Legislature makes ‘down payment’ on budget deficit

By Voice staff

The state Legislature broke for the holidays Wednesday, Dec. 14, ending the special session without a balanced 2012 budget. Instead, lawmakers settled on a $480 million patch that combines some budget cuts with delayed payments and fund transfers.

Gov. Chris Gregoire had directed the Legislature to provide a new budget before Christmas — one that included $2 billion in changes to shore up the state’s impending shortfall. That will have to wait until the new year.

Sen. Ed Murray (D) described the stop-gap agreement reached by the Legislature as a “down payment” on the state’s budget problem. Lawmakers stressed that the special session, which was to last no more than 30 days, wasn’t adequate to reach full consensus on a more comprehensive budget plan.

Details of the Legislature’s plan include $50 million in savings by delaying payments for school buses and another $23 million by delaying rules changes relating to mental-health assessments.

About $83 million comes from unused funds allocated in last year’s budget. The budget bill passed the House Tuesday, Dec. 13 by a vote of 86-8, then passed the Senate the next day by a vote of 42-6.

Gregoire proposes sales-tax increase

One possible method to help the state offset its nearly $2 billion budget deficit is a temporary increase to the state’s sales tax. Gov. Gregoire wants a temporary half-cent increase of the sales tax to be sent before voters. The additional tax would generate an estimated $494 million in extra revenue through 2013, at a rate of a half-cent per dollar spent — or five cents on a $10 purchase.

The majority of the new revenue would be applied to education and public safety. Barring a tax increase, Gregoire’s proposal to balance the budget would involve cuts to higher education and a shortening of the school year.

A special election to vote on the sales tax increase could take place in March.

An independent soul

Dorli Rainey, longtime Seattle activist, becomes one of the faces of the Occupy movement

By Tyler Roush
The Voice editor

Standing on a busy corner outside of a Seattle coffee shop on a recent morning, Dorli Rainey does not much look the part of the face that helped galvanize a protest movement. Bundled up against the cold, she is slight of stature and, at 84, looks more grandmother than protester.

But her spirit and energy are obvious, and it doesn’t take long for the activist firebrand to manifest itself.

“I was born an independent soul,” she says, waiting for the café to open.

The Michaelson Manor resident has become a face of the Occupy movement.

Please see “Rainey” on Page 4

Demonstrators occupy vacant house in Seattle’s Central Area

By Lynn Sereda
Section 8 Voucher Holder

Since Occupy Seattle first got organized in September, there have been a wide variety of events occurring almost daily: marches, teach-ins, bank protests, and even building occupations. Some of these actions are officially connected with Occupy Seattle, while others are organized by activists in solidarity with Occupy Seattle, although not officially sanctioned by Occupy Seattle’s General Assembly.

In late November, one group of protesters marched from Seattle Central College to a boarded-up and vacant duplex on 23rd Avenue near Garfield High School. They removed the plywood from the entrance and have taken up residence in the building to draw attention to the alarming increase in homelessness while thousands of homes remain vacant.

Please see “Occupy” on Page 4
Health Notes  
A column devoted to your well-being

Sales of tobacco to minors in Seattle doubles

PUBLIC HEALTH – SEATTLE & KING COUNTY

Seattle tobacco retailers were caught selling tobacco to under minors 15 percent of the time in 2011. This marks an alarming jump of twice the 7 percent sales rate over the previous five years in the city.

Overall, there were 70 sales (from 63 establishments) to minors across Seattle over 468 retailer inspections this year.

Illegal sales of tobacco to minors have doubled throughout King County over the same period, from an average of 6 percent between 2006 and 2010 to 12 percent in 2011.

In Washington state, selling tobacco to a minor is prohibited by law and results in a fine for retailers of $100 for the first offense, as well as education about the dangers of selling tobacco responsibly. The fine for a clerk is $50.

Repeat offenders within a two-year window can be fined up to $1,500 and may have their license to sell tobacco products suspended.

Retailers refusing to sell tobacco to minors are congratulated in person and given an information packet. Public Health’s Tobacco Prevention Program will continue to focus inspections on previous offenders in the upcoming year.

“We’ve made progress over the past ten years in reducing the impact of tobacco addiction in our community, but we need to keep this good work going,” said Dr. David Fleming, Director of Public Health – Seattle & King County. “As funding for proven tobacco prevention programs is eliminated, it is increasingly important that we keep our tobacco-free future in mind.”

Sales of tobacco to teens are a major concern because most adult tobacco additions start in youth; 90 percent of current smokers became addicted before they were 19 years old. Overall, about a third of all kids who become regular smokers before adulthood will eventually die from smoking. Tobacco use is the leading cause of death in King County, leading to 1,990 deaths per year and $343 million in medical care costs, lost productivity and other expenses.

Retailer compliance checks are conducted throughout the year by Public Health and the Washington State Liquor Control Board, as well as the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) due to new federal laws around tobacco and cigarettes. Anyone who witnesses a merchant or other adults providing tobacco to a minor is encouraged to call Public Health’s Tobacco Prevention Program at 206-296-7613 to file a confidential complaint, or text the information to 206-745-2548.

For more information about tobacco prevention, please visit Public Health – Seattle & King County’s website at www.kingcounty.gov/health/tobacco.

Scholarship website connects students to financial aid

Editor’s Note: This article first appeared in the Nov. 2010 edition of The Voice.

By LISA WOOD
University House Resident

Not too long ago, the Greater Issaquah Chamber of Commerce wanted to give away two $2,000 scholarships, and could only find one well-qualified student.

To help match scholarship givers with scholarship takers, a public/partnership of nonprofits and the state’s Higher Education Coordinating Board (HECB) has created thewashboard.org.

The service is free, and the site only lists scholarships for which Washington students are eligible. Scholarship season doesn’t start in earnest until December, but the partnership is encouraging students to log on and set up their profile now so they can begin browsing the scholarships and marking ones that interest them.

One of the biggest advantages of this service is that it encourages the use of a common profile to enable individual students to apply for multiple scholarships at one time. The initial profile setup asks some rather lengthy and somewhat challenging questions. At the end, be prepared to send requests for letters of recommendation to people who will give you a stellar referral.

Once students have identified a good scholarship fit, thewashboard.org sends e-mail reminders as application deadlines draw near. Along with high school seniors, scholarships are also available for those already enrolled in college and for those just returning to school.

The Washington State Scholarship Association is especially interested in using thewashboard.org to reach low-income students and those who are the first in their family to go to school.

Mary Beth Lambert, spokeswoman for the Washington State Scholarship Association says that even if you’re “not a great athlete or a 4.0 student, there are many scholarships available for many interests.”

While top-ranked high-school students usually find scholarship money with little difficulty, “middle-of-the-road students can’t get away with any money, even though it’s available.”

When accessing thewashboard.org, remember that the service is free to use. It is suggested that all students be wary of any organization that charges a fee to find “hidden” scholarships.

Daytripper: A journey to the center of the universe (right here in Seattle)

By GERDIN O’DONNELL
Yeiser Terrace resident

Why Fremont. Why Fremont? The self-styled “center of the universe” is Fremont. It’s more than a little strange, and proud of it.

There’s a mix of 90-year-old buildings next to the very new and the being-built. It has more cheerful, odd and funny public art than any other neighborhood in Seattle.

There’s a history of maisons (or maybe octopus) wrapped around the tower of a new condo at 34th, a mix of 90-year-old buildings and $343 million in medical care costs, lost productivity and other expenses. Anyone who witnesses a merchant or other adults providing tobacco to a minor is encouraged to call Public Health’s Tobacco Prevention Program at 206-296-7613 to file a confidential complaint, or text the information to 206-745-2548.

For more information about tobacco prevention, please visit Public Health – Seattle & King County’s website at www.kingcounty.gov/health/tobacco.

Daytripper: A journey to the center of the universe (right here in Seattle)

Free extra recycling for Seattle residents

By SEATTLE PUBLIC UTILITIES

Many Seattle residents wonder how they can fit all their wrapping paper, boxes, bottles and other recyclables into their cart during the holiday season.

As a reminder, Seattle residents can always recycle as much as they want at no extra charge. Simply put additional recyclables in sturdy bins or boxes next to your recycling cart on your regular collection day.

Common holiday items that go in your recycling bin:

- Clean pines, plastic dell/veggie trays and lids (wider than three inches), empty egg cartons, paper, plastic and metal cups, bottles, cans, jars and tubs, catalogs, greeting cards, envelopes, cardboard, clean aluminum foil, gift wrap, plastic grocery bags (bundle and tie together) and glossy/shiny shopping bags (reduce waste and bring your own reusable shopping bag instead).
- All food scraps and yard clippings can go in your food and yard waste cart, including figgy pudding, fruitcake, mistletoe, wreaths, brooms, meat, cheese, seafood, fruit and vegetables. Paper bags and napkins can also be composted, as well as greasy cardboard pizza boxes.
- There are several local Drop-off Recycling Locations for hard-to-recycle items, including TVs, cell phones and other electronics, as well as Styrofoam, batteries and other items.
- To find a location near you, call 206-684-3000 or go to www.seattle.gov/util and click on “How do I dispose of this?”

Days of yore have gone in the garbage include ribbons and bows, burned out holiday lights, alkaline batteries and Styrofoam packaging. Fats, oil and grease should be placed in a lidded container and placed in the garbage.

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The Voice, the newspaper of Neighborhood House, is published monthly with the support of Seattle Housing Authority and the King County Housing Authority. Neighborhood House helps diverse communities of people with limited resources attain their goals of self-sufficiency, financial independence and community building. The Voice contributes to that mission by providing low-income residents, refugees and other concerned parties with timely news and information. 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.snwa.org and at www.seattlehousing.org:

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Tyler Roux
Katrina O’Donnell
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The shipping can as seen from the bank on the southern edge of Fremont.

Lunch:
There are a lot of restaurants and coffee shops, many of them inex-
One to grow on
Garden tips for community gardeners

Learn tips to extend the growing season through winter

By ANZA MUENCH
Special to The Voice

The calendar says winter has just started and long-term forecasts are for a colder than normal January, February and March. This may be a good time to discuss techniques for extending the growing season. Most Pacific Northwest gardeners practice season extension, but let’s look at how to plan for some simple ways that will pay off for the home gardener.

The usual way to get gardens started earlier in the spring is by having lots of little transplants to set out as soon as the soil warms to 40 or 45 degrees. Lettuce, broccoli, cabbage, choy, celery, radish, and kale are typical to start early in trays indoors. Use a sterile seed starting mix with some peat in it for good results.

I have tried to have starting mix with compost and have had trouble with “damping off” disease, especially for the Brassicaceae. Wash your trays with a solution of water and bleach (1:10) to prevent fungal and bacterial diseases. These seeds like 55 degrees to germinate, but then can grow in 45 degrees or even less.

Either get a grow light stand (simple fluorescent tubes are good enough for seed starting) or make room on a south facing window window with full light. Sometimes it is too cold to germinate seeds on the window sill, so place them on top of your refrigerator or the furnace to stay warm until they sprout.

Then move the tray to the window. After 4-5 weeks when the seedlings have four true leaves, it is OK to transplant to a nutrient rich potting mix with plenty of compost. Use lots of four-inch plastic pots for transplanting.

These pots don’t have to be washed though some pests may be hiding in them, so keep a watch out. Then I usually keep the trays in a cloche or hoop house, which is a great addition to any garden.

Hoop houses have become very popular because they control the micro-climate so well. This is a large, temporary, plastic covered “greenhouse.” Often they are made with plastic pipes bent in a large hoop shape that the clear plastic skin is easily pulled over.

The size depends on how much space you have. Typical hoop houses are 10 feet wide and 6-12 feet tall, which use 1 foot lengths of schedule 40 PVC pipes. This is a comfortable height for me to work in, and the length depends on your needs.

We started with them about 20 feet long. The other determining factor is the width of the plastic you are using to skin the frame. We bought a cheap construction grade the first year and that is just how long it lasted. Most community gardens are built to last.

So, we purchase at least a five-year plastic now, either searching online or stop by home improvement stores. We need to protect them from freezing weather, but watch out for slugs.

After April 1, when the seedlings are ready for transplanting out to the garden, start planting tomato and pepper starts or even the squash family in the hoop house. The one drawback is that these summer fruit-bearing plants do not like beehives and sometimes bees can’t get into the hoop house.

Try these tricks: transplant a yellow flowering broccoli plant (left over from last season) by the open door of the hoop house, or catch a few bumble bees and release in the hoop house or just pollinate by hand. All pollinators need love!

Some new varieties of tomatoes and cucumbers set fruit without pollination, listed in seed catalogs as “greenhouse varieties.”

Gardeners have developed deuche designs for many years. Cloches are smaller clear covers. They will keep a plant or a row of plants. I’ve used a lean-to frame of old windows tied down to a few stakes.

Permanent cold frames are popular to keep trays of seedlings in or grow an early crop of greens, but watch out for slugs. Be careful though, because panses of glass break and it is difficult to get all the pieces out of the soil.

Long sheets of clear plastic tunnels are being used more, too. They just need to be anchored in our windy climate and need to be vented on sunny days.

Let us not forget the microclimate ben efits of floating row covers like Remay. It doesn’t need staking and it prevents flying pests. Remay offers only a 3-4 degree increase in temperature, but that is often enough for seeds to germinate early, especially carrots and beets.

Whichever season extension techniques you want to try this year, you may have lots of snowy days to ponder, design and collect materials for your project. It looks like a tough winter. Eat lots of vitamin rich soups and stay warm and healthy.

Anza Muenchow is a farmer and a volunteer with P-Patch. You can reach her by e-mail at mahafarm@whidbey.com or on the Internet at www.mahafarm.com.

The community speaks out about crime

Crime has a disproportionate impact on low-income communities and communities of color. Raise your voice — come to a community meeting from 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 28 for the Community Speaks Out Against Crime. The event will be held at the Vesel Community Center, 917 Vesel Way, in the Vesel Terrace neighborhood.

The event is organized by the Parent Empowerment for Education Results (PEER) group, a multicultural, multilingual and multilingual community coalition.
Occupy

Continued from Page 1

sit empty, mostly due to the recession and foreclosure crisis. The activists have also said in statements that they are protesting gentrification, and the displacement of people due to real estate profiteering.

The group of about a dozen people has been making an attempt to fix the house up, clean up debris and have even installed a rainwater collection barrel in front of the house. Inside, there is furniture, a small library with activist literature and a stove where water is being heated for hot tea and coffee.

The idea of moving into vacant or foreclosed properties is new. It has actually been a rapidly growing national movement, spearheaded by the Miami-based group Take Back the Land (TBTL). The TBTL movement started as a response to the foreclosure crisis of 2007 in Florida, where one-third of America’s homeless families live, and there is also one of the highest rates of foreclosure.

TBTL has had a great deal of success with “occupying” many of these homes: moving homeless families into the foreclosures. They even have legal assistance to support these activities.

In many cases, even the authorities are not taking action, because even the temporary occupation of these homes is a crime deterrent and helps prevent even more blight in the impacted neighborhoods. TBTL and its founder Max Rameau have been featured in the national media including the PBS television series “NOW.”

TBTL now has chapters across the country, including Portland, Ore. While we haven’t seen too much of this type of activity in Seattle, since we weren’t part of the epicenter of the foreclosure crisis, we can expect more activity in the future, because lately the number of foreclosures is increasing, and so is the homeless rate.

In response, demonstrations have been held recently at bank auctions of foreclosed properties. Critical to the Occupy Our Homes (www.occupyourhomes.org) movement is the idea of making a connection between the banking system’s role in the recession and the observation that the people most hurt by the recession are now losing their homes to the very banks that got bailed out with federal assistance. They are demanding the banks help solve the problem they created by not pushing people into homelessness.

Occupy Our Homes called for a Dec. 6 National Day of Action around this issue. In Seattle, there was an attempt to occupy a vacant commercial property on 10th and Union that was met with a police response.

At press time, there has yet to be any police action at the occupied house on 23rd Avenue. Collective members had a long meeting to discuss their options, including even the possibility of applying for an official permit to renovate the building. Meanwhile, the city’s Department of Planning and Development says they are going through their process of evicting the occupants, though no one is sure how long that takes.

See the photo

A protester at a rally near the Port of Seattle wears the clenched fist logo that includes a silhouette of the Space Needle. The logo has become the symbol of the Occupy Seattle movement.

Rainey

Continued from Page 1

come one of the faces of the Occupy protest movement, thanks to a photo of Rainey that has gained international attention.

An iconic image

It has become one of the iconic images of the Occupy movement, taken during an Occupy Seattle protest downtown, in the minutes after Seattle Police had used pepper spray to disperse the crowd. A visibly injured Rainey is supported on either side by two other protesters — one wears plastic goggles and holds a spray bottle filled with a solution of milk and water. The mixture neutralizes the effects of pepper spray — in the photo, the white solution splatters over Rainey’s eyes, which are red and puffy, and down her nose, cheeks and chin. She has an expression that suggests pain and anger; she appears vulnerable but not afraid. The photo was taken by Seattle P-I photjournalist Joshua Trujillo.

Just days later, video and still photos of a U.C. Davis police officer casually pepper-spraying a row of seated protesters were distributed widely by news media both in print and online. Taken together, the photographs provide a chilling depiction of the methods employed by police to quell protests.

A month removed from the incident, Rainey has a sense of humor about her appearance in the photo.

“That’s why I looked so beautiful — to those engaged in peaceful protest, “she says.

In the aftermath, Rainey refused medical treatment and simply rode the #1 bus, as she often does, back to her apartment at Madison Manor.

Her eyes still swollen, her hair and clothes a mess of pepper spray and milk, she says “I never saw such shocked faces as when (the riders on) that bus turned and looked at me.”

Her phone rang early the next morning. Soon, she was being interviewed by local, national, even international media.

Yet the moment that led to Rainey’s 15 minutes of fame happened quite by accident.

She was on her way to a city meeting about street safety when, lured in by the drone of helicopters, she made her way to the site of the protest at Fifth and Pine.

At the scene of the protest, Rainey says she saw police using bicycles, held side-ways, to push the ranks of protesters back — she added that the force of the pushing almost knocked her to the ground. Other officers fired long streams of pepper spray into the crowd. That’s when she was hit.

She believes she was targeted, having developed a reputation as perhaps a bit of a firebrand during her many decades in Seattle’s activist community.

“The bicycle cops know me,” says Rainey, who for 10 years has been a regular participant of the “Woman in Black” anti-war demonstrations at Westlake Park.

In a statement released a day after the incident, Seattle Mayor Mike McGinn apologized for the use of pepper spray.

“To those engaged in peaceful protest, I am sorry that you were pepper-sprayed. I spoke to Dorli Rainey (who I know personally) to ask how she was doing, and ask for her description of events,” read his statement, in part. (In addition to Rainey, numerous other protesters were also hit with pepper spray, including a pregnant woman.)

The statement also indicated that McGinn had directed Seattle Police Chief John Diaz to review police actions made on the night of the protest.

To Rainey, the use of pepper spray is not only excessive — it’s against international law.

The use of chemical and biological weapons in war is prohibited under the Gerd Aspros Protocol, an international treaty that has been ratified by 137 countries, including the United States.

Yet pepper spray is often used as a means of “less-than-lethal” force by police forces worldwide. Rainey wants that practice to stop.

She said that protesters are not looking to create violence or danger, and that they are capable of regulating their behavior without police involvement.

“We take care of our own, if they’d just let us,” she says.

Since the pepper spray incident, she said that police tactics in Seattle have changed. She said there was a very limited police response to the demonstration on the University Bridge Nov. 17, and to a march down Fourth Avenue a few days later.

However, Seattle Police did use pepper spray and flash bang grenades in dispersing a protest at the Port of Seattle on Dec. 12. The pepper-spray incident hasn’t softened her resolve in supporting the Occupy movement.

“It’s just a continuation of what I’ve always been doing,” Rainey says of the movement’s message of economic justice. “I like to change the way things are, I like to see justice.”

As for her newfound fame, Rainey has taken it in stride. Her phone occasionally rings at 3:30 in the morning — East coast media calling to request an interview. And people have stopped her on the street to ask to take her photo. She happily obliges, and asks, only half-joking, for a donation to Occupy Seattle in return. (Twice she’s been given $10 back.)

But the independent soul isn’t about to change her own outlook — or her commitment to social justice.

“Things have changed my life,” she says. “It hasn’t changed me — I’m still the same irreverent person I always was.”

Daytripper

Continued from Page 2

Cosy. The best place for lunch on a budget is the deli at the Puget Consumer Co-op — there are tables indoors and at an outdoor covered patio, or you can get food to take out and eat by the ship canal.

When to go: Anytime — but crowds are fewer in the winter. The year-round Sunday Market has crafts, flea market booths, food booths and a farmer’s market. There’s also a First Friday art walk. Summer brings Sunday concerts at History House, Saturday night outdoor movies — bring your own chair — and the amazing Fremont Solstice Parade.

Getting there: The #26 and #28 buses from downtown on Third Avenue (or from Green Lake or Ballard) and #30 from the University District or Seattle Center all make stops in Fremont. Get off the bus at 34th and Fremont.

Accessibility: Some of the shops and restaurants are in older buildings with stairs. Most of lower Fremont is paved and level, except for a steep hill climb up to the famous troll (though current construction makes seeing the troll difficult, anyway).

4 – LOCAL AND NATIONAL NEWS
Tips for winter safety, at home and on the roads

By Voice Staff

If recent weather trends hold, it’s looking like it will be a rainy and chilly holiday season. But if you’re holding out for snow, you could still get your wish. Forecasters have predicted that the 2011-2012 winter could take after last year’s counterpart, when snow dumped on Seattle in November and again in January, creating slippery conditions for drivers and shutting down Metro routes.

Aside from a few nights where temperatures have dipped below freezing, our late-fall, early-winter season has been comparatively mild — thus far. Forecasters predict Seattle could be headed for another La Nina winter — the same weather system that created last year’s wet, snowy weather. There are some things you should know to be ready if our winter takes a turn for the worst. The Voice covered indoor heating safety in the December issue — remember, keep furniture, clothing, curtains and other flammable materials a minimum of 12 inches away from your heaters, and DO NOT use portable generators, barbecues or grills indoors, whether for cooking or to heat your home.

A layer of snow covers a Seattle street following a storm in 2008.

Being safe on the roads

Around this time of year, it’s important for drivers to brush up on safe winter driving tips and techniques. The Washington State Department of Transportation maintains an online guide to safe winter driving at www.wsdot.wa.gov/winter. Visit their website, or read on to learn how you can be safe behind the wheel this winter.

Be prepared

Before the winter season sets in, get your car a tune-up to make sure it’s in good working order. Check the car’s oil, antifreeze, brakes, battery, lights, windshield wipers, heater, defrost, belts, filters and hoses, and replace anything that is faulty. If you don’t have any, buy a set of chains for your vehicle. Ask a tire dealer what size of tire chains will best fit your vehicle. Ask a tire dealer what size of tire chains will best fit your vehicle. The Washington State Department of Transportation maintains an online guide to safe winter driving at www.wsdot.wa.gov/winter. Visit their website, or read on to learn how you can be safe behind the wheel this winter.

Be safe behind the wheel

During the winter, or any time that rain or snow is in the forecast, allow extra driving time to reach your destination. Driving too fast for the conditions can contribute to an accident, so make sure you don’t find yourself in a hurry by planning ahead.

When you’re driving in winter conditions, slow your actions down — slower accelerating, slower braking, slower turning and slower speeds. Keep your windshield clear at all times. Do not use warm or hot water to de-ice your windshield — the rapid heating can crack the glass.

Drive with your headlights on, even in daylight, and remember to switch them off when you park your car.

Don’t use your car’s cruise control function.

Don’t feel invincible simply because your vehicle has four-wheel drive. Four-wheel drive and all-wheel drive vehicles don’t stop or steer better than two-wheel drive vehicles in icy conditions.

Spotting distances increase in snowy and icy conditions. Leave extra space between you and the vehicle in front of you, and remember that large trucks take even longer to stop in wintry conditions.

Slow down as you approach intersections, bridges, off-rams and shady spots (which can conceal ice on the roadway).

Proceed with extra caution around chain-up areas, where other drivers will often be outside of their vehicles.

If you are stuck in snow, straighten the wheels and accelerate slowly. Place sand or cat litter underneath the drive wheels to increase traction. Don’t let your wheels spin out.

Being safe on the bus

Ice and snow can cause travel delays for bus riders as well as drivers. Seattle’s many hills are difficult for Metro buses to traverse in inclement weather, and many buses are switched over to snow routes. If the weather outside is frightful, these are a few things bus riders should know:

• Metro posts travel alerts related to weather and construction on its website at http://metro.kingcountygov/up/tralertscenter.html. Click the “Snow, Ice & Flood” link and input your desired route number to check for weather-related alerts. You can also find your route’s snow route information on the same page.

• Because weather changes can occur rapidly and without warning, some changes to Metro routes may be unplanned and unannounced, and route trips may be canceled without warning.

• Anticipate that you may be waiting at a bus stop for longer than usual. Dress for the weather — wear multiple layers and cover your head and hands.

• During periods of winter weather, make sure to have a backup plan if your bus is unexpectedly delayed or is canceled. If possible, save your trip for another time and stay inside.

Everything you need in your emergency kit

In the event of an emergency or natural disaster, families should create a communication plan. Each member of your family should know the details of the plan. Families should:

• Discuss with families and friends about how to prepare for and respond to emergencies that are most likely to occur in your area. Locally, residents are most at risk of fire, flooding, heavy rain and snowfall, icy conditions, freezing temperatures, high winds and earthquakes. Determine responsibilities for each family member in the event of such an emergency.

• Select an out-of-area emergency contact. Following a disaster, long distance calls may be unreliable and local lines will be busy. Choose a friend or relative who lives outside of Washington State to be your family contact. This person will relay information between members of your household, who might be separated as a result of a disaster. Each member of your family should know this person’s phone number and be prepared to call them in case of an emergency.

• If network disruptions are interfering with phone calls, try text messaging. Program all of your emergency contacts into all of your family’s phones. Keep a list in your emergency kit.

Everything you need in your emergency kit

At a minimum, have the basic supplies listed below. Keep supplies in an easy-to-carry emergency preparedness kit that you can use at home or take with you in case you must evacuate. If possible, keep one kit in your home, a second at work, and a third in your car.

• Water — one gallon per person, per day (three-day supply for evacuation, two-week supply for home)

• Food — non-perishable, easy-to-prepare items (three-day supply for evacuation, two-week supply for home)

• Flashlight

• Battery-powered or hand-crank radio (NOAA Weather Radio, if possible) with extra batteries

• First aid kit

• Medications (seven-day supply) and medical items

• Flooding purpose tool

• Sanitation and personal hygiene items

• Copies of personal documents (medi- cation list and pertinent medical infor- mation, proof of address, deed/lease to home, passports, birth certificates, insurance policies)

• Cell phone with chargers

• Family and emergency contact in- formation

• Extra cash

• Emergency blanket

• Maps of the area

Consider the needs of all family mem- bers and add supplies to your kit. Sugges- ted items to help meet additional needs are:

• Additional medical supplies (hearing aids with extra batteries, glasses, contact lenses, syringes, cane)

• Baby supplies (bottles, formula, baby food, diapers)

• Games and activities for children

• Pet supplies (collar, leash, ID, food, carriers, bowl)

• Two-way radios

• Extra set of car keys and house keys

• Manual can opener

• Additional supplies to keep at home or in your kit based on the types of disasters common to your area:

• Whistle

• N95 or surgical masks

• Matches

• Rain gear

• Towels

• Work gloves

• Tools/supplies for securing your home

• Extra clothing, hat and sturdy shoes

• Plastic sheeting

• Duct tape

• Scissors

• Household liquid bleach

• Blankets or sleeping bags

• Water purification equipment

• Additional items to keep in your car

• Emergency contact list

• First aid kit

• Warm clothing and sturdy shoes

• Blankets

• Rain ponchos

• Preparedness kit with first aid equip- ment

• Small shovel and sand, litter or tire chains, in case of heavy snowfall

• Local maps with evacuation routes identified

Information in this sidebar from the Red Cross and Take Winter by Storm.

Emergency kit

Everything you need in your emergency kit

Battery-powered or hand-crank radio (NOAA Weather Radio, if possible) with extra batteries

• First aid kit

• Medications (seven-day supply) and medical items

• Flooding purpose tool

• Sanitation and personal hygiene items

• Copies of personal documents (medi- cation list and pertinent medical infor- mation, proof of address, deed/lease to home, passports, birth certificates, insurance policies)

• Cell phone with chargers

• Family and emergency contact in- formation

• Extra cash

• Emergency blanket

• Maps of the area

Consider the needs of all family mem- bers and add supplies to your kit. Sugges- ted items to help meet additional needs are:

• Additional medical supplies (hearing aids with extra batteries, glasses, contact lenses, syringes, cane)

• Baby supplies (bottles, formula, baby food, diapers)

• Games and activities for children

• Pet supplies (collar, leash, ID, food, carriers, bowl)

• Two-way radios

• Extra set of car keys and house keys

• Manual can opener

• Additional supplies to keep at home or in your kit based on the types of disasters common to your area:

• Whistle

• N95 or surgical masks

• Matches

• Rain gear

• Towels

• Work gloves

• Tools/supplies for securing your home

• Extra clothing, hat and sturdy shoes

• Plastic sheeting

• Duct tape

• Scissors

• Household liquid bleach

• Blankets or sleeping bags

• Water purification equipment

• Additional items to keep in your car

• Emergency contact list

• First aid kit

• Warm clothing and sturdy shoes

• Blankets

• Rain ponchos

• Preparedness kit with first aid equip- ment

• Small shovel and sand, litter or tire chains, in case of heavy snowfall

• Local maps with evacuation routes identified

Information in this sidebar from the Red Cross and Take Winter by Storm.

Emergency kit

Family communication plan

In the event of an emergency or natural disaster, families should create a communication plan. Each member of your family should know the details of the plan. Families should:

• Select an out-of-area emergency contact. Following a disaster, long distance calls may be unreliable and local lines will be busy. Choose a friend or relative who lives outside of Washington State to be your family contact. This person will relay information between members of your household, who might be separated as a result of a disaster. Each member of your family should know this person’s phone number and be prepared to call them in case of an emergency.

• If network disruptions are interfering with phone calls, try text messaging. Program all of your emergency contacts into all of your family’s phones. Keep a list in your emergency kit.

• Additional items to keep in your car

• Emergency contact list

• First aid kit

• Warm clothing and sturdy shoes

• Blankets

• Rain ponchos

• Preparedness kit with first aid equip- ment

• Small shovel and sand, litter or tire chains, in case of heavy snowfall

• Local maps with evacuation routes identified

Information in this sidebar from the Red Cross and Take Winter by Storm.
The Voice

Classifieds

WorkSource Provides
- Job Preparedness Workshops
- One on One Career Guidance
- Weekly Hiring Events

These services are FREE and open to the public. Translation services are available upon request.

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International Community Health Services

We understand you.
And, we care.

- Primary Medical & Dental Care
- On-site Pharmacy
- Acupuncture
- Immunizations
- Sports Physicals
- Mental Health Care & Counseling
- Specialty Care Referrals
- Women, Infants & Children (WIC)
- Assistance Getting Health Insurance

International District
Medical & Dental Clinic
720 8th Ave S, Seattle, WA 98104
Tel: 206.788.3700

Holly Park
Medical & Dental Clinic
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Mail to: PPC, PO Box 80156, Seattle, WA 98108 • (206) 764-5300 • www.southseattle.edu
NewHolly Learning Center, 7058 32nd Ave S, 2nd Floor of NewHolly Learners Bldg., Seattle, WA 98118 • (206) 768-6642

Name _______________________________ Address _______________________________
City ___________________ State __________ ZIP __________
Telephone ________________ E-mail _______________________________

Write your ad here (one word per line)

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Check the classification: □ Items for sale □ Autos for sale □ Items wanted □ Services

To place your ad in The Voice contact class1@nwlink.com today!
January 2012

The Voice did not receive a Somali translation this month.

No Somali translation

Wage to increase to $9.04 next year

Mức lương tối thiểu tháng 1 - $9.04

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sophomores just starting to think about their bound juniors and seniors or freshmen and buying a $48,000 a year education.”

“Pick a college,” said Breckenridge. “You’re tag is usually quite a bit higher. It is like trying on new clothes — but the price is like buying a new pair of pants?”

By Tyler Roush

Workshops offer a boost to college-bound students

By Tamara Breckenridge of the College Success Foundation said picking a college is like trying on new clothes — but the price tag is usually quite a bit higher. “That’s the same thing you do when you pick a college,” said Breckenridge. “You’re buying a $48,000 a year education.”

High school students, whether college-bound juniors and seniors or freshmen and sophomores just starting to think about their secondary education, learned tips on how to find the college that best suits their needs at a series of College Admission and Financial Aid workshops last month.

The workshops were organized by the Higher Education Project, a collaborative partnership between Seattle Housing Authority, Neighborhood House, Catholic Community Services, Youth Tutoring Program and community volunteers.

High school students of all grade levels received a college-readiness primer at the forums, held in multiple locations throughout Seattle. At the Yesler Terrace college workshop, representatives from Seattle Central Community College and Seattle University spoke about admissions requirements, available financial aid and scholarships and the college experience at their respective schools.

Victor Zamora, an admissions counselor at Seattle University, urged those in attendance to visit the schools they wish to attend. In Seattle, there are several options for prospective students to consider. “You guys are lucky to live in Seattle — we have three distinct schools that are all very different from each other,” he said, referring to Seattle University, Seattle Pacific and the University of Washington. “We also have three distinct community colleges.”

Long before they apply, Zamora said that students need to take a look at admissions requirements for colleges in their area. Though admission requirements may vary by state, most if not all schools require multiple years of core subjects such as English, math, science, history and foreign language. “We want you to challenge yourself academically,” Zamora said. “We want you to push yourselves as much as you can.”

Breckenridge offered tips for exploring financial aid options. She said the search begins with the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, or FAFSA. The FAFSA determines financial aid eligibility based on income levels. Aid can include federal grants, work study programs and loans. Low-income students who complete the FAFSA will quite likely find themselves eligible for a significant amount of financial aid for college.

In addition to the FAFSA, Breckenridge said that extra-curricular activities and volunteering will also help open doors for students. “What you’re doing essentially is building a résumé for yourself,” said Breckenridge of the work students must do to prepare for college.

The end result of a good education that culminates in a college degree? Something that will create new opportunities and never depreciate. “That’s the only thing that’s always going to open up doors for you,” Breckenridge said.

Please see “College” on Page 7

New policy to affect tenants who run businesses out of their rental units

By Seattle Housing Authority staff

On Feb. 1, 2012 Seattle Housing will require tenants who operate a business out of their rental units to sign a new Home-Based Business Addendum to new and existing leases. The purpose of the new policy is to set out the roles and responsibilities of tenants who operate a business on Seattle Housing property and provide for consistent application of these rules across the agency’s communities.

The addendum was developed over a year’s time in consultation with representatives of SEIU Local 925 and tenants who run child care businesses in their homes — the most common home-based business operated by Seattle Housing’s tenants.

Key provisions of the new policy for home-based businesses are these:

• A tenant who wants to operate a business in their rental unit must obtain property management’s approval.

• There will be no restriction on hours of operation. This means that Family Home child care providers will be allowed to provide overnight care in accordance with their Washington Department of Early Learning license.

• Tenants will be required to pay $750 as a refundable security deposit.

• Tenants will be required to carry either a renter’s insurance policy with an endorsement for their business-related activity or a commercial general liability policy naming Seattle Housing Authority as additional insured.

• Tenants will be required to have and maintain all applicable licenses to operate a business and must comply with all local, state and federal laws.

Other provisions of the new policy deal with income calculation and interim reviews. Tenants may learn more about these provisions by visiting their property management office.

Rod Brandon, Director of Housing Operations, who helped develop the new policy, said that extra-curricular activities and volunteering will also help open doors for students. “What you’re doing essentially is building a résumé for yourself,” said Breckenridge of the work students must do to prepare for college.

The end result of a good education that culminates in a college degree? Something that will create new opportunities and never depreciate. “That’s the only thing that’s always going to open up doors for you,” Breckenridge said.

Please see “Business” on Page 5

In this section

SHA News Page 2

RAC Volunteer Recognition Page 3

Point of View Page 4

SSHP Construction Update Page 5

High Point Herald Page 6

HPNA Seeks New Trustees Page 7

Rainier Vista News Page 8

New Holly Notes Page 9

Residents Meet to Discuss Safety Page 10

Yessler Happenings Page 11

New Employment Program Opens Page 12

Translations Page 13

News and information about Seattle’s neighborhoods

January 2012
Library seeks public input on options for improving services

By Seattle Public Library

The Seattle Public Library will hold three community meetings in January to discuss improving Library services. The meetings will focus on options for enhancing its collection of books and materials, increasing operating hours, upgrading computers and online services and improving building maintenance. Strategies for stabilizing Library funding will be reviewed.

The community meetings are scheduled as follows:

• 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Jan. 7, Central Library, 1000 Fourth Ave., Auditorium (206-386-4636)
• Noon to 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 14, Beacon Hill Branch, 2821 Beacon Ave. S. (206-684-4711)
• 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 18, Ballard Branch, 5614 22nd Ave. N.W. (206-684-4089)

“Our libraries provide essential educational resources for the residents of Seattle,” said Marcellus Turner, city librarian. For more information, visit seattlelibrary.org/voices.

Please see “Library” on Page 4

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.

A night of celebration for community leaders

Guests fill the Center Park Community Room for the Resident Action Council’s volunteer recognition event Saturday, Dec. 10.

RAC hosts volunteer recognition event

By Voice Staff

Who are the unsung heroes in your community, the ones who are always there with a warm smile or a helping hand — who make your community a better place to live?

The Resident Action Council honored the many leaders of Seattle Housing Authority communities, the ones who organize community celebrations, bake cookies for holiday parties, or do some extra weeding in the community garden. Representatives from 21 different communities were honored at RAC’s first annual Volunteer Recognition Event, held Saturday, Dec. 10 at Center Park.

Nominations were gathered from LIPH, SSHP and HOPE VI communities throughout Seattle, with the recipients received as honored guests at the RAC event. A maximum of two nominations could be made by each community. The awardees are listed below.

Martin Quatlers, a resident of Ballard House, was honored for his work as president of the Ballard House Resident Council and role in providing social activities for the building’s residents.

Ming Ren Chen and Chong Ping Lam were honorees from Beacon Tower. Chen was recognized as “a good leader and a wonderful neighbor” who helps with the building’s tea time and other activities. Lam helps with English-to-Chinese interpretation in the building and also helps organize activities for residents.

Desserre Kamanga of Bitterlake Manor was honored for her volunteering and community building efforts in her building, and for organizing a community disaster preparedness group.

Cathy Frazier of Cedarvale House was honored for “her care and friendliness in making her community’s a better and happier place to live.” She helps celebrate birthdays and is an excellent cook.

Center Park honours two honorees in Tommy Bradford and Julie Sahlberg. Bradford was honored for her sensitivity in looking for and helping others. She also tends to the many plants on the building’s grounds. Sahlberg assembles welcome baskets to give to new residents of Center Park, helping her neighbors feel welcome and at home in their new community.

Judy Frank of Denny Terrace received an award for her efforts to brighten up her community with decorations that she places throughout the building.

Both Troy Smith and Terry Nuon were honored from Harvard Court. Smith is president of the Harvard Court Resident Council and member of the Resident Action Council board, with a skillset that ranges “from roasting turkeys to writing bylaws.”

Nuon, “perhaps the best cook at Harvard Court,” volunteers at community events. (His photography accompanies this article.)

Jinju Chen and Zhixiang Ye were nominated from International Terrace. Chen is an active organizer within his community and support the work of his resident council. He is described as “a hard worker and a great neighbor.” Ye lends his support to the resident council and is a hard-working neighbor.

Edward Hoey (left) of Jackson Park House receives his volunteer recognition award. Presenters are RAC President Nancy Sherman (center) and Seattle Housing Authority Board Member and former RAC President Doug Morrison.

Both Rodney Jackson and Edward Hoey received awards from Jackson Park House. Jackson, the official Jackson Park House cook, serves refreshments at council meetings and cooks the food for holiday parties. (Though he recently moved from the community, his neighbors still wanted to honor him with a leadership award.)

Hoey is a great leader and facilitator—he is both Council President at Jackson Park House and chair of the Joint Policy Advisory Committee. He also helps with holiday parties and other council activities.

Mike King and Cory Russell were honorees from Jefferson Terrace. King volunteers in the Jefferson Terrace Computer Lab, where he is both patient and helpful.

Please see “RAC” on Page 7

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Mopping up your indoor air

Proper ventilation is key to eliminating moisture in your home

By SVEN KOLBJER
Seattle Housing Authority

Can you imagine the damage if a five gallon bucket of water spilled in your apartment every day of the year? Wouldn’t you reach for a mop first, and then wouldn’t you try to stop that bucket from spilling again as soon as possible?

Believe it or not, on a typical day a typical family in a four-person household releases into the air of a home of a typical four-person household an amount of water vapor that might be comparable to a five-gallon bucket. That bucket represents water vapor that came in and replace the old air that has been exhausted out. When the old air goes, the water vapor goes with it.

Consider that a 15-minute shower can add a quart of water vapor to the air. Think of how many people shower in your house every day, and even the very walls of the building.

Many bathrooms. The alternative to a window is a ventilation exhaust fan. Fans work by pulling stale, moisture-laden air out of the home. This creates the need for new, fresh air to come in and replace the old air that has been exhausted out. When the old air goes, the water vapor goes with it.

Since bathing is a major source of indoor air moisture, you’ll find bath fans installed in just about any building. In fact, fans have been required by building codes for years. Housing quality standards for publicly-subsidized housing require a working source of ventilation, too.

Experts recommend that all the air in a home be pulled out and replaced by fresh air at least a couple of times a day. This is called an “air exchange.”

To get proper air exchanges using a ventilation fan, it needs to be powerful enough, operating properly, and be running long enough each day to have a chance to do its work. Unfortunately, the Seattle Housing Authority has found over the years that these three things are not always true for fans in actual use.

This has proven to be the case at Northgate View, a 19-unit apartment building in the agency’s Scattered Sites program. Built in 1990 and purchased by the Seattle Housing Authority in 2007, the building houses families in two- and three-bedroom units.

Since it acquired ownership, the housing authority has been analyzing maintenance reports and done investigations at the building and determined that the existing fans in the building are not keeping up with the ventilation needs. Residents agree.

Recently at Northgate View, one family reported that they found it necessary to run the bathroom fans all the time to clear out the stale air in their apartment. Unfortuately, the fans are loud and bothersome.

Since the fans are installed with a switch, it is tempting to turn them off for peace and quiet. Despite their worries about the effect on their electric bill, this family tries to make it a habit to keep them on as much as possible.

Help is on its way, however. In December, the housing authority embarked on a plan to replace all the existing, old and sometimes rattle-prone fans at Northgate View with brand new, state of the art, ultra-quiet sensor-equipped units.

Please see “Moisture” on Page 4
Let your voice be heard!

High Point Neighborhood Association

The responsibility of an HPNA Trustee is to represent your neighbors by attending once a month evening meeting where we discuss neighborhood issues as a small group. If you have a particular interest, you may choose to head a committee and find neighbors to help. Are you passionate about crime prevention and block watch? What about education? Well, as Trustees, you ARE ABLE to engage residents in those kinds of conversations.

Everyone-- all High Point neighbors--can improve their lives by participating in community events. There are employees like the Community Builder Shukri and many Neighborhood House staff, able, organized, and willing to take the time to help you follow through with street safety, park and playground improvements, gardening, self-defense classes, exercise classes, and more. If you have ideas, and want to volunteer and make High Point a better place for all, our doors are open.

Building relationships with people will find you more resources to make our world a better place. Bring your heart and your sense of humor to your volunteer service, along with your enthusiastic spirit, which in itself is a priceless gift. What you’ll get back will be immeasurable!

Nominations now being accepted at the Neighborhood House Center Building

Contact Community Builder Shukri Olaw 206-696-3148 or solow@seattlehousing.org

Moisture

continued from Page 3

These fans have been installed in sever- al senior housing buildings recently, as well as in some high-rise buildings where the standard rooftop fans did not fit. These are highly-recommended units called "Whisperlight," made by the Panasonic Corporation.

Seattle Housing Authority construc- tion crews have been installing this type of fan in buildings with great success over the last few years, often in collabora- tion with the Seattle Office of Housing.

The advantage to the fans is that they run continuously at a low speed, so quietly that people often don’t believe they are running. Nevertheless, they are silently providing a continual flow of exhaust, which means fresh air is coming in to replace it.

Unlike with the existing fans, they do not have a switch to operate them. Instead, a motion sensor kicks the fan speed into high gear when a person is present in the room. This provides im- mediate, high air flow to rapidly get rid of water vapor from a shower. They are so quiet that people are not tempted to turn them off.

The quiet operation is also an indi- cation that they run efficiently and therefore don’t take much electricity. Seattle Housing Authority's mechanical engineering consultants calculated the cost to run a fan for a year at around $12. This is a small price to pay to improve air quality in the home.

Improve your air quality

Even if your home is not equipped with a new fan, or if the fan operates only manually with a switch, you can improve your air quality with the same strategy of keeping continual, low-level air flow. This means making it a habit to run the fan even if no one is in the bathroom.

Other steps being taken by hous- ing authority crews at Northgate View Apartments are to make sure the venti- lation grilles are clean and not blocked by dust or hair. Also, the function of stove-top fans and laundry fans are being verified.

The subject of water vapor caused by cooking will be explored in a later issue of The Voice, but the same rules apply if you have a stove ventilation fan. Keep them clean and functional, and allow them to do their job by turning them on whenever cooking, and keep them on for a time afterwards.

To complete the system, make sure that the exhausted air is replaced by fresh air. Most often, the source of air is the hallway of the building through an intentional, minor gap under the door. Don’t block this gap.

Another source of fresh air can be an occasional open window. Some win- dows have vents that can be left open, otherwise, keeping some windows open for several minutes throughout the day can provide necessary fresh air.

Following these suggestions might help keep that five-gallon bucket from spilling and causing damage in your home!
Rainier Valley Eats — spreading the good word on good food

By Nikki Lewis
Seattle Tilth Intern

Rainier Valley Eats (RaVE) is a coalition taking up the crusade of “good food” in the Rainier Valley, bringing healthy, local and organic food for all people. RaVE believes that one of the few ways to change unhealthy diets is through fun and engaging community gardening and cooking experiences. Our programs help people grow, share and eat healthy food. Together our actions can improve our diets, the health of our families, the well-being of our communities and also transform an unhealthy food system. Its location, just south of Pritchard Beach at the Rainier Beach Urban Farm and Wetlands (5513 S. Cloverdale St.), makes it ideally located for residents of Rainier Vista and New Holly.

RaVE programs bring to life the idea of “farm to table” and help us think about where our food comes from in our daily lives. Our slogan, “Grow. Share. Eat.” highlights three relevant and interconnected concepts.

“Grow” refers to support we provide to anyone interested in growing plants that produce food. RaVE provides hands-on training, supplies, resources and funding for people interested in beginning their own garden or working at one of our gardens. Seattle Tilth, one of the RaVE organizations, also offers many gardening classes in the Mt. Baker neighborhood that will give you the knowledge you need to get started. “Share” indicates the importance of working together to make high quality fresh fruits and vegetables available to all people throughout the community. This means food needs to be affordable and easy to get. We are working to bring more food dollars into our neighborhood through federal food funding such as the Child and Adult Care Food Program, a mini grant program, and by creating new economic opportunities around food in our neighborhood. The idea behind “eat” is to remind us the importance of eating. Not only is eating essential to live, but eating can also be a wonderful cultural experience that brings people together to enjoy the pleasures in life. Healthy food helps us feel great, have energy, fight sickness and disease and optimize our potential as individuals and as a community.

Community Kitchens Northwest provides fun trainings on ways to shop on a budget yet still eat lots of delicious food. We create opportunities to learn how to cook big meals for a community group using local produce, and how to run a cooking program to help your community learn new and tasty ways to make meals.

The Rainier Beach Urban Farm and Wetlands is a beautiful new community farm tucked away in the residential streets of Southeast Seattle. Here, volunteers come from all over the city to get their hands dirty and take part in creating a local food source. Away from the farm, RaVE is busy doing after-school cooking classes at Cleveland High School, after-school cooking and gardening programs with South Shore Elementary School students at the Rainier Beach Learning Garden, and weekly community meals at the Yesler Community Center, among other programs. These programs demonstrate healthy living can be accessible to all — and on a tight budget!

Getting involved with RaVE is as simple as planting your first seed. Everyone is welcome to participate in our drop-in work parties every Saturday at the Rainier Beach Urban Farm and Wetlands from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. If you’re just hungry to taste what we’ve been cooking, then we hope to see you at our next Community Kitchens Northwest community dinner at the Rainier Community Center. Friend us on Facebook and check out our website, rainiervalleyeats.org, for more information on how to get involved and a calendar of events. By joining RaVE help create a new way of growing, sharing, and eating food in the Rainier Valley!

Rainier Valley Eats is presented by Seattle Tilth and Public Health – Seattle & King County, with funding from United Way.

Volunteers work in the Rainier Urban Farm and Wetlands, part of the Rainier Valley Eats program.

Cross the light-rail tracks and come on over to check out the menu of offerings at The Rainier Beach Family Center

Atlantic Street Center’s Rainier Beach Family Center is in the neighborhood — just around the corner from Rainier Vista. When Rainier Beach Community Center & Pool was closed for renovations, the Rainier Beach Family Center (RBFC) found a new (temporary) home up the street a bit; that’s good news for Rainier Vista! RBFC offers opportunities for everyone to:

• Tutor kids in the afterschool homework help program.
• Bring laughter and joy to parents and children at the free, intertime In or Park Toddler-time.
• Get CPR and First Aid Training for home and work (workshops are held on a monthly basis)
• Shop in our Baby Boutique for clothing and other baby items for your young child.
• Enjoy cooking together as a family — with other families — and get recipes and groceries to go home and make your own Cooking Matters, next class begins in March.
• Get help exploring child-care options, identifying resources for your young children with Karin Crews, Child Care Family Advocate.
• Get help with benefit applications — food stamps, energy assistance, SSI, etc.

• Learn more ways to support your children and youth to be successful in school.
• Meet other youth, parents or elders and make new connections for company and support in the Teens As Parents Program, Talk Time for elders or the Kinship Care Providers Support Group.
• Share your knowledge, passions or interests or practice what you know to deepen your skills.

The Rainier Beach Family Center is a program of Atlantic Street Center and is part of a network of seven City-supported Family Centers located throughout Seattle. For more information, stop by, call or e-mail the Rainier Beach Family Center, located just around the corner at Zion Academy, 4730 32nd Ave. S. Contact Jennifer Masar at 206-723-1301 or jennifer@atlantistreet.org.

Volunteer opportunities available at Rainier Beach Family Center

Atlantic Street Center’s Rainier Beach Family Center is looking for you — college students, high school students, moms or dads wanting to get out of the house, elders wanting to connect with the younger, community helpers, educators with some free time . . . there is something for each of you.

Join our team and — while helping out in your community — make new friends, develop skills, earn community service credit and provide support to children, youth and/or adults.

Current Volunteer needs include:
• Homework Help for afterschool program, 3 – 5 p.m. Tuesday – Thursday
• Baby Boutique shopping guides, times vary
• Hosts for indoor park, times vary
• Toddler-time, days and times TBD
• Baby holders and Children’s Activities during Teens As Parents Program, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays
• Lunch and Learn hosts or presenters, once a month or once a quarter, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Wednesdays (TBD)
• Health and safety workshop presenters, days and times are flexible
• Community-initiated activities and programs to support youth and families

If you’ve got an interest or a skill and availability to match our center hours, there’s an opportunity for you. Volunteer orientations are scheduled once a month; sign up now! To find the opportunity that matches your interest, you may also contact Jennifer Masar at 206-723-1301 or jennifer@atlantistreet.org.

Business

Continued from Page 1

policy, said recently that the new policy supports our housing authority’s mission.

“I believe this new policy, which was developed with significant input from our tenants, demonstrates our agency’s commitment to support our tenants on the path to self-sufficiency,” he said. “At the same time, it balances our overarching mission to provide decent, safe and affordable housing for low-income people in Seattle.”


Neighborhood House

Find out what’s happening in your community

Visit http://newrainiervista.com/public. Check out the community calendar, read up on the latest news and find out how to get in touch with community leaders and local service providers.

JANUARY 2012 SHA NEWS – 5
Top things to do to be safe

A number of alarming incidents in the NewHolly neighborhood have brought personal safety issues to the forefront. The NewHolly community held a NewHolly Safety Summit Dec. 20, after The Voice’s deadline, to discuss personal safety in the neighborhood.

The following is a list of personal safety tips provided by Mark Solomon, Crime Prevention Coordinator for the Seattle Police Department’s South Precinct. Translations in Tigrigna and Khmer are also included.

At home
• Lock doors and windows any time you leave the home.
• Have deadbolt locks on all exterior doors.

For your car
• Do not leave anything of value in your car, not even small change.
• Park in well-lit areas.
• When at home, park your car where you can see it, if possible.

For more information, stop by, call or e-mail the NewHolly Family Center, located at the NewHolly Neighborhood Campus (in the old Management Office) at 7050 32nd Ave. S. Call 206-723-4073 or email nhfcinfo@atlanticstreet.org.
The Economic Opportunity Program at Yesler Terrace

Larry Hill and Van V. Vo are now working with Wubnesh to assist Residents of Yesler Terrace, Seattle Housing Section 8 Residents and Scattered Sites Residents to access job resources.

Stop by to meet us! We are at: 825 Yesler Way (Lower Level) Seattle, WA 98104 Call us! 206-344-5837

Hope to see you soon!!!

BAN MUON TIM VEAC LAM
Xin toi Vang Phong Economic Opportunity Program tai Khu Gia Cu Yesler Terrace

dia ch: 825 Yesler Way (lower level) Seattle, WA 98104
dien thoai: 206-344-5837 ext 12

Chüng tôi, chân văn tìm việc Larry Hill, Wubnesh Habtemariam và Vô V. Ván sẽ giúp làm Resume, hoc nghề, học tiếng Anh, tìm nổ giữ trợ, điên động, nộp đơn, phòng vấn, giữ việc làm...
Chi phí phục vụ dẫn dàng sẽ tại Yesler Terrace, Séc 14:00, 4 p.m., sáu và tối dẫn trong các Khu Gia Cu tại quận quyn linh của Seattle Housing Authority.

Upcoming College Goal Sunday events

College-bound high-schoolers in the Seattle area can get a jump on their secondary education by attending one of the following events (most of which are NOT held on Sunday). Topics will include completing the FAFSA, scholarship advice and how to prepare for college.

The events are coordinated by College Goal Sunday. More information is available at www.collegegoalsundaywa.org/event-locations.

• Ballard High School — 6:30–8:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 5
• Chief Sealth High School — 7–9 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 26
• Cleveland High School — 10 a.m.–2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 7
• Evergreen Campus, Seattle — 8:10 a.m.–2:05 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 5; 12:20–2:05 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 11; 12:20–2:05 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 12
• Franklin High School — 6–8 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 19
• Ingraham High School — 6–8 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 18
• Nathan Hale High School — 6–8 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 31
• Rainier Beach High School — 5–8 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 11
• Seattle Central Community College 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 24; 3:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 26
• Seattle Public Library, Downtown Branch — 4:30–7:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 8; 11 a.m.–2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 21

RAC continued from Page 2

with visitors, and helps arrange computer classes. He’s also known for his neat and funny Christmas cards. Russell is a steady and dedicated contributor to community activities and events, from fundraising to planning, shopping to decorating, and through to cleanup.

Lynda Musselman and Ellie Rhodes were the nominees from Lake City House. Musselman, vice president of the Lake City House Resident Council, is also an active member of the Neighborhood District Council, where she lends her voice as a representative of Lake City House residents. She’s also active in planning holiday parties. Rhodes partnered with the Seattle Neighborhood Group (SNG) to plan safety presentations at Lake City House this year, receiving an SNG award for her efforts. She is also an at-large member of the building’s resident council.

New Holly bestowed two awards, one to an individual and another to a group. Tammy Nguyen received the individual award for her work promoting social change. She is a founder of the Women in the Green Economy project, which provides inroads to the green economy for low-income women and women of color. The group award went to the Youth and Family P-Patch team, who have contributed more than 450 volunteer hours to build a P-Patch garden for young people and families in New Holly. Team members include Aregash Andemarskel, Daphne Schneider, Jane Ingebritsen, Man Van Tran, Hwa Hiiri, Hsuyong, and Vinh Nguyen.

Clara Eardley and Kit Bryant were honored from Primeau Place. Eardley is the resident green thumb, investing hours in the garden at Primeau Place. Bryant is “the social queen of Primeau Place,” and gathers groups for many activities in the building, including exercise groups, book clubs, holiday meals and a summer barbecue.

Jim Bush was honored by the Resident Action Council. The longtime secretary of RAC, Bush is described as a nonstop worker who has been involved in RAC since it was founded, and has “kept it open for business through some very tough times.” He’s also printed a monthly newsletter at Center Park for more than 25 years and is an advocate for accessibility in buildings and transit.

Rainier Vista recognized an individual and a group for their leadership efforts. Kathy Smith received the individual honor for her widespread community involvement, which includes work with the Food Bank, the Summer Lunch Program, the Leadership Team, the Traffic and Safety Committee, the Community Kitchen and the sewing class. Smith also completes the monthly distribution of The Voice at Rainier Vista.) The group award went to the Rainier Vista Multicultural Committee, described as a wonderful team of leaders working together to promote cross-cultural dialogue and education for the diverse community by organizing quarterly cultural potlucks and other events. Committee members include Ed Frazier, Lan Nguyen, Tom Phillips, David Leong, Amelword Beyene, Amina Ali and Jennifer Steinholt.

Debby Haverty and Gail Ketterer were the honorees from Ross Manor. Haverty has contributed to the building’s resident council and has contributed to community events and activities. Ketterer, who has been president of the Ross Manor Resident Council for six years, and in that role plans events, shares information, lifts spirits, and makes the management, decorating and cooking in the building possible.

Cricket Thompson and Sammy Sutton were nominated from Stewart Manor. Thompson is described as a wonderful neighbor who is always there to help Stewart Manor residents. Sutton is a handyman — he received his award for building and painting a picnic table for the community, and for building planter boxes for the community garden.

Tri-Court residents Allen Johnston and Marion Simmons received leadership awards. Johnston’s volunteering, weedng, and maintenance has helped create a beautiful community garden for all to enjoy. Simmons is recognized for her work in preparing community meals, and for always having a smile for those she sees.

Elizabeth Kennedy and Susan Fiedler were honored from University West. Kennedy is the Resident Council’s treasurer, and is described as “reliable, dependable and good at finances.” Fiedler, the resident council president, is a hard worker who organizes community celebrations for her neighbors.

Westwood Heights residents Wes Parson and Carolyn McCool also received leadership awards. Parson rises early each day to pick up litter on the building’s grounds. After a snow storm, he can be found shoveling the walks and the parking lot so residents can get around safely. McCool is described as a wonderful neighbor, and always ready to lend a hand. She helps her neighbors by shopping for groceries, running errands, cooking meals and helping with cleaning.

Art Rea and Yin Liu were the nominees from Yesler Terrace. Rea, a longtime member of the Leadership Team, is always ready and willing to do what needs to be done for the community council. He’s also the community representative to outside organizations such as JPAC and RPF. Liu, also a member of the Leadership Team, is described as “an important link between the English-speaking members of the council and the Vietnamese and Chinese speakers in the neighborhood.” He has also represented Yesler Terrace at JPAC, RPF and the neighborhood district council, and is a member of the Redmond Development Citizen Review Committee.
2012 года и гласит, что жизнь до и после 1-го февраля курения будет претворяться в курение во всех жилых квартирах, установка, которая запрещается Жилищного управления Сиэтла 2012 года.

SHA properties will be nonsmoking by Feb.1,2012
В зданиях ЖУОК будет запрещено курение с 1-го февраля 2012 года

Совет уполномоченных Жилищного управления Сиэтла утвердил решение принять установку, которая запрещает курение во всех жилых квартирах, принадлежащих агентству. Установка, запрещающая курение будет претворяться в жизнь до и после 1-го февраля 2012 года, и гласит, что жизнь до и после 1-го февраля курения будет претворяться в курение во всех жилых квартирах, установка, которая запрещается Жилищному управлению Сиэтла 2012 года.

Новая политика некурения будет продолжать распространяться на все жилые массивы, включая жилой для малоимущих, также как квартиры в жилых районах HOPE VI, специализированных домах и индивидуальных домах.Отзыв жителей на политику некурения был поддерживающим, что впервые показал опрос населения домов, когда 71 процент жителей домов для малоимущих поддержал её. Некоторые жители были против этой политики, считая, что она ущемляет их личные права.