Sound Transit will be hosting two important public meetings this spring in the Roosevelt neighborhood. At the end of March, they will provide an update on construction plans for the Roosevelt light rail station. They will discuss:

- Updated construction schedule
- Application to the City of Seattle for a night-time noise variance
- Update to expected street, sidewalk, and parking restrictions
- Methods of preventing and mitigating impacts to neighbors

(Stay tuned for the March meeting date and location)

On April 11, Sound Transit will present 60% level designs for the Roosevelt Station, including more detailed architectural and landscaping plans.

Standard Radio Building Facade to be Removed

In March, a Sound Transit contractor will remove the facade of the Standard Radio building in the Roosevelt neighborhood and store it for later use. The facade consists of the Vitrolite glass tiles on the building exterior and the curved canopy. The neon sign will be removed and saved.

Sound Transit is taking down the facade in advance of the building’s demolition, as building demolition will begin at the Roosevelt Station site later this year.

In response to community requests, the station designers and artists are exploring ways of incorporating elements of the facade into Roosevelt Station.

Steve Laevastu Windermere Real Estate

Next RNA Meeting
DPD & SDOT
Greenstreet Concept Plans & Neighborhood Design Guidelines discussion

Tuesday, March 27, 7:30-9:00 p.m.
Room #242
Cloud 9 Mural Depicts History, Reflects Community

Shortly after he migrated to the West Coast from his native Vermont, Larry Kangas and a friend were living on Alkai Beach, planning to start a business doing outdoor murals. Larry, an artist and a navigator with the US Air Force Reserve, and his friend, who was the business guy, lined up a number of subscribers among the local businesses. But the deal fell through.

Some months later, after he and the friend attended a lecture at the East/West bookstore on Roosevelt, their car wouldn’t start. Checking out their surroundings they realized they were parked in front of a perfect brick wall, the north side of the Cloud 9 Consignment Store, owned by St. Stephen’s Episcopal Church. The business guy went about seeking sponsors among local merchants. Today, Larry is hazy about the identities of the thirty-some businesses that paid up. The Scarlet Tree was one, he remembers, and something called the City University. “There were different sponsorship levels,” he says, “like, we traded for chiropractic treatments with one of them.”

Larry researched his subject, the history of Seattle, at MOHAI and also talked to Bill Speidel, a local historian. Because Larry could only work in his spare time, the project took the summer of 1989 to complete.

It was the beginning of a lucrative business which saw Kangas murals appear on many outdoor locations in the Pacific Northwest. An album of Larry’s work can be seen on www.muralz.com.

The mural has stood the assaults of time and taggers remarkably well, yet over the years Larry has made several restitutions. That’s how Jimi Hendrix joined August early Seattleites Arthur Denny, Henry Yesler, Chief Stealth and Lucy Whipple Carr, “Seattle’s first school marm, hired in 1862.”

Visible on the 102 foot long mural are numerous Seattle historical elements: Smith Tower, the Space Needle, a prop plane, a hydrofoil, four jetliners, Lake Union, the construction of the Denny Retrgrade, a pontoon plane, the Aurora Bridge, Pike Street Market, a steam shovel, the Alkai Point trolley Luna Park, Mt. Rainier, a Pioneer Outfitters storefront, an early building at the University of Washington, a Northern Pacific steamship, a railroad steam engine, women disembarking a ship, Native Americans on a beach, and men gathered with their supplies to prospect for gold.

The most extensive wall text describes a nun, Mother Joseph, who founded “11 hospitals, 7 academies, 2 orphanages and 5 Indian schools.”

If Larry is somewhat vague about people depicted, it turns out that over the years, various volunteers at the Cloud 9 Consignment Shop had been conscientiously repairing numerous small acts of graffiti – the penciled mustache, the inked-in eye patch, for example – to a number of mutilated faces. So the mural is truly a community effort. But in the last few years, a tagger with black spray paint had obliterated the Kalakala Ferry and nearby elements, so an anonymous donor from the Episcopal church paid for Larry to come from Oregon and do touch ups.

After 53 years of operation, Cloud 9 will close at the end of March. The building will be listed for sale in the coming months. No further consignments are being taken. Call this number for hours of operation: 206.525.4440

Nancy Wiesner
Get ready for another great Historic Seattle Program Year!

Historic Seattle is pleased to offer a wide variety of local and out of town tours, lectures, fairs, and special events in 2012 that expand your views of Seattle and environs and give insight into its architectural treasures. For information go to:

www.historicseattle.org

March and April Events:
Design Arts
and
Preserving Your Old House

March 27: Rookwood Arts & Crafts Tiles: From Cincinnati to Seattle by Richard Mohr in the Leary Mansion, home to the finest specially commissioned Rookwood Faience tile installations in the Northwest

March 28: Creating Beauty from the Earth: California Decorative Tiles 1910-1930 by Joseph Taylor in a former First Hill hotel that has a Malibu tile façade and dining room walls inset with tile depicting California buildings and landscape

April 14: Preserving Your Old House presents the second annual Building Renovation Fair at Washington Hall, an opportunity to meet and get advice from the experts—the region’s most passionate and committed professionals and craftspeople in the business of restoring and rehabilitating older buildings correctly.

April 18: Dard Hunter: The Graphic Works, a free public lecture at the Seattle Public Library auditorium to debut a new publication by Program Director Lawrence Kreisman. Co-sponsored by Book Club of Washington and Book Arts Guild.

Visit www.historicseattle.org and click on “Events” for descriptions of all events for the year. You can request a copy of the 2012 program brochure for yourself and for colleagues and friends at (206) 622-6952. Register online. Historic Seattle looks forward to your participation and support in 2012. Thank you for your assistance in helping spread the word about these opportunities to better understand our regional built heritage and the value of preserving it.

Historic Seattle, founded in 1974, is the only city-wide nonprofit membership organization dedicated to the preservation of Seattle’s architectural legacy. Historic Seattle advocates for and participates in the thoughtful preservation and rehabilitation of historic buildings, landscapes, and architectural artifacts. Educational programs are supported by 4Culture and Civic Partners Fund, Seattle Office of Arts & Cultural Affairs.
**Solarize Seattle: Northeast campaign launched January 17th!**

Solar power is viable here in Western Washington; it can save money, help reduce carbon emissions and help with energy independence. Three local organizations are creating a community-driven effort designed to bring affordable solar energy to Seattle homes and small businesses.

Solarize Seattle: Northeast is the third campaign of Northwest SEED’s Solarize Washington program (www.solarizewa.org). The campaign features a group-buy program that provides a streamlined process for residents and small businesses to purchase solar systems for a discounted price. Savings are achieved via group buying power and current state and federal incentives, making this project an excellent opportunity for affordable solar installations.

The effort is co-led by Sustainable NE Seattle, whose members will spearhead outreach and resource information to interested residents/businesses. Through a competitive bidding process, Northwest SEED and Sustainable NE Seattle have selected A&R Solar/NW Wind & Solar as the project’s solar installation team. A&R Solar/ NW Wind & Solar will offer solar panels at discounted rates to project participants.

Over 100 Northeast Seattle residents have already indicated interest in Solarize Seattle: Northeast. The limited-time campaign intends to install over 200 kilowatts of solar energy in Northeast Seattle by summer of 2012. Northwest SEED’s first two Solarize campaigns in 2011, in Queen Anne and Magnolia, resulted in a 65% increase in Seattle’s annual solar installation rate and injected more than $1.2 million into the local solar economy.

Registration for Solarize Seattle: Northeast opened Tuesday, January 17th and closes late April. Registration is open to Northeast Seattle residents in 98105, 98115, and 98125 zip codes.

Information was shared at the January 24, 2012 RNA meeting. Additional free educational workshops will be held throughout the registration period, including February 29th, March 24th, and April 28th. For additional information, visit www.solarizewa.org. A contact person is Project Coordinator, Alexandra Sawyer, at Northwest SEED, 206-457-5403 or alex@nwseed.org, website www.nwseed.org.

The Roosevelt Sustainability Group encourages you to attend the workshops and take action with solar energy.

Ellen Stoecker
Peas Please!
Sue Hartman; Seattle Tilth Garden Almanac

Many Pacific NW gardeners believe they must get their peas in the ground by President’s Day. However, the soil is often too saturated to work in February and it may be worth your while to wait until March. A plastic covering will help the soil dry out if it looks like the rain is going to continue non-stop. If you are lucky enough to be able to work in your veggie garden, planting disease-resistant varieties in early spring will help reduce the risk of infection by the enation mosaic virus and powdery mildew when the temperatures rise.

Peas are fun and easy to grow, but they are not always trouble-free. They are a favorite of the pea leaf weevil, a small brownish-gray beetle about 1/5” long that chomp the leaves. There is a way to beat the pea leaf weevil and still get your peas into the ground early enough to enjoy a bountiful harvest.

Peas can outgrow a weevil attack if they are healthy. You can start peas in do-it-yourself newspaper pots and transplant them to your garden beds when they are big enough – about 6” tall. You don’t need a greenhouse – try starting a flat outside in a cold frame or protected shelf that still gets plenty of sun. Speed up germination by soaking the seeds in water before you plant. Bury the entire pot. The newspaper will decompose and the roots will not be disturbed during the planting process. Do not plant peas near other legume crops weevils prefer such as clover, vetch, or alfalfa. And don’t forget to provide something for the vines to climb if they are not a dwarf variety!

For more information on safe and healthy gardening, contact the Garden Hotline at (206) 633-0224 or help@gardenhotline.org. Find class listings on our web site and learn all about veggie growing in your backyard. ‘Organic Gardening 101’ is being held March 7th at the Good Shepherd Center. For month-by-month food gardening tips and information on incorporating peas into your urban oasis, pick up copies of our books on our web site or a local book store: Maritime Northwest Garden Guide and Your Farm in the City.

www.seattletilth.org

---

RNA’s Night Out
Dine at The Bengal Tiger

One of the things important to us at the RNA is supporting local businesses and shopping locally! To that end, I would like to arrange a series of occasional dinners at local restaurants to which all Roosie readers and activists are invited. It will be a great way to meet fellow Roosie/RNA fans informally and without the fuss of meeting agendas. I hope lots of ideas for developing the neighborhood will spring from such a meeting, and it is a great way to network.

Here are the details. The dinner will be on Tuesday March 6th from 6:30 to 8:30pm. There will be a set price buffet for $17, and we will have a reserved part of the restaurant. If you are already a fan of Indian food you will already know of the great food they serve at Bengal Tiger. If it’s all new to you, here is a great way to try a little and see what you like.

There is also an extensive bar, but you will pay for your own drinks! During the evening people will move from table to table periodically so we can all get to talk to lots of different people.

If the evening is successful we can do it again a few months later and visit a new local restaurant each time. I need to have a firm idea of how many people are planning on coming so please rsvp to me at…

rnapeter@gmail.com

Peter James. President RNA

Save the date!
Tuesday April 3rd
6:30-8:30pm.
Next Steps in Neighborhood Planning

When City Council approved the Roosevelt Rezone on January 30th, they included two important provisions to help accommodate increased density in the future light rail station area. By early 2013, the City plans to adopt updated Neighborhood Design Guidelines as well as Concept Plans for newly designated Green Streets within the Roosevelt Residential Urban Village. These two planning processes will help establish some of the detail and texture for the broad urban form which was established in the rezone process. Community members are encouraged to take an active role in these discussions.

Neighborhood Design Guidelines are used by the City’s regional Design Review Boards to evaluate specific building proposals. Issues addressed include Site Planning; Height, Bulk and Scale; Architectural Elements and Materials; the Pedestrian Environment and Landscaping. Every new project in Roosevelt above a certain size will be subject to the new Neighborhood Design Guidelines. This is our chance to help write the rules for how new buildings will look and feel.

Please note that the allowable height for buildings on any particular site will have been established by the Rezone, and that the Guidelines pertain to the particulars of design at a given height.

Green Street Concept Plans are a newer notion for Seattle. The Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) wants to work with us to determine which issues and objectives to address in plans for green streets along NE 66th Street, 14th Avenue NE and Brooklyn Avenue NE. If you live on or near any of these streets then you clearly have a stake in these plans.

At the March 27th RNA meeting, representatives from SDOT and the Department of Planning and Development (DPD) will visit with us to discuss how to organize these two important efforts to further improve livability in our community.

Jim O’Halloran
NEST The Virtual Village for Seniors Launches in Northeast Seattle

North East Seattle Together -NEST – the new “virtual village for seniors” – has hired an executive director and opened its office on 5751 33rd Ave. N.E, inside Ravenna United Methodist Church.

It is now recruiting Founding Members, who will be the first to benefit from the community and support services that NEST will provide to keep seniors safe in their own homes. Founding Members can begin enjoying NEST’s services on February 14, 2012, with the full public launch occurring on May 1.

Many neighbors have followed NEST’s progress for more than a year, watching as it organized, became a 501(c)3 and began significant fundraising. It was featured in the Seattle Times and by KUOW Public Radio. More than 650 people asked to be added to its mailing lists, and over 150 volunteered to help NEST help seniors as it prepared to launch.

NEST is a non-profit organization which will be supported primarily by membership dues. It will serve 14 neighborhoods in northeast Seattle – including Roosevelt. Its boundaries are from the ship canal to Northgate, and from Lake Washington to I-5. It will provide a wide assortment of services, including transportation, simple household tasks, shopping and many, many more activities that are described on its website, www.nestseattle.org

NEST’s new executive director, Judy Kinney, has worked for decades as a community builder, social services leader, business owner and life coach. She is deeply committed to NEST’s mission. For more information email NEST (info@nestseattle.org) or Judy at 206-525-6378

By Marianne Scruggs, Roosevelt resident

SAVE THE DATE RNA’S NIGHT OUT Bengal tiger Tuesday April 3rd 6:30-8:30pm

BULL MOOSE FESTIVAL Saturday, July 28, 2012 11:00 AM to whenever

The Bull Moose Party is alive and kickin’! This year’s Bull Moose Street Festival will happen on Saturday, July 23rd. Fun for the whole family kicks off at 11am where the best of Roosevelt is out in all its finest on 64th from Roosevelt Way NE to 9th Ave NE.

With an outdoor venue for entertainment throughout the day, you’ll be serenaded and impressed with local talent and a fashion show proving that Roosevelt is the chic and eclectic... place to be! Enjoy local food, fare and fun; something for everyone!

Get Involved
Attend a Sustainability Group Meeting 2nd Tuesday of the month thru June 7 - 9 pm Calvary Christian Assembly Church
Everybody Wants to Be a Critic

Have you ever wanted to write restaurant reviews? Is there a place in Roosevelt that is dying for notice for its wonderful food, great ambience, etc? We would love to have a local eating/drinking establishment written up for each Roosie. Please give the address, and indicate the price range. Reviews must be anonymous, so give yourself a pen name for publication, although give us your real name for submission. They must also be generally positive – no slams needed. Articles should be 200-300 words and are subject to standard editing.

To post a Bulletin Board notice, write to roosie@rooseveltseattle.org

Get Ready for Spring Veggies

Seattle Tilth’s March Edible Plant Sale, March 17th 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Come out to this festive spring gardener gathering and find a huge selection of edible plant starts perfect for spring planting. Come browse and get ideas for your spring garden! Choose from a wide selection of organically, sustainably and locally grown veggies, herbs, edible flowers, fruit shrubs, fruit trees, seeds, supplies and knowledge galore -- perfect for planting in March. Seattle Tilth garden educators have carefully selected varieties that grow well in our maritime northwest climate. You will find:

Easy-to-grow plants for beginners such as lettuce, greens and peas

Favorites such as collards, kale, Swiss chard, rhubarb and strawberries.

Exotic, rare and heirloom plants that will excite more experienced gardeners including asparagus, horseradish, artichokes, onions, broccoli and blueberries.

Irresistible highlights for foodies include edible flowers, bulbing fennel, red scallions, Romanesco broccoli and dozens of culinary herbs.

Fruiting shrubs and fruit bearing trees will be available from Burnt Ridge Nursery.

In Hangar 30 at Warren G. Magnuson Park; plenty of free parking available. Admission is FREE

Find out more including how to volunteer for the event and about our Early Bird Sale that guarantees you first pick of the crop on the Friday evening before the sale: http://seattletilth.org/special_events/marchedibleplantsale2012