, relevant news. Opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect those of the staff, Neighborhood House, SHA or KCHA. We welcome articles and tips from the community, and reserve the right to edit all submissions.

Children continue to lose health coverage in Washington

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help them out," he said.

According to the study released this year, by the time the initial transition period was over in June 2003, only 52 percent of the original 29,000 people covered under the state's Medicaid program had made the switch to Basic Health.

"Many of those who initially enrolled in Basic Health were not able to maintain the coverage," the report states. "On average, 520 people from the immigrant population lost Basic Health coverage each month."

According to the report, this drop in covered individuals was almost double the rate of attrition for the same group when they were covered by the Medicaid program. Currently, only 8,000 people who were

eligible for the state Medicaid program are still covered by Basic Health.

Janet Varon, executive director of Northwest Health Law Advocates and co-author of the report, says there are a number of reasons why the transition couldn't have worked. Prime among them were the paperwork requirements that had to be met by families to make the transition.

A parent of a child who had been covered by the state Medicaid program said, "There was always some requirement we didn't meet, a piece of information we didn't provide. Every time we thought we had complied with their requests, there was something else missing."

Another part of the confusion she said, was that just before the Medicaid program

ended, families were still being walked through a 12-month review processes and being told that they would be eligible for the next year. At the same time, these families were receiving postcards asking if they wanted to switch to Basic Health.

The final issue both Varon and Wasser pointed to is that while the state's Medicaid program was free, Basic Health charges each person a premium and at the same time, offers less coverage. In fact, Basic Health offers no vision or dental care, no coverage for emergency transportation and also charges a co-pay for prescription drugs.

"A lot of people could not rationalize paying premiums," Varon said. "The vast majority of them are living below 125 percent of the poverty level."

Efforts were made at the time of transition to assist with these new costs. Nonprofit organizations provided assistance for a few months, but when that ended, immigrants began to drop out of the Basic Health Program. Because there is nowhere else for these undocumented immigrants to get coverage it is assumed that most are now uninsured and getting health care from already overburdened community clinics and hospital emergency rooms.

According to Varon, even the current economic upswing in the country is not going to solve this problem.

"This is [happening to] the immigrant kids in Washington state," she said. "But we think it is going to happen to everyone. Other states are doing similar things."

Business ideas can get a boost from local groups

By AMY SIQVELAND
Voice reporter

The process of starting a business can be intimidating for anyone, but for low-income individuals who do not have access to credit and other asset-building tools, the dream of entrepreneurship can sometimes seem impossible for many who feel that they do not have the skills, credit history or even access to training that can build an initial business idea into a successful money-making company.

Since the mid-1970's however, economic analysts have been studying the effects of providing very small loans to low-income people who want to start very small businesses. The resulting efforts are called microenterprises and it has been found that not only do they benefit their owners, but they help build stronger communities as well.

Microenterprises are generally financed through "micro-loans" and individual development accounts, where an individual's savings are matched by community-based organizations such as the United Way. Training, technical support and guidance are often available as well.

Ardo Egal is a recent entrepreneur in the Seattle area who launched her own small-scale childcare business in Yesler Terrace this year. After earning a certificate and license through the Division of Childcare, Egal was on her way to being a successful micro-business owner though she did not seek funding from a microlending organization or receive any matching funds through United Way. She did borrow \$600 for initial costs from a friend, got help with her business plan and has access to other training opportunities in the future, should she decide she needs them.

"I made a business plan with Childcare resources, but the funding was a different thing. DSHS and Childcare Resources do not provide this anymore," she said. "One of my friends loaned me some money, but we don't usually go to banks and ask for loans because we stick with our communities and then we give back."

Dave Sieminski, manager of asset development programs at United Way of King County said that most micro-lending institutions and matching funds organizations take this wariness into account and try to market themselves through partner organizations who work with non-English speaking populations.

"We make sure that these services are accessible to everyone who fits the criteria to get an IDA and that folks who work with these agencies find out about us," he said referring to their Individual Development

Accounts program. For every dollar deposited into an IDA, the United Way matches it with three more.

"This is part of United Way's larger strategy around reducing poverty and ending homelessness," Sieminski said. "The long-term solutions for poverty relate to helping people develop assets as opposed to just providing cash supports."

Some people may have low incomes but do not qualify for an IDA program such as the United Way's. This is where microlending can be helpful.

A congressional mandate requires banks to give a percentage of their earnings to the development of low-income communities. One way they do so is through micro-loans.

Gilbert Clark, a former loan officer at ACCION - one of the nation's main microlending institutions - explained that though clients may not have good credit - or even any credit history - a microlending organization will seek other assurances that the client can pay the loan back.

"We don't use credit as the primary tool like banks do, but we look at recent credit to see if it's improving and we look at character," he said. "If a potential borrower can prove that, given their expenses and given their needs and given their sales, they will be able to make the payments, then we will make a loan."

Getting affordable and comprehensive business training is another area where microenterprise owners often need assistance which is why micro-lending institutions often partner with agencies that can offer such services.

Washington CASH offers clients a basic financial education class and an eight-week training course that provides support in creating a business plan. They also provide a mentorship program, a group model that connects clients with other entrepreneurs and loan services for up to \$25,000. Shelley Robbins is a client who used their services to successfully start her own business and purchase a home.

"I went through the introductory program with Washington CASH and I was able to make a business plan. I used the money to purchase the equipment to run a nine-seat computer training center," she said.

Washington CASH teaches Quickbook classes for small-business owners who would like to learn bookkeeping. Robbins now teaches these classes.

"When I first started, I had a skill and I didn't know what to do with it. They helped me and now I help others who are managing small businesses. These programs all really helped me get to where I am today," she said.

Lots of summer fun

By VOICE STAFF

Summer is a time of fun, relaxation and time off. But for the young members of our communities, it can also be a time to explore new interests without the pressure of school work to take them away from their endeavors.

There are many programs all over the King County region that offer area kids the chance to learn a new skill and have a good time while they do it. The Voice can not list them all here, but a quick look at resources such as the YMCA, the City of Seattle Web site and the Parks and Recreation Department will reveal a treasure trove of activities for your kids this summer.

Of course, one of the most popular things for kids to do in the summer is ride their bikes. But what happens when the chain breaks or someone gets a flat tire? Thanks to an organization called Bike Works, youth themselves can now learn how to repair their own bikes while working toward owning a bike of their own.

Bike Works offers two camps this summer for youth between the ages of 9 and 15. The first is called Camp Kickstand and is from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday between July 5 and July 16. The second is called Camp Coaster and meets between July 26 and Aug. 6. At both of these camps, students learn basic bike repair, work toward owning their own bike (which takes about

24 hours) and go on group field trips around the city on their bikes. Each camp costs \$350 and scholarships are available. For more information, to sign up or find out about a scholarship, contact David Wiktorski, program coordinator at 206-725-9408. Bike Works is in Columbia City at 3709 S. Ferdinand St.

For middle school students, the University of Washington offers the Middle School Academy Program. These two-week classes cover a variety of topics including art, math, creative writing, technology and drama. High School students can also take part in classes at the University's Summer Program for High School Students. Registration fee for both is \$30. Information is available by calling 206-685-8936.

Of course, a summer that is all work and no play wouldn't be summer at all which is why Parks and Recreation offers supervised play sites at playgrounds all over Seattle. This is a free neighborhood drop-in program for kids ages 6 to 14 that features trained playground leaders who run organized games, crafts and sports. Many sites offer a free sack lunch and each playground has its own fun highlights such as a wading pool, basketball hoops, ping-pong tables, a water spray feature or a softball field. For a list of parks in your neighborhood that offer these activities, call 206-615-0303.

Resources for your business

There are organizations that can offer assistance to those looking to start a small business. The list below includes just some of those resources.

United Way of King of King County

Individual Development Accounts
Phone: 206-461-3200
Web: www.unitedwayofkingcounty.org/ourcommunity/needhelp/

Washington CASH

Training for a variety of small business issues and micro-loans for new businesses
Phone: 206-352-1945
Web: <http://www.washingtoncash.org/>

Small Business Administration

A variety of resources, peer groups and training; funded by the federal government.
Phone: 206-553-7310
Web: www.sbaonline.sba.gov/

ACCION

Micro-loans to small businesses all over the world.
Web: www.accion.org

Association for Enterprise Opportunity

Resource to find microenterprise development resources near you.
Web: www.microenterprisenetworks.org

Shelly Robbins

QuickBooks bookkeeping for small businesses
Phone: 206-324-4490
Web: www.thequicksources.com

Ardo Egal's childcare

Childcare available in and around Yesler Terrace.
Phone: 206-343-5493
E-mail: ardoegal@yahoo.com

TRANSLATIONS

TRANSLATED ARTICLES FROM THE VOICE

Youth Summer Activities

កម្មវិធីសម្រាប់យុវជន ក្នុងរដូវក្ដៅ

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- នៅតាមមន្ទីរ យុវជន-យុវនារី សហគមន៍ ប៉េនស៊ីលវ៉ានី ចាប់ផ្ដើមពីថ្ងៃទី២៨ ខែមិថុនា ដល់ថ្ងៃទី២០ ខែសីហា ។
- នៅតាមសហគមន៍ **Yesler Terrace** ចាប់ទទួលពីថ្ងៃទី២៨ ខែមិថុនា ដល់ថ្ងៃទី២៥ ខែសីហា ។
- នៅតាមសហគមន៍ **Van Asselt** ចាប់ទទួលពីថ្ងៃទី២៨ ខែមិថុនា ដល់ ថ្ងៃទី២៥ ខែសីហា ។

ដើម្បីចុះឈ្មោះជាមួយកម្មវិធីក្នុងវិស្វកម្មកាល រដូវក្ដៅនោះ សូមទាក់ទងជាមួយបុគ្គលិកផ្នែកការងារ គឺអ្នកស្រី **Leta Chhor** តាមទូរស័ព្ទ លេខ ២០៦- ៣៨៦-១១៥០ ។ នៅតាមកម្មវិធី YMCA មានដល់ទៅ ៥០ កន្លែងនៅស៊ីអាចុល ក្នុងតំបន់ស្រុកយីហ្គាន់នេះ មានទទួលដល់យុវជនយុវនារីនាំដើរលេង, មើលកូនក្មេង, ហ្សឺនក្នុងការហែលទឹក ។ ហើយមានកម្មវិធីជាច្រើនទៀតសម្រាប់ជួយកម្មវិធីក្នុងរដូវក្ដៅ ។ ព័ត៌មានបន្ថែម សូមទាក់ទង និង www.seattlemca.org ឬ ទូរស័ព្ទ ២០៦ ៣៨៦-៥០០៣ ។

SINH HOẠT TRONG MÙA HÈ DÀNH CHO THANH THIẾU NIÊN

Khi mùa hè gần đến, nhiều người sắp xếp các sinh hoạt cho con em của họ. Điều may mắn là có nhiều chương trình sinh hoạt dành cho công chúng trong mùa hè này. Dưới đây là danh sách với các chi tiết của một vài chương trình trong khu vực này cho mùa hè năm nay. Ngoài ra, còn có những sự chọn lựa khác, thí dụ như đi thăm viếng các trung tâm cộng đồng hoặc các phòng computer địa phương nơi mình đang cư ngụ. Summer Sack Lunch – Tút Ăn Trưa Cho Mùa Hè là chương trình của Bộ Nông Nghiệp Mỹ nhằm mang thức ăn trưa nhiều dinh dưỡng cho trẻ con trong các

Летние развлечения для молодежи

С приближением лета многие люди начинают планировать занятия для свих детей. К счастью, этим летом для широкой публики открыты многие программы. Ниже перечислены детали только некоторых программ, доступных этим летом в районе. Кроме этого, есть много других. Чтобы получить представление о них, посетите ваш соседний общественный центр или местную компьютерную лабораторию. Летняя Sack Lunch, программа, существующая на фонды USDA, создана для того, чтобы обеспечить детей правильным питанием во время летних месяцев. Для того, чтобы в ней участвовать, дети должны быть в

возрасте от 1 до 18 лет, никакой предварительной записи для большинства этих точек не требуется, включая: Все парки Сиэтла с 28 июня по 18 августа. High Point общественный центр с 28 июня по 25 августа. Boys and Girls клуб в Rainier Vista с 28 июня по 20 августа. Yesler Terrace общественный центр с 28 июня по 25 августа. Van Asselt общественный центр с 28 июня по 25 августа. Для подробного списка звоните Лита Чор (Leta Chhor) по тел. 206-386-1140. YMCA большого Сиэтла имеет более 50 удобно расположенных

местоположений и предлагает дневные лагеря, детские сады, плавание и многое другое. Информацию можно получить на www.seattlemca.org или позвонив по тел. 206-382-5003. Программа под названием «Летняя игровая площадка» бесплатна и предлагается каждое лето в 23 местах по всему городу. Она для детей в возрасте от 6 до 14. Подготовленные руководители игровых площадок обеспечивают запланированные развлечения, включая организованные игры, художественнотворчество и рукоделие, веселые образовательные игры каждый день недели. Информация доступна по тел. 206-684-4360.

Youth summer activities

Marka uu xiliga kulaylahu na soo foodsaaro, dad badan ayaa waxay bilaabaan in ay aruurtooda u diyaarsadaan qorshayaal.. Nasiib wanaag, waxaa jira xiligan kulaylahu ah qorshayaal farabadn oo u furan dadwaynaha. Qoraalka soosocdaa waxaa qaybo kamida qorshayaasha ka jira agagaarka degaankiina sanadkan. Qorshayaal kalena waa ay furanyihiin hadaba tusaale ahaan, booqo xarumaha saldhiga u ah xaafadahiina ama xarumaha saldhiga komburtarada. Summer Sack Lunch, waa qorshe ay oogu talagashay USDA caruurta laaguna talagalay in ilo nafaqo loogudiyariyo xiliga kulaylahu. Waxaa ka qaybqadankara caruurta da' doodutahay inta u dhaxaysa 1 sano ilaa 18 sano. Codsii dhigasho hore uma

baahna carumaha inta badan marka lagu daro: Jardiinooyinka Xaafada Seattle laga bilaabo June 28 ilaa Aug. 18. The High Point Community Center laga bilaabo June 28 ilaa Aug. 25. The Boys and Girls Club ookuyaal Rainier Vista lagabilaabo June 28 ilaa Aug. 20. The Yesler Terrace community center laga bilaabo June 28 ilaa Aug. 25. The Van Asselt community center laga bilaabo June 28 ilaa Aug. 25. Qoraalkan oo dhamaystiran waxaad ka heli markaad wacdid, Leta Chhor talfankan 206-386-1140. YMCA ee ku taal agagaarka xafaada Seattle waxay leedahay in kabadan 50 gole oo u sahlan tagista kuna taal xaafadaha King

County waxayna bixiyaan goobaha maalinjooga loo aado ee ladhaha “Day Camp”, xanaanada caruurta, dabaasha iyo inkaleba. Warka oobuuxa waxad kahelikartaa boga internetka ee www.seattlemca.org ama wac talfonkan 206-382-5003. Qorshaha ah Summer Plyground waa qorshe lacagla'aan ah lana qorsheeyo xilikastaa ee kulayla ah waxaana laga helaa 23 xarumood ee kuyaala agagaarka magaalada. Qorshahan waxaa loo qorsheeyey ciyaalka da' doodu tahay 6 sano ilaa 14 sano jir. Dad lootabararay xarumaha ciyaalku ku cayaaraan ayaa waxay u diyaariyaan qorshayaal ay ku jiraan cayaaro, sawiro, farshaxan, iyo waxbarasho farxad leh oo la diyaariyo maalimaha asbuuca. Warbixin waxaad ka helaysaa talfonka 206-684-4360.

tháng hè. Muốn nhận được các bữa ăn trưa này, trẻ em phải từ 1 đến 18 tuổi và phải ghi tên trước ở các nơi sau đây: Các PARKS-Công Viên trong Seattle từ 28 tháng 6 đến 18 tháng 8 Trung Tâm Cộng đồng High Point, từ 28 tháng 6 đến 25 tháng 8 The Boys and Girls Club ở Rainier Vista từ 28 tháng 6 đến 25 tháng 8 Ở trung tâm cộng đồng Yesler Terrace Community Center, 28 tháng 6 đến 25 tháng 8 Ở trung tâm cộng đồng Van Asselt từ 28 tháng 6 đến 25 tháng 8. Muốn biết đầy đủ danh sách các khu vực xin gọi cho Leta Chhor ở số 206-386-1140. Cơ quan YMCA của Seattle có hơn 50 chi nhánh thích hợp trong toàn quận King và có cung cấp những trại hè, giữ trẻ, bơi lội và nhiều (sinh hoạt khác). Các chi tiết có trình sẵn ở mạng : www.seattlemca.org hoặc gọi cho số 206-382-5003. Chương trình Summer Playground Program – (cho trẻ con chơi ở các sân chơi trong mùa hè- là chương trình miễn phí có mở ở 23 khu vực trong toàn Seattle. Chương trình này được dành ra cho trẻ em từ 6 tuổi đến 14 tuổi. Người điểu hành các sân chơi đều được huấn luyện để cung cấp các sinh hoạt trò chơi, các nghệ thuật thủ công và các mục học vui cho trẻ em mỗi ngày trong tuần. Cần biết thêm chi tiết, xin gọi số 206-684-4360.

የውጣቶች የሳመር ፕሮግራም።

Summer youth program

ሳመር ሲገባ ውላጆች ለውጣት ልጆቻቸው ፕሮግራም ፕላን ያወጣሉ ብሳመር ግዜ ለውጣቶች አገልግሎት የሚያቀርቡ ብዙ ክፍት ፕሮግራሞች ለማግኘት ይችላሉ ከዚህ በታች የተዘረዘሩትን ፕሮግራሞችና ድርጅቶች ለማራጭ ፕሮግራም ለማግኘት ለማግኘት ባክባቢውን የሚገኝ የኮምፒዩተርና የኮሚኒቲ ሰንተር ሰራተኞችን ያነጋግሩ። የሳመርሳክ ላንት (የምሳ ፕሮግራም) ብዩኤስ ዲኤ የሚቀርብ ሆኖ ዓላማው የምግብ አገልግሎት ብሳመር ግዜ ለልጆች ለማቅረብ ነው በፕሮግራሙ ለመሳተፍ ልጆች ዕድሜያቸው ከ 1 እስከ 18 መሆን አለበት

አስቀድመው መመዘገብ አለብዎት በሚከተሉት ቦታዎች። የሲያትል ከተማ ፓርኮች ከጁን 28 እስከ አገስት 18 የሃይድራንት ኮሚኒቲ ሰንተር ጁን 28 እስከ አገስት 25 ቦይስ ኤንድ ገርልስ ክላብ ረይኔር ቪዝታ ጁን 28 እስከ አገስት 20 የሰላር ተርስ ኮሚኒቲ ሰንተር ከ ጁን 28 እስከ አገስት 25 ቫን እስልት ኮሚኒቲ ሰንተር ከ ጁን 28 እስከ አገስት 25። ጠቅላላ ዝርዝሮችና ቦታዎች ለማወቅ በሰልክ ቁጥር 206 386 1140 በመደወል ሊታ ክሆርን ያነጋግሩ። ዋይኤምሲኤ ሲያትል በ50 አከባቢዎች በኪንግ ካውንቲ ደይ ካምፕ የመዋዕ የህፃናት መዋያ አገልግሎት ያቀርባል በበለጠ ለመረዳት ብስልክ ቁጥር 206-382 5003 በመደወል ለመረዳት ይችላሉ። የሳመር የፕላይ ግራውንድ(መጫወቻ ቦታ) በንጻ የሚቀርብ አገልግሎት በ23 ቦታዎች በከተማው ይገባሉ ፕሮግራሙ የወጣው ዕድሜያቸው ከ 6 እስከ 14 ልጆች ለማገልገል ነው የሰለጠኑ ሰራተኞች ፕሮግራም በማውጣት የጫዋታ የእርትስ የሽክላ የመዝናዕ ያስተምራሉ በየቀኑ። በበለጠ ለመርዳት በሰልክ 206 684 4380 ደውለው ይጠይቁ።



The mission of the Seattle Housing Authority is to enhance the Seattle community by creating and sustaining decent, safe and affordable living environments that foster stability and self-sufficiency for people with low incomes.

JUNETEENTH!
A UNIQUE CELEBRATION
See page 7



SHA NEWS

July
2004

News and information about Seattle's neighborhoods

SHA purchases three properties in Central Area

Buildings to replace lost units at Yesler Terrace

SEATTLE HOUSING AUTHORITY

The Seattle Housing Authority acquired Yesler Court, Main Street Apartments and Main Street Place Apartments to complete the replacement housing of 21 Yesler Terrace units demolished last year to make way for the new Yesler Community Center.

Main Street apartments, located at 2035 S. Main St., adjacent to Blanche Lavizzo Park, has three 2-bedroom units and eight 3-bedroom units. Two of the 2-bedroom units are considered replacement housing.

Main Street Place apartments, located at 308 22nd Ave. S. just across from Seattle Vocational Institute, has 17 studio and eight 2-bedroom units.

The 2-bedroom units in this building will count as replacement housing. Main Street Place apartments also has several small commercial spaces, currently leased to a barbershop and hair salon, the property's former owner, and a nonprofit AIDS education and awareness group.

Yesler Court, at 114 23rd Ave. S. near the Douglass Truth Library, has three one-

bedroom and six two-bedroom apartments. All of the 1-bedroom and two of the 2-bedroom units will count as replacement housing.

All three buildings have been built within the last ten years and are within easy walking distance of shopping at 23rd Avenue South and South Jackson Street. There is also good bus access on South Jackson Street, Yesler Way South and 23rd Avenue South.

All units considered replacement housing will have project-based Housing Choice Vouchers attached in order to make rents affordable to households with incomes below 30 percent of area median income.

In 2002, the Housing Authority purchased 37, three- and four-bedroom town homes in the Central Area; six of these are considered replacement units for the Yesler Community Center units.

The new Yesler Community Center is under construction and scheduled to open later this year or in early 2005.



PHOTOS COURTESY SEATTLE HOUSING AUTHORITY

The three buildings that the Housing Authority purchased to replace units lost at Yesler Terrace. Clockwise from top left: Main Street Place Apartments, Main Street Apartments and Yesler Court Apartments.

Budget and annual plan presented to community

By KARI SHERRODD

Seattle Housing Authority staff

Approximately 40 Seattle Housing Authority residents and community members attended SHA's public hearing on June 15 at PorchLight. The hearing addressed the Housing Authority's Moving To new Ways (MTW) annual plan and budget for fiscal year 2005. There were several suggested actions in the plan and budget that will affect current and future

residents and community members.

Dick Woo, SHA director of Finance and Information Technology, presented an overview of the budget. He noted that it totals \$135 million and \$98 million of that is in MTW. The MTW budget is still heavily dependent on federal subsidy. In order to reduce SHA's dependence on federal funding, he said, SHA is working to expand its local housing program.

The Housing Authority does have to tighten its belt, Woo explained. To prepare for likely future funding cuts, the budget aims to reduce costs by 10 percent over the next two years.

Ellen Kissman, SHA asset management coordinator, presented highlights from the MTW plan concerning changes to the housing stock and items that affect current and future residents.

Some of these include the development of up to 15 new housing units with nonprofit partners, evaluating ways to renovate Jefferson Terrace to make it a better place to live, establishing site-based waiting lists at Rainier Vista and High Point, and improving the public housing rent policy for working households.

Kissman also presented SHA's plan to sell about 200 scattered sites units over the

Please see "Housing needs ..." on page 2

Community Service Requirement starts slowly

By VIRGINIA FELTON

SHA Communications Director

Since January 2003, the Seattle Housing Authority has been asking residents of low-income public housing to begin complying with the Department of Housing and Urban Development's Community Service Requirements. These new rules require residents who are not disabled, elderly, employed or otherwise exempt to volunteer their time in the community for at least eight hours per month.

There are a number of exemptions to the rules that residents can request. For example, parents with children at home may not have to volunteer.

Residents are expected to find their own volunteer positions. Some have been able

to use volunteer work that they are already involved with to meet this requirement. Others are using it as an opportunity to enroll in job training or begin formally seeking employment since this also is counted as an exemption.

Housing Authority property managers are using each household's annual review as the time to both explain the Community Service Requirements and to have members apply. If a household fails to perform and document their community service, the residents could be in violation of their lease.

If you want to learn more about the Community Service Requirement, you can ask your property manager or visit the Housing Authority's Web page at www.seattlehousing.org and look for "Community Service Requirement" under the "For Residents" section.

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Reality hits the screen

By CHARLES REDELL

Voice editor

A new kind of class just finished its first session at the Yesler Terrace Computer Lab. Instead of teaching a group of students how to be the end users of a software program like Microsoft Word, volunteer instructors from Red Llama Technology Group spent

ten weeks this spring helping a group of Yesler Terrace youth create a product for others to use.

Using a program called Augmented Reality, the students created realistic 3-D computer models of their community.

The computer models looked so real that, according to Peter Gruenbaum, one of the

Please see "Plans for new ..." on page 7

Ask before installing that satellite dish

Interested in getting a satellite dish? Here's what you need to know before you start

SEATTLE HOUSING AUTHORITY

The growing popularity of satellite dishes caused the Seattle Housing Authority to create policies about them recently so that all residents are treated fairly and to assure that SHA property is protected.

If you want to install a satellite dish to serve your SHA-owned house or apartment, please don't just install it without checking in with your senior property manager. Under some circumstances - but not all - the Housing Authority will permit installation of satellite dishes. First you must submit a request in writing to your senior property manager or property manager and wait for approval before you install it.

Here are some of the conditions you would need to meet in order to install a dish.

- The satellite dish needs to be no larger than 1 meter in diameter.
- It needs to be in an area where you have exclusive use, including: decks, yards, balconies, patios and window boxes. If the

dish is installed in a yard, it must be mounted on a pole within a reasonable distance of the structure. Installation of satellite dishes in the scattered sites communities may not be attached to any SHA building.

- You will be required to pay an additional security deposit of \$75 in case your satellite dish damages the building.

SHA will hold tenants responsible for the actual cost of repairs if installation, use or removal of your dish results in damages.

Finally, it is important to note that the Housing Authority does not permit installation of satellite dishes on rooftops.

This is just a summary of the guidelines for installing a satellite dish on SHA-owned buildings. If you are interested in having a satellite dish, please be sure to contact your management staff so that you can fully understand all the requirements. They recognize that a number of tenants are interested in these new devices and are happy to assist you with your questions about them.

Revision to request for accommodations

SEATTLE HOUSING AUTHORITY

The Seattle Housing Authority has revised its "Applicant and Resident Requests for Accommodation(s) and/or Modification(s)" policy.

Language has been added to the policy that states that: "SHA shall only pay for moving expenses when transferring a resident to an "accessible unit" as defined

as having accessibility features, (for example, roll-in shower, lowered counters, one-level) as an accommodation to the resident's disability."

A copy of the revised policy is available from your management office.

If you have any questions regarding the revised policy please contact your property manager.

Rental units now available

By KARI SHERRODD

Seattle Housing Authority

Families now have the opportunity to live in brand new homes at NewHolly's Othello Place. Today more than 40 units are pre-leased and there are many more units on the way.

"These units in the third phase of NewHolly's redevelopment are much different than previously offered units," said Willard Brown, Seattle Housing Authority redevelopment property manager. "They have a much more urban feel to them."

The two-, three-, four- and five-bedroom townhomes and carriage houses with garages are walking distance to the South Seattle Community College and library and only 10 minutes to downtown. The Van Asselt Recreation Center, offering various youth activities, is also nearby and the new Sound Transit station will be right next door.

These units offer a lot of storage space, Brown explained. They have linen closets, deep coat closets, plenty of cupboard space in the kitchens and storage above the units' own washer and dryer.

Each unit has its own assigned parking spot and plenty of light pours in from the strategically placed windows. Also, the tall ceilings make the units feel good to be in, Brown said.

Income restrictions apply to these units. Residents must have incomes below 60 percent of area median income to qualify for moderate income housing, and income below 30 percent of area median income for the public housing units.

If you meet the income requirements and you want to live in a well-managed community in southeast Seattle, one of these new units could be ideal for you, Brown said. If you are interested, please apply on site at 7050 32nd Ave. S. For more information, call 206-760-3285.

Othello building on the way

SEATTLE HOUSING AUTHORITY

Construction is currently underway on the Othello Building at NewHolly. It is scheduled to open in fall 2005. SHA and the International District Community Health Services are partnering in the new Othello

Building. When complete, it will include 24 rental units, the International Community Health Services Clinic and commercial space. Construction on the project began in September 2003 and, as of June 15, 2004, the construction is 40 percent complete.

Family Center meets needs

By ELLEN BROESKE

Seattle Housing Authority

The North Seattle Family Center is a treasure trove of services and resources for north-end families. The Children's Home Society operates the Center at 3200 N.E. 125th St. in the Lake City area. The Family Center offers a huge number of classes, workshops and services for parents and kids weekdays, evenings and weekends. Here is just a sampling of the services and classes they provide:

- Citizenship
- Computer classes
- English as a Second Language

- Family planning information and testing
- Support for new mothers
- Parenting workshops and support groups for parents
- Art clinics
- Story time for children
- Homework help for youth 6 to 13 years old
- Women, Infant and Children (WIC) Nutrition Program
- Support for Latino parents

To learn more about the North Seattle Family Center, stop by the office or call 206-364-7930.

'Housing needs will be met' by new MTW plan

SHA feels need to end dependance on federal budget subsidies

Continued from front page of section

next several years - starting with 71 that have already been identified - and to replace them with other units in small apartment complexes. This will help the program run more cost-effectively and provide housing better suited to residents' needs.

"We'll make sure that the housing needs of residents in housing to be sold will continue to be met," Kissman said. "SHA will help them stay in their current neighborhoods or, if they want, to go to

another SHA property. If possible, moves will be scheduled at a time that is least disruptive to them."

Many questions, suggestions and comments were made by residents and community members at the hearing. SHA will take these into consideration when moving forward with its budget plans for next year. To review the details of what was discussed at the hearing, visit www.seattlehousing.org and go to the "For Residents" section.

JobsPlus helps resident get to work

By CHARLES REDELL

Voice editor

The people at JobsPlus recently scored another success when they were able to help a resident at NewHolly - Abdallah Chadli - get a job in a field in which he was looking for work.

Chadli is a dedicated husband and father who came to the United States from Morocco where he worked in construction. Along with being a "family man," Chadli is known by all in his neighborhood as "one of the nicest guys you'll ever meet."

Several months ago, Chadli went to see Larry Hill, JobsPlus coordinator in his Rainier Vista office for help in his new job search. Chadli was working in a Bellevue hotel. Though he had a regular paycheck, he wanted something more. He wanted a job that would give him a livable wage, that was closer to his home and would be something that he enjoyed doing. In short, Chadli wanted to get a job in construction as a laborer.

As a construction laborer and painter in his native country, Chadli got a lot of experience in residential construction. According to him, the benefits to his health from physical work like this appealed to him as much as the livable wage.

When Chadli went to see Hill at the JobsPlus office in Rainier Vista, they talked about Chadli's goals and immediately started working to get him job. In short order, Chadli had an interview with a local construction firm. That interviewer was very impressed with Chadli's gracious and direct manner and

quickly offered him a job. It is not uncommon in the construction industry for jobs to take a long time to actually start however. This is what happened with Chadli's case.

In the middle of June, a call came from a second company, David C. Willi, Inc., a demolition, excavation and utilities contractor doing infrastructure work on the west side of the Rainier Vista HOPE VI project.

They were looking for a construction laborer so Hill got in touch with Chadli and met him in his NewHolly neighborhood shortly after that. The two drove over to the west side of Rainier Vista to meet a supervisor at the Willi site trailer.

As he did the first time, Chadli interviewed well thanks to his openness, sincerity and obvious desire to do construction labor. Now, he is working for a union-scale, livable wage that provides fully paid medical and dental benefits. His job is full-time and year-round and he is delighted to be in a position that is just a 20-minute walk from his home. Chadli says that he hopes to do this sort of job for many years to come.

If you are interested in finding a job with a livable wage, looking for a new career or any kind of work-related advice, get in touch with Larry Hill at JobsPlus by calling 206-722-4010 ext. 6



Abdallah Chadli

POINT OF VIEW

NEWS ABOUT THE SEATTLE SENIOR HOUSING PROGRAM AND SEATTLE'S HIGH-RISE COMMUNITIES

SHA staff gains deeper knowledge of mental health

By CHARLES REDELL
Voice editor

In June, the Seattle Housing Authority hosted a training for their Low-Income Public Housing management staff on a variety of mental health issues. The Community Psychiatric Clinic Mental Health Case Management Team ran the two workshops.

According to Linda Davis, who organized the training sessions, the feedback has been excellent with participants calling all of the topics covered "beneficial."

Jeffrey Gerhardstein, CPC Mental Health case manager, facilitated the two sessions which were intended to reach resident managers, assistant resident managers and their backups as well as property managers, senior property managers and building administrators. A total of 69 people attended the two trainings which looked at a variety of issues surrounding mental health illnesses.

One of the main points of the training, according to Gerhardstein, was to explore "what it is that makes mental health a disability." What he wanted was to help people understand that mental health issues are similar to other disabilities such as diabetes. They can be managed, but they are illnesses just the same.

"People stigmatize mental illness by saying people brought this on themselves," he said. "We're trying to break the isolation of those with mental illness."

To accomplish these goals, Gerhardstein

began the sessions with a request for those in attendance to talk about their personal experiences with mental health illnesses. He said that this effort to personalize the problem of mental illness worked.

"When we heard them talk about their loved ones or themselves, it kind of broke the silence," Gerhardstein said.

Next, Gerhardstein talked with the groups about the face of mental illness. He presented a case history of one SHA resident whose disability manifested itself so drastically that she almost died in her apartment because no one recognized its severity. By bringing such a stark example to light, Gerhardstein helped SHA staff understand that their role often has to be a proactive rather than a reactive one.

"The illness is very inflexible but we have to be flexible," Gerhardstein noted.

Also included in the training was a discussion about whether those who are in the throes of mental illness even belong in housing. A presentation called "In Our Own Voice" put on by mental health consumers and a discussion about how resident managers can draw boundaries between their work and their home when faced with resident mental health needs also took place.

According to Davis, the training accomplished the goals laid out by Senior Property Manager Errol Flagor. Davis says Flagor is "dedicated to training and informing the staff."

Davis pointed to one participant's evaluation form which said that the training "will allow me to think about things a little differently."

Facing life's changes

By JOSEPHINE COOPER
Seattle Housing Authority

Phuc Nguyen knows what it is like to face difficult transitions in life. Over the years, this Gideon-Mathews resident has faced many of them, including a move to the United States late in life. His unique story has helped him to develop a positive outlook on life. In fact, he encourages people who are facing challenges to keep a sense of adventure and remember that there is always something waiting on the other side. He believes this philosophy can be applied to transitions that many Seattle Housing Authority tenants face, such as immigration, retirement, aging or illness.

Nguyen fought against the Viet Cong in the Vietnamese army. By the end of the war, he had served 25 years in the military and achieved the rank of lieutenant colonel.

Suddenly, his plan to enjoy a comfortable retirement disappeared. Instead, he was taken away from his wife and 11 children and imprisoned for 11 years in what he calls "a re-education camp." He and other officers were put to work clearing landmines, cutting wood in the forest and planting grains. They worked in harsh conditions, suffered from starvation and were subjected to other "painful indignities."

In 1992, when he was 73, Nguyen came to the United States. His sponsor - an American named Floyd H. Halstead - encouraged Nguyen to become integrated

into American society as soon as possible.

Nguyen followed this advice and found clerical work with the Employment Opportunity Council. He also worked for the Refugee Federation Service Center and Asian Counseling and Referral Services. While working, he took computer and English classes and received an Associates Degree from Seattle Central Community College and a Bachelors Degree in French from the University of Washington. He is now studying for a Masters Degree in the language. Nguyen speaks fluent French, along with some Spanish, Japanese and German. He has even translated a 3,254 line poem called "Kieu's History" into French.

He retired from paid employment in 2004 but is still physically and mentally active. After rising at five each morning, he exercises and then divides his volunteer time between the Foster Grandparents Program and Senior Companions.

Nguyen is grateful for his housing at Gideon-Mathews where he enjoys teaching English, talking about politics and reminiscing about Vietnam. About half of Nguyen's family now lives and works in the United States. He recommends that people of all ages continue to study and work because "life is a school," and you can learn from your relationships with everyone.



Phuc Nguyen

Bringing people together



PHOTO COURTESY, SSHP ADVOCATES II

SSHP Advocates II president, Bette Reed meets with residents from Columbia Place to tell them about her group. Residents are, from left to right, Augustine States, Rich Smith, Leon Conley, Marion Reynolds, Hazel De Pasquale.

By AMITY EGGE
Voice reporter

The Seattle Senior Housing Program Advocates II is a group of residents acting as a voice for the residents of the 23 SSHP buildings in Seattle. Through the process of recruiting new members in these buildings, the group has built meaningful connections and friendships with each other and between the residents of buildings that are spread throughout the city.

"The underlying common thread of all of this is that we are getting to know each other," said Edie Koch, secretary of Advocates II.

Bette Reed is the president of Advocates II. She got involved when the Seattle Housing Authority tried to raise the minimum rent for new residents moving into the SSHP program from \$210 to \$390 a month in 2002. That resident-organized movement got her inspired to reactivate an organization called The SSHP Advocates that she said was not as effective as it had once been.

She called Koch and asked her if she would like to be the secretary. Koch had served at one time with the first SSHP Advocates group.

Since then, Koch and Reed have been organizing resident meetings and putting on functions to get new people involved in their group. Only one thing stands in the way of them getting more people together: transportation.

"What I want to do this year as we go around and visit the buildings is to identify those people in each building who would be willing to provide transportation," Reed said.

"We dream on, Betty and I, about the functions we'd like to give," said Koch. "Even though it's always a lot of work when we throw any kind of a function, at the end of it, I always say, 'I got to get together with all the people.' That's the part of the group that I enjoy. I think that a lot of people in

some of these buildings feel alienated from the other buildings."

"When you go to the meetings you realize that there are other people in other buildings," Pat Humphrey, president of the resident council at Schwabacher House, said. "Some of the people are looking ahead and they feel like this could happen or that could happen. And now we can just call the Advocates and then they feel assured. They're our age. They're [SSHP] residents. They're our leaders. It's nice to have a leader."

In the past few months the Advocates II has petitioned for changes to the new SHA lease agreement. The group gathered 310 signatures from residents.

"It's been a major accomplishment, because we are being heard and responded to," Reed said.

Next, the Advocates II would like to plan an informal picnic in August at one of the parks in Seattle where groups from each of the buildings could give a brief introduction of who they are and what they like to do.

According to Reed and Koch, every building has its own unique personality.

"Island View is really a card playing bunch. They get together and they play bridge. And another building - they are an eating building. They have food out every day. They're having coffee and donuts and biscuits and jam. But there are different activities in every building and I think we can learn and share our ideas," Reed said.

"It was nice to make that connection. And I know it's in every building. It's in all of you, and you can get to be real friends," Koch said.

She pointed to a building activity at Blakeley Manor that she thought would be a good way to get people in other buildings talking to each other. The residents there put up pictures from their youth on a picture board and guessed who is who.

"It was amusing, everyone trying to identify each other," Reed said. "And it was a wonderful way of bringing us all together."

Community notes

Advocates II meetings

The Board of The Advocates II meets on the third Wednesday of each month at alternate buildings. These meetings are open to any interested resident. If you are interested in attending, please feel free to call for the latest location and time. For more information, call Edie Koch at 206-217-9451 or Bette Reed at 206-523-8685.

Rummage sale needs goods

The Lake City House residents will be having a rummage sale and bake sale

from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 7. The building is located at 12546 33rd Ave. N.E. The sale will be held by the Lake City House Resident Council and resident volunteers. The Council is looking for furniture, used household goods or other items that you might want to sell. If you have donations that you want to give to the sale, please contact Linda Musselman at 206-364-5033 to make arrangements. Arrangements need to be made no later than July 31, 2004. Proceeds will benefit the residents of Lake City House.

HIGH POINT HERALD

NEWS ABOUT THE HIGH POINT COMMUNITY

Opportunities to make community art at High Point



PHOTO COURTESY POMEGRANATE CENTER

Above, High point students with their fence posts for the new Market Garden.

By LINDA CACHO
Special to The Voice

Last year, the Seattle Housing Authority invited Pomegranate Center to participate in the redevelopment of the High Point community by involving residents and neighbors in creating artistic elements for the new neighborhood's Market Garden, pocket parks and amphitheater. Pomegranate Center, a local nonprofit organization, specializes in helping communities empower themselves to improve their outdoor spaces in creative ways.

This past year, Pomegranate Center

involved numerous High Point residents, local schools and businesses in creating "initial art." In initial art, participants draw their initials on fence boards, Pomegranate Center staff members carve the lines of their initials and then the participants paint the boards. More than 200 boards have been created so far. The boards will live in a fence around the High Point Market Garden.

This summer, Pomegranate Center will organize a series of volunteer workshops for residents to create more "initial art" elements, build a fence at the Market Garden, carve posts for shelters at the Market Garden with images of plants from the surrounding garden and create tiles for the future amphitheater stage.

Pomegranate Center invites all residents to learn new carpentry and carving skills, meet their neighbors and help increase the beauty and vibrancy of High Point. Workshops will be held at the High Point Market Garden from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on July 17 and Aug 7. Please bring work gloves, wear closed-toed shoes and be prepared for rain and to get dirty.

To attend either day or for more information, please call Laura Cacho at 425-557-6412 or e-mail laura@pomegranate.org. Children under 18 must have a parent or guardian's permission to participate.

HOPE VI update

Job opportunities and re-occupancy are on the agenda at upcoming meetings

SEATTLE HOUSING AUTHORITY

Meetings about the re-occupancy of the redeveloped High Point community began in Fall 2003. The meetings are held each month, in two sessions to make sure that the diverse resident base has access to the information in their specific language.

The second Wednesday evening of each month, a meeting is held in English and the following Saturday a middle-of-the-day meeting is held in English with interpretation available. Interpreters are available for Vietnamese, Cambodian, Somali, Tigrignia, Amharic and Spanish speakers.

Topics at the meetings so far have included:

- an overview of the new community, including feedback from residents about what priorities should be assigned to people moving into the new units
- the screening process for residents
- how people who were relocated from Phase II would be contacted to return
- the site's plan and housing designs
- community rules
- job opportunities

Future meetings will cover safety and security plans, community activities and the costs to live in the new High Point (for example, for-sale homes, the cost of utilities, minimum and maximum rents and tax credit information).

The meeting minutes, including residents' questions and answers, are available at the Resident Information Center

across from the management office.

Mapping and planning for re-occupancy

The relocation office has developed a system of listing residents by bedrooms needed, indicating senior status and special accommodations needed by those with disabilities. The lists are then sorted by date of entry into High Point. These lists have helped complete the mapping of the move from Phase II to the redeveloped site.

Despite the priorities, there are challenges in meeting every household's first choice. The Seattle Housing Authority faces shortages in Phase I of one-bedroom units for residents under 62 years of age, two-bedroom flat units, four-bedroom units and five-bedroom units.

If there are not enough units for every household in the completed Phase I, residents will need to move off site temporarily. Those households that relocate off site will be given first priority to return when Phase II is completed.

Resident job opportunities

Beginning in June, residents were given an opportunity to apply for jobs at High Point. Two Property Management Associate II positions will be hired. Residents who speak more than one language are encouraged to apply. Applications are available in the management office at High Point. SHA hopes to have the first members of the new staff hired by the end of July. More resident hiring is expected in the fall when the first site-based maintenance employees are hired.

New library opens



PHOTO BY CHARLES REDELL, VOICE

Some of the first users of the new high Point library relax in one of its many sun-drenched reading areas.

By CHARLES REDELL
Voice editor

The new High Point branch library opened with a flourish on June 19. Many members of the High Point community and surrounding neighborhood waited in line in the hot sun in order to be the first patrons to enter the new library and check out all that it has to offer. City and County officials also paid homage to the site.

Mayor Greg Nickels captured the feeling of the exuberant crowd when he asked, "Who thinks that this is an improvement over the old library?" He was answered by a hearty cheer.

The new library is the first branch at High

Point to be housed in a building specifically designed as a library. Previous incarnations have been in converted units. This new building is a four-fold increase in size over the old one; the collection capacity has more than tripled to 27,700 books and materials, with an emphasis on world languages materials; teens have more materials plus their own area with chairs and a window seat and, according to Nickels, "There is a 20-fold increase in the amount of light that comes in."

The new branch is open from 1 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Monday and Tuesday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Wednesday and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday through Saturday. For more information, call 206-684-7454.

Former residents return to start church

By VOICE STAFF

George and Sheila Houston, the pastors of High Point's new Celebration Community Church, have returned to an area where they both have roots. George lived in High Point as a youth from 1972 to 1974. He is a 1974 graduate of Sealth High School and is currently pursuing a Master of Divinity degree from Fuller Theological Seminary.

Sheila lived in High Point from 1986 to 1991. She was an employee at the High Point YMCA from 1989 until 1991. She recently

graduated from Seattle University with a Master's degree in Not For Profit Leadership.

Both George and Sheila say that they are looking forward to helping people pursue a life of purpose and meaning.

Celebration Community Church is a nondenominational bible-based church that meets from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. every Sunday at the High Point Community Center at 6920 34th Ave. S.W. in Seattle. For additional information, call 206-229-2355.

Community notes

Community Council meeting

The High Point Community Council meets at 6 p.m. the second Monday of every month at Holly Hall. This month, the meeting will be held on July 13. For more information call 206-937-5459.

Sunday service and community dinner

Every Sunday, Pastor Deborah Dinkins offers Sunday school and worship services for High Point residents. Afterward, a free community dinner is offered. Sunday school starts at noon and the service begins at 1 p.m. The services and dinner are held in the old YMCA building at 300 S.W. Graham St.

Celebration Community Church

Pastors George and Sheila Houston are starting a new church at High Point and invite all residents to attend. Worship is every Sunday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the High Point Community Center 6920 34th Ave. S.W.

Life skills training

Pastors George and Sheila Houston will host Life Skills Training from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. on July 7 in the old YMCA building at 3000 S.W. Graham St. next to the Seattle Housing Authority management office.

Community Center closes

The Southwest Community Center closed on June 21 until March 2005 for a major renovation project. The Southwest swimming pool will remain open until Aug. 1 for all programs and then will close.

Funded by the 1999 Community Center Levy, the renovation project includes a new gym, a teen center, computer lab, relocation of the play area, a family changing room for the pool and a new fire sprinkler system.

Some of the regular programs and activities run by Southwest Community Center, including the summer day camp program, will move temporarily to High Point Community Center at 6920 34th Ave. S.W. 206-684-7422.

RAINIER VISTA NEWS

NEWS ABOUT THE RAINIER VISTA COMMUNITY

More major construction at Rainier Vista

Along with HOPE VI redevelopment, residents now face Sound Transit work as well



PHOTO BY CHARLES REDELL, VOICE

Painted by volunteers from Starbucks and Microsoft just last year, the Head Start classroom at Rainier Vista is being vacated by Neighborhood House a year ahead of schedule to make way for light rail.

By CHARLES REDELL
Voice editor

According to many, southeast Seattle is on the upswing. But one of the biggest contributors to the changes is also one of the most intrusive to residents in the area: Sound Transit's Central Link Light Rail will go straight through the Rainier Valley and construction starts this summer.

Current residents of Rainier Vista are going to be among the hardest hit by Sound Transit construction because the community is already undergoing major HOPE VI redevelopment construction.

According to Al Levine, Deputy

Executive Director for Development at Seattle Housing Authority, residents will have to face inconveniences due to the two construction projects going on at the same time.

"This caught us unaware," he said. "We will have to coordinate [with Sound Transit] closely during construction and make sure residents have access to their homes."

According to Nefertari I, SHA community builder at Rainier Vista, residents have expressed concerns about inconveniences caused by the construction. She said that a major issue for residents has been maintaining their current transit options and being able to voice their

concerns.

"Residents want to make sure that they are clued in when there are changes and that they have input," she said.

The light rail segment will run directly up the center of Martin Luther King Jr. Way South, past Rainier Vista. To make this happen, Sound Transit must tear the street up and lay in new infrastructure pieces. That will begin this summer and continue through the rest of the year.

Neighborhood House, a social service agency that serves Rainier Vista residents, is facing logistical problems due to Sound Transit's early work plans. The agency is constructing a 10,000 square-foot building in the heart of the new neighborhood which will be a gathering place for community members, providing office space and meeting rooms for the agency's family support workers and housing classrooms for Neighborhood House's Head Start program.

The agency planned to have the Center complete for the 2005-2006 school year. This would have meant one move from their current space at the corner of Martin Luther King Jr. Way South and South Alaska Street into the new classrooms.

Earlier this year however, Sound Transit forced a change in those plans when it announced the acquisition of the current property and said work would start there in January 2005.

According to Steve Barham, facilities manager for Neighborhood House, this is an unworkable timeline for the agency.

"We can't move in the middle of the year," he said. "It would just be too much of a disruption to families in the program."

While this is a temporary inconvenience for the agency, it is one that must be dealt

with so that Head Start classes can continue uninterrupted.

In order to mitigate the effects of the problem, Neighborhood House asked Sound Transit to delay work on the site for six months. Sound Transit said that this would be impossible. This forced Neighborhood House to find a new place to hold classes starting in September 2004 and figure out how to pay for necessary space upgrades.

According to Barham, an agreement has been reached with Zion Preparatory Academy to rent space for two modular buildings. Now that school is out for the summer, he said, money has to be found to help with the extra move, pay for permits to do the necessary work and it all has to be done by Aug. 15.

This will cost Neighborhood House an unbudgeted \$150,000. An unexpected expense that they are now asking Sound Transit to cover through reestablishment and moving grants made available to businesses affected by transit construction.

"We need the support of Sound Transit and the county so we can have space next year," Barham said.

According to Mark Okazaki, Neighborhood House executive director, "We are committed to having classes at Rainier Vista next year and we are working closely with Sound Transit to make that happen. I am optimistic that they will come through for the community."

To find out more about Sound Transit or to find out more about benefits that might be available to you if you have to move as a result of Sound Transit construction, call 1-888-298-2395 toll free. People who don't speak English can call 206-398-5000 and a translator can be arranged.

Updates on community HOPE VI project

Re-occupancy planning is well under way

SEATTLE HOUSING AUTHORITY
Mapping and planning for re-occupancy

The Seattle Housing Authority is currently working on charting the relocation of residents in order of the priorities established by Rainier Vista residents.

For households needing a one-bedroom unit, seniors over 62 and residents needing wheelchair accessible units get first choice. All others will be ordered by their date of entry into Rainier Vista.

Households needing a two-bedroom or larger unit will move into the new community with priority going first to JobsPlus participants, then seniors and then by date of entry into Rainier Vista.

In some cases, due to Sound Transit construction, residents will have to undergo an extra move because the apartments along Martin Luther King Way Jr. South are going to be demolished for road expansion. There are enough units on site to house this group of 13 affected households.

Upcoming meetings

On July 29, a meeting will be held for seniors living in the community. It will focus on the new Gamelin House, a Providence senior building that will open in Spring 2005. Diane Groeschell, representing the new building, will talk about Gamelin House and

answer questions. In the weeks following this meeting, staff will individually meet with seniors to finalize their relocation choice.

Waitlist

A site-based wait list is under development for Rainier Vista though the new community is not yet being marketed. That will begin this summer. The challenge now is to build a new waitlist for the new homes for families that are working and can afford market rents. A new public housing waiting list for the new Rainier Vista is also being built. All applicants must apply for Rainier Vista and get on its site-based waitlist. Porchlight has forwarded all of the interest cards and pre-applications from interested applicants to Rainier Vista. The management office has begun to accept pre-applications and will create its site-based waiting lists according to income types.

Resident job opportunities

Beginning in June 2004, residents were given the opportunity to apply for Property Management Associate I and II positions in the management office at Rainier Vista. One of each position is opening and residents who are bilingual were especially encouraged to apply. When the new staff is hired, the transition to hire residents to work in property management will begin.

Calling all nature lovers

By VOICE STAFF

Seniors living in southeast Seattle have an exciting annual event to look forward to. On July 27, Parks and Recreation is hosting a picnic in Seward Park for senior adults living in Southeast Seattle.

According to Angela Smith, who is organizing the picnic for the Parks Department, this year's annual event will be full of activities, good food and a few surprises. She said that this year, the theme will once again be Hawaiian, as it was last year.

"It's kind of fun and nice to celebrate outside," she said.

She said that the free event will feature entertainment, food, giveaways and more.

A new feature available at this year's picnic will be guided park walks led by a Park Educator. Smith said that these walks focus on discovering the plants and animals that live in Seward Park. One highlight of

these walks is looking for a family of Bald Eagles that live in the area. Smith said that although the majestic birds are not always visible, a telescope trained on their nest is set up and this is a stop on one of the walks that guests at the event can take.

The annual Southeast Senior Picnic is sponsored by Seattle Housing Authority, JobsPlus, Neighborhood House, Park Place, Rainier Beach Family Center, Puget Sound Neighborhood Health Centers, International District Housing Alliance, City of Seattle Parks and Recreation and members of the Associated Recreational Council for the South District.

The picnic will be held from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. on July 27 in the top section of Seward Park. The event is free though advance registration is required. To sign up, call Angela Smith at 206-684-7484. Limited transportation is available. If it is needed, please mention it when you register.

Community notes

Crime Night Out

The Rainier Vista Community's annual Crime Night Out festival and celebration is going to be held this year on Aug. 3. As always, this event will feature, food, fun and entertainment for the whole family. For more information or to volunteer at the event, please call

Nefertari I at 206-722-4010 ext. 3.

Council meeting

The community meeting for the Rainier Vista Leadership Team is the second Wednesday of the month. The meetings are at 6:30 pm. In July, the meeting will be held on July 14.

NEWHOLLY NOTES

NEWS ABOUT THE NEWHOLLY COMMUNITY

Transit dig begins



Students from South Lake High School and others turn the first shovels full of dirt for Sound Transit in the Rainier Valley with Mayor Greg Nickels, third from right, and King County Executive Ron Sims.

PHOTO BY CHARLES REDELL, VOICE

By CHARLES REDELL
Voice editor

Sound Transit broke ground on its long-awaited Central Link Light Rail in the Rainier Valley on June 8. Under a sunny sky and surrounded by many supporters, dignitaries including Seattle Mayor Greg Nickels and King County Executive Ron Sims along with students from South Lake High School turned over the first shovels full of dirt for a station at the corner of South Othello Street and Martin Luther King Jr. Way South.

The light rail system that will be operated by Sound Transit will be a major boon to the NewHolly area according to many of the speakers at the groundbreaking event.

"This is a turning point for Seattle and a turning point for the Rainier Valley," Nickels said.

When it is completed in 2009 the initial segment of Central Link Light Rail line will run 14 miles from Westlake Center in downtown Seattle to just short of Sea-Tac Airport. A 4.8-mile segment of that line will run through the Rainier Valley. From South McClellan Street to South Walden Street, it will be on elevated tracks and after that point

the tracks will run at street level down the center of Martin Luther King Jr. Way South.

Along with predictions of economic benefits for the community, such as new retail and real estate interest in the area, many at the groundbreaking event said that the quality of life along the Martin Luther King Jr. Way South corridor will be improved thanks to the trains running on it. Items such as wider sidewalks, more left-turn lanes and signal lights prompted King County Council member and Rainier Valley resident Dwight Pelz to say, "The train is going to be very nice. It's been too long that we had cars and no train. We're getting our train back."

Sims heralded the coming of the new train as a job-creation engine for the area. He said that 4,200 jobs would be created all around the Puget Sound region thanks to light rail.

"We're here because this community needed development and we can do that with light rail," Sims said. "We're going to have the kind of investment that allows us to build community."

For more on the effects of Sound Transit in the Rainier Valley, please see a related story on page 5.

Family building gets a facelift; Head Start grows

Just a few years old, the main campus building will change to better meet patrons' needs

By CHARLES REDELL
Voice editor

The NewHolly Family Resource Building is undergoing some renovations this summer. First opened in 1999, it is time to modify the building to make it better fit how it is actually used. Major projects are happening on the main level and in the basement this summer.

One of the biggest projects is to make room for more students to attend Neighborhood House Head Start classes. According to Steve Barham, facilities manager for Neighborhood House, "We're trying to increase the usefulness and capacity of the Head Start space."

Thanks to a grant from Head Start, Neighborhood House is combining two classrooms into one larger room and remodeling the larger room to use it as a classroom as well. When the project is done, one of the agency's classrooms will be 50 percent larger and both of the rooms at NewHolly will be able to accommodate 20 students each up from 17.

In addition to the work going on downstairs, the Seattle Housing Authority is remodeling the first floor of the Family Resource Building.

"We've lived here for a little bit now and you can see how people use the space," said Amy Gray, housing developer for SHA.

One of the biggest changes will be at the main entrance to the building. Gray said that the large and mostly unused counter that currently greets visitors to the building will be removed. It will be replaced with a formal

reception area that will be staffed by a receptionist from Atlantic Street Center and more closely related to the agency's offices.

"We're going to make it a real reception area," Gray said.

The other big project on the main floor is a kitchen upgrade. Gray said that the kitchen on that floor was originally planned as a commercial-grade kitchen, but financially, it wasn't feasible to do at the time.

"Right now, if someone wants to come in to do a big event, they have to cook it all off site," Gray said. She added that the addition of some higher grade equipment will make the Gathering Hall a more attractive place to rent for special events.

All of this work on the Family Building should be complete by Aug. 15. According to Barham, Early Head Start and Socializations will continue at Neighborhood House during the summer construction. Atlantic Street Center anticipates some program disruptions, but their staff is not sure when they will occur. Please look for signs as the work progresses or call 206-723-4073.

Other changes on the NewHolly campus include new signs that will be put up early this fall and the departure of Emerald City Outreach Ministries childcare. According to Gray, the signs will help people driving around the new community to find certain locations such as the library.

According to the SHA, ECOM left the campus because they were not able to pay rent for their space any longer. SHA is looking for other organizations to provide childcare on site.

Designing a park

By AMITY EGGE
Voice reporter

How do people move through a park? This was the central question that landscape architect Karen Kiest posed at the second public meeting for the design of the 37th Ave. S. Park in New Holly on June 10.

"A lot of times we get hung up on all the program areas, and we forget to think about how everyone will get around," Kiest said.

The meeting was held at the Park Place Apartments; a fitting spot, because the building is directly across from the area where most of the amenities will be added.

Kiest said that she would like a paved entrance across from Park Place Apartments to provide residents - especially those who are disabled or in wheelchairs - easy access to the park.

She said there will be plenty of places to rest including benches and sun shelters.

Jade Lytton, vice president of the resident council at Park Place Apartments, asked that the Parks and Recreation staff make sure that the sun shelters provide proper shade because some of the senior residents have sensitivities to the sun.

Seniors living in the neighborhood will not be the only ones to benefit from the park improvements. The area will cater to all age groups. A water-spray area will be built

near the playground and some swings may also be added.

"Swings are not a need-to have, but a could have," Kiest explained.

The paved walkways through the park will be laid out in the shape of two loops, so that people can walk their dogs through it. Picnic shelters will also be spread throughout so that friends and families can relax together and barbecue.

Kiest showed three different design options to the NewHolly residents who came to the meeting. The consensus of everyone present was that the park should be broken up into separate areas.

"There will be a kid zone, a quiet zone, a grassy-knoll zone, and the basketball courts," said Joy Moro, NewHolly community builder.

A garden will be included along part of the walkways as a place where people can end their walk. The flowers and plants in the park will add color and brighten the surroundings.

"A lot of parks look the same all the time. You want to think about seasons," Kiest said.

The only thing that will be taken out of the existing park is the market garden. Parks and Recreation promised to build a P-Patch garden however, so that residents can still grow vegetables for their households.

Community notes

Family Fun Fest

The annual NewHolly Family Fun Fest is coming. It will be held this year from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Aug. 14 at the Van Asselt Community Center. There will be plenty of games for youth and adults, prizes, activities, entertainment, a resource fair and a delicious barbecue lunch.

Community volunteers are needed now to help with the planning and preparation. Please call 206-723-1725 to sign up. Volunteers are welcome to sign up now to work before during or after the event even if you can't participate in the planning and preparation steps.

Upcoming volunteer meetings are from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. on July 6, July 21, and Aug. 10.

To get involved, contact Joy Moro at 206-723-1725 or send an e-mail to her at jmoro@seattlehousing.org.

Seeking submissions

The Voice is seeking submissions for its NewHolly community section. Articles, photos and community announcements can be sent to Charles Redell at 905 Spruce St., Seattle, WA 98104. Submissions can also be sent by e-mail to charlesr@nhwa.org or by phone

by calling 206-461-8430 ext. 227.

Family Study Time

The NewHolly Youth and Family Center offers family study time from 6 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. every Tuesday and Thursday evening. During these family study times, school-aged youth receive help from tutors with their school work while at the same time, their parents can get help with learning English as a Second Language, English conversation, GED preparation, citizenship studies and even home childcare training. No appointment is necessary. For more information, call 206-723-4073.

Southeast summer sounds

Come enjoy the 28th annual jazz festival at the Seward Park Amphitheater. This series of free summer jazz concerts features international and regional artists. The opening act will be the Haley Caliman Quartet and the headliner is Julian Priester.

The show is from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. on July 11. The Amphitheater is located at 5900 Lake Washington Blvd. S. For more information, call the SouthEast Economic Development Arts and Events line at 206-760-4285.

YESLER HAPPENINGS

NEWS ABOUT THE YESLER TERRACE COMMUNITY

Juneteenth at Yesler called unique celebration

By CHARLES REDELL
Voice editor

Juneteenth has a long history in the United States. Each year, it is celebrated in more and more places. But none are as unique as the annual Yesler Terrace Juneteenth Community Barbecue. Held this year on June 18 at the Ida Brown playfield, this year's event was another wonderful party where everyone got the chance to play and enjoy their favorite Seattle community.

Al Poole, a former resident of Yesler Terrace and currently manager of the Survival Services program for the City of Seattle Human Services Department, was the keynote speaker at this year's event. He said that the community's annual party is so unique because of the diverse population of the neighborhood.

"Juneteenth at Yesler Terrace is unlike any other celebration anywhere on Earth," he said.

Besides speeches and the community

council's annual Alligator Awards for people who have given a lot to the Yesler Terrace community in the past year, features of the event included a giant multicultural meal that included American barbecue, Asian fare and East African food; a resource fair; the first annual Yesler Terrace Book Exchange; and entertainment.

The afternoon's entertainment highlight was a performance by a group of children between the ages of 6 and 10 who attend an after-school program at The Nature Consortium in Yesler Terrace. They have been working with Eduardo Mendonca from Show Brazil to learn Brazillian drumming. In only six weeks, the youth seem to have learned a lot.

"The kids did all the work," noted Mulu Abraha, program coordinator at The Nature Consortium.

The Brazilian drum classes will continue all summer long at 10 a.m. Monday through Friday in the Head Start classrooms at Yesler Terrace. For more information about this and



PHOTO BY CHARLES REDELL, VOICE

Above, the young Nature Consortium students who entertained the crowd at Juneteenth with their Brazillian drumming.

other classes at The Nature Consortium, call 206-923-0853, or visit them in the Head Start classrooms this summer.

Juneteenth was produced by Seattle

Housing Authority, City of Seattle Parks and Recreation, Seattle Neighborhood Group and the Yesler Terrace Community Council and Neighborhood House.

Plans for new program

Continued from front page of section course instructors, when the students first saw the models pop out of the screen, some literally jumped back in shock.

The class studied the history of Yesler Terrace and then took pictures of the buildings in the neighborhood. The end products were many different models of Yesler Terrace through the years.

At the end of the 10-week session, the instructors held a celebration for the students. Each one received a certificate of completion and a raffle prize. The five youth with the best attendance won entire computer systems.

The students seem to have been affected by the class. One, Anna Nguyen, called it "cool and educational."

Another student, Genet Kalauy, backed up her friend's assertion. She said that in addition to learning about graphic design and computers, she found out a lot about her neighborhood's history.

"There used to be a museum and mansions all around here," she said.

Although Augmented Reality has yet to be turned into an application with much commercial potential, one student in the class, Amina Kulmiya, 14, is ready to put it to use. She is going to take the class when it is offered again for a small group this



PHOTO BY CHARLES REDELL, VOICE

Amina Kulmiya shows one of the 3-D models made in the class.

summer. She wants to create models of her ideas for uses of the new community center being built in the neighborhood.

"I'd like to design some ideas for the new community center," she said. "We're the ones who have to use it."

The Augmented Reality class will be offered to a full group of students later this year. For more information, call Asfaha Lemlem, computer lab coordinator, at 206-386-1245.

Notes from the manager

By JUDI CARTER
Community Manager

Wasn't Juneteenth the best? It was so good seeing people come together to have a wonderful time. I even traded a couple of my books for some books I had been wanting to read. It's got me looking forward to Crime Night Out at 5 p.m. on Aug. 3 in front of the Community Room

The children have been out of school for a couple of weeks now and already some of them are getting bored. I hope that you are sending them down to the Community Center for free Summer Sack Lunches. They are served at noon every day and will

certainly help your food budget.

I am hoping that no one bought fireworks to celebrate the July Fourth, or if you did, that none will be used in Yesler Terrace. Fireworks are illegal in Seattle because of the damage and injuries that they have caused. If you have any fireworks, please do not set them off here and do not allow your children to do so either.

If you happen to be walking up Yesler Way toward Broadway Avenue, take the opportunity to glance at the fourth yard after 10th Avenue on the north side of the street. The lawn is trimmed and weed free and the flowers are beautiful. Thank you for the beautiful sight.

Redevelopment fears crop up earlier than expected

By CHARLES REDELL
Voice editor

A new community coalition committed to preserving public housing at Yesler Terrace went on the attack last month. During a press conference organized by the newly formed Yesler Terrace Coalition, a group of community activists and organizations accused the Seattle Housing Authority of keeping residents out of the early stages of the redevelopment planning process at Yesler Terrace. The coalition claims that the planning has already begun.

Top-level SHA administrators refuted this claim and reiterated that planning will not begin for at least a year.

John Fox, head of the Seattle Displacement Coalition and member of the newly formed Yesler Terrace Coalition said that the coalition is "demanding that an advisory committee be convened immediately."

"We're in full agreement that we need a full community dialogue," said Tom Tierney, SHA executive director. "However, we're not beginning the planning process until next year."

At the press conference, Fox said, "We are concerned about Seattle becoming unaffordable for the poor. We will go to war with SHA to make sure that there is no net loss of public housing at Yesler Terrace."

Tierney said that SHA will continue to rebuild units for very low-income people.

"It's possible," he said, "that by making

more density [at Yesler Terrace] you could replace all units on site."

According to documents provided by Coalition members, more than 1,000 public housing units in Seattle have been lost due to HOPE VI redevelopment. They call that a poor track record for replacing units.

Virginia Felton, SHA communications director, said the coalition's definition of replacement housing is too narrow.

"Fox only counts replacement housing that is actually formally public housing," she said. "He ignores, for example, projects like Peter Claver House that received HUD subsidy and houses extremely low-income seniors. In spite of the fact that many seniors were living in our communities, he basically says that only 'family' housing counts."

At a community meeting later in the month, approximately 150 residents were told that the coalition demands that "any plans for redevelopment at Yesler Terrace result in no net loss of comparably sized units on site for low-income tenants in the 30 percent or less of the median income."

Felton insists that all the furor is unnecessary because of the Housing Authority's stated commitment to residents.

"Unfortunately, John Fox continues to offer residents misinformation and half-truths in an effort to alarm them," she said. "We will never cause our residents to become homeless because of our efforts to redevelop our communities. We will always work with them to meet their housing needs on their own terms."

Community notes

Free Internet access

The computer lab offers free Internet access and classes to residents interested in learning basic computer skills. The center is located at 825 Yesler Way. It is adjacent to Yesler Community Center in the lower level. For more information call 206-386-1245 for class and program information.

Central Area Community Festival

The Central Area Community Festival will take place this year July 16 to July 18 at the Garfield Community Center and Playfield, 2323 E. Cherry St. The free event promises to be fun for people of all ages. Residents and neighbors of the area are all invited to come down for games, food, entertainment and more.

