



VOLUME 26, ISSUE I

JANUARY 2011

From the President

Happy New Year to all, and may the coming year be a great one. As another year has passed, and with a new year comes refreshed enthusiasm and renewed resolutions.

In the spirit of this renewal, the message I'm sending out to the community in this issue is simple: Be involved. As I reflect upon the successes the community has realized in the past year, the reason most responsible for the accomplishments we've been able to see has been the great amount of participation by our residents and their dedication to the betterment of Wedgwood. As with anything, though, we can continue to do better, and get more people engaged in the process and initiatives that the greater community has identified as priorities. With the priorities of life, not everyone always has the time to dedicate to volunteer efforts. That being known, no matter how busy we all are in our everyday endeavors, every one of our neighbors matters when it comes to making our community the best neighborhood in the city. If you are part of this group of busy-yet-concerned residents, and feel you lack to time to participate, I'd ask that you reconsider those feelings. Attend a community meeting or workshop, donate to the Outdoor Cinema, respond to a survey. No matter how small it may seem to you, every little effort adds up. Do you

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The Weird and Wacky Wedgwood Grapevine

Well, it's another new year in Wedgwood, and it looks like some good things are on the horizon. First off, all signs point to the economy being ready to finally regain some traction this year, which is good for everyone. The Wedgwood Community Council's Parks Committee is hoping to proceed with the long-planned new park acquisition for Wedgwood – make sure and attend the January 12th general meeting for the announcement of the selected target property! Community support is vital to securing funds through the Parks Levy, so we need all of you there! And as many of you know, in anticipation of new development coming to the neighborhood, we now have the Wedgwood Vision Plan, written guidelines to help the community work with developers and businesses. So stay tuned... Speaking of development, the old Stroum Jewish Community Center building on 35th Ave. NE is back on the market. The new asking price is \$3.2 million (down from the initial \$4.0 million price of two years ago) in case any of you have that sitting in your cookie jar... Leave the Gun, Take the Cannoli Dept.: Did you know that a famous mobster lived briefly in Wedgwood? Henry Hill, the real life low-level enforcer of the New Jersey Lucchese crime family, whose exploits were famously made into the popular 90's film "Goodfellas" directed by Martin Scorsese and starring Robert DeNiro, went into the

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The *Wedgwood Echo* is published by the Wedgwood Community Council every other month, starting in January. Articles do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the trustees.

The Wedgwood Community Council holds general meetings, announced in this newsletter, on our website (www.wedgwoodcc.org) and on sandwich boards along 35th. Trustees meet every month. All are welcome to both meetings, which are held at the Wedgwood Presbyterian Church located at 35th NE and NE 80th.

If you wish to be on the agenda or have guest speaker ideas, call WCC President, Kurt Westman. If you need transportation, call one of the trustees.

Contact information for trustees and other volunteers is listed on the back page.

For more on what the WCC does, meetings, events, membership (which includes a subscription to the *Echo!*) and advertising, visit: www.wedgwoodcc.org

Submit Wedgwood-worthy news or rants and raves to the editor, Katie Traverse, at wedgwoodechoeditor@gmail.com.



WCC General Meeting Wednesday January 12th at 7:00 Show Your Support for a New Wedgwood Park!

Please come to the next WCC general meeting, on Wednesday, January 12th, for an exciting update on park acquisition in Wedgwood. At this meeting, the WCC Parks Committee will announce its recommended park location based on careful review of potential sites identified at the March 2010 community meeting. We will share the criteria we used and also update the community on related efforts addressing other important neighborhood sites.

Identifying a recommended park site that the community can rally around is an important step in the process that began when voters approved the Parks and Green Spaces Levy in 2008. Although the levy specifically lists Wedgwood for a neighborhood park acquisition, broad community support is essential if Wedgwood's bid for a new park is to succeed.

One or more representatives from the City of Seattle Parks Department will be in attendance to observe and answer process questions as needed. It is important for the Parks Department to see that there is widespread community support at this meeting. Let's show them that the great energy and wide participation that resulted in the Wedgwood Vision Plan is going strong and that it's time to make the vision of a new park a reality!

Get Your Wedgwood T-Shirts at the General Meeting!



Come join us at the WCC General Meeting on January 12th to rally behind a new Wedgwood park, AND snag these cool new Wedgwood Tees! The shirts are dark green 100% cotton with the above logo in white ink. Only a very limited number of shirts in various sizes will be available at an incredible price of \$7.00 each! First come first serve. Personal checks or exact change please.

The meeting is

Wednesday, January 12, 7 p.m. at Wedgwood Presbyterian Church, 35th Ave NE & NE 80th St. For more information, please email committee chair Marieke Stientjes Rack at WedgwoodParks@gmail.com.

- David Atcheson, WCC Parks Committee member

Meet Your Neighbors: David Atcheson

If you have been around Wedgwood for any length of time, chances are you have come across Dave Atcheson. From his work on the Wedgwood Community Council, the Vision Project, and the Parks Committee, one is unlikely to find a more dedicated servant of our community.

Dave first moved to Wedgwood in 1978 and attended University Prep for high school. Dave was active in the school's Outings Club, and went on an overnight trip to Camp Muir in the 9th grade. The date was May 17, 1980, and Dave will never forget having arguably the best seats in the house for watching the eruption of Mount St. Helens.

Upon graduation, Dave was off to Stanford University, where he earned a degree in English with a Creative Writing emphasis. But Dave returned to the same house in Wedgwood, and worked at Microsoft as a tech writer and documentation manager, where he met his wife, Penny.



Dave's passion for the environment and international travel led him to enroll in the International Honors Program in Global Ecology. Dave spent the 1994-95 academic year travelling the world, studying international ecology and development. At the end of the program, Penny met Dave in Washington D.C. with a tandem bicycle. They headed west, making it as far as Peoria, Illinois before deciding they needed to get home and plan their wedding. The tandem reappeared, however, as their get-away vehicle for their wedding, complete with cans tied to the bumper that made noise all the way to the B&B where they spent their wedding night.

The couple continued to live in the Wedgwood home that belonged to Dave's family and where they still live today. One day Dave picked up a flyer that had been left on his doorstep, from the Pacific Crest Biodiversity Project ("PCBP"), an organization dedicated to the protection and restoration of forests in the Northwest. Dave shared a passion for PCBP's mission, and on a purely volunteer basis stepped in to help revitalize the organization. He served on the board of directors for many years, and as its president, edited the organization's newsletter, conducted timber sales monitoring, and wrote EIS comment letters. During his tenure there, PCBP successfully campaigned to end commercial logging in an important lowland forest habitat in the Cedar River Watershed. It also played an instrumental role in a successful campaign to prevent large blocks of old-growth forest—some above the town of Randle, WA and some near Mount St. Helens—from being traded to Plum Creek Timber for logging. As a follow up to those efforts, Dave served as the campaign director for the Cascades Conservation Partnership, which was able to raise enough to purchase 45,000 additional acres of forestlands to protect and restore habitat.

When the campaign wound down, Dave headed to the University of Washington and obtained a certificate in Web Technology Solutions. Dave has worked over the last three years as a web content specialist for the College of Engineering at the UW. Also at the UW, Dave was co-chair of the 2007 and 2008 Hazel Wolf Environmental Film Festival presented on campus.

Even while Dave was saving our northwest forests, he still found the time to be deeply involved in the Wedgwood community. He served as a trustee on the WCC from 2001 to 2009, and as its president from 2006 to 2009. He remains a lifeline for the WCC and the *Echo*, built the first WCC website in 2000, and is now working on its redesign. Dave was on the Wedgwood Vision Project Steering Committee and is currently serving on the Wedgwood Parks Committee. Dave served on the Composting Toilet Committee for Picardo P-Patch, where he maintains a plot, and his suggested name of "Picaloo" was adopted for the commode.

Dave and Penny have a daughter, Koki, who is 13, and the whole family has become active in the Seattle Buddhist Church and this summer travelled to Kyoto, Japan to visit the mother temple. While he has retired the tandem, you can find Dave commuting around the neighborhood on his bicycle. If you do see him, take a moment to thank him for his dedication and service to the Wedgwood community. My hope is that Dave's story inspires all of us to engage, come together, and make a difference in Wedgwood.

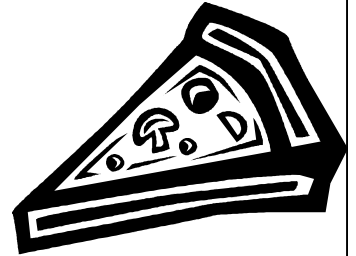
—Katie Traverse

Zaw Artisan Pizza Coming to Wedgwood

Several months back, Wedgwood's Domino's Pizza packed up and moved to the old Kits Camera location south of the University Village. A few weeks ago, the For Lease sign came down and your Wedgwood Land Use Committee has been trying to figure out what might take the place of the chain pizzeria. Now the mystery is solved. A new Zaw's artisan pizza (www.zaw.com) is coming to the neighborhood.

Zaw is a local take-and-bake pizza chain with stores in Ballard, Capitol Hill, Queen Anne, and South Lake Union. According to Danielle Koagel with Zaw, each pizza comes with a bit of S.O.U.L, which stands with 'seasonal,' 'organic,' 'unique,' and 'local' ingredients. All pizzas are made fresh down in South Lake Union and ingredients come from Washington farmers. Their menu includes pizzas (obviously), wine, beer, salads, and cookies. Their price points are from \$14-\$18 for a medium or large pizzas, but for \$33 you can get a large pizza, 6-pack of beer/6-pack of micro-soda/or bottle of wine, and salad. Gluten free pizzas are also available.

Zaw plans on opening during the 1st or 2nd week of January. Their store will feature sustainable materials, including bamboo flooring and reusing Domino's old counters. Order online, pick up, or have it all delivered. Welcome to Wedgwood, Zaw!



Safeway Remodel Update from the Wedgwood Land Use Committee

In the last edition of the Echo, we shared some exciting information on the remodel planned for the Wedgwood's Safeway. During our meeting with them, construction was supposed to be in mid-November 2010. This start date has since slipped to January due to some permitting issues with the City. Fortunately, this delay allowed us to have another conversation with Safeway and provide them a wish list of ideas to improve pedestrian safety and the character of the existing store front. There is no public comment requirement as part of the store's remodel, so the opportunity to share our comments with the store was extended to us by Safeway in good faith. The Wedgwood Land Use Committee appreciated that demonstration of good faith from Safeway and are excited to see how their remodel turns out.

-- Per Johnson

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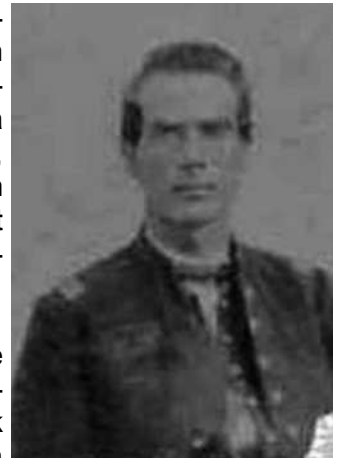
Homesteading in Wedgwood After the Civil War

In Seattle in the 1870s it was still possible to obtain land in a homestead claim. Some who came to Seattle were young adventure-seekers, but many who came seeking land were older men who were trying to make a fresh start; some were veterans of the Civil War. Veterans received credit for time served so that they did not have to take a full four years to “prove up a claim” and be awarded ownership of land.

In 1873 two brothers, Robert and William Weedin of Missouri, came to Seattle with their families. Both men were Civil War veterans and, while looking around Seattle and deciding what to do, they worked as policemen. (More than 100 years later, descendants of Robert Weedin still served in law enforcement: see *Seattle Times* article of February 6, 2010.)

Robert Weedin took a homestead claim in the Green Lake area, and today the street named Weedin Place marks part of his land. William Weedin’s claim was in Ravenna/Wedgwood, including the Wedgwood Rock area south of NE 75th Street and east of 25th Ave NE. Although they listed themselves on the census as farmers, primarily the Weedin men worked at logging off the trees on their land and also supported themselves doing carpentry work.

Around the same time the Kenyon and Dunham families of Michigan also ventured to the Seattle area. At the conclusion of the Civil War in 1865, Captain DeWitt C. Kenyon of Company B, 13th Michigan Infantry, mustered out and returned home to the village of Plainwell where his sweetheart awaited him. Viola Dunham had spent the war years teaching school while living with her parents, Calvin and Mary Dunham. After the war everyone hoped for peace and a return to “normal,” but it was not to be. The civil strife had literally torn the nation apart and there continued to be social and political turmoil, plus the economic recession which often is the aftermath of war.



DeWitt Kenyon

By the early 1870s DeWitt and Viola Kenyon had experienced the loss of three children, two as infants and the death of their three-year-old son, Walter. Viola’s parents, Calvin & Mary Dunham, were aging and could no longer work their farm. The Dunhams and Kenyons resolved to leave all they had known in Michigan and make a new start out in the wilds of Washington Territory, which had not yet entered the Union as a state. Viola’s brother Clifford Dunham came, too, and with his family settled in northeast Seattle at around NE 65th Street and 15th Ave NE, between the claims of the Weedin brothers. The Kenyons took a claim between 75th to 80th Streets, 30th to 40th Avenues NE.

On the census of 1880 in Seattle Viola Kenyon listed herself as a schoolteacher, which was remarkable for a married woman; in those days homemaking took so much time that a job outside the home was impossible. The key to Viola’s success was her parents, Calvin and Mary Dunham, who lived close by. In those log-cabin days, household work included the time-consuming process of gathering ingredients and cooking, all the while making sure that the fire in the fireplace did not go out. The Dunhams were able to do the home work of caring for the vegetable garden, splitting firewood, tending the hearth, and watching the food so that it didn’t burn, freeing Viola to teach school in a cabin built for the purpose on the claim property of William Weedin. The childless Viola Kenyon spent the 1880s teaching the children of homesteaders such as the Weedins, as well as her three nieces, daughters of Clifford Dunham. Weedin School, as it was called, served children in the four-mile area north of Lake Union between Lake Washington and the crest of Phinney Ridge.

It seems that children came from as far as the Fremont area to get the benefit of Viola’s classroom instruction and personal attention. We know this because such a child was captured on the census of 1880 as staying with the Kenyons and Dunhams. Little Mary Schurmandt, age 7, had a German immigrant father and a Native American mother. Their homesite was on what is now 45th Street between Fre-

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Meet Your Wedgwood Businesses: The Wedgwood Broiler

Most locals are familiar with the Wedgwood Broiler, located near the corner of NE 85th Street and 35th Ave. NE next to QFC. A neighborhood institution, new residents usually think it has to be the oldest restaurant and bar in Wedgwood, but that distinction actually belongs to the Fiddler's Inn which opened in 1933. The Broiler was built in 1965 by developer Albert Balch, and was originally called the "Sir Wedgwood." It was renamed the "Wedgwood Broiler" in 1967, and went through several owners, including one – Glen Jensen – who also owned "Blazes Broiler" in Ballard for many years, before being purchased by current owner Derek Cockbain in 1996.

I stopped in to chat with Derek about life in the restaurant business and asked how he got started. As a student at Nathan Hale High School in 1980, he needed a part-time job. He stopped in and talked to the manager, asked for a job and was told no. He came back the following week and asked again, and again was told no. He came back and asked a third time and this time his persistence paid off. He was hired by the now worn-down manager. Derek started as a dishwasher, and over the course of several years worked his way up to chef, then kitchen manager, and eventually night manager. In 1996 the opportunity arose to purchase the restaurant. After hitting up his friends and family he was able to put together the money to buy it, and he's never looked back. Derek and his wife (who also sometimes helps out in the restaurant and bar) live in Brier with their two kids, a 10-year old daughter and 11-year old son.

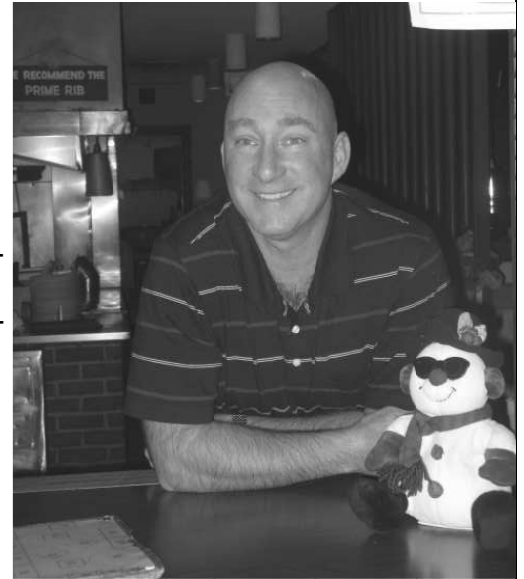
The two full-size dining rooms are staffed by friendly wait staff, some of whom have been there for many, many years. When my daughters were little and we would frequent the restaurant, the staff would remember our youngest, pickiest child's favorite customized choice that had been named after her, and would ask if she wanted the "Zoe Special" (grilled cheese on white, not wheat, one slice of cheese, not two, applesauce on the side, without cinnamon, and a large milk).

In addition to the dining rooms, the Broiler also features a storied bar. Like the dining rooms, it is staffed by a group of friendly, long-time staff who always make the customers feel at home. First time visitors are sometimes taken aback by the bar's resemblance to their grandmother's basement. Red leather booths, shag carpet (not really, but there should be) and, oddly – pictures of loggers on the walls – set a decidedly kitschy, yet warm and inviting tone. Well-known regulars include former Seattle Children's TV Host, 85-year old Stan Boreson, and former UW football star Sonny Sixkiller.

Derek takes care of his close-knit staff of 36, some of whom have been with him over 20 years. When it snows, he's been known to go pick up those who need a ride. Derek mentioned that he and other Wedgwood bar owners have a close relationship. They may call each other if a patron who has had too much to drink and been asked to leave might be "on the move" and headed their way.

I asked Derek if, in these more health conscious times, people are eating or drinking less. He said some people are eating smaller portions, but the bar still pours like it always has – maybe even a bit more! I asked him if he is worried about any new restaurants opening up in the neighborhood. He tells me that as far as he's concerned, the more the merrier, as food and bar establishments tend to make a neighborhood even more of a destination.

I wanted to know if anyone has ever finished the famous "72 Ounce Steak" challenge posted on the wall – (if you can finish it, it's free!). He reports that it has never been done. I guess I need to call my high school buddy "Chunky Dave" and get him to try. My money's on Dave. So if you haven't done so already, stop by the Wedgwood Broiler and let Derek and his friendly crew take care of you. They might even name a special dish after you.




Derek Cockbain

Wedgwood Grapevine

(Continued from page 1)

Federal Witness Protection Program after turning informant. Hill, played by actor Ray Liotta in the film, moved around several times during this period, finally landing in Wedgwood in 1987. However Hill - living under the name Martin Todd Lewis - did not do a very good job of lying low, eventually getting busted for cocaine trafficking, and was hauled into a Seattle courtroom and charged. But because of his federal status, he was not sentenced (nor was any of this information released to the press) but was booted out of the Witness Protection Program (which also pays very well by the way – where do I apply?) and he moved to California, where he still lives to this day, but under his real name Henry Hill... Please welcome to Wedgwood the One Life Community Church, who have moved into the previous Mars Hill Church building on NE 95th Street. I spoke with Head Pastor Dennis Heida about the church. He tells me they are a relatively new Christian church (he and his family are also new to the area, having recently moved here from San Francisco) that had been meeting on Wednesday evenings in a space near Greenlake, when the opportunity came up for them to have their own building after Mars Hill moved out (Mars Hill Church still owns the building). They currently have about 100 adult and 70 children members. They are now “open for business” and ready to be a part of the community. ..Wedgwood is saddened to learn of the passing of Hal Roe at age 85. Mr. Roe was a long time local resident and community volunteer, and was President of the Wedgwood Community Club in the early 1960’s. His wife Ellen was also the President of the Seattle School Board for many years. Hal is survived by Ellen, his wife of 62 years, and their six children... The recent visit by President Obama to Wedgwood still has people asking the question... why the heck did he come here? Well, because of local long-time political operative Jordan Royer, that’s why. I asked Jordan (a Wedgwood resident and son of former Mayor Charlie Royer) how he was able to make that happen - did the President lose a bet or something? Jordan tells me that he just happened to be in the right place at the right time, which was a party where he was talking with former Deputy Mayor Tim Ceis. Mr. Ceis told him that the White House Advance Team was looking for a home in Northeast Seattle for the President to have a ‘backyard talk’ at when he came to town, and did he know anyone who might be interested? Jordan said he did, called his friends Erik and Cynn timer Foss in Wedgwood, and the rest just fell into place. Nice job Jordan... Things I Ponder: When cheese gets its picture taken, what does it say?... Why do overlook and oversee mean opposite things?.. Why is the man who invests all your money called a “broker”?... “I am” is reportedly the shortest sentence in the English language. Could it be that “I do” is the longest sentence?...

Brian Swanson
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From the President

(Continued from page 1)

and your neighbors know that Wedgwood could be sited for a new park in the coming year? We need everyone involved!

To make participation in the matters of the community easier, the WCC is embarking on some ambitious plans to remake our website, our communications, and our membership systems. Many of these improvements will enable more access and ability to participate through online engagement. That is our commitment to the neighborhood. In return, if you have time to Tweet, Facebook, or bid on eBay as part of your busy day, also please consider stopping by the Wedgwood CC website, www.wedgwoodcc.org, see what's going on, give some input, and help our common cause. Every one matters, and every little effort adds up. Be involved!

Kurt Westman, WCC President

The Real Estate Advisor: Chimney & Fireplace Safety

There is nothing cozier than a warm fire on a cold winter's day. But if you're trying to cut back on heating costs by using your fireplace more, it's important to make sure your chimney and stove are in top shape.

To help prevent fires, soot damage and smoke, follow these chimney safety tips:

- Have your chimney inspected at least once a year. Chimney fires are caused by the buildup of flammable materials inside the flue. Regular inspection and cleaning can help prevent this buildup.
- Keep the top of your chimney clear of debris.
- Install a chimney cap to keep moisture and critters out.
- Be sure your chimney has an appropriate liner.
- Have your chimney flashing (the seal between the chimney and roof that keeps rain and snow out of your house) inspected annually.
- Use dry, well-seasoned firewood, which burns cleaner than moist wood.
- Install smoke and carbon-monoxide detectors throughout your home; check batteries regularly.

Paul Harvey McLaughlin

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Homesteading in Wedgwood After the Civil War

(Continued from page 5)

mont and Aurora Avenues. From notations on land deeds we know that the mother, Peggy, was illiterate. Perhaps Viola Kenyon felt a special concern for little Mary because her mother would not be able to teach her to read, and so the Kenyons and Dunhams kept the child at their home for a tutoring session.

In 1887 Viola's father Calvin Dunham died, and DeWitt Kenyon, thirteen years older than Viola, was about to turn 60. The Kenyons moved into town, where DeWitt worked at the Oregon Improvement Company sawmill at 2nd and King. His occupation was "joiner," similar to carpenter but unlike a carpenter who works on-site and frames houses, a joiner works in a workshop and makes wood components. DeWitt Kenyon's occupation was listed as a sash and door maker.



Viola Kenyon

While living in town Viola Kenyon no longer taught school but she kept very busy with the Washington Territory branch of the Grand Army of the Republic ("GAR"). The GAR was a nationwide veteran's organization for Union soldiers, and from the 1860s to the 1890s it was a powerful political movement. The GAR was responsible for establishing May 30th as Memorial Day, originally intended to commemorate the dead of the Civil War. The GAR set the historical precedent for establishing the normal retirement age at 65, a decision made by the Civil War pension board in 1890.

In 1886 Viola Kenyon founded the Women's Auxiliary Relief Corps of the GAR in Seattle, named Stevens Post No. 1 in honor of the territorial governor of the 1850s, Isaac I. Stevens. After finishing his service in Washington Territory, in 1862 Stevens was killed while serving as a Union officer in the Civil War.

In the 1880s several other members of the Dunham and Kenyon families migrated from Michigan to California. In 1888 DeWitt and Viola Kenyon moved to Ventura, where DeWitt's brother Gurdin also lived. Two of Viola's

brothers, Alos and Orville, were in Los Angeles, about seventy miles away. DeWitt Kenyon died in 1903 and was buried in Ventura. After his death, Viola went to live with her brother Orville Dunham and his family.

It is not known why Orville Dunham moved again, but by 1910 he was in Olympia, Washington, and was proprietor of a store. Viola Kenyon lived with the Dunhams and spent the rest of her life in Olympia, where she resumed her activities with the Women's Auxiliary of the GAR in Washington State. She lived to be 91, dying in 1931. She is buried in the GAR cemetery to the north of the main Lake View Cemetery on Capitol Hill in Seattle.

In 1909 at age 69 Viola Kenyon travelled back to Michigan for the 44th reunion of her husband's military unit. The following is the first stanza of a narrative poem she composed and read at the reunion. The complete text can be found at www.findagrave.com (Dewitt C. Kenyon).

--Valarie Bunn, valariebunn@msn.com

"To the Thirteenth Infantry"

*When Sumter fell by traitor hands,
And war-clouds dark hung low,
When anxious hearts prayed for one gleam
Of light to cheer their woe –
When men with patriotic zeal
Sprang to their country's aid;
And mothers, wives and sweethearts, too,
Upon the altar laid
Their bleeding hearts; (Oh gift most rare)
And bade their loved ones go
Perchance to die, that the dear old flag
Might never be laid low,
Then came the "Boys" of Michigan,
The boys we loved so well;
They bade good-bye to wife and home
None braver fought or fell.
Their deeds are told on many a page;
Their fame will never die;
For Michigan did well her part
And kept her standard high.*

Tim Burgess at Wedgwood Community Council meeting in November

Our November 10th WCC meeting was lively with questions and answers on the information brought to us by City Councilmember Tim Burgess. Burgess is Chair of the Public Safety & Education committee of City Council, Vice-Chair of Built Environment, and a Member of the Transportation committee. With the tax initiatives on the November ballot settled, and having had several weeks of Council hearings regarding the Mayor's proposed budget, he was able to tell us of the modifications and negotiations being considered for the 2011 Budget. The 2011 City Budget was adopted on Nov. 22, 2010 with all of the modifications he discussed.

Burgess' Public Safety & Education committee is working on linking safety & human services to help crime victims. In the area of crime prevention, Burgess, who is a former police officer, pointed out that good education is a great public safety strategy. Enhancing school services makes good economic sense because education keeps kids from falling into criminal activities. It is evident that those who are in jail are there in part because they have not received sufficient education to enable them to get jobs, and a high percentage of jail inmates cannot read at all.

Burgess spoke of ongoing plans for traffic improvements and how plans will be impacted by budget constraints. The mayor proposed a 40% raise on paid parking. Downtown merchants are in favor of paid parking as it helps keep cars "turning over" so that more customers can get in close to the stores they want to reach. However, they are not happy with parking fees on Sunday and really not happy with a 40% increase in parking meter rates. The council is considering only a 25% raise in meter rates. The council is in the process of doing city-wide occupancy surveying and spot-checks to see how much street parking is being utilized in various neighborhood commercial districts.

Having just finished creating a Wedgwood Vision Plan, members of the audience questioned Burgess on our neighborhood issues of whether the city is going to promote housing density and changes in zoning, and how Wedgwood can work to bring in more businesses. Burgess replied that the city council is seeking to put more money back into the Neighborhood Matching Fund for work on such projects. He recommended that Vision Plan representatives talk to the city's Dept. of Planning & Development (DPD) about allowing for more mixed-use in commercial zones, and talk to the Seattle Dept. of Transportation (SDOT) about parking zones. It was commented that in some areas, such as around the Northeast Branch of the Seattle Public Library, it would be advantageous to put in two-hour parking limits. Currently commuters park there all day which makes it difficult for library patrons to park near the library.

Councilmember Burgess commented to a Wedgwood member how much he enjoyed his visit with the Wedgwood Community Council and complimented the members who spoke at the meeting for their informed, involved and courteous participation.

Jack D. Robinson
206.684-8282

WCC on Facebook

In an effort to revitalize our communication efforts, the WCC has launched a Wedgwood Community Council Facebook page. If you use Facebook you may find it useful at staying apprised of new and exciting things that the WCC is doing. We have a series of wonderful pieces of news that we hope to unveil in the next couple months that we hope the neighborhood will rally behind and support.
- Per Johnson

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Northeast Branch Library in the New Year

Have you planned your New Year's resolutions yet? Come to the Northeast Library for ideas and check out our collection of the latest books, music and movies for adults, teens and children. We're starting out the New Year with an opera preview of Rossini's "The Barber of Seville" on Wednesday, January 12, 6:30-7:30 p.m., presented by the ever-popular Theodore Deacon. Also, coming up on Tuesday, February 22, 6:30-7:30 p.m., is another opera preview of Massenet's "Don Quixote." And make sure you come by and visit the branch during the month of February for our annual neighborhood history exhibit, in honor of the City's Neighbor Appreciation Day. You'll find displays of photos, maps, and articles about the history and development of Wedgwood, View Ridge, Laurelhurst, Meadowbrook, and Ravenna. Ongoing programs include our monthly computer classes and book groups for both adults and seniors.

Need help filing your tax return? The Seattle Public Library and the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) are collaborating to offer tax preparation service at the Northeast branch on Thursdays from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. starting February 3rd. Trained volunteers will be available to answer questions and help prepare personal tax returns. The service is free and provided on a first-come first-served basis.

Daniel Nguyen
206-684-7539

Wedgwood Elementary Gearing up for its First "Prom" Live Auction March 26th

Wedgwood Elementary School will be hosting its first-ever off-site auction, and we would love you to be a part of it! The event will be held on Saturday, March 26th, at the neighborhood Our Lady of the Lake's elementary school gym, time yet to be determined. We will be featuring both a silent and live auction, with a "fund-a-need" showcase as well. Serving libations and heavy appetizers, this is one Prom that you don't want to miss! There will be corsages, a raffle, and a dessert dash, so whether you are a parent of a student, an alumni, a neighbor, or a loving grandparent that wants to support the school and its children, we welcome you! If you want to be included, please contact Camille Settle at settle@comcast.net, or call (206)

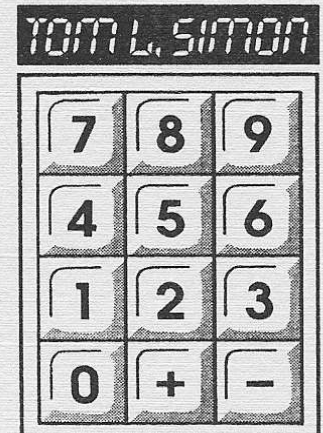


715-4574, and she will make sure you get an invitation! And if you or your business has anything items to donate to the auction, contact Camille and she would be happy to accept them.

Girdled Street Tree Along 35th

It goes without saying that Wedgwood has a soft spot in its heart for trees. From the tall, mature conifers which call the many ravines in Wedgwood home to the newly planted trees in our roundabouts, we love them all. That's why it was a shock when while walking my dog during one of November's snow day's that I saw one of our street trees 'girdled' along 35th Ave NE. To 'girdle' a tree means to cut a full circle of the outer bark around the trunk of a tree. Trees transport nutrients through two types of vascular tissues, the xylem and phloem. Girdling severs the phloem and prevents a tree from transporting sugars created in the leaves down to its roots, which kills the tree. Based on the fresh wood chips at the base of the tree, this appears to be an act of vandalism. These street trees belong to SDOT and their arborist has been notified of this particular vandalism.

- Per Johnson



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WCC General Meeting
Wednesday, January 12th
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Wedgwood Presbyterian Church
Support Wedgwood Parks and get
your Wedgwood T-shirts!
See Page 2 for details



WEDGWOOD COMMUNITY COUNCIL BOARD AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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WEDGWOOD COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP FORM

Yes! We/I would like to join (or renew our membership in) the WCC. Date: _____

Name(s) or business/organization: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Interests: Board of Trustees Land Use Transp./Pedestrian Projects Outdoor Cinema

Wedgwood Parks Other: _____

One-year membership contribution: \$ _____

Please mail checks to:

Basic household membership is \$20/yr; give more or less as you are able. **WCC, PO Box 15770, Seattle, WA 98115**