From the President

Greetings for the fall season in Wedgwood. Kids are going back to school, and soon the leaves will be turning color, as the days become shorter.

The WCC, however, will continue to plan forward for the activities of the summer of 2011 as we move into these fall months, particularly pertaining to the future of the Wedgwood Outdoor Cinema.

We want to thank all of our business partners and sponsors for their financial support, as well as those families and individuals who stepped forward to donate to the Outdoor Cinema this past summer.

Not all the news I have to share about the 2010 Outdoor Cinema is positive, unfortunately.

As the economy continued to stagnate in 2010, the business partners who, in the prior years, had been able to sponsor all the costs of the Outdoor Cinema, were not able to fully cover the operating overhead cost of the event for this past summer. Facing this shortfall, the WCC embarked on a last minute donation appeal to the

(Continued on page 8)

The Weird and Wacky Wedgwood Grapevine

It’s All in the Family: Well, with fall, elections are on the horizon, and local races have become almost chummy. 46th Legislative District politicians (which includes Northeast Seattle - and is mostly a bastion for Democratic candidates) have put into play a game of what seems like musical chairs after the announced retirement of Democratic State Senator Ken Jacobsen. Democrat Scott White, who was elected to the state House last cycle, has now declared his intention to seek Jacobsen’s seat in the Senate, with the blessing of Jacobsen’s Democratic opponent David Frockt, who will now be running for the position Scott White is vacating. White is now endorsing Frockt, Frockt is now endorsing White, and Jacobsen is endorsing both. I recently spoke with Scott (a Wedgwood resident) about his platform. I asked him what his ideas are to move the city along, and he tells me his priorities include: fully funding public education from kindergarten through the community college system; stressing the use of the environment and green industry to help rebuild the local economy; and pushing for more mass transit - all while carefully making painful budget cuts... Well, the ‘8th Annual Wedgwood Outdoor Cinema’ was another huge success. An estimated crowd of about 500 enjoyed the family movie ‘Ice Age 3’ on a giant 70- foot movie screen, munched on popcorn, hot dogs and other

(Continued on page 7)
Fatal Shooting at the Wedgwood QFC

A man working at the Wedgwood QFC was shot and killed by Seattle police officers on the evening of August 16. The shooting occurred in the back stock-room area of the store - behind the meat department - after a fight ensued with officers who had arrived to speak to and possibly arrest the man – 43-year old Ariel Rosenfeld. Rosenfeld was to be questioned for allegedly choking his 71-year old mother the previous night. His mother has been quoted as saying her son was “mentally ill” and not a criminal, but needed help. She cited many years of struggles, going back to his dislocating her jaw when he was a youth. Court records show Rosenfeld had a long criminal history, including two convictions for eluding police, burglary, possession of a firearm and arson.

Local resident Wayne Wurzer, who writes the ‘Wedgwoodview.com’ blog, interviewed Mr. Rosenfeld’s mother after the shooting. She said “at least now I know he’s at peace.” Wayne was also present at the Seattle Police Press Conference where spokesman Mark Jamieson described the confrontation that lead to the fatal shooting.

Jamieson said three Seattle police officers arrived at the store at approximately 8:15 on Monday August 16 to question Mr. Rosenfeld. Officers had been called by QFC managers who were aware that Rosenfeld was wanted in connection with the domestic violence complaint filed by his mother. A fight ensued, lasting nearly six minutes. Toward the end of the struggle officers saw Rosenfeld reach for a gun in his waistband. They ordered him to stop and when he did not, the officer in the closest proximity fired a shot at close range. Rosenfeld was shot in the torso and died before reaching the hospital.

According to police, no customers or other employees were in danger during the struggle, which took place in a work area not open to the public. A QFC spokesman clarified that Rosenfeld was “not a QFC employee, but did nightly janitorial work at the store for an outside company”.

All three officers have been placed on administrative leave, pending an investigation.

For ongoing information on this story and for all breaking news in Wedgwood, don’t forget to visit wedgwoodview.com.

- Brian Swanson

WCC General Meeting Thursday September 9th at 7:00
With Guest Speaker Peter Steinbrueck

Join the WCC for the next general meeting on Thursday, September 9th at 7:00 p.m. on the Wedgwood Presbyterian Church lawn (weather permitting). In case of rain, the meeting will be held in the Fireside Room in the church. Our keynote speaker will be Peter Steinbrueck, former Seattle City Council Member, who will address, among other things, his thoughts on moving forward with the implementation of the Wedgwood Vision Plan. More information on Peter Steinbrueck, who is currently heading Steinbrueck Urban Strategies LLC, can be found at www.steinbrueckurbanstrategies.com/about.html.
Wedgwood Vision Project Concludes Successfully

Members of the community gathered on the lawn across the street from Wedgwood Presbyterian Church on July 14th to celebrate the successful completion of the Wedgwood Vision Project. Many people young and old came out to enjoy the great afternoon weather as well as their complementary ice cream cones, and receiving a copy of the freshly printed Vision Plan.

The Wedgwood Vision Plan is a 32 page illustrated document and can be found in full at the WCC website: www.wedgwoodcc.org. The Vision Statement, which is the heart of the document, is as follows:

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Our vision for Wedgwood is:

a woodsy, small town within the city where single-family homes, park
areas, and gardens surround a vibrant and human-scale
commercial/multifamily district, serving residents’ day-to-day needs
and including open space for community gatherings, and

a safe and pedestrian-friendly community that welcomes diversity and
where a commitment to sustainability is everywhere apparent.
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At the celebration, a project overview was presented to the community, talking about many activities, accomplishments, and challenges involving the Vision Project. The project finished on time, on budget, and successfully met its goal: To engage local residents, businesses, schools, nonprofits, and religious organizations in civic conversation to identify shared values and a community vision related to future growth and development of the Wedgwood neighborhood.

Next John Owen from MAKERS Architecture and Urban Design, our project consultants, led a very informative and meaningful discussion session, fielding questions involving wide-ranging community topics and concerns, with the help of project steering committee members.

The final (and perhaps most important) item on the agenda was called “What’s Next?”. Wedgwood now has a document created by members of the community which states wide-ranging shared community values, which can serve as a guide for future growth and development. Many of the recommendations contained in the Vision Plan were discussed as well as possible methods to implement them. We discussed the formation of the new WCC Land Use Committee, which resulted from the Vision Project, and is spearheading the efforts to put the Vision Plan into action. At the conclusion of the meeting, participants were very upbeat and encouraged about the future prospects for Wedgwood.

The Vision Project was successful mainly due to a dedicated steering committee which worked tirelessly for many months, and because so many members of our community decided to get involved in the project. WCC thanks everyone for their participation, looks forward to addressing the Next Steps in the Vision Plan, and encourages continued participation in community activities!

The Vision Plan, survey results, and community meeting summaries are all posted online on the WCC website www.wedgwoodcc.org.

Once again, thank you for your participation!

- Randy Barnett
Introducing the New Wedgwood Land Use Committee

As part of the development of the Wedgwood Vision Plan, comments from the community and the Vision Project Steering Committee identified the need for a committee to represent the collective voice of the community as described within the Vision Plan for significant land use issues. In response to this need, the WCC approved the formation of the Wedgwood Land Use Committee ("WLUC"). The committee is charged to “solicit and gather information concerning land use and urban design issues affecting the Wedgwood community; present recommendations to the WCC, and implement the WCC’s approved actions and decisions. The WLUC will engage the Wedgwood community and advocate on its behalf following the principles described within the Vision Plan or subsequent neighborhood plan.

The WLUC currently includes five members of various disciplines: Tim Anderson (architect), Courtney Kaylor (land use attorney), Kyle Hughes (construction management), Mary Beth O’Neill (leadership consultant and executive coach), and Per Johnson (wetland biologist). In the coming months, the WLUC hopes to welcome in two new members including a member of the reforming Wedgwood Chamber of Commerce.

While the WLUC is still in its infancy, there is a lot to be excited about!

We’ve begun proactively reaching out to land owners and potential developers to let educate them about the community values described within the Vision Plan. This includes Murray Franklyn, the current owner of the former Jewish Community Center property at 35th Avenue NE and NE 86th Street, to get an update on their proposed project. According to Ron Boscola with Murray Franklyn, the proposed mixed-use development for the JCC site is on hold due to the economy. Mr. Boscola also mentioned that there has been some interest from others purchasing the site from Murray Franklyn.

As the WCC identifies and approves the “Next Steps,” as described within the Vision Plan, the WLUC will assist the WCC with pursuing their priorities for such long-term goals as developing a neighborhood plan or assisting the Wedgwood Parks effort to bring a new park to the community.

One of the goals of the WLUC is to share proposed or potential land use information and serve as a central clearinghouse of updated information related to land use in Wedgwood. To facilitate this, we have registered the following email address for you to share your information or questions: wedgwoodlanduse@gmail.com. Please recognize that this email is intended for information pertaining to land use issues that may affect the community at large.

- Per Johnson
Life in the early 1900s in the Wedgwood area was a pioneer prospect. Until 1923, residents lived “country-style,” without city water or electricity service. The William A. Lovell family came to Seattle in 1913 and bought an acre of property midblock on NE 94th Street, between 25th to 27th Avenues, in the Morningside plat of what is now Wedgwood. William & Frankie Lovell’s son Ellsworth had been born in Illinois and their daughter Neva was born in Vancouver, BC, as the family moved around for William to obtain work in the lumber business. In Morningside, William Lovell built the family a small house and some outbuildings such as a chicken coop. In addition to keeping house, Frankie Lovell raised chickens and sold eggs. William was successful in finding construction work in Seattle and he began to teach his son the carpentry trade.

In those days elementary schools went through eighth grade, and the closest to Morningside was Maple Leaf School at the southeast corner of 35th Ave NE & NE 105th Street. Maple Leaf School was part of the Lake City School District, outside the Seattle city limits. City water & electricity finally came to Wedgwood in 1923, which caused more families to move to the area. Maple Leaf School became overcrowded, and at first another room was added onto the two-room wood-frame structure.

The Lovell’s daughter Neva was in the last class, 1926, to graduate from eighth grade at the little white schoolhouse on NE 105th Street. In 1926 a new a new brick building was built for Maple Leaf School on 32nd Ave NE at NE 100th Street, but it still wasn’t big enough. The Lovell’s son Ellsworth was nineteen years old and was so competent in the construction business that he served as foreman for his father when they worked on the 1930 addition to the school building.

Ellsworth and his father William formed a partnership, Lovell Construction Company, and they spent their careers constructing houses in and around Seattle. In 1962 Ellsworth’s son Bill joined the partnership and they expanded into apartment-building work. One of the apartment projects, housing for senior citizens on Mercer Island, is called Ellsworth House.

--Valarie Bunn
valariebunn@msn.com, phone 367-2934
I met up at Javasti with Keeley Hozjan and Kyle Hughes, a young Wedgwood couple planning for a December 4th wedding. They spoke to me about their family, their history, and their aspirations for the future. While Keeley was not born and raised in Wedgwood, her roots here run deep. In 1928, her great grandparents, Martin and Mary Hozjan built the house she and Kyle now call home. Keeley’s grandfather, Steve Hozjan, lived in the house growing up and later with his wife, Barbara (Frankie) Hozjan, and their seven children. Steve Hozjan was a dock worker with the Port of Seattle, and drowned in Lake Washington in an accident when Keeley’s father, Richard Hozjan was only four years old.

Keeley’s father Richard continued to live in the Wedgwood home through his childhood, which, by all accounts, was quite a mischievous one (Richard managed to get himself “excused” from Wedgwood Elementary). In the early 1980s, while starting up his own residential trucking business, Richard would frequent the Wedgwood Broiler after work for a beer, and to try to win the affection of Keeley’s mother, then Laurie Clark, who was working there as a hostess. Laurie ended up breaking her own policy of not dating the customers at the Broiler, and despite being stood up on her first date with Richard, gave him a few extra chances and the couple were married in 1984.

Keeley grew up mostly in Maltby, Washington, but her parents purchased the family Wedgwood home in the late 1980s, and her grandmother continued to live in the home until 1999. Keeley’s parents rented out the home until 2006, when Keeley and Kyle moved in. At that time, Keeley was a student at Seattle University, on her way to a B.A. in Public Affairs. Since then, she obtained a Masters in Public Administration, also from Seattle University. Keeley was hired by Waggener Edstrom, a PR and Communications firm, and as proud fiancé Kyle tells me, she has been promoted three times in the two years she has been at the company.

Kyle is a Bellingham native who is excited to make his home in Wedgwood. After playing baseball for Skagit Valley Community College for one year, Kyle transferred to Seattle University and enrolled in pre-med courses to follow in the footsteps of the many doctors in his family. On his second day at Seattle U, he met Keeley, and they have been together ever since. It took a little while longer for Kyle to realize that medicine was not his calling, and he started on a new path which ultimately resulted in his graduation this June from the University of Washington Construction Management program. While in this program at UW, Kyle was president of the Association for Students in Construction, and won first prize in two national competitions sponsored by contractors’ associations. One of the competitions, sponsored by the National Electrical Contractors Association, challenged the students to redesign a local school’s energy system to make it greener. Kyle led his team in choosing Wedgwood Elementary, and their work in planning a redesign of our local school was awarded first place in the nation. Kyle’s outstanding work earned him the honor of Student of the Year in his program, awarded this past June. While at the UW, Kyle interned for GLY construction, helping to build the new Amazon headquarters in the South Lake Union neighborhood of Seattle. Kyle was happy to report that only hours before I met with them, he had been offered and accepted a position with Skanska, as a project engineer for the ongoing expansion of the UW Medical Center.

Keeley and Kyle are excited to build on the history of Keeley’s family in Wedgwood, and their energy has already been tapped by the WCC. They have jumped into the neighborhood feet first: Kyle was a member of the Wedgwood Vision Project Steering Committee and now serves on the Wedgwood Land Use Committee (see article on p. 4). Keeley joined the Wedgwood Community Council as a Trustee this last year. As they prepare for their upcoming wedding, they are thinking a lot about the future. As Kyle puts it, they are “long-term thinkers” and they are investing in the neighborhood where they hope to one day raise a family and pass on the Wedgwood family home to their children. I am looking forward to having Keeley, Kyle and their family as my neighbors for generations to come.

-Katie Traverse
Wedgwood Echo

Wedgwood Grapevine

(Continued from page 1)

goodies – and enjoyed a pre-movie performance by top Seattle Classic Rock/Soul Band ‘Soul Purpose.’ Movie coordinator Brian Turnbull did an outstanding job of quarterbacking the festivities, and the weather thankfully cooperated. I am already looking forward to next year… Well, I’m happy to report that I’ve now moved up to number 694 on the ‘Wedgwood Pool’ waiting list. My 86 year old neighbor, ‘Old Bob’ is still ahead of me on the list, but to help speed things up I’ve finally convinced him that paragliding over shark-infested waters is totally safe, and I’ve helped him schedule his first ride for next month… Wedgwood is saddened to learn of the passing of Stuart Todd. Mr. Todd was the President of the Wedgwood Community Club (the forerunner of the Wedgwood Community Council) in the 1950’s, and was also an attorney and former law partner with Art Langlie (the son of former Washington State Governor Arthur Langlie) and a long-time Wedgwood resident…We’re Number 1! Well, the annual Seattle Weekly ‘Best of Seattle’ issue just came out – and Wedgwood is a winner. No, not something boring or really significant like Best School or Best Community Group – but ‘Seattle’s Best Popcorn!’ That’s right, the ‘Wedgwood Broiler’ was voted to have the best popcorn in town. I spoke with ‘Broiler’ bartender Kathy about what makes their popcorn the talk of the town. She tells that their special, secret butter, top-of-line popcorn popper, and ‘just the right’ popping time are the secret. She also asked me not to tell anyone that, so keep it yourself. Kathy tells me that the popcorn is so popular and addicting that she has had to “cut people off” after their third batch!… The Dude’ in Seattle: Yes, Jeff ‘the Dude’ Dowd – the former Seattle movie producer immortalized by actor Jeff Bridges in the Coen Brothers cult-movie classic ‘The Big Lebowski’ – will be back in town for the decidedly quirky ‘Lebowski Festival,’ which includes a screening of the movie at a local theater, followed by a bowling party at ‘Kenmore Bowl.’ Bathrobes encouraged…So long and best wishes to Reverend Curtis Price and his wife Robin, who are moving to be closer to family in Salt Lake City. Reverend Curtis helped build the ‘Wedgwood Community Church’ into a thriving community asset. Robin also owned and operated a local gift shop in the current ‘All That Dance’ building. They will be missed…..Things I Ponder: Whose cruel idea was it for the word “lisp” to have an “s” in it?…When everything’s coming your way, you’re probably in the wrong lane…If God dropped acid, would he see people?…Why is the alphabet in that order? Is it because of the song?

-Brian Swanson
brian.e.swanson@gmail.com

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Despite all of these efforts, the WCC still fell short by approximately 33% in covering the costs of hosting the Wedgwood Outdoor Cinema for 2010. This large of an amount of deficit puts the future of the Wedgwood Outdoor Cinema, for 2011 and beyond, into doubt.

The Wedgwood Outdoor Cinema is the single largest community event that we host. It is something that is a treasure to the community and is an event we do not want to lose. As the WCC moves into the fall and winter, we will be seeking new avenues by which to 1) reduce operating costs of the Outdoor Cinema and 2) increase local business and community sponsorship of the Outdoor Cinema.

As we continue to develop new strategies for the Wedgwood Outdoor Cinema, we’ll keep the community updated. If there anybody in the business or residential community who have interest in stepping forward to lend additional support to the Outdoor Cinema, we’d also appreciate hearing from you.

The Wedgwood Outdoor Cinema has had a great impact on our community, and we wish to see it continue.

Kurt Westman
WCC President

Mark your calendars for the annual Wedgwood Trick ‘r Treat Friday October 29th from 4-6. Do your best to scare one and all as the businesses of Wedgwood along 35th Avenue NE open their doors and distribute candy for you to steal from your children while they sleep.
Most locals are familiar with 'Johnson’s Auto Repair,' Wedgwood’s best (okay, and only) car repair shop, located on the corner of 35th Ave. NE and NE 95th Street. I stopped in recently to chat with long-time owner Jeff Johnson about life in the car fixin’ business. As I walked into the busy auto shop, with several cars in various stages of repair, the surroundings were eerily familiar to me - my father owned an auto shop for 45 years, 'Bob’s Automotive,' (his name was Bob in case you wondering) so the sights, sounds and smells reminded me of my childhood (while most kids played with LEGO, I was playing around with Chevy transmissions).

I asked Jeff how he got started in the auto repair business. He told me 'Johnson’s Auto Repair’ was opened in 1948 by his dad, Roy Johnson and was originally located off of NE 45th Street, next door to 'Burgermaster' where 'Tully’s Coffee' is today. Jeff started working for his dad in 1977 when he was 10 years old (apparently before child labor laws) and then started driving at age 14 (apparently before Washington State Driver Licensing laws), moving the cars around as he helped his dad. Jeff tells me his father taught him some important lessons about cars and life – work hard, treat people right, and take care of your family. Jeff worked for his dad at the original location until 1989, when Roy decided to retire. When the opportunity came for Jeff to purchase the ‘Union 76 Station’ at 95th & 35th in Wedgwood, he bought it, renamed it ‘Johnson’s Auto Repair,’ and never looked back. He shared stories of some interesting people who stopped in at the old shop over the years – Bill Gates Sr. was a regular (and always double checked his receipt), and others include movie star Robert Redford (a really nice guy) and the Queen of England (I’m not kidding).

Jeff’s strong work ethic allowed him to buy a house in the area at the young age of 21, marry his high school sweetheart, and start a family (he and his wife have two kids – a 21 year old son and an 11 year old daughter). His loyal staff of three – two of whom (Lou and Kent) have worked for him for over 22 years, and take care of things when Jeff is out of the shop. One of those regular absences is the week every year when Jeff travels to the poorest parts of Mexico as part of his church’s program to build homes for the needy. He also recently traveled to Mississippi to cook for 135 residents who were flooded out of their homes. Jeff is quick with a joke – not surprisingly when you consider that in the 1980s Jeff moonlighted as a popular local stand-up comedian – and even MC’d for a then-upcoming comic named Jerry Seinfeld. But wait – there’s more: Jeff also had a brief but exciting side-career as a hydroplane racer – until a hairy accident on the Columbia River prompted his wife to put an end to that.

Jeff tells me he loves having his business in Wedgwood, and he loves his customers. Apparently they love him too – he says that in the 21 years he has owned the shop, he’s had only a half-dozen bad checks cross his desk – an unheard of number for an auto shop. He also makes sure to frequent all the other businesses in the neighborhood when he can, always tries to help out with local charities and school drives, and local people in general. When I stopped by, there was young high-school age kid working in the shop. Jeff told me the young man brought his car in to have it worked on, but couldn’t pay off the repair bill – so Jeff hired him to work there until he paid it off, which the young man happily did.

I asked him about his dad Roy - he told me at age 85, he still drives his pickup truck to the shop every Christmas Eve at 4:00 to tell Jeff and the crew to “take the rest of the day off and go be with your families,” a tradition that dates back to the days when Roy ran the shop.

So the next time your car needs a little TLC, take it to Jeff and his crew – they’ll take good of your car – and you.

- Brian Swanson
Northeast Branch Library to Reopen September 7th

The Northeast Branch, and all locations of The Seattle Public Library, will be closed due to budget cuts August 30 through September 6, but will be back to the usual schedule September 7.

Are your kids bookworms? The Northeast Branch has a book group for children ages nine to twelve. The group meets the second Tuesday of the month from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. starting Tuesday, October 12. Stop in for a schedule and join us for some great discussions about a variety of books!

The Northeast Branch will be hosting the next opera preview by Theodore Deacon in advance of Seattle Opera’s production of Lucia di Lammermoor from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, October 13.

Please remember that our Northeast Branch offers monthly classes on how to use computers, the Internet, email, Web 2.0, and job searching.

For more information, visit www.spl.org or call 206-684-7539.

The Real Estate Advisor: Home Improvement through Landscaping

A recent study from Clemson University found that landscaping improvements, if done wisely, can bring as much as 100 percent return on investment.

There is a good reason Americans are expected to spend as much as $40 billion improving their outdoor living spaces this year. In addition to increasing a home’s base value by as much as 11 percent, not to mention its aesthetic value, landscaping offers other benefits, including optimizing the use of outdoor space, lowering heating and cooling costs, reducing crime, and decreasing noise levels and unpleasant views.

Though the landscaping you choose to invest in is up to you and your family, being realistic about your ability and desire to maintain those improvements will determine how much bang you get for your buck. For instance, a water feature, while beautiful, can quickly turn messy and may not return as much as an investment as plants that are right for your micro-climate can.

Whatever improvements you intend to make to your yard, quality work will ensure that your family, as well as future homeowners, will have a lovely space to spend outdoors for years to come.

Paul Harvey McLaughlin
206.799.0409 / wedgwoodrealestateadvisor@comcast.net

Wedgwood Park Acquisition! Now is the time!

Now that the Wedgwood Vision Plan is complete, it is time to turn our attention back to parks! Seattle’s 2008 Parks and Green Spaces Levy listed Wedgwood for Neighborhood Park acquisition and in March we held a community meeting about the process. Please help us keep momentum and move this project along by contacting Wedgwood-parks@gmail.com and getting involved.

- Marieke Stientjes-Rack
Spotlight: Ryther Child Center

Like many of us in Wedgwood, I drive by Ryther Child Center on NE 95th Street fairly often, and for years I wondered what that organization did. Three years ago, I found out – by becoming an employee. I want to share what I have found with the Wedgwood Community, for I feel that more of us should know about the important work that is happening here in our community.

Ryther is best known for working with children with extreme behavioral issues, typically due to extreme cases of physical and sexual abuse, neglect and/or mental illness. These children have been removed from abusive family situations by the State and typically bounced through a number of failed foster placements before coming to Ryther.

They live for up to one year on Ryther’s 10-acre campus on the edge of Wedgwood, receiving intensive therapy to heal from the past and learning how to cope with their emotions. They attend school on-campus in a building provided by Ryther but staffed and run by the Seattle School District. The children are well cared for by the Ryther Staff, who also ensure that they are well fed, have the clothes they need, school supplies, etc.

The Ryther Child Center League provides hand-made quilts for the beds, birthday cakes and holiday treats, even homemade cookies. To the extent possible, the children are made to feel a part of the extended Ryther family, while we prepare them to be able to live with a permanent family.

When appropriate, Ryther works quite thoroughly with family members, providing assistance in dealing with their own issues so that they are better able to parent when the child returns. When the children are ready to leave Ryther, the goal typically is to return to a safe, non-offending parent or family member. Often, however, there is no appropriate family to care for them, so they are placed with a foster family. Ryther therefore has a foster-care program that trains and licenses foster families, especially families that are willing to take in behaviorally-challenged youth. These families receive considerably more on-going support from Ryther than when licensed through other agencies, which improves the likelihood of success in the placements.

There are a number of other programs at Ryther for children with other issues. We have an out-patient mental health program, as well as a series of programs for youth with Asperger’s Syndrome and/or ADHD. There is an inpatient program for teens battling co-occurring mental illness and chemical dependency. We provide Family Preservation Services to help families before children are removed.

To the best of my knowledge, Ryther is the largest organization in the Wedgwood area. Over 1900 children and families are served each year. We have an annual budget of $8.4 million, and employ more than 200 full-time, part-time and on-call staff. Much of the funding comes from the State of Washington, not as grants or charity but in fees for services provided. About 30% of the budget, however, is raised through private donations, special events, grants, and other fundraising efforts.

Hopefully now you understand more about Ryther. If you want to know more, the web site is www.ryther.org. If you want to help more, please call 206-525-5050. We serve children and families from all over the state, but we can use as much support from the Wedgwood community as possible. We typically need donors, volunteers, employees, foster parents, League members and referral sources.

Whether you can help or not, I hope that you join me in taking pride in the vital work that is being done in our community.

- Bill Dock
Wedgwood
Community Council
Post Office Box 15770
Seattle, WA 98115

WCC General Meeting
Thursday, September 9
7:00 p.m.
Wedgwood Presbyterian Church
With Speaker Peter Steinbrueck

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: $__________

Basic household membership is $20/yr; give more or less as you are able. Please mail checks to:

WCC, PO Box 15770, Seattle, WA 98115