

NEWSLETTER

WWW.FRUITVALLEYNEIGHBORHOOD.ORG

WORKING TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE IT HAPPEN! WE ARE FAMILY!

Fruit Valley Is One of A Kind

If you could make Fruit Valley whatever you want it to be, what would be the words that would make you the happiest to hear used to describe the neighborhood?

In late 2011, a diverse group of Fruit Valley stakeholders—from Frito-Lay to C-Tran to the Port of Vancouver to residents—got together to answer questions like these in order to build a path to Fruit Valley's future. Volunteers from the City, the Vancouver Housing Authority, and the Fruit Valley Foundation took notes as residents, employees, and business owners from the neighborhood came together and answered unusual questions so they could begin forging Fruit Valley's civic identity.

What is Fruit Valley's civic identity? It's the story of this neighborhood—what it is saying to the world through its physical environment, through its actions, through its businesses, through the people who live and work there, through its history, and through the experience it provides to residents and visitors alike.

This brainstorming process at the end of the year helped to identify key areas of concern and strength in the community, and we have taken those key areas and developed a list of actions items that will allow all of Fruit Valley's stakeholders to better leverage the neighborhood's strengths and mitigate areas of concern. These tools can then be used in collaboration between the private sector, residents, and the public sector to chart a course of action on a range of topics, from food service to safety and from youth activities to affordable and accessible placemaking improvements.

Fruit Valley's consensus-built story framework and subsequent recommendations for improvement will be presented at 6 pm at the Community Center on Unander Ave on February 2nd, 2012.

Representatives from the Fruit Valley Foundation, Fruit Valley Neighborhood Association, the Vancouver Housing Authority, and the City, including City Councilman Jack Burkman, will be in attendance to answer questions from the audience.

Dinner, childcare, and translation services will be provided for those who RSVP with Amanda Lawrence at alawrence@vhausa.com or 360-993-9572.

For further questions about the presentation, please call Michele Reeves at [503-867-8465](tel:503-867-8465).

Neighborhood Officers

President - Eric LaBrant

labrant@gmail.com

Vice President - Karen McCallister

lee.karenmc@comcast.net

360-909-1317

Secretary - vacant

Treasurer - Sharon Kersting

poo6818@comcast.net

Director - Merrill Firestone

Director - Lee McCallister

lee.karenmc@comcast.net

360-909-1317

Director - Kathy Peirce

kathymariep@gmail.com

Email fruitvalley@me.com for general neighborhood information or newsletter submissions!

FEBRUARY 1, 2012

ANTICIPATED TOPICS AT OUR NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION MEETING:

Neighborhood Story

Nomination of Officers

ACTIVITIES IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD:

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB at McCALLISTER VILLAGE**After School Program for 6th to 8th Graders**

Program runs from 3:45pm to 7:00pm Monday thru Friday. Annual Membership fee is \$20.00. The Club offers a wide range of activities for your teens, a place where you know they'll be safe, and much more!

New Parent - Member Orientations each Monday & Thursday at 6pm

Contact John at 360-313-5692 or john@mybgc.org

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB at FRUIT VALLEY ELEMENTARY**After School Program for K thru 5th Graders attending Fruit Valley Elementary**

Program runs from 2:50pm to 6:00pm Monday thru Friday. Free after-school snacks for all youth ages 1-18 from 3:00 to 3:30pm.

Annual Membership fee is \$20.00. The Club offers a wide range of activities for your teens, a place where you know they'll be safe, and much more!

New Parent/Member Orientations each Monday & Thursday at 5:30pm

Contact Chris at 360-313-5680 or chris@mybgc.org

Neighborhood Calendar

Tuesdays - 7pm

TOPS - Community Center Main Room

Tuesdays - 7pm

NA - Community Center Upstairs

Wednesdays - 7pm

NA (men) - Community Center Main Room

February 2, 2012 - 6:15pm

Neighborhood Story Workshop - Community Center

February 2, 2012 - 7pm

Fruit Valley Neighborhood Association Meeting - Community Center

February 3, 2012 - 7pm

Movie Night - Rivers Edge Church

February 6, 2012 - 6:30pm

BUNCO - Community Center

February 6, 2012 - 6:00pm

Free Health Class - McCallister Village Community Room

February 7, 2012 - 6:30pm

Fruit Valley Parent-Teacher Organization - Fruit Valley Elementary

February 8, 2012 - 7pm

Ladies of the Valley - Community Center

Neighborhood Volunteers Needed!

The Fruit Valley Neighborhood Association is looking for neighbors interested in volunteering to deliver the Neighborhood Newsletter each month. This is a great way to get to know your neighborhood, and maybe meet a few of your neighbors! If you're interested in this opportunity, please call Amanda at 360-993-9572 or send an email to fruitvalley@me.com.

Contacts

COMMUNITY CENTER RENTAL INFORMATION

Interested in renting the Fruit Valley Community Center for an upcoming event or party? Karen McCallister will help with scheduling, and can be reached at (360)909-1317. If there is no answer, please leave a message! Please make your reservation at least 30 days in advance.

FOOD PRESERVATION KIT CHECK-OUT

If you live in Fruit Valley and would like to check out canning, drying or other available equipment you can contact either: Staci Boehlke, Fruit Valley Elementary School Family Resource Coordinator 360-313-1904 or Karen McCallister, at 360-909-1317 Please call at least one week prior to need

METAL & APPLIANCE COLLECTION

Ron Young collects metal and appliances in the neighborhood. His address is 2901 Unander Avenue. He can be reached by phone at (360)694-8225.

WEST VANCOUVER SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION COALITION

This new coalition will be working towards reducing substance abuse among youth in the West Vancouver Community. Join us for our next meeting on Valentine's Day - February 14th from 4:00pm to 5:30pm at Discovery Middle School. If you would like more information, please contact:
Tiffany Schwieterman: 360-397-2130 ext. 5841 or tiffany.schwieterman@clark.wa.gov.

PHOTO OF THE MONTH

Fresh Eggs Anyone?

Fruit Valley resident Rhetta D. submitted this great picture of some of our neighborhood chickens relaxing on a bale of straw.

Keeping chickens is a fun and relaxing hobby! Providing fresh eggs for you and your family can be very rewarding. To learn more about starting your own backyard flock go to:

<http://smallfarms.wsu.edu/animals/poultry.html>



ESD 112 CHILD CARE AND FAMILY SERVICES

Did you know that Educational Service District 112 offers a wide array of free services to parents in Clark County? Free services include:

Family child care referrals

Child care center referrals

Information on how to choose childcare

Information on child care subsidies

Call 360-750-9735 for more details!

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION SECRETARY NEEDED!

Looking for a great way to be more active in your Neighborhood? The Fruit Valley Neighborhood Association is in need of a Secretary! The Secretary serves as an Officer, and is responsible for keeping minutes at all Association meetings. The Secretary serves a two year term. For more information on this opportunity, contact Eric LaBrant at labrant@gmail.com

ARE YOU A WORKING PARENT IN NEED OF HELP WITH TRANSPORTATION?

The Ways to Work Family Loan Program helps working parents to get a low-interest loan to purchase a used car or repair an existing vehicle. They are a non-profit program through Family Answers, Inc. that provides affordable loans to low-income families who lack access to fairly priced loans from traditional lenders because they have poor credit or no credit history. To be eligible for a loan you must be employed at least 20 hours a week for 3 months continuously, have sufficient disposable income available to repay the loan, be an involved parent living in Clark County, have a household income less than 80% of the Portland median income and have a valid Washington driver's license. Next meeting will be held in February 2012. The date is TBA. The meeting will be at the Rise & Stars Community Center at 500 Omaha Way in Vancouver. Call Bridgette at 360-993-9556 to RSVP. Childcare will be provided - please call in advance if you need childcare.

LOOKING FOR A BETTER JOB?

The Going Places Network Dress for Success Oregon is free of charge and open to women who are seeking employment. Through 12 weekly meetings you will learn how to present your personal —brand in interviews, customize your résumé for different positions, navigate LinkedIn and other social media for job leads and much more. You will also have the chance to work one-on-one with career coaches and build your personal network in a small, supportive environment with other women. Over 1/2 of the participants in our last class are now employed!

You must register (space is limited) for this program by calling 360-993-9556 or via email to bfahnbulleh@vhausa.com

Присоединитесь к нам на первоначальны подготовительны компьютерный класс при библиотеке

Вы русскоговорящий и новый человек по компьютерам , и хотите учиться в дружеской обстановке? Начиная с января , Ванкуверская библиотека будет предлагать первоначальные подготовительные компьютерные классы на русском языке. Мы будем предоставлять информацию , как начинать работу с компьютером, основам использования интернета и как создавать документы исползуя.

Присоединитесь к нам на первый класс в среду 18 января 2012, и каждую неделю после этого. Классы будут проводится с 5:45 вечера до 7:00 в компьютерном классе на первом этаже библиотеки расположенном по адресу: 901 C Street в центре города. Все классы бесплатные при библиотеке и регистрация не требуется. Мы надеемся увидеть вас там.

The City of Vancouver supports the Neighborhood Associations in their effort to share vital information with residents in order to create an informed public. However, the information provided and the opinions and views expressed in the Neighborhood Association newsletters 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.