



Newsletter April 2024

**Next Meeting is April 11th 7:00 PM
at VHA 2500 Main Street**

Meeting Zoom

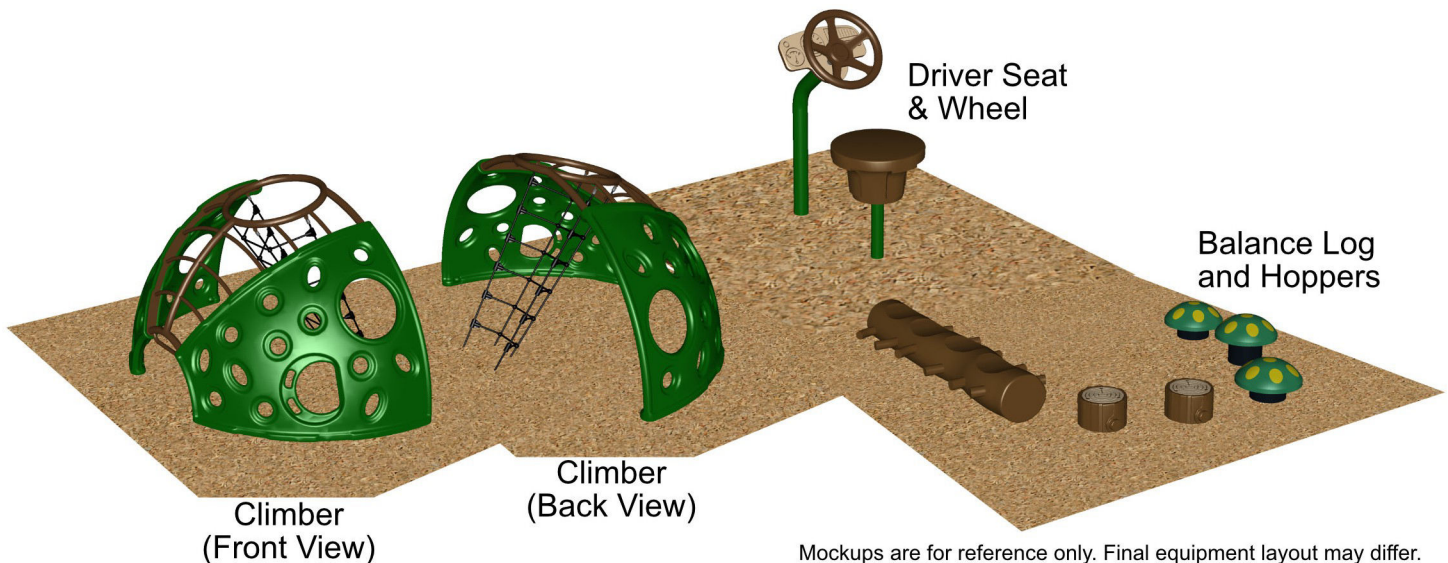
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**Approve January Minutes; Treasury Balance; Civic Updates - Mayor, Police, Port
Erin Stepanek, Community Relations Officer; Clark County YWCA Programs**

Park Update: Thank you donors!

The long wait for the new playground equipment at Arnada Park is finally on the home stretch, and we would like to

Coming Soon: New Playground Equipment



Mockups are for reference only. Final equipment layout may differ.

take the opportunity to once again thank all of the generous donations we received to help us reach our goal.

This project started in May 2021 with a hope of providing toddlers with a more age-appropriate place to play at the playground. It's been a long three years but it has all been worth it. Come May 2024 Arnada Park will have brand new toddler-focused playground equipment!

The playground at Arnada Park will be closed in April to remove the old zip-line and replace it with the new equipment. The playground will be fenced off during construction but the rest of the park will remain open. The goal is for the playground to reopen in May.



Cherry trees line a path on the Clark College campus. Photo credit: Clark College

Sakura Festival – April 25th

The annual Sakura Festival on the Clark College main campus celebrates the anniversary of the gift of 100 Shirofugen cherry trees to the City of Vancouver from John Kageyama, President of America Kotobuki Electronics, Inc. to commemorate the 100th anniversary of Washington's statehood. On April 11, 1990, as a celebration of Arbor Day and Earth Day, the trees were planted on Clark College's main campus in Vancouver's Central Park. The first tree was dedicated by Kageyama, who was joined by Vancouver Mayor Bruce Hagensen and Washington Governor Booth Gardner.

2024 festivities will take place on Thursday, April 25th. Opening remarks are to take place at 1:00 p.m. in the Royce Pollard Japanese Friendship Garden. The celebration begins at 2:30 p.m. in Gaiser Student Center. The event is free and open to the public.

Contact a board member to discuss any neighborhood concerns, give advice or get your issue on a meeting agenda. To post in this newsletter contact Russ Pascoe See Page 2 for contacts
To receive this newsletter by email sign up at this link:

<http://eepurl.com/cLGhcb>



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Code Compliance 360 487-7810

Clark County Animal Control
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Traffic Compliance Hotline 360 487-7402

Parking Hot-line 360 487-8653

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Newsletter Editor, Content & Layout
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April Events Calendar

Date/Time	Event	Details
Sat., Apr. 6: 7 p.m. Fri., Apr. 12: 7 p.m. Sun., Apr. 14: 3 p.m. Sat., Apr. 27: 7 p.m.	Vancouver Volcanoes Home Games Hudson's Bay High School - Skeet O'Connell Sports Center 1933 Fort Vancouver Way	The Vancouver Volcanoes are a non-profit sports entertainment basketball club team playing home games in Vancouver, WA. Providing a family-friendly, affordable professional basketball experience to influence the local youth to reach their fullest potential. Tickets: \$10 General, \$5 seniors (65+). Students and kids under 5 are free.
Thurs., Apr. 4: 7 - 8 p.m.	Big Apples, Big Business: How Washington State Became the Apple State Fourth Plain Community Commons 3101 E Fourth Plain Blvd.	This CCHM Speaker Series session explores how Washington became the top apple-producing state in the country, and how, in the process, it transformed apples into an industrialized commodity. FREE.
Fri., Apr. 5: 4 - 8 p.m.	First Friday Downtown Art Walk	Visit downtown Vancouver's wide array of gallery spaces and art-centric businesses. FREE. Map: vdausa.org/first-friday/
Sat., Apr. 13: 10 a.m.	Alley Way Flea Market The Alley next to Kindred 606 Main Street	Discover everything from handmade good to vintage furniture and home decor. Groove to live music from Ronald Records, and delight in family fun with a bubble machine and chalk art. Every 2 nd Saturday of the month.
Mon., Apr. 15 & 29: 3 - 6 p.m.	Community Art: Garden Rock Painting Kindred Homestead Supply 606 Main Street	Unleash your creativity as you transform ordinary rocks into extraordinary works of art. No artistic experience necessary – just bring your imagination and enthusiasm. Rocks and paints provided. FREE. Reserve your spot: kindredhomesteadsupply.com/pages/workshops-events
Wed., Apr. 17: 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. Third Wednesday of every month (April-September)	Guided Tour of Columbia Springs and the Vancouver Trout Hatchery 12208 SE Evergreen Hwy.	Have you ever wondered how old the fish are out in the Columbia Springs round ponds, or what wildlife can be found around the site? Learn about all what Columbia Springs has to offer during one of their guided tours. Wear good walking shoes and dress for the weather! RSVP: apryl@columbiasprings.org . FREE.
Sat., Apr. 20: 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.	Chief Redheart Memorial Ceremony Fort Vancouver Historical Site 1001 E 5 th Street	Join the Nez Perce Tribe's annual memorial to remember Chief Redheart's band with singing, a drum circle and recognition of veterans. This event honors Chief Redheart's band, who were imprisoned for eight months without cause at Fort Vancouver in 1877-78. Open to the public. FREE.
Thurs., Apr. 25: 1 p.m.	Sakura Festival Royce Pollard Japanese Friendship Garden Clark College Campus	Join Clark College, City of Vancouver, and Vancouver Rotary on the Clark College main campus for the annual Sakura Festival celebrating the bonds of friendship between our region and Japan. FREE.
Fri., Apr. 26: 6 - 9 p.m.	Día Del Niños: ¡Celebración de Primavera! Gaiser Student Center 1933 Fort Vancouver Way	Celebrate Día Del Niños with activities for kids and adults. Celebrate children, families, reading, dancing, and singing with environmentally-friendly games, arts and crafts, and yummy snacks! FREE.

Save the Trees – Curb Your Dog



Does this tree damage look familiar to you? After my newly planted trees started showing signs of damage/disease I looked into what could possibly be happening to my trees. Bad soil? Too much water? Not enough water? Lawn tool damage? The answer is possibly dogs.

All around the neighborhood you can see evidence of burning, fissures, and cracking on the lower two-feet of trees in the tree lawn/city strip next to the sidewalk. Dog owners typically have a route they take on their daily walks with their four-legged pals and inevitably the dogs start to get a “favorite tree.” These trees become a doggy bulletin board for dozens of dogs every day and over time the trees start to pay the price.

It’s not just the damage you can see on the tree trunk. The regular visits to a dog’s favorite tree cause damage to a tree in a couple ways:

1. The bark: Constant soaking of bark with urine can cause “ammonium toxicity.” The nitrogen found in ammonium can be good in small doses but multiple small doses quickly lead to too much and becomes toxic. It soaks through the bark and over time damages the outer tissue layer of trees that make them grow in diameter. Leaving it prey to burrowing insects and diseases. This is especially true of young, thin-barked trees like maple, oak, ash, birch, or magnolia.
2. The roots: Urine contains salt that can create a crust on the soil, which can make water absorption difficult. On the really popular trees this salt can build and begin to draw water from the roots causing a drought effect.

So where should dogs go? You could try finding an out-of-the-way spot that does not have plants and allow your dog to empty its bladder at the start of the walk. But a good answer is... curb your dog. You may read that and think curb to mean “to restrain or hold back,” it does but it turns out that this phrase (popularized in 1930’s New York City) also means the literal curb, as in, move the dog off the sidewalk and train them to pee into the gutter of the road.

In recent years, we have added a number of trees to Arnada’s growing tree canopy with the help of neighbors and Friends of Trees planting events. Residents and the City are doing their part to keep these trees watered, they don’t need your dog to help “water the tree.” Their urine isn’t just water.

Let’s work together to keep our trees healthy. Dog owners, if you see your dog eyeing a damaged tree maybe give that tree a break once in a while. Tree owners, you can try adding a tree guard or a planter box around the tree and you can regularly hose down your tree’s trunk if you begin to see damage.

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. Printed by the City of Vancouver Office of Neighborhoods.



the clark neighbors food project

HELLO GREEN BAGS

Next collection April 13



Making a Difference

YWCA Clark County has been a powerful source for social justice, advocacy, and support in SW Washington for more than 100 years. We have a long history of identifying inequities in our community and creating collaborative and empowering solutions to these challenges. Guided by our values of empowerment, diversity, teamwork, commitment, and respect, YWCA's four core programs serve nearly 13,000 community members annually regardless of socioeconomic status, race, ethnicity, gender, age, or identity.

ENDING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

The SafeChoice Domestic Violence Program commits to advocate for, educate, and support those affected by domestic violence. We operate the only Emergency Domestic Violence Shelter in Clark County. In addition to providing advocacy and a gender-inclusive shelter, the SafeChoice Program offers specialized advocacy for lesbian, gay, bi-sexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ) people.



BUILDING HEALTHY RELATIONSHIP SKILLS

Our Prevention Program emphasizes working with youth because we know that this is the most effective way to stop violence before it starts. Young people are susceptible to experiencing dating violence because they are still developing their sense of self and creating norms for their future relationships. We empower youth as leaders in changing norms around violence in our relationships and communities through schools and other workshops.

EMPOWERING SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT

The Sexual Assault Program provides 24-hour legal, medical, and emotional support to victims of sexual assault and their families at no charge. We also offer advocacy, support groups, counseling, community outreach, and education. Sexual assault is any form of sexual contact without consent or permission—it is not an accident. People do not ask for, cause, invite, or deserve to be sexually assaulted.



YWCA Clark County's mission is to eliminate racism, empower women, and promote peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all.

READYING PRESCHOOLERS FOR KINDERGARTEN

The Y's Care Children's Program offers high-quality preschool education to children and families on a sliding scale. Inspired by world-renowned schools in Reggio Emilia, Italy, our goal is to help children learn the skills they need to thrive. Staff provide resources and referrals for childcare funding, health care, housing, emergency funding, and family support.

24-hour hotline 360-695-0501
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toll free 800-695-0167
ywcaclarkcounty.org

eliminating racism
empowering women
ywca
Clark County