Urban Luxe Café

By Ian Hamilton

Urban Luxe Café is now open at 6105 Roosevelt Way, near the intersection with Ravenna Blvd. Urban Luxe offers coffee as well as a variety of Mediterranean dishes, beer, wine and cocktails. Free high-speed Internet and seating available for groups makes Urban Luxe a great place to finish a project or come with friends for a drink and small bites.

Al-Madani started his coffee career with Starbucks in 2009 in an internship to management program. In 2011, he honed his skills at the hallowed Columbia City Bakery, where Herkimer was the coffee roaster. They provided extensive training on how to pull the perfect espresso. The fast pace of Columbia City Bakery taught Al-Madani to produce quality at scale.

Working jobs in technology and management, Al-Madani was working hard to build things for other people. “I figured if I was going to work as hard as I was, I might as well do it for myself. And, I missed the food business,” he explains.

There was just one hitch: Nabil Al-Madani didn’t cook—at least not enough. Coffee was his specialty. For his dream of a Mediterranean coffee house serving pastries, small plates, sandwiches and entrees to work, he would need help. Luckily, he knew who to turn to.

Mohammad Al-Madani came to the United States in 1974 at the age of 17 to attend college. Mohammad raised Nabil as a single father while also teaching at South Seattle Community College (he currently teaches at Seattle Central College). He would cook for them, drawing on the knowledge passed to him from his mother and grandmother. Mohammad agreed to teach his son the family recipes for Urban Luxe. “There will be about two more months to transfer everything from here (tapping on his head) to there (pointing at Nabil’s head). 40 years of cooking. And then there will be nothing left for me but to go to my table in the corner and look at my papers because I told him I’m not here to work (laughing). He’s a good kid...because I raised him. I take credit,” laughs Al-Madani.

The hard work Al-Madani expected has come. “I have worked every one of the last 90 days,” he notes. “It’s a tough business. But, things are really starting to come together.”

Roosevelt Parking Changes
By Chris Mitchell, Transportation Chair

If you live in or visit the Roosevelt neighborhood, you might have noticed a change in some of our parking regulations. Recent studies showed that 70% of Seattle commuters walk, bike, or use transit to get downtown for work. So as part of the City of Seattle’s efforts to further reduce single occupancy vehicle use, parking rules have changed in a number of Seattle neighborhoods, including Roosevelt. Policy changes approved by the City Council in April aim to reduce requirements for parking in frequent transit areas, lower parking requirements for affordable housing developments, and increase bicycle parking requirements. The bill also “un-bundles” parking spaces from leases in multi-unit buildings with 10+ units (including underground parking lots), which lowers rents for tenants and allows parking spaces to be shared by commuters, residents, and other neighborhood visitors to various city neighborhoods. Councilmember Rob Johnson has stated that he views recent changes across the city as fundamentally trying to do “a better job of managing the parking that we have,” since currently about a third of private parking spots go unused.

Additionally, other changes to paid parking regulations took effect in 2017 following action by Mayor Burgess. In Roosevelt, paid parking at a variable rate has been instituted in the Roosevelt business district, as shown in the attached picture. During morning and evening hours, parking costs will be $0.50/hour, and during peak daytime hours, a rate of $1.00/hour is in place. There is a 4-hour maximum, and paid parking is in effect from 8am-8pm, M-Sa.

In terms of Residential Parking Zones (RPZs) - those areas that are designated as to be used by only residents or employees with a confirmed address in the area - the city has not yet committed to adjusting the RPZs in the Roosevelt neighborhood. It is expected to be discussed in more detail as we approach the opening of Sound Transit’s Light Rail station in 2021. And any parking regulation, given the significant construction in the neighborhood, is subject to temporary changes to allow for trucks, workers, and other construction-related activities to take place on the street. So be on the lookout for new signage, temporary markers, and other street indicators to make sure you follow the ever-changing rules in our neighborhood!

Save the date! - RNA 2018 to 2019 Meetings
The Roosevelt Neighborhood Association will hold general meetings on the upper level of the Calvary Christian Assembly (6801 Roosevelt Way NE):

- September 18, 2018
- November 13, 2018
- January 15, 2019
- March 19, 2019
- May 21, 2019
- June 18, 2019

Have topic or speaker suggestions? We would love your ideas! Send a message to RNA@RooseveltSeattle.org.
Bellwether Housing and Mercy Housing Northwest are partnering together to bring high-quality housing, engaging retail, community-centered space to the Roosevelt neighborhood that celebrates low-income families and the surrounding community.

6600 Roosevelt will provide 245 new affordable homes to low-income families and individuals. Over 100 apartments will be two- and three-bedroom units, providing opportunities for large families to live in this opportunity-rich neighborhood. Additional units are set aside for families transitioning out of homelessness. Mercy will provide resident services coordination to families and formerly homeless households.

Bellwether/Mercy are working with VIA Architects and The Berger Partnership Landscape Architects to design a transit-oriented development with community-enhancing spaces. The pedestrian-friendly project features two residential buildings situated around a ground-level public “Village Square” gathering space that will be home to small shops and cafes, a large community room, and a childcare. Bellwether and Mercy have partnered with Sound Child Care Solutions, who will run a bilingual, multi-age, and affordable preschool and child care facility. The community focus, affordability, and relationship with Roosevelt Station planned at 6600 Roosevelt manifest the equitable development priorities of Sound Transit, the Office of Housing, and the surrounding community.

Roosevelt Station TOD
By JoAnna Martin, Bellwether Housing

Thank you to all the Blockheads who delivered Roosies through the Fall, Winter and Spring! As the population of our neighborhood grows, there are more and more Roosies to deliver, but we don’t have enough Blockheads to get them all out. The Roosie has changed to an every-other-month publication, so being a Blockhead has become easier than ever. It only takes about an hour (can be more or less) every other month, and it is a good source of exercise and fresh air. And it’s easy: all you have to do is put a newsletter on the porch of every house on your route. This map shows the blocks that currently need Blockheads, but you don’t have to live on a particular block to deliver to it. If you are interested in volunteering please email blockhead@rooseveltseattle.org

Volunteers Needed!
By Gina Leone, Head Blockhead
Get Involved!

Please contact the RNA to share your skills and learn more about your neighborhood.

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Consider joining the RNA! Contact rna@rooseveltseattle.org

Amanda Winters represents the RNA on the UW City/University Community Advisory Committee (CUCAC).

Please follow the RNA on Twitter: @roosieseattle
Subscribe to the RNA website blog at: RooseveltSeattle.org
Join the conversation with your neighbors at: Facebook.com/groups/RooseveltSeattle/

We need your help today. Please volunteer to deliver or contribute articles to *The Roosie*.
If interested, please contact: RoosieEditor@RooseveltSeattle.Org

ANNUAL RNA MEMBERSHIP FORM

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Name(s): ________________________________________________________________
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Volunteer Skill(s) / Area(s) of Community Interest: _____________________________________

☐ I would love to pay annual membership dues to support increasing RNA’s outreach and community events.

☐ I enjoy receiving *The Roosie* at my door and will donate my time to deliver to others by being a “Blockhead”.

☐ Please enter my email address to the http://www.RooseveltSeattle.org blog email list.

☐ Yes! I would love to place an ad to support *The Roosie* (Discounts for members!).

☐ Please welcome me, by name, as a new or renewing member on the website/twitter/facebook/next issue of *The Roosie*.

Please make check payable to: The Roosevelt Neighborhood Association: 6910 Roosevelt Way NE, #518, Seattle, WA 98115

OR *New* Pay your membership dues online at RooseveltSeattle.org/Membership/