

## STEVE LAEVASTU AND ROGER TURNER ARE YOUR GREENLAKE REALTORS

Portable Works Collection managed by the Seattle Office of Arts & Cultural Affairs.

In addition to Dingus and Ly, the featured artists are: Katie Baldwin, Rachel Brumer, Kay Buckner, Sara Callahan, Caroline Cooley, Factory of Visual Arts, Mandy Greer, Tobias Jean, Mary Lane, Ka Ly, Gail McDonnell, Danielle Phillips, Sima Elizabeth Shefrin, Carol Tate and Betty Weaver.

For more information, call (206) 684-7171 or visit [www.seattle.gov/arts](http://www.seattle.gov/arts).

The city's Portable Works Collection is a rotating collection of more than 2,800 artworks in all media representing hundreds of artists collected by the city since 1973. The collection includes sculpture, painting, mixed media, prints, photography and textiles. The artworks are exhibited primarily in public areas of municipal buildings.

The Office of Arts & Cultural Affairs promotes the value of arts and culture in communities throughout Seattle. The 16-member Seattle Arts Commission, citizen volunteers appointed by the mayor and City Council, supports the city agency.

### CREATING A SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY WITH SHARED PROSPERITY

#### MEETING THE FUTURE

For us to succeed, government must shift from managing growth to being a proactive partner fighting for new jobs, shared prosperity and sustainable economic development. We all need to work hard to build on our strengths. We can't be afraid to stand up to the status quo and tackle our weaknesses head-on. We have to be willing to do things differently - to take real risks and explore new ideas.

This is what it means to take the harder path. It isn't easy, but it is what it will take for us to exert meaningful control over our future and build a solid foundation for coming generations. It's what it will take to improve our schools so that all of our kids are prepared to step up. It's what it will take to make sure our limited resources are invested strategically to build the next generation infrastructure.

Here is what we will do:

#### INVEST IN SEATTLE'S RESIDENTS, YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS

All of our residents deserve an opportunity to achieve their full potential and share in our region's prosperity. We will start with focused efforts to create new jobs, bolster our most challenged businesses and communities, and increase the skills of our youth and low-income residents.

#### INVEST IN SEATTLE'S ENTREPRENEURS

The City can play an important role in fostering a business climate and environment where all businesses can thrive. We will connect businesses to resources that will help them expand and remove unnecessary hurdles that inhibit their success.

#### INVEST IN SEATTLE'S ECONOMIC STRENGTHS

Seattle possesses rich concentrations of knowledge and experience in key economic sectors that provide a strong foundation for economic recovery. We will take stock of our existing economic strengths and nurture them where possible to encourage further diversification.

### TESTIMONIALS

Dear Roger & Steve,

I am writing to express my appreciation for your assistance in selling my house in the Maple Leaf district of Seattle. Your repair suggestions before listing, your answers to my questions, your willingness to negotiate a listing agreement, your responsiveness to my calls, your conduct at agent showings and open houses and your skills during sale negotiations were all performed in a very professional manner that I found very satisfactory and reassuring during this time of high anxiety and during which I was mostly out of town.

If I am ever in need of assistance as a reference or you would like to use this letter for promotional purposes, feel free to do so.

Thanks again to you both and I hope you and yours have a wonderful holiday time.

Yours very truly,  
David W. Roberts

[HTTP://WWW.GREENLAKEHOUSE.COM](http://www.greenlakehouse.com)



*Need help buying or selling your home?  
Contact Us!*

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Windermere Real Estate / Oak Tree Inc

#### INVEST IN NEXT GENERATION INFRASTRUCTURE

Smart infrastructure investments can create jobs while laying a physical foundation for the future that is socially and environmentally sustainable. Over the next four years, the City will be investing heavily in new capital projects and in maintaining existing capital assets, with the 2010 Adopted Capital Improvement Program totaling over \$700 million supporting over 2,500 direct jobs annually in the public and private sector and at least as many indirect and induced jobs.

#### COUNT WHAT MATTERS

We will stay focused and make necessary course corrections by measuring and reporting on our progress. The City will benchmark and report to the public semi-annually on five key economic indicators:

- \* Business Income
- \* Job Growth
- \* Business start-ups and closures
- \* Performance of our K-12 and postsecondary education systems
- \* Distribution of Income

MARCH 2011

# GREEN LAKE

## NEIGHBORHOOD ADVISOR

*In this Issue*

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Assessor to Demystify Prop. Valuation  
Mayors State of the City  
City Exhibition  
Job Plan

### SOLD HOMES

The following is a list of homes that sold in our Green Lake Neighborhood over January and February. Do you wonder what your house is worth? The décor, the features and condition all have a bearing on the price a house will command. I have seen the interiors of most of the homes in this list. If you are selling your home, please let me help you. I would be happy to view your home, prepare a market analysis and discuss the details with you. I can provide you with useful information, such as a sales price that might be realistically expected in today's market.

Address	Bed	Bath	Style	Year	Price
7416 4th Ave NE #A	2	1.5	Townhouse	2003	\$351,300
2317 N 63rd St	2	1.75	Split Entry	1975	\$400,000
7446 Latona Ave NE	3	2.75	Multi Level	2004	\$460,000
1822 A N 55th St	3	1.5	2 Story	1906	\$480,000
5830 E Green Lake Wy N	4	2.5	2 Stories w/Bsmnt	1906	\$506,000
5610 Keystone Place N	3	3	1 1/2 Stry w/Bsmnt.	1928	\$535,000
147 NE 56th St	4	2.5	2 Stories w/Bsmnt.	1906	\$589,950

### GREEN LAKE MONTHLY HOME SALES E-MAILED DIRECTLY TO YOU!

Sign up now for a free monthly service. You can have Green Lake home sales e-mailed to you every month. The e-mail will contain all of the homes that sold in Green Lake for that month. With this e-mail you can see interior pictures of the homes that sold as well as get data on each home such as the price it sold for, BR, BTH, SQ FOOTAGE, ETC.

You will not receive any other junk e-mail. And your e-mail address will NOT be given to anybody else.

To sign up for this free service just send an e-mail to Steve Laevastu stating that you want to get Green Lake home sales e-mailed to you. Steve's e-mail address is sold@windermere.com

This service has been very popular and received numerous compliments from a number of Green Lake residents.

### SEATTLE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOOK SALE

The Friends of the Seattle Public Library Spring Book Sale will be held April 16th and 17th 2011 at Magnuson Park in Hangar 30. If you have never been to a Seattle Public Library Book Sale you are missing one of the great events in Seattle.

The large Friends Book Sales are held each April and September.

The Friends of the Seattle Public Library is a non-profit, grassroots organization dedicated to promoting our Library as an essential institution of our society. Our volunteer members advocate, educate, and raise funds on behalf of the Library, its patrons, and the larger Seattle community.



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## SEATTLE EVENT CALENDAR

### CHERRY BLOSSOM & JAPANESE CULTURAL FESTIVAL

APRIL 1-3, 2011 - SEATTLE CENTER

Held at Seattle Center in April... this annual Event celebrates Japanese Culture and the USA's relationship with Japan.

There's a lot for you to experience during these 3 Days: watch a Go Tournament, visit Arts & Crafts Booths, dine on traditional Cuisine. You'll even be able to see Exhibits and Performances.

All Events are free... and take place at the Center House and Flag Pavilion.

### DAFFODIL FESTIVAL GRAND FLORAL PARADE

APRIL 9, 2011 - TACOMA WASHINGTON

The famous Daffodil Festival will be celebrating it's 78th Year in 2011 and takes pride in calling the grand State of Washington it's home. The Daffodil Festival is an annual event that culminates in April with a Grand Floral Street Parade, traveling through the cities of Tacoma... Puyallup... Sumner... and Orting - all in one day.

### WORLD RHYTHM FESTIVAL APRIL 22-24, 2011 - SEATTLE CENTER

The annual World Rhythm Festival offers visitors three days of an amazing range of world musical traditions including African, Middle-Eastern, Latin, Indian, North American and more. You'll enjoy live performances, workshops, drum circles, an international marketplace, plus a fantastic Carnival Finale.

Enjoy and experience the rich cultures of the Asian-Pacific Islander communities through song, dance, music, art and displays. Presented by the Asian-Pacific Directors Coalition.

### ASIAN-PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH CELEBRATION MAY 1, 2011 - SEATTLE CENTER

Enjoy the rich cultures of the region's Asian-Pacific Islander communities through song, dance, art and displays. The festival launches Asian-Pacific Islander Heritage Month in Seattle with spectacular lion dances, colorful costumes and traditional dress, youth drill teams, martial arts, Taiko drums and incredible artists from around the state. It also provides access to community resources and children's arts and crafts.

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## MAYOR MCGINN 2011 STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS

**EDUCATION:** Seattle has one of the most educated populations of any city in the country. But our children aren't catching up – in particular students of color. In 2010 only 13 percent of African American students and 24 percent of Latino students met the state's 10th-grade math standard, compared with 68 percent of white students. This is unacceptable and unjust. Seattle must do better.

In some schools, Seattle is already doing better. Four of our middle schools – Denny, Mercer, Hamilton, and Aki Kurose – have used funds from the current Families and Education Levy to produce significant improvements in student learning.

Mercer Middle School is one of many Families and Education Levy success stories. Mercer's students represent the full diversity of Seattle. 94 percent of the students are from communities of color. Nearly 75 percent are on free and reduced lunch. For most schools in this city and this country, those statistics would predict a high rate of student failure.

But not at Mercer. Principal Andhra Lutz has used the flexibility afforded by Families and Education Levy funding to create programs that help keep students in the classroom – and provide the support out of class that they need to stay focused. The results speak for themselves. Mercer students are outperforming their peers around the State in math. 88% of students have met their grade level standards in reading and math.

The Families and Education Levy helped make this happen. It gave Principal Lutz the freedom and flexibility to create new programs such as intervention for students struggling with math or with their attendance.

Seattle doesn't just hand out the money and hope it works. Programs aren't just funded – we track results of every program the city funds from the levy. If something isn't working, then the money will be redirected to programs that are showing results.

Thanks to the hard work of the community, Levy Advisory Committee, and Councilmember Tim Burgess, we produced a Families and Education Levy renewal for this year's ballot that reflects the community's priorities. The \$231 million proposal serves an important goal: All students in Seattle will graduate from high school ready for college or a career. The levy renewal will meet that goal by funding programs that the Seattle Public Schools budget doesn't cover.

This money is directly invested in programs that help our children and families. We fund things like preschools, health clinics, tutoring, summer school, and similar wraparound programs – the types of things the school district cannot fund. We need to fully fund the proposed Families and Education Levy efforts in each of these five areas if we are going to help our children succeed.

**TRANSIT:** Now I want to talk about transit. The next-generation infrastructure requires us to move people as well as information. We have to use our money wisely and make smart investments.

President Obama wants to bring high speed rail to 80% of Americans in the next 25 years. I support that goal, and have already pledged to work with Mayor Sam Adams of Portland, Oregon and Mayor Gregor Robertson of Vancouver, British Columbia to connect us with high speed rail service.

Now, President Obama is focused on connecting cities. I'm focused on connecting neighborhoods. Here in Seattle, many of our neighborhoods do not have any passenger rail transportation at all. We are helping Sound Transit bring light rail to Capitol Hill, the University District, Roosevelt, and Northgate. And this year, we will break ground on the First Hill Streetcar project.

We're working with Sound Transit on the extension of its line north. But understand that when they build that stop at Northgate, that will be the last stop they build in Seattle for 30 years. I'm not being a pessimist. That's just a pragmatic assessment of their plan. It's going to suburban cities, and I want to say clearly, I have no beef with that. In fact, I support it. Those cities need to be connected to be transit.

It's no secret that I support rail, which is one of the ways that we can increase capacity. We've learned public supports rail, too. 57 percent of those who responded to our Transit Master Plan survey said they want rail to connect to major destinations within the city.

When the Transit Master Plan is finished this summer, we'll know which corridors are the best for high capacity modes such as rail. And I will send to the Council a Transit Master Plan for high capacity transit, including the kind of rail that makes sense for our overburdened corridors.

Another high priority corridor that needs rail is the 520 bridge. Right now the state plans to build a six-lane bridge, and they only have money to build six lanes to Foster Island, where it will become four lanes. They're engineering a traffic jam right next to the Arboretum and in Seattle's neighborhoods. And it's not going to be light-rail ready.

In addition, this bridge is planned to have variable tolling, which means that during various times of the day, the toll could be \$7 or \$8 each way. If they're going to charge that much to cross the bridge, we need to give people a low-cost transit choice – otherwise we've just spent \$4 billion on bridge for rich people.

### ASSESSOR AIMS TO DEMYSTIFY PROPERTY VALUATIONS

Like most county assessors – and real estate licensees – King County Assessor Lloyd Hara is quizzed about fluctuating real estate values and their relationship to property taxes.

More than 660,000 residential and commercial properties in King County are valued by the Department's staff of accredited real estate appraisers each year. In addition, personal property staff assessed more than 44,000 accounts in 2009. At a minimum, real property must be revalued on four-year cycles. These valuations generate thousands of appeals. In 2009, more than 13,000 appeals were received, with about 11,000 of them resolved to date.

Hara noted the Board of Equalization, an independent body whose function is to adjudicate appeals, is comprised of seven citizen members. These are political appointments, a process he would like to see modified to require some minimum qualifications.

One of the most frequently asked questions the assessor hears is why a tax bill increases when an assessed value goes down. Hara explained only 17 cents of every property tax dollar supports the King County General Fund. The remaining 83 cents are divided between the state, cities and other local jurisdictions; more than half the tax tab is based on voter approved measures.

With 165 local tax districts, King County ranks second behind Cook County, Illinois in having the highest number of such districts in the country.

The amount due depends on the cost of state and local government, including schools, roads, parks, libraries, hospitals, city and county government, as well as your local taxing districts such as port district, fire districts and sewer districts, Hara explained. A large part of each property tax dollar goes to pay off construction bonds for school buildings and other public projects, he emphasized.

In response to another question on whether a property could be reassessed if the view changes, Hara said absolutely, and invited affected owners to contact his office. He also noted it may not be necessary to go through the entire review/appeals process.

**CITY EXHIBITION FEATURES HANDCRAFTED, FABRICATED ARTWORKS**  
SEATTLE — See tapestries, quilts, embroidery, stitchery, appliqué, sculpture, printmaking and mixed-media artworks in the exhibition Fine Threads at Seattle Municipal Tower Gallery. The exhibition is on view through April 1 and features 22 artworks by 17 artists.

Fine Threads examines how different artists create handcrafted, fabricated artwork. "From the loosely designed, raw-edged Quilt by Marita Dingus, to the highly technical appliqué and embroidery work of May Nao Ly's Flood series, there are many excellent examples and assortments of textures in Fine Threads," explained city Curator Deborah Paine. Paine selected the artworks from the city's

## SPIRIT OF WEST AFRICA MAY 7, 2011 CENTER HOUSE

Take part in ritual and celebratory African drumming, witness the healing powers of musicians trained since birth to serve their communities, participate in a Guianese dance workshop and search for treasures in the West African marketplace. The traditions of six West African countries come to life through this spirited festival of live music, dance performances, film, art and games.

### WHIRLIGIG!

APRIL 8 - APRIL 24, SEATTLE CENTER

It's time to swing into spring at Seattle Center Whirligig!, an annual phenomenon of fun for kids. This wacky world of child-sized action transforms Center House into a vibrant House of Bounce for two weeks during spring break.

Seattle Center Whirligig! offers amusement aplenty for all pre-teen ages! Kids can glide, slide and ride on super-cool, super-sized inflatable rides. Eye-popping colors, face painters and balloon artists add to the mix of non-stop fun that keeps kids coming back for more! A special Toddler Zone is also available.

Seattle Center Whirligig! runs daily and charges only a nominal fee for a single ride ticket or a day-use pass, and KIDS RIDE FOR FREE in Center House on Thursdays.

Times: Monday - Sunday, 11am - 6pm  
Prices: All-Day Main Floor Pass \$7.50, All-Day Toddler Zone Pass \$4.50, Single Ticket \$1.50 and FREE Thursdays

## SEATTLE SPORTS SCHEDULE

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### MARINERS MLB HOME GAMES

<http://seattle.mariners.mlb.com/>

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4/8	7:10PM	V.S. CLE
4/9	6:10PM	V.S. CLE
4/10	1:10PM	V.S. CLE
4/11	7:10PM	V.S. TOR
4/12	7:10PM	V.S. TOR
4/13	12:40PM	V.S. TOR
4/18	7:10PM	V.S. DET
4/19	7:10PM	V.S. DET
4/20	12:40PM	V.S. DET
4/21	7:10PM	V.S. OAK
4/22	7:10PM	V.S. OAK
4/23	6:10PM	V.S. OAK
4/24	1:10PM	V.S. OAK

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### SOUNDERS FC HOME GAMES

<http://www.soundersfc.com/>

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4/09	1:00PM	VS. FIRE
4/30	7:00PM	VS. TORONTO FC

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### SEATTLE STORM HOME GAMES

<http://www.wnba.com/storm/>

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**OFF SEASON**