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## February 2023 – First Quarter FPNA Newsletter

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### First Place Neighborhood Association

PO Box 872261, Vancouver, WA 98687

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#### Introducing FPNA's new Chairperson

- Dale Cisco -



Hello First Place Neighbors!

Let me introduce myself as your newly elected Chair. My wife Kandi and I have lived in First Place since 2016. We love this neighborhood and have made friends that we hope will last for years to come.

Our first quarter 2023 General Meeting was held via Zoom on 01/19/23. Many who attended learned more about the Interstate bridge expansion and our local police liaison Jeremy Free shared information about crime and trends in our area. Nice to hear that our neighborhood is on the lower scale of crime. We also presented our 2023 budget and that has passed.

As the new Chairperson, I am excited to see what we can do this year to grow our community involvement. I believe that knowing thy neighbor can be foreign to many, but I can tell you it is truly a blessing to build a community of people who care for others, gather for social events, and just simply feel part of something greater than themselves.

By participating in our community, the yearly fee is only \$30.00. This helps us plan social events - the picnic which was a huge success last year - and truly working to help others in need. One of the best opportunities is to help with a Scholarship fund for Evergreen High School. As the First Place Community we have worked for many years to provide scholarship opportunities for Evergreen High School students. Success truly comes when we recognize the hard work these students put in. Join us in this yearly program. Let's put smiles on these kid's faces. Give and it will be given back!

Last but not least, I look forward to meeting many of you as I walk around the neighborhood. Don't be surprised if I come knocking on your door to say hi.

**Let's make 2023 the best growth year for the FPNA Community!**

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#### **Upcoming Events**

**Men's Luncheon:** February  
17th at Fiesta Bonita  
Restaurant, 11:30AM  
*- contact Wayne Sparks*

**2023 Clean-Up Day:** TBD

**2023 Neighborhood Picnic -  
FPNA Afternoon in the Park:**  
July 22nd

#### **Email Addresses and Info**

[FPNAinfo@gmail.com](mailto:FPNAinfo@gmail.com)

General FPNA questions,  
comments or requests for more  
information

[FPNAcommunicate@gmail.com](mailto:FPNAcommunicate@gmail.com)

Changes to group participation,  
email, or contact information  
changes

[FPNAnewsletter@hotmail.com](mailto:FPNAnewsletter@hotmail.com)

Submissions and questions to  
this newsletter

[FPNA Bylaws – October 2014](#)  
From the City's official website

[NextDoor App](#)

Timely neighborhood  
information shared by members

[Facebook Website](#)

Timely neighborhood  
information shared by members

## Quick Bits

### Your Neighborhood Association Needs Your

Help: Our neighborhood association needs to fill the position of secretary on the FPNA board. Our current secretary, Vicky Splinter, has held the position for more than two years and would like to retire. We thank Vicky for her excellent work and service to our neighborhood. We invite YOU to volunteer to fill the position of Association Secretary for the current year. The position entails taking minutes at meetings and posting them. Orientation and support will be available to the interested individual. Please volunteer by contacting Joe Ghaffari (*Joe's in the neighborhood directory*)

Association Dues are only \$30 per year and are due now. It takes all of us. Please consider joining and thanks to all those who contribute regularly. (*see last page*)

Men's Luncheon: The February First Place Men's Lunch will be held at the Fiesta Bonita restaurant on Friday, February 17<sup>th</sup> at 11:30. Fiesta Bonita (formerly known as LaCosta) is owned by our First Place neighbors, Manny and Elizabeth Amador. (The web site is here: <https://lafiestabonita.com/> - 4708 NE Thurston Avenue, Vancouver.) We have enjoyed their cuisine on many occasions, including Men's Lunches, Christmas Dinners and picnics in our neighborhood park. If you plan to attend,

### Life in First Place

This old First Place map was copied from the City's web site and if you exam it closely, it shows dozens of vacant lots. If I wagered a guess, I'd say it's from 2014-2015. In actuality today, only one lot remains undeveloped in First Place. - Ed

please RSVP to Wayne Sparks by Wednesday, February 15<sup>th</sup>. (*Wayne's in the neighborhood directory*)

\* \* W A N T E D \* \*

### Neighborhood Social Hosts:

It's a new year and it's time for us all to get together. Having the Neighborhood social/wine and dine is fun and very easy. If you would like to host, let Sharon Bevans know which month and then you choose the time and date.

Everyone brings an appetizer and choice of beverage to your home. That's it. I told you it was easy!

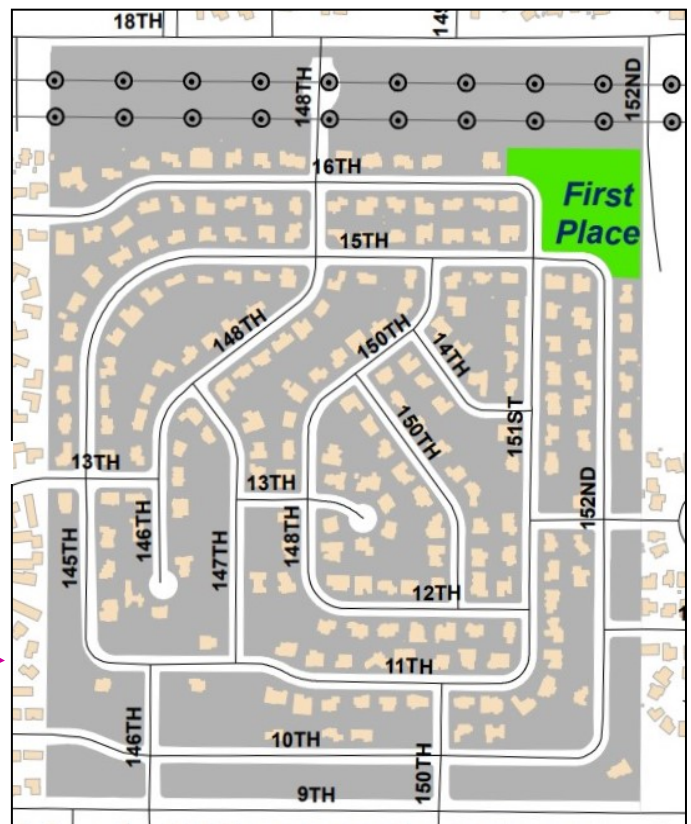
We are looking for hosts for the following months:

♥ February

♣ March

🐣 April

May through December are already booked! Looking forward to hearing from you.



# Our Afternoon in the Park – July 22, 2023

First Place's Annual Neighborhood Picnic

Hello First Place Neighbors,  
Is the wet and windy winter weather affecting your mood? We have just the remedy to improve that wintertime malaise. Start planning now and fill your brain with fun thoughts of summertime ideas to look forward to



(which it is highly recommended by your Mood Doctor) including, the annual First Place ALL Neighborhood 2023 Summer Picnic.

For the 79 FP neighborhood households who attended the 2022 FP Summer Picnic last July, they know exactly what I'm talking about! Your FP 2023 Summer Picnic committee is already busy coming up with fun games (read the FP neighborhood information in the

quarterly newsletters to improve your chances to win a contest for prizes, music, food ideas and much, much more.)

So, mark your calendars for Saturday July 22, 2023, and watch your wintertime mood improve with warm fun thoughts of the 2023 FP Family Summer Picnic! For those who attended the 2022 picnic, share those memories with those who were not able to attend and let's get even more FP neighbors out for a fun filled afternoon of getting to know your neighbors.

We look forward to seeing the 2022 picnic attendees again and even more new attendees at this year July 22nd picnic. Let's all make it a day to remember and celebrate the wonderful neighborhood we live in.

See you soon!

Doug Stalheim, FP 2023 Summer Family Picnic Committee Lead

## Life in First Place

(from the 2022 Halloween Party)



Thank You, Karen!

# Neighborhood Safety

## Neighbors On Watch Academy

6 WEEKLY TRAINING SESSIONS

April 20 – May 25  
6 – 9:15 p.m.



### Volunteer with the Vancouver Police Department!

Learn observation skills, how to be a good witness, personal protection, volunteer procedures, CPR and more!

The Vancouver Police Department is hosting the 23rd Neighbors on Watch (NOW) Academy beginning April 20!

NOW volunteers participate in administrative

projects and the Out of State License Plate Program. Volunteers also help support a variety of units at the department, including Training, Backgrounds, Traffic and Logistics.

The NOW program promotes the positive impact individual community members can have on our community's crime problems and quality of life issues. Community members interested in making their neighborhoods safer are encouraged to apply.

Please contact Vancouver Police Department Volunteer Coordinator Jordan Macfarlane, [jordan.macfarlane@cityofvancouver.us](mailto:jordan.macfarlane@cityofvancouver.us), with questions about the program.

## Life in First Place

(from the 2022 Ladies' Holiday Luncheon)



*Thank You, Marta & Kandi!*



## From the Editor

The FPNA Newsletter is published quarterly after the general association meeting.

- Are you interested in writing an article for the FPNA newsletter?
- Want to remind your neighbors about an upcoming date or event?
- Do you have FYI-type information about the neighborhood or the FPNA Association?

Don't be shy. Send it in an e-mail to [FPNAnewsletter@hotmail.com](mailto:FPNAnewsletter@hotmail.com)

*(Note: Please remember, the FPNA Newsletter is public information through the City of Vancouver.)*

Note: 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. This newsletter has been shared with the City of Vancouver Office of Neighborhoods and therefore, is available to the Internet community.



## Find Us On Facebook!

First Place Neighborhood Association

\*This is a private Facebook page for First Place neighborhood residents only.

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### **FPNA Executive Board: 2023**

**Chair** – Dale Cisco

**Vice Chair** – Steve Zapp

**Treasurer** - Evan Meessen

**Secretary** – Vicki Splinter

**Neighborhood Committees** - Contact the Committee Chair if you're interested in more information on getting involved. Contact info is available in the FPNA Directory.

- **Annual Picnic** – Doug Stalheim (Team TBD)
- **Annual Spring Cleanup** - Tom Harriman
- **Christmas Ladies' Luncheon** – Open
- **Communications Central** – Kandi Cisco
- **18<sup>th</sup> Street Widening Project** – Gene Wigglesworth, Grace Teigen (Leads). Members – Ellen Sward, Bill Savoie, Margie Schnack, Wayne Sparks, Sherry Bala, and other interested neighbors.
- **Facebook** - Penny McElvain
- **First Place Directory** – Kandi Cisco
- **Garage Sale** – Pat Tarnow
- **Ladies' Luncheon** – Open
- **Landscape** – Steve Zapp
- **Neighborhood Social** - Sharon Bevan
- **Men's Luncheon**, - Wayne Sparks
- **Neighborhood Ambassador Program** - Doug Stalheim (Lead). Ambassadors - Pat Sparks, Lynda Harriman, Sheree Belanger (*Joan Lamy and Kandi Cisco (back-ups)*)
  - **Welcome Basket Production Team** – Penny McElvain, Kay Scott
  - **New Neighbor Spotters** – Joan Lamy, Bryan Fix (realtor), Joe Serroels
- **Newsletter** – Darren Belanger
- **Next Door Website** - Joan Lamy
- **9th Street Garden Gang** - coordinate/maintain FPNA properties backing to 9<sup>th</sup> street – Open
- **Safety Committee** – Open
- **Scholarship Lead** - Sharon Bevan Team - Kandi Cisco, Lynda Harriman, Sharon Graven, Shirley Morgan
- **Volunteer Appreciation Dinner** – Open
- **Walk-n-Knock** – Patricia Hines
- **Women's Happy Hour** - Bonny McCampbell

**Please join the fun as you are willing and able. Working together we accomplish so much more. Everyone's help is welcome and appreciated!**



## What do committee volunteers and board members do?

**Picnic Committee** - organizes our Annual Picnic in First Place Park

**Christmas Luncheon Committee** - arranges a holiday celebration for the women in the neighborhood

**Scholarship Committee** - gathers funds and chooses worthy recipient(s) from Evergreen High School

**First Place Neighborhood Ambassadors** - The Ambassadors welcome new neighbors, deliver welcome baskets, and periodically host Newcomer Gatherings

**FPNA Chairperson** - The Chairperson sets the meeting date and time for the board meetings and the quarterly general meetings. The Chairperson also helps develop the agenda with input from the elected board members and committee chairs. Other duties of the Chairperson include conducting the business meetings, coordinating with committee chairs or other neighborhood groups implementing projects, and resolving issues that may arise

**FPNA Vice Chairperson** - The Vice Chairperson acts as a support person, covering meetings when the Chairperson is unavailable and coordinates with the Treasurer to audit our funds yearly. Also the Vice Chairperson manages special projects as requested by the Chair

**Safety Chairperson** - The Safety Chairperson checks and notifies the City when street lights are out and has managed the curb address painting. Further the Safety Chair has been on the lookout for hazard issues in First Place, such as low tree limbs obscuring stop and street signs

**FPNA Communication Coordinator** - The FPNA Communicate Coordinator maintains the master list of residents and sends out announcements of neighborhood activities

**Ladies' Luncheon Coordinator** - Coordinator sets the time and location for their meetings

**Men's Luncheon Coordinator** - Coordinator sets the time and location for their meetings

**FPNA Newsletter Editor** - Reviews newsletter submissions, builds and edits the quarterly newsletter and sends it to the FPNA Chairperson for review and approval.

**This is just a sampling of the FPNA positions that benefit our neighborhood. If you are interested in volunteering to help First Place remain a strong Neighborhood Association, please contact any board member.**

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## First Place Neighborhood Association-Resident Information

Print, complete and return only when your information has changed.

Return to: P.O. Box 872261, Vancouver, WA. 98687

Or: By Email to

<mailto:fpnacommunicate@gmail.com>

Please type in the highlighted boxes below.

First Name. 1.		Last Name. 1.	
First Name. 2.		Last Name. 2.	
Property Address.			
Phone. Cell	Cell	Home	Work
Email 1.		Email 2.	

Please check those you would like.

I would like my information to be included in future directories.	Yes.	<input type="checkbox"/>	No.	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Invite me to:

Neighborhood Social.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ladies' Luncheon.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Men's Luncheon.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ladies' Happy Hour.	<input type="checkbox"/>
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- **Neighborhood Social:** Held monthly in the home of a resident volunteer in First Place. Attendees are asked to bring a bottle of wine or other beverage and an appetizer to share. Open to all First Place neighbors.
- **Ladies' Luncheon:** Arranged at a local restaurant by a volunteer and open to all First Place women.
- **Men's Luncheon:** Arranged at a local restaurant by a volunteer and open to all First Place men.
- **Ladies' Happy Hour:** Held the second Monday of the month from 4-7pm in the home of a volunteer neighbor. Bring your favorite beverage and appetizer to share. Open to all First Place women.



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**2023**

**FPNA Annual Dues Notice**

\$30 per household  
*(unchanged from 2022)*

First Place Neighborhood Association (FPNA) voluntary dues are \$30 and renewed annually in January. Donations support neighborhood maintenance & social functions.

**PayPal** FPNAInfo@gmail.com at [www.paypal.me/firstplaceNA](http://www.paypal.me/firstplaceNA)

<<Choose payment type "For friends and family">>

or

Make checks payable to First Place Neighborhood Association (FPNA)

Mail to FPNA Treasurer, P.O. Box 872261, Vancouver, WA 98687

Please include your household information and any designation for additional donations, as listed in the form below, with your donation.

*Thank you for you continued support!*

Name\_\_\_\_\_

FP Address\_\_\_\_\_

Besides the annual dues, if you wish to include an additional voluntary contribution please enter an amount here:

FPNA Scholarship Fund: \$\_\_\_\_\_.

Any other FPNA activity: \$\_\_\_\_\_.

Thank You!!

-Your FPNA Board and FP Neighbors