



# COUNTRYSIDE WOODS NEWSLETTER

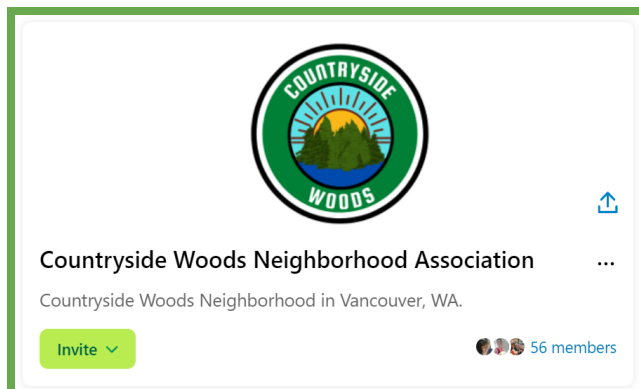
APRIL 2023 - Countryside Woods Neighborhood Association

## ✉ Don't miss our General Meeting on April 20, 2023 at the Firstenburg Community Center.

Our upcoming General Meeting is April 20, 2023 from 6:00pm - 8:00pm at the [Firstenburg Community Center](#). Come meet the Countryside Woods Neighborhood Association members and participate in discussions about important issues in our community. More details to be shared on the "Countryside Woods Neighborhood Association" Nextdoor group. We would love to see you there!



👋 Hi Neighbor! Join our "Countryside Woods Neighborhood Association" group on Nextdoor.



We've started a new group on Nextdoor (access via mobile app or on Nextdoor's website). Search Nextdoor for "**Countryside Woods Neighborhood Association**" and join today! Keep up with events, hear about local news, and meet your neighbors.

[Click here to go to the group](#)

## But what is the CWNA?

**Countryside Woods Neighborhood Association (CWNA) is a Neighborhood Association recognized by the City of Vancouver in 2001, we are not a Homeowner Association.** As a recognized neighborhood, the city supports us with certain services and privileges. Want to learn more? Visit the [Countryside Woods page](#) on City of Vancouver's website or email any questions, comments, or suggestions to [CountrysideWoodsNA@gmail.com](mailto:CountrysideWoodsNA@gmail.com). Thank you!

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## Meet Your Neighbors

**Chuck and Kim Ah Choy have lived in Countryside Woods for almost 32 years!** Originally from Hawaii, they moved to the Seattle area in 1980 and to Vancouver in 1991. They raised 5 sons who all attended the Evergreen School District. They are avid bird watchers who love nature and exploring the neighborhood. Get to know them below:

### ***What do you love about our neighborhood?***

We love that Countryside Woods is close to amenities like stores and restaurants, and some of our favorite nature trails like Steigerwald Lake National Wildlife Refuge in Washougal and Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge. It's a family-friendly neighborhood, something that was important to us as we raised our sons here.



### ***Do you have a favorite local restaurant or business?***

Chuck is an excellent cook so we don't eat out very often, but we love Eastland Sushi & Asian Cuisine in East Vancouver and to visit Sportsman's Public House for a great burger after we go birding in Ridgefield. We also recommend Baron Patisserie for an amazing selection of pastries.

### ***Is there anything you wish Countryside Woods had that it doesn't currently?***

There used to be a block party years ago that would be fun to revive. We'd love to attend a movie in the park, maybe tied into the annual potluck. It would be fun to have a chili cookoff at the potluck. We're also interested in a Neighborhood Watch. It's up to all of us to keep our neighborhood safe! We encourage everyone to join the Nextdoor group and the Ring app so we're all aware of what's going on locally and can look out for each other. Another thing that would be great to have are local walking groups - we'd enjoy going on regular walks with some of our neighbors.

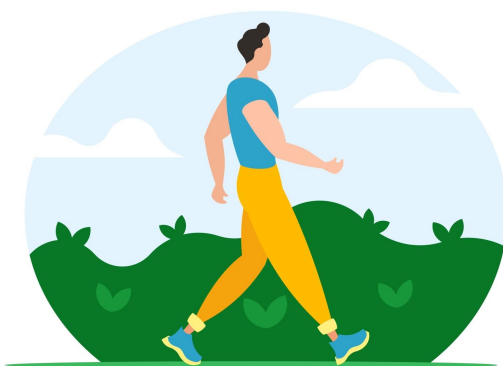
*-Interview by Miranda Sulley*



## 2023 Events Calendar

<b>April 20, 2023</b> 6:00pm - 8:00pm	<b>General Meeting</b>	Attend the General Meeting at the Firstenberg Community Center. Jamie Spinelli and Tyler Chavers will address homelessness in Vancouver and resources.
<b>June 3, 2023</b> 9:00am - 1:00pm	<b>Volunteer Day in the Park</b>	The Countryside Park Adopt-A-Park Program will hold a park cleanup day to get the park ready for summer fun.
<b>June 24, 2023</b> 9:00am - 1:00pm	<b>Volunteer Neighborhood Clean Up</b>	Help clean up the neighborhood! There will be dumpsters in the East Park Community Church parking lot for waste disposal.
<b>July 8, 2023</b> 9:00am - 2:00pm	<b>CWNA Garage Sale</b>	Save the date for our neighborhood garage sale! More details will be provided in a future newsletter.
<b>August 1, 2023</b> 6:00pm - 8:00pm	<b>National Night Out</b>	An annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnership and neighborhood camaraderie.
<b>September 9, 2023</b> 12:00pm - 2:00pm	<b>CWNA Annual Picnic</b>	Join our annual picnic at Countryside Park. This is a great time to meet new neighbors and volunteer as a CWNA member.

## Neighborhood Activities



**Are you interested in getting together for activities with your neighbors?** Various neighbors have mentioned that they're interested in participating in walking groups, running groups, exercise groups, etc. There is also an interest in organizing litter removal in the neighborhood on a regular basis. We're looking for people who would like to coordinate these activities. If that's you, please post on the [Countryside Woods Neighborhood Association Nextdoor group](#) or reach out to [CountrysideWoodsNA@gmail.com](mailto:CountrysideWoodsNA@gmail.com). Thank you!



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## Countryside Woods Longtime Resident Receives Volunteer Grove Award

Many of you may know Steve Wille from his time as Chair of the Countryside Woods Neighborhood Association. Steve spends many hours volunteering in Countryside Park for the “Leave the Leaves” events and the park cleanup days. He’s volunteered to organize the annual neighborhood cleanup day for the last few years, securing a location for the dumpsters and coordinating with other neighborhoods. Steve is attentive to neighborhood issues and willing to offer his assistance in finding solutions.



Steve (left) and Dylan (right) with Steve’s tree



Steve (left) with Mayor Anne McEnerny-Ogle (right)

**The City of Vancouver picks up to eight volunteers each year to receive the Grove Award. Steve was one of the selected nominees for 2023.** Steve received a certificate from the Mayor and a tree planted in his honor at Centerpointe Park (where the volunteer Grove is located). It is only fitting that as part of the ceremony these volunteers planted their own trees! Steve was given a Douglas Fir to plant. It was a very rainy day, but of course these standout volunteers showed up and got to work.

Next time you see Steve out and about please congratulate him! [Learn more about the Volunteer Grove Award here.](#)

-Written by Kara Harden Egan

## Ideas for Articles

Do you have suggestions for topics you'd like to see featured in our quarterly newsletter?  
Want to share your story in our "Meet Your Neighbors" segment? We'd love to hear from you!  
Please reach out to [CountrysideWoodsNA@gmail.com](mailto:CountrysideWoodsNA@gmail.com).

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## Executive Board Meeting Summary - January 26, 2023

**Attending:** Kara Harden Egan (Chair), Judy George (1st Chair), Susanne Heyman (2nd Chair), Tina Henry (Treasurer), Amber Schroeder (Secretary), Miranda Sulley (Newsletter Editor), Steve Wille (Member at Large), Neighborhood Police Officer Jeremy Free, Neighborhood Liaison Charles Fell, and Grace Tiegen (Guest from First Place neighborhood).

### **Treasurer's Report:**

\$3,930.14	Previous Balance
- \$100.00	Vancouver Neighborhood Alliance (VNA) Insurance
- \$30.00	Cimarron
\$3,800.14	Ending Balance

### **Discussion Topics:**

- Grace Tiegen spoke about the 18th Street Widening Project and encouraged neighbors to educate themselves and get involved. Some of the concerns are increased traffic, speed, and maintaining greenery in the proposed development plans. Steve Wille agreed to represent CWNA at future meetings.
- Kara Harden Egan has been attending the monthly VNA meetings, which take place the second Wednesday of the month.
- Miranda Sulley reported that since the launch of the January CWNA newsletter, there has been a significant increase in neighbors joining the CWNA Nextdoor group.
- The group discussed adding a hopscotch court to Countryside Park. They are also looking into adding a mural somewhere in the neighborhood and seeking community input.
- Tina Henry and Steve Wille are in the process of updating our neighborhood action plan.
- The next General Board Meeting is April 20th at the Firstenburg Community Center. Speakers will be Jamie Spinelle and Tyler Chavers. There will be a prize drawing that neighbors can enter. We will have paper handouts of the events calendar.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:59pm. If you would like a complete copy of the minutes, please email [CountrysideWoodsNA@gmail.com](mailto:CountrysideWoodsNA@gmail.com).

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## Countryside Woods Neighborhood Association

Questions or Comments? Email us at: [CountrysideWoodsNA@gmail.com](mailto:CountrysideWoodsNA@gmail.com)

Chair	Kara Harden Egan
1st Chair	Judy George
2nd Chair	Susan Heyman
Secretary	Amber Schroeder
Treasurer	Tina Henry
Newsletter Editor	Miranda Sulley
Members at Large	Steve Wille, Yuqing Leland, Susan Paynter, Laurie Christensen



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 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.