



A community-based newspaper serving the Puget Sound area since 1981



# The Voice

August  
2010  
*Articles translated  
into six languages*

The newspaper of Neighborhood House

## Weatherization training program plugs low-income workers into the green economy

BY TYLER ROUSH  
*The Voice editor*

With the paint flaking off its walls, doorways boarded up and “no trespassing” scrawled on the siding, the house has the look of a vacant building.

But thanks to the work of a local organization called Got Green, what was once an abandoned home on a nondescript corner in White Center has been reborn as a classroom. Inside, a group of trainees — all low-income persons of color — receives the hands-on training necessary to thrive in the new, green economy.

Got Green showcased its weatherization training program with a demonstration Wednesday, July 21 at its work site in White Center.

“Doing this training in the community is significant,” said Got Green Executive Director Michael Woo. “It makes the training accessible to the community.”

As media and guests arrived, workers cut pieces of eco-friendly insulation to seal leaky floor joists in the basement of the house.

The White Center house won’t ultimately be converted into green housing — it will soon be demolished to make way for a new affordable housing development called the Strength of Place Initiative Village. But with the skills acquired in



PHOTO BY TYLER ROUSH

Melton Jefferson (left) measures a piece of eco-friendly insulation, as other workers in Got Green’s weatherization training program look on.

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## Thousands rally in Detroit for United States Social Forum

BY LYNN SEREDA  
*Section 8 Voucher Holder*

About 18,000 people from all over America converged in Detroit for the second United States Social Forum (USSF) on June 22. Building on the first USSF held in Atlanta in 2007, social justice activists involved in such causes as immigrant justice, anti-militarism, anti-poverty, and environmental justice, spent nearly a week learning about what organizers are doing across America.

A social forum is a very intense experience with many activities to choose from. There were countless workshops, plenary

sessions, film, art and cultural performances, as well as marches and demonstrations all across Detroit, a city hard hit by the economic crisis.

It is precisely because Detroit is considered ground zero in the economic crisis that it was chosen to host the USSF. The collapse of the auto industry and the loss of industrial manufacturing jobs has resulted in a 45 percent unemployment rate, according to the Moratorium Now! Coalition of Michigan. The group has called on Michigan Governor Jennifer Granholm to declare a statewide economic emergency and impose a two-year moratorium on foreclosures and evictions to stabilize the

housing crisis in the region.

Similar to the first Social Forum in Atlanta, housing activists were very well organized and represented. There were dozens of housing workshops to attend, including those led by public housing residents, as well as anti-foreclosure workshops where many people told heartbreaking stories of losing their homes. Those same presenters also talked about their resolve to strategize to build a movement to prevent even more people from falling into the same predicament.

A group of hundreds of people, many

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## City Council clears way for new rental inspection law

BY TYLER ROUSH  
*The Voice editor*

The Seattle City Council unanimously approved legislation in June that is expected to lay the groundwork for a comprehensive rental housing licensing and inspection program in the city.

The legislation is being described as a “placeholder,” while city officials iron out the specifics of an inspection program. The city faced a June 10 deadline to adopt a rental inspection program before tighter restrictions on such programs kicked in at the state level.

Councilmembers Sally Clark and Nick Licata co-sponsored the legislation.

“Representatives from both apartment owners and tenants working together made passage of the State legislation possible, and we duplicated that effort with the city’s bill,” said Councilmember Nick Licata. “Now Seattle can move forward with a proactive rental inspection program.”

Clark said the legislation is not meant to target all landlords, but rather the few who choose to neglect their obligations to provide safe living conditions for their tenants.

“The vast majority of landlords in Seattle care about their renters and their investment, but a few don’t,” she said. “A rental licensing and inspection program isn’t a cure-all for sub-standard housing, but we should preserve the ability to institute a program that safeguards the rights of tenants and property owners.”

Supporters of the ordinance are hailing the move as a victory for tenants in Seattle.

John Lang, executive director of the Tenants Union of Washington, said that the Tenants Union has been calling for a rental inspection program since the mid-1980s.

“Our standpoint is obviously around tenant protections, and making sure that tenants have access to mechanisms that can ensure their own health and safety,” Lang said.

That said, he added that an inspection program has the potential to violate the privacy of the very people for which it is

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### A note to KCHA readers

The KCHA section of The Voice was not printed this month. It will be returning to publication soon.



## Health Notes

A column devoted to your well-being

### Local organizations receive \$8.9 million to increase healthy choices for King County residents

BY PUBLIC HEALTH - SEATTLE AND KING COUNTY

More than 4,300 people die from heart disease, lung cancer, stroke and diabetes every year in King County, representing 38 percent of total deaths. Poor nutrition, lack of physical activity, tobacco use, and exposure to tobacco smoke are critical risk factors for these chronic diseases.

Public Health - Seattle and King County announced it is offering 51 grants totaling \$8.9 million to fund school districts, community-based organizations, and local governments to improve nutrition and physical activity, and decrease tobacco use and exposure.

As part of the one-time federal stimulus funds in the Communities Putting Prevention to Work (CPPW) initiative, these grants will support and pay for activities that will produce long-lasting changes and improve the community conditions that harm residents.

"We are helping our communities use proven strategies to fight the leading causes of death in our region, such as heart disease and diabetes. Our goal is for all residents, regardless of where they live in the county, to have access to healthy choices and opportunities for healthy living," said King County Executive Dow Constantine.

"With this one-time funding our communities will be able to make a difference quickly and to use local innovation to implement proven approaches," said Dr. David Fleming, Director and Health Officer for Public Health - Seattle and King County. "We know what works, we have the tools, and these grants give us an opportunity to do what needs to be done creatively."

Goals of CPPW in King County are to increase physical activity and improve nutrition; decrease smoking rates, number of teenagers who begin to smoke, and exposure to secondhand smoke; and reduce health inequities.

People who most experience the risk

factors of poor nutrition, lack of physical activity, tobacco use, and exposure to tobacco smoke tend to be low-income people of color, as well as those living in south King County or south Seattle. CPPW will focus on the communities with the greatest needs.

For nutrition and physical activity, Public Health is offering 37 grants to 35 organizations. Examples of funded activities and policy priorities include:

- Land use policy, including city comprehensive master plans with complete streets, as well as bike and pedestrian master plans
- Reduce consumption of sugar sweetened beverages
- Support for small food retail businesses in providing healthy food
- Increased healthy eating and active living for children in schools and child-care, including Safe Routes to Schools, increased physical education/physical activity, enhanced nutrition standards, Farm-to-School programs, and certification of food service staff in preparing healthy meals
- Increasing access to opportunities for physical activity, through joint-use agreements, affordable and culturally appropriate recreation programs
- Supporting low-income immigrant urban farmers who sell produce for sale in low-income communities

For tobacco prevention, Public Health is offering grants to 14 organizations or groups of organizations. Examples of funded activities and policy priorities include:

- Tobacco-free and smoke-free environments: multi-unit housing, parks and public places, colleges and universities.
- Policies that prohibit sales, advertising, and promotions of flavored alternative tobacco products and electronic cigarettes.

For more information about CPPW, visit [www.kingcounty.gov/health/cppw](http://www.kingcounty.gov/health/cppw).

## Daytripper: Two trips to two towns



PHOTO BY KRISTIN O'DONNELL

A view of the Centralia Amtrak station

BY KRISTIN O'DONNELL  
Yesler Terrace Resident

My bus schedule research revealed a potentially splendid and scenic route between Seattle and the Lewis County cities Chehalis and Centralia.

A Grays Harbor bus runs between Elma and Centralia, after linking up with another Grays Harbor bus from Olympia. I left Seattle early on a Monday morning. (Another new bus research discovery: There is a morning express to Lakewood that cuts half an hour off the travel time to Olympia.) But the Grays Harbor Bus #40 arrives in Elma late, and the bus to Centralia is gone.

Another bus is coming in two hours — and the only things open in Elma are City Hall and the Subway. Two long hours later, there is a very pleasant hour's bus trip along the valley of the Chehalis river — farms and forests, cows and wildflowers, little towns — that is much more interesting than the freeway.

Because of the late start, there is not much time to look around town and the museum, which I want to see, is closed

Monday.

Friday, I try again! This time, I caught the Clark County CAP shuttle south of Olympia by the Tumwater Square Safeway. This bus is an amazing bargain — a dollar gets you all the way to Longview, with stops along the way, and another dollar gets you to a park and ride in Vancouver, Wash., where a transfer to a Portland TriMet Express bus gets you into downtown Portland in time for a late lunch.

The CAP buses are sort of grubby, the drivers can be sort of cranky, and the passengers are interesting.

### Friday in the twin cities

On Fridays, Twin Transit buses are free, and there is a farmers' market across from the handsomely restored train station where the shuttle drops you off, with scones and cookies and fresh fruit and lots and lots and lots of antiques and collectibles.

If you adore antique malls, downtown Centralia is paradise. If you adore outlet malls, the outskirts of Centralia are heav-

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## Rental

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intended to protect.

"I think a program that balances those two needs is a victory for tenants' rights," he concluded.

Merf Ehman, an attorney with Columbia Legal Services, said that the program will give the city more leverage to ensure land-

lords provide their tenants with adequate housing.

"It's a step forward (for tenants)," Ehman said. "I think it's another tool in the toolbox that government officials will have to improve substandard housing for tenants in the city of Seattle."

Rental housing comprises about 51 percent of all dwellings in Seattle, according to statistics provided by the city.

It's not certain how the new legislation would affect Seattle Housing Authority. However, the legislation has a provision that exempts landlords from the program if they meet certain guidelines. The Seattle Housing Authority would likely be exempt because it already has a regular inspection program in place.

"It's possible that different Seattle Housing Authority programs could qualify for that exemption because they're already inspected in a way that would meet the statutory guidelines," Ehman said.

Two companion resolutions will guide the process as the city works to develop its placeholder legislation into the rental licensing and inspection program that will take effect April 1, 2012.

The first directs the City's Department of Planning and Development to work with stakeholders to determine what elements of the program should be included in the final version, including:

- Whether inspections should cover all units in a property, or a sampling

- The frequency of inspections
- Inspection standards, including what constitutes passage or failure

- The overall scope of the program, including whether it should cover all rental properties in Seattle or only those of a certain type or size
- Whether the legislation should include exemptions

The planning department will report its findings to the council by Feb. 1, 2011.

A second resolution directs the planning department to examine the city's success or failure in using court-issued inspection warrants when it is suspected that a rental property poses an immediate safety risk to tenants. That report is due July 1, 2011.

"There's still work to be done to fine-tune it ... but this is a big win for tenants and tenants' rights," Lang said. "Whether low-income, middle-income or whatever, it's a vital need to live in a place that's safe, and this program goes a long way to helping to ensure that."

### The Voice

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The Voice, the newspaper of Neighborhood House, is published monthly with the support of Seattle Housing Authority and the King County Housing Authority. 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. The Voice is published online at [www.nhwa.org](http://www.nhwa.org) and at [www.seattlehousing.org](http://www.seattlehousing.org).

# Be safe

## Personal safety in your community

BY SEATTLE NEIGHBORHOOD GROUP

A few weeks ago, I was standing in a line at the gas station behind a young man who was buying a couple of cigarillos. After he was finished with his purchase, he walked behind me to stand next to his friend. The first young man began to confidently advise his friend on being successful in the rap music business.

As I paid for my gas, I listened to the first young man offer his sage advice to his companion. When I finished with my purchase, I turned to the young men and said, "Gentlemen, take my advice. Quit smoking those cigarillos; they aren't good for you." I said it with a smile and with concern in my voice. After I was finished with my suggestion, the first young man smiled and waved as we both walked out of the door.

In that moment, a human connection was made and we were both a little safer.

Sometimes we assume the worst of people simply because they are different from us, a different skin color, a different religion, a different age, a different life style. Very often we allow our differences to separate us. We do not need to live in a hostile world to be safer.

On Friday, July 16, Seattle Neighborhood Group sponsored a "Be Safe Workshop" for residents and staff living in affordable downtown Seattle housing. Some residents were younger; some were older. Some were without housing; some enjoyed housing

provided by nonprofit agencies, including Seattle Housing Authority. But they all shared a concern about safety in their downtown neighborhoods.

Personal safety does not require that you live your life in fear, but it does require you to be aware of your surroundings. This awareness should follow you wherever you go, to the gas station, to the grocery store, to a community meeting, or around the corner to a friend's house. By being aware of your surroundings you give yourself more time to make choices about avoiding trouble before you are in it.

There are people in the world who wish to do harm to us. Criminals are opportunists who choose victims that they think will be easy targets — someone who is distracted or is easily intimidated. The way we move our body as we walk down the street sends a message about whether or not we are easy victims. On a community level criminals operate in neighborhoods where people are isolated from one another. Hostility or suspicion towards each other fosters that isolation. Keeping curtains open during the day, talking to your neighbors and the people who work in your neighborhood builds relationships and promotes safety.

*Kelly McKinney (206-323-7084) and Allan Davis (206-323-7094) are Community Education Coordinators for Seattle Neighborhood Group. Call Allan or Kelly for crime prevention information or help with your safety and security concerns.*

## Daytripper

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only.

Since neither are my passion, I went on to Chehalis — after shopping in the Visiting Nurses Thrift Store at 222 S. Pearl. It's a large store with good prices, and worth a visit, especially on Fridays — books are two-for-one.

Chehalis is doing something right: Unlike many places with a WalMart on the outskirts, it still has a real downtown with clothing stores, a book and art supply store, a shoe store, a hardware store, a furniture store, one nice and one awesome fabric store, very few vacancy signs and no boarded up buildings. No McDonalds, no Subway, no Starbucks — one (small) antique mall.

Possibly because county government is downtown, there's a good choice of inexpensive places for lunch — bakeries, Chinese, Mexican and the Market Street Pub, which has a Friday fish and chips special and a fancy wood-and-mirror back bar that is ten feet high.

Downtown consists mostly of well-maintained buildings from the early 20th century. The Centralia Renaissance office in the restored and ornate Saint Helen's theater (508 N. Market Boulevard) has an excellent walking tour map of downtown with information on shops and buildings, and a very helpful person at the desk.

There's also a large local branch of Visiting Nurse's Thrift at 749 S. Market Blvd.

Lewis County museum (\$4/adults, \$3/seniors, \$2/ages 4-16) in the old Chehalis train depot is also doing something right. The 1912 station has a high arched ceiling and is well-lighted.

There's the usual pioneer store and pioneer school displays, an extensive railroads section with a big model train layout and an unusually good and well-labeled display of farming, logging and woodworking tools.

Ask the staff about the museum's ghost.

There are two interesting pioneer cemeteries with easy transit access from downtown Chehalis. Ask the #12 bus driver where the cemeteries are. The Pioneer Cemetery is on a grassy, overgrown hillside and is visible from the bus. Evergreen Cemetery is prettier and shaded by old trees, including an enormous copper beech nearly 30 feet around.

Heading home, I catch the Gray's Harbor #90 bus to Elma at 3:10 p.m. It is due into Elma at 4 p.m., where I will catch the 4:10 #40 Gray's Harbor to Olympia — except that the #90 is late and the Olympia bus has departed. Two hours later, I catch the last bus into Olympia. The Centralia - Elma connection is a really lovely ride, but two hours is a lot of time in Elma.

### Bus stops, times and fares

The #594 Sound Transit express to Lakewood Park and Ride leaves Second and University at 6:07 a.m., and also stops on the busway at SODO. It arrives at Lakewood Park and Ride at 7:11 a.m. For the return, the #594 runs from Lakewood/Tacoma to Seattle hourly until 10 p.m.

The Intercity Transit #603 and Pierce Transit #601 leave Lakewood Park and Ride frequently between 7 and 7:30 a.m., and should get you into Olympia with time for a restroom and/or coffee break. Fares are \$2.50 adult/ \$1.25 senior-disabled. The #601 and #603 buses go north to Lakewood and Tacoma hourly until 7:30 p.m.

If you'll be taking the CAP bus, catch an Intercity Transit #12 or #13 to Tumwater Square (runs every 15 minutes). Fares are \$1/adult or youth and \$0.50/senior-disabled. Allow 15 minutes for the trip and catch the connecting bus no later than 8:30 a.m. If you don't ... Olympia isn't a bad place to spend the day.

The CAP bus to Centralia (and way fur-

Please see "Daytripper" on Page 5



# One to grow on

## Garden tips for community gardeners

## Onions, garlic and shallots are ready for harvest in August

BY ANZA MUENCHOW  
Special to *The Voice*

August is Allium month. Onions, garlic, and shallots will mostly be ready to harvest this month. How do you know when Alliums are ready to pick?

The different varieties of onions and garlic ripen at different times. The early varieties of garlic should have been picked in July and be hanging to dry in a dark, well-ventilated area. Later varieties should be picked now.

The basic rule is to see when the top green leaves are beginning to decline, looking yellow and drying out. If there are three or four yellowing leaves on the garlic plant, it is ready to harvest.

Also check the strength of the stem just above the bulb. If it is weak, shriveling and starting to fall over, the Allium is ready to pick and eat or dry for storage. You can also feel down into the soil and see if the bulb is well-formed and not yet beginning to separate into cloves.

Try not to allow any water on the garlic beds before you harvest them. I may harvest a little early if there is a big rain event predicted. For storage onions, I will restrict water as we come close to harvest time.

Garlic bulbs will continue to get larger as they hang in a drying shed or garage. Do not cut off the roots or leaves, but remove any seed heads (scapes) that may still be found on the plant. The garlic will probably be "cured" and ready to store in about six weeks. They can be eaten when they are fresh or dried, but if you want them to store well for the winter, make sure they are thoroughly dried.

If you plan to set aside some of your garlic bulbs to plant next year, select the ones with the largest cloves. Inspect them carefully to see if they have any disease. Black streaks or pinkish discoloration shows some infection. Do not use these to re-plant.

Instead, purchase some certified disease-free bulbs from your favorite seed catalog or nursery. In late October or early November, prepare a deep, well-drained bed with lots of compost for planting garlic.

Avoid planting garlic in an area where onions or garlic have been planted in the last four years. Some soil pathogens remain in Allium beds for years, so don't encourage them by planting more Alliums.

All the great onion varieties are ready for harvest now, too. With sweet onions, watch for the bulbs to begin to show their "shoulders" as they lift up out of the beds. Don't mulch these onions as they like to have their shoulder exposed.

When the stems are softening they are fully mature bulbs. You may want to start picking some before they are fully mature, as they are delicious at any stage. These sweet onions should be refrigerated to maintain the sweetness. If I have too many to store in a cool place, I will often chop them and freeze them for quick meal preparations in the fall. This works well for soups and stews.

The storage onions, whether yellow, red or white, should also be hung and dried like the garlic. Shallots also. When these onions are fully cured, you can trim the leaves and roots and bag them or lay them on trays with newspaper.

Do watch for some that may begin to rot. Use them first, or chop and freeze. I find that the onions that have started to form a seed stalk will be the first to degrade in the storage.

Always cut off the hard seed stalks when you see them forming on the plants. Eat these onions first in the summer, as they don't store well.

We especially enjoy eating red onions raw in salads. When they are fresh, they add a delicious sweetness. The older they are, the more pungent they become.

If I need to use a pungent onion in a salad, I will thinly slice the onion and salt it heavily, allowing it to rest for 15 minutes. Then I will squeeze out the onion juices that have been drawn out of the onion by the salt.

After a quick rinse, I add it to all kinds of salads: green, pasta, potato, even fruit salads. You may not want to add any additional salt to the dressings if you use the salted onion to these salads.

Enjoy those summer salads and be creative. Eat fresh!

## Get back-to-school supplies and more at Educational Resource Street Fair

Do you need school supplies? You can earn your own free schools supplies, backpacks, and other resources at the Educational Resource Street Fair Aug. 14.

This year's fair will be held along 24th Avenue between East Alder Street and East Yesler Way from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Attendees can receive school supplies, watch cultural and arts performances, learn about environmental protection and access parenting and health resources.

A program of the Peoples Institutional Baptist Church, the street fair connects students and parents with service providers and other community resources. A job fair will also be held at the event.

Students who register for the event will receive a student passport. By visiting booths at the fair, students will earn passport stamps.

A passport with five stamps may be redeemed for school supplies, backpacks,

even rain jackets, while supplies last.

Students must attend the fair and register in order to receive supplies.

The street fair is open to all. School supplies are available for students ages 4-18 — from kindergarten through current high-school seniors. College students are not eligible to receive school supplies.

For more information and to register online, visit [www.edrsf.org](http://www.edrsf.org).

### United Africa Day 2010

Come celebrate United Africa Day from noon - 5 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 7 at the Rainier Community Center.

Enjoy a cultural fashion show, music, dance, cultural art and displays. Admission is free.

# Fire safety: How to protect yourself and your loved ones

BY VOICE STAFF

When it comes to fire safety, it's important to always be prepared. You can take all the proper steps to reduce the risk that a fire will start in your home or apartment. But sometimes, despite our best efforts to the contrary, fires happen. Read on to see how you and your family can ensure your safety in the event of a fire. And see the accompanying sidebar for tips on how to reduce the risk of a fire in your residence.

The information below is taken from online resources made available by the Seattle Fire Department. For more information, visit [www.seattle.gov/fire](http://www.seattle.gov/fire).

## Safety tips for everyone

Fire safety begins with two things: Working smoke alarms and a fire escape plan.

Make sure you have a working smoke alarm, and treat any alarm that sounds as the real thing. If you are a renter, the landlord is required to provide your unit or home with a working smoke alarm. As the tenant, you are required to replace the battery in your smoke alarm, if it is battery-operated. The fire department recommends replacing the battery annually, or immediately after the alarm begins to beep that the battery is low. The department also recommends using a vacuum to regularly clean dust and cobwebs from smoke alarms.

If you live in a home, the fire department recommends installing at least one smoke alarm on every level of your home, as well as one in every bedroom.

Whether living in a house or an apartment, everyone should have a fire escape plan. Create and memorize an escape plan that includes two exits from each room in your house. If you live in an apartment, know at least two routes out of the building. (Fire escape routes should be posted in your building; ask the building manager for help if you can't find one.)

Practice the escape plan with everyone in your family. If you live with young children, seniors, people with limited mobility, or anyone who might need help to escape, make sure you determine who will assist them in case of fire.

Feel doors for heat before you open them. If they are hot, do not open them and instead find another exit. If you encounter smoke, try another way out. If you cannot avoid the smoke, drop to the floor and crawl. Smoke and heat rise, so you will be safest if you stay low. Do not carry any possessions or valuables with you as you escape. Material things can be replaced.

Choose a meeting place outside in a safe location away from your home or apartment. In the event of a fire, proceed safely to that location as quickly as you can. Once you are safely outside, call 911. Be prepared to report that a fire is in progress at your address. If any of your family members are unaccounted for, notify rescue personnel as soon as possible. Once you are outside, do not go back inside.

## Apartment fire safety

If you live in an apartment, high-rise, or other multi-family building, this section will provide you with additional fire safety information.

If you hear the smoke alarm, go to an exit immediately — seconds count. If you see a fire, pull the building's alarm if at all possible. If you can, close doors behind you to confine the fire.

Never use the elevator in the event of a fire. If you have limited mobility or for any other reason cannot leave via the building's stairwells, the fire department recommends that you stay in your apartment and call 911 immediately. If the fire is in your apartment, pull the fire alarm, go to the stairwell and wait at the stair landing for help.

If you have limited mobility, it is advised that your name and room number be posted at the fire alarm panel or in the manager's office, so that firefighters are aware that you will need assistance.

If you cannot leave your unit, take the following steps to protect yourself:

- Keep the door to the room closed.
- Use towels or clothing to block openings around doors and vents where smoke might enter the room.
- Place a signal at the window, which can be anything that will get the attention of rescue crews and alert them to your

## Fire Safety Checklist

Everyone can follow these simple steps to minimize fire risk in their home or apartment.

### Smoke alarms

- Smoke alarms should be installed on a ceiling or high on the wall outside of the bedrooms on each level of the home and in every bedroom.
- Smoke alarm batteries should be changed every year.
- Smoke alarms should be tested and vacuumed of dust and cobwebs every year.

### Electrical

- Use as few extension cords and plug adaptors as possible.
- Extension cords used should not be tacked to walls, run under rugs or through doorways.
- Small appliances, such as the toaster, should be unplugged when not in use.

### Housekeeping

- Keep matches and lighters out of reach of children in a secure place.
- Paint, varnish and other flammables should be kept in sturdy metal containers and in a cool place.
- Ashes from fireplaces and barbecues should be disposed of in metal containers. Never operate a barbecue indoors.
- Candles should be placed in sturdy candle holders away from flammable objects. Only light a candle if someone

is in the room to monitor it.

### Kitchen

- In the event of a grease fire, put a lid on it.
- Cooking should never be left unattended.
- Never use the oven to heat your home or apartment.

### Smoking

- If you live in a place where you may smoke indoors, do not smoke in bed or while lying down.

### Escape plan

- Create and memorize an escape plan that includes at least two ways out of each room in your home. If you live with other people, make sure everyone knows the escape plan. If you live in an apartment, make sure you know the evacuation routes out of your building.
- If you live with young children, seniors, people with limited mobility, or anyone who may need help to escape, determine who will assist them as part of your escape plan.
- Regularly practice your escape plan by holding fire drills in your home.
- Windows used for escaping should open easily.
- Exits should never be blocked by furniture or other objects.
- Choose a meeting place outside and safely away from your house or apartment. All household members should go to the meeting place as soon as they can.

location.

If smoke or fire enters your unit, call 911 to report your location. Stay low to breathe the best air, and if possible hold a wet cloth or towel over your nose and mouth.

Do not break or open any windows. An open window might allow smoke to enter your apartment, while a broken window might hamper rescue efforts.

If exit lights in your building are not lit, are broken or have been vandalized, notify your building manager. Exits should be kept clear of furniture, trash and other objects.

Self-closing doors, such as those leading to stairwells, should never be propped open. These doors help keep flames and smoke

from spreading.

## Home fire safety

In addition to the safety tips provided in the first section, pay extra attention to this section if you live in a home or other single-family dwelling.

The Seattle Fire Department recommends installing at least one smoke alarm on every level of your home, and at least one in every bedroom. Alarms should be tested regularly and low batteries should be replaced immediately. Clean your smoke alarm with



PHOTO BY TYLER ROUSH

Morcire "Moe" Sylla, a Guinean immigrant living in Seattle, seals a leaky joist in the basement of a house in White Center.

## Green

### Continued from front page

the Got Green program, trainees hope to soon be weatherizing other homes like it, all while earning competitive wages.

The union-certified program is made possible through a partnership between Got Green and the Laborers International Union of North America. Neighborhood House and Pacific Associates have provided case management for trainees.

For 24-year-old Morcire Sylla, Got Green is an opportunity find a job in a new city. The Guinean immigrant moved to Seattle from Connecticut eight months ago.

Construction is a good fit for Sylla, who learned some carpentry and masonry skills from his father, a handyman back home.

It's working out great for me," said Sylla, whose nickname, "Moe," is written on his white hard hat. "I think it's a great opportunity."

Melton Jefferson found his way into the program through a connection with Woo.

"I was looking for a job at the time," said Jefferson, who has a background in construction. "It's turned into something good, not just for our community, but for the whole country."

At 51, Jefferson is one of the elder statesmen among the crew of 14 trainees — many are in their late teens and 20s. But the Seattle native

said he's ready to learn some new tricks, both to help himself and to protect the planet.

"We all need to do more to conserve, to save energy and to save money," he said. "Everybody should weatherize their homes and conserve energy."

Graduates of the Got Green program will be part of the local movement to do just that, as they will join a pool of trained workers available to contractors working on the City of Seattle's Weatherize Every Building Initiative.

The \$20 million program, funded through federal stimulus dollars, will put 2,000 people to work retrofitting homes and buildings in Seattle, cut carbon emissions and conserve energy. The focal point of the efforts will be in the traditionally lower-income areas of the city, including the Central District, SODO and South Seattle.

Trainee Kamyu Turner, 19, grew up in Seattle's Beacon Hill neighborhood. He said the weatherization program gives him the chance "to save — the same people I grew up with — to save them money on their homes."

Seattle Deputy Mayor Darryl Smith echoed that sentiment in his remarks during the training event.

"This isn't just for wealthy people, it isn't just for people who consider themselves at the top of the green pyramid," Smith said. "This is for everybody."

# Got hot? Get wet!

## Local pools offer relief from the summer heat

BY SEATTLE HOUSING AUTHORITY STAFF

We can't do much about hot weather, but on hot days we can do something to help cool ourselves and our families: Go swimming, paddling or wading.

### Beaches

The City of Seattle Parks Department offers safe, lifeguarded beaches at nine sites around the city. The beaches are open daily, weather permitting, from noon until 7 p.m. on weekdays and from 11 a.m. until 7 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays.

Open through August 29 are these beaches: East Green Lake (7201 E. Green Lake Dr. N.), Magnuson (enter the park at N.E. 65th and Sand Point Way N.E.), Madrona (853 Lake Washington Blvd.), and Pritchard Beach (8400 55th Ave. S.).

Open through Sept. 6 are these beaches: Matthews (9300 51st Ave. N.E.), Madison (1900 43rd Ave. E.), Mt. Baker (2301 Lake Washington Blvd. S.), Seward (5902 Lake Washington Blvd. S.), and West Green Lake (7312 W. Green Lake Dr.).

### Wading pools

The Parks Department also operates wading pools around the city (see chart at right). These are open on days with sunny skies and warm temperatures; to find out whether the pools will be filled on any given day, call the wading pools hotline at 206-684-7796, after 9 a.m. Note: Toddlers must wear tight plastic pants or diapers designed for swimming.

### Outdoor pools

The Parks Department operates two outdoor pools, the Lowery C. "Pop" Mounger Pool, 2535 32nd Ave. W., and Colman Pool, in Lincoln Park, 8603 Fauntleroy Way S.W.

Pop Mounger Pool is open every day through Sept. 12. The telephone number for the pool is 206-684-4708. Call to find out hours for scheduled activities and open swims.

Colman Pool, a beachside saltwater pool that features a giant waterslide, is open every day through Sept. 6; the pool opens at noon. The telephone number for Colman Pool is 206-684-7494.

Route #90 leaves Centralia train station at 3:10 p.m., and may connect with the GH #40 to Olympia. Bring a good book.

Note: If the bus you hope to catch will be delayed less than 5 minutes, your driver can call and the bus will wait. Getting off the #90 at the Rusty Tractor restaurant stop outside of Elma gives you a better chance of catching the connection — but if you do miss the bus, two hours is even longer there. Fare \$3/Adult, \$2.50/youth and \$2/senior-disabled.

Twin Transit buses around Chehalis and Centralia are \$1/adult and \$0.60/senior-disabled for an all-day pass. Fridays are free. They leave on the hour and half-hour from the Centralia train depot.

## Daytripper

Continued from Page 3

ther south) leaves Tumwater Square by Safeway at 8:55 a.m. Monday-Friday. (Catch the bus at the bench about 30 feet south of the bus shelter, closer to Safeway.) The CAP returns from the Centralia Train station at 2:28 p.m. Be there on time, or take the \$16 Greyhound to Olympia! Fare \$1.

### Gray's Harbor Transit connection

If you want a scenic trip and a suspense-filled adventure — Mondays and Fridays only — GH transit #40 leaves Olympia Transit Center at 7:50 a.m. or 9:35 a.m. and should connect to GH #90 to Centralia at Elma. But it might not.

AREA	POOL AND ADDRESS	OPEN DAYS AND HOURS	CLOSES
NORTHWEST	<b>Ballard Commons</b> ♣ 5701 22nd Ave NW	Daily, 11–8	Oct. 15
	<b>Bitter Lake</b> 13035 Linden Ave N	Wed/Thurs/Fri., noon–7	Aug. 20 ■
	<b>Green Lake</b> N 73rd St & W Green Lake Dr N	Daily, 11–8	Aug. 11
	<b>Soundview</b> 1590 NW 90th Street	Sat/Sun/Mon, noon–7	Aug. 22
	<b>Wallingford</b> 4219 Wallingford Ave N	Wed/Thurs/Fri., noon–7	Aug. 20 ■
NORTHEAST	<b>Dahl</b> 7700 25th Ave NE	Tues/Wed/Thurs, noon–7	Aug. 19 ■
	<b>Magnuson</b> 7400 Sand Point Way NE	Daily, noon–6:30	Aug. 29 ■
CENTRAL	<b>Cal Anderson</b> 1635 11th Ave	Fri/Sat/Sun, noon–6:45	Aug. 22
	<b>East Queen Anne</b> 160 Howe Street	Sun/Mon/Tues, noon–7	Aug. 22
	<b>Lower Judkins</b> ♣ 2150 S Norman Street	Daily, 11–8	Sept. 6
	<b>Miller</b> ♣ 330 19th Ave E	Daily, 11–8	Oct. 15
	<b>Volunteer Park</b> 1400 E Galer Street	Daily, 11–8	Sept. 6
	SOUTHEAST	<b>Van Asselt</b> 2820 S Myrtle Street	Daily, 11–8
<b>John C. Little</b> ♣ 6961 37th Ave S		Daily, 11–8	Sept. 6
<b>Pratt</b> 1800 S Main Street		Daily, 11–8	Sept. 6
SOUTHWEST	<b>Delridge</b> 4501 Delridge Way SW	Thurs/Fri/Sat, noon–7	Aug. 21 ■
	<b>E C Hughes</b> 2805 SW Holden Street	Wed/Thurs/Fri, noon–7	Aug. 20 ■
	<b>Hiawatha</b> 2700 California Ave SW	Mon/Tues/Wed, noon–7	Aug. 18 ■
	<b>Lincoln Park</b> 8600 Fauntleroy Way SW	Daily, 11–8	Sept. 6
	<b>South Park</b> 8319 8th Ave S	Sun/Mon/Tues, noon–7	Aug. 18 ■

Pools marked with the ♣ symbol feature spray.  
Pools marked with the ■ symbol are **closed** on Labor Day.

## Forum

Continued from front page

of them homeless, walked all the way to Detroit from New Orleans. Organizing the marchers was the Poor People's Economic Human Rights Campaign (PPEHRC), a 12-year-old national coalition of grassroots organizations and nonprofits whose aim is to unite the poor to end poverty.

The marchers found places to stay along the way, and grew in number along the road to Detroit. PPEHRC helped lead the Anti-Poverty Summit on the first day of the social forum, which included a panel of people from all over the country giving reports on how the crisis is manifesting in each area and how people are organizing on poverty issues.

After small group discussions, the Anti-Poverty Summit attendees then rallied at DTE Energy headquarters and held a press conference detailing how utility shutoffs in the Detroit metropolitan area are affecting more than 100,000 people every year.

According to local organizers, 18 people lost their lives in Detroit in one year due to utility shutoffs. Many of the deaths were due to fires caused by propane or space heaters, put into use after natural gas had been shut off.

Organizers at the rally read the names of the deceased, which included three small children and two elderly people who were in wheelchairs. The rally then joined a larger group, which marched through Detroit carrying banners, signs, giant puppets



PHOTO BY LYNN SEREDA

A demonstrator carries a sign during a rally at the United States Social Forum in Detroit.

and more. They marched to call attention to such causes as health care and housing, an end to war and the elimination of corporate greed.

Water use was another major area of concern at the social forum. Many utilities are now becoming privatized and water rates are soaring. In a city like Detroit, where many have lost their jobs, people cannot even afford their water bills.

According to Marian Kramer of the Michigan Welfare Rights Organization, 45,000 households have had their water service disconnected. On at least one thing, all the activists seemed to be in agreement

— that basic necessities like water and heat must be considered human rights, and that in times of economic emergency, the needs of people must be put above corporate profits.

On each day of the social forum, demonstrations and marches were organized all over the city. Protesters rallied outside of Chase Bank, decrying that bank's role in the foreclosure crisis nationally. Activists urged people to bank elsewhere.

Protesters also rallied outside a community center that is being closed by the city. Many public schools in the city have also been shuttered.

Seemingly everywhere, the economic crisis is visible in Detroit. There are many blocks of boarded up homes at the city's margins and old factories abandoned and rusting. Whole areas of the city are reminiscent of New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina, with homes being torn down, and streetlights and traffic lights turned off.

Detroit in the 1950's was the fourth-largest city in America, home to nearly 2 million people. It boasted the highest-paid working class in the United States, thanks

to strong unions.

Today the city has lost a little more than half of its population from its peak in the '50s, and is now the most impoverished major city in the United States. Other manufacturing cities, such as Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, have also been hit hard by the economic crisis.

It may feel comforting to live in Seattle, where this kind of large-scale poverty is not as apparent. But the delegation of 51 Seattle-area activists at the forum said that what is happening in Detroit can truly happen anywhere.

While not impacted as severely as other states when the foreclosure crisis began three years ago, Washington is now seeing a sharp rise in foreclosures.

The final day of the social forum featured the National Peoples' Movement Assembly, a call to action for the thousands in attendance. Led by the Indigenous Sovereignty Group, all of the work during the week in Detroit was synthesized into concrete proposals for action.

Included in the call to action were days in October to mobilize around housing and tenant rights, as well as a poverty awareness day in the same month.

Seattle delegates who attended the forum are now discussing ways that the national calls to action can be organized locally. Stay tuned for more information.

Lynn Sereda is a Section 8 Voucher Holder who represented the Tenants Union at the United States Social Forum in Detroit.

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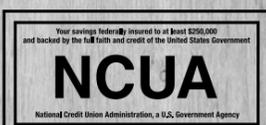
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The mission of the Seattle Housing Authority is to enhance the Seattle community by creating and sustaining decent, safe and affordable living environments that foster stability and self-sufficiency for people with low incomes.

What big teeth you have!

ICHS HOSTING HEALTH FAIRS

See Page 6



# SHA NEWS

August  
2010

News and information about Seattle's neighborhoods

## Seattle Mayor McGinn visits University House

LISA WOOD  
University House Resident

With Mike McGinn scheduled to visit, University House residents did better than a red carpet for the Seattle mayor and his staff. During a visit to University House on Saturday, July 10, McGinn was treated to an arts and crafts event, featuring original works by the building's diverse group of artists.

University House was one stop on the mayor's recent walking tour of the University District, which was coordinated by Karen Ko of the Seattle Department of Neighborhoods.

McGinn was greeted twice as he arrived at University House — once on the building's front steps, and again by a larger group inside. He shook a few hands and said a few hellos, and then he stopped to answer questions.

The mayor was friendly and cordial during the brief visit, posing for photos with residents, pausing to admire some of the artwork, sharing in a few laughs.

He did take the time to answer questions about homelessness in Seattle. Offering insight into what he saw as a possible solution to the ongoing crisis, McGinn said he wanted "to create more temporary shelters and more low-cost affordable housing, which is supported by the Housing Levy."

Artwork on display was representative of University House's diverse community, with pieces by artists from places as far-ranging as Russia, China, Ethiopia and the United States.

Beyene Ayenew brought some of his art for the event. He told McGinn that during the mayoral campaign, he had prayed for him. So Ayenew was thrilled to have his picture taken with Seattle's mayor.

Ayenew, who is from Ethiopia, is a junior at the University of Washington, where he is majoring in architecture studies. He is also a phenomenal artist.

He showed many different works, and the one that was most talked about is the piece entitled "Hard Time Voice." Ayenew had watched a video, and then proceeded



PHOTO BY LISA WOOD

Seattle Mayor Mike McGinn (left) visits with University House residents Louisa Wuethrich (center) and Barbara Weismann during a recent tour of the University District that included the Seattle Housing Authority building.

to paint what he saw in the video.

"Hard Time Voice is me painting this man grieving for his country, which I saw in the video — much crying," he said.

He displayed several other pieces, each stirring up thoughts and feelings of home.

After spending a few moments looking at the pieces on display, McGinn was whisked off to the University District Farmers Market by his schedule-minded staff.

The arts and crafts event continued on, with residents waiting to sell their wares. The event ran until 4 p.m. Some of the residents reporting making a few sales, and others made connections for future sales.

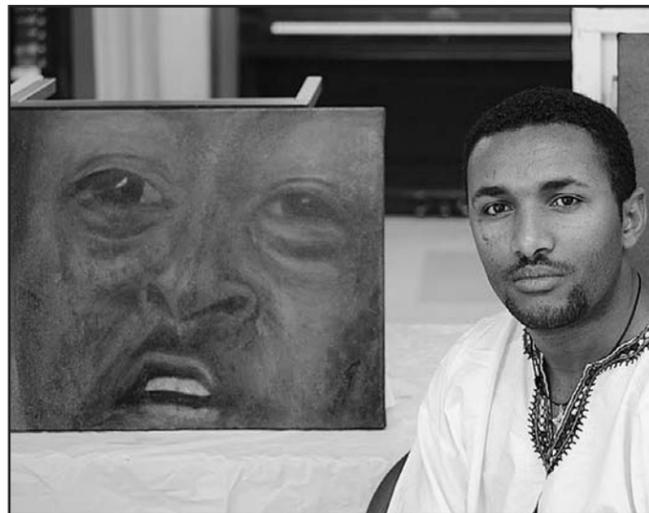


PHOTO BY LISA WOOD

Beyene Ayenew poses with his painting, "Hard Time Voice."

More than that, the event was a tremendous opportunity for University House residents to get to meet their mayor — to become familiar with the person who is representing their voice.

## 2011 Budget and Plan available for comments in September

BY SEATTLE HOUSING AUTHORITY STAFF

Next month, residents and community members will have an opportunity to comment on Seattle Housing Authority's 2011 Budget and "Moving To new Ways" Annual Plan. The housing authority develops a budget and plan each year that outline the agency's priorities and resources for the upcoming year.

The plan and budget will be presented at a public hearing at 3:30 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 20 at the Best Western Executive Inn, at 200 Taylor Avenue North. Residents are encouraged to attend and share their thoughts. This location is a block northwest of the housing authority's Central Office. The meeting is being held at this alternate location because the elevator at the Central Office will be undergoing repairs at this time.

The 2011 budget summary and plan will be available for comment throughout the month of September. Around Sept. 1, these documents will be posted to the agency website at [www.seattlehousing.org](http://www.seattlehousing.org). Printed copies may be obtained by calling 206-615-3546.

The public hearing on Sept. 20 is one of several opportunities to provide comments about the plan and budget. Comments will also be accepted by phone, e-mail or U.S. mail. In addition, staff will meet with representatives from public housing and Seattle Senior Housing Program communities through the respective Joint Policy Advisory Committee (JPAC) meetings.

For more information about the JPAC, contact John Forsyth at [jforsyth@seattlehousing.org](mailto:jforsyth@seattlehousing.org) or 206-615-3579. (Please note: There will also be a public hearing on the Seattle Housing Authority's new Five-Year Strategic Plan. It will be held on Sept. 7. Please see the related article on Page 2 for details.)

Please see "Budget" on Page 7

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## Morrison tapped for Seattle Housing Authority board

### City council to vote on nomination this month

BY VOICE STAFF

Seattle Mayor Mike McGinn has selected Doug Morrison to fill the vacant resident commissioner position on Seattle Housing Authority's Board.

Morrison, a resident of Ballard House, is president of the Resident Action Coun-

cil and chair of the Joint Policy Advisory Committee.

The appointment is to be reviewed by the City Council's Housing, Human Services, Health and Culture Committee and sent to the full council for confirmation.

Morrison's name was listed on the agenda of the Housing, Human Services, Health and Culture Committee's July 28 meeting, which occurred after press time.

If approved by the council, Morrison will

fill the seat held by outgoing resident commissioner Sybil Bailey, whose term expired earlier this year.

Morrison would serve a four-year term ending Oct. 1, 2014.

In a memo to Richard Conlin, president of the Seattle City Council, McGinn wrote "I am confident that Mr. Morrison will be a valued member of the Seattle Housing Authority Board of Commissioners."

## Five Seattle Housing Authority communities to receive free WiFi for two years

BY LAURA GENTRY  
Seattle Housing Authority

The Seattle Housing Authority is partnering with the nonprofit One Economy Corporation to provide free access to wireless Internet for two years to some of its communities. Thanks to \$28.5 million awarded by federal stimulus dollars to One Economy and \$23 million in matching partnership funds, the nonprofit is able to further their mission of improving the lives of low-income people through the power of technology.

The global nonprofit, along with the Broadband Opportunity Coalition (BBOC), seeks to provide Internet access to underserved communities as a way of propelling those communities into the economic mainstream.

Seattle Housing Authority communities to be served in this project include Denny Terrace, Yesler Terrace, Rainier Vista, High Point and NewHolly.

"The first two years of service will be free to renters in those properties," said John Forsyth, Community Services Administrator. "After the first two years, families will

have the option to pay \$10 per month to continue the service."

The network provided will be a wireless, shared network designed for delivering download speeds up to 1Mbps. Technical assistance for network-related issues will be made available via a toll-free phone number. Local assistance may also be available as part-time Community Technology Assistant positions are budgeted to come on board for participating residences.

Residents of participating communities can expect to receive a short survey in the mail that will help Seattle Housing Authority and One Economy determine the current technology needs of the communities.

One Economy takes several measures to ensure the safety of their networks but encourages every user to protect their personal computers with anti-virus, spyware and safety software, each of which can be downloaded for free. To date, One Economy has brought affordable broadband to more than 375,000 Americans. For more information about One Economy, visit [www.one-economy.com](http://www.one-economy.com).

More details on this project will be shared with residents as they become available.

## Strategic plan draft available for review and comment

BY SEATTLE HOUSING AUTHORITY STAFF

The Seattle Housing Authority has published a draft strategic plan for 2011 - 2015. The plan is available on the homepage of the agency website ([www.seattlehousing.org](http://www.seattlehousing.org)), and public comment is invited.

A public meeting on the plan will be held on Tuesday evening, Sept. 7 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Center Park Community Room. At that time, members of the public may offer comments and suggestions on the draft. The Seattle Housing Authority Board of Commissioners will consider the plan at its regular meeting on Sept. 20.

The new plan is entitled "Bold Plans in the Face of Uncertainty." According to Executive Director Tom Tierney, the plan re-affirms the agency's core commitments. It also calls for some new areas of focus, with an emphasis on expanding access to education and economic opportunity.

"When we talk about core commitments, we want to emphasize our main business of managing, maintaining and improving our housing stock," noted Tierney. "We also intend to complete the redevelopment of NewHolly, Rainier Vista and High Point so that both the rental and for-sale housing is done, along with the mixed-use developments. We have also made great progress

in planning for the redevelopment of Yesler Terrace, and this plan will help us transform those plans into reality."

Areas of new focus in the plan include taking action to address the rising demand for senior housing.

"We also want to take actions so that low-income residents throughout Seattle can achieve greater financial stability and independence," Tierney said.

Another area of new focus is expanding options for low-income residents who use Housing Choice Vouchers. Through new programs and services, the housing authority wants to ensure that these residents are able to live in the neighborhoods that best meet their needs.

The new plan also seeks to support members of the newly developed HOPE VI communities of Rainier Vista, NewHolly and High Point as they work to help these new communities develop into true neighborhoods.

The planning effort is led by Virginia Felton, who also directs communication efforts for the Seattle Housing Authority. The new plan has been developed over the past year with input from staff, residents and community members. Printed copies of the draft may be obtained by calling Michele Mosher at 206-615-3522.

10-hour metered slot.

To pay for parking, locate one of the City of Seattle meter boxes. Each meter box will have a sign designating it as either a two-hour or 10-hour zone box. The parking rate at the two-hour meters is \$2/hour; at the 10-hour meters it is \$1.75/hour, with a two-hour minimum.

You will need either coins or a debit or credit card for payment at the meter boxes. The meter box will issue a sticker with in-

Please see "Parking" on Page 5

## "Limited English" program wins Award of Merit

BY SEATTLE HOUSING AUTHORITY STAFF

The Seattle Housing Authority was honored on April 23 with an Award of Merit by the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO). The award honors the housing authority for its work in developing a program to improve the delivery of information and services to residents, applicants and members of the public whose proficiency in English is limited.

NAHRO's award program is designed to recognize innovation among housing and community development officials.

Seattle Housing Authority's award recognized local efforts to define a comprehensive policy around translation and interpretation, develop ways to inform community members about the availability of these services, and provide resources and training for staff members to improve their ability to provide services to people who do not read or speak English

proficiently. So far, more than 200 housing authority staff members have been trained. New materials included a poster in all offices informing people in multiple languages of interpretation available.

Printed materials were developed to describe how to use The Language Line (the primary online interpretation resource) and how best to communicate with people who speak little or no English. These materials were also prepared in a compact pocket-sized format so that field employees can keep them handy. A special cover sheet in 17 languages is included with important documents so that people whose primary language is not English are informed of translation and interpretation guidelines.

"It has been very rewarding to help our employees gain both confidence and know-how to help clients more effectively," said Seattle Housing Authority's Director of Communications Virginia Felton. "It is still a significant challenge, but now we have a few good tools in place."

## Tips on keeping your home secure when crime is on the rise

LAURA GENTRY  
Seattle Housing Authority

Seattle Police are reminding residents that it is common to see a rise in break-ins during warm summer months. Better weather means more open doors and windows as well as more time away on vacation. They offer several tips to help keep your home safe.

Follow these steps to help ensure your home is secure this summer:

- Record serial numbers and dollar values of high value items like laptop computers.
- Keep your doors and windows locked and shut, even when you are home but especially when you are away. If windows must be opened, find a way to pin the windows open no more than four-inches.
- Leave blinds down in the rooms that have your electronics or in your home office, which might house your safe, mail, banking statements, etc.
- Keep your shrubbery trimmed to allow neighbors natural surveillance.
- Inform a trusted neighbor about any vacation plans. Your neighbor can gather newspapers, mail, etc., for you during your absence. Have someone park their car in your driveway, use your garbage/recycling bins while you are gone or even mow your lawn.

Follow these steps to increase your

Please see "Crime" on Page 6

### Seattle Police unveil crime tracker, online reporting

The Seattle Police Department recently released two tools designed to aid community members in tracking and reporting crimes.

The department's new online crime map gives users access to a detailed map of reported crimes, organized by incident type. To review the map, go to <http://web5.seattle.gov/mnm/policereports.aspx>. If your web browser runs a no-script or other script-blocking program, you will need to enable scripts on the page.

The department also announced a new online police reporting option for some property crimes.

The Community Online Reporting Program is available to the public to report property destruction, car prowls, auto accessories, theft of property under \$500 and identity theft crimes.

The service is available online at [www.seattle.gov/police](http://www.seattle.gov/police). Click the "File a Report" link.

The Community Online Reporting Program is for low-level property crimes only and is not a substitute for 911 or the non-emergency line. To report more serious crimes, if the crime is in progress or you believe the suspect is still in the area, dial 911.

### About The Voice

The Voice is a monthly newspaper published by Neighborhood House with financial support from Seattle Housing Authority and King County Housing Authority.

The Voice is developed and edited by Neighborhood House with help from SHA residents and staff. It strives to provide a forum for objective news and information of interest to low-income people and those living in SHA communities.

The Voice welcomes articles, letters to the editor and columns from readers. If you'd like to submit an article, or if you have a question about anything you've read in this publication, feel free to contact Editor Tyler Roush at (206) 461-8430, ext. 227 or by e-mail at [tylerr@nhwa.org](mailto:tylerr@nhwa.org).

If you have questions about SHA-related stories, you may also contact SHA Communications Director Virginia Felton at 206-615-3506 or by e-mail at [vfelton@seattlehousing.org](mailto:vfelton@seattlehousing.org).

You can also mail submissions to: The Voice, Neighborhood House, 905 Spruce St. #200, Seattle, WA 98104. Please include your name and contact information on your submission.

All submissions are subject to editing for accuracy, style and length.

## Visitors to Central Office have street parking options

MICHELE MOSHER  
Seattle Housing Authority

Now that construction around the Seattle Housing Authority Central Office at 120 Sixth Ave. N. is complete, the parking options for visitors have stabilized.

There is metered street parking available around the building and a few surface parking lots within walking distance. Payment is required for street parking between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m., Monday through Saturday. Visitors can park in either a two-hour or a

# POINT OF VIEW

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

## Planning for the green renewal of Denny Terrace

BY SVEN KOEHLER  
Seattle Housing Authority

Fall and winter are not usually considered the greenest times of the year. But this summer, residents at Denny Terrace are gearing up for “green” to last all year. Only this green refers to the environmentally-friendly updates that will be part of homeWorks construction at the building starting this fall.

Residents got a view of the planned renovations at the building on July 7 during a community meeting that featured a slide show depicting two color schemes under consideration for the new exterior. They also saw photos showing how a layer of new insulating foam will be installed on the leak-prone brick exterior of the building.

The insulation will be covered with a colored stucco-like product that will allow for an entirely new look for the building. This same method has been done in another Seattle Housing Authority high-rise, Cal-Mor Circle in West Seattle, as part of a homeWorks renovation in 2008.

Many people were impressed by the big change to the building shown in the color architectural renderings. Denny Terrace has a massive 300-foot long façade that presides imposingly over South Lake Union, right where Denny Way crosses Interstate 5. The architectural firm DKA designed the new exterior to break up the monotony of this long block into smaller sections that will help the building fit into the neighborhood, explained architect Chet Wing.

But the improvements are more than skin deep. Since the insulation will help lower heating costs, the project received millions in funding through a federal green building grant that is part of the federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (otherwise known as the “economic stimulus package”). New, better-insulated windows will also contribute to the energy-

savings.

But, as residents joked at the meeting, while Denny will be a “green building,” the color palette of the new exterior does not include the color green.

Resident Jeffery Kipp understood how better insulation in the walls and windows might lower his heating bills in the winter, but he called the homeWorks information line after the meeting with a question about what good the renovation would do to help keep his apartment from overheating in the summer.

The answer is that insulation works two ways: it keeps warmth from leaving the interior when it is cold outside, but it also slows the building from heating up during the summer. Whether it’s warm or cool inside, better insulation will help maintain that temperature inside the building.

While many residents look forward to the changes that construction will bring, they are preparing to cope with the inevitable impacts that accompany construction. More than a dozen residents of Denny Terrace have come together in a Resident Advisory Group to address resident concerns during construction.

“Many of us have lived here for decades, and we’ve been through construction before. We’re the experts on issues that affect residents,” explained Sybil Bailey, who is active in the group.

One negative impact that members of the group are working on is that the scaffolding required to install the new exterior may temporarily cover up some of the gardens in the patio areas outside the building’s community room. These small plots are tended by residents and enliven the front of the building.

Resident David Norris advocated strongly for the respectful treatment of these gardens during construction. He provided the Hous-

**Please see “Denny Terrace” on Page 4**

## Restoring Reunion House



PHOTO BY SVEN KOEHLER

This July, workers began removing the mesh curtain that provided weather protection during the installation of new siding at Reunion House. As a former director and actor, resident Rosanne (Roz) Kuring enjoyed the drama as the new exterior colors of the building were revealed.

### Correction

An article on Page 3 of the July 2010 issue of *The Voice* erroneously reported that major funding for Reunion and Willis House renovations was provided by the National Housing Trust. Funding for the renovations was provided by the Washington State Housing Trust Fund.

## Reader's viewpoint

Readers of *The Voice* share their ideas

### The need for a Respite Advisory Committee

BY DENNIS BEJIN  
Jefferson Terrace Resident

My name is Dennis Bejin and I’m a resident of Jefferson Terrace. Further, I help facilitate the Jefferson Terrace Safety Club. In this column, I will respond to the formation of a “Respite Program Advisory Group,” which I have been told by Seattle Housing Authority is essentially the same as, and will replace, the “Respite Program Good Neighbor Forum,” which is defined in the current draft lease.

The current Respite Program Advisory Group that Seattle Housing Authority is proposing is a forum where residents as a “Group” will be able to express their concerns regarding the Respite Care Unit. In contrast, a Respite Advisory Committee would consist of “representatives” elected from among Jefferson Terrace residents, as

well as representatives from Seattle Housing Authority, Public Health – Seattle and King County and other stakeholders.

I believe that the residents will be undermined without elected representatives. I am worried that Seattle Housing Authority will “listen” to the residents and pick from the views expressed, take the ones they like and call it an “open process.” In other words, without elected representatives I fear that there will be no way to take a meaningful vote on topics that may arise. Granted, this is an advisory committee. It will only be advising. But, without elected representatives from the resident population, there will be opportunity to interpret “the residents’ position” any number of ways. This will undermine what limited authority the residents have under this arrangement and

**Please see “Viewpoint” on Page 7**

## Work on Respite Care at Jefferson Terrace continues

BY SVEN KOEHLER  
Seattle Housing Authority

A year since the federal government awarded a grant to offer medical respite services at Jefferson Terrace, negotiations that will determine the start date of the project continue. The Seattle Housing Authority and Public Health – Seattle and King County are still working to finalize the terms of the Respite Care Plus program’s lease for the seventh floor of the Jefferson Terrace, and residents of the building continue to provide input into the process.

The respite program will provide a temporary place for homeless people to stay if they lack a safe place to get well after being discharged from the hospital. Clients will be offered medical assistance with their recovery plus access to counseling services to help them out of homelessness. To be sure they are appropriate for the program, the clients would be carefully screened prior

to admission according to rules that have been incorporated into the lease after considerable input by stakeholders and Seattle Housing Authority staff members.

While one goal of the program is to help find long-term, stable housing for the homeless, the clients of the respite program will not become permanent tenants of Jefferson Terrace. They will be at the building for a matter of weeks, rather than long-term.

The apartments will be converted to serve as temporary housing for one or two clients per room, with 24/7 oversight by staff. Security features will be part of the design. Visitors will be limited to daytime hours only.

Also, the clients may only enter the building from street level via a separate elevator that stops only on the respite floor. The rest of the building will be off-limits

**Please see “Respite” on Page 4**

# HIGH POINT HERALD

NEWS ABOUT THE HIGH POINT COMMUNITY

## High Point Center calendar of events

### High Point Family Center

The High Point Family Center is located in the Neighborhood House High Point Center, located at 6400 Sylvan Way SW in the High Point neighborhood.

### Advocacy and Assistance

Mondays 2 - 4 p.m.  
Tuesdays 10 a.m. - noon and 1 - 2 p.m.  
Wednesdays 10am - 11 a.m. and 2 - 4 p.m.  
Vietnamese: Monday and Thursday, 8:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.  
East African: Tuesday through Thursday 1 - 5 p.m.  
Feel Free to come in and use our Sewing Machines, Build Basic Computer Skills, Review and Prepare for GED. Other? Just Ask!

### Calendar of events

- Neighborhood Night  
7 - 9 p.m. Friday, August 6  
Meet neighbors and friends  
Enjoy entertainment and family activities
- Annual picnic at Camp Long  
10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Wednesday, August 11  
Space is limited! Please register with High Point Family Center or Be Active Together programs at 206-588-4900, Ext. 606 or Ext. 609.
- Story Telling for All  
10 - 11:30 a.m. Saturday, August 14  
Community Voices (10 - 10:30 a.m.)  
Join Family Center families and explore culture through handmade puppets and clothing  
Words and Pictures (10:30 - 11:30 a.m.)  
Enjoy free storytelling and celebrations
- High Point Homeowners Association Meeting

7 p.m. Monday, August 16

- Back to School Resource Fair and Workshop  
11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, August 18  
Success at School Conversation (11 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.)  
Attendance required for free raffle for backpack and supplies  
Resources for Everyone (12:15 - 1:30 p.m.)  
Assorted back-to-school supplies for first 75 adults with child  
Please register with Dena Nelson at 588-4900, Ext. 606.

- Vietnamese and Cambodian Community Tea and Social Time  
10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Friday, August 20  
Lunch, tea, music and friends  
All are invited!

- Health Summit  
5 - 8 p.m. Friday, August 20  
Free health and wellness services for all  
Don't miss this new and free opportunity for health checks and tips!

- East African Women's Forum  
6 - 7:30 p.m. Thursday, August 26  
Join us for time to share ideas, support families and friends in High Point and trade and learn new tips and ideas.

- Wednesday Farm Stand  
4 - 7 p.m. Wednesdays through Sept. 30  
High Point Juneau Market at S.W. Juneau and 32nd Avenue S.W.  
Come purchase fresh produce from gardeners who are your neighbors. If we do not have enough of what you want, you can watch us harvest more.

## Come to an event at the High Point Library

There are plenty of activities at the High Point Library, for all ages.

### Pizza and Pages

2 - 3:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 4  
Come and share your favorite reads of the summer, work on some projects and share some pizza with other teens.

### Toddler Story Time

11:30 a.m. - noon Aug. 5 and 12  
It is Toddler Story Time at the High Point Branch! Bring your toddlers to enjoy stories, rhymes, songs and fun with our children's librarian.

### Twinkle, Twinkle: The ABCs of Jazz and Blues

2 - 3 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 11  
Explore a well-loved children's song through myriad styles and genres, including slow blues, boogie-woogie, swing, reggae, salsa, rock-and-roll, and a psychedelic Jimi Hendrix style with local musician Michael Powers. For all ages.

### High Point Library

3411 S.W. Raymond St.  
206-684-7454

### Hours

1 - 8 p.m. Monday and Tuesday  
11 a.m. - 6 p.m. Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday  
Closed Friday and Sunday

### Book Group

6:30 - 7:45 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 17  
Join us for a book group at the High Point Branch. Everyone is welcome. This month's title is "On American Soil: How Justice Became a Casualty of WWII" by Jack Hamann.

### Library closure notice

Libraries citywide will be closed the week of Monday, Aug. 30 to Sunday, Sept. 5 due to city budget cuts. The closure will continue Monday, Sept. 6 in observance of Labor Day. All city libraries will resume regular hours beginning Tuesday, Sept. 7.

## Councilmember Drago visits High Point Center



PHOTO BY TYLER ROUSH

King County Councilmember Jan Drago (right) with Neighborhood House Executive Director Mark Okazaki (left) and Director of Strategic Initiatives Ray Li (center), toured the Neighborhood House High Point Center July 21.

## Denny Terrace Continued from Page 3

ing Authority's construction team with a diagram of the gardens' location around the building and identified the residents who tend them to ensure that the project planning takes them into account.

The construction team recently celebrated the milestone of finishing the drawings for the construction permits. If all goes as planned, the contractor is slated to begin work at the building shortly after Labor Day.

This means residents can expect the construction kick-off in early September, although work will not begin in residents' apartment until later in the autumn. At

## Respite Continued from Page 3

to respite clients.

These are some of the conditions that were important to several of Jefferson Terrace's Low Income Public Housing residents, and were included in Seattle Housing Authority's discussions with Public Health. The housing authority solicited comments about the proposal during the drafting of the lease, and made several changes along the way based on resident input.

### Formation of a Respite Program Advisory Group

A more extensive list of ground rules designed to protect the interests of permanent residents are included in the lease. Perhaps the issue that has been the subject of the most commentary has been the formation of an entity called the Respite Program Advisory Group.

Membership in the advisory group will be open to all residents of Jefferson Terrace. The Respite Program Advisory Group shall also include the property management staff of Jefferson Terrace, representatives of Public Health that oversee the respite program, and eventually the staff who will actually run the respite floor.

The purpose of the group is to identify and review issues that need to be resolved to promote harmony between the respite program and the other occupants of the building. Currently, Jefferson Terrace is

the July 7 meeting, residents learned that the work will be divided it sections, most likely starting just north of the entrance on the west side. Also, it is very likely that residents will be asked to be out of their apartments for several days during construction.

Resident Valerie D. Williams was anxious to learn exactly when work will start in her apartment.

"I hear we will be staying in a hotel for a couple of nights. I'm ready to pack now!" she said.

During visits to each apartment by the construction management team in late June, details about the work in each apartment were promised to residents well in advance of the construction.

home to over 250 public housing residents, plus a social service agency called Elderhealth that rents the sixth floor of the building. While the respite program lease sets forth a framework for the creation of the advisory group, it will be up to the members to define the scope of the issues they will address.

Residents were to be given the opportunity to learn more about this group at a July 29 meeting at Jefferson Terrace, which occurred after The Voice's deadline. The Respite Program Advisory Group is a formal body that evolved out of a prior commitment in an early draft of the lease to create an ongoing forum for communication of concerns regarding the respite program.

A consistent theme from input by Jefferson Terrace residents is accountability of all players in the operation of the program to ensure smooth and trouble-free operations. The first job of the Respite Program Advisory Group may be to explore tools or further agreements to ensure this outcome. An additional responsibility of the group will be to provide resident input during the creation of a Safety and Emergency Preparedness Plan for the Respite program before the program opens in mid-2011.

Meanwhile, architectural planning to convert the apartments to respite units is poised to begin. It will be several months before this planning is complete, and before construction can begin.

# RAINIER VISTA NEWS

NEWS ABOUT THE RAINIER VISTA COMMUNITY

## Rainier Vista to benefit from KaBOOM! playground

BY SEATTLE HOUSING AUTHORITY STAFF

More than 200 volunteers from The Home Depot, the Seattle Housing Authority, the Boys & Girls Clubs of King County and organizers from the nonprofit organization KaBOOM! will join together to build a state-of-the-art, 2,500-square-foot playground at Rainier Vista on August 12. The playground will provide a safe, fun environment for the children in the community.

The playground is funded through a \$65,000 grant from The Home Depot Foundation along with a \$7,500 contribution from the Seattle Housing Authority and the Boys & Girls Clubs of King County. As a founding partner of KaBOOM!, The Home Depot provides financial support, materials and numerous volunteers for playground

projects across North America as part of its ongoing commitment to give back to the communities served by its stores.

As official Sustainability Partners, The Home Depot and KaBOOM! work to make sure each playground project is as environmentally friendly as possible as well as educating children and communities about this important issue. For this project, all materials will be recycled and any unused materials remaining after the completion of the build will be donated to other organizations.

The new playground will provide some 250 school-aged children who live in the Rainier Vista community with a creative and attractive place near the large playfield adjacent to the Boys & Girls Club. As children play together, their parents get to know

each other, too, and a great neighborhood takes shape.

Seattle Housing Authority is proud to be a co-sponsor of this exciting event. It's a great way to bring people together and create a lasting neighborhood asset.

The new playground will be located between the Boys & Girls Club and the new Tamarack Place apartment building, near 4520 Martin Luther King Jr. Way South. Work will begin at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, August 12, and will conclude by 3 p.m. If you are interested in volunteering, please call Amy Bresslour at 206-436-1821 or e-mail her at [abresslour@positiveplace.org](mailto:abresslour@positiveplace.org).

### About The Home Depot Foundation

Created in 2002, The Home Depot Foundation supports nonprofit organiza-

tions dedicated to creating and preserving healthy, affordable homes as the cornerstone of sustainable communities.

The Foundation's goal is for all families to have the opportunity to live in healthy, efficient homes they can afford over the long-term; to have access to safe, vibrant parks and green spaces; and to receive the economic, social and environmental benefits of living in a sustainable community.

Since its formation, The Home Depot Foundation has granted \$190 million to nonprofit organizations and supported the development of more than 95,000 homes, planted more than 1.2 million trees, and built or refurbished more than 1,875 playgrounds, parks and green spaces.

For more information, visit [www.homedepotfoundation.org](http://www.homedepotfoundation.org) and follow us on Twitter @homedepotfdn.

## The Job Connection



Presents



## The Rainier Vista Community JOB FAIR Monday, August 9, 2010

Come to the Rainier Vista Community Job Fair to meet with employers and learn about jobs available to YOU.

TIME: 1:30 – 4:30pm

PLACE: Rainier Vista Neighborhood House Community Center  
4410-29<sup>th</sup> Ave. S. Seattle, WA 98108



For Additional information contact: Samuel Pierce/SHA Job Connection  
4410-29<sup>th</sup> Ave. S. #2 Seattle, WA 98108  
(206) 722-4010, Ext. 3, [spierce@seattlehousing.org](mailto:spierce@seattlehousing.org)

Resume Critique!  
Bring Your Resume!

### About KaBOOM!

Headquartered in Washington, D.C., KaBOOM! is a national nonprofit organization dedicated to saving play. Through community building, the organization is focused on giving every child in America a great place to play within walking distance.

Since 1996, KaBOOM! has used its innovative community-build model to bring together business and community interests to construct more than 1,800 new playgrounds, skate parks, sports fields and ice rinks across North America.

KaBOOM! also offers a variety of resources, including an online community, free online trainings, grants, publications and the KaBOOM! National Campaign for Play, which includes Playful City USA and Playmakers – a national network of individual advocates for play. KaBOOM! also has offices in Chicago and San Mateo, Calif.

For more information, visit [www.kaboom.org](http://www.kaboom.org).

### Parking

Continued from Page 2

structions on where to place the sticker on the car window.

Street parking spaces directly across from 120 Sixth Avenue N. are two-hour spaces. Alongside the building on John Street and north on Sixth Avenue there are 10-hour spaces. The parking spaces directly in front of the entrance are reserved for disabled parking.

A surface parking lot is located at the corner of Sixth Avenue North and Denny. Rates at this Republic parking include \$3 for two hours or \$5 for four hours. The Seattle Housing Authority office is across the street from the parking lot on Sixth Avenue next to the Hyatt Place Hotel.

"Visitors are pretty much accepting of the parking and I haven't heard any complaints," said Central Office Receptionist Anne Shepherd

Another option for Central Office visitors is to ride a King County Metro bus. There are bus routes within a few blocks from the Central Office. Bus rider information can be found at <http://metro.kingcounty.gov/>.

Visitors participating in Seattle Housing Authority-sponsored activities may check in advance with the staff member they are visiting to determine if they may be eligible for reimbursement of parking expense.

# NEWHOLLY NOTES

NEWS ABOUT THE NEWHOLLY COMMUNITY

## ICHS hosts back-to-school health fairs at International District, Holly Park clinics

By ICHS

Though it seems that summer has just begun, International Community Health Services (ICHS) is already looking ahead to the fall, when most kids will be going back to school. With this in mind, ICHS is hosting back-to-school fairs at both of its clinics. These fun and festive events will give families a chance to check out the clinics and to learn all about what their children need to prepare for the upcoming school year.

The fairs will be at the International District Medical and Dental Clinic on Sunday, August 8 and at the Holly Park Medical and Dental Clinic on Sunday, August 15. Both events run from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The International District clinic is located at 720 Eighth Ave. S. and is served by bus lines #1, #7, #14 and #36. Street parking is available.

The Holly Park clinic is located at 3815 S. Othello St. and is served by bus lines #8 and #36 and by light rail. Street parking is available.

This year's back-to-school fairs will feature free health information and dental screenings for kids, as well as fun activities for the whole family. Attendees will also get a chance to win a backpack, booster seat and other fun prizes.

ICHS' back-to-school fairs are a part of the country-wide National Health Center Week celebration. Across the country, community health centers will host a variety of events to highlight the role they play in keeping their communities healthy.



PHOTO COURTESY INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES

Dental Assistant Manager Kathy Lin of International Community Health Services (ICHS) demonstrates proper brushing technique to a young attendee of the 2009 ICHS Back-to-School Fair.

## Come to an event at the NewHolly Library

There are plenty of activities at the NewHolly Library, for all ages.

### Opening Eyes at the NewHolly Branch

6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 3

Join Adefua Music and Dance Co. for a hands-on program linked to the African music and dance element of "call and response." Explore the polyrhythmic beats of African culture that transcend all races, ages and musical abilities. For ages 4 and up.

### Family Story

11 a.m. Aug. 5, 12 and 26

It is story time at the NewHolly Branch! Bring your preschoolers and toddlers to enjoy stories, rhymes, songs and fun with our children's librarian.

### NewHolly Library

7058 32nd Ave. S.  
206-386-1905

### Hours

1 - 8 p.m. Monday and Tuesday  
11 a.m. - 6 p.m. Wednesday, Thursday  
and Saturday  
Closed Friday and Sunday

### Library closure notice

Libraries citywide will be closed the week of Monday, Aug. 30 to Sunday, Sept. 5 due to city budget cuts. The closure will continue Monday, Sept. 6 in observance of Labor Day. All city libraries will resume regular hours beginning Tuesday, Sept. 7.



Visit the NewHolly Community website at  
<http://www.newholly.org/>

You'll find a Directory of Services, announcements of neighborhood events and community projects, a link to The Voice resident newspaper and much more.

## Crime

Continued from Page 2

neighborhood's safety all year long:

- Report crime — Don't assume that your neighbors have already reported the crime or that police already know what is going on.

- Get to know the Community Police Team (CPT) that supports your neighborhood — These officers work directly with community members to ensure that persistent problems are addressed. See [www.seattle.gov/police/precincts/](http://www.seattle.gov/police/precincts/) to find out who is on your neighborhood's CPT.

- Don't be part of the problem — When you live in a residential neighborhood, your actions are felt by others. By not speeding, maintaining your house and property, and being thoughtful about noise levels, you will set a standard of behavior for others in your neighborhood to follow.

- Be a good neighbor — Meet your neighbors, keep a watchful eye on the neighborhood and report suspicious activities.

- Start a block watch — An active Block Watch may be the most important tool you have to reclaim your neighborhood or to stop problems before they get too serious. To get involved in an existing Block Watch or start one of your own, visit [www.seattle.gov/police/programs/Blockwatch](http://www.seattle.gov/police/programs/Blockwatch).

- Keep a log — If your neighborhood is experiencing chronic problems, keep records of where, when and what kind of activity occurred. This log will help later, especially if there is a criminal prosecution or police need to establish a pattern of behavior.

There are many more tips available on how you can protect your home and your neighborhood this summer and beyond at: [www.seattle.gov/police/prevention/Neighborhood](http://www.seattle.gov/police/prevention/Neighborhood).



Neighborhood House  
Strong Families. Strong Communities. Since 1906.

**Family Fun Fest 2010!**  
**Saturday August 7<sup>th</sup> 11-3**  
**Campus Plaza**  
**BBQ- GAMES - FUN**



**Neighborhood Cricket Match**  
**Sunday August 8<sup>th</sup>, 4-7pm**  
**Phase 3 Central Park**  
**Come have fun - everyone invited.**

For more information or to volunteer, contact Joy Bryngelson at 723-1725 or [jbryngelson@seattlehousing.org](mailto:jbryngelson@seattlehousing.org).

# YESLER HAPPENINGS

NEWS ABOUT THE YESLER TERRACE COMMUNITY

## Yesler residents voice concerns about neighborhood safety

By TYLER ROUSH  
The Voice editor

Residents of Yesler Terrace gathered at the neighborhood's community council meeting July 20 for a conversation with a special guest.

Seattle City Councilmember Sally Bagshaw attended the Yesler Terrace Community Council meeting to hear what residents had to say about safety in their community.

The Yesler Community Center was on the agenda, but residents opened the meeting up to discuss general safety concerns in the neighborhood. Central Recreation Manager Robert Stowers and Yesler Community Center Coordinator Shari Watts were also in attendance.

With cuts being made to the budget, Bagshaw and parks staff wanted to hear feedback about the Yesler Community Center.

Kristin O'Donnell opened the dialogue by appealing for residents to discuss how to "make the Yesler Community Center work for families." She urged residents to describe "what is going on there that's good now, that we don't want to lose with the budget cuts, and what is going on there that makes us reluctant to send our kids there."

Fadumo Isaq said that parents are concerned about the behavior of some teens and children who loiter around the community center. In some instances, youth from fami-

lies who have been evicted from Yesler Terrace are returning to the community center to cause trouble.

"We know whose kids are doing good, whose kids are doing bad," Isaq said.

Community members suggested adopting an ID card system for youth who are enrolled in programs at the community center, and for community members.

"I think we can do it," Stowers said of the ID card system.

He also said the city's legal department is looking into having offenders trespass from the center.

But what about the play area outside the community center? Halima Jaarso said that juveniles are often seen loitering around the play equipment, smoking cigarettes or marijuana, littering and spitting on the ground. Community members agreed that it's the kind of place they'd choose to send their children to play.

The ultimate goal is safety in the community, Isaq said. However, she added that that's not reflected in the police presence in the neighborhood, which has seen drug-dealing and other criminal activity.

"Safety first," she said. "(We see) no police — daytime, nighttime, nothing."

She said that community members are sometimes intimidated to call 911.

A Seattle police officer, invited to the meeting by Bagshaw, explained to attendees



PHOTO BY TYLER ROUSH

Seattle City Councilmember Sally Bagshaw listens to a community member during the Yesler Terrace Community Council meeting July 20.

that a person may choose to remain anonymous when calling 911.

Bagshaw said she would take the feedback received at the meeting and do what she could to improve police presence in the neighborhood.

### No meeting in August

In observance of Ramadan, the Yesler Terrace Community Council will not meet in August.

## Scoping results available for review

By SEATTLE HOUSING AUTHORITY STAFF

The comments received by the Seattle Housing Authority as part of the "scoping" process for the Environmental Impact Statement are now available. The 28-page document records all of the comments that were submitted as part of the process and documents what specific action will be taken as a result of the comments.

The document is available by clicking the Yesler Terrace link on the homepage at [www.seattlehousing.org](http://www.seattlehousing.org). It is also available in printed format at the Yesler Terrace Management Office.

People living outside Yesler Terrace may request that a copy be mailed by calling 615-3556. Because this is a very long and technical document, it will not be translated into other languages. Interpretation help for understanding the document is available by contacting the management office.

The Environmental Impact Statement

is required by both the state and the federal government. The scoping process is the first step. It makes it possible for people interested in the project to suggest how broad the scope of study should be for assessing the environmental impact.

For example, one person submitting a comment asked, "Is there going to be a social integration study? When you mix retail people, higher-income people with low-income people who are used to an environment of only low-income people, what are the impacts going to be in the future?" The summary of comments notes that, "Social cohesion impacts will be addressed in Socioeconomics/Environmental Justice section."

In some cases, comments that people have made or questions that they have asked are outside of the legal scope of an EIS process. In those cases, the comments have also been listed with a note that they will not be addressed through this process, but may still be addressed as part of the development process in general.

2045 Westlake. The collection features 18 sculptures and 10 pen and ink drawings by the prolific Yesler Terrace artist.

The show will run through Sept. 30.

Gallery hours are 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday and noon - 5 p.m. Sunday. For more information call Art/Not Terminal Gallery at 206-233-0680, or visit [www.antgallery.org](http://www.antgallery.org).

### Charles Parrish's artwork to be displayed at local gallery

Yesler Terrace resident and artist Charles Parrish will have a collection of his work on display at Art/Not Terminal Gallery.

The "Charles Parrish Collection" opens with a special showing from 7 - 10 p.m. Sept. 4 from at the gallery, located at

## Viewpoint

Continued from Page 3

potentially undermine the effectiveness of the Advisory Group.

Seattle Housing Authority would continue to have the right as the landlord to manage the landlord-tenant relationship and to enforce the lease. Residents are not a party to the lease, and as such have no power to enforce anything. They can only advise. No one is contesting this, although residents will ask for a "Good Neighbor Agreement."

There are approximately 287 tenants in our building. Many of us are senior citizens, disabled, and/or lack proficiency in English. A Respite Advisory Committee is essential to our safety and well-being.

Following are some of the concerns I have about the current draft lease.

In Section 1.A. of current draft lease, "Day-to-day Communication with Lessor's Property Management Staff," the lease indicates that residents can bring their questions and complaints regarding the Respite Unit to the Jefferson Terrace Property Manager. However, the draft lease also states that, "depending on the issue, the Property Manager may initiate immediate follow-up with Respite staff, or hold for review during a regular time of communication with the Respite program."

This is NOT what residents asked for. We asked that all our written complaints be

sent immediately to the Respite staff, and that Respite staff respond within a specific time frame to those making the complaint. As it now stands, the Property Manager for Jefferson Terrace will have control over what information is conveyed to the Respite Staff on a day-to-day basis. This is not good enough. It gives the Property Manager too much discretion over the communication of valuable information.

Putting a Medical Respite Unit in a residential high-rise is an experimental enterprise, so what we're asking for is not a lot. While it will be a medical problem that will bring patients to the Respite Unit, the secondary problems of "substance abuse" and "severe mental health problems" will be common among the patients. This is a resident concern.

In the hope of heading off any potential conflict between patients on the Respite Unit and Jefferson Terrace tenants I believe the suggested Respite Advisory Committee would be a valuable asset.

I support the presence of the Respite Care Unit at Jefferson Terrace, but only if residents are given a meaningful voice on a Respite Advisory Committee. This is little to ask when the safety and security of Jefferson Terrace residents is at risk.

Meaningful representation means having democratically elected representatives on the Respite Advisory Committee or Respite Program Advisory Group.

## Budget

Continued from front page

In October, staff will inform the Board of Commissioners of the comments received and will take those comments into consideration. This may result in modifications to

the plan or budget. At the Board of Commissioners meeting at 5 p.m. on Oct. 18, staff will ask the Board to adopt the budget and plan for 2011. This meeting is open to all. Following Board-adoption, the plan will be submitted to HUD for approval.

