

# THE MOUNT BAKER VIEW

www.mountbaker.org



NEWS OF THE MOUNT BAKER COMMUNITY CLUB

LATE SUMMER/EARLY FALL 2011 ISSUE 228

## DAY IN THE PARK 2011

### *Day in the Park – Sunday September 18*

*By Starla Stroh, DITP Chair*

Howdy pardners! Rally your ponies and git your boots and hats ready for the MBCC's annual Day in the Park celebration on Sunday, September 18th. The festivities kick off with the parade from Franklin High School at 10:00 AM and we will trot, ride, and gallop our way to Mount Baker Park where the rodeo entertainment will run until 2:30 PM. At this year's event the rides will be free with additional activities available for a donation. Included is a community bake sale to help support future MBCC programs.

If you are interested in volunteering or baking, please contact [DayInThePark@mountbaker.org](mailto:DayInThePark@mountbaker.org). Rain or shine, come spend time with your neighbors and local merchants while you enjoy this special day with your little pardners. Yeeeee Hawww!

*Day in the Park chair Starla Stroh provided this family photo of her father and his brother. Mount Baker's Day in the Park can be the setting for your treasured memories.*



### *Franklin High School Turns 100 !*

*By Laurie Elder, Franklin High School parent and liaison to the MBCC*

The 2011-12 school year marks the 100th anniversary of Franklin High School, located at the foot of 31st Avenue South and Mount Baker Boulevard. The beautiful Beaux Arts architectural style of the Franklin High School building contributed to its reputation as one of the finest school buildings west of the Mississippi in its early days. By the 1980's the school had many structural problems which led the school district to propose to replace the school with a new building. A concerted effort by the Franklin community of student, staff and faculty as well as alumni, Mount Baker and Beacon Hill neighborhoods and the Landmark Preservation Board saved the school from the wrecking ball and led to a two year building renovation. Now local neighborhood students gather in the Commons with its magnificent windows reaching to the soaring ceiling, and enjoy the vintage brass clock in the entryway.

*Franklin High, continued on page 6.*



Property of Museum of History & Industry, Seattle

*Franklin High School, 1915. Courtesy of PEMCO  
Webster & Stevens Collection, MOHAI (1983.10.10021).*

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TREASURER & FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIR:

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Bill Davis, [secretary@mountbaker.org](mailto:secretary@mountbaker.org)

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Martha Ries

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TBA

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ZONING, LAND USE, PLANNING & TRANSPORTATION CHAIR: Sue Cary, [ZLUPTchair@mountbaker.org](mailto:ZLUPTchair@mountbaker.org)

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## Board Assistance:

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Magan Haile

Joe Kadushin

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Kristen Meyers

Victoria Romero

Elizabeth Stanton

## Director of Clubhouse Marketing & Operations:

Tara Morgan, [manager@mountbaker.org](mailto:manager@mountbaker.org)

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Join the MBCC E-News to receive notifications about all upcoming club events delivered right to your email. Go to [www.MountBaker.org](http://www.MountBaker.org) and click "Signup for our E-News!" button on the right hand side of that page!

♡ Why do I love Mount Baker?

"I appreciate that people who have achieved much in their lives understand the need to "give back"."

## President's Corner

### Board Sets Its Focus for 2011-2012!

By Lee Stanton, MBCC Board Chair

Dear Mount Baker Friends and Neighbors –

The MBCC Board of Directors held its annual planning retreat on Saturday, June 4th. In addition to welcoming back fourteen returning members, we welcomed Chris Ferree, who is taking over the Treasurer role from Jon Park, and Doug McBroom, who is succeeding Kassia Nye as the Martin Luther King Jr. Scholarship Fund representative to the Board. Please see the "masthead" of this newsletter for a full list of our Board members, and how to reach these hard-working and enthusiastic volunteers.

During a very full morning session, the Board discussed and debated a variety of strategic issues, and agreed to focus on four major areas during the coming year, as follows:

**Mission:** In concert with input from the community-at-large, we will clarify the overall purpose and mission of the Community Club organization, and clearly articulate how we intend to fill that purpose.

**Outreach:** We will broaden and deepen our reach within the community. We will broaden our connections by working to help more Mount Baker residents understand the existence and purpose of the Club, and, for those of you already familiar with the fact that we are owned by the residents of Mount Baker, we will work to improve and enrich your experiences with the Club.

**Programs:** We will work with our neighbors to identify more members of our community who we have not yet had the pleasure of meeting, and make particular efforts to engage them in identifying programs and activities of interest to them. We will also work to identify which of our current programs and activities are most popular, and work to bring the community more of those already successful programs.

**Governance:** The Board will continue its ongoing efforts to improve our governance methods and organizational structure. The areas we'll focus on include:

- Develop a succession plan that supports a stable and strong organization
- Improve our ability for financial reporting and forecasting
- "Lean into" our fund development efforts, and build on the success of the first year of our Annual Fund
- Continue our ongoing review of the Club's policies and by-laws.

As the Board embarks on this work for the coming year, we welcome any thoughts or questions you may have. As always, I invite you to e-mail me at [president@mountbaker.org](mailto:president@mountbaker.org) if you would like to join any of our many committees, and join us in the fun of working together with your neighbors to make an impact on the community we all call "home".



# Zoning, Land Use, Planning and Transportation (ZLUPT) Committee

By Sue Cary, MBCC ZLUPT Committee Chair

Since May 5 when over 100 people gathered to discuss the City's proposed plan for the town center at Mt. Baker Station, the Community Club has hosted a number of well-attended meetings to focus on particular issues:

- June 6: Building height and density, including discussion of public benefits in exchange for increased height.
- June 28: Contaminated site at NE corner of 31st Ave S. and S. Day St. (After 14 years of delay and inattention there is finally movement by Chevron and WSDOT to clean up the site and return it to private ownership. David Berger has been leading this effort, and he can be contacted at [davidberger@hilakers.org](mailto:davidberger@hilakers.org).)
- June 30: Design guidelines and the city's design review process. These can be used by community residents to influence new development as it occurs.
- July 14: One-way Rainier/MLK couplet, including review of consultant reports, consideration of traffic impacts on S. McClellan and 31st Av S., and identification of possible traffic-calming options.

## NEXT STEPS


Legislation to implement any proposed changes is scheduled to be submitted to the City Council in September, at which point the council will establish a time frame for consideration of the proposed plan and schedule public hearings.

♡ Why do I love Mount Baker?  
"After 42 years, what's not to love?!!"

The community can receive updates at regular monthly community meetings, in the View and on the MBCC website and by email to those on distribution lists for the MBCC and the ZLUPT Committee. The ZLUPT Committee will meet again on Tuesday, September 6 at 7:00 PM, and the main topic of the regular October 3 community meeting will be station area planning.

We encourage those of you who are interested, however, to track these issues for yourself through the DPD website at [www.seattle.gov](http://www.seattle.gov). Through this website, you can see the proposed plans for all the light rail stations and any consultant reports (go to DPD/neighborhood planning), see what projects are scheduled for design review meetings (go to design review/southeast seattle), sign up to receive notices directly from the city, and comment via email.





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**FREE MARKET ANALYSIS**

Thinking of buying or selling Your home? Or just curious about your home's value in the current market?

*Please contact me for a your free market analysis*

# Governance Updates... *Lively Annual Meeting*

*By Rob Mohn, MBCC Governance & Nominations Committee Chair*

A hot topic at the MBCC annual meeting held May 2 was the issue of “advocacy”. Specifically, what should the community club’s role be with regard to “representing” the Mount Baker neighborhood on potentially contentious public policy issues? The immediate subject that had meeting attendees “riled up” was the city’s proposed roadway and land use changes for the Mount Baker light rail station area. But, the discussion raised the broader issue of if and when the MBCC board should attempt to “speak” for the neighborhood.

A number of attendees argued that advocacy in furtherance of the neighborhood’s interest is core to the community club’s mission. Others pointed out how difficult it is, in practice, to decide for 4,500 households what is in their best interest. How does the board go about informing everyone about an issue, determining how everyone feels about it, and deciding what a consensus position looks like?

These questions weren’t new to the board. In fact, on January 31, 2011 the board adopted a “Position of Support” policy addressing this very issue. The policy distinguishes among different situations, and outlines procedures and outcomes appropriate to each.

If issues are related to the MBCC mission, occur substantially within the boundaries of the Mount Baker community, provide a clear benefit to the community, have been presented and discussed at a scheduled MBCC community meeting, and have limited or no opposition, the board may produce a “letter of support”.

If an issue has any of the following characteristics, the policy calls for a different process:

- is not closely related to the MBCC mission;
- is partially or completely outside the boundaries of the Mount Baker community;
- is likely to generate multiple and/or opposing points of view; or
- is political or semi-legislative in nature.

Under any of these conditions, the board will place the issue on the agenda of two community meetings. The topic will be introduced at the first meeting, advertised in the intervening month using the media then in use by the club, and discussed at the second meeting. At the second meeting, a poll of those community residents present will be taken and the results of the poll will be tabulated. A “statement of results” will be written up stating the final count of each opinion. This statement will be reviewed for accuracy by the appropriate committee, and affirmed by a vote of the board prior to being disseminated. The statement serves as a public record of how those attending the meeting felt about the issue; it does not attempt to put a forth a “Mount Baker position”.

The adopted policy clearly shows that the board, being very aware of the diversity of opinions held by Mount Baker residents, is hesitant to claim to speak on behalf of the entire Mount Baker community. By all means, let a board member know if you think the policy can be improved.



## Programs Update *By Tara Morgan, MBCC Director of Clubhouse Operations and Marketing*

The 2011/2012 season is officially in planning mode. What would you like to see at your neighborhood clubhouse? Ideas shared at the annual potluck included: more Bingo and game nights, return of the Humanities Washington lecture series, more movie nights (especially the kids matinee), Ta’i Chi classes, community safety clinics, knitting groups, bridge classes, happy hours, community dinners and more! All can happen right in your neighborhood and most, if not all, are free!

Your MBCC is dedicated to serving this vibrant and diverse community. We encourage you to bring your neighbors, good ideas and enthusiasm. Join our awesome Programs Committee which organizes our signature events like Home Tour, Day in the Park, Christmas Ships/Cookie Potluck and Harvest the Arts. Contact [volunteer@mountbaker.org](mailto:volunteer@mountbaker.org) to get in on the fun!

See our full events calendar for fall events. We have a 3-part community safety series spearheaded by your Neighborhood Safety Council. Look for our Milestones Financial Series plus a new T’ai Chi class offered midday on Wednesdays starting in September. Movie and Bingo nights return. Keep posted on all events for families by joining our e-mail list at [www.mountbaker.org](http://www.mountbaker.org).

Would you like to teach a class or host a seminar or a salon? If your event is free and open to the public, you are eligible for donated or reduced fee on the space rental at the Clubhouse. Contact [rentals@mountbaker.org](mailto:rentals@mountbaker.org) with your proposals or ideas for speakers/presenters.



♡ *Why do I love Mount Baker?*  
*“Friendliness. Diversity. History. Compassion.”*

## Secretary's View of MBCC Business

By Bill Davis, MBCC Secretary

### April 4, 2011 community meeting:

- Colman Park supporters Elise Erickson and Prentis Hale have written a \$12,000 grant proposal to Seattle Parks for renovation of the existing Colman Park shed. The Colman P-Patch consists of 37 principal gardeners and 60 pounds of food was donated to food banks last year.
- Governance and Nominations committee chair, Rob Mohn, announced board candidates for our May 2 annual elections. Rob invited nominations from those present in the audience, but there were none.

### May 2, 2011 community meeting:

- Ross Tilghman announced the Mount Baker Rowing and Sailing Center meeting room expansion in July. It's big enough to seat 90-100 people for dinner.
- Sue Cary announced our ZLUPT meeting schedule with Seattle's Department of Planning and Development concerning the Mount Baker light rail station overlay and the North Rainier neighborhood development plan. The community was briefed on our board policy to publish the results of any vote taken rather than stating board positions on such topics.
- Bronwyn Doyle announced her introductory yoga series at the clubhouse in May.
- Lloyd Hara, King County Assessor, gave a 20 minute presentation: Your Property Taxes, Local Levy Rates, and How They Affect You.
- Chris O'Claire presented the METRO Trolley Bus System Evaluation Findings.

- Rebecca Laszlo read the proposed changes to our mission statement, then recorded several comments and suggestions to the draft from the community.
- Katie Egolf reviewed our election policy then read the names of the withdrawing board members: Anna Leslie, Jon Park, Kassia Nye, and Katie Egolf. Their contributions were gratefully acknowledged.
- Katie then read the board candidates: Bethany Furubayashi, Bill Davis, Colin Macdonald, Chris Ferree, Dawn Counts, Doug McBroom, Gale Devol, Lee Stanton, Loie Docter, Martha Ries, Matt Nye, Mike Rooney, Peter Greaves, Rebecca Laszlo, Rob Mohn, Sue Cary, and Susan Moore. Note: Susan Moore has since withdrawn from the board. There were 33 votes to approve this slate of board candidates, 0 votes against, and one community member abstained.
- Katie read the names of officer candidates: Lee Stanton for President, Mike Rooney for Vice President, Chris Ferree for Treasurer, and Bill Davis for Secretary. The vote to accept the slate of officer candidates was unanimous.

**There was no June, July or August community meeting, as per our summer hiatus.**

The next community meeting will be 7:00 PM September 12, 2011, preceded by 30 minute social beginning at 6:30 PM. Note the new date – the Monday after Labor Day.



## PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Enjoy these activities at St. Clement of Rome Episcopal Church, 1501 32nd Avenue South:

- Sign up your children to sing with the Mount Baker Children's Choir (MBCC), sponsored by St. Clement of Rome Episcopal Church. Choir is open to children ages 8 to 16 and focuses on basic singing technique, sight-reading and performance. Rehearsals on Sundays, culminating in 3 performances. \$25 fee covers music and accompanist; scholarships available.

Info: <http://stclementseattle.org/music/mount-baker-childrens-choir/>.

- The Renaissance Singers perform COMPLINE (night prayer) vocal music at St. Clement every Sunday starting in September, 8:00 PM. Free; donation optional.

Info: <http://stclementseattle.org/worship/compline-with-the-renaissance-singers/>.

Sign up today for a terrific afternoon of golf benefiting NW Children's Fund on September 16, 2011 at the Golf Club at Redmond Ridge. NW Children's Fund is a local nonprofit foundation that supports organizations helping to end the cycle of abuse and neglect against children. Proceeds raised go toward the fall grants program at NW Children's Fund. For more information about registration, corporate sponsorships, volunteering or donations please visit <http://nwcf.org/golf/> or contact Kelly Reimer at 206-407-2161.

♡ Why do I love Mount Baker?

*"The trees, the park, the lake. The dogs, the people, the neighborhood feeling, the Community Club!"*

# By All Measures, Fiscal Year 2010 Was a Very Good Year!

## Annual Report "lite"

By Bethany Furubayashi, MBCC Development

As we reflect on the 2010-11 fiscal year, we are struck by the significant growth of the Mount Baker Community Club. Much credit goes to the marketing, creative energy and tireless effort of director Tara Morgan, compounded of course by volunteer effort. MBCC brings our community an eclectic mix of exciting programs which have neighbors flocking to the clubhouse again. Signature events like the Neighborhood Potluck and Pied Piper bring big crowds, while experimental debuts like Harvest the Arts and Day of Service prove successful. Clubhouse rentals remain strong even in a down economy, with increased usage during the daytime hours by nonprofits and local businesses.

In turn, many people showed their support by generously giving to the first-ever Annual Fund. A robust Annual Fund helps support clubhouse programs and events, ensuring that they remain accessible to everyone in the neighborhood. We set what we felt was an ambitious goal in year one: \$15,000 (double the income from the previous year's dues-based model). We exceeded that mark, thanks to the members of our generous community who collectively gave nearly \$19,000. We are incredibly grateful for your support this year. Please know that the re-invigorated clubhouse is made possible by each of you.

As board members, we are committed to being careful stewards of Mount Baker Community Club, which includes assuming fiscal responsibility of a \$290,000 budget. Because a strong board is a transparent board, we share with you a percentage breakdown of MBCC revenue and expenditures...or rather "where the money comes from" and "how the money is spent." We all have a vested interest in a thriving Mount Baker. As always, we welcome your ideas, involvement, and support moving forward.

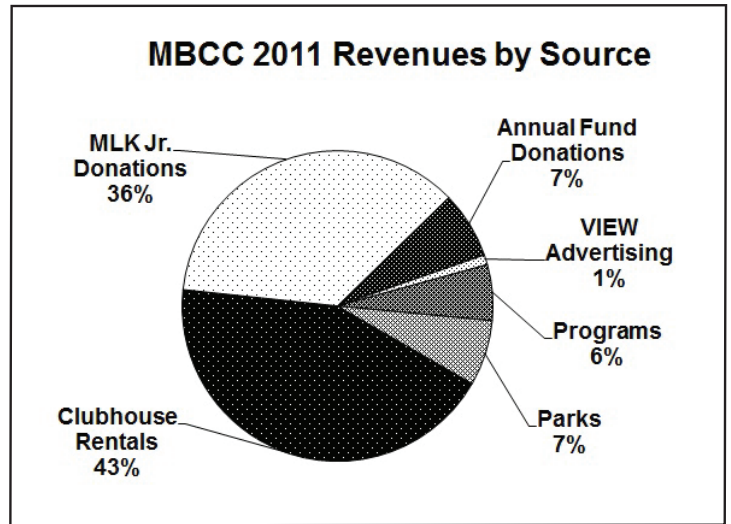
*With Gratitude,*  
**The 2011-12 Mount Baker Community Club Board of Trustees**



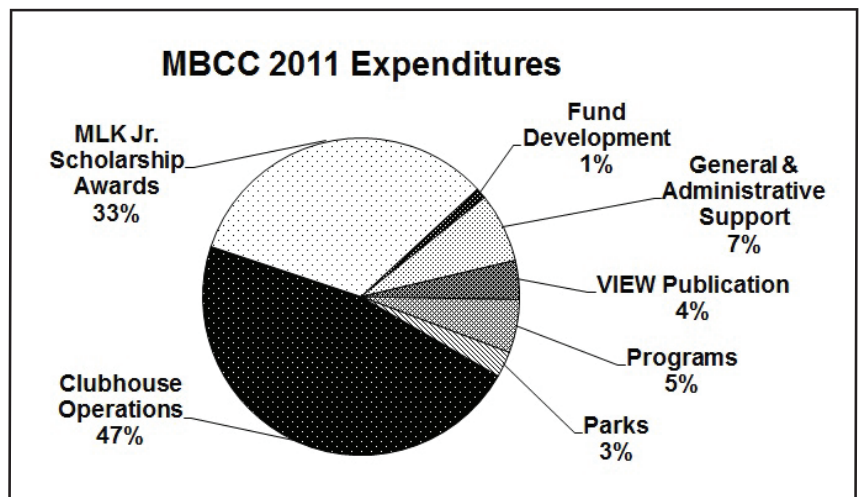
*Franklin Turns 100, continued from page 1...*

One hundred years later, Franklin plays host to one of the most diverse student populations in the nation according to national census data serving the communities of the 98118 and 98144 areas. Franklin capitalizes on its diversity as it continues to demonstrate excellence academically, athletically, artistically, and perhaps most importantly, in its humanitarian efforts. Service is a cornerstone of our collective ethos.

The 100th anniversary of Franklin High School will be commemorated throughout the 2011-12 school year with many events, not the least of which is the 2011 Mount Baker Home Tour in December. Franklin will be featured on the home tour as this year's public building. Students will be on hand on December 3 to point out the many architectural features of the Franklin High school and hidden treasures (do you know about the pipe organ?). In addition students, families and Franklin alumni will be hosting other events throughout the year. Keep watching your MBCC newsletter, the [www.mountbaker.org](http://www.mountbaker.org) website, and the Franklin High School website [www.franklinquakers.org/](http://www.franklinquakers.org/) for more interesting Franklin High School news and events in this momentous year in Franklin's history.



NOTE: The MBCC fiscal year runs July 1 – June 30



# THANK YOU, 2010-11 ANNUAL FUND DONORS!

## VISIONARY

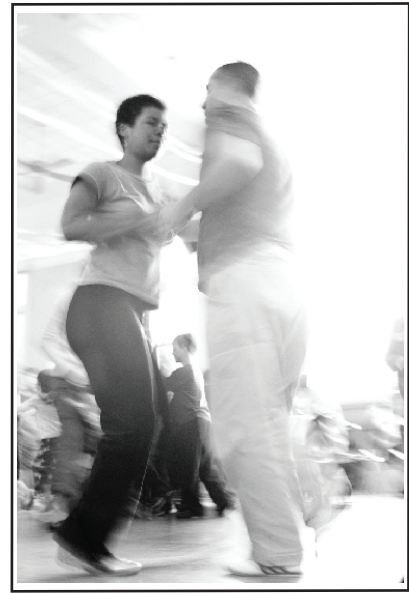
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Dancing at the clubhouse  
*photo by Christy Kinsley*

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# Thank you

*Donors, continued on page 8...*

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Joyce & Benjamin Yip

 **MBCC VOLUNTEER**   
**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

Mount Baker gratefully acknowledges our community volunteers. Volunteers make everything we do a reality. We appreciate everyone who steps up to lead and volunteer. We've created a partial list of community volunteers from the past year (July 2010 - June 2011) and the beginning of this year (July 2011). **THANK YOU ALL FOR MAKING OUR LIVES MORE FUN AND FULFILLING!**

Take a peek at your name on the list:  
<http://mountbakerclub.wordpress.com/the-view/>

*Every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the information presented.  
Please contact [manager@mountbaker.org](mailto:manager@mountbaker.org) or 206-722-7209 to let us know of  
any errors or omissions so we may correct our mistake.*



## SPD Selects Mount Baker Safe Neighborhood Committee as its First Living Room Forum

By Victoria E. Romero, Mount Baker Safe Neighborhood Committee Co-Chair

Officers from the Seattle Police Department's South precinct met with members of the Mount Baker Safe Neighborhood Committee (MBSNC) on June 30. The initiative, called "Living Room Forum" is designed to help officers build positive community relations.

Crime rates have been trending down both nationally and locally. Experts who analyze crime data cite several possible causes. Although we lay folks are comforted by seeing those blue and white SPD cars patrolling our neighborhoods, cruising is not the most effective crime deterrent. Foot patrols are more effective. In some inner-city communities, crime rates have been significantly reduced because officers walk through the neighborhoods. The experts who analyze the data also believe potential victims are better at protecting themselves and being proactive is a contributing factor. The officers complimented the collective work of Mount Baker for being an example of the latter and said we were specifically chosen to be the first community because of our work. They are hoping to offer similar meetings with other community groups as a way to build relationships.

Additional meeting highlights to share:

- Call 911 to report suspicious activity; make that call and patiently follow the 911 dispatcher's prompts. Relay as many details as possible.
- SPD officers work well with First Security Inc. officer and see her as extra set of 'professional' eyes
- Check out Mayor's expectations for our city:  
[web1.seattle.gov/DPETS/DPETSWebHome.aspx](http://web1.seattle.gov/DPETS/DPETSWebHome.aspx)
- Monitor crime activity for your block:  
[web5.seattle.gov/mnm/incidentresponse.aspx](http://web5.seattle.gov/mnm/incidentresponse.aspx)
- Department of Neighborhoods works to bring government closer to the residents of Seattle:  
[www.seattle.gov/neighborhoods/nsc/coordinators.htm](http://www.seattle.gov/neighborhoods/nsc/coordinators.htm)
- South precinct captain is Robert:  
[www.seattle.gov/police/precincts/South/default.htm](http://www.seattle.gov/police/precincts/South/default.htm)
- East precinct captain is George:  
[www.seattle.gov/police/precincts/East/default.htm](http://www.seattle.gov/police/precincts/East/default.htm)



In addition to working to reduce crime in our community, the MBSNC is now helping neighborhoods organize for emergency disaster preparedness. The Summer Safety Series will be held at 6:30 on three consecutive nights at the clubhouse on August 23, 24 and 25. You're invited to attend any or all of these:

- August 23: "Seattle Neighborhoods Actively Prepare for Emergency Disasters"
- August 24: "Is Your Home Burglar Proof and How to Organize a Block Watch"
- August 25 "The American Red Cross-Create a Home Safety Plan for Emergencies"

As of this writing eleven neighborhoods have registered their plans with the MBSNC. Our next steps will be to work with the MBCC board and design one main plan.

For more information:

- SNAP materials  
[www.seattle.gov/emergency/programs/snap/](http://www.seattle.gov/emergency/programs/snap/)
- Organize a block watch  
[www.seattle.gov/police/programs/blockwatch/](http://www.seattle.gov/police/programs/blockwatch/)
- Create Home Emergency Plan  
[www.seattleredcross.org/show.aspx?mi=4170](http://www.seattleredcross.org/show.aspx?mi=4170)



### Mount Baker Safe Neighborhood's Security Patrol

Did you know that the Mount Baker Safe Neighborhoods Committee coordinates private security patrols in our area through First Security Inc.? Please contact [mtbakersecurity@gmail.com](mailto:mtbakersecurity@gmail.com) for information including your area's route availability and cost of service.

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**RSVP to [events@mountbaker.org](mailto:events@mountbaker.org)**

# Mt Baker Home Tour and Arts & Crafts Fair

## Mount Baker Home Tour - Saturday December 3

Planning has already begun for the 2011 Mount Baker Home Tour, slated for December 3rd. Back this year by popular demand is the Arts & Crafts Fair! A little history for the newcomers in our midst...

The Home Tour has been a long-standing tradition since 1970. Held every other year, it showcases the amazingly diverse architectural treasures of our neighborhood and provides a wonderful opportunity to come together as a community in support of our community.

Did you know that the Home Tour is the single largest funding source for the wide array of programs and events sponsored by the MBCC? Additionally, it supports regular maintenance needs of our beloved Clubhouse, built in 1914.

You can help make it happen by volunteering, being an event sponsor, or spreading the word.

- **Volunteer!** We'll need close to 400 volunteers in a variety of roles. Leading up to the event we'll need people as homeowner dinner host, homeowner assistant coordinator, sign distribution, etc. On the day of the event we'll need docents, drivers, box office, clubhouse greeters, photographers, and more.

Contact [volunteer@mountbaker.org](mailto:volunteer@mountbaker.org)

- **Be an Event Sponsor!** Event sponsorship is a great way to promote your business while supporting the Mount Baker community. Sponsorships start at \$500.

Contact [sponsorship@mountbaker.org](mailto:sponsorship@mountbaker.org)

- **Spread the Word!** Help create a buzz around the Home Tour – encourage your friends, family, and neighbors to save the date. Point them to the website for details!

Visit [www.mountbaker.org](http://www.mountbaker.org)

We are committed to making the 32nd Home Tour the best EVER. Please say you'll join us!

Bethany Furubayashi & Valerie Voss

## Family Times Are Good Times

By Tara Morgan, MBCC Director of Clubhouse Operations and Marketing

The past year we've seen so many new neighbors enjoying the clubhouse. In addition to our long-standing popular Pied Piper events featuring magicians, puppets and storytelling, we introduced the Kindiependent Kids Rock Series which brought literally hundreds of kids to dance and strut their stuff on Saturday mornings. We hosted our annual Day in the Park event with the theme "Welcome to the Jungle", plus the ever-popular Christmas Ships and cookie potluck event. In the spring we danced to the Cuban stylings of a local band, The SuperSones, while enjoying the community bounty at the annual neighborhood potluck. Thank you for showing your support and your enthusiasm for great social events to delight our families and knit together our community.

This month we partnered with Pacific Science Center to bring your 3rd-8th graders a free science camp focused on astronomy. We hope to see you on August 21 for Family Science Day designed to inspire the whole community.

Returning this fall is our very successful "Teens and Tweens" clothing and backpack drive to benefit Treehouse for Kids which provides services to our area's foster kids. Clothes and backpacks for ages 11-18 can be dropped off at the clubhouse through Labor Day during regular business hours.

The families of Mount Baker, regardless of age, have much to look forward to this fall and winter with the return of Day in the Park on September 18 and the bi-annual Home Tour with Arts and Crafts Fair on December 3. Plus a very special family New Year's "Eve" party, featuring Caspar Babypants of Kindiependent on December 31! Don't miss the return of movie and Bingo nights.

Your MBCC is dedicated to serving this vibrant and diverse community. We encourage you to bring your neighbors and share in the fun! Keep posted on all events for families and more on our Events page at [www.mountbaker.org](http://www.mountbaker.org).

PLUS...Now is a great time to get involved to make all these programs happen – email [volunteer@mountbaker.org](mailto:volunteer@mountbaker.org) or stop by the clubhouse to meet Tara in our office during posted business hours.



Having fun in the park

## Rainier Court Park & Artwork Dedication

By Pat Chemnick

On June 15 SouthEast Effective Development (SEED) dedicated a new Park and Artwork at its Rainier Court development in the Mount Baker neighborhood. A Commerce Grant from the State of Washington enabled SEED to add significant amenities and infrastructure to benefit this community.

The park, located adjacent to the vacated Spokane Street right-of-way between 34th and 35th Avenues South, serves as a link between the Rainier Court community and the surrounding Courtland/Mount Baker neighborhood. Four basalt sculptures created by local artist Ken Barnes, entitled "Igneous Ensemble", were installed in the park. SEED hopes the entire community takes ownership of this unique neighborhood open space.

A stunning installation of 14-foot tall flowers in front of the Courtland at Rainier Court was also dedicated. These pieces, by local artist Alessandra Panieri, complement the sidewalk and light pole artwork entitled "Guardian Spirits" that was installed in 2009. As the subsequent phases of the Rainier Court project are developed, additional sets of the flowers, light poles and sculptures will be added, setting a theme for the new neighborhood.

Please see full-color photographs of the pieces and the dedication at: [www.seedseattle.org/econ\\_dev/rainiercourt.html](http://www.seedseattle.org/econ_dev/rainiercourt.html)



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♥Why do I love Mount Baker?  
 "The beauty of the neighborhood,  
 its history and committed neighbors,  
 united by our love of community."

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## Residents Can Help City Light Enhance Streetlight Safety

By Scott Thomsen, Seattle City Light

Last Thanksgiving a tragic accident occurred when a beloved pet died after touching a groundcover plate associated with a metal streetlight pole on Queen Anne hill.

Seattle City light responded to the incident by testing all 37,000 pieces of metal streetlight equipment and making repairs to any equipment that registered any amount of voltage. In all, City Light found 56 instances where there was voltage of more than 30 volts. Among the causes were frayed or pinched wires, broken photocells that turn on the lights during darkness, and deteriorated wires on older equipment.

The utility urges anyone who suspects a problem with a streetlight to report it at (206) 684-7056.

**Citizen Tips:** *How can you recognize if there might be a problem with a streetlight? If you see lights that stay on during daylight hours, or a light that flickers on and off when it's dark, or an animal shying away from a pole, these could indicate a problem with the light.*

Several people have helped City Light find recent problems In Mount Baker. Last April, a man reported his dog was shocked when it sniffed a small, metal plate at the base of a concrete streetlight pole on 32nd Avenue S. between S. Atlantic and S. Massachusetts Streets. The dog was not injured. The owner called City Light and within an hour crews were on the scene.

These incidents have raised public awareness about the potential danger that can exist whenever electricity is present. Working with you, City Light can minimize the risk, particularly in public access areas.

"If you encounter a streetlight that is not operating properly or suspect it might have a problem, please let us know [via the above phone number] and we'll take care of it immediately," Superintendent Jorge Carrasco said. "Safe, reliable service is our top priority."

To learn status of the five month Seattle City Light project now underway to replace underground cable to improve the reliability of electrical service, please read the information and occasional updates posted at:  
<http://seattle.gov/light/aboutus/construction/release.asp?RN=240>



### NOTICE:

*MBCC is seeking a part-time bookkeeper with non-profit experience.*

*If you personally recommend someone please contact Lee Stanton at [president@mountbaker.org](mailto:president@mountbaker.org).*

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♡ Why do I love Mount Baker?

*"Because it embodies the word "community" better than any other neighborhood in Seattle."*

## Parks & Open Spaces information:

Charlestown Hillclimb - To receive updates and reminders email Hilary at [hilmacg@hotmail.com](mailto:hilmacg@hotmail.com).

Colman Park - For info contact Colin at [parkschair@mountbaker.org](mailto:parkschair@mountbaker.org).

Bradner Gardens Park - To receive email notices email Joyce at [bradnergardenspark@gmail.com](mailto:bradnergardenspark@gmail.com).

Mount Baker Ridge Viewpoint - To receive work party times contact Ken at 206.234.5367 or [ken.valder@gmail.com](mailto:ken.valder@gmail.com).

"The Slice" - To get involved, find out where it is, or for occasional updates, contact Colin and Ned c/o [parkschair@mountbaker.org](mailto:parkschair@mountbaker.org).

Mount Baker Park - To get involved contact Del c/o [parkschair@mountbaker.org](mailto:parkschair@mountbaker.org).



♡ Why do I love Mount Baker?

"Because it embodies the word

"community" better than any other neighborhood in Seattle."

### Southeast District Council (SEDC) Update

Bill Davis, MBCC board member and secretary, has taken over from Rob Mohn as MBCC representative to the Southeast District Council (SEDC). The District Council is an umbrella organization of various southeast groups. To learn more, please contact Bill Davis via a message to 206-722-7209 or [manager@mountbaker.org](mailto:manager@mountbaker.org).

### Exciting Day of Service Volunteer Opportunity

*Yes, last year's MBCC Day of Service project in Mount Baker Park was such a success that we will be staging it again this year. Let's build on the good work 75 Mount Baker neighbors achieved last year when we planted 800 native plants.*

*Mark your calendars for*

**Saturday October 22nd, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM,**

*in Mount Baker Park. Snacks, refreshments and good times again to be provided.*

*Expect more details by email,*

*website and street signs as we get closer to October.*

♡ Why do I love Mount Baker?

"I love the diversity and the positive spirit of the neighborhood and of course its beauty"

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**Sunday, August 21 2:00 – 3:00 PM** – Family Science Day with Pacific Science Center staff. FREE! All ages welcome.

**Saturday, August 27 6:30 - 8:30 PM** – Bradner Gardens Summer Concert, Jim O'Halloran Quintet (Afro-Cuban Jazz). On the lawn at Bradner Gardens Park.

**Tuesday, August 23, 6:30 – 8:30 PM** - Summer Safety Series, PART I: SNAP Presentation (Seattle Neighborhoods Actively Prepare).

**Wednesday, August 24, 6:30 – 8:30 PM** - Summer Safety Series, PART II: Is Your Home an Easy Target? Is Your Block? With Seattle Police Department.

**Thursday, August 25, 6:30 – 8:30 PM** - Summer Safety Series, PART III: Disaster Prep @ Home. With American Red Cross.

**Tuesday, September 6, 7:00 – 9:00 PM** – ZLUPT meeting

**Monday, September 12** – Monthly Community Meeting. 6:30 PM social time, 7:00 meeting start.

**Wednesdays, September 14 - November 16, 9:15 - 10:15 AM** - T'ai Chi Class. \$150 for the series. Register at 206-322-5727.

**Sunday, September 18** – Do-It-Yourself Wedding Expo at the Clubhouse. Doors at 10:00 AM.

**Sunday, September 18 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM** - Day In The Park: GIDDY UP! MOUNT BAKER! Parade, Bake Sale, Music, Picnicking, Games. Free! Franklin High School then Mount Baker Park.

**Saturday, September 24, 10:30 AM** – Pied Piper, \$3 suggested donation.

**Monday, October 3** - Monthly Community Meeting. 6:30 PM social time, 7:00 meeting start.

**Sunday, October 9** - MBCC hosts an ArtsCrush event: Simple Measures concert. [www.artscrush.org](http://www.artscrush.org)

**Friday, October 14** – Movie Night @ The Clubhouse! 6:30 PM - KIDS MATINEE, 8:30 PM -FEATURE. Refreshments served.

**Saturday, October 15, 10:30 AM** – Pied Piper, \$3 suggested donation.

**Friday, October 21** - MBCC hosts an ArtsCrush event: 'The Conversation' with visual artists Allison Kline & Mike Hipple with special musical guests Jupe Jupe. [www.artscrush.org](http://www.artscrush.org)

**Saturday, October 22, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM** – 2nd Annual Mount Baker Day of Service. Details TBD.

**Tuesdays, October 25 – November 15, 6:30 PM** – MBCC presents Milestones Financial Series. With local financial advisor Matt Nye. RSVP to [rsvp@mountbaker.org](mailto:rsvp@mountbaker.org)

**Tuesday, November 1** – Kindiependent Kids Rock Series tickets go on sale.

**Sunday, November 6** – Harvest the Arts presents Bel Canto Performing Arts Society. Free. RSVP to [rsvp@mountbaker.org](mailto:rsvp@mountbaker.org). Details TBD.

**Friday, November 18, 6:00 – 9:00 PM** – Bingo Night. Free. Clubhouse. Refreshments served.

**Saturday, December 3** – Mount Baker Home Tour + Arts & Crafts Fair. Details TBD. Volunteers requested.

**Sunday, December 4** – Christmas Ships featuring Santa and the cookie potluck. Details TBD.

**Saturday, December 10** – Kindiependent Kids Rock Series Hoote-nanny KICK OFF! Series Tickets on sale November 1.

**Saturday, December 31, 10:30 AM** – It's a Kindie New Year! Ring in the "new year" with a dress-up party and Caspar Babypants. Tickets on sale November 1 for the whole Kindiependent series.

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**2011-12 MBCC Board of Directors.**

*Photograph by Rebecca Laszlo.*

*Front row L-R: Lee Stanton, Bill Davis, Loie Scharmer-Docter, Rebecca Laszlo.  
Back row L-R: Doug McBroom, Gale Devol, Bethany Furubayashi, Sue Cary,  
Martha Ries, Chris Ferree, Dawn Counts, Peter Greaves, Rob Mohn, Colin  
Macdonald.*

*NOT PICTURED: Mike Rooney, Matt Nye*