

NEIGHBORLY NOTES

Newsletter of the Vancouver Heights Neighborhood Association

Notes From The Chair

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Dear VHNA Neighbors,

We have had quite the December with icy rain, holiday parties and, of course, Christmas and New Years! I would like to share some of the highlights from 2022 in our Neighborhood.

The VHNA has been involved with the City of Vancouver on the Tower Mall Re-Development. We are now moving into the next phase of planning. Demolition and infrastructure have been completed and now the design, and perhaps, identifying a primary developer, will happen this year. Amy Zolte will be the new project lead. We want to thank Ms. Rebecca Kennedy for all the coffee talks with community leaders and liaison with the city.

We also are looking forward to the Lieser School Redevelopment. A barricade fence has been placed and demolition will take place from December through April 2023. This site will have 80-100 units of housing for qualified low-income families, a new EEOCF office, an instructional center, and a new fire station for Engine 3. VHNA continues to dialogue with the City by being involved, proactive and positive partners.

VHNA also completed the planting of trees in the "Garrison Triangle." The past chair, Jan Kent, and I have pushed for years to see this piece of land become a centerpiece for the VHNA. With Jessica George, the lead of the Urban Forestry team, we saw this happen! Twenty plus trees were planted in and around the triangle. In November, a five-year-old sequoia was planted, and will be dedicated in March 2023 with Barbara Rhoden and her daughters in memory of Vaughn Rhoden.

Thank you to VHNA Treasurer, Dick Orr, for being a faithful steward of the VHNA treasury account. We put together a great surprise for Judi Bailey, who was lead in the Office of Neighborhoods. She retired after 30 years. Thank you also to Immanuel Lutheran and Pastor Adrienne (VHNA Secretary) for sharing their resources with those who are less fortunate.

We have many things to look forward to in 2023, and there is always a place to join our group and be engaged. We are looking for new board members. Please call or email me if you are interested. I hope to see you around the neighborhood!

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Vaughn Rhoden
Covid Remembrance Tree

Lieser School Redevelopment Update

The demolition of the former Lieser School began on December 12, 2022 and has an estimated completion date of June 1, 2023. The building structure demolition will be complete around the middle of April 2023 with exterior hardscape and surfaces thereafter

Vancouver Housing Authority values the safety of contractors and neighbors, and will be following all applicable codes and standards to reduce dust and particulates during the demolition process. Conducting demolition in the rainy season will also help in reducing the impact of the work. In accordance with state laws, hazardous materials present in the building will be professionally abated before any major demolition begins.



In addition to safety, VHA's other goals for the project includes salvaging as much of the existing building as possible. They are working with Habitat for Humanity and the Rebuilding Center in Portland to salvage various elements throughout the school and are also working with the contractor to deconstruct and recycle many of the major building components such as steel, concrete and exterior brick, diverting these items from the landfill.

During the demolition, vehicle access to the child care center via the parking lot north of the site will be maintained, in addition to accessible pedestrian access via the existing sidewalk on the south side of the parking lot. Community access to the Lieser Neighborhood Park will not be impacted by demolition activities.

VHNA Needs Your Help!

We still need the following volunteer positions filled to ensure the newsletter continues:

Newsletter Delivery Coordinator

- Receive newsletters from City of Vancouver
- Count and organize newsletters by delivery route.
- Coordinate pickup of newsletters with deliverers.
- Time commitment of 2-3 hours per month, 9 times per year.

Call or text Park @ 503.997.3266 if interested

Newsletter Deliverer

- A deliverer is needed for an unfilled route.
- Location is south of Mill Plain, west of Andresen Rd., and north of McArthur Blvd. Near the VFW and Safeway.
- Time commitment of about 60 minutes, once per month, nine times per year.

Email Jeff:
jthogg@outlook.com if you can help

Clark County Aging Readiness Plan Update

The Clark County Aging Readiness Plan assesses the county's readiness to serve as a home for a growing number of older residents. The plan includes strategies to improve the community's capacity to support its growing older population and ultimately benefit people of all ages. The plan covers the topics of housing, transportation/mobility, health care, support services, and civic activities.



The Commission on Aging is updating the Aging Readiness Plan and wants public feedback to help assess implementation to date, refine existing strategies, brainstorm new ideas for the updated plan, and guide the creation of a new chapter focused on emergency preparedness.

The commission will host interactive public workshops in 2023 at the following times and locations:

Workshop #1: Strategy Feedback & Brainstorm. Attend one of the following:

- o Jan. 18, 2023, 4:30-6:00pm, in-person event at Public Service Center
- o Jan. 18, 2023, 4:30-6:00pm, virtual event via Webex
- o Mar. 15, 2023, 3:30-5:00pm, in-person event at Battle Ground City Hall

Workshop #2: Strategy Priorities. Attend one of the following:

- o Apr. 19, 2023, 4:30-6:00pm, in-person event at Public Service Center
- o Apr. 19, 2023, 4:30-6:00pm, virtual event via Webex

For workshop details, please visit: <https://bit.ly/agingreadiness>

The Commission on Aging, supported by the Clark County Council, is a nine-member volunteer group that implements the Aging Readiness Plan and provides leadership addressing needs of aging community members.

For more about the commission, visit www.clark.wa.gov/aging

2022 Vancouver Heights Sparkles Award

The Vancouver Sparkles Award is a program in the City of Vancouver that recognizes neighbors who go the extra mile to make their neighborhood special.

At the December VHNA holiday party, Miki Landis was honored with the Vancouver Sparkles Award. She had served as our newsletter editor for 10+ years.

Thank you, Miki, for your many years of service to our neighborhood.



Announcements and Events



Learn more at: <https://www.volgistics.com/appform/660153452>

2023 Family Valentine's Ball

Vancouver Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services is thrilled to announce the return of the popular Family Valentine's Ball from 6 to 8 p.m. on February 10 and 11 at the Historic Hangar at Pearson Air Museum. This is an opportunity for everyone to celebrate the love of their birth or chosen family in a fun, welcoming environment. The event includes a DJ, crafts and refreshments. Save the date!



Register now at the City of Vancouver Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services website.

Please join us for our next VHNA
membership meeting!
January 26 @ 7:00 PM - Immanuel
Lutheran Church

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 Neighborly Notes 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

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VHNA publishes this newsletter to provide information and resources to residents and businesses located within the boundaries of VHNA. Neighborly Notes and other neighborhood information is available at cityofvancouver.us/nhoods.asp



Why a mobile app? In today's increasingly mobile world (65% of U.S. citizens use a smart device), cities must adapt to meet citizens where they are or get left behind. The City of Vancouver has launched the free MyVancouver app to provide residents with a direct, convenient line of communication with City employees to solve issues affecting our community.

What can you do with it?

- **REPORT** non-emergency issues, including potholes, graffiti, sign damage or street light outages quickly and easily by uploading a photo and GPS location
- **COMMUNICATE** directly with the right City employee on reported issue
- **STAY IN-THE-KNOW** on the status of your request
- **DISCOVER** local places using the places widget as a visual guide, including transportation hubs, municipal buildings, parks and hospitals
- **ACCESS** City services, such as parking ticket or permit payments and street sweeping schedules
- **JOIN** the social media conversation with the #IHeartVanWa widget

How to download:

The free MyVancouver app is now available in the iTunes App Store and the Android Google Play store when you search MyVancouver. For more information visit: cityofvancouver.us/myvancouver

A 60-second animated video showcases the app's key features at <http://bit.ly/myvancouver>



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