Meet Your Neighbors

Thursday, Oct 30, 7 p.m.
Quarterly Meeting at Franklin Elementary School

Saturday, Nov 1, 9 a.m.
Coffee Talk @ Latte Da Coffee House

Saturday, Dec 6, 9 a.m.
Coffee Talk @ Latte Da Coffee House

Saturday, Jan 3, 9 a.m.
Coffee Talk @ Latte Da Coffee House

Thursday, Jan 22, 7 p.m.
Quarterly Meeting at Franklin Elementary School

NW Neighborhood Association

President: Noland Hoshino
Vice President: Jim Mains
Treasurer: Bryan Dainty
Secretary: Ceci Mains
contact@nwnavancoverwa.com or nolandhoshino@gmail.com
Phone: (360) 607-4462

City of Vancouver

Neighborhood Police Officer:
Neil Martin (772-2175)

Office of Neighborhoods:
Judi Bailey (487-8608)

WHAT’S YOUR HURRY?

By Noland Hoshino

Cars speeding in our neighborhood are a daily occurrence. Neighbors who live on Burnie Drive, Lincoln Avenue, Cherry Street, and Franklin Street know what I’m talking about. Cars zooming down hills as if they were on a playground slide or rocketing uphill like they are going to blast off. Speeding is one of the top concerns in our neighborhood. If we aren’t proactive to this problem, then one day tragedy will occur and it will be too late.

The Northwest neighborhood is not a thoroughfare. It isn’t a short cut, pass through community where people get from one location to another. Therefore, residents and frequent guests of our neighborhood are often the source of most poor driving.

(Continue Page 3)
Hi neighbors!

Hope you had a great summer! Not too hot. Not too rainy. Just right to enjoy our beautiful neighborhood.

The NW Neighborhood ‘Fireballs’ kickball team did a great job advancing into the finals during their first year on the league. The championship game was against Carter Park “Kickers.” It came down to the last inning when Carter Park took the lead. At the end of the game they said that the “Fireballs” have scored the most kicks in any game they’ve played all season. Congratulations and thank you to all our neighbors who came out to play and represent the NW Neighborhood. You’re champions in our eyes!

Our monthly NW Neighborhood Coffee Talk is growing beyond room capacity at Latte Da Coffeehouse. This past Saturday’s meeting overflowed to outside the meeting room. It was the highest attended neighborhood coffee talk we had in months. In attendance were neighbors who lived in the neighborhood for a long time, some for a few years, and surprisingly, some who just moved to our neighborhood just a few months ago. The common belief was “in order to have a vibrant, safe neighborhood, we need to get to know our neighbors and be involved in our neighborhood.” YES! If you haven’t been to one of neighborhood coffee talks, we invite you to join us. (Schedule on the front page).

One of the discussions at our neighborhood coffee talk was to update the NW Neighborhood Action Plan, which was last updated in 1996. A neighborhood action plan is a long-range plan that is used by city departments, commission and city council to guide future decisions involving development proposals, budget approvals, and plan amendments affecting our neighborhood. An action plan enables a neighborhood to create an internal vision and define steps to achieve goals. If you’re interested in participating in a neighborhood committee to update our action plan, email nolandhoshino@gmail.com or contact@nwnavancouverwa.com.

Imagine Franklin Park, which is located in the heart of our neighborhood, as a central spot for families and neighbors to meet and enjoy. A place where you can have host meetings, or stroll on paved pathways, or have kids play on a large play structure, or maybe shoot a few hoops. These are a few things our neighbors have discussed about Franklin Park. In order to turn a wish into reality we need to learn more about the process of submitting grants, funding, and making Franklin Park a top priority of the City of Vancouver. It starts with “What is our vision of a beautiful, sustainable park?” “What types of amenities does a family friendly need?” “If we build it, would the neighborhood use it?” These are some of the questions we need to answer before we start the process of improving Franklin Park. We will be asking for your input at the next NW Neighborhood quarterly meeting, Oct 30, 7 pm at Franklin Elementary School. Join us and bring your great ideas to make the NW Neighborhood the best place to live in Vancouver.

Do good in the neighborhood.

Noland Hoshino
The City of Vancouver recognizes that speeding is a major concern in the neighborhoods. They partnered with the Neighborhood Traffic Safety Alliance and have made four Traffic Calming Yard Signs for Vancouver residents to remind passing motorists to obey the posted speed limit. The signs are designed to act as an educational and awareness tool.

We, the NWNA executive team, asked our residents on our NW Neighborhood Nextdoor.com and Facebook Page where they would like us to strategically place the traffic calming signs. After reading your feedback and having only eight signs available, we placed four signs on Lincoln Ave, two on Cherry Street and two on Franklin Street.

Will Traffic Calming Signs work? We’ll see. When I drive around Vancouver and see these signs up in neighborhoods, I think of two things: One, the surrounding area of the signs tell me that there is a speeding problem in that location; two, their neighborhood is engaged, involved and proactive in solving the problem.

Vancouver residents can request one to two signs, based on availability. Learn more about the City’s Traffic Calming Program using the following link: www.cityofvancouver.us/TrafficCalmingProgram.

Last winter and continuing through the summer the City of Vancouver has been accepting and evaluating projects for the “Traffic Calming Program”. The city, working in conjunction with the Neighborhood Traffic Safety Alliance (NTSA) recommends local neighborhood projects designed to address traffic safety concerns while creating a more livable community.

There were 15 applications accepted, reviewed, and evaluated by city staff to determine if they met the program criteria. Out of the 15 applications, 11 met the requirements and are in the next stage of review. Five of the projects are located east of I-205 and the remaining 11 are located as far west as Columbia Street. I am one of 9 NTSA participants evaluating the applications with the goal of making a recommendation regarding which projects to move forward on. For more details please contact Dave Kammeyer, email dkammeyer@comcast.net. If you are interested in participating and hearing about the projects, please plan on attending the next meeting, Tuesday, October 21st at 7pm in the Aspen Room at City Hall.
E-CYCLE WASHINGTON, EMPOWER UP, RESTORE

(Ceci Mains, NWNA Secretary, attend the Recyclingest Neighborhood Class in July and brought back this report. Plus, the NW Neighborhood will receive $120 for having a representative from our neighborhood attend the class. Thanks Ceci!)

Since Jan. 1, 2010, Waste Connections has been prohibited from accepting computers, monitors, TVs and laptops as garbage. The restrictions are the result of an Oregon law banning the landfilling of old electronic equipment. Because the landfill that serves Clark County is located in Oregon, the law applies indirectly here, too. However, you can still get rid of old televisions, computers and monitors for free, thanks to a Washington law requiring manufacturers to underwrite a statewide electronics recycling program.

E-Cycle Washington is a program that provides free recycling of computers (including laptop and "tablet" PCs), monitors, TVs, portable DVD players and e-readers. Peripherals and accessories such as mice, printers and scanners are NOT covered under the program, although they may be accepted by the drop off sites. For recycling locations, please call 1-800-recycle or visit www.ecyclewashington.org.

Empower Up is a non-profit organization focusing on computer reuse. They accept used computers, computer parts and other consumer electronics from the public at no charge. Empower Up prefers to accept only working equipment that is no more than 5 years old although they will accept non-working or older equipment at this time. Used computers are available for purchase in the Empower Up Thrift Store. They are located at 3206 NE 52nd St. Empower Up also accepts block foam from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Tuesday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 4:30 Saturday. For additional information, please visit www.empowerup.org or call 360-314-4171.

The Habitat for Humanity ReStore is a thrift store that sells donated new and used building and home improvement products. The stock is constantly changing but often includes lumber, lighting fixtures, sinks, toilets, major appliances, floor coverings and furniture. Sales from the ReStore help build homes for low income families. The Clark County ReStore recently moved to 10811 SE Mill Plain Blvd. Store hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Saturday; donations until 4:30 p.m. For more information on the ReStore, visit www.pdxrestore.org or call 360-213-1313.

Both Empower Up and the ReStore have many opportunities for volunteers looking to get involved in the community!
Since becoming treasurer of the Northwest Neighborhood Association last spring, we’ve held several events such as the Coffee Talk meetings, the Spring Clean Up (aka Dumpster Day) and the picnic in July. With the neighborhood paying for expenses related to those events such as insurance, food for the picnic and coffee for the Coffee Talk meetings, I’ve received some questions about how our neighborhood receives funding and if there are dues or donations.

Residents are not required to pay dues to the neighborhood association. Funding currently comes from three primary sources:

- **The City of Vancouver:** The neighborhood will earn $120 from the City of Vancouver when we send a representative to the Recyclingest Neighborhood Class and publish an article (Thanks to Ceci Mains for attending and writing an article!). We also receive some funding for holding the Spring Cleanup.

- **Newsletter Advertising Revenue:** We offer inexpensive ads to local businesses that wish to advertise. This has been a large source of income in the past but has decreased recently.

- **Donations:** These are rare and usually are only for specific purposes.

If you have ideas for neighborhood projects or activities that would require funding please let the leadership team know. Some discussion lately has been around potential improvements at Franklin Park, a community garden, and a pedestrian/bike path. There are grants available that we could apply for. For example, The Vancouver Watersheds Alliance offers Neighborhood Sustainability grants up to $1500 for projects that “enhance sustainability through volunteer-driven, on-the-ground environmental work or education.”

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**Nextdoor.com** is a free and private social network for neighborhoods, where neighbors can ask questions, get to know one another, and exchange local advice and recommendations.

The NW Neighborhood was one of the first neighborhood in Vancouver to use Nextdoor.com and have the most households signed up.

Sign up today and join the conversation! Connect with your neighbors.

Sign up, visit: www.nextdoor.com/join/ZRQVNU or nextdoor.com

The NW Neighborhood is not affiliated with Nextdoor.com nor profits from any use or promotion of the social network.

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**WASHINGTON STATE GENERAL ELECTION**

**VOTE NOV 4**

Facebook.com/NWNeighborhood
HOLIDAY DECORATING

Summer has come and gone and it’s time to start preparing for the holiday seasons. While many publications remind us to seal our windows and doors and make sure that our faucets are covered before the first frost. I thought it would be fun to share another important item that many of us may enjoy during this time of year. **Decorating.**

Here are a few fun holiday decorating tips:

1. **Stay with one theme and style for your holiday decorating.** It makes shopping so much easier.

2. **Scents add to the holiday mix.** Potpourri and scented candles are so much fun this time of year and offer wonderful holiday smells. Place a potpourri bowl or scented candle near your entry and throughout your house.

3. **Choose two to three colors for your holiday palette and keep it consistent.** Multiple colors can be too distracting. Try silver, blue and white or red, gold and brown.

4. **Create an inexpensive family tradition that involves the kids.** Purchase a ready-made wreath of greens then gather items to decorate it. Use pine cones, ribbons, crystals, or make homemade paper snowflakes. Plan a trip to watch the Christmas ships or visit homes around our neighborhood or city that are all decked out for the season.

5. **Give your space a different look and feel for this special time of year.** Rearrange your furniture so the focal point is the fireplace or wherever you hang the stockings. If you don’t have a fireplace, arrange the furniture to create the best layout for cozy conversations. Some people like to make the Christmas tree the center of attention this time of year.

6. **Colored lights can be costly if you change your colors from year to year.** Stick with white lights; they can be used with any color scheme.

7. **Start investing in a collection - something that can continue to grow through the years and can be passed on to the next generation.** It’s fun to purchase one new item each year that may symbolize the entire year for you and your family.

8. **Bring the holiday celebration into every room.** Kitchens and bathrooms are a great place to put scented candles and smaller seasonal knickknacks.

9. **The holiday season is definitely one time where “less is more” does NOT apply.** Have fun and do it up big.

10. **It’s always good to get started early so you don’t stress out.**

If you have a busy schedule it maybe easier to decorate your home in parts. Work on the outside while the weather is still nice and then move inside, as it gets closer to the holidays.

**Have fun and enjoy the holiday season.**

By Jim Mains, NWNA Vice President
Did you know Pat Jollota lives right here in the NW Neighborhood? Pat has been recognized as an authority on Clark County’s history. She has accomplished much in her years as a Vancouver City Council member, and today she continues to give-back as she sits on many local boards and is involved in numerous organizations.

In 2012, Pat Jollota was honored as **First Citizen by the Community Foundation for Southwest Washington.** An award that is presented annually to a Clark County resident who has modeled exemplary citizenship through actions and service in the community.

**Pat is an author, speaker and most recently an elected Clark County Freeholder.** She worked with the other elected Freeholders to craft a new County Home Rule Charter that will appear on the ballot this November.

Pat moved to the NW Neighborhood in 1995 at the advice of Vancouver Police Department detective Tom Gibson. She loves the neighborhood and said “it is one of the safest in the city.”


*If you know anyone who should be featured on “Neighbors in the Hood,” please contact Jim at jim@jimmains.com.*

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**HOLIDAY BAZAAR**

**Saturday, November 15, from 9 am — 4 pm at Lincoln Elementary School.** There will be over 60 vendors with many unique handmade gifts for the holidays.
WHAT’S COOKING IN THE NWNA

Smell that? Yep. It’s a delicious dish your neighbor is cooking up. Each newsletter we’ll share some of your neighbor’s favorite secret recipes. These delish dish will make you popular neighbor — guaranteed!

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**Tortellini Crock Pot Meal**
From Ann Glidewell, NW 54th Circle

**Ingredients**
1 bag(s) tortellini
2 can(s) italian style diced tomatoes (I used roasted garlic & basil)
4 c vegetable broth
1 pkg cream cheese
1 bag(s) fresh spinach

**Directions**
Put all ingredients into crock pot, chunking up the cream cheese, and cook on low for 5 hours. I used the meat tortellini, added a side salad with crusty Italian bread and it was a hit. The next time I make it I’m going to try cheese tortellini and maybe add some chicken.

This recipe was shared with me on Facebook, thought I would try it and it was a hit!!!

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**Gazpacho**
From Roianne Cox, NW 54th Street

**Ingredients**
8-10 med to lg tomatoes,
1 cucumber, peeled
1 large sweet onion
1 green poblano type pepper, seeds and pith removed
2 garlic cloves, smashed
Kosher salt
Fresh ground pepper
1/4-1/2 cup Good quality extra-virgin olive oil (don’t leave out)
1 tablespoons sherry vinegar
1/2 cup to 1 cup tomato juice, if needed
1 cup cilantro leaves.

**Directions**
Chop all veggies in Food processor until desired texture is achieved. Adjust seasoning to taste. You can add whatever vegetables you like.

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SEND US YOUR
FAVORITE RECIPES
contact@nwnavancouverwa.com

My favorite recipe:
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Northwest Neighborhood Association Newsletter - Fall 2014 - Page 8
GOOD NIGHT GARDEN

PUTTING GARDEN TO BED BEFORE WINTER

The dwindling hours of daylight, cooler days and chilly nights remind us that Fall is definitely here. Our vegetable gardens have done their work, providing us with fresh food for many weeks and soon they will earn a well deserved rest. It’s time to think about putting the garden to bed for the winter. There are many benefits to accomplishing this important, but often overlooked final garden task, including tidying up a bedraggled garden and feeding, protecting, and prepping the soil for next Spring.

- The first step is to remove the spent plants – that is anything that is finished producing. This doesn't necessarily mean pulling plants out of the ground; most can be cut off at ground level and the roots left to decompose in place without disturbing the “habitat” for all the beneficial organisms that live in the soil.
- Next, cut the healthy arial parts (the parts of the plant that are above the ground) into 8-10 inch pieces and lay them right on top of the soil. Diseased plants should go in the yard debris bin.
- Finally, cover these spent plant parts with a layer of coffee grounds, chemical free grass clippings, or manure topped by a nice thick layer of dry leaves, shredded paper, straw, or “pine straw” (long, straw-like pine needles). Completely cover the bed and tuck this “blanket” of dry material in all around the edges, just like tucking someone you love into bed for the night. Water the top layer to keep it from blowing away. Thank your garden for all it provided and wish it a good winter.

All this will decompose during the winter, providing nutrients to feed the soil organisms, organic material to improve soil structure, and protection from the force of heavy winter rain. All Winter long, it may appear that nothing is happening, but come Spring, a quick look beneath the top layer of leaves (or paper or straw) will reveal beautiful, crumbly humus, the dark organic material in soil, just begging to have something planted in it, no digging, no tilling necessary.

Good Night, Garden. Sleep well. I'll see you in Spring.

LASAGNA GARDENING - FREE

Lasagna gardening is a great method to turn organic materials from your garden into rich soil right in your garden bed. No tilling or turning required! As part of this hands-on workshop, you will build a lasagna garden and learn all the basics necessary to get started building your own lasagna garden at home.

Date and time: Saturday October 25, 9 AM to 11 AM         Location: NW Neighborhood

Details: This is a hands-on, outdoor workshop. Please dress for the weather, bring gloves if you want them and tools (shovel, garden rake, garden fork) if you have them. To register: e-mail (preferable) Kris Potter familygardening@gmail.com telephone (if you don't have e-mail) 695-5627
Dwindling light, cooler nights and the return of the rain are sure signs that Fall has returned. As an early riser it has definitely been an adjustment waking up before the sun and returning home after it has set. With less light to work with, we are more likely to be out and about in the twilight hours. Reflective gear, bright visible colors and even personal illumination devises are important considerations when venturing out to get the mail, walk the dog or taking a ride through the neighborhood.

Below are some pedestrian safety tips from the Washington Department of Transportation:

- Walk on sidewalks: if sidewalks are not available, walk on the edge of the road or the left shoulder of the road, facing the traffic flow.
- Cross at Marked crosswalks or intersections: pedestrians are most often hit by cars when they cross the road at places other than intersections.
- Look left, right, and left for traffic: stop at the curb and look left, right, and left again for traffic. Stopping at the curb signals drivers that you intend to cross.
- See and be seen: Drivers need to see you to avoid you.

Do your part to keep our neighborhood safe – travel the speed limit, be visible and take care in being attentive to your surroundings!

A BETTER NEIGHBORHOOD

**Tips to build a better neighborhood:**

1. Smile and wave at neighbors who walk and drive by your home.
2. Make a point to introduce yourself to a neighbor who just moved in.
3. Pretty flowers growing in your yard? Make a small bouquet to give to your neighbor.
4. Bake a batch of cookies and deliver a plate of them to give to your neighbor.
5. Host or help coordinate a BBQ, potluck, pancake breakfast, pizza party or cookie exchange.
6. Plan a neighborhood-wide yard or garage sale.
7. Organize a neighborhood clean up.
8. Take the opportunity to learn about emergency preparedness.
9. Plan an outdoor movie night.
10. Help the kids with a lemonade stand!
CALLING ALL NW NEIGHBORHOOD RESIDENTS!
The Northwest Neighborhood Association would like to expand your newsletter with your own personal stories about living in the NW Neighborhood.

DO YOU HAVE A TALENT/NEIGHBORHOOD STORY TO SHARE? We are looking for a variety of stories or talents from our neighbors. Stories must relate to our neighborhood and the surrounding area.

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE? Anyone who lives in the Northwest Neighborhood can participate. If you would like to write a one-time story or have a reoccurring article, both are welcome.

HERE’S WHAT YOU DO! Contact Noland Hoshino at contact@nwnavancouverwa.com or nolandhoshino@gmail.com or call (360) 607-4462.

Northwest Neighborhood Association Meeting
Date: Thursday, Oct 30  |  Time: 7 pm
Location: Franklin Elementary School

NWNA COFFEE TALK

Join us for NWNA Coffee Talk every first Saturday of every month, 9 am at Latte Da Coffeehouse. Stop by and meet your neighbors! Plus, coffee is on us!

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<td>Neighborhood Meeting</td>
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Composting
Master Composter/Recycler Training and Workshops

Compost is rich in nutrients that help plants to grow, acts to retain soil moisture and can help suppress plant disease. Using compost is good for your soil and can reduce the need to irrigate your garden or use toxic herbicides or pesticides. It's easy to turn your yard debris and kitchen scraps into compost. Just as in nature, leaves and plant debris feed and enrich the soil, you can recycle the food scraps from your kitchen and yard debris back into your soil.

To purchase a compost bin, find out more about the Master Composter/Recycler Program, or register for a class: call 360-882-0936, ext. 224, or e-mail MCR@columbiasprings.org

Their website is www.columbiasprings.org/MCR

Composting Workshops
Learn the basics of backyard composting.
Pre-registration is required.

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<td>Sat. Sept 6</td>
<td>Backyard Composting</td>
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<td>6:30 - 8 p.m.</td>
<td>Tues. Sept 23</td>
<td>Backyard Composting</td>
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Wormshops
Participants will learn about the care and feeding of redworms for vermicomposting. Family Wormshop participants assemble their own worm bin to take home. ($35 includes the cost of the workshop, bin and worms.) These workshops are family friendly. Pre-registration is required.

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<td>Sat. Oct 4</td>
<td>Family Wormshop ($35)</td>
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<td>6:30 - 8 p.m.</td>
<td>Thurs. Oct 23</td>
<td>Vermicomposting ($35)</td>
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Free Leaf Disposal
For Vancouver and Clark County residents only

Prevent street flooding — NEVER blow or place leaves in the street.
Use this coupon for free leaf disposal from:

October 1 - December 20, 2014

2014 Coupon Disposal Locations:
City Bark, H & H Wood Recyclers and West Van Materials Recovery Center
Please see reverse for hours and addresses.

Sponsored by:
City of Vancouver
Clark County
Public Works

To redeem coupon, complete the following information:
Name:_____________________________________
Street Address/Zip:_________________________

City of Vancouver residents: Funding for your participation in this program is provided through your garbage rates.
Clark County residents: Funding for participation is provided by Clark County Public Works and Environmental Services.