

NEIGHBORLY NOTES

Newsletter of the Vancouver Heights Neighborhood Association

October Meeting Agenda

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Our October meeting will feature a panel on Homelessness & Housing in Clark County. Join us as we hear from organizations serving neighbors experiencing homelessness or housing insecurity, the need in our area, stories of those involved, and opportunities to participate in compassionate solutions.

- **Council for the Homeless (CFTH)** - Managing the Housing Hotline, CFTH provides community leadership, compelling advocacy, & practical solutions to prevent & end homelessness in Clark County.
- **Outsiders Inn** - Staffing several shelters, Outsiders Inn lifts people out of homelessness through advocacy, support, & resources while serving the community with integrity, transparency, & respect.
- **Faith Partners for Housing (FP4H)** - Coordinating shared housing, FP4H mobilizes communities, individuals, & resources of all faith traditions to expand affordable housing.
- **Satellite Overflow Shelter (SOS)** - Providing nightly shelter for 15 people and 5 pets, SOS offers safe, hospitable overflow shelter during the cold winter months.

After brief introductions of each organization, we will hear:

1. What's the status of homelessness in Clark County?
2. What are people going through homelessness experiencing?
3. What solutions are being worked on in Clark County?
4. How can the community help?

There will also be an opportunity to write down additional questions that may be asked as time allows. Please come!

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Satellite Overflow Shelter (SOS)

Last winter our community provided 712 people 12,000 warm nights of sleep at several sites. Through the SOS at Immanuel Lutheran Church, our neighborhood provided 53 individuals 831 safe sleeps over 18 weeks. We will again be offering SOS from November 19, 2023 - March 16, 2023, 7 nights a week, from 6pm-8am.

This effort requires strong partnerships from many organizations. Clark County provides funding for staff and supplies. The Council for the Homeless registers and background checks people through the Housing Hotline (360-695-9677). Outsiders Inn staffs the shelter nightly. Beautiful Savior Lutheran (Sun, Mon, Tues), Immanuel Lutheran (Wed, Thurs, Fri), and River City (Sat) are host churches. Community volunteers, like you, provide meals and help the staff. We also have donors such as The Linen Closet of Columbia Presbyterian who recently gave new bedding, The Heights 2nd grade class collects donations, and one individual donates bread weekly.

Opportunities to help include:

- **Meal Volunteer** prepares & drops off meals to the kitchen at 5:45pm.
- **Evening Kitchen Volunteer** works 5:30-8:30pm to serve a meal, cleanup the kitchen, & interact with guests.
- **Evening Shower Volunteer** works 6-9pm to oversee showers, organize supplies, & support the staff.
- **Morning Volunteer** works 6-8:30am to serve breakfast & clean up afterward while the staff assists guests.
- **Donations of supplies are greatly appreciated** and may be dropped off by ringing the doorbell at the church during office hours M-W 10am-4pm or calling to arrange a drop off time.
 - Food: Regular/Decaf Coffee, Butter, Peanut Butter, Jam, Pancake Mix, Syrup, Oatmeal, Granola & Protein Bars, Crackers, Gogurt, Cheese sticks. (Cheese/Lunch Meat/Fruit Prearranged)
 - Paper Products: Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Napkins, Kleenex, Paper Lunch Bags.
 - Hygiene Supplies: Liquid Dish, Hand, & Body Soaps, Feminine Hygiene Products, Razors, Toothbrushes, Toothpaste, Shaving Cream, etc.
 - PPE: Disposable Gloves, Band-aids, Antibacterial Ointment, Cough Drops, Clorox wipes, Masks.
 - Miscellaneous: Batteries (AAA, AA), Blue Tape, Sharpies, Kids' Coloring Books & Crayons.

You are invited to sign up to volunteer at volunteersignup.org/837TH, or by contacting the Immanuel Church Office at 360-694-3661, or office@immanuelvancouver.org.

Please join us for our SOS Volunteer Kickoff & Orientation on Thursday, November 2nd from 6-7:30pm.

Thank you for your partnership in caring for our neighbors!

Events

First Fridays thru December 1, 2023

Clark County Historical Museum
After Hours 5-8pm

Vancouver Heights Holiday Party

December 7th at 7:00 PM
Immanuel Lutheran Church

Share your upcoming neighborhood or church event by emailing Jeff at jthogg@outlook.com



Please join us for our next VHNA meeting!

October 26 @ 7:00 PM

Speakers to include:

1. Amy Stewart w/ Tower Mall Redevelopment Update
2. Homelessness and Housing Panel

Immanuel Lutheran Church

Watch online w/ Zoom @ tinyurl.com/vhnameeting

Passcode: 654772

Or use the Zoom App w/ meeting ID 222 187 1792

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

Be a Good Neighbor

Meet your neighbor. Introduce yourself while walking the dog or when you see moving boxes arrive. Learn your neighbors' names and regularly say "hello" or "Good Morning" before there is any need or problem. Just knowing them can prevent conflict.

Keep your neighbors informed. Contact them before undertaking something that might affect them - such as hosting a big party, building a fence, cutting down a tree or getting a puppy. Informing your neighbors ahead of time allows them to make plans or tell you how your project affects them. Getting their input lets you act in a way that avoids problems.

Be aware of differences. Differences in age, ethnic backgrounds, years in the neighborhood, etc. can lead to conflicting expectations or misunderstandings unless we make an effort to talk with and understand each other. Focus on what you have in common with your neighbor.

Conflict can be an opportunity for increased understanding and improved communication and relationships when handled properly. For help in talking with a neighbor or for confidential assistance with a conflict, contact Community Mediation Services at [360-334-5862](tel:360-334-5862) or info@mediationclarkcounty.org.

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Neighborhood Traffic Safety Alliance

The NTSA has \$300,000 for neighborhood traffic calming and is funded by city tax-payer dollars. The new speed notification signs on St. Helens are a result of this program. Each neighborhood association is a member but VHNA does not have a representative right now. Could this be you? Email a board member to find out more.

Find us on 

VANCOUVER HEIGHTS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
facebook.com/groups/1948876272009365

Report potholes and non-working streetlights



To report potholes and non-working streetlights inside Vancouver city limits, please email:

opsdispatch@cityofvancouver.us. Or use the City of Vancouver app on your smartphone or other mobile device.

Want to receive a digital copy of this newsletter?

Scan the QR code to join the list, or visit tinyurl.com/vhnanews



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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