



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



The Voice

October
2011
*Articles translated
into six languages*

The newspaper of Neighborhood House

Council seats up for grabs in local elections

BY TYLER ROUSH
The Voice editor

Election Day is a little more than one month away, and in Seattle and King County, voters will be asked to weigh in on local races for Seattle City Council and King County Council. Seattle voters will also vote on a pair of local ordinances concerning funds for education services and for transportation improvements.

Five spots on the Seattle City Council are up for re-election this year, only two of which appeared on the August primary ballot.

In the race for City Council Position 1, incumbent Jean Godden will face challenger Bobby Forch. Godden and Forch emerged from a four-way primary race in August to advance to the general election.

Godden, a two-term incumbent on the City Council, is a former columnist for the Seattle Post-Intelligencer and The

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Enkutatash: Ethiopian New Year



PHOTO BY SINTAYEHU ESHETU

Dancers participate in the Enkutatash festivities at Genesee Park in Seattle on Saturday, Sept. 10. "Enkutatash" is the Amharic word for the Ethiopian New Year, which falls on Sept. 11. The new year celebration marked the coming of 2004 on the Ethiopian calendar, which is based on the Coptic calendar. The more widely used Western calendar is based on the Gregorian calendar.

Vote!

Statewide initiatives head up the 2011 general election

BY TYLER ROUSH
The Voice editor

Don't forget to vote!

This year's general election is Tuesday, Nov. 8. If you're registered to vote in Washington state, you should be receiving a ballot in the mail, along with a voter's guide, later this month.

It's an off-year for federal elections — for many, the greater intrigue lies ahead in 2012, an election year for U.S. President as well as for every member of the House of Representatives and one-third of the Senate. And while national news media is already focusing on the re-election campaign of President Barack Obama and the primary races of his Republican challengers, there are many important issues on this year's ballot.

A trio of statewide initiatives lead the way.

Initiative Measure 1125 concerns the way that tolls are collected and applied to transportation projects around the state. The initiative would require road and bridge tolls to be set by the state Legislature. Those tolls are currently set by the Washington State Transportation Commission. It would also limit the application of some tolls to construction and capital improvement uses only.

Critics say the initiative could cost the state billions in toll bond funding to pay for transportation projects, and will jeopardize mass transit projects such as the planned

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Daytripper: Historic, touristy Gig Harbor

BY KRISTIN O'DONNELL
Yesler Terrace resident

October does have days where the sun is shining. Go to Gig Harbor some nice day this month. It is a lovely little town.

Because the town was hard to get to before the Tacoma Narrows bridge was built, development came slowly, and much of the old town on the waterfront and the nearby houses are very old. The town is quite conscious of its historic prettiness — commercial buildings have been preserved or restored, and many of the houses near the bay have their original porches and woodwork, and are painted in colors that were used a hundred years ago.

Yard landscaping is nostalgic as well. Many of the homes have flags flying; some add red, white and blue bunting. Gig Harbor also has top-of-the-hill neighborhoods with



PHOTO BY KRISTIN O'DONNELL

The Gig Harbor waterfront offers picturesque views on a sunny fall day.

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Neighborhood House
Jesse Epstein Building
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Do you have questions about voting? We have answers. See Page 5.



Health Notes

A column devoted to your well-being

Set clear rules about alcohol as your teen heads back to school

BY SHARON FOSTER
AND MICHAEL LANGER
Special to The Voice

As your teen begins a new school year, they will be exposed to exciting new experiences and increased independence. The choices they make now — such as making new friends, trying out for the team, joining a club, or planning for life after high school — will have an impact on their future.

So will the decision whether or not to use alcohol. Before you say, “Kids will be kids,” or “I drank alcohol when I was young and I turned out okay,” we urge you to consider these facts about underage drinking:

- Each year, approximately 5,000 young people in the United States die as a result of underage drinking. Underage drinking puts young people at higher risk for violence, sexual assault, and school failure.
- In Washington State, about one in seven eighth graders has used alcohol in the past 30 days (2010 Healthy Youth Survey).
- Youth who begin drinking before age 15 are five times more likely to develop alcohol problems when they get older.
- Teen alcohol use can damage the areas of the brain that are responsible for learning, memory, decision-making and good judgment.

The good news is that youth tell us that parents are still the No. 1 influence on whether they choose to drink. Adults have the opportunity to help youth choose a safe and healthy path.

Clearly, progress has been made. For example, eighth grade use has been cut in half in the past decade. But there is still work to be done.

So what can you do as a parent or other caregiver?

- Start by talking to your children about alcohol use from the time they start elementary school through high school

and college. For tips on how to start the conversation, visit www.StartTalkingNow.org.

- When it comes to drinking alcohol, dispel the myth that “everyone is doing it.” While too many youth drink, the fact remains that most youth don’t. When teens know that most of their peers are making good decisions about not drinking alcohol, they are less likely to drink.

- Make your expectations and rules about alcohol use clear. Set clear consequences, and keep the lines of communication open if they want to talk.

- Build your child’s self-esteem by giving them words of encouragement each day. With greater self-esteem, your child will be better equipped to withstand peer pressure.

- Balance freedom with responsibility. Know your teen’s friends, monitor their activities, and be involved in their lives.

- Set a good example both by what you do and say. Alcohol use is often glamorized by the media, especially in advertisements.

The teen years go by fast, and you don’t want them to miss a moment. Help your child be safe, healthy and productive by talking to them early and often about alcohol use.

To learn more about underage drinking in Washington State, view statistics for King County and get involved in your community, visit www.StartTalkingNow.org.

Sharon Foster and Michael Langer are co-chairs of the Washington State Coalition to Reduce Underage Drinking, a coalition of state, local and nonprofit agencies dedicated to reducing underage drinking. Foster is the chair of the Washington State Liquor Control Board. Langer is a behavioral health administrator with the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services’ Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery.

Why you should vote in the Nov. 8 election

The League of Women Voters of Seattle – King County would like to encourage you to vote in the upcoming election. Our organization has been in existence for over 90 years with a mission to encourage informed and active participation in government. The first step in participating in government is to vote.

Why should you vote? Let me offer a few reasons.

1. Your vote really does count. Remember the last gubernatorial election in our state? The vote was so close that it proved how important every single ballot is.

2. Elections determine leadership; your vote influences who your representatives are and how your tax dollars will be spent.

3. Voting is power.

4. When you don’t vote, special interests take control.

5. Democracy only works when citizens vote.

The League can help you research ballot issues to decide how you should

Guest column

vote. We are a nonpartisan political organization; we do not endorse candidates or political parties. We do take positions on certain ballot measures only when we have conducted thorough studies on an issue and reached a consensus on a position.

Check out our website at www.seattlelwv.org. We post ballot measure summaries that describe the impact of a pro or con vote on those measures. You can also call our office at 206-329-4848 for copies of our brochure, “They Represent You,” which lists all your local, state and federal elected officials.

And please be sure to fill out your ballot and mail it in by Nov. 8.

Thank you!

Judy Bevington
President
League of Women Voters
of Seattle – King County

Explore, experience and enjoy Middle Eastern culture at Arab Festival

Seattle Center Festál: Arab Festival offers exploration and insights into the rich and complex cultures of 22 countries and two continents in the Arab world, Oct. 8 – 9, 11 a.m. – 7 p.m., in Fisher Pavilion and Seattle Center Pavilion.

The 2011 theme, Al Noor: Illuminating the Faces of Arab Culture, invites visitors to dance to Arab music, play backgammon, and engage in the culture through exhibits, films, children’s music, dance workshops

and panel discussions on Arab history and current affairs. Food vendors will offer Middle Eastern fare, including Moroccan and Algerian food and traditional favorites of falafel and shwarma sandwiches.

Seattle Center Festál: Arab Fest is presented by Seattle Center in partnership with the Arab Center of Washington. For a full event schedule, visit

www.arabcenterwa.org. For more information on this cultural series and other Seattle Center programming, click on www.seattlecenter.com or call 206-684-7200.

Write a letter to the editor

Send your letters by e-mail to tylerr@nhwa.org, or by regular mail to:
Neighborhood House
Attn: The Voice
905 Spruce St., Suite 200
Seattle, WA 98104



Neighborhood
House

The Voice

Editor
Tyler Roush
206-461-8430, ext. 227
tylerr@nhwa.org

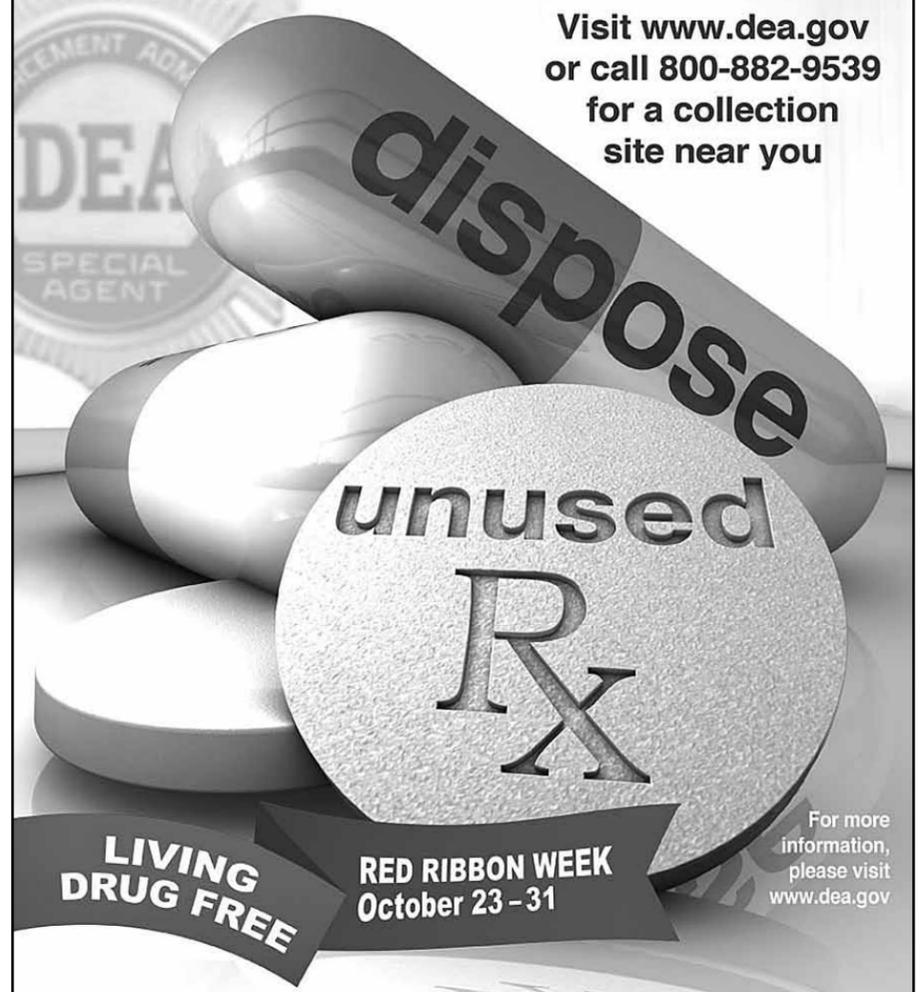
Reporters
Jim Bush
Sidney Carter
Kristin O’Donnell

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 and at www.seattlehousing.org.

Got Drugs?

Turn in your unused or expired medication for safe disposal
Saturday, October 29th

Visit www.dea.gov
or call 800-882-9539
for a collection
site near you



For more information, please visit www.dea.gov

Be safe

Environmental stewardship and crime prevention

By KELLY MCKINNEY
Seattle Neighborhood Group

For the past couple of months I have been working on crime prevention projects where the subject of salmon spawning has come up. Some folks may wonder what spawning salmon have to do with crime prevention. In fact, environmental stewardship and crime prevention can complement one another.

Environmental stewardship requires attention and consideration of the natural needs an outdoor space may have. If there is one thing criminals don't like, it's law-abiding people paying attention to and occupying a space. They would rather go somewhere where people are not paying attention and don't care what happens in that space.

The old saying in physics, "Nature abhors a vacuum," is also true in crime prevention. Criminals will occupy spaces that law-abiding people have abandoned. Once the criminals move into an area, they will stake their claim and defend that space

as if it is their own, even if they don't own that property.

Environmental stewardship brings the community back into the space. The community then can stake its own claim to that space and set expectations about how that space should be used. By working together to restore the natural luster to a space, the community strengthens its own bonds while creating a habitat for animal and plant species to thrive, including spawning salmon.

Of course, environmental stewardship requires ongoing care and maintenance, which criminals do not want. They may be resistant at first, but criminals will eventually go somewhere else where they can do what they want without the eyes and ears of an activist community's interference.

Kelly McKinney (323-7084) and Allan Davis (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

Continued from Page 1

Target, McDonalds, Safeway, a Park and Ride and lots of condo development.

You'll go through it on the way to the old town — stay on the bus until you reach the waterfront! Spend an hour looking around the old downtown. Most of the shops are the same tourist-town cute (and expensive) gift-shop stuff that lives in Port Townsend, Coupeville and Pioneer Square — good for window-shopping.

There are some art galleries, coffee shops and restaurants — it isn't a town for an inexpensive lunch — and a good bakery. (Susanne's Bakery & Delicatessen, 3411 Harborview Drive.) Maybe a cinnamon roll for lunch?

Jerisich/Skansie Brothers Park, on the water side of Harborview Drive, has great views of the bay. Once full of fishing boats, the harbor now is a moorage for many lovely-to-look-at yachts and sailboats. A fisherman's memorial statue stands in the park, a reminder of what used to be.

The Harbor History Museum (\$6 adult/\$4 youth/\$5 senior/kids 6 and under free; closed Mondays) is about a mile from the shopping district at 4121 Harborview Drive. There is a pleasant walkway along the bayside. If walking a mile isn't what you want, the once-an-hour bus will take you there.

Western Washington has OK historical museums, good historical museums, and wonderful historical museums. This one is wonderful. The building is new, bright and accessible and the exhibits in the permanent history section are uncluttered and well-labeled. There is a restored one-room schoolhouse and a fishing boat undergoing restoration. Many of the exhibits are touchable. A special exhibit of local Native American baskets, explaining their use, weaving methods and symbolism is open through Oct. 16. On Oct. 22 the museum opens an exhibit of antique and modern quilts.

In Gig Harbor, do note where the bus stops are and keep track of time. A scenic long-way-around trip home — See cows, horses, sheep and Grange Halls! Ride on not one, but two ferries! Save money on transit fares! — can be a good way to end your day, and gives wonderful views of Seattle at sunset if the timing is right.

Getting there: Sound Transit fares to Tacoma are \$3.50 adult/\$2.50 youth/\$1.50 reduced. Other systems' fares are \$2 adult/\$1 youth and reduced fare. They all accept transfers — if you have an ORCA card. Get an ORCA card — because this trip involves

connections with buses and ferries that run infrequently and with limited hours, you'll need to pay close attention to schedules and time.

There will be more of this to come as transit agencies reduce service. Because transit agencies change schedules at different times, don't take this trip, or any of the past Daytripper adventures, without confirming that the buses still go there and back on the same day.

The buses to Gig Harbor: Take Sound Transit 594 (every half hour mid-day, 70-minute trip) to Downtown Tacoma (NOT the Tacoma Dome stop). Catch Pierce Transit #1 (runs every 20 minutes, 35 minutes to TCC) at zone G to the Tacoma Community College Transit Center. Catch Pierce Transit #100 to Gig Harbor. This bus leaves hourly at 45 minutes past the hour and reaches Gig Harbor on the hour. (Try to schedule your trip times to avoid a long wait at the Transit Center — not much to do, but there is fast food across the street.)

The short way home: Pierce Transit #100 southbound leaves Gig Harbor at a few minutes past the hour. NO bus service after 8 p.m. Pierce Transit #1 from TCC transit center and Sound Transit #594, leaving from zone D in downtown Tacoma, run often and late in the evening.

The long way home: Take the 3 or 4 p.m. northbound bus #100 to Purdy (30 minutes). Catch the Kitsap Transit Purdy Connection bus (it waits for the #100 to get there!) on a half-hour ride to the Port Orchard foot ferry dock.

Catch the foot ferry (leaves on the hour and half hour) to the Bremerton ferry terminal. If all buses (and the foot ferry) are on time, you will be just-in-time to catch the Bremerton Ferry (FREE eastbound) back to Seattle. The ferry runs are between an hour and 90 minutes apart — get a schedule before you go!

If the buses are running late, the Port Orchard library, right by the ferry landing, is a nicer place to spend half an hour or so than the Bremerton side. This route isn't practical or less expensive in the other direction — the Purdy-Port Orchard bus is a commuter run that doesn't go mid-day, and you also pay ferry fares westbound.

Accessibility: All buses have lifts. Historic Gig Harbor is flat and has paved sidewalks with curb cuts. Some shops in historic buildings are difficult or impossible to access. Kitsap Foot Ferry is difficult — access combines portable ramps and assistance from crew, and may be very difficult at low tide.

Volunteers of the month: Microsoft, Gates Foundation employees



PHOTO BY TYLER ROUSH

Aid Swailem (left) and Phil Maddocks (right) load bark chips into a wheelbarrow as Kris Engstrom (middle) looks on. The three men, all employees of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, were part of a group of employees of the Gates Foundation and Microsoft who volunteered at several Neighborhood House sites as part of the United Way Day of Caring Sept. 16.



One to grow on

Garden tips for community gardeners

For a healthy garden, rotate your crops

By ANZA MUENCHOW
Special to *The Voice*

This was an unusual growing season. It was tough on the tomatoes and eggplant to wait so long for the warm weather. But it was actually really fun having such a long season of fresh peas. I could have planted several more successions had I known that July was going to be so cool. Pumpkins didn't do that well, but the cucumbers are coming in fast and furious. We still have lots of time to make pickles.

If you haven't kept current on your garden journals and maps, now would be a good time to work on making a record of this past season. Always keep your garden maps of what you planted in each bed going back at least five or more years.

Planting different crops in each bed in following years, called crop rotation, is a primary pest management technique for organic growers, especially for these common vegetables: peas, Alliums (onion/garlic family), carrots and the Brassicas (broccoli, turnips, kale, arugula, etc.).

A three- or four-year rotation is good, and some gardeners insist on five years, especially for garlic. There are some soil fungus diseases to watch out for, and these are much easier to prevent than they are to treat once you have them in your soil. There are black or gray molds on garlic and club root infections on Brassicas. Nasty things.

There are also common garden pests that linger in the soil, like root maggots and weevils. Always rotate your plantings.

But can you plant garlic or peas in the bed adjacent to where you had them growing last year? I would worry that the soils can mix and that insects can travel short distances, especially when you are using dirty tools and pulling weeds, etc.

Keep a distance of at least one garden bed between the old and new crops of the same family. If your garden is too small and you are short on space, you may have to decide to skip Alliums or Brassicas for

a season.

Remember that garlic can enhance a flower bed or border an ornamental area. It shares space well as it does most of its growing in the winter and spring, and the early varieties can be removed in July.

Speaking of garlic, shop early for the best varieties. There are so many to choose from. Early or late; hard neck or soft; spicy hot flavor or mild and fruity; cold tolerant or warm weather.

Talk to some of the garlic growers at your farmers markets. Consult seed catalogs for their recommendations, especially Filaree Farm in Eastern Washington (www.filareefarm.com).

Select the largest cloves to plant if you want big bulbs next year. We usually eat all the smaller cloves during the fall. Loosen the soil in your beds and turn in lots of compost. Add bone meal if you think you need fertilizer. You will also want to fertilize the garlic in March or April when they are really putting on lots of growth.

During the winter the cloves seem to focus on growing substantial root systems and don't need much fertilizing. Don't be alarmed if they don't sprout up out of the ground for several months. The earlier varieties (Asiatic and Turbans) will sprout first, though the leaves are short and lay flat against the ground at first.

If you want larger bulbs, the later, taller varieties need to have their scapes (flower stems) removed in late spring or early summer after the tips have curled. There are so many types, but they are all delicious and relatively easy to grow.

Don't worry about pests, as neither insects nor rodents bother the garlics. Harvesting can be tricky, though, because you'll need to check often to see if they are ready.

Look for a few leaves dying back and then dig them up and take a look. If the bulbs are left in the ground too long, they crack open and don't store well.

Enjoy the lingering days of fall and happy harvesting.

Music in the Plaza brings hundreds out for music, food and a celebration of the cultures of Greenbridge

BY TRACIE FRIEDMAN AND TIFFANY NGO
King County Housing Authority

The summer Music in the Plaza series at Greenbridge was a huge success.

The first of three series opened in June with a boom, hit, bang! A local jazz musician, Frank “Stainless” Steele, played American Jazz.

Mr. Steele truly captured the crowd with his saxophone talent and tunes. It was a relaxing, fun and peaceful atmosphere for residents to mingle and sample bowls of home-made chili and corn bread.

The gracious “Move it or Lose It” line dancing group from the Providence Elizabeth House conquered the crowd with their sassy moves. This dance group of seniors happily came all the way from High Point to showcase their dances and encourage other seniors to stay active and have fun. Some even danced using their walkers.

The second event on August 25th highlighted Southeast Asian music, food and culture and drew the biggest crowd of the summer, with over 300 people in attendance. Bicycles and bicyclists could be seen all over the plaza — King County Metro provided a bus for bicyclists to practice loading and unloading their bicycles onto the bike racks, and there were three bicycle stations set up for free by BikeWorks and Cascade Bicycle Club.

Healthy food was another star of the show — fresh fruits and vegetables were served to accompany traditional Southeast Asian dishes. Healthy Kids, Healthy Communities was also on-site inviting kids to spin a wheel to answer healthy trivia questions and sample strawberry banana smoothies with a secret ingredient — cauliflower!

The White Center Community Development Association hosted a healthy food demonstration: Nikki (owner of Banh 88 Restaurant) was available to teach community members how to make spring rolls.

The final event, on Sept. 16, was the most colorful event at Greenbridge, focusing on East African culture. Many residents came dressed in the vibrant colors of traditional Somali clothing. The traditional costumes were a celebration of the culture’s happiness and health.

Neighbors came together to prepare and cook traditional food, tea and cake for the event under the leadership of resident activists Libin Egal and Nafisa Abdulle. They were supported by KCHA staff member Fardus Grimes and Jen Calleja of Neighborhood House.

Along with the little drums, the group sang songs of Burunba to celebrate their ethnicity, freedom and culture. There was a long line of people to get free traditional henna art tattoos as well as a chair massage for \$2.

Each event closed with a raffle drawing for kids. The lucky winners walked away with various prizes that encour-



PHOTO COURTESY OF NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE

A group of Somali women dance during the Music in the Plaza event celebrating East African culture Sept. 16. The summertime series in the Greenbridge neighborhood drew hundreds from Greenbridge and the surrounding communities.

age physical activity to help kids stay healthy, from Frisbees and jump ropes to mini gardening tools and bubbles.

These community events provided opportunities for Greenbridge residents and their White Center neighbors to meet, enjoy music, sample various ethnic foods and learn about the cultures at Greenbridge. For some residents, it was the first time they’ve heard famous American jazz music played on a saxophone, or the tunes of Vietnam, Cambodia and Somalia.

King County Housing Authority partnered with Neighborhood House, White Center Community Development Association, and the Greenbridge Community Action Team to plan the annual Music in the Plaza series.

For each event, residents of various cultures stepped up to provide input and suggestions to help plan the festivities. They provided materials to educate other residents about their culture, including a fact-sheet about each culture and a

resource table featuring samples of art, crafts, flags, clothing and musical instruments. Many residents were happy to share their culture with curious neighbors.

At each event, there was plenty of food, entertainment and resources for the many community members who came out to enjoy the sunshine and join in on the activities. Service providers and partners provided resource tables, outreach materials, program brochures and information about their agencies. For example, King County Library team provided a table to sign community members up for a library card, arts and crafts, and a Library to Go Van.

Special thanks to our core planning committee members: Jen Calleja (Neighborhood House Be Active Together), Tracie Friedman (KCHA Community Builder), Tiffany Ngo (KCHA Healthy Kids, Healthy Communities) and Ian Dapiaoen (White Center CDA Community Builder).

Elections

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light rail across I-90.

I-1125 is the latest initiative by professional initiative promoter Tim Eyman, a conservative political activist whose initiatives often address tax rates and related fees. He rose to prominence in 1999 with Initiative 695, which cut the state motor vehicle excise tax. That particular initiative has had a lasting negative impact on funding for King County Metro, which today relies primarily on sales-tax revenue to fund bus service.

Initiative 1183 bears a familiar refrain — it would end the state distribution of liquor, authorize private distributors to sell liquor and close state-run liquor stores. A pair of similar initiatives — I-1100 and I-1105 — appeared on the ballot in Nov. 2010, and both were defeated by voters.

This initiative takes a slightly different approach from its predecessors, in that it allows only stores with at least 10,000 square feet of retail space to obtain a liquor distribution license — in other words, the large grocers and retailers such as Safeway and Costco, which champion the initiative. Critics of I-1100 and I-1105 noted that the initiatives would have undermined com-

munities and increased underage drinking by allowing any corner grocery, gas station or convenience store to sell hard liquor.

According to the state Office of Financial Management, the initiative will increase State General Fund revenues an estimated \$216 million to \$253 million and total local revenues an estimated \$186 million to \$227 million over six fiscal years.

Supporters of the initiative will increase state revenues in the form of spirits distributor license fees, which would begin at 10 percent of the distributor’s gross spirits sales. (After two years, the fee would drop to 5 percent.)

Critics say that privatizing liquor sales will increase alcohol consumption and problem drinking, raise crime and overly burden police and first responders. They note that Washington voters rejected two similar initiatives just last year.

Both the “for” and “against” campaigns have a decidedly corporate bent. Of the approximately \$6.2 million raised by the “Protect Our Communities” campaign against I-1183, about \$5.8 million has come from the Washington, D.C.-based Wine & Spirits Wholesalers of America, which has a substantial financial stake in the state’s current liquor distribution system. Meanwhile, the “yes” campaign has been

funded almost entirely by Costco Wholesale — which stands to gain a great deal in potential liquor sales should the initiative pass. Costco has contributed \$4.9 million of the \$5 million raised by the “Yes on 1183 Coalition,” with Safeway and Trader Joe’s each contributing \$50,000.

Campaign contribution details are available online at www.pdc.wa.gov.

Initiative 1163 concerns background checks and training for long-term care workers who assist seniors and persons with disabilities. Long-term care workers are currently required to receive 35 hours of basic training, which will increase to 75 hours in 2014. If passed, the initiative would move up the timing on the 75-hour requirement to 2012.

The initiative would also require all long-term care workers hired after Jan. 1, 2012 to undergo criminal background checks conducted by the FBI. Currently, most long-term care workers are checked for criminal convictions in Washington state.

Proponents of the measure say that the federal background checks and extended training requirements will protect seniors and persons with disabilities who receive long-term care.

Critics argue that the greater requirements will funnel money away from direct

services for seniors and persons with disabilities. (The state’s Office of Financial Management estimates that the new requirements will cost \$31.3 million over six fiscal years, offset by a projected \$18.4 million increase in revenue from the federal government.)

Two amendments to the state constitution also appear on the ballot. The first, Resolution 8205, corrects an inconsistency in the constitution dealing with residency requirements for voting in presidential elections. It would make Washington voters eligible to vote in all elections after 30 days of residency. The resolution is essentially a housekeeping measure with little to no opposition.

A second resolution, No. 8206, would bolster the state’s rainy day fund by requiring the state to transfer additional money to its budget stabilization account in each biennium that the state has received “extraordinary revenue growth.” The resolution received wide bipartisan support in the state Legislature, receiving legislative approval by a margin of 123-10.

For more information on local ballot measures and races for Seattle City Council and King County Council, see the accompanying article on Page 1.

Local

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Seattle Times. Forch is a city employee who works for the Seattle Department of Transportation.

Incumbent Sally Clark and challenger Dian Ferguson emerged from the primary in the race for Seattle City Council Position 9. Clark, who has served on the Council since 2006, previously worked for the city's Department of Neighborhoods, Lifelong AIDS Alliance and Chicken Soup Brigade. Ferguson is best known as the former executive director of local public-access channel SCAN-TV.

In the race for City Council Position 3, incumbent Bruce Harrell and challenger Brad Meacham advanced automatically to the general election. Harrell, seeking his second term on the council, has a law degree and previously served as counsel for US West (now CenturyLink). Meacham is a journalist who has worked for Bloomberg News, The Seattle Times and MSN Money.

Incumbent Tom Rasmussen and challenger Dale L. Pusey will contend for the City Council Position 5 after advancing automatically to the general election. Rasmussen, seeking his third term on the council, is a former city employee and former deputy prosecuting attorney for Yakima County. Pusey is an accountant and transit advocate.

Incumbent Tim Burgess and challenger David L. Schraer are running for City Council Position 7 after advancing automatically to the general election. Burgess, seeking his second term, is a former journalist, Seattle Police detective and international humanitarian worker. Schraer is an architect, community development professional and former Peace Corps volunteer.

Two ballot measures put before Seattle voters

In addition to electing their council representatives, Seattle voters will be asked to vote on two ballot measures. The one with the most at stake is probably the Families and Education Levy, which would provide nearly \$232 million in funds for education and health services for tens of thousands of children and their families. Levy funds provide for out-of-school activities, pre-school support, programs for parent and family engagement, and academic support and physical and mental health services for students.

The levy, first approved by Seattle voters in 1990 and renewed in 1997 and 2004, is funded through property taxes. Successful passage would renew the levy through 2018.

The second Seattle ballot measure, Proposition 1, concerns a \$60 annual car-tab fee, projected to raise \$204 million in funds for transit, road and pedestrian and bicycle improvements.

The \$60 fee would be applied on top of the city's current \$20 and a \$20 fee recently enacted by the King County Council to help fund Metro, meaning that Seattleites would pay \$100 in car-tab fees each time they renew their registration.

The proposed fee, which would expire after 10 years, is causing a split among traditionally liberal-minded groups. While it is supported by many progressives, including transit and bicycle activists who see the need for transit upgrades and pedestrian and bike safety improvements, advocates for low-income people argue that the fee is a regressive tax that will disproportionately burden low-income people, workers and small businesses.

Know the candidates

Seattle City Council Position 1

Bobby Forch — www.bobbyforch.com
Jean Godden (incumbent) — www.jeangodden.com

Seattle City Council Position 3

Bruce Harrell (incumbent) — www.electbruceharrell.com
Brad Meacham — www.electbradmeacham.com

Seattle City Council Position 5

Dale L. Pusey — www.dalepusey.com
Tom Rasmussen (incumbent) — info@tom4seattle.com

Seattle City Council Position 7

Tim Burgess (incumbent) — www.electtimburgess.com
David L. Schraer — <http://davidforseattle.com>

Seattle City Council Position 9

Sally Clark (incumbent) — electsallyclark.com
Dian Ferguson — logan@dianferguson.com

King County Council District No. 6

Jane Hague (incumbent) — www.janehague.com
Richard Mitchell — www.electrichardmitchell.com

King County Council District No. 8

Joe McDermott (incumbent) — joemcdermott.org
Diana Toledo — votetoledo.com

Incumbents Larry Gossett and Larry Phillips are running unopposed in District Nos. 2 and 4, respectively.

Candidates vie for seats on King County Council

The outcomes of two of the four King County Council races are a foregone conclusion: longtime Councilmembers Larry Gossett and Larry Phillips are running unopposed for their respective seats.

That leaves two races — for the Council's District Nos. 6 and 8.

In District No. 6, which encompasses Bellevue, Kirkland and Mercer Island, incumbent Jane Hague will face challenger Richard Mitchell. Hague, who has been on the county council since 1994, is a former Bellevue City Councilmember. Mitchell is an attorney, urban planner, and a King County Housing Authority Commissioner.

In a rematch of last year's general election, incumbent Councilmember Joe McDermott will again face challenger Diana Toledo in the District 8 race. McDermott and Toledo opposed each other in the 2010 general election after the seat was vacated by King County Executive Dow Constantine. The district encompasses parts of Seattle and West Seattle, Burien, Vashon and Maury islands.

McDermott (no relation to Jim McDermott, the U.S. Representative) is a former state legislator. Toledo is a 15-year employee of King County.

For more information about local elections, visit www.kingcounty.gov/elections and www2.seattle.gov/ethics/votersguide.asp.

How do I vote?

It may seem like a simple question, but with Washington state having recently adopted a vote-by-mail system, some voters may have questions about their voting options.

Can I still vote in person?

Since the adoption of the statewide vote-by-mail system, most polling places are no longer open. However, voters may still choose to vote at one of the accessible voting centers operated by King County Elections. The centers are open to all voters, including persons who may require special assistance in completing their ballot.

The location and hours of accessible voting centers for the Nov. 8 general election had not been released as of press time. (For the August primary, the county operated centers in Downtown Seattle, Bellevue and Renton.)

Before visiting an accessible voting center this fall, call 206-296-8683 or visit www.kingcounty.gov/elections/voting, then click "Accessible voting" on the left toolbar for a list of locations and hours.

Do I need to put a stamp on my ballot?

If you choose to send your ballot back in the mail, you do need to place a single first-class stamp on the envelope. Your ballot must be postmarked by Election Day, Nov. 8.

However, the county does offer several ballot drop boxes around Seattle and King County as an alternative to putting a stamp on your ballot. To drop off your ballot and save a stamp, visit any of the

ballot drop box locations before 8 p.m. Nov. 8. Ballots dropped off after 8 p.m. Nov. 8 will not be accepted.

For a list of drop box locations, call 206-296-8683 or visit www.kingcounty.gov/elections/voting and click "Ballot



drop boxes" on the left toolbar.

Did King County receive my ballot? Was it counted?

To track the status of your ballot, King County Elections offers a ballot tracking tool on its website. Visit www.kingcounty.gov/elections/mailballottracking.aspx for more information. To use the tracker, you will need to input your first and last name and your date of birth.

I didn't receive a ballot. What do I do?

Ballots will be mailed to your address on file with King County Elections. Ballots for the Nov. 8 general election will be mailed Oct. 21. If you're registered in Washington state but didn't receive a ballot after Oct. 21, contact the elections office at 206-296-8683 or elections@kingcounty.gov.

Sen. Murray has a front-row seat for debt ceiling 'Super Committee' negotiations

By TYLER ROUSH
The Voice editor

While much of the East Coast endured a heat wave this summer, Congress found itself embroiled in a debate over the nation's debt ceiling. The debt ceiling debate dominated the media throughout the summer, with Republicans and Democrats haggling over how to reach a compromise to increase the nation's borrowing limit. To fail to raise the debt limit would have meant defaulting on our debts — which would have far-reaching economic consequences both within our country and around the world.

Finally, shortly before the clock on the negotiations struck midnight, Congressional leaders reached a compromise that would raise the debt ceiling. The deal, voted into law Aug. 1 and 2, included provisions to decrease the federal deficit by \$1.5 trillion over 10 years.

Despite all the partisan wrangling over spending cuts tied to the debt ceiling negotiations, our state could be in a unique position to influence the outcome in the other Washington. That's because Washington Sen. Patty Murray is co-chair of the bipartisan "Super Committee" tasked with cutting back the federal budget by \$1.5 trillion.

The deficit reduction committee was created out of the Congressional agreement in August to raise the nation's debt ceiling.

Murray is one of 12 members of Congress appointed to the committee by congressional leadership from both parties. The bipartisan committee consists of six members of the Senate and six of the House of Representatives, with three Republicans and three Democrats from each chamber.

Murray isn't the only prominent name on the committee, which includes Mas-

sachusetts Sen. John Kerry, the former Democratic presidential candidate; Montana Sen. Max Baucus, a six-term Democrat and chair of the Senate's Finance Committee; and Arizona Republican Sen. Jon Kyl, the Senate Minority Whip.

Committee members will be meeting over the next two months to hash out how to cut the projected federal deficit by an additional \$1.5 trillion over 10 years, whether through spending cuts or new revenue. Congress must then approve the committee's plan; given the prevailing anti-tax sentiment among Republican members of Congress, new taxes are not likely to be a major source of the deficit package. Democrats have likewise vowed to protect entitlement programs such as Social Security and Medicare.

That leaves the majority of the \$1.5 trillion to come in the form of cuts to discretionary spending. While defense spending is likely to take part of the hit, expect the majority to come out of nondefense discretionary spending, which includes programs such as HUD, education and health and human services.

The Super Committee must present its proposal to Congress by Nov. 23. A vote by Congress is then mandated to follow by Dec. 23.

If the super committee does not reach agreement or Congress rejects the proposal, a round of \$1.2 trillion in cuts, taken equally from defense and domestic spending, will take effect.

Washington state residents who wish to participate in the Super Committee's deficit negotiations may wish to contact Sen. Murray's office. She may be reached online at murray.senate.gov, or by calling her Washington, D.C. office toll free at 866-481-9186.



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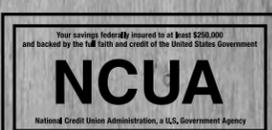
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TRANSLATIONS

TRANSLATED ARTICLES FROM THE VOICE

የህክምና ምክር ወደትምህርት ቤት ተመለሱ

በዚህ የትምህርት ወራት ልጆች ወደ ትምህርት ቤቱ መመለሱ ቀላል እንዲሆን ላቸው እርዳታ ከሲያትል ችልድረንስ ሆስፒታል ለወላጆች አስፈላጊ የሆኑ የህክምና ዝርዝሮችን ልጆቻቸውን በጤናቸውና በደህንነታቸው እንዲረዳቸው አዘጋግቷል።

የልጆቻቸውን ክትባት ጊዜያዊ መሆኑን ያረጋግጡ

ልጆች ወደ መኝታ በተወሰነ ሰዓት እንዲተኙ ከሳምንት ወይም ከሁለት ሳምንት በፊት እንዲጀምር ያድርጉ።

ከስድስት እስከ ዘጠኝ እድሜ ያላቸው 10 ሰዓት፣ ከ13 በፊት ያሉት ዘጠኝ ሰዓት፣ ከ13 በላይ የሆኑት ከስምንት እስከ ዘጠኝ ሰዓት ተኩል ድረስ የመኝታ ሰዓት ያስፈልጋቸዋል።

ለቁርስና ምሳ የሚያስፈልጉ መከሰሶችን ያስቀምጡ

የልጆችን የሰፈርት ትምህርት ወይም ምን ያህል ሰዓት እረፍት እንዳላቸው ያረጋግጡ። ልጆች የ60 ደቂቃ የሰውነት

እንቅስቃሴ በየቀኑ ያስፈልጋቸዋል።

የልጆቻቸውን ክትምህርት ቤት በፊትና በኋላ ያለውን የመጓጓዣ እርዳታ ለመረዳት ይሞክሩ።

ልጆች ከ10 ዓመት በላይ ከሆነና በእግሩ ወይም በብስክሌት ወደ ትምህርት ቤት የሚሄድ ከሆነ የሚሄድበትን መንገድ ማወቅና እንዴት እንደሚሄድና እንደሚመጣ፣ ብስክሌትም የሚጠቀም ከሆነ የሚበቃውን የራስ ሄልጫት እንዲያደርግ ማሳወቅ።

አደጋ ቢፈጠር የትምህርት ቤቱን ፕላን ማወቅ

በትምህርት ቤት ወራት ህክምና ቢያስፈልግ እንዴት እንደሚያደርጉ ማወቅ- የታመሙ ልጆች ካለዎ በሽታው ወደሌሎች እንዳይዛመት ከቤት ማስቀረት ያስፈልጋል።

የመጀመሪያውን የትምህርት ሳምንት በካሌንደርዎ በማስፈር ከልጆዎ ጋር ተጨማሪ ሰዓት ሰጥተው ማሳለፍ የሚችሉበትን በተለይ በምሽት ሰዓት አብረው ማሳለፍ የሚችሉበትን ሁኔታ ይፍጠሩ።

ናይ ካለዎ ጥዕና ምክራ ትምህርት ንዝጅምሩ ተመሃሮ።

ንምቅላልል መሰጋገሪ ተመሃሮ ንቤት ትምህርት ኣብ ዝኣትዉሉ ግዜ ኣብ ግምት ብማእታው ኣብ ግዜ ፎል ናይ ስያትል ፕልድረን ሆስፒታል ናይ ካለዎ ጥዕና መክታተሊ ነጥብታት ኣዳልዩ ኣሎ ወሊዲ ናይ ደቆም ጥዕናን ድሕነትን ንምክትታል ዝሕግዙ።

ናይ ደቕኹም ግዜያዊ ክታብት ምርጫጋጽ ችድሚ ትምህርት ምጅማሮም ደቕኹም ቅድሚ ሰሙን ዝድቕሱሉ ወሱን ሰዓት ምድላው።

ኹዱሽተ ክሳብ ትሽዓተ ዓመቶም ዝኹት ተመሃሮ ደቕኹም 10 ሰዓት ክድቕሱ ይግባእ ዝገቡዎ ዘለዉ ድማ 9 ሰዓት ክድቕሱ ኣለዎም ልዕሊ ኣለዉ ድማ 9 ክሳብ 10 ሰዓት ፈረቓን ክድቕሱ ይግባእ ኣብ ነብሲ ወክፍ ለይቲ።

መጠኑ ዝተሓለው መግብን ጠዓዎትን ኣዳልዉሎም።

ናይ ሰውነት ምንቅስቃስን ዕረፍቲ ግዜን ኣብ መዓልቲ ከምዘለዎም ፍለጡ።

ደቕኹም 60 ደቓይቕ ናይ ምንቅስቃስ ስፖርት ኣብ መዓልቲ ክገብሩ ኣለዎም።

ናይ ቤት ትምህርት መጓዛዚ ኣገልግሎት ናይ ተመሃሮ ችድሚ ትምህርትን ድሕሪ ትምህርትን ኣገልግሎት ምስዘድልዩም ክትፈልጡ የድሊ።

ተመሃራይ ወላድኩም ዕድሚኡ ልዕሊ 10 ዓመት ብእግሪ ወይ ብሽክሌታ ዝኸይድ ምስዝኸውን ንቤት ትምህርት ብወሒስ መንገዲ ክመላለሱን ብሽክለታ ዝዝወሩ ምስዝኹኑ ኣድላይ ሄልመት ክምዝወድዩ ትገብሩ።

ብዛዕባ ናይ ሁጽጽ ግዜ ኢመርጀንሲ መደብ ምድላው ናይ ተመሃራይ ወላድኩም ቤት ምህርቲ ኣቀዲምኩም ፍለጡ።

ብዛዕባ ናይ ሕማም ግዜ ብኸመይ ክምእትገጥምዎ ኣብ ናይ ትምህርት ዓመት መደብ ኣወጽኡ። ዝሓመሙ ተመሃሮ ሕማም ንካልኣት ተመሃሮ ከየመሓልፉ ኣብ ገዛ ክወዕሉ ይግባእ።

ዓወደ ኣዋርሕ (ካለንደር) ብምድላው ፍሉይ ግዜ ኣብ ቤት ትምህርት ምስወላድኩም ክትሕልፉ ኣብታ ቀዳመይቲ ሰሙን ናይ ትምህርቲ ግዜ ትገብሩ መሰጋገርን መጀመርታ ግዜ ትምህርቲ ብርትዕ ዝበለ ስለዝኸውን ኣጋ ምሽት ኣብ ቤትኩም ብሓባር ምስደቕኹም ግዜ ብምፍላይ ብሓንሳብ ኣሕልፍዎ።

Health tips for back-to-school

ፍጥነት ለማህበረሰብ ማህበረሰብ ማህበረሰብ

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Снова в школу – советы о здоровье

Для того, чтобы облегчить для детей переход от каникул к школьным будням, детская больница Сиэтла составила контрольную таблицу здоровья, чтобы помочь родителям сохранить детей здоровыми и в безопасности.

• Убедитесь, что все прививки сделаны вовремя.

• Укладывайте ребёнка спать в определённое время за неделю или за две до начала школьного года.

• Дети в возрасте от шести до девяти лет должны спать 10 часов, дети от 10-ти до 12-ти лет должны спать 9 часов, дети 13-ти лет и старше должны спать от восьми до девяти с половиной часов каждую ночь.

Qodobbo caafimaad ee quseeya ku noqoshada dugsiyada

Si aad ugu sahasho carruurtaada isbedelka ku noqoshada dugsiyada ee sanad dugsiteedkaan, wuxuu isbitaalaa carruurta ee Seattle soo badhigay qodobbo muhiim ha si waaliddiintu u xanaaneeyaan carruurta.

Hubi in tallaalka carruurtaadu dhan yahay

Bilow inaad carruurtaada waqti go'an aad sariirta geliso ugu yaraan labo todobaad ka hor.

Lix-sagaal jirradu waxay u baahan yihiin toban saac oo jiif ah meesha

NHỮNG HƯỚNG DẪN VỀ SỨC KHỎE CHO TRẺ EM LÚC NHẬP HỌC LẠI

Để giúp cho trẻ em chuyển đổi dễ dàng lúc trở lại nhập học vào mùa thu, thì Bệnh Viện Nhi Đồng Seattle có lập ra lịch trình sức khỏe để giúp cho phụ huynh giữ cho con em mạnh khỏe và an toàn.

làm chắc rằng con em được chích ngừa đầy đủ

cho con em đi ngủ đúng giờ từ 1 tuần hay 2 tuần trước khi bắt đầu đi học lại

trẻ em 6 đến 9 tuổi cần ngủ 10 tiếng đồng hồ, các em thiếu niên cần ngủ 9 tiếng, và các em thanh niên cần từ 8 đến 9 tiếng

• Имейте в запасе здоровую еду для лёгкой закуски и ланча.

• Узнайте, есть ли у ребёнка физические упражнения в течении дня и как долго продолжается большая перемена.

• Детям необходимо 60 минут упражнений каждый день.

• Выясните, каким транспортом обеспечивается ваш ребёнок и кто будет присматривать за ребёнком до и после школы.

• Если ваш ребёнок старше 10-ти и собирается ходить пешком или ездить на велосипеде в школу, определите безопасный маршрут и убедитесь, что дети знают правила безопасности. Если ребёнок ездит на велосипеде, он должен иметь хорошо

пригнанный шлем.

• Узнайте о школьных планах на случай стихийного бедствия.

• Подумайте о том, как вы справитесь с ребёнком в случае его болезни – в школу больным детям нельзя ходить, чтобы не распространять инфекцию.

Составьте своё расписание так, чтобы вы смогли проводить побольше времени со своим ребёнком в первую школьную неделю, так как начало школьного года нелегко переносится ребёнком и вечернее время, проведённое с родителями, может ему помочь.

toban jirradu u baahan yihiin sigaal saac. Balse dhowr iyo toban jiradu waxay ugu yaraan u baahan yihiin siddeed saac.

U diyaari cuntada fudud ee caafimaadka leh ee ay dugsiya u qaataan.

Ogow in ilmahaagu leeyahay PE inta uu iskuulka joogo iyo weliba inta ay ku qaadato bareegga iskuulka.

Carruurta waxay u baahan tahay lixdan daqiiqo oo cayaar ah maalintiiba

Ogow carruurtaada baskooda iyo iskuul ka hor iyo kadib waxay samayn lahaayeen.

Haddii cunugaagu u lugeeyo iskuul

lak am bushkuleeti kaxaysto, u sheeg dariiq nabadgelyo leh oo uu marikaro koofiyadda baaskiilkana sii.

Baro qorshaha emergensiga cunugaaga ee iskuulka.

Qorshayso sida aad ula dhiilgareyn lahayd xannuunka carruurta ee sanad dugsiyeedkan. Cunugga xanuunsan waa inuu guriga joogaa oo si uusan xanuunka ilmaha kale ugu daaran.

Waqti badana sii cunuggaaga labada todobaad oo gug horeysa dugsiya. Isbedelku waa adag yahay balse waqti isla qaadashadu waay caawinaysaa in badan.

nón an toàn.

Hãy tìm hiểu về kế hoạch đáp ứng trong trường hợp khẩn cấp nơi trường con em mình theo học

Vạch ra việc cần làm trong trường hợp con em bị bệnh trong thời gian đi học- con bị bệnh buộc phải ở nhà để tránh lây lan bệnh cho người khác.

Dùng lịch để sắp xếp giờ giấc để quý vị có thể bỏ thời giờ ra bên cạnh con em ở trường trong tuần lễ đầu nhập học. Chuyển tiếp (từ nghỉ hè đến việc nhập học trở lại) có thể khó, phụ huynh ngồi lại với con em trong các buổi tối có thể giúp (làm giảm đi những khó khăn đó).

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.

KaBoom!
PLAYGROUND BUILT IN BATAAN PARK
See Page 4



SHA NEWS

October
2011

News and information about Seattle's neighborhoods

\$10.27 million HUD Choice Neighborhood grant awarded for Yesler Terrace renewal

Funding will support new housing, services

BY SEATTLE HOUSING AUTHORITY

On Aug. 31, Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Secretary Shaun Donovan announced the award of a \$10.27 million Choice Neighborhoods implementation grant to the Seattle Housing Authority to be used for redevelopment of Yesler Terrace and the surrounding neighborhood.

"This is a great day for Seattle and the countless families who will benefit from the transformation this funding will bring to the Yesler community," said Donovan.

The Choice Neighborhoods Initiative looks to transform distressed neighborhoods into sustainable, mixed-income communities by linking affordable housing with quality schools, public transportation, good jobs and safe streets. Seattle Housing expects to use the grant funding to begin the Yesler Terrace redevelopment by building low-income housing on a site east of Boren, and to work with partners to improve outcomes for neighborhood families.

U.S. Senator Patty Murray was vital in working with HUD to launch the Choice Neighborhoods Initiative and in working with Seattle Housing and the City of Seattle to bring this investment to Yesler Terrace.

"I am so glad that the Seattle Housing Authority has been awarded this grant to invest in our community and revitalize Yesler Terrace for local families," said Senator Murray. "I was so proud to work with HUD and the City of Seattle to bring this investment to Yesler Terrace and the families who will benefit from the healthier and stronger

Please see "Choice" on Page 7

For north end families, a welcome home in Lake City Court



PHOTO BY TYLER ROUSH

The sign on the northwest corner of the building identifies Lake City Court. To the left, a pathway extends off camera to a picnic and barbecue area for residents of both Lake City Court and neighboring Lake City House. Seattle Housing held a grand opening for the building Sept. 20. For a photo gallery, turn to Page 3.

Two community service programs combined to create new Economic Opportunities Program

BY LAURA GENTRY
Seattle Housing Authority

Two community service programs offered by the Seattle Housing Authority have become one in an effort to more effectively offer whole family support to residents looking for services. The two programs, known as Job Connection and Family Self-Sufficiency, will now be integrated into one. The integrated services will be referred to as the Economic Opportunities Program.

The Family Self-Sufficiency program

has helped people living in public housing, or receiving Housing Choice Voucher Program assistance, to work toward their personal goals for education, job training, starting a business, or buying a home. The Job Connection has worked one-on-one with clients to develop goals and create plans to meet their work and housing needs. The Economic Opportunities Program will combine those services.

"Tough economic times have created a growing demand by residents for services

Please see "Services" on Page 5

Board to act on Seattle Housing's 2012 budget

BY SEATTLE HOUSING AUTHORITY STAFF

The Seattle Housing Authority and its board are nearing approval of a challenging 2012 budget.

While costs borne by the Seattle Housing Authority have increased, the revenues have not kept up. The Housing Authority relies on federal funding through HUD for 70–75 percent of revenues. And the federal government has changed its priorities from concerns over the economy to a determination to cut the federal budget deficit. So far, all of those cuts have come from parts of the budget considered "optional," including funding for HUD and all education, social service and environmental programs.

As a consequence, the Housing Authority budget will reflect lower expenditures.

The Seattle Housing Authority Board of Commissioners received the proposed 2012 budget at their regular meeting on Sept. 19. The Board will act on the budget at their next meeting on Oct. 10, one week earlier than their usual meeting due to HUD deadlines.

What does the 2012 budget hold for residents of Seattle Housing Authority's properties?

Because of cuts in expenses, residents will likely notice some changes in the level of services they receive. Here are some examples:

- Landscaping services will be done less frequently at high-rises and SSHP buildings.
- Work order requests from residents will be more carefully screened and postponed as appropriate. Thus, it may take longer for minor maintenance problems to be taken care of.

• The Housing Authority will send fewer mailings to residents and rely more on access to email, the Internet and The Voice.

• More time will elapse between house-keeping tasks such as window washing and common area carpet cleaning

• Funding for replacing household appliances will be reduced. This will mean that older appliances will stay in place longer.

• The Community Police Teams program will be reorganized to provide service more efficiently and at lower cost.

In a few notable areas services will not decrease.

Resident access to economic opportunity specialists and referrals for jobs will increase because of the importance of this area and reorganization in this division. Mental health case management services in the high-rises will be expanded, thanks to a new federal grant to Full Life Care. Existing levels of pest control and bedbug eradication services will be maintained, and there will be no reductions in resident manager staffing.

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Residents offer feedback on nonsmoking policy proposal

Public forum Sept. 20 gives residents an opportunity to offer comment

BY THAI NGUYEN
Seattle Housing Authority

Over several months, Seattle Housing has collected resident feedback on the proposed extension of the nonsmoking policy to its Low Income Public Housing properties. From resident surveys to community meet-

ings and public forums to public hearings, many opinions and viewpoints were heard and addressed. Each approach allowed residents to react and respond to the suggested policy change.

Supporters of a nonsmoking policy commonly cite health problems as their main interest, followed by the prevalence of smoke drift. Smoke drift occurs in all areas of housing, but is especially a concern in high-rise buildings where ventilation systems mean

Please see "Nonsmoking" on Page 6



Letters to the Editor

Readers of The Voice speak out

Fed up with high utility rates in NewHolly

Hi there my name is Sidney Carter I have lived in NewHolly Phase One for 12 years.

We don't say it enough but I would like to say it right now on the behalf of the residents of NewHolly Thank You so very very much to the Working for Washington staff for all that you have done so far. I was very pleased to see so many people at the meeting of September the 10th concerning the high cost of utilities especially of water and sewer here in NewHolly. I was proud of the African women for standing up and

speaking up and at one point walking out of the meeting. They had every right to walk out because everyone got tired of SHAs excuses one after the other. The whole staff that was there to speak on behalf of SHA seemed to think that this meeting was some sort of game and that it was funny. I was also disappointed that Tom Tierney or Rod Brandon did not attend the meeting. The high utility costs here in NewHolly need to stop once and for all and we will not stop until that happens.

Sidney Carter
NewHolly resident

They represent you!

If you're a Scattered Sites residents, you may want to know who your representatives are on the Joint Policy Advisory Committee (JPAC), the group of Seattle Housing residents who meet regularly with Housing staff to discuss policy issues.

North end residents are represented by Sharon Dain and Kelly Kelleher. The representative for Central and South Seattle is Regina Owens. Owens is also Vice-Chair of JPAC.

For a JPAC meeting schedule, contact John Forsyth at jforsyth@seattlehousing.org.

Federal funding secured to help renew Senior Housing

BY SVEN KOEHLER
Seattle Housing Authority

Carolyn Kinney's dedicated gardening skills have brought color and life to the courtyard at Olmsted Manor over the decade she's lived at this Seattle Senior Housing Program (SSHP) building near Green Lake. Part of the joy of gardening is making the greenery visible to her neighbors in the building, but she says that's been marred by the fact that a large percentage of windows have been obscured due to damaged seals. "A lot of my neighbors have windows that are completed fogged up," she noted.

Luckily, by the time next summer's plants are in bloom, everyone will have a clear view thanks to the exterior renovation and window replacement project that got underway in September. Both the windows and the leak-prone stucco exterior of the building will be replaced.

"Replacing those windows has been a priority for us for a while. We're following our long-term plan to make improvements to all the Senior buildings," explained Judi Anderson, Senior Property Manager. The scope of work at Olmsted is similar to that accomplished at Schwabacher House, Reunion House and Willis House over the past two years.

Residents are able to continue living in their apartments, but are preparing for several months of construction at their building.

The project should be finished in late spring of 2012. Work started with the erection of scaffolding that will allow the old stucco exterior to be demolished, then involves replacing the old aluminum frame windows with new vinyl ones, and finishes with the installation of an updated, more weatherproof exterior.

Three additional SSHP buildings will be also under construction in the next several months. Porter Construction will also be at Nelson Manor in Ballard to kick off construction on Oct. 6 with a resident gathering.

The Seattle Housing Authority is currently selecting a contractor for work at Blakely Manor and Bitterlake Manor. More information on the construction start at those buildings will be available this fall.

The 23 SSHP buildings were constructed thanks to a municipal bond issued in the 1980's. They are all of similar vintage and face similar needs for long-term maintenance and repair. Many buildings face millions of dollars in needed updates as building systems face their expected

Please see "SSHP" on Page 7

A bright future for these Dream Big scholars



PHOTO BY TYLER ROUSH

Dream Big scholarship recipients (from left) Vi Nguyen, Karina Lucas and Tran Huynh met one Friday last month at an awards luncheon at Tamarind Tree. The three young women are all residents of the High Point neighborhood. Nguyen, who graduated from high school in Vietnam, is attending South Seattle Community College this fall. Lucas graduated from West Seattle High School and is attending the University of Washington. Huynh graduated from Garfield High School and is also attending UW. Not pictured are scholarship recipients Misra Abdela, Amanuel Fentahum, Ruby Li and Faduma Moalim.

SHARP to host emergency prep workshop Oct. 21

BY JIM BUSH
Center Park resident

Even though this may be a scary subject it's one everyone needs to consider, since we could all be affected by a windstorm, fire, flooding, power outage, earthquake, volcanic eruption or act of war.

Hopefully you've prepared for a disaster by having three days' worth of food and water for everyone in your household, having a battery-operated radio and flashlight (or light sticks) in your home, a sturdy pair of shoes, extra prescription medication and so forth ... but that's only part of what's needed.

Knowing what to do after a disaster (helping people who are injured, knowing how to turn off utilities, such as natural gas, water and electricity, having an out-of-area system for communications with friends and family) is also very important.

Do you know what to do after a disaster? If not, here's the way to find out — through the Seattle Housing Authority Residents Preparing (SHARP) project, which is working with Seattle Housing staff, the American Red Cross, the Seattle Fire Department and the Seattle Office of Emergency Management.

These groups are co-sponsoring a Post-Disaster Workshop from 12:30 - 3 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 21 at the Seattle Emergency Operations Center, located at 105 Fifth Ave. on the corner of Fifth and Washington in Downtown Seattle.

The workshop begins at 1 p.m., but we encourage you to arrive at 12:30 p.m. to sign in, get some refreshments and sign up to win some door prizes.

If you want to attend, please contact Cinda Lium at 206-322-3291 or cindalu@gmail.com with your name, address, phone number and email address (if you have one). Also please let her know if you need an interpreter or help with transportation (we have some money available for cab rides).

If you want more information on the workshop itself, contact Seattle Housing Authority community builders Marcia Johnson at 206-239-1530 or mmjohnson@seattlehousing.org or Ellen Ziontz at 206-239-1625 or eziontz@seattlehousing.org.

Because parking around the workshop site is limited (and metered), we're encouraging the use of public transit to get there. The building is about two blocks from Fifth and Jackson and the International District tunnel station (which is served by many METRO bus routes, along with Sound Transit's LINK light rail).

Call METRO at 206-553-3000 (TTD relay: 711) or go to <http://kingcounty.gov/transit> for route and schedule information.

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.

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.

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.

POINT OF VIEW

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

Sept. 20, 2011 — The grand opening of Lake City Court

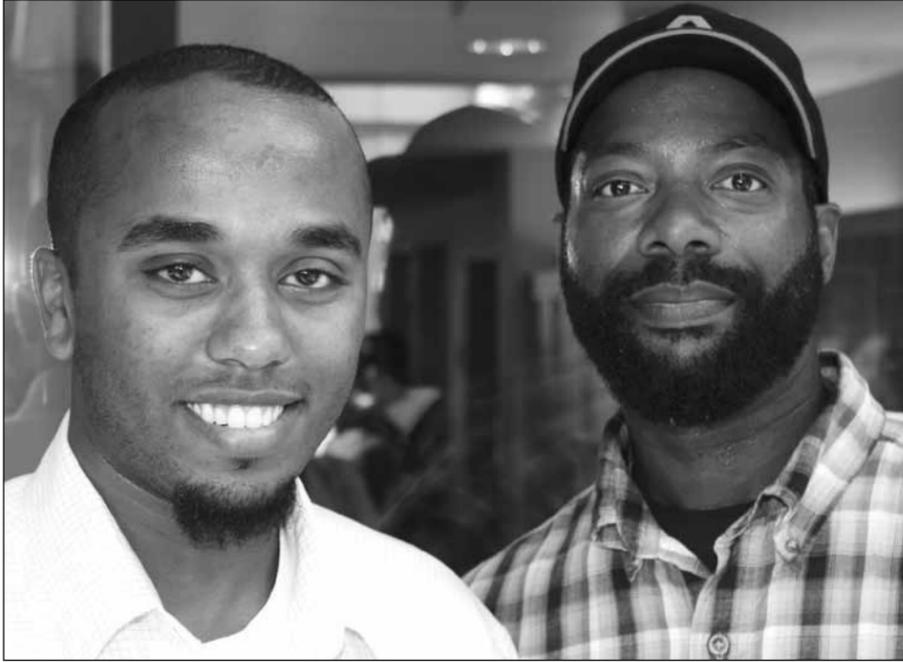


PHOTO BY JEFF HANCOCK

Jibriil Yusuf (left) and Mitchell Cheatham were both hired by Andersen Construction for the Lake City Court project. Yusuf, who graduated from the UW in 2010, was hired as project engineer. "I didn't just get a job through this program," he said. "I launched a career."



The patio of a ground-floor unit in Lake City Court (left) opens into a courtyard area. Rain gardens on either side of the stone pathway will help mitigate stormwater runoff at the site, and several trees provide shade, color and a sense of connection to nature. Local artist Melissa Koch (above) describes one of the art installations she created for Lake City Court. Koch created a total of 28 pieces for the building in the span of just two months.

PHOTOS BY TYLER ROUSH



PHOTO BY VIRGINIA FELTON

A crowd of more than 150 people enjoyed touring apartments, hearing about construction and sampling refreshments at the grand opening celebration.

Next month:

Read The Voice for information on programming offered at the new Lake City Court, as well as the welcome basket program for new residents.

homeWorks wraps up at Denny Terrace

By SVEN KOEHLER
Seattle Housing Authority

Almost exactly a year to the day went by from the kick-off celebration that marked start of the homeWorks renovation project at Denny Terrace until the construction team said their goodbyes at a closing party on Sept. 13. Residents and the crew celebrated the end of homeWorks with a pizza party and a visual review of all the changes at the building over the course of the year.

First and foremost, the most obvious change had to be the new exterior. The formerly drab brick building was transformed with a three-toned, smooth stucco façade. New steel-reinforced vinyl windows were also installed. The massive change to the building was well received by both residents and neighbors.

The new exterior and windows were designed with proper flashing and a system to drain water from the walls before it has a chance to leak inside, which was a problem before.

Janet Romano, who has lived at Denny Terrace for over a decade, says she was originally sad to see the old brick façade disappear. "But it's good that the new coat-



PHOTO BY SVEN KOEHLER

Janet Romano, a Denny Terrace resident for more than a decade, said that at first she missed the building's brick façade. But the new color scheme has won her over.

ing keeps water out of the building better than the brick. I like what they've done with the colors."

The color scheme of warm gray and wheat-colored expanses with deep yellow accents around the windows helped reduce the overwhelming scale of the building. Brian Buck has lived on upper Capitol Hill since 1988 and used to see Denny Terrace everyday on his bike ride home from his former job downtown. He noticed the building was wrapped for several months during construction and thinks the building



PHOTO BY SVEN KOEHLER

The scaffolding and wrap around Denny Terrace has come down, revealing a colorful new facade that isn't done justice in black and white.

now matches comfortably with neighboring buildings on Capitol Hill. "The building fits in. The colors are nice and sharp, and the building has clean lines," he said.

Another Capitol Hill neighbor, who goes by Martha and can see Denny Terrace from

her window, put it more bluntly, "It used to be bland and nondescript and it reminded me of an old hospital. But now I like the warm grey...I seem to see a lot of that in the area

Please see "Denny Terrace" on Page 4

HIGH POINT HERALD

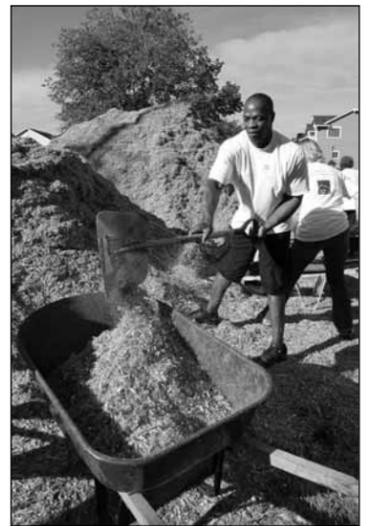
NEWS ABOUT THE HIGH POINT COMMUNITY

A playground in a day: Volunteers build Bataan Park Playground



PHOTOS BY TYLER ROUSHI

The new Bataan Park Playground (above), at High Point Drive SW and SW Bataan Street, was a KaBoom! project, built through the collaborative efforts of Windermere Real Estate, the High Point Open Space Association and Neighborhood House. Volunteers (upper right) assemble swing sets for the playground. At left is High Point resident and volunteer Todd Taylor. Volunteer Willie Austin (far right) loads bark chips into a wheelbarrow. Austin, a fitness instructor for Neighborhood House's Be Active Together program, led the volunteer group in a warm-up exercise before the build day began. High Point resident and volunteer Mohamudi Sheikh (near right) moves a wheelbarrow load of bark chips that will serve as ground cover for the playground. Sheikh, who lives adjacent to the playground, said his son is very excited about the new play area.



Want to see more photos? Log onto Facebook and "Like" Neighborhood House to see a gallery of color photos!

\$4,000 raised for Somalia famine relief at High Point event



PHOTO COURTESY OF SHUKRI OLOW

Guests attended a fundraising dinner at the High Point Center to raise money for Somalia famine relief.

BY VOICE STAFF

The ongoing famine in Somalia, which has brought international attention to a region often neglected by the media, has killed tens of thousands of people, many of them refugees of the Somali civil war.

Last month, residents of the High Point neighborhood — home to a large Somali community — did their part to try to bring a measure of much-needed relief to those in Somalia who are in need. A fundraising dinner at the Neighborhood House High Point Center, attended by more than 100 people from High Point and the surrounding community, raised more than \$4,000 in donations to support relief efforts in Somalia.



PHOTO COURTESY OF SHUKRI OLOW

Seattle Mayor Mike McGinn, pictured with High Point Community Builder Shukri Olow, was one of many guests at the fundraising event.

Please see "Fundraiser" on Page 5

Neighborhood House is proud to announce the High Point Mobile Lab is open for the community

Located at the Neighborhood House High Point Center, the lab has 15 laptops, a printer, and staff that can assist with questions. Currently, open lab hours are from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Fridays, along with a Basic Computer Skills Class from 1:30 – 3 p.m. Keep an eye out for upcoming programming.

The High Point Mobile Lab will help bridge the digital divide in the High Point Community. Whether community members want to learn to type, email, look for jobs or send pictures to family and friends abroad, the Mobile Lab is the place to come to get connected.

Staff will be happy to answer questions about current and future programming. The Mobile Lab can be reached at 206-588-4900 or kathrynm@nhwa.org.

Denny Terrace

Continued from Page 3

these days."

Of course, you shouldn't judge a book by its cover. Behind the new exterior coating are several inches of insulation. This, along with the new, better-insulated windows, bumped up the energy efficiency of the building significantly.

The improvements allowed the project to receive more than \$10 million in funding through the City of Seattle's Homewise program and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) to promote green building. "That seems like a pretty good use of money for economic stimulus. I like to see my tax dollars at work," said Buck.

During the closing party, residents remembered all the construction action inside the building along with the exterior changes. Every apartment's bathroom was remodeled, including new showers and toilets. Electrical and lighting upgrades were made throughout the units to save electricity and improve safety. Every resident had to move out temporarily during

this work, and spent several days in a hotel. The building received new hot water boilers and a new mailroom, and the building offices and lobby were remodeled.

Lastly, improvements were made in front of the building. The parking lots were repaved and changes were made to the wheelchair ramps in front of the building to make them easier to negotiate on wheels.

The regrading of the wheelchair ramps led to some minor reconfiguration of the front courtyard. Residents of Denny Terrace decided to use a portion of the \$2,000 homeWorks Community Fund to buy new plants and garden furniture to make the outside spaces more friendly and inviting.

By this month, residents will have seen the last of the construction crew from W.G. Clark, who were at Denny Terrace for over a year.

One last item remains at the building for October in a final push to reduce the energy usage and improve the quality of life at the building. Project Manager Juan Medina announced that well over 100 old refrigerators still in use at the building will be replaced by new versions that will halve the energy consumption.

RAINIER VISTA NEWS

NEWS ABOUT THE RAINIER VISTA COMMUNITY

Sound and Vision: Tamarack stores open for business



PHOTO BY SCOTT FREUTEL

Dr. Jeannette Pham shows off just a few of the many eyeglass frames she displays in her new Tamarack Place business, Clear Vision Optometry.

A clear look at family eye care

BY SCOTT FREUTEL
Seattle Housing Authority

Even if your vision isn't as sharp as it might be when you walk into the new Clear Vision Optometry clinic and eyeglass dispensary in the Tamarack Building at Rainier Vista, you'll be dazzled at the remarkable selection of eyewear. And if your vision isn't quite what it could be, well, the proprietor, Dr. Jeanette Pham, O.D., can certainly help with that.

Pham, who is 36 years old, opened her optometry practice last month. In an interview, she said she has a special interest in pediatric vision care, treatment of eye diseases, contact lens fitting and co-managing care for people who undergo eye surgery for cataracts.

"I'm here to provide quality care to my patients and their families from infancy to the golden years," she said recently. "And I offer both affordable and high-end eyeglasses frames. Everyone should be able to see clearly regardless of their financial status."

Pham was born in Vietnam and came

to the United States when she was 10 years old. She earned bachelor's degrees in chemistry and psychology at the University of California, Riverside, and a master's degree in Chemistry at Northeastern Illinois University. She received her doctor's degree in Optometry from Nova Southeastern University in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., in 2005. She lives in Federal Way with her husband, Kevin Dinh, M.D., and their 3-year old daughter, Andria Dinh and 1-year-old son, Alexander Dinh.

Before opening her new business last month, Pham practiced optometry in Graham and in Puyallup, Wash.

Pham will be hosting a Grand Opening the afternoon of Friday, Oct. 14, to introduce herself and her practice to her neighbors. The address is 4626 Martin Luther King Jr. Way S, in the Tamarack Place building.

Clear Vision Optometry is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. and by appointment on Saturdays. The business's phone number is 206-721-8000.



Uy Nguyen, shown here in his new Tamarack Place business, Solutions Wireless is the man to see about repairing your old cell phone or getting a new one without needing to sign a contract with a big national phone service provider.

PHOTO BY SCOTT FREUTEL

Fit to fix your phone

BY SCOTT FREUTEL
Seattle Housing Authority

When you first meet Uy Nguyen, proprietor of the new business called Solutions Wireless, in the Tamarack Building in Rainier Vista, you may be surprised to see him behind the counter inside his small shop.

Strong and fit-looking, Nguyen looks as though he should be outside hiking or biking, not tending shop. In fact, Nguyen does hike and bike (and ride his motorcycle) when he isn't helping people solve their wireless communications problems.

Solutions Wireless offers repair services — Nguyen describes himself as the kind of guy whose friends always pestered him to fix their computers and cell phones when he was in college — and sells no-contract cell phones for T-Mobile, UNI Wireless, Boost Mobile and Simple Mobile. (No-contract cell phones let the buyer save money and avoid having to commit to a national carrier for two years or so with a national carrier.)

Nguyen was born in Vietnam and grew up on the Kitsap Peninsula. He studied biology, psychology and business at Washington

State University.

Nguyen, who said recently that he "loves" social work and likes living in and working with people our multicultural, multi-language community, works part-time, in the evenings, for a local nonprofit organization.

Solutions Wireless is at 4612 Martin Luther King, Jr. Way S, in the Tamarack Building. It is open 11 a.m. until 7 p.m. Monday through Friday and Saturdays by appointment. The telephone number is 425-243-2419.

Tamarack Place leases up

Seattle Housing Authority noted last month that all six commercial units in Tamarack Place have been leased. Four are open now: Clear Vision Optical, Gairson Law LLC, PG Insurance and Solutions Wireless. Two have yet to open: Bananas Grill, whose owner hopes to open the restaurant this month, and Wellness Acupuncture, which is on track to open in January.

Services

Continued from Page 1

and a growing demand for our agency to find ways to work more efficiently," said John Forsyth, Community Services Administrator for Seattle Housing. "This newly integrated Economic Opportunities team will maximize the skills and talents of existing staff so that they can deliver better services to more residents."

The biggest improvement clients of these services will notice is a more streamlined system, in which a client is assigned one Economic Opportunities staff person to see them through their service goals. In the past, many clients had been passed from one staff person to the next during different stages, which resulted in service delays and clients having to repeat information.

The reorganization is also a recognition that clients have multiple needs pertaining to economic opportunities and should be able to work closely

with one person to meet those different needs. As a result of these program changes, clients may be working with someone new, as some staff members will be relocated to different offices.

In 2010, Seattle Housing hired a third-party firm, Business Government Community Connections, to assist staff in developing a new economic opportunities strategic plan. The planning process included an advisory group made up of staff from across the agency; individual interviews with over 40 housing clients; reviews of client paperwork and processes; and feedback from clients, staff, agency management and outside community partners.

The review revealed that the agency needed to ensure that clients receive assessment-driven services that are easily accessible and well coordinated. The integration of these two service programs is a reflection of that review.

The integration of the two teams took effect on Sept. 6.

Fundraiser

Continued from Page 4

The funds will go directly to Mercy Corps and Islamic Relief, two international aid agencies providing relief in Somalia.

Attendees included Seattle Mayor Mike McGinn, Seattle City Councilmember Tom Rasmussen and Neighborhood House Executive Director Mark Okazaki.

Shukri Olow, the High Point Community Builder, and Neighborhood House employee Aser Ashkir, co-organized the event with widespread community support.

In an email, Olow and Ashkir also thanked Fredolyn Millendez, Bianca Garcia, Aparna Rae and Jen Calleja of Neighborhood House for their

support, as well as Asha Mohamed of Seattle Housing, Mohamed Sheikh Hassan of Afrique Service Center, High Point residents Tom Phillips and Julie Wade, the staffs of Mercy Corps and Islamic Relief, and The Seattle Channel for filming the event.

Olow and Ashkir also expressed a special thank-you to the volunteer efforts of 11 Somali women who prepared an authentic meal of Somali rice, hilib, chicken, qalwa, mandazi, sambusa and tea for guests to enjoy.

The two also thanked the donors who generously gave in support of their efforts.

"Remember, your donation saved a life," the email read, "and thank you for hearing the stories of those voiceless."

NEWHOLLY NOTES

NEWS ABOUT THE NEWHOLLY COMMUNITY

NewHolly Community Building Office and Volunteer Committees invite you to participate in your community. Get involved! Join a Group! Questions? Call 723-1725



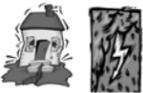
Multicultural Communication



Crime Prevention



Traffic-Parks-Safety



Disaster Preparation



Welcome Team



Special Events & Block Parties

NEWHOLLY NEIGHBORHOOD NIGHT

COMMUNITY DINNER (HALAL)
VEGETARIAN VIETNAMESE FOOD

FREE EMERGENCY SUPPLIES
FOR EACH HOUSEHOLD!

RAFFLE DOORPRIZES

FAMILY FUN FEST
VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION

\$5,000 - MONEY FOR NEWHOLLY
COMMUNITY PROJECTS!

If you have an idea, bring it! You might win \$!
NewHolly community members can get up to \$1000 for projects
Organized by residents and that benefit your neighborhood!
Every adult resident attending gets to vote on what to give \$ to.
(like Block Parties, Signs, Playgrounds, Parent Groups, Cultural Events)

Friday October 21, 2011
6:30-8 p.m.
Campus Gathering Hall
7054 32nd Ave South

Supervised children's activities for ages 3-10.
All neighbors are encouraged to attend.
Adults must accompany youth under 13 years old.
Interpreters are available for Somali, Vietnamese, Cambodian, Amharic & Tigrinya
Please call if you need another language.
If you would like to help, volunteers are welcomed.
Thank you!
Call 723-1725

Two NewHolly residents, one Yesler resident receive college scholarships from AHMA

Laura Gentry
Seattle Housing Authority

The Affordable Housing Management Association of Washington (AHMA) recently awarded scholarships to five Washington State students. Two of the winners, Qadro and Nasro Mohamud, are from NewHolly and one of the winners, Ruby Li, is from Yesler Terrace.

Qadro and Nasro Mohamud

Residents of NewHolly, Qadro and Nasro graduated from Ingraham High School.

Qadro, 20, is double-majoring in communication and psychology and hopes to attend graduate school after receiving her undergraduate degrees. Outside of classes, she works with the promotions team of her school's Broadcast Club and is also a member of the African Friendship Association. She has plans to study abroad in London next summer.

According to Allison Conner, center supervisor at NewHolly, when Qadro was in high school, she attended the Youth Tutoring Program at NewHolly on a regular basis, working on her studies and completing college and scholarship applications. She also gave back to the program, volunteering over 80 hours.

Nasro, who is passionate about technology, worked during her high school years in the Digital Connectors program at NewHolly, helping community members learn

Nonsmoking Continued from Page 2

that air is circulated and shared throughout the building. Many advocates for the non-smoking policy recognize and appreciate that clean air leads to better health.

Seattle Housing provides homes for a variety of people, including seniors, persons with health problems or disabilities, children, and vulnerable population groups. Some suffer from heart and respiratory problems including emphysema, asthma, bronchitis and heart disease. Secondhand smoke in their environment often worsens their condition by intensifying symptoms. Furthermore, these individuals have few or no options to move and thus must tolerate an unfavorable living condition.

At the public hearing held last month, a young girl living in one of High Point's Breathe Easy Homes stated that everyone should have the opportunity to breathe clean air. The Breathe Easy Homes were specially built to minimize the symptoms and enhance the health of families and children who suffer from respiratory problems and asthma.

Opponents of a nonsmoking policy feel this policy infringes on their rights. Since residents pay rent and smoking is a legal activity, people reason they should have the right to smoke in the privacy of their homes. The proposed policy is seen as intrusive and another way for organizations to impose regulations.

As property owners and managers, housing authorities have the right to impose reasonable policies for the protection of other tenants and of their properties.

Many residents who challenge the nonsmoking policy mention mental health

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.

or mobility issues as an obstacle. Several have argued it is harsh to expect people living with mental health challenges to quit smoking.

Mental health experts have traditionally focused on treating mental health conditions first, yet new research indicates that addressing mental health issues in conjunction with tobacco use is far more effective.

Others believe it is impractical to expect everyone to quit smoking.

The Seattle Housing Authority realizes not everyone is ready to quit smoking, or is even interested in quitting. The new policy would not be a ban on smokers, it would merely ban smoking in indoor areas.

Smokers have suggested alternatives to extending the nonsmoking policy to the housing authority's entire portfolio. Instead, they have recommended leaving some buildings as smoking buildings, grandfathering in existing smokers, or providing safe designated smoking shelters on or near the property.

Both supporters and opponents show apprehension regarding enforcement and continued funding for quit resources.

Enforcement may be trying at first, but learning from the experiences of the Seattle Senior Housing Program at Seattle Housing and other local housing authorities, non-compliance has been minimal and has led to no evictions.

Supporting those who want to quit and helping them comply with the new policy is essential, but with state budget cuts, many services are being reduced or eliminated. Fortunately, free quit resources remain available to King County residents through March 2012 at 1-800-QUIT-NOW.

The next steps for implementation will include a presentation to the Board for review and approval. After approval, residents will be notified of the policy change and will be invited to community meetings to understand the policy, what is involved and how to comply. Residents will also be required to sign a lease addendum.

The nonsmoking campaign will continue to provide tobacco cessation information and resources in Seattle Housing buildings and communities and will post appropriate signage.

Please see "Scholarship" on Page 7

YESLER HAPPENINGS

NEWS ABOUT THE YESLER TERRACE COMMUNITY

Nature Consortium offers art classes for youth



PHOTO BY TYLER ROUSH

Artist Brent McDonald helps Andrew, a student in the Nature Consortium art class at the Yesler Community Center, trace a line on a sheet of duct-taped paper. McDonald was teaching the class how to make duct tape wallets.

The Nature Consortium offers art classes for youth and teens every weekday at the Yesler Community Center.

The class schedule includes:

Art You Can Eat, Mondays, ages 10 – 19
Organic Gardening, Tuesdays, ages 5 – 19

Guest Artist Workshops, Wednesdays, ages 10 – 19

World Percussion, Thursdays, ages 5 – 19

World Art, Fridays, ages 5 – 19

All classes are from 4 – 6 p.m.

For more information, visit www.naturec.org or contact Elizabeth Dahl at 206-852-6397 or yesler@naturec.org.

Parrish's art featured in local exhibition

Yesler Terrace artist Charles Parrish's work will be featured in the Onyx Fine Arts Exhibition this month.

The exhibition runs from Oct. 2 – Nov. 1 at Art/Not Terminal Gallery, 2045 Westlake Ave. Gallery hours are 11 a.m. – 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday and noon – 5 p.m. Sunday. For more information visit www.antgallery.org or call 206-233-0680.

while retaining the existing SSHP policies and mission.

"Without HUD money, we'd have to raise rents. We are fortunate that we could make this change to pay for the building rehabilitations, while still maintaining character and feel of the SSHP program," Anderson said. The biggest noticeable change for seniors in the program will be different income certification procedures. By the end of September, one third of program residents had completed the new paperwork.

While 20 of the buildings are making the change to accept HUD funding, three buildings are remaining as is: Leschi House, South Park Manor and Ravenna School Apartments. However, aside from certifications, there will be little difference to how the program functions. "My goal is that all the buildings get rehabbed, so everyone can look out their windows and see blue sky instead of fog!" said Anderson.

Back at Olmstead Manor, Kinney looked forward to the same. "I've seen the plans for the new exterior, and they look terrific," she said. "I know the construction noise and having to move around furniture will be a bother for a while, but I think it will be worth it!"

SSHP

Continued from Page 2

end of life.

However, funding was provided only for initial construction. Ongoing capital needs were to be covered by rents. Since the goal is to keep the rents at affordable rates, paying for expensive updates with funds from rents alone is a financial challenge.

Funding for construction at these first seven buildings has been covered by the program's financial reserves plus various sources other than rent.

"We've been able to address a lot of the capital needs in the portfolio by a combination of city, state and some federal grants, but future funding from these sources is really uncertain," explained Tracey Locke, Senior Development Program Manager at Seattle Housing Authority who manages renovation projects like these.

The solution recently finalized by the Housing Authority is to bring the kind of funding that the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) provides to Low Income Public Housing to most of the SSHP program. Using the Authority's "Moving to Work" status allows access to more capital needs funding

Have you considered home ownership?

If you are ready to learn more about home ownership, please join us for a workshop:



Saturday, Oct. 15, 2011 12:30 - 6:30 p.m.
Yesler Terrace Community Room, 825 Yesler Way

Somali, Tigrigna, and Amharic interpretation on request

If you complete this class, you may qualify for **down payment assistance of up to \$10,000** and find out about additional down payment assistance for up to \$45,000. This is a Washington State Housing Finance Commission sponsored class. Ty Reed, the presenter, is an approved instructor.

RSVP or ask questions by contacting Brett Houghton
Phone: 206.343.7484 Email: bhoughton@seattlehousing.org

brought to you by:



WASHINGTON STATE
HOUSING FINANCE
COMMISSION



Choice

Continued from Page 1

neighborhood this grant will help build."

Seattle Housing Executive Director Tom Tierney expressed his thanks on behalf of the agency. "This is a significant catalyst to move this project into action. It shows us that HUD sees the need for renewal in this neighborhood and affirms the vision that we have put forward to make this a full neighborhood transformation, not just a renewal of the housing.

"We will begin our work here and continue to seek additional resources for the project," said Tierney. "We give profound

thanks to the hundreds of residents and citizens who have helped shape this redevelopment plan, to Secretary Donovan, Senator Patty Murray and all of our local partners for joining with us in this vision of renewal for the Yesler neighborhood."

The Housing Authority has been working since receipt of the notice to adjust the original plans for the grant to the lower numbers. While plans have not yet been completed, staff members are hopeful that most of the original housing that was proposed will still be built, and that much of the social service work will be implemented. The agency expects to announce details of its plans in October.

Scholarship

Continued from Page 6

how to use technology. She was accepted to several colleges, including Duke University, and chose to attend Washington State University, the same school her sister attends.

The two sisters may even end up working together someday. Qadro, who is not as technology-focused as Nasro, participated in a Microsoft-sponsored program that teaches young girls the power of lifelong learning. They also told participants that many jobs within Microsoft don't require a technology background.

"That program gave me the passion for learning. The program taught me that if you're willing to learn, many employers would love to hire you," Qadro said.

Qadro says she is glad Nasro is attending school with her: "I love attending school where I also have family. This has made my transition to leaving home a lot easier."

Ruby Li

Ruby Li is a resident of Yesler Terrace and graduated from Garfield High School in 2010. She attended Seattle Central Community College and is now attending the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York.

Ruby recently received a Dream Big! scholarship as well as a Housing Authority Insurance Group (HAIG) scholarship and was featured in the August edition of The Voice. For more information about her, you can view that edition online at www.seattlehousing.org/news/the-voice/



Neighborhood House

Strong Families. Strong Communities. Since 1906.

