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The Voice

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Articles translated
into six languages

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The newspaper of Neighborhood House

YWCA's College Bound program puts students on a career track

BY TYLER ROUSH
The Voice editor

Lori Duffy isn't looking for just any job — she wants a career. The Seattle resident is a recent graduate of the YWCA's College Bound program, which prepares low-income workers for college and a new career. The quarterly program, offered in the YWCA's Downtown WorkSource building, provides college prep courses for credit through a partnership with Seattle Central Community College (SCCC) and the Seattle Vocational Institute (SVI). After completing the three-month program, graduates go on to a degree or certification program at SCCC, SVI or another area college.

The College Bound program is about more than finding a survival job, said Duffy — it's about awakening students to their own, perhaps hidden, potential. For Duffy, who had previously worked for 12 years as a laborer in a major newspaper's distribution operation, it meant rediscovering her interest in computers, particularly in using Excel to do data entry.

"This helps me see other skills I have, and it helps me focus on them," Duffy said of the program. "I love Excel; that's my baby," she adds (noting, with a laugh, that puts her in the minority of computer users).

The program serves job-seekers, employers and colleges, according to Mike Schwartz, the YWCA's associate director of employment services.

That first link, between job-seekers and employers, is the most fundamental. In launching the program, Schwartz said a critical question needed to be answered: "Would there be jobs?"

As they've discovered, the answer is a resounding yes.

"It's really paid off," Schwartz said. "Students are getting jobs — we've created something good that fills employer demand."

Colleges also benefit — the program is a natural recruiting tool



PHOTO COURTESY OF YWCA

College Bound instructor Michael Spear (right) assists student Lavonne Drayton during a class session at the YWCA.

that helps them meet the goals of providing access to education for low-income people.

Participants in the program must be 18 or older, reside in the

Please see "YWCA" on Page 2

Get ready for Metro bus changes this fall

Metro Transit will be making major changes to bus service starting Sept. 29. These changes include the launch of two new RapidRide Lines connecting Ballard and West Seattle to downtown, as well as changes to many existing routes — more than 90 routes in total.

Riders can start getting ready for these changes — some small, some large — by visiting Metro's 'Have a Say' website (www.kingcounty.gov/metro/haveasay), which includes a table summarizing the changes.

In mid-September, watch for new route timetables online and in print. The changes also will be available at that time via Metro's online trip planner (be sure to enter a date after Sept. 29 to see the new information) and Customer Information phone line (206-553-3000).

The Ride Free Area in downtown Seattle will be eliminated Sept. 29. Also, you will pay when you enter the bus for all trips in King County.

These changes will help King County Metro Transit simplify its system and preserve bus service. The pay-on-entry system will also be used on Sound Transit and Community Transit buses operating inside King County.

What bus riders need to know

These changes will make Metro's system simpler and easier to use. You pay for every ride the same way — when you board the bus.

Board at the front door of the bus and be ready with your pass or exact change before boarding. The RapidRide lines allow for boarding at all doors for those that have already paid.

Bus riders will be encouraged to exit through the rear doors. But, people using wheelchairs, or who have mobility issues, and passengers who have loaded a bicycle on the bike rack and need to unload it quickly can still leave by the front door.

The way you use your ORCA card will not change, and it will be the quickest way to board and transfer. It also automatically gives you a two-hour transfer window when making multiple bus trips within a short timeframe.

Having everyone pay on entry may add to the time it takes to board the bus, especially at busy downtown Seattle bus stops during commute times.

Voters approve library, children and family levy

No big surprises in federal, statewide primaries

BY VOICE STAFF

Seattle and King County have said "Yes" to two property-tax levies on the August 2012 primary ballot.

Seattle's library levy passed comfortably, with 62.4 percent of the vote as of Aug. 9. The property-tax levy will provide \$123 million in funds for the Seattle Public Library system, with up to \$17 million to be collected in 2013.

Likewise, the Children and Family Services Center Capital Levy was well on its way to approval among King County voters, with 54.2 percent of the vote as of Aug. 9. The property-tax levy would generate \$210 million over nine years to

replace the King County Children and Family Justice Center.

There were no major surprises in statewide or federal races. Democrat Maria Cantwell, making her re-election bid for U.S. Senate, received 55.28 percent of the vote. She will face Republican challenger Michael Baumgartner (30.6 percent).

In the highly contested race to represent the U.S. Congressional District 1, Republican John Koster (44.4 percent) and Democrat Suzan DelBene (23 percent) advanced to the general election.

As expected, gubernatorial candidates Jay Inslee (46.5 percent) and Rob McKenna (43.4 percent) emerged comfortably from the primary and will face off in November.

Former Seattle mayor Greg Nickels, a Democrat, failed in his bid for Secretary of State, finishing third in the primary with 15.8 percent of the vote. Republican Kim Wyman (40 percent) and Democrat Kathleen Drew (21.2 percent) will advance

to the general election.

In state Supreme Court races, incumbent justices Steve Gonzalez (58.8 percent) and Susan Owens (63.4 percent) successfully defended primary challenges and will advance uncontested to the general election, making their re-election essentially a formality. In judicial races, state law dictates that a candidate receiving more than 50 percent of the vote will advance alone to the general election.

In the third Supreme Court race, for Justice Position 9, Sheryl Gordon McCloud (29.8 percent) will face Richard Sanders (28.3 percent). Sanders, a former three-term justice who lost a re-election bid in 2010, is seeking another term on the state's high court.

For a full list of statewide primary results, visit <http://vote.wa.gov/results/20120807/default.htm>.

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Health Notes

A column devoted to your well-being

Immunize now for a healthy and safe school year

Every parent's back-to-school list should include making sure children are up-to-date with their immunizations, including the Tdap booster vaccine to protect against an ongoing whooping cough epidemic.

"Immunizations are a very safe and effective way to keep children healthy and in school," said Dr. David Fleming Director and Health Officer for Public Health - Seattle & King County. "Whether you're a parent enrolling your child in school or a student entering college, make sure all immunizations are up-to-date."

Our state's current whooping cough epidemic is a stark reminder of the importance of immunization. There have been 560 confirmed cases of whooping cough in King County so far this year, compared to 98 cases in all of 2011. School-age children have been hit particularly hard. Children ages 10-13 have the highest rates of whooping cough in King County.

"Vaccine is the best way to protect yourself, your family and your community from diseases like whooping cough," said Betsy Hubbard, Public Health's Immunization Supervisor.

Parents can find out which vaccines are required for school and child care attendance at www.doh.wa.gov.

There is risk in choosing not to vaccinate. In addition to the potential of becoming infected with a disease preventable by vaccine, a child can pass an infection on to those particularly vulnerable, like infants, pregnant women or people with weakened immune systems. A child who is not fully immunized may be sent home from school during a disease outbreak.

Parents who choose not to immunize their children must submit an exemption certificate, signed by a health care provider verifying the provider has shared information on immunization benefits and risks.

Coconut water, or juice, something that's good and that's good for you

BY ADRIANE VETTER
Special to The Voice

True story. On one of the hottest days last month, I was walking back home from an errand, and on the sidewalk ahead of me I saw a woman who was clearly suffering from the extreme heat (I think it was in the mid-80s that day).

As I'd brought along a small bottle of coconut water, I gave it to her to drink, and immediately we both noticed that she seemed to not only perk up, but was able to make it the rest of the way home, a possible heat stroke attack averted.

Instantly, she was a fan of what's become a new hydration regimen for me and my partner. That being, always keeping a bottle of coconut water on hand, either at home or on the run. It's simply the best thing for completely hydrating one, and for keeping hydrated during or after a workout. I love it after spinning class.

According to my partner (who reads health sites as a sort of hobby), a noted health expert noted that coconut water had been used in place of blood plasma, during a shortage for troops over seas, during World War II. I know, for myself, that after drinking it at night, I do feel more rested when I wake up, and have more energy during the day. (Something that's very important to me, as I have sleep apnea,

and in the past, literally dragged myself through each day like a zombie.)

We've tried various brands, most of them available in local supermarkets, and they all have good health benefits. I do find that the unflavored, pure coconut water (or, as it is called by some of the Thai brands we tried, coconut juice) to be more effective, and I think the more unadulterated it is, the better the hydration benefits.

Also, I like the water, or juice, without the pulp (the two Thai varieties had bits of coconut pulp in them, which was a little like having one of those bubble tea drinks, just not as extreme, as the coconut pulp is much smaller and softer than the tapioca pearls put in my bubble drink). It wasn't awful, and it did seem to give me even more energy after drinking it.

I say try a few kinds and judge for yourself. Either way, you'll be doing your body a favor; you can also cook with it, as many Thai recipes use either coconut milk or water. I've used coconut water mixed with my cranberry juice to benefit my kidneys. Try it the next time you think you want a soda to quench your thirst, and you'll see the difference. Also, you won't have to deal with that added sugar adding extra pounds either, as coconut water has no sugar added and is usually around 60 calories. Also, it has probiotic and antibiotic qualities, another good thing.

Naturalization and citizenship assistance from the St. James ESL Program

For immigrants and refugees seeking free citizenship and naturalization assistance and tutoring, the St. James ESL Program's Citizenship Project offers a wealth of support.

Naturalization assistance

The staff at St. James ESL provides all the help participants need to navigate the naturalization process and submit their application for citizenship. Referrals are made for legal representation if needed. Naturalization services are free of charge to low-income residents of Seattle and King County and available for a fee to others.

Citizenship classes and tutoring

Participants learn civics, U.S. history and other information needed to pass their naturalization interview. Classes and individual instruction are held at locations around King County. Citizenship services are free of charge to low-income residents

of Seattle and King County and available for a fee to others.

Staff

The St. James ESL Program is recognized and its staff is accredited by the U.S. Department of Justice Board of Immigration Appeals to help people apply to become citizens. The program staff has more than 13 years' experience helping people to prepare for citizenship interviews and apply to become citizens.

Locations

St. James ESL Program's headquarters is located at 804 Ninth Avenue in Seattle. The program also offers accessible instruction throughout King County. Off-site locations include spaces provided by community partners. Call for location details.

To learn more, call Jim Hodges or Jenna Serghini at 206-382-4511, or visit www.stjames-cathedral.org/ESL

Free and reduced-price school lunch program information

BY VOICE STAFF

For students, it may feel as though summer vacation has just arrived. But the 2012-13 school year is right around the corner. Here's what you need to know to get your child ready for the upcoming year.

Free and reduced-price lunch

Low-income families are encouraged to apply for the free and reduced-price school lunch program. Families that receive TANF benefits or receive Basic Food benefits should apply.

Household size and income eligibility requirements apply. Your household size

includes all persons, including parents, children, grandparents, and all other people who live in your home and share living expenses.

For the 2012-13 school year, a family of four would be eligible for the reduced-price lunch program if household income is \$42,643 or less. A family of four would be eligible for the free program if household income is \$29,965 or less. For full income information for 2012-13, see the income table on this page, or contact your child's school.

Contact your child's school district for more details, including enrollment information and income requirements.

YWCA

Continued from Page 1

Seattle city limit (which includes White Center) and be eligible to work in the United States. There is also an income requirement — students must be eligible for the Basic Food program. The program is funded by the Seattle Jobs Initiative.

Students in the program enroll in two courses, both of which satisfy college pre-requisites and prepare students for the COMPASS placement test.

Intro to Microcomputer Applications teaches such essential programs as Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook and others. Adult Basic Education focuses on basic language and vocabulary skills, helpful in preparing for taking the COMPASS.

Taken together, the two courses are worth four college credits at Seattle Central Community College.

The program offers numerous career tracks, including Office Administration, Computer Support Specialist and Basic Accounting. Duffy selected Business Information Technology, one of the most popular tracks in the program.

Because the class size is relatively small — 20 people at maximum, although the program typically averages about 15 students — participants enjoy ample 1-on-1 time with the program's two instructors.

"Much more important than just the material is learning about the field, and the work involved in going on to college," said instructor Michael Spear, who teaches the technology course. "For many, it's their first time going to college in quite a while."

Duffy echoed that sentiment.

"He believes in life lessons — something you're going to take with you," Duffy said.

After graduating from the College Bound program, Duffy aced her COMPASS

Enroll in College Bound

The YWCA is accepting registrations for the College Bound program's fall quarter now through Sept. 18. The fall quarter begins Tuesday, Sept. 25; classes are from 1 – 3:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday at the YWCA Downtown WorkSource, 2024 Third Ave.

The YWCA also offers informational workshops at 10 a.m. on alternating Wednesdays at the Downtown WorkSource and Rainier WorkSource locations.

For more details and to enroll in the College Bound program or attend an informational workshop, contact Malorie Carlini at 206-436-8633 or mcarlini@ywcaworks.org.

test and went straight to taking college-level courses at SCCC. She's enrolled part-time and has received an Opportunity Grant to help pay for her college.

YWCA Career Navigator Malorie Carlini continues to work with students as they advance from the College Bound program and go on to pursue a degree or certification. The continued support helps students to navigate their own college-and-career pathway. The YWCA's suite of services is available to students while they continue on in college. The ultimate goal is to get students graduated from college and into a good, long-term job.

"We want students to graduate and have career potential," Carlini said.

For Duffy, that's exactly what she's looking for.

"The program gave me a chance for something that I desired," Duffy said.

The Voice

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

Be safe

Hate and crime

By **KELLY MCKINNEY**
Seattle Neighborhood Group

On Sunday, Aug. 5, Wade Michael Page walked into a Sikh Temple in Oak Creek, Wis., and opened fire. Seven people were killed, including six worshipers and Page, who was shot and killed by police. Three people were injured, including an Oak Tree Police Lieutenant, the first officer to respond to the scene.

Page was associated with the White Supremacist movement. While authorities have yet to officially determine his motive, there is obvious speculation that his attack was racially or culturally motivated. In the end, it does not matter why he did what he did, it only matters that he killed six people based on his hatred and ignorance of people who didn't look or believe like him.

Most hate crimes are not this large in scope. The federal government, states and cities all have bias crime laws. Who they cover and how they are enforced differ from location to location.

The City of Seattle refers to bias crimes as malicious harassment.

The Seattle Police Department's web site defines malicious harassment as: "The reason the suspect targeted that particular person was based on their belief about the victims' race, color, religion, ancestry,

national origin, sexual orientation, mental, physical, or sensory handicap, homelessness, marital status, age, parental status, gender or political ideology."

It continues: "If the suspect is mistaken about the victim's status, but selected them because of the suspect's belief about the victim's status, it is still considered malicious harassment."

However, the SPD website also states the following as NOT malicious harassment: "If the suspect, in the process of committing another crime, calls the victim a derogatory name, it does not automatically mean it is malicious harassment."

"If the suspect uses insulting or derogatory words but does not place another person in a reasonable fear of harm to their person or property, this is not malicious harassment."

If you are interested in knowing more about malicious harassment in the City of Seattle, you can contact the Bias Crime Coordinators at 206-233-3898

If you believe that you have been a victim of any crime, including malicious harassment, call 9-1-1.

Kelly McKinney (206-323-7084) and Allan Davis (206-323-7094) are Community Education Coordinators for Seattle Neighborhood Group.

Seattle employees to receive new Paid Sick and Safe Time benefit

By **SEATTLE OFFICE OF CIVIL RIGHTS**

On Sept. 1, employees in the City of Seattle will begin to accrue paid sick and paid safe time (PSST) for use when an employee or family member needs to take time off from work due to illness or a critical safety issue. The ordinance applies to all employees with more than four full-time equivalent employees. All employees are eligible for the new benefit, including full time, part-time and temporary workers.

Employees will be able to use their accrued PSST as paid time off:

- To deal with their own illness, injury or health condition.
- To take care of a family member (in-

cluding domestic partners) with an illness, injury or medical appointment.

- When their place of business has been closed by order of a public official for health reasons.

- For reasons related to domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking.

The Seattle Office for Civil Rights (SOCR) is working closely with Seattle employers to implement the new requirements. SOCR offers free presentations and technical assistance, as well as brochures, posters and other materials.

For more information about paid sick and safe time, visit www.seattle.gov/civilrights, email elliott.bronstein@seattle.gov or call 206-684-4500.

Neighborhood Matching Fund now accepting applications for neighborhood projects

Deadline for Small and Simple Projects Fund is October 8

By **SEATTLE DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOODS**

Seattle Department of Neighborhoods is now accepting applications for the fall round of the Neighborhood Matching Fund's Small and Simple Projects Fund. The deadline for receipt of applications is 5 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 8.

The Small and Simple Projects Fund provides matching funds of up to \$20,000 to support community members as they work together to build a stronger and healthier neighborhood through civic participation.

Activities may be physical projects, as well as less tangible but equally significant educational, cultural, and relationship-strengthening activities.

To learn about the guidelines and application process, visit <http://seattle.gov/neighborhoods/nmf/smallandsimple.htm>.

To apply, groups need to register at webgrants.seattle.gov, a web-based application and fund management system.

This is the final opportunity to apply to the Neighborhood Matching Fund in 2012. Programs and deadline dates for 2013 will be announced at the end of this year.

Since the program was created 24 years ago, the Neighborhood Matching Fund has awarded more than \$49 million to neighborhood groups with a community match of more than \$71 million.

Projects have involved more than 85,600 volunteers who have donated over 573,000 work hours. To learn more about the Fund, visit www.seattle.gov/neighborhoods/nmf.

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Please recycle me



Low-income residents get a healthy boost through Seattle's "Fresh Bucks" program

Program allows EBT users to double the value of a \$10 purchase at seven area farmers markets

By **VOICE STAFF**

Looking for a way to save money and eat healthy foods? The newly announced "Fresh Bucks" program allows EBT users to double the value of their purchases at seven local farmers markets. With a minimum purchase of \$10 on an EBT card, you can receive \$10 in Fresh Bucks per day for the purchase of fruits and vegetables.

The program, a partnership between the City of Seattle's Office of Sustainability & Environment and the Neighborhood Farmers Market Alliance (NFMA), is designed to strengthen equal access to local and healthy foods.

The program launched Wednesday, August 1 and will cover eligible purchases through Monday, Oct. 1. Participating farmers' markets include Broadway, Columbia City, Lake City, Magnolia, Phinney, University District and West Seattle. (See below for

hours of operation, address and transit info.)

Funding for the Fresh Bucks pilot program is provided by JP Morgan Chase, the Seattle Foundation, and the WSDA Specialty Crop Block Grant Program.

"Everyone in Seattle deserves access to healthy, fresh, affordable food," said Seattle Deputy Mayor Darryl Smith. "Fresh Bucks increases the purchasing power of low-income Seattle residents while introducing new customers to the small and mid-size farmers who sell at our farmers markets."

The cost of fruits and vegetables has been identified as a barrier to consuming recommended amounts of healthy food for low-income communities. The Fresh Bucks program addresses this barrier as well as generates economic stimulus by keeping federal nutrition benefit funds within local and regional communities. A study by Moody's Economy showed that an increase of SNAP/Food Stamp benefits by \$1 creates a "ripple effect through the economy," resulting in \$1.73 in economic stimulus.

"Seattle residents have been able use their EBT at Neighborhood Farmers Market Alliance markets since 1995," said Chris Curtis, executive director of the NFMA. "Now, with

the Fresh Bucks bonus program, people have a greater opportunity and incentive to use their benefits to purchase healthy produce."

Where to find Fresh Bucks

Broadway Farmers' Market

Open Sundays, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Broadway Avenue East and East Pine Street
Served by Metro bus routes 10, 11 and 49

Columbia City Farmers' Market

Open Wednesdays, 3 - 7 p.m.
37th Avenue South and South Edmunds Street
Served by Metro bus route 7

Lake City Farmers' Market

Open Thursdays, 3 - 7 p.m.
Northeast 125th Street and 28th Avenue Northeast
Served by Metro bus routes 41, 72, 75 and 372 and Sound Transit route 522

Magnolia Farmers' Market

Open Saturdays, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
33rd Avenue West and West McGraw Street
Served by Metro bus routes 24 and 31

Phinney Farmers' Market

Open Fridays, 3 - 7 p.m.
North 67th Street and Phinney Avenue North
Served by Metro bus route 5

University District Farmers' Market

Open Saturdays, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Northeast 50th Street and University Way Northeast
Served by Metro bus routes 30, 43, 44, 48, 70, 71, 72 and 73

West Seattle Farmers' Market

Open Sundays, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
California Avenue Southwest and Southwest Alaska Street
Served by Metro bus routes 22, 54, 55 and 128

For full route information and schedules, call King County Metro's Rider Information Line at 206-553-300 (TTD relay: 711) or visit <http://transit.metrokc.gov>.

Center Park resident Jim Bush contributed to this article.

TRANSLATIONS

TRANSLATED ARTICLES FROM THE VOICE

Changes to King County Metro announced
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ትክክለኛ ክፍያ በመያዝ ሊሳፈሩ ይችላሉ። የራፒድ-ሪይድ የጉዞ መስመር ቀድመው ለከፈሉት ሁሉ ይፈቅድላቸዋል። መውጫ የሚኖረው በኋላ በኩል በሚገኘው በር ነው። ግን የዊልቸር ያላቸው ወይም ለመጓጓዣ ችግር ያለባቸው ወይም ባይስክል በአውቶቡሶ ኋላ የሚያግጓጉ ተሎ በመጫን በመጀመሪያ በር መግባት ይችላሉ። የኦርካን ካርድ የመጠቀሙ ሁኔታ ምንም አይቀየርም። እሱም በአፋጣኝ ለመጓጓዣ ወይም ከቦታ ቦታ ትራንስፈር ለማድረግ ጥሩ መንገድ ነው። ይህ አስራር የሁለት ሰዓት የትራንስፈር ጊዜ የተለያዩ የአውቶቡሶ ጉዞ በአጭር ጊዜ ውስጥ ካደረጉ ይሰጥዎታል። ሁሉንም ሲገቡ እንዲከፍሉ ማድረግ ሲሳፈሩ ከሚወስደው ጊዜ ይጨምራል በተለይም ከዳውንታውን ሲያትል አውቶቡሶ ማቆሚያዎችና ኮሚዩንት ማድረጊያ ቦታዎች።

Anunció Cambios el King County METRO
El Área de Free Ride (area sin tarifa) en el centro de Seattle será eliminada el 29 de septiembre. Además, tendrá que pagar al entrar en el autobús para todos los viajes en King County. Estos cambios ayudarán a King County Metro Transit a simplificar su sistema y mantener el servicio de autobús. El sistema de pago “on-entry” (al entrar) también se utilizará en Sound Transit y y autobuses Community Transit que operan dentro del condado de King.

Lo que los pasajeros del autobús deben saber
Estos cambios harán que el sistema de Metro sea más simple y más fácil de usar. Usted pagará por cada viaje de la misma manera - al abordar el autobús.

Entre por la puerta delantera del autobús y esté preparado con su pase o con cambio exacto antes de abordar. Las líneas RapidRide permitirán que aborde por todas las puertas solo a aquellos que ya han pagado. Los pasajeros autobús deberán salir por las puertas traseras para agilizar el abordaje. Sin embargo, las personas que usan sillas de ruedas, o que tienen problemas de movilidad, así como los pasajeros que llevan bicicleta en el portabicicletas o que necesitan bajar rápidamente, aún puede bajarse por la puerta principal al frente.

El modo de usar su tarjeta ORCA no cambiará, y será la forma más rápida de abordar y transferirse a otro autobus. También le proporciona automáticamente un periodo de dos horas para que transfiera de un autobus a otro, al realizar múltiples viajes de autobús en un plazo breve. O sea que no necesitara un boleto de transferencia y no se le descontará la tarifa si cambia de autobus dentro del periodo de 2 horas.

Que todos los pasajeros paguen al entrar hace que se aumente el tiempo de abordaje y que se retrase al autobus, sobre todo en el centro de Seattle cuando el autobús se detiene mas seguido durante las horas pico, así que se recomienda prepagar usando la tarjeta ORCA para que los pasajeros usen las otras puertas.

NHỮNG LOAN BẢO VỆ THAY ĐỔI Ở HỆ THỐNG XE METRO BUÝT TRONG QUẬN KING

Khu vực đi xe buýt miễn phí trong downtown Seattle sẽ chấm dứt vào ngày 29 tháng Chín. Cũng thế, quý vị phải trả tiền khi bước lên xe buýt cho mọi chuyến đi trong quận King.

Những thay đổi này sẽ giúp cho hệ thống xe metro buýt trong quận King làm đơn giản các hệ thống và tiết kiệm các tuyến phục vụ. Hệ thống phải trả tiền lúc bước lên xe cũng được áp dụng cho các xe buýt thuộc Sound Transit và các chuyến buýt thuộc Community Transit đang lưu hành trong quận King.

ĐIỀU NGƯỜI ĐI XE BUÝT CẦN BIẾT
Những thay đổi này giúp cho Metro buýt đơn giản hơn và dễ dàng xử dụng hơn. Quý vị trả tiền cho mỗi lượt đi cách thông thường khi quý vị bước lên xe buýt.

Bước lên xe buýt ở cửa trước và phải sẵn sàng với thẻ xe buýt, hoặc có đúng số tiền để trả cho cuộc đi khi bước lên xe. Các tuyến trong hệ RapidRide cho phép vào xe buýt từ mọi cửa cho những người đã trả tiền xe. Hành khách được khuyến khích là lúc rời xe buýt bằng cửa sau. Nhưng những hành khách đi xe lăn, hoặc hành khách có mang theo xe đạp, thì được bước ra bằng cửa trước cách nhanh chóng để gỡ xe ra khỏi khung chuyên chở.

Cách mà quý vị xài thẻ ORCA thì sẽ không thay đổi, và đó là cách nhanh chóng nhất để lên xe và chuyển đổi xe. Nó cũng tự động cho quý vị 2 giờ đồng hồ để chuyển qua các tuyến xe khác trong thời gian ngắn.

Buộc mọi người phải trả tiền lúc bước vào xe buýt làm tốn thời gian khi lên xe, đặc biệt là trong khu phố Seattle với các trạm xe bận rộn trong giờ cao điểm.

Changes to King County Metro announced

Metro округа Кинг извещает об изменении Зона бесплатного проезда в центре Сиэтла отменяется с 29-го сентября. Также вы должны будете оплачивать проезд в округе Кинг при входе в автобус. Эти изменения помогут транспортной службе округа Кинг упростить свою систему и сохранить автобусный сервис. Эта система оплаты при входе будет также применяться на всех автобусах, идущих по территории округа Кинг – Sound Transit, Community Transit.

Пассажиры автобуса должны знать
Эти изменения сделают транспортную систему проще и легче в использовании. Вы оплачиваете каждую поездку одним и тем же путём – при входе в автобус. Входите в автобус с передней двери и приготовьте заранее свой проездной или точную сумму наличными. На автобусных маршрутах RapidRide можно входить в автобус через все двери тем, кто уже оплатил за проезд. Пассажирам рекомендуется выходить из автобуса через задние двери. Но люди на инвалидных колясках и с проблемами передвижения, а также те, кто погрузил свой велосипед на раму и быстро хотят его снять, могут выходить через переднюю дверь.

Способ применения карточки ORCA остаётся без изменений и это будет самый быстрый способ садиться в автобус и делать пересадки. Это также автоматически даёт вам двухчасовое окно для пересадки, когда вам нужно несколько раз менять автобусные маршруты в пределах короткого интервала времени.

Система оплаты за проезд при входе может увеличить время ожидания посадки в автобус, особенно в часы пик на автобусных остановках в центре Сиэтла.

ប្រកាសនៅការផ្លាស់ប្តូរបរិវេណទីក្រុងយ៉ឹងខោនធី
ការជិះឡានប៊ីសនៅបរិវេណទីក្រុងស៊ីអាតុលដោយមិនយកថ្លៃនោះនឹងចប់នៅខែកញ្ញាទី២៩ហើយផងដែរ
លោកអ្នកនិងតម្រូវអោយបង់នៅពេលដែលលោកអ្នកនិងលោកស្រីចូលជិះប៊ីសនៅតំបន់យ៉ឹងខោនធី។
ការផ្លាស់ប្តូរនេះនឹងជួយកែសម្រួលនៅការដឹកជញ្ជូនតាមទីក្រុងយ៉ឹងខោនធីនិងហិតប្រយោជន៍ប៊ីស។
ការផ្លាស់ប្តូរប្រព័ន្ធនេះនឹងជួយការដឹកតាមទោះភ្លើងនិងប៊ីសតាមសហគមន៍ដែលបើកបរនៅយ៉ឹងខោនធី។
អ្វីដែលអ្នកជិះប៊ីសត្រូវដឹងនោះគឺការផ្លាស់ប្តូរនេះជួយសម្រួលប្រព័ន្ធទីក្រុងអោយបានស្រួលនៅការប្រើ
ប្រាស។ អ្នកនិងបង់នៅគ្រប់ពេលវេលាដែលលោកអ្នកឡើងជិះប៊ីស។ សូមរៀបចំកាដប្រាក់រុបលុយរាយមុន
ពេលឡើងជិះប៊ីស។ សំរាប់អ្នកមានកាដដែលបង់មុនហើយមានចំនួនលុយនៅកាដនោះអាចចូលជិះតាម
ទ្វារខាងមុខខាងក្រោយបានគ្រប់ពេលវេលា។ អ្នកជិះប៊ីសត្រូវតែចុះចេញតាមទ្វារក្រោយ ប៉ុន្តែសំរាប់
អ្នកប្រើទេះរុញឬមានបញ្ហាខាងដើរនិងអ្នកជិះដែលមានកង់ដាក់នៅខាងមុខប៊ីសអាចចេញតាមទ្វារមុខ។
អ្នកដែលមាន អ្នកការកាដនោះមិនផ្លាស់ប្តូរទេហើយវាអាចអោយឡើងជិះប៊ីសបានឆាប់រហ័សផងដែរ។
ផងដែរកាដនេះនឹងជួយផ្លាស់ប្តូរប៊ីសរវាងពីរម៉ោងបើសិនជាលោកអ្នកជួរជិះប៊ីសពីរជួរក្នុងពេលវេលាដ៏
ខ្លី។ ការតម្រូវអោយបង់នៅពេលដែលឡើងជិះប៊ីសអាចបន្ថែមពេលវេលាសំរាប់អ្នកឡើងជិះប៊ីស ជា
ពិសេសនៅក្នុងទីក្រុងស៊ីអាតុលនៅពេលដែលអ្នកធ្វើការចេញទៅផ្ទះ។

Grateful for sunny times at Sunrise Manor

Kristin Grobey feels 'nothing but joy' living in Ballard senior community

BY TYLER ROUSH
The Voice editor

Upon meeting Kristin Grobey, one gets the impression that her sunny disposition makes her perfectly suited to her home in Sunrise Manor.

It's easy to see why: Grobey, a three-year resident of Sunrise Manor, considers her time in the Seattle Senior Housing community in Ballard to be among the best experiences of her life.

"I've had nothing but happiness here," she says. "The people are kind — it's one of the most pleasant living situations.

"It's been nothing but joy living here."

The community is typically reserved for seniors, but Grobey says she has a disability that makes her eligible to live there.

She raves about the kindness of her neighbors and says she's made many friends in the community. In trying times, she says it's good to have a strong community around her.

Like so many others, the recession has affected her. She had previously worked for three years at a shipping and office services store in Fremont, but was laid off.

"I really wish I could work, but no one's hiring," Grobey says.

Instead, she fills up her days by serving her community. She volunteers with the Ballard Chamber of Commerce, recently helping the chamber prepare for Ballard Seafood Fest, one of the biggest events of the year. At Sunrise



PHOTO BY TYLER ROUSH

Kristin Grobey has lived in Sunrise Manor for three and a half years, an experience she describes as "once-in-a-lifetime."

Manor, she preps the java for the community's weekly coffee social.

She's also an active member of her church, Calvary Fellowship in Montlake Terrace, and participates in the ladies' bible study group.

She counts walking, window-shopping, movies, reading and music (she owns a keyboard) among her many hobbies.

"I like visiting with people," Grobey says.

An avid cook, Grobey prepares many of her own meals. She favors simple, tasty dishes; some of her favorites are Spanish rice, pork chops, casserole and fried fish.

Grobey's a single gal who says she likes to live life unattached.

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Reflecting on a lifetime of service

Partnerships, creative thinking characterize Tierney's eight years with Seattle Housing Authority

BY BOB ROYER
Special to The Voice

If you are a guy like Tom Tierney — someone who has made a career of solving the complicated problems associated with public service — you come to work on Monday morning and find your Monday through Friday calendar completely filled in.



Tom Tierney

Most every half hour box has a name in it or there is a big chunk lined out for a council or commission meeting. What is intimidating about being so tightly scheduled is that each of those items requires a transition — turning off one line of thinking and starting up another. Sometimes you don't want to do that. Sometimes the problem is very complex and you want to linger. Sometimes you know it needs more thought to create a better judgment.

So that's the first thing that Tom is not going to have when he retires at the end of the month. He will not have a schedule with all the hours filled in, as he has for nearly all his working life.

Tom's professional career contains a number of stops that prepared him well for his eight creative years with the Seattle Housing Authority. Early in his career, he served as

Please see "Tierney" on Page 4

Conference amps up Seattle Housing resident leaders

BY SUSAN IRWIN
Special to The Voice

The A.M.P. Conference, held in July, is finished but not forgotten. Formerly known as C.S.T.I. (Community Strategic Training Initiative), the new snappy name stands for "Activists Mobilizing for Power." Wow! Kind of intimidating, isn't it? But not to worry. We are all just people wanting to make an impact in this world somehow.

Conference workshops covered a wide variety of topics, such as Strategic Planning, Transgender Policy, Radical Writing and Dismantling Racism. The conference was sponsored by Western States Center in Portland and hosted at the very lovely and scenic Reed College.

Eight resident leaders from Seattle Housing Authority were selected to attend based on their merits for being exceptionally active on their respective Community Councils. They each excelled in their own unique ways to bring activities to their councils,

and each desired to further their education so they could bring back valuable information to their existing groups.

Sherry Morgan, a resident of Green Lake Plaza, sparkles and twirls in her life, and her esoteric spirit is reflected in the workshops she chose to take. You may wonder what Belly Dancing has to do with activism, but rest assured, Morgan has a plan. Her idea is to bring back to her community new energy and hope for residents who are just tuckered out from trying to fight a battle for survival.

Morgan knows that if you take care of your body, burnout is less likely to occur. She hopes to start up an easy exercise class incorporating dance moves she learned from her workshop. Morgan is enthusiastic about getting residents involved so they don't feel isolated. She said, "If you dance when you feel hopeless, your spirit is lifted!"

In addition to the Belly Dancing workshop, Morgan attended "Worker Justice in the Food Justice Movement." Unfortunately, food justice hasn't reached her community.

Morgan reported that the only large food store within walking distance, a QFC, was torn down a few months ago in favor of a Light Rail Station.

The residents are now forced to either shop at expensive convenience stores or travel over a mile to the closest Safeway. Even their local food banks are not within walking distance for many disabled people. A group called "Foodworks" has been bringing bags of food to her building for several months to supplement already impoverished diets.

In the workshop, Morgan learned that, similar to her neighbors, migrant workers are paid so little they must choose between food and housing. Despite coming away feeling frustrated and discouraged from what she learned, Morgan's hope for a better future was not extinguished. She wants to get more involved in local politics and maybe start badly needed change.

Please see "Conference" on Page 3

Seattle Housing named a finalist for Choice Neighborhoods Implementation grant

Seattle Housing Authority has been named one of nine finalists to receive Choice Neighborhoods Implementation funds, according to an announcement by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development on Monday, Aug. 27.

The Seattle Housing Authority's Choice Neighborhoods application, for the proposed redevelopment of the Yesler Terrace neighborhood, was selected as a finalist from a pool of 42 applicants. The housing authority has applied for \$19.7 million in grant funds.

Seattle Housing previously received a \$10.27 million Choice Neighborhood grant for Yesler Terrace in August of 2011.

Commissioner Cabdi announces resignation from Seattle Housing board

Yusuf Cabdi, a member of Seattle Housing's Board of Commissioners, announced his resignation from the board on Tuesday, Aug. 7.

Cabdi, a resident of the Seattle Housing Authority, has served as a commissioner since 2007, including a stint as board chair from 2009 — 2010. Originally from Somalia, he settled in Seattle in 2003, and has been an advocate for Somali and Muslim family and housing issues.

"We're sad to see Yusuf go and we wish him the best," said John Littel, Chair of the Seattle Housing Authority Board of Commissioners. "We greatly appreciated his service, his contributions and his perspectives during his time as a Commissioner."

Seattle Housing Authority presents 2013 Budget and Annual MTW Plan for public comment

BY SEATTLE HOUSING AUTHORITY STAFF

In September, residents and community members will be invited to comment on Seattle Housing's 2013 Budget and "Moving To new Ways" (MTW) Annual Plan. The budget and plan outline the agency's priorities and resources for the coming year.

The 2013 budget summary and plan will be available for comment throughout September on Seattle Housing's website at www.seattlehousing.org, or by calling 206-615-3576. Seattle Housing will also present the plan and budget at a public hearing at 3 p.m. Monday, Sept. 17 at the Central Office, 190 Queen Anne Ave. N.

The public hearing is one of several opportunities to provide comments about the plan and budget. Comments will also be accepted by phone, email or U.S. mail. In addition, Seattle Housing staff will meet with representatives from public

Please see "MTW" on Page 2

Content guide

Don't see your neighborhood section? Consult the guide below to find the logos that correspond to your community.

-  High Point Herald
-  NewHolly Notes
-  Rainier Vista News
-  Yesler Happenings

Tierney, Lofton and RAC meet to discuss an agency in transition

BY TYLER ROUSH
The Voice editor

A torch was passed at the Resident Action Council meeting Aug. 8, as outgoing Seattle Housing Authority Executive Director Tom Tierney and his successor, Deputy Director Andrew Lofton, met for a conversation with resident leaders.

With Tierney set to retire and Lofton being promoted to executive director in September, the RAC had the rare opportunity to speak to two housing authority leaders overseeing an important period of transition for the agency.

Much of the focus was on the challenges that lie before the housing authority — increasing demand for housing, the ongoing effects of the recession, and creating opportunities for tenants.

Tierney looked to the aging generation of Baby Boomers and subsequent increase in demand for affordable senior housing. To meet the need for affordable senior housing in Seattle, 950 new units will have to be added in each of the next 20 years just to house the same percentage of low-income seniors, Tierney said. That's 19,000 new units over the course of two decades.

"We as a community will need to find a way to prioritize (creating) that new senior housing," Tierney said.

Lofton cited opportunities for mobility and choice among the housing authority's low-income tenants and voucher holders. Noting that 40 percent of Section 8 voucher holders live in low-opportunity areas, Lofton stressed that, "We want to make sure people have the ability to live anywhere they want to live in the city."

Of course, the HUD budget process is also at the forefront of everyone's minds. While gridlock over deficit negotiations in Congress pushes the United States to the brink of a "fis-



PHOTO BY TOM KEANE

Seattle Housing directors and RAC officers share a table at the Aug. 8 RAC meeting. From left to right, retiring Executive Director Tom Tierney, incoming Executive Director Andrew Lofton, RAC Vice President Kristin O'Donnell and RAC President Nancy Sherman. Seated behind them is RAC at-large member Dennis Bejin.

cal cliff" that could push the country deeper into recession, Tierney said it's critical for housing advocates to find their voice. He noted that housing advocates won't receive as much sympathy as defense contractors "if we're not putting as much pressure on Congress as defense contractors."

He also stressed that effective lobbying begins not with housing authority executives, but with tenants.

"Please make sure you're raising your voice as well," he said. "One of you speaking up is worth 10 of me. They assume I'm a special interest, and that I'm just another bureaucrat."

While lobbying for housing at the federal level, the executive director also needs to

Yesler youth speak out during hearing process



PHOTO COURTESY OF SEATTLE HOUSING AUTHORITY

A group of Yesler Terrace youth attended the Aug. 8 Seattle City Council public hearing on the Yesler Terrace redevelopment, seen here getting their photo taken with Seattle Housing Authority Executive Director Tom Tierney (center). The youth are involved in the Ground Up summer youth program at Yesler and the Yesler Computer Lab at the Yesler Community Center. Also in the photo is Seattle Housing Education Engagement Specialist Asha Mohamed (below left).

keep his ear tuned to the home front.

"One of the biggest responsibilities of the executive director is to listen," Lofton said. "By listening we learn, and by learning we can do better."

Tierney described the executive director as a "minister of culture."

The executive director is in "the rare position of being able to help form the culture of the agency," Tierney said.

That means maintaining an agency that is open and responsive to questions and concerns.

"It's important for us to hear from you ... and understand how policies affect you," Lofton said.

It also means guiding the agency through

hard times. Following a difficult budget process in 2012 and more challenges anticipated in the 2013 budget process, that role has been critical.

With Tierney poised to retire after more than eight years with the housing authority, he offered some farewell remarks to the RAC, a body that, he acknowledged, has not always seen eye-to-eye with him.

"As I'm leaving, I thank you all for the good, courteous heart you've shown me in my eight and a half years here," he said.

Does Tierney have any parting wisdom for his successor?

"We arrived together at the housing authority, and he's been advising me, so I'd say, 'Find a good person to advise you,'" he said.

New property management software for Seattle Housing to launch Oct. 1

BY SEATTLE HOUSING AUTHORITY STAFF

Over the past two years, a cross-departmental core team at Seattle Housing Authority has been diligently working to implement a new property management software system that is expected to go live Oct. 1. The new web-based software by the Yardi company is called Voyager and replaces five different products that have been used across the agency for years.

Seattle Housing's property management software affects almost everything the agency does, from admissions and managing tenant accounts to maintenance work orders and compliance tracking. Replacing five aging systems with one more easily manageable system will result in significant gains in efficiency for agency employees.

Seattle Housing's Chief Information Officer, Marianne Emerson, explained some of the advantages of the new system.

"This switch enables us to get rid of very old, outdated software and reduce the cost of supporting a lot of different systems. We will be positioned to more easily add new features to our system in a way we couldn't before," Emerson said. "Using five different products across the agency has often resulted in the same information being entered multiple times at the cost of productivity. One piece of software is so old that its vendor no longer supports it. Because it runs with underlying software that is not used anywhere else, it's a difficult product to

troubleshoot when it fails, as it often does."

Some new features might include giving applicants the option of applying for a unit in any property online, allowing property managers to see a history of repairs made to units, and making it easier for the agency to accept electronic rent payments.

Residents may be impacted by the switch in several ways:

During the transition week of Sept. 20 - 28, the agency will stop using the old systems and work on transferring data to the new system. During this transition, the property management team may have limited access to the old systems and current resident information in the computer. Processing of move-outs will also be delayed. Everything will be back, up and running Oct. 1.

Rent statements will be re-designed to provide a more user friendly format. A letter explaining the changes to our rent statement will be included along with September's rent statement. Residents will begin receiving the redesigned rent statement in October.

Although we are working hard to train staff on the new system, it will still take some time to become as proficient in the new software as they are in using the old ones. Providing all of our regular services to residents may temporarily take a bit longer.

We are looking forward to having this new software that will provide staff with an updated and more efficient tool to service our residents.

Rainier Vista celebrates completion of redevelopment



PHOTO BY LAURA GENTRY

The Dragonettes Drill Team from the Rainier Vista Boys & Girls Club perform Aug. 21 during a celebration marking the completion of the Rainier Vista redevelopment. The celebration featured entertainment, unit tours, and remarks from Seattle Housing's Andrew Lofton and HUD Deputy Regional Administrator Donna Batch.

MTW

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housing through the Joint Policy Advisory Committee (JPAC) meeting in September.

In October, housing authority staff will inform the Board of Commissioners of the comments received and will take

those comments into consideration. This may result in modifications to the plan or budget. At the Board of Commissioners meeting in mid-October, staff will ask the Board to adopt the budget and plan for 2013. Following Board adoption, the plan will be submitted to HUD for approval.

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.

If you'd like to submit an article, or if you have a question about anything you've read in this publication, please contact Editor Tyler Roush at 206-461-8430, ext. 227 or by e-mail at tyler@nhwa.org.

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

For Kristin O'Donnell, four decades of leadership

BY SAMUEL ANDREWS
Special to The Voice

Kristin O'Donnell wants to make a lasting difference in the lives of the people around her.

As she approaches her 40th year in Seattle Housing, one may get the impression that she has done just that.

These days O'Donnell serves as vice president of the Resident Action Council and keeps her self occupied at home by minding her six-month-old brown tabby cat named Arnold Katzenbrunner. ("He knows he is handsome," she says.)

Still, advocating for her fellow residents in Seattle Housing is clearly her No. 1 priority now that O'Donnell and her daughter, who has been out on her own for years, work on strengthening their mother-daughter relationship.

Meeting with a reporter in the Yesler Terrace community garden last month, O'Donnell wore a straw hat with an understated flower perched on its side. Her



Kristin O'Donnell

stylish hat gave reasonable sun protection, and though the heat in Seattle was blazing that day, the personable Kristen O'Donnell was cool as a cucumber.

O'Donnell is outspoken when she talks about battling depression, the condition that led her to Yesler Terrace.

"I wish people would be more open about mental illness," she says. "It is one of the last taboo subjects, which we don't talk about."

Single with her two and a half year old child in tow, O'Donnell moved into Yesler Terrace on Halloween 1973.

She says, "If it had not been for public housing, I would have possibly been homeless."

She adds that, "I was on automatic pilot when I moved in, I was just trying to keep me and the kid fed and put down to bed at the right time."

Of her life at that time, she says, "I was in a situation where taking care of myself was problematic, so with (my daughter) it was tough knowing that for the other person, the best you can do wasn't good enough."

Equipped with her personal history, O'Donnell is an easily motivated advocate in her position as facilitator of the 15-member Yesler Terrace Community Leadership

Team.

Her best advice for others going through a difficult time: Just like getting over a cold, it can be rotten, but it gets better. She also suggests that people work on building a network of support during the better times so that support will be there during the rough times.

On the stigma that people who live in public housing face: Ignore the negative comments people make about those who live in public housing.

On encouraging other Seattle Housing residents to serve in the Resident Action Council: It is one of the few places where low-income people have a workplace to give input.

O'Donnell reflected on some of the changes she has helped usher along throughout the years. She points out the elevator that was added to the Baldwin Apartments, which is part of the first phase of the Yesler Terrace redevelopment. She also describes the laundry facilities that were included in the new Yesler Terrace designs, following some prodding by her and other resident council members.

"If you don't ask for change, it will not magically appear," she said.

When asked what her greatest current

Q&A with Kristin O'Donnell

Q: What do you think we can do about the public stigma for those who live in public housing?

A: Ignore the negative comments people make about public housing.

Q: Why do you serve on the Resident Council?

A: I have seen changes throughout the years because of my service.

Q: Finish this sentence for us: This world needs more ...

A: Connection along with mutual support coming from all kinds of directions.

concern is, the energetic O'Donnell said, "I'm concerned that whatever replaces Yesler Terrace will not be as good as it is now."

"We should not only care for us but for the people who will be on the waiting list ten to twenty years from now."

Samuel Andrews is a Seattle Housing Authority resident and an at-large member of the Resident Action Council. He's a frequent contributor to The Voice and Springwire (formerly Community Voice Mail).

Bitter Lake Manor gets a snappy new exterior



PHOTO BY ROXANNE NAVRIDES

Behind curtain No. 1 is the grand prize for Bitter Lake Manor: a new exterior! This August, workers removed the scaffolding from the Seattle Senior Housing Program building's west side to reveal the new exterior. The building's old windows were replaced with new vinyl windows that are easier to operate and more efficient. An extra layer of insulation was installed as part of the new rain screen exterior that replaced the old stucco and wood siding. A new color scheme highlights the different textures of the new exterior.

Grobey

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"I like the fact I don't have to answer to anybody," she says.

She also loves the theatre, an appreciation cultivated in her as a small child in Aberdeen, where her mother was active in community theatre.

A 1976 graduate of Aberdeen High School, she attended her 35th class reunion last summer.

She's lived in Seattle for nearly all of her adult life, spending the majority of the time in the Fremont and Ballard neighborhoods. And while she's been happy in many places, she says it's hard to top her living situation at Sunrise Manor.

"It's a very high-quality place to live," Grobey says. "I think it's the very best place I've lived."

"The kind of experience I'm having is a once-in-a-lifetime experience."

Conference

Continued from Page 1

She was encouraged by the sheer number of people in similar situations in her neighborhood, and was inspired by so many other people from afar that shared her concerns. There is power in numbers, and Morgan intends to pursue action on a local level.

For Matt Anderson, this trip was his second time around. He is the president of the Community Council at University House, and runs a tight ship. He is already involved in many activities serving the seniors in his community.

Anderson also took the Food Justice workshop, and brought back an earful about the injustice of corporations controlling the food chain. He learned about how America used to consume food on a small scale, and how large corporations are now doing the pricing according to how much profit can be made from the rich versus the poor.

Workers rights are being infringed upon; they are being paid the same amount of money that they were 20 years ago. Anderson was re-educated on how he looks at the food chain. He now knows that availability and affordability of food serves the rich, and that decisions are based upon profit.

Anderson is not someone to sit back and let the "big guys" just walk all over us. His Grant Writing workshop gave him examples of what he will need to write a grant for his Community Council. He said this workshop was the most informative amount of useful information in the shortest amount of time.

The Ballot Initiatives workshop Anderson took reminded him about how extremely valuable it can be to band together to create

coalitions. It is through coalitions that we can create "power in numbers."

Last year, he met many people from different groups. This year he increased his networking ability, and hopes to bring together local area names that will be useful in organizing projects for his Council. Anderson found the Ballot Initiative workshop the most valuable of his choices for three reasons: 1) because information and background of foundations was explained; 2) the leaders gave resources he could use for funding; and 3) he got a step-by-step outline for writing grants, which he will use this coming year. He now feels prepared to serve his community in a more concrete way.

Both Morgan and Anderson agreed that one of the best parts of the conference was the camaraderie they had with people from as far away as Montana and Idaho and as close as the other Resident Action Council members that accompanied them on the trip. They both agreed that discussing issues as well as getting to know others on a personal level made the conference meaningful and fun.

For those of you thinking about spreading your activist wings next year, please don't hesitate to apply. You will learn things you never expected, and you will have a great time doing it. For more information about the AMP workshop, visit www.westernstatescenter.org or attend a RAC meeting.

Susan Irwin, a first-time attendee of AMP, is a Seattle Housing resident and an at-large member of the Resident Action Council. She has a B.A. in Applied Psychology and an M.S. in Counseling Psychology.

Seniors — change a child's life and enrich your own: Tutor with the Youth Tutoring Program

The Youth Tutoring Program, a part of Catholic Community Services, provides free tutoring for students in grades 1 – 12. Students primarily live in Seattle Housing communities and mostly come from refugee and immigrant families.

Our program matches volunteers one-on-one with students to tutor them in academics, and also to build meaningful relationships while acting as role models. This is a great opportunity for you to pass on your excitement about learning to another generation.

Our students benefit from tutoring, and our volunteers love spending time with their students. We engage hundreds of volunteers each year, and this year, you could be one of them!

Program Times

With a few exceptions, the centers are open at the following times:

Monday – Thursday for three sessions each:

4:20 – 5:20 p.m.

5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

6:40 – 7:40 p.m.

Program Locations

- High Point (West Seattle)
- Jackson Park (Lake City)
- Lake Washington Apartments (Rainier Beach)
- NewHolly (South Beacon Hill)
- Rainier Vista (Rainier Valley/Columbia City)
- Yesler Terrace (Central Area)

For questions, please contact our Volunteer Coordinator at VolunteerYTP@ccsww.org or 206-328-5970.

For more information and to get started as a volunteer, please visit our website at www.ccsww.org/ytp.



Plans for first phase of Yesler relocation process coming into focus

BY SVEN KOEHLER
Seattle Housing Authority

YT The conversation about relocation options is kicking into a higher gear at Yesler Terrace. There was an official announcement this July about which resident-occupied public housing units may be demolished as early as 2014. A large community meeting and half a dozen smaller group meetings about relocation followed throughout July and August.

But even before this, the subject of what will be available for residents who are relocating has drawn interest. The last Yesler Terrace Community Council meeting on June 18th hosted designers from DKA Architecture to comment on early designs for one option, called the Baldwin Apartments.

The Baldwin is a three-story brick building that stands two and a half blocks east of Yesler Terrace. It was as built in 1918 with over 30 tiny, substandard apartments and no elevator.

A comprehensive renovation will start in early 2013. This will create a totally new interior and upgrades to the exterior, including modern windows.

By fall of 2013, the renovated Baldwin Apartments will provide the first new low income public housing in the Yesler Terrace neighborhood. It will offer 15 modernized, wheelchair accessible one bedroom apartments.

These apartments may be of special interest to some residents at Yesler Terrace because accessibility is a challenge there. Most current Yesler Terrace buildings have stairs to negotiate, either inside the units or leading up to the entrance.

The most loudly-voiced input from residents at the meeting in June was to reconsider the proposed elevator access in the building. Now, the design team brought back new plans with a redesigned central elevator serving all floors. There are also larger individual storage units for resident use, and a landscaped courtyard. The square footage of the units has increased as well.

"These plans make more sense, may be better for elderly people carrying laundry, or using a wheelchair," said Ngu Vu, a member of the Council.

The recent changes reduced the number of units at the Baldwin to 15 from the earlier proposed 18. Three additional units have been added to a different building to be constructed at 1105 East Fir Street. This ensures there is no change in the number of replacement housing units to be built in the first phase of construction.

City Council to vote on Yesler plan Sept. 4

The Seattle City Council's special committee on Yesler Terrace held many hours of informational briefings this summer to consider legislation that would authorize the redevelopment of the 30 acre Yesler Terrace site to move forward. On Aug. 16, the special committee voted unanimously to allow for a culminating vote by the full council on Sept. 4.

The Council considered different viewpoints in deciding the merits of the project. Public hearings dedicated to the topic were held July 17 and Aug. 8.

Both were heavily attended by residents, civic leaders, affordable housing advocates, business owners from Little Saigon, members of the architectural and development community, social service providers, and community activists.

Many residents voiced concerns about changes to their community. Although generally the council doesn't respond to testimony at the meetings, Council President Sally Clark responded directly to some resident questions about relocation. She assured them that it was too early to expect to know the full details about where each resident will move during construction. The Cooperative Agreement between the City and Seattle Housing Authority that is part of the legislation puts protections in place for residents who must be relocated.

Changes in zoning authorized by the legislation will make the increased density foreseen in the plan possible, and the inclusion of some city funds would help finance the project. Several iterations of the legislation have been brought forth over the summer, and other changes could be made before the full council vote.

The Baldwin is one of many relocation options that will be available from the Housing Authority. It is too early in the process for offers of specific replacement units. But individual relocation counseling for residents who will have to move first has started so they can voice what they are interested in.

There will be a community-wide resident meeting about the priority policy for relocation from 5 - 7 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 8 at the Yesler Community Center.

of its housing stock. Tierney has been on hand for eight years of that renewal, along with the years working on it at the city.

This renewal is remarkably complex. The housing authority manages 400 projects across the city. They are a mix - high rises, single family homes, small apartment complexes, large developments.

Because of Tierney and his team, 2,000 more households are being served by Seattle Housing Authority, despite the federal government's flat-lined housing budget. Well over a billion dollars has been spent on its large community projects - NewHolly, Rainier Vista, High Point and Westwood - while other resources have gone to high-rise renovation, replacement housing and upgrades to the scattered site program.

Tierney said that in the last ten years or so, the housing authority has become particularly adept at using the federal tax credit program to create new housing. Well over 1,600 new units have been created, and

Yesler Terrace weds a bride



PHOTO BY TYLER ROUSH

YT *Babylonia Aivaz (right) gets a hug from King County Councilmember Larry Gossett after Aivaz married Yesler Terrace in a ceremony at the neighborhood's community garden Saturday, Aug. 4. Concerns about the proposed redevelopment of Yesler Terrace led Aivaz to make the unorthodox statement of marrying the community. Gossett was among the approximately 50 guests at the ceremony.*

A new job for Lake City Court resident, with an assist from the Economic Opportunity Program

NH For Lake City Court resident Muhiba Halilagic, Seattle Housing's Economic Opportunity Program has lived up to its name.

Muhiba started her new duties as Property Management Associate Trainee in Seattle Housing's NewHolly Management Office last month. She received the job placement through Seattle Housing's Economic Opportunity Program.

Muhiba's strong sense of community and great personality make her a favorite among neighbors, said Larry Hill of the Economic Opportunity Program. One way in which she's given back to her community is through a sewing-machine drive - Muhiba has acquired donated sewing machines to pass on to families in need. Those families in turn use the machines to make and mend clothing, both for themselves and for friends and neighbors.

Next time you're in NewHolly, stop by and say "Hi!" to Muhiba.

For more information about the Economic Opportunity Program, contact Hill at 206-344-5837 or lhill@seattlehousing.org.



PHOTO COURTESY OF LARRY HILL

Muhiba Halilagic (right), with Erin Loman-Jeck (left) and Larry Hill of Seattle Housing's Economic Opportunity Program.

Tierney

Continued from Page 1

staff to the Seattle City Council, understanding how money and programs came together and the process of how decisions are made. Helping others make important and complex decisions requires an efficient and sensitive awareness of people and their personalities. Working for Mayor Rice, where he ran the Office of Management and Planning, he became aware and then adept at creating and managing partnerships that ended up accomplishing something.

It was at the city of Seattle that Tom started working on Seattle Housing Authority issues, discussing the first ideas of how the old housing infrastructure could be remade into something significantly better. At the Port of Seattle, Tom's role was to be a developer, making big projects happen.

The Seattle Housing Authority has spent a decade planning and executing the renewal

an additional 2,200 have had major repairs, because of partnerships with investors who receive a reduction in their federal income tax obligations if they invest in low-income housing.

"There might be six or seven different financial partners in a given project," Tierney says. "While it may seem complicated and cumbersome, such partnerships can actually add stability to the financing."

Another set of partnerships particularly important to the Seattle Housing Authority is the relationship with the private nonprofit housing development community.

"We have a terrific group of nonprofit housing developers," Tierney says. "We've provided subsidies to units in their nonprofit developments in order to bring the rent down so that it is affordable to very low income people. It's been a joy to work with our nonprofits. They're smart, public-spirited and are looking for a win-win just like we do."

Tierney leaves one major project on the table, Yesler Terrace, the largest and oldest of the original World War II era projects. The plan has received initial approval by the City Council, but Tom's successor, Andrew Lofton, will implement it with Seattle Housing staff.

"We will build this great community because we have valuable land to sell that will support the very low income who will live there," Tom says. "It's another example of building housing through partnerships."

Yesler will be the first Choice Neighborhood project, a partnership with the federal government that will do a better job of addressing issues other than housing, like education and jobs.

"It has been a great joy to be a part of this institution, its employees, its residents, its network of supporters and partners," Tierney says. "I thank them for all they have taught me, all the memories they have given me and all the support they have offered."