



VOLUME 26, ISSUE III

MAY 2011

Farewell from the President

Happy springtime to everyone in Wedgwood! Sooner or later, the long cold winter will have faded into good memories, and warm, dry days will be upon us. Gardening, playing outdoors, getting out for that morning run, and other activities will become more comfortable – much more comfortable.

Wedgwood will have another fun-filled summer, as the Arts Festival (see page 7) and the Outdoor Cinema (see page 4) prepare for their return. There are also many exciting things happening in the neighborhood, as we look forward to further progress towards a new Wedgwood park, the upcoming redevelopment of the long-vacant JCC site, and seeing the long-awaited transformation of our Safeway store.

In May, the WCC will also see the annual transition of some of its board of trustees and officers. We have an enthusiastic group of new and returning trustee candidates to add to our already highly engaged group of trustees.

This will also mark the end of my six-year tenure on the board, these last two as president. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve my friends and

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Wood Partners Plans No Retail and Other Changes to JCC Site Project

On March 26th, members of the Wedgwood Land Use Committee and the Wedgwood Action Group met with Steve Orser of Wood Partners to learn about their plans for the JCC property at 8606 — 35th Ave NE. A summary of this meeting is available on the WCC website at www.wedgwoodcc.org. Wood Partners' willingness to meet with our two community groups was a very appreciated gesture, as there is no public-notification requirement for their project. According to Mr. Orser, Wood Partners is making some changes to the project originally designed and by Murray Franklyn in the following ways:

1. Change from condos to apartments.
2. Reduce on-site parking as the revised City Code now allows – from 1.25 stalls per unit to 1 stall per unit.
3. Replace ground-floor retail spaces with live/work units.

Given the economic realities of our local economy and these type of developments, we appreciate why Wood Partners is proposing these modifications. Furthermore, there is no legal basis that the WCC could make to request additional parking despite the concerns of those neighbors immediately adjacent to the site. However, after reviewing the project, the Land Use Committee voted to recommend that the Wedgwood Community Council withhold its sup-

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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 May 11th at 7:00 Elections of Trustees with Special Guest Speaker State Senator Scott White

Join the WCC for its Annual General Meeting at 7:00 on Wednesday, May 11th at the Wedgwood Presbyterian Church on the corner of 35th Avenue NE and NE 80th Street. Our special guest speaker will be Washington State Senator Scott White, who is a Wedgwood resident. He will give us a first hand account of some of what has been going on in Olympia recently. In addition, we will be holding our annual elections for three trustee positions on the WCC. Short biographies of the candidates can be found below. We hope to see you there!

Meet the WCC Trustee Candidates

Patti Wilma has lived in Wedgwood since 2007, having moved from her Queen Anne Hill home of 18 years. Upon the launch of their two grown sons, Patti and her husband, Mike Bergstrom, chose Wedgwood because of its unique combination of natural and urban setting and the scale, approachability, egalitarian ambiance, and "attitude" of the neighborhood. Patti's interest in becoming a trustee stems from her professional life as a city planner for Bellevue and training as an architect. She believes citizen involvement is key to informed government decisions. Of particular interest to Patti are preservation and enhancement of the wooded "Cascadia" nature of Wedgwood, invigorating the commercial district with responsible and sensitive development, and maintaining the small-scale nature of neighborhoods. Her past community involvement includes membership on the Queen Anne Community Council and the Queen Anne Design Review Board.

Katie Traverse lives near Wedgwood Elementary School with her husband Keith and their three young children. She has served as an appointed trustee since December of 2009 and is the editor of the *Wedgwood Echo*. Next year she will serve as president of the Wedgwood Elementary PTA. Katie is currently staying at home with her children, but in her former life was an attorney at Perkins Coie, specializing in general litigation. Katie served on the Lakeside School Alumni Board from 2004 to 2006, and as its Vice President in 2007. Katie has a particular interest in creating safe walking routes in Wedgwood for students and all pedestrians, and loves working to empower and connect people in Wedgwood to make this an even better place to live. When she is not at home with the kids, you can find Katie at Javasti, jogging, or chasing her black pug, Gus, around the neighborhood. Katie is a graduate of Lakeside School, Middlebury College, and the University of Washington School of Law.

Brian Turnbull, his wife, and their two boys have called Wedgwood home for the last four years. Brian is a missional pastor of a house church movement in Northeast Seattle, and owns a landscape company called Green House Landscaping. Brian enjoys people and the outdoors, which are two great assets we have here in Wedgwood. As a trustee for the last three years and the chairperson of events, Brian enjoys coordinating our annual Outdoor Cinema and Business Trick or Treat. Brian is also 1st Vice President of the WCC.

WCC Applies for Pomegranate Grant in Partnership with the Hunter Family to Develop the Hunter Tree Farm Property for Off-season Public Use

Those that have followed the Wedgwood park acquisition process know that the Wedgwood Parks Committee met with the Hunter Family to inquire about their long term plans for their Christmas tree lot at 7744 — 35th Ave NE. During our conversation, it was made clear that although the Hunters had no interest in selling their property, they were interested in increasing the public use of their property in the future. While this was a fantastic gesture on their part, it ruled out their beautiful site for a new Wedgwood neighborhood park. At the January 12th public meeting, the Wedgwood Parks Committee shared that although it was not for sale, the committee would continue to look for ways for the Hunter Family's property to be used by the public.

In mid-March, Tully's Coffee and the Pomegranate Center released a request for proposals for new public "gathering places." The grant allows for the design and some funds to develop three new gathering places in greater Seattle. Immediately after hearing about this, the WCC realized that the Hunter Farm site was an ideal and intuitive location for a public/private 'gathering place' and worked with the Hunter Family to craft a proposal that met both their needs and the needs of the community. Furthermore, the WCC has reached out to the Wedgwood Art Festival and Sustainable NE Seattle groups to be members of the leadership committee should we be lucky enough to be chosen for this grant.

In mid-April, after submitting the application, the WCC was notified that it is a finalist and a site visit is already scheduled with the granting committee. The difficult aspect for this project, should we get it, is that the project needs to be completed by the end of 2011! Further complicating the schedule is that this particular project would need to be completed by December to avoid interrupting the Christmas tree farm business. Therefore, by the time this issue of the Echo comes out, we should know whether we're 1 of the lucky 3 projects selected for this grant or not. If we are lucky, we will need "all hands on deck" to develop a design and construct the project. Our fingers are crossed and we'll make sure to keep the community up-to-date on our website (www.wedgwoodcc.org).

Per Johnson

Wedgwood Park Acquisition Update

Things continue to move forward with Wedgwood's park acquisition, as Seattle Parks & Recreation and Seattle City Light are currently negotiating a transfer of the Morningside Substation site (35th Avenue NE and NE 86th Street). While the Parks Committee had prepared an application for the May round of Neighborhood Matching Fund (NMF) Small & Simple grants to pay for park design, it does not appear that the transaction will be complete by that time. Increased environmental analysis, due to a former gas station on the site, will require more time to complete, meaning the Morningside Substation will not be transferred in time to meet the May grant deadline. The Parks Committee is looking at other options to move park design forward, including utilizing volunteer design professionals, applying for the NMF September deadline, and more.

Wedgwood's neighborhood park acquisition is a community effort. If you're interested in joining the committee or have comments/questions, please email Wedgwoodparks@gmail.com.



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Save the Date for Wedgwood's Annual Outdoor Cinema— Saturday, August 6th

This year's Outdoor Cinema will be on Saturday, August 6th, on the school grounds at Thornton Creek Elementary (at 40th Ave NE and NE 77th Street.) Planning is still in the works, but as always, there will be entertainment for all



and refreshments available, and the film will begin at dusk. This year's film will be the clever, stop-motion animated film *Fantastic*

Mr. Fox, which is sure to be a hit with both children and adults. Stay tuned for more information in the July edition of the *Echo* and up-to-date postings on the WCC website (www.wedgwoodcc.org).

Northeast Branch Library Programs

Spring is here and the Northeast Library is hosting some exciting programs this month. We are hosting a digital books road show at 1 p.m. on May 7, where you can learn about the Library's e-books and test-drive various e-book readers. The Library is hosting this year's Seattle Reads author, Chris Cleave, on May 12 at 7 p.m., where he will talk about his book "Little Bee." On May 21 at 2 p.m., we are hosting award-winning author Jennifer Haigh, who will talk about her book "Faith." Topping off the month, on May 24 at 6 p.m., we will have the gala awards ceremony and poetry reading for our annual poetry contest, where everyone can hear the winners read their poems and get cool prizes, and the public is invited to bring in their own poem to read as time allows, and grab a fortune cookie with a custom poetry fortune. We will also have computer classes for adults including for the very first time a Facebook class on June 7 at 2:30 p.m. Come to the branch to pick up the complete schedule.

Summer is also just around the corner, so get ready to gear up for the Summer Reading Program! Kids 12 and under can read 10 books and win a free book! We will also have great programs for all ages. Stop in at the Library starting June 1st to sign up!

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Meet Your Wedgwood Businesses: Café Javasti

As a regular at Café Javasti in Wedgwood, I often stop in multiple times each day to get my caffeine fix, and while I am friendly with the staff, I realized that I didn't really know the whole Café Javasti story. So I sat down the other day with the guys behind the espresso machine to get the full scoop.

Café Javasti owners Scott Morell and Ryan Sheridan met over 17 years ago when they were working together at the old downtown Nordstrom. The two became fast friends, and quickly discovered their shared passion for coffee. They became familiar with many of the independent coffee vendors downtown, and soon the dream of opening their own coffee business took shape. When a space opened on 5th Ave. NE in Maple Leaf, the neighborhood where Ryan grew up, the friends became business partners, and in 2001 opened the first Café Javasti. They wanted to do something to differentiate them from other coffee shops, and so they ordered a couple of top quality crepe stones, and became a café and creperie.

For the first few months, Scott and Ryan did most all of the work themselves, waking up at obscene hours of the morning to bake scones and muffins, manning the café all day, and closing up at the end of each day, only to do it all over again the next day. They recruited family members to help out but once the familial good will was exhausted, they finally started hiring employees to help them out, and after a year found some fantastic bakers to take over.

The Maple Leaf store was more successful than they had imagined, and as they started thinking about opening a new location, Wedgwood was at the top of their list. In 2006, Café Javasti opened in Wedgwood on the 8600 block of 35th Ave NE. Scott, being a Wedgwood resident, took over primary management of the Wedgwood store while Ryan focused on the Maple Leaf location. The Wedgwood Café Javasti has fast become a gem of the neighborhood.



Ryan and Scott "on location" in Costa Rica

Scott and Ryan are serious about their coffee, but beyond being self-proclaimed addicts, they put a lot of time, effort, and thought into choosing their roaster and supplier of coffee beans. The company they chose, Batdorf & Bronson, is based out of Olympia, and, in addition to producing exceptional coffee, employs a business model that is focused on sustainability. More than just offering certified Organic and Fair Trade products, Batdorf & Bronson is committed to using renewable energy and other environmental initiatives, and to developing long-term relationships with farming families and communities and paying fair and sustainable prices for coffee. These values of sustainability are shared by Café Javasti, and last year Scott and Ryan travelled to Costa Rica to better understand the origins of the lattes and americanos that they sell to us. They were able to meet some of the families that grow the coffee beans that end up in your cup, and to see first-hand the value of these sustainable relationships.

The name "Javasti", Scott and Ryan like to say, is Italian for "we made it up." Even though it is not a real word, it is easily mispronounced. Wedgwoodians and others are overheard saying "jivasta", "javisti" and other creative interpretations of the made up word, which is properly pronounced JA-VA-STEE. In addition to their creative naming, Scott created their design and logo, thanks to his background as a graphic artist. In solidarity with struggling artists, they charge no commission for the artwork that is displayed from month to month in each location, usually from local artists.

I had to ask them why their pastries are so darn good, and if you have tasted them, you know why. Their answer, apart from crediting their skilled bakers who work out of the Maple Leaf location, was that many of the recipes come from their own families. From Ryan's Aunt Helen's Pumpkin Bread to Scott's Mom's Scones, you cannot go wrong with Café Javasti's baked goods, all of which, including quiches, can be special ordered. And if you haven't tried one of their crepes, you are missing out. From sweet to savory, there is al-

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Meet Your Wedgwood Neighbors: Per Johnson and Paula McPoland

Per Johnson and Paula McPoland are people with passion, and are living out that passion in Wedgwood and beyond. The couple bought their first home in Wedgwood only two years ago, but have made fast work of getting involved and making a difference in the neighborhood and the greater Seattle community.

The couple chose to buy a house in Wedgwood primarily to be close to Paula's place of work as a resident in Pediatric medicine at Children's Hospital. Paula is a native of Vashon Island, and has been at the University of Washington for her undergraduate studies, medical school, and now her residency program. Per grew up in Seattle, and graduated from Garfield before heading off to Western Washington University. While studying Environmental Science, Per volunteered with the Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association ("NSEA") in Bellingham, a nonprofit organization dedicated to restoring sustainable wild salmon runs in Whatcom County. After graduating, Per joined Americorps, working one more year with NSEA as their volunteer coordinator.

Per returned to Seattle after his year with Americorps and, finding himself in desperate need of health insurance, took a job at the U Village Starbucks. While neither Per nor Paula liked coffee at the time, ironically Starbucks was to be the place where they first met. One day Paula stopped by the U Village store because her roommate, who also worked there, had accidentally taken Paula's house keys. While Per has a vivid memory of their first meeting and conversation, for Paula the encounter was less earth-shattering. The very next evening, however, their paths were to cross again. Per was hosting a meeting with his roommates for young adults working with the high school youth group at University Presbyterian Church ("UPC"), and was more than pleasantly surprised when Paula walked into that meeting. Before long, the two started dating. During that time, Paula was finishing up her undergraduate degree, which included a year studying in Australia, and work on a Howard Hughes Grant studying Hepatitis C. She also spent time in Haiti through the college program at UPC, which kindled her desire to direct her

medical work towards urban underserved communities and global health. Meanwhile, Per obtained a University of Washington Certification in Wetlands, and in 2004 began work as a wetland and stream biologist with an environmental consulting firm.



In 2006, while Paula was in medical school at the UW, the couple were married, and lived in Wallingford in a property owned by family. Per was hired by Shannon & Wilson, Inc. to continue his work as a wetlands biologist and Paula was accepted into the three-year residency program at Children's Hospital through the UW. Knowing Paula would be at the same place for at least three more years, they started looking to buy a house. Attracted

to Wedgwood for its walkability and proximity to transit, Per and Paula moved into the neighborhood in 2009, along with their dog, Maddie, and three cats, Gordon, Gus, and Cleo.

Soon after settling in, Per contacted WCC President Kurt Westman asking if we had developed any sort of plan or vision for the neighborhood. In fact, the WCC was just getting going with its Wedgwood Vision Project ("WVP"), aimed at developing a direction and plan for the neighborhood. Per got involved and attended every WVP public meeting, and in May 2010 was elected as a Trustee on the WCC. Soon thereafter, Per was asked to Chair the WCC Land Use Committee, which has been working to actively engage with property owners, businesses, and elected officials to promote the implementation of the Vision Plan. He is also on the Wedgwood Parks Committee, and has played a key role in the advancement of Wedgwood's new park. Just last month, Per led the charge for the WCC's application for a Pomegranate Grant, seeking to make improvements to the Hunter Tree Farm property to enable more public use of that space. As if that weren't enough, Per is responsible for most of the content on the WCC's new website, constantly staying up to date on things concerning Wedgwood, and keeping us all in the loop.

While not as visible in the neighborhood as Per, Paula has more on her plate, as she works the grueling hours required by a pediatric resident. While most of her time is spent at Children's Hospital, she also works

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in a pediatric clinic in south Seattle. The demands of her program prevent her from equaling Per's volunteerism, but she applies her passion to help the most vulnerable among us as she delivers medical care to children. With a little over a year left in her residency, Paula hopes to spend some time practicing medicine overseas before eventually going into primary pediatric care. Per is in complete support of this plan, especially if it means going to a country where he can watch plenty of soccer.

Whatever the future holds for Per and Paula, we are fortunate to have them in Wedgwood. They are playing out their passions in various ways among us, and making a difference in the community.

Katie Traverse

Wedgwood Art Festival Grows in Leaps and Bounds

Save the dates of July 9th and 10th for the Wedgwood Art Festival at the Hunter Tree Farm property at 7744 — 35th Ave NE. With more artists, food and music than ever, the festival provides two days worth of family fun.

The juried art show includes more than double the booths from last year, with returning favorites and new artists primarily from northeast Seattle. With a wide variety of fine arts and crafts, there is something for everyone. Choose a new painting, print or photograph for that bare space on your wall. Pick out some jewelry for an evening out, or a new ceramic bowl for your morning oatmeal. Add garden art, beautiful glass, mosaics, sculpture and more to your collection.

Come out for the headline band, acoustic duo Everyday Jones, recently voted #2 local band in King 5's Best of Western Washington awards. Their diverse blend of soul, folk, and pop with plenty of humor, harmony, and talent give us a show not to be missed. Dukes and Diva are back with an eclectic mix of a cappella music styles, including jazz, pop, doo-wop, and gospel, featuring popular songs from the 1950's - 1980's. Sam Marshall Trio kicks off Sunday morning with the blues. New musical additions this year are Latin influenced CocoLoco and Yaamba, an African marimba band.



Thistle Theater returns with two puppet shows at noon on each day. Saturday's feature is "Yo! Ho! Ho! The Pirate Show!" and on Sunday come visit with "Mrs. Periwinkle and Possum." The puppet shows are interactive, and kids can also participate in creating art at the children's booth. There will be a visit from the Seattle Fire department on Saturday afternoon.

Have lunch or a snack at the festival by visiting one of many food booths, including Veraci pizza, Lisa's Hawaiian Shave Ice, Half Pint Ice Cream, Cupcake Luv, and others.

Community booths include Wedgwood Community Council, Garden Club, NEST, Sustainable NE Seattle, Ryther Child Center and North Helpline Food Bank, who will be accepting food and cash donations.

A big thank you goes out to our sponsors: Seattle Office of Arts and Cultural Affairs, Hometown Values, Hunter Tree Farm, Oasis Art Gallery, and Johnson's Auto Repair.

More information including a list of participating artists and full entertainment schedule can be found at wedgwoodfestival.com.

Wedgwood History: The House on the Hill

In the 1930s Margaret Mattocks was fascinated with a big white house perched on the crest of a high hill, and she liked to take walks up there to see it. The house was at 8234 – 28th Ave NE in what is today's Wedgwood neighborhood, but in those days the area was outside the city limits and had no name. There was no I-5 freeway then, so from her house at 80th & 2nd Ave NE Margaret was able to walk straight east on NE 80th Street until she came to 25th Ave NE where there was the Picardo Farm (now the City of Seattle P-Patch). A steep path at about NE 82nd Street wound up the hill to the top, where the big white house at 8234 – 28th Ave NE was part of a one-block development.

Two men had bought land from 82nd to 85th Streets, 28th to 30th Avenues NE and platted it in 1918 as the Nevins & Park Addition. John R. Nevins and Earl G. Park were draftsmen/architects who worked for a famous architect in Seattle, Charles Bebb. Two of Nevins & Park's co-workers, Bert Wait and Earl's brother John A. Park, took lots in the plat. A fifth man, Paul A. McAlister, was also a draftsman but at a different company, and he joined the plat in 1918 as well. These first five families cooperated in the development of a well water system for the block, as Seattle City water had not yet extended out to the area. There was no electricity, so the families used gasoline-pressure lamps.

The lots on the highest point of the hill were sold to Bert and Grace Wait, who had five children. They built and occupied the house, which straddles two lots, at 8234 – 28th Ave NE. The house style is Dutch Colonial Revival, whose distinctive characteristic is a gambrel (barn-shaped) roof. There is a columned, classical-style porch, and symmetrically arranged windows on either side of the centered front door. The second floor has a shed dormer running the length of the house, which adds floor space to the upstairs rooms. The second-floor windows repeat the symmetrical pattern and have multiple panes in the upper sash. It is possible that this is a "plan house," obtained from the very popular pattern books of Seattle architect Victor W. Voorhees. Voorhees' *Western Home Builder* pattern book of 1910 contains Design No. 38A, of which the house at 8234 – 28th Ave NE is an example of the style.

By 1937 the Wait family was ready to sell their house and Margaret Mattocks became very excited about buying it. She was not able to persuade her husband William, however, as he thought that the house was too far out in the country! Margaret was heartbroken when another man, W.R. Davidson, bought the house in December 1937. Davidson immediately began fixing up the house for his bride Kathleen, who awaited in Vancouver, B.C.

A few months later Margaret talked to Mr. Davidson again. He was living in the house and Kathleen had come to see it but she had refused to live there. Census and border crossing records show that Mr. Davidson made multiple trips to Vancouver, B.C. but it appears that not only did Mr. Davidson's house-buying efforts fail, but the marriage failed, as well. After owning the house for just six months, Mr. Davidson wanted to sell it. This time, Margaret was able to convince her husband William that the house was a good buy. The sale closed on May 2, 1938. Margaret lived in the house until her death in 1992 at age 93.

--Valarie Bunn, valariebunn@msn.com

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Café Javasti

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ways something special inside. All of their employees are trained to use the crepe stones, and if you have ever seen it done, you will understand that it is not the easiest skill to master.

Scott and Ryan are proud of the fact that they are neighborhood based and have built their business one customer at a time. The like being a bit “off the radar” and rooted in the community. Needless to say, inasmuch as baristas are the new bar tenders, Scott, Ryan, and their employees are privy to more information about our neighbors than anyone would ever want to know. Even beyond the personal information customers pass on to them under the barista code of secrecy, from time to time they find themselves with information not directly communicated to them. For example, they are always the first to know when a woman is pregnant, even before she tells anyone, because all of a sudden her triple non-fat latte turns in to a decaffeinated version of itself, and newly pregnant women are advised to avoid caffeine. And then there instances when spouses are not completely honest with each other about how many times per day they each visit Café Javasti – the baristas have learned not to comment lest marital bliss be upset due to the over-spending of the coffee budget. And speaking of marital bliss, the current assistant manager in Wedgwood, Lucy, met her husband, Grant, who used to be a barista, while they were working at Café Javasti. While sparks did not fly between the two at first, there must have been something in the espresso, because nearly four years later they were married.



Needless to say, business is booming at Café Javasti in Wedgwood, *Scott serves up coffee with a smile* and customers are often found packed in the small space, eager for that Javasti goodness. Scott and Ryan let their landlord know that if space became available in the building, they would be interested in expanding. And so, coming sometime this summer, our Wedgwood Café Javasti will be taking over some of the space currently occupied by Adams Insurance Agency, which will be moving one door down to the south end of the building. The details of the plans and the design are still being fine-tuned, but we can expect to see increased seating, a bigger service area, air conditioning (no more being trapped in crepe-induced heat and moisture), and possibly an expanded menu and/or evening hours. While they do not have a start date for the construction, they hope to stay open for all or most of the renovation period, which they anticipate will take one to two months.


Whatever draws you to Café Javasti, be it coffee, character, community, crepes, or all of the above, take a moment to say hello to Scott, Lucy, or one of the other friendly baristas, and then try some of the chocolate zucchini cake – you won't be sorry.

—Katie Traverse



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The Real Estate Advisor: Why Strategic Pricing and Mutual Respect Can Make or Break a Deal

Three-plus years into the real estate downturn, buyers and sellers often find themselves on opposing ends of what can be difficult and drawn-out battles over home prices. Buyers are looking for significant bargains while some sellers are still reluctant to adjust to today's home prices.

Homes have the greatest chance of selling within the first month that they are on the market. If it is priced fairly, buyers move quickly and are more likely to pay more. The inverse is true too; homes that are over-priced and/or not in good condition will typically sit on the market longer, making them magnets for very low offers and costing the seller more money in the long run.

While your home is on the market, it is wise to routinely work with your Broker to look at comparable properties and adjust the price accordingly. The competition is constantly changing and your pricing strategy must adapt as well. Homes that are competitively priced sell for 96 percent of list price within 30 days.

In the end, parties on both sides of the transaction want the same thing: a purchased home. Closing the gap between what sellers are willing to accept for their home and what buyers are willing to spend takes patience, respect, and most importantly, a grasp of the realities of today's market and home values.

Paul Harvey McLaughlin
206.799.0409
wedgwoodrealestateadvisor@comcast.net



Changes to JCC Property Development

(Continued from page 1)

port for the project until retail space is reincorporated into the project. Given the site's location to the 35th Ave NE and NE 85th Street business core, the Land Use Committee determined that live/work units were not consistent with the Vision Plan that the Wedgwood community worked so hard on throughout 2010. As a result, the WCC formally requested that Wood Partners reconsider ground-floor retail space. To their credit, Wood Partners has contacted the Land Use Committee on several occasions to discuss the potential for retail space in that building. In fact, the Land Use Committee has worked with the Wedgwood business district to provide Wood Partners with tangible businesses, including CC & Company, that are either looking to relocate or come into Wedgwood. Unfortunately, some popular business types that the community has prioritized (e.g., restaurant) could not occur at their site due to the lack of suitable plumbing and ventilation necessary for those establishments – a design decision made by previous owners Murray Franklyn and not Wood Partners. We remain hopeful that through cooperation with Wood Partners, they can identify realistic tenants that can support a business in their building.

The WCC does not speak for the Wedgwood Action Group and does not know whether they support the project or not. For the most current updates, follow along on our website (www.wedgwoodcc.org).

Per Johnson



Scott A. Schini, DVM
Annie Dittrich, DVM
Cheryl Meyers, DVM

1421 NE 80th St.
Seattle, WA 98115
Ph: 206.524.2020
Fax: 206.985.4385

www.mapleleafvet.com
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Farewell from the President

(Continued from page 1)

neighbors within Wedgwood and the surrounding area. As I prepare to step down, I have been looking back over the time since I first took a seat on the WCC board in 2005, and reflecting upon the challenges and accomplishments that have occurred during this time. Throughout it all, the one constant has been the way the WCC and the community have come together and put forth the effort to come to positive solutions to most all of the issues facing Wedgwood. It is this aspect of this neighborhood for which I am most pleased and proud. Wedgwood is a place known for getting people talking and, more importantly, getting things done. This strong group of returning and new trustees will no doubt continue the momentum.

I can only say farewell, but not goodbye, as I am charged by my predecessors, who include Jack Robinson, Brian Swanson and David Atcheson, to remain active in the community. It is my intention to follow their example, in their very large footsteps. All the best to all of you, it has been my pleasure.

Kurt Westman

Wedgwood Seeks Grants for Pedestrian Improvement Projects

Despite the fact that Wedgwoodians love to walk, our neighborhood is in desperate need of pedestrian improvements in many places. Through the Neighborhood Street Fund and the Neighborhood Matching Fund, community members are seeking to remedy a few of the most dangerous problems. On April 7th, the Northeast District Council ranked projects submitted for Northeast Seattle for this round, and two of the top projects were in Wedg-

wood. A project for pedestrian crossing indicators at NE 80th St. and 35th Ave NE was ranked 3rd, and a project to design and engineer a larger sidewalk project around Wedgwood Elementary and on 83rd Ave NE was ranked 1st. While the




funding has not yet been awarded, Wedgwood is hopeful that its projects will ultimately be selected by the Department of Neighborhoods. Moreover, Wedgwood Elementary will be applying for a Neighborhood Matching Fund grant to make some initial improvements to the traffic safety around the school, including installing curbs on corners, improving crosswalks, and developing new and safer procedures for drop off and pick up of students.

TOM L. SIMON

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Tom L. Simon, CPA
 P.O. Box 15743
 8615 35th Ave. N.E.
 Seattle, WA 98115
206-527-1157
 FAX 206-729-0330



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Community Council**
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WCC General Meeting
Wednesday, May 11th
7:00 p.m.
Wedgwood Presbyterian Church
Annual Meeting, including Trustee
Elections and special guest, State
Senator Scott White
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**