

**November
2004**

Pigeon Point Neighborhood News

www.pigeonpoint.org

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Council Chair: Pete Spalding (933-6587)

Vice Chair, Communications: Matt Swenson (938-0161)

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Next Meeting: December 6, 6:30—9:00 PM @ the home of Vivian McLean (3814 20th Ave SW)

December 6th Agenda Items:

- **Update on the park project**
- **Brain storming Ideas for projects**
- **Holiday fun and cheer**

Vivian's Holiday Gathering

Shall we gather together

December 6, at 3814 20th Ave SW.

Regardless of weather

To greet our old friends

All Pigeon Point residents are invited! Guests are welcome from 6:30—9:00 PM.

Before the year ends?

by Vivian McLean

This is a potluck, so please bring a favorite dish of your choice! A brief Pigeon Point Neighborhood Council meeting will also be held at 7:00. Please come, eat, meet your neighbors and celebrate!

Pigeon Point luminary Vivian McLean is holding her annual Holiday Gathering on Monday,

Cooper School News *by Kevin Cain & Lois Gaylord*

Thank you, Pigeon Point residents, for helping with our yard sale and donating its proceeds!

- A PTA is being formed! Among other things, it is developing a brochure for use during open enrollment and at local Kindergarten fairs, to boost student enrollment for next year. PTA membership is open to anyone interested in supporting the school. Dues will be \$12 per year. The next meeting will be on 11/30 at 7:00 PM in the teacher's lounge. Regular meetings (save for the 12/04 meeting) will be held on the last Tuesday of each month. Please direct questions to Lois Gaylord or Kevin Cain at 933-0759 or ljaylord@quidnunc.net.
- Volunteers are needed to help at recess. Check with the school office for details. The after-school program is looking for volunteers as well! For information on that opportunity, please contact Allison Schei, CLC Coordinator, at 252-8186 or amschei@seattleschools.org.



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Community Events Calendar *by Pete Spalding*

Other local events, issues and happenings of note!

- Dec 11th holiday party sponsored by the Delridge Neighborhoods District Council at the Highland Park Improvement Club - Call Pete at 933-6587
- Have a safe and enjoyable holiday season

Substation-to-Park & Radio Tower Update *by Pete Spalding*

- **SUBSTATION UPDATE** - Our application to buy the substation site at the corner of 21st and Andover was ranked #39 out of 60 projects that were submitted. This means we are now eligible to proceed to the next phase of the application process. If you have ideas or want to participate in this project, please contact Pete at 933-6587.
- **RADIO TOWER UPDATE** - If you have not signed the petition or written a letter of complaint about the radio tower yet, it is not too late. We need to have all signatures & letters completed & in hand by the end of November.

New Life for Madison's Cafe *by Matthew Swenson*

Changing Times, Pt. 1 *by Vivian McLean*

The venerable Madison's Café, vacant for 1^{1/2} years, was recently reopened. Owner Art Byrne and the Bingham family—mother Chris and daughters Stacy, Brianna and Sadie—fell in love with it at first sight.

When Byrne and the Bingham family arrived, though, Madison's was in a sorry state. They refinished its floors, repainted its walls, upholstered its booths, and brought in chairs and tables. Parking is now available behind the building and along its north side.

The next step was to pick a menu! Byrne introduced some dishes from his long experience as a chef at the old Red Baron restaurant in Westwood Village. Other restaurateur friends were also asked for advice. Favorite dishes now offered are grilled French toast stuffed with ricotta and cream cheese, dipped in grand marnier-orange batter



and drizzled with raspberry sauce; and, omelettes stuffed with a variety of savory fillings. Says Chris, "The best sign is that our menu is so diverse, our customers have trouble deciding what to order!"

Byrne and the Bingham family have exciting plans for Madison's. It will soon be open for dinner, emphasizing steak and seafood at an affordable price. A variety of music will also be played, some by Pigeon Point residents! Long-term plans include adding outdoor dining behind the Café.

Regardless, it's great to have a restaurant again close by! Stop at Madison's and see for yourself...

We moved to Pigeon Point in 1948—and how things have changed! Horseback riders would often venture into Pigeon Point before turning south. Every lot on the Point was filled by temporary apartment housing, with the longest continuous group on 21st between Charlestown and Andover. That building still had renters into the 50's.

Just west of 19th was a plateau called "Fairlyland" where children played. Over the holidays, they would go caroling through the neighborhood. However, children north and south of Andover rarely mixed.

In the 1950s, white-collar workers (including doctors and businessmen) lived alongside workers in the shipyards, Boeing, or at the steel mill. Pigeon Point was diverse, welcoming Estonians, Polish and Latvian families seeking a home after fleeing first the Nazis, then the Russians. These families were sponsored by local churches.

The tall apartment buildings along 21st were replaced in '51-52 by prefabricated houses. The lovely, long home on 21st once was a small army installation festooned with gun turrets. Several houses were also transported to Pigeon Point from the SeaTac area.

Pigeon Point residents shopped in Youngstown and at the Scotts' corner store. Some services, including milk, fruit (briefly), and ice, were delivered via truck. Neighbors got along well and shared fruit from each other's trees.

With all this growth, Pigeon Point residents still struggled with bias against anyone living east of 35th Ave SW. The perception of Pigeon Point as part of "Depression Gulch" would be a hard legacy to defeat.

Next issue: the 1960s, '90s housing boom, new Cooper School and how Pigeon Point got its name (maybe)!

Winter Gardening Tips *by Joni Swenson (with help from Seattle Tilth)*

- Gather leaves to use as mulch in the garden or to compost leaf mold for future gardens.
- Store root vegetables and fruits separately (fruits may release a gas that will cause root crops to rot).
- It's not too late to plant garlic or fava beans, crocuses, daffodils, dog's tooth violets, glory of the snow, spring snowflakes, trillium, some varieties of tulips, and ornamental onions.
- Clean up debris from summer-growing fruits and vegetables to prevent fungal diseases. Dispose of any crops that show signs of disease.
- Draw a map of your garden, noting successful plants to repeat in coming years.
- Build a birdhouse!