

DECEMBER 2009

# Shumway Neighbors

News & information for Shumway residents and Businesses within the boundaries of 39th St., Main St., 4th Plain Blvd. and Interstate 5

## NEWS & NOTES

~ **Second Saturday.** Enjoy an afternoon of family activities centered on recycled and re-purposed materials. Help make the season less commercial and more memorable for family and friends. Second Saturdays at the Water Resources Education Center are not only fun, they're free! Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. *Saturday, Dec. 12, 1 - 3 p.m. Water Resources Center, 4600 SE Columbia Way. Additional info: [www.cityofvancouver.us/watercenter](http://www.cityofvancouver.us/watercenter) or 487-7111.*

~ **Explore Christmas at the Fort.** Experience first hand the festive traditional sights, smells, and sounds of the holiday season at Ft. Vancouver. Visitors will be able to view and participate in activities undertaken by residents at the fort during the holiday season. Entrance fees to visit the fort apply (\$3 per adult, \$5 per family). This is the same day as Christmas at Pearson Air Museum, so you can have a day of family holiday fun at Fort Vancouver National Site. *Dec. 12 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. visit Ft. Vancouver and Pearson Air Museum for special holiday activities. Additional info: <http://www.fortvan.org/>*

~ **Parking Advisory Committee Needs Volunteer.** The City of Vancouver is seeking applicants to fill one vacancy on the Parking Advisory Committee. This recruitment is for a full term that will begin January, 2010. Members may serve a maximum of two four-year terms. **Applications must be received in the City Manager's Office by 5 p.m., Dec. 15, 2009.**

For applications or further information, contact Myk Heidt in the City Manager's Office at City Hall, P.O. Box 1995, Vancouver, Wash., 98668; call 487-8612; e-mail [myk.heidt@ci.vancouver.wa.us](mailto:myk.heidt@ci.vancouver.wa.us); or FAX (360) 487-8625. To apply online visit: [/boards](#)

The Parking Advisory Committee is a seven-member volunteer body that advises the Vancouver City Council and City staff on parking policy and program implementation. Committee members must be either city residents or property owners, business owners, or an officer or partner in a business located in the downtown area. One member may be an employee of a downtown business.

## NEXT MEETING:

December 3, 2009  
Vancouver School of Arts and Academics Media Center  
3101 Main Street ~ 7:00 p.m.  
Entrance off of F and 31st Streets

## AGENDA

~ **C-Tran 20 year Plan.**

~ **New sidewalk plan for Shumway. 2010 will be the year of the sidewalk!**

~ **Vancouver Firefighters kick off winter coat & blanket drive.** For the sixth consecutive year, City of Vancouver Fire Department firefighters are collecting coats for needy people. The drop-off site is at Westside Fire House, 400 E. 37th St. (adjacent to the Safeway store on Main). This year they are also seeking donations of blankets. Drop-off times are every day of the week, from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. through Jan. 1.

## Shumway Neighborhood Officers

~ **Chairperson** Anne McEnerny Ogle, 695-5124, [macogle@pacifier.com](mailto:macogle@pacifier.com)

~ **Vice Chairperson** Lisa Ghormley, 993-2139, [unraveledyarns@hotmail.com](mailto:unraveledyarns@hotmail.com)

~ **Secretary** Michele Wollert, 993-0106, [michelewol@aol.com](mailto:michelewol@aol.com)

~ **Treasurer** Jim Martin (re-elected Nov. 5), 696-9844, [berrywd@teleport.com](mailto:berrywd@teleport.com)

~ **Newsletter Editor** Ossie Bladine, 971-237-1397, [ossie@vanvoice.com](mailto:ossie@vanvoice.com)

~ **City Liaison** Terry Weiner, Assistant City Attorney, Civil Division 696-8251, [terry.weiner@ci.vancouver.wa.us](mailto:terry.weiner@ci.vancouver.wa.us)

Greetings,

Here's to hoping for another white Christmas. Although, maybe not as white as last year. Remember the craziness!?! Although, I'm sure the neighborhood residents with four-wheelers wouldn't mind another week of snow-packed streets.

Anyways, this season, try to keep in mind the meanings of these holidays we celebrate. Do good to others, and if you are capable, help those in need. I have included in this month's letter a list of local charity drives running now. Please check out <http://nonprofitnetworkwa.org> for a full list opportunities to help.

And remember, shop local this holiday season. You'll be amazed at the unique and special gifts to be found in our local, independently owned stores.

**Shumway Neighborhood Association Meeting  
October 1, 2009  
Vancouver School of the Arts and Academics**

**In attendance:** Anne McEnery- Ogle, Chair; Lisa Ghormley, Vice-Chair; Michele Wollert, Secretary; Steve Ghormley; Terry Ogle; Lisa Brown; Dave Brown; Laura Meyer; Donald H. Meyer; Manfred Plikat; Karen Rankine; John Caton; Linda Caton; Paula Person (Neighbors on Watch); Janice Durant; Tim Tinkle; Chris Proctor; Goral Mammenga; Peter VanNortwick; Matthew Ferrier (Neighbors on Watch); John Kangas; Christine Smith; Terry Weiner (City of Vancouver)

**Guests:** Linda Franklin, Clark County Assessor; Stephen Hansen, Real Property Appraiser, Clark County

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Anne McEnery-Ogle at 7:00.

**Neighbors on Watch:** Matthew Ferrier and Paula Person presented information about Vancouver Police Department's Neighbors on Watch (NOW) program, a community/police partnership. This citizen volunteer group helps officers by observing and monitoring neighborhoods, reporting suspicious behavior and helping to make communities safer. The application requirements and six-week training process details are explained at the following link: <http://www.cityofvancouver.us/police.asp?policeID=31529&policeSubID=50671> Interested Shumway neighbors are urged to consider this important volunteer opportunity.

**Linda Franklin, Clark County Assessor and Stephen Hansen, Real Property Appraiser:** Linda Franklin explained what her job entails per the Washington Administrative Codes (WACs) and Revised Codes of Washington (RCWs) and how she determines current market values. She reported that Shumway's property values are relatively stable compared to other Vancouver neighborhoods and therefore did not go down as much as the others. Ms. Franklin displayed a color-coded map of Shumway, showing properties along I Street that border I 5. She explained that the red parcels closest to the freeway have the lowest assessed value because reviews of comparable sales show homes bordering freeways typically sell for less.

Anne asked Ms. Franklin if she will be involved in determining fair market value of the homes that might be acquired by the state along I Street. She replied that she would not and that this would be done by independent appraisers who do not work for either Clark County or the state of Washington.

Lisa Ghormley asked Ms. Franklin to explain the basis for establishing market value. Ms. Franklin explained that this is done by looking at comparable current sales.

Anne asked if affected Shumway residents near freeway construction would get a tax break for the inconvenience of living near it. Ms. Franklin replied that market value is guided by current sales only. She could not make any assessment adjustments unless there are sales by which to compare. She emphasized that she does not control property taxes, she only determines current assessed value.

Ms. Franklin was asked by another neighbor if property owners whose homes are acquired by the state can inform the assessor's office when this occurs so the fair market value can reflect that. Ms. Franklin replied that as soon as the taking happens her office will process the new information received so homeowners do not have to wait until the regular assessment cycle occurs.

Ms. Franklin then passed out information about the senior exemption option for property owners living on a fixed income. More information can be obtained on this link: <http://www.clark.wa.gov/assessor/index.html>

**Election of Treasurer:** Anne opened up the floor for nominations for Treasurer. Lisa Ghormley nominated Jim Martin. There were no additional nominations. The motion carried unanimously.

**Traffic Diversion:** Dave Brown announced that construction on the curb bump-out at F and 33rd has begun.

**Resolution Draft:** Anne distributed a rough draft resolution to review and discuss regarding the neighborhood association's position on the proposed SR-500 to Fourth Plain connection and its negative impact on Shumway. Some neighbors made a few editing suggestions, which Anne noted. John Caton

moved to take the resolution forward to Vancouver City Council with the suggested changes. Lisa Ghormley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**Neighborhood Concerns/Announcements:** 1) Anne announced that the traffic slowing bump-out on 33rd and F needs some plants. Please contact her if you can help. 2) Leaf collection box will be at H and 26th on December 5th and 6th 3) Terry Weiner distributed copies of the Youth Involvement Survey, "What's Good in the Hood?" for neighbors to give to elementary, middle, or high school students.

**Peter VanNortwick:** Mr. VanNortwick, Certified General Appraiser and LEED certified green valuation specialist, addressed the neighbors. He announced that he is running for Clark County Assessor in 2010 as a Republican opponent of Democrat Linda Franklin. He distributed materials and data that he reported as providing evidence that home owners with lower property values have higher assessed values. More information and tables with this data can be obtained by visiting his website at: [www.van4assessor.com](http://www.van4assessor.com)

**Adjournment** The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:45 PM.

**Next meeting:** The next Shumway Neighborhood meeting will be held at VSAA on 12/3/2009 at 7:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,

**Michele Wollert, Secretary**  
*Shumway Neighborhood Association*

## HOLIDAY DRIVE ORGANIZATIONS

for a full list, visit <http://nonprofitnetworkwa.org/building/nurturing/info/C81>

### ARC OF CLARK COUNTY

The Arc of Clark County is a private, nonprofit corporation dedicated to improving the quality of life for individuals with developmental disabilities and their families. <http://www.ArcofClarkCounty.org/>

#### Donations Needed

1. Toys; 2. Games; 3. Kids pajamas; 4. Kids coats; 5. Personal hygiene items; 6. Gift cards (Walmart, Target, Winco, FredMeyer, Burgerville, McDonalds); 7. Adult arts and crafts kits; 8. Cameras (from disposable to digital); 9. Movies (Action, Romantic Comedies, new releases please); 10. Digital watches for both men and women

#### Deadline for Donations

Friday, Dec. 18, 2009

#### Dropoff Location

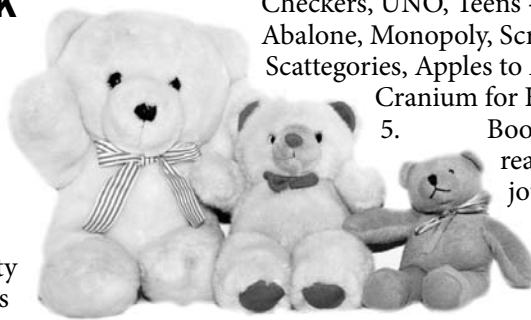
The Arc of Clark County  
9415 NE Fourth Plain Rd, Vancouver,  
WA 98662 [Google Map](#)  
360 254.1562

### CHILDREN'S CENTER

CHILDREN'S CENTER is a private, non-profit state licensed community mental health agency. The agency was founded by a group of concerned citizens who were committed to providing quality mental health services for children in our community. <http://www.thechildrenscenter.org/>

#### Donations Needed

1. Construction toys — Legos, Erector sets, Lincoln logs, Playmobile, building blocks; 2. Art supplies — clay, paints, craft sets, magic markers (smelly kind), sidewalk chalk, kid sized digital camera, coloring books, playdoh; 3. Sports equipment — Footballs, basketballs, soccer balls, badminton, bikes, hula hoops; 4. Board games — Pre-Middle school - Connect 4, Candy Land,



Checkers, UNO, Teens - Upwards, Abalone, Monopoly, Scrabble, Chess, Scattogories, Apples to Apples,

Cranium for Kids, Sorry!;

5. Books — young reader, teen, journals - No

David!; "A bad case of the Stripes"; "The Runaway

Bunny" "My Many

colored Day," "Quick as a Cricket"; 6. Stuffed Animals — any type or puppets or FurReal Friends (stuffed animals you have to take care of). 7. Dolls — Baby dolls (boys and girls, different races), dollhouses; 8. Other toys — Animal Action Figures (dinosaurs, zoo animals), People Action Figures (different races and ages), Polly pocket items, Pokemon and Yugioh cards, Bakugun balls. 9. Warm coats.

#### Deadline for Donations

December 18, 2009

#### Dropoff Locations

Java House 210 W Evergreen Blvd.  
Halo Designs 1923 Main St.  
Children's Center, 415 W 11th St.

### YWCA CLARK COUNTY

YWCA Clark County's mission is to eliminate racism, empower women, and promote peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all. <http://www.ywcaclarkcounty.org/>

#### Donations Needed

1. Dolls/stuffed animals; 2. Board games for ages 4-12; 3. Gift cards to Wal-Mart, Fred Meyer, Target, or Westfield Shoppingtown; 4. Craft or science kits 5. Basketballs, soccer balls or footballs 6. Educational toys for ages 2-4 (such as LeapFrog); 7. Books and movies (nonviolent please); 8. Legos or block sets; 9. Winter clothing (boys, girls, and women of all ages and sizes) 10. Towels and blankets

#### Deadline for Donations

December 18

#### Dropoff Location

YWCA Clark County  
3609 Main Street

# WINTER HOLIDAY SAFETY TIPS

from your firefighters at the Vancouver Fire Department, Westside Firehouse #2

## Candle Safety

- Place candles in a sturdy fire-proof container that won't be tipped over.
- Extinguish candles before going to bed or leaving the house.
- Supervise children or pets around candles.
- Store matches and lighters up high, out of sight and reach of children, preferably in a locked cabinet.
- Do not put lit candles on a tree or wreath.

**MORE ON CANDLES:** According to the National Fire Protection Association, candle fires are more common around the holidays because more people use candles and decorations are often near them. Candle fires peak on Christmas day. How does a little flame become so dangerous? Four out of ten times the candles were left unattended, abandoned or inadequately controlled. One in four times something that catches fire easily was left too close to the flame. Sometimes children play with the candle. Sometimes someone falls asleep with one or more candles lit. Four out of ten home candle fires start in the bedroom. The most common item first ignited by a candle is a mattress or bedding, except in December when decorations are the most common first item.

## Holiday Lights

- Inspect holiday lights each year for frayed wires, bare spots, gaps in the insulation, broken or cracked sockets, and excessive kinking or wear before putting them up.
- Use only lighting listed by an approved testing laboratory.
- Do not overload electrical outlets.
- Connect only three light strands together, unless the directions indicate it is safe.
- Connect strings of lights to an extension cord before plugging the



cord into the outlet.

- Make sure to periodically check the wires – they should not be warm to the touch.
- Unplug holiday lights when you go to bed or are not home.
- Children are fascinated with Christmas trees. Keep a watchful eye on them when around the tree and do not let them play with the wiring or lights

## Smoke Alarms/Detectors & Home Escape Plans

- Install a smoke alarm on every level of your house, test them monthly, keep them clean and change the batteries when you change your clocks.
- Replace smoke alarms after 10 years.
- The VFD recommends using a dual smoke alarm that combines photo-electric and ionization technology for the best safety coverage. When the smoke alarm sounds, get out fast and stay out!
- When the smoke alarm sounds, get out fast and stay out!
- Plan your escape. Know two ways out of every room.
- Practice your escape plan with your whole family at least twice a year.
- If your clothes catch on fire, STOP, DROP, (Cover Your Face) and ROLL!

## Wood Stoves & Fireplaces

- Have a certified chimney sweep clean and inspect your chimney.

- Place ashes outdoors in a covered metal container at least three feet away from anything that burns.
- Burn dry, well-seasoned wood.
- Always use a fireplace screen made of sturdy metal or heat-tempered glass to prevent sparks from escaping. If you have children, use a special child-guard screen as a barrier.
- Never burn wrapping paper.

## Space Heaters

- Give heaters space - at least 36 inches between the heater and everything else.
- Turn off portable heaters when family members leave the house or are sleeping.
- An adult should always be present when a space heater is used around children.
- Make sure your heater is UL approved and has a tip-over shut off function.

## Know what to do in case of fire

Residential fire sprinklers offer the best protection to ensure escape from the fire. Consider installing them in your home. Install smoke alarms on every level of your home and outside sleeping areas. Make and practice a home escape plan with your family. Be sure to have two ways out of every room. Decide on a designated meeting place outside. Hold a fire drill and practice your plan annually. Once outside the home, go directly to your planned meeting place and stay there.

**Crawl Low in Smoke:** If you are trapped in smoke, get down on your hands and knees and crawl to the nearest safe way out. Smoke and toxic fumes rise, so cleaner air is near the floor.

**Stop, Drop and Roll:** If your clothes catch on fire, do not run, stop where you are, drop to the ground, and roll over and over to smother the flames.