

Burnt Bridge Creek Times

Issue 44

March 2010

"BRINGING NEIGHBORS TOGETHER SINCE 2004"

GREAT NEWS !!!

By Sue Tucker

It is noticeable that our neighbors are striving to improve their outside properties – sweeping, landscaping, planting, power washing, edging – a real attempt to help improve their surroundings which means a benefit for the whole neighborhood! Just raking up dead leaves makes such a difference, let alone mowing the lawn!

So..... the good news is...we are going to hold a random drawing for a very nice prize if your address is submitted !! (No names please- just addresses for the drawing.)

We will also take note as we deliver the newsletters soon, so be aware when you see our smiles as we jot down your address and deliver your latest news of the BBCNA!!

*** Check out the article dealing with Facebook for help in submitting an address. ***

We appreciate your hard work- remember it adds value to your home and property- not to mention the appreciation from your neighbors! Let's have fun with this – it's a very nice prize!!!

(You can also submit addresses for consideration by emailing Sue at SCS5443@aol.com .)



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FREE CHILD CARE
PROVIDED AT MEETING!

A FUN- FUN-FUN TIME IN AUGUST!!!

Every year on the first Saturday in August- BBCNA has a wonderful, fun neighborhood picnic!! This year the picnic will be Aug. 7th. Do you know we have a lot of residents who aren't aware we hold this event? If you haven't been yet, you are missing out on some great fun – jump houses – drawings – games – music – face painting – entertainment – prizes – and this year – AMICK EVENTS headed up by one of the owners, Amy Stalup, will be there to supply the games, music and just plain old-fashioned fun to help make this picnic an extraordinarily fun day!!

Folks!!! It's FREE- FREE -FREE – so please mark your calendar for the picnic date!! More to follow in the next newsletter. (Small donation for lunches, but most goodies are free!)

We desperately need some volunteers to assist with this event – we could sure use your help!! If we don't get some neighbors to help with this, then the picnic can't happen!! (What a shame that would be for everyone.)

The picnic is held at the Burnt Bridge School Park from 12 pm to 4pm. So come one-come all and PULEEZE consider helping out! Thanks so much!! *** Call **Sue Tucker** at 944-7289 if you can help.

Help Design a BBC Neighborhood for the future!

The City of Vancouver is updating its long term Comprehensive Plan, and working with individual neighborhoods to identify how to plan for connected and sustainable neighborhoods that have desired services and features that are nearby and accessible. Community Planning staff will be on hand to solicit input on what type of destinations – stores, parks, schools, or other services, are most valued or desired; what folks think about roads, walkways, bike paths or other connections in and through the area; and interest in local energy or resource saving opportunities such as home or community food gardens, residential wind and solar installations. Come participate in a hands-on discussion.

*Bryan Snodgrass | Principal Planner,
Community Planning | City of Vancouver |
P.O. Box 1995 | Vancouver, WA 98668
360.487.7946 | 360.487-7965*



Dumpster Day

By Brandy Neuleib

Dumpster Day will be on Saturday June 12th this year from 9-2:30.

I will need volunteers to help direct traffic and unload cars. I will have it in 2 shifts, 8:45-12 and 12-3:15.



Please call me at 360-896-2989 to volunteer or if you have any questions! Thank you!

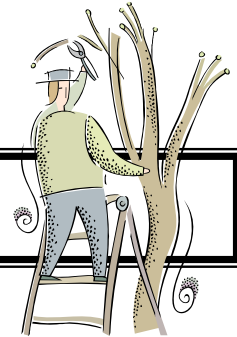
Still the “Webbiest” Neighborhood Association!

By Amy Smith

A few years back The Columbian said we were “the webbiest NA” and we are continuing that tradition. Not only can you find us at our website (www.bbcna.org) but we are now on Facebook.

Just search BBCNA, you will find our familiar pushpin logo. Just another way we hope to keep our neighbors informed of upcoming events, meetings and any other things going on in our neighborhood.

Hope to see you there!



Get the Facts. Think Before You Top.

Healthy trees provide shade, reduce energy costs, prevent soil erosion, beautify landscapes and filter air and water. Some property owners become concerned when trees grow large and worry that branches will fall and cause property damage or harm. Often times “topping”, or the removal of large amounts of leaves and branches from a tree’s crown, is considered the best solution. All the experts agree that topping does not work, it’s dangerous and it’s expensive!

Removed branches will grow back rapidly, creating dangerous trees that fail in storms. The thick new branches or sprouts grow quickly but are weakly attached, breaking easily in storms. When a tree is topped, rather than properly pruned, it is weakened and opened to decay. This, too, leads to the tree failing in storm events. Topping is expensive since it has to be repeated every few years, this shortens the life span of trees which results in a costly removal.

Before you top, get the facts. Avoid “door-to-door” tree services or landscapers that suggest tree topping. Many are misinformed about proper tree pruning techniques. Instead seek out professional advice such as PLANET or WALP Certified Landscape Company. Contact an Arborist who is certified through the International Society of Arboriculture, and always get multiple bids.

Trees make our community a better place to live by improving our air and water quality and beautify our neighborhoods. To maximize the community benefits of the urban forest, we need to take care of our existing trees and plant more trees. For more information on proper tree pruning, how to hire an arborist, how to participate in this campaign or attend a free Pruning Workshop contact Jessica Antoine, Urban Forestry Outreach Coordinator at (360) 619-1108,

jessica.antoine@ci.vancouver.wa.us or visit www.cityofvancouver.us/urbanforestry.

Personal Involvement

by Brandy Neuleib

At the last meeting, we were asked why we were involved with the BBCNA. I thought I'd share my answer with all of you:

I am a mother. And part of my plan for my kids is to teach them to be involved with the community, as they get older. The only way, in my opinion, to do that is to be involved with the community myself. That way they can see my actions and learn what should be expected of them, as they become an adult member in our society.



I believe that if everyone put in just a little effort, the place we live can be wonderful. I'm doing my part, and will continue to do so.

Firgarden Park

I am pleased to inform you that Vancouver Urban Forestry will be planting 67 new trees in Firgarden Park through our Canopy Restoration Program.

The planting will occur this winter. The trees will be installed by a contractor. The contractor will provide water and other maintenance through the establishment phase. We will plant a diverse

variety of trees, including evergreen, deciduous, and ornamental species. We have carefully selected the planting locations so as not to interfere with any current or future park uses.

As you may have read in The Columbian or elsewhere, in 2003 the city of Vancouver completed a tree canopy analysis using LiDAR data and infrared photos. We discovered that total tree canopy in Vancouver is only 19.7 percent, much less than the 40 percent canopy recommended for Pacific Northwest cities by American Forests. Recognizing that trees provide numerous environmental, social, and economic benefits, the City is making an investment in the future by planting many more trees throughout our community. This Canopy Restoration Program involves planting trees in parks, natural areas, and medians and encouraging neighborhoods to organize neighborhood street tree plantings.

We have established a city-wide target of 28 percent. Your neighborhood has a low canopy level of 20.17 percent and will benefit from the addition of more trees.

These new trees will reduce storm water runoff, improve air and water quality, beautify the area, and generally improve the quality of life in your neighborhood.

Jessica Antoine (360) 619-1108
Urban Forestry Outreach Coordinator



Welcome new attendees!

Annette Boynton, Darlene & Marvin Le Gore, David & Karla McCallister, April Wilhite & her two well-behaved kids. Nice to meet you all!

Neighbors On Watch (NOW) Recruiting Additional Volunteers

Police Department

Communicate or Partner with VPD - Neighbors On Watch (NOW) Citizen Volunteer Program

Citizens in the City of Vancouver that are interested in making their neighborhoods safer are encouraged to apply for the Vancouver Police Department's new volunteer program called "Neighbors On Watch (NOW)." NOW is always accepting applications and holds training academies several times per year. All volunteer applicants must successfully pass a screening process which includes: criminal background investigation, fingerprints, interviews, and reference check.

Come to the BBCNA general meeting on June 8th to learn more about NOW.

SORRY



In the last newsletter I wrote an article about the people in our neighborhood

who have helped shape this neighborhood. One of the people I named was Carole Scheel. However, in the article, I wrote the wrong last name AND misspelled her first name. Sorry, Carole! (And, she was very gracious about the mistake, by the way!)

Debbie Brent, Newsletter Editor

Changes with the City

by Brandy Neuleib



As many of us know, the economy has been sluggish lately.

Due to this, the city had been forced to make cuts that will

affect the NAs throughout the city.

We have lost/are losing two outstanding people that have helped out neighborhood in different ways. First, Myk Heidt has moved on to a different position. Myk has been instrumental in many of the administrative functions with the NA. I

have come to her with so many questions that she has been able to help with. She also helped us with getting the newsletters printed.

Thanks



Second, Mike Hale's position has been cut. Mike has been our City Liaison for as long as I can remember. He has been able to answer questions at our meetings, and questions he couldn't answer were answered at the next one. Some of you may recognize him from the snow cone station at the last picnic.

We would like to say **"thank you"** to Myk and Mike for their outstanding support and service. We wish them both well on their future endeavors.

The City of Vancouver supports the Neighborhood Associations in their effort to share vital information with residents to create a more informed public. However, the information provided and the opinions and views expressed in the Neighborhood Association newsletter or other documents do not necessarily represent the position of the City of Vancouver, nor does the City determine whether the information published is accurate or appropriate. Printed by the City of Vancouver Office of Neighborhoods.

Are You Prepared for an Earthquake?

By Shannon Kelley

In the wake of the disastrous earthquakes in Haiti and Chile it's a good reminder to take stock of your emergency preparedness plans and inventory. Earthquakes strike violently, suddenly and without warning. It can force you to evacuate your neighborhood or confine you to your home. Where will your family be when the disaster strikes? How will you find each other? Will you know if your children are safe? Families can cope with disaster through advanced preparation. Knowing what to do can be your best protection. The key to being prepared is to have a PLAN. FEMA has identified each state in the United States into three at risk categories, moderate risk, high risk and very high risk. Unfortunately **Washington is one of 9 states listed under very high risk.** Your children might be at school, your wife or husband at work when an earthquake strikes. It's important to establish a point of contact outside of our state. Everyone in your family should know who the contact is and carry the phone number with them. Your out of the area contact can keep track of who has checked in and hopefully provide you with peace of mind when you call them. There is a tremendous amount of good information and forms available on the internet to help you develop a plan for your family. Below are some great resources:

FEMA – Federal Emergency Management Agency - www.fema.gov/hazard/earthquake/index.shtm

In particular I found the following three articles on the FEMA website extremely helpful...

"What to do Before an Earthquake", "What to do During an Earthquake", "What to do After an Earthquake"

American Red Cross – www.swwashington.redcross.org

Emergency Services Director: VeAnne Virgin
3114 E. Fourth Plain Blvd Vancouver, WA.
Ph. (360) 693-5821

City of Vancouver – www.cityofvancouver.us/preparedness

Lots of good information here on family disaster planning.

The Survival Center – www.survivalcenter.com

The Survival Center offers a great line of survival and health supplies. I met them in Olympia at an emergency preparedness conference. I purchased affordable emergency candles that burn 6 ½ days and other supplies. The Survival Center has been in business since the early 1970's. I am very impressed with their knowledge and customer service.

Another earthquake article that really captured my attention is the "[Triangle of Life](#)" publication. Having personally experienced the Loma Prieta earthquake (California Bay Area) in 1989, a 7.1 magnitude caused many horrific tragedies including the collapse of the Cypress viaduct in Oakland which pancaked and flattened most of the vehicles. I believe folks trapped in their vehicles taking the triangle of life approach would have had a much better chance of survival. You will need to decide for yourself. I think it all depends on where you are should an earthquake strike. I used www.snopes.com (a website that does a good job separating fact from urban legend) to see what they had to say about the "Triangle of Life" article. Their advice, in most instances, "Follow the FEMA and American Red Cross recommendations".

Lastly, I would like to encourage each and every one of you to make sure you have a "Go Bag" for every person in your home. Purchase a back pack that you can afford. Fill it with some emergency supplies, food and water and any medications you take regularly to last at least 3 days. Don't forget a deck of cards, paper and pen, some cash in small denominations and coins. If you have children, place some paperback books, crayons and an age appropriate stuffed animal to help comfort them. Remember your pets...be sure and pack some emergency food for them too.

We hope you find this information helpful and motivating.

If we all prepare, we will make our neighborhood a stronger community.



Neighborhood Contact Information

Steve Townsen President 896-4738

Brandy Neuleib Vice President 896-2989

Judith Burley Secretary 896-5131

Shannon Kelley Treasurer 977-1771

Debbie Brent Newsletter Editor 885-7371

www.bbcna.org *We're also now on FACEBOOK*

City Contact Information

Code Enforcement 487-7810

East Precinct—Police, non-emergency 487-7500

SAVE THESE DATES!!!

- April 13th, General meeting held at BBC Elementary School at 7:00 pm. Neighborhood Watch guest speaker planned.
- June 8th, General meeting held at BBC Elementary School at 7:00 pm. Jessica Antoine from the City of Vancouver's Urban Forestry division scheduled to speak about the Firgarden Park Planting... and more.
- June 12th - DUMPSTER DAY!!!!!! 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
- August 7th - FREE NEIGHBORHOOD PICNIC - noon to 4:00 PM - (See article pg. 2)



**KEEP YOUR
DIRECTORY, IT
WILL ONLY BE
PUBLISHED TWICE
A YEAR.**

***You must live in the
neighborhood to be
in the directory.***

Neighborhood Directory, By Judith Burley

Do you have the need of a service or some type of goods and don't know how to find someone to meet your need?

Can you deliver a service or have goods to offer someone and are looking for new clients?

BBCNA provides a list of people who have goods and/or a service to offer and who LIVE IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD. If you would like to be on this list, please send information to jdobbb@hotmail.com or call

Judith at 896-5131 and give the pertinent information. We would need to know your name, phone number, email address, type of service/goods, cost of your service/goods, and if you give free estimates.

There is no cost for this directory. It is provided as a service from your neighborhood association.

Printing paid for by the association, not the city.