



Cascade Highlands Herald

www.neighborhoodlink.com/vancouver/cascadehighlands

May 2024

A little time, a little effort, makes for a better neighborhood!

Upcoming CHNA Events

June 8 - Green Bag Food Pick Up

June 15 - Annual Cleanup with Mountain View Neighborhood Association at the Mountain View High School parking lot, 8:00 a.m. - noon (coupon on p. 6 required)

July 9 - Annual Dessert Meeting (Homestead Park), 7:00 p.m.

August 6 - National Night Out

August 10 - Green Bag Food Pick Up

Agenda Items for July 9 Dessert Meeting

- Greetings and Introduction of Executive Board Members
- Omar Guzman landscape developer for City of Vancouver on plans for the park's playground
- Rose White - Public Spaces Stewardship Specialist, City of Vancouver
- Lieutenant Sean Dumas, City of Vancouver police department
- Elections of Officers for Chair, Treasurer, Newsletter Distributor
- Executive reports - Fiscal, Green Bag Food Project, NTSA
- National Night Out - August 6
- Topics of Interest or Concern

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Annual CHNA Cleanup

The annual Cascade Highlands Neighborhood Association (CHNA) cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, June 15, in the Mountain View H.S. parking lot, 8:00 a.m. through

noon. Happily, four people have already volunteered to work this event for you!

For efficiency's sake our cleanup will again be combined with Mountain View N.A.

We will have: packer trucks for junk, the chipper and debris box for yard trimmings, a box for metal (we get half the money from the sale of this metal), an area set aside for bicycles, an area set aside for small engine machines, and will be collecting food and personal care items for F.I.S.H. of Orchards.

The green coupon attached to this newsletter (see p. 6) is required for each load. Please sign and address it before you arrive at our welcome area. If you need more than one coupon, perhaps you could talk with your neighbor and use theirs. After all, this is a neighborhood project and we like promoting neighborliness. Although, if you're transporting your 'junk' in a small car, we can make allowances for you to make multiple trips on one coupon.

We will also be collecting canned goods, paper products, and personal hygiene items to donate to F.I.S.H. of Orchards, so please plan to bring those items as well.

Additionally, we will accept donations of money to be deposited in our account or to be donated to F.I.S.H. of Orchards.

If you need assistance getting your items to the dumpster/shredder on cleanup day, please call 360-896-7291 (v.m.) in advance of cleanup day to arrange for help.

What Is Accepted at the Cleanup

Bulky Items

Broken or worn-out items that are too large to fit in your garbage cart at home such as rugs, kiddie pools, small appliances, broken furniture, brooms, broken plumbing items, kitchen sinks, mattresses, rotten deck boards, etc.

Scrap Metal

Metal BBQs, lawn furniture, car parts or small engines (all drained of fluids, please) metal appliances (no Freon containing items – no

fridges or freezers, AC units), metal pots and cans, etc. Mowers and other small engines will be set aside for a lawn mower specialist.

Yard Debris

Branches, grass, leaves, vines, bramble, arborvitae, juniper, bamboo, yard and garden trimmings.

Bicycles

Donated to Bike Clark County (1604 Main St.)

What Is NOT Accepted

NO Household trash

NO Contractor waste

NO Large or heavy quantities of concrete, cement, rocks, sod, or dirt

NO Home project/remodel debris (i.e. flooring tiles, drywall, large amounts of fencing, etc.)

NO Roofing shingles or roofing materials

NO Hazardous chemicals, cleaners, paints or stains

NO Fluids such as gasoline or oil or liquids

NO TVs, computers or electronics (recycle for free at Goodwill)

NO CFL or fluorescent tube lights (recycle for free visit www.LightRecycle.org for locations)

NO REALLY LARGE items like boats and hot tubs. These should be hauled directly to the transfer station.

Financial Report

By Maureen Humbert

The last finance report (Feb. 2024) indicated the association's balance was \$5,426.42. Since then, \$325.00 in park bench donations were deposited and \$120 was paid out for the association's insurance. We received a grant of \$3,990 from the Watershed Alliance for the Fall 2023 tree plantings and watering bags, and this same amount was paid to Friends of Trees to cover the planting of trees in our neighborhood. This brings the new balance to \$5,631.42.

Additionally, a \$1,000 grant from the City of Vancouver for our park bench project will be received later in the summer. This will allow us to pay \$6,000 for the park benches and leave a small remaining balance in the association's account.

February's and April's Green Bag Report

Pat, Paisley and Jean lucked out on the weather for our February Green Bag food donation pick up. Sixty-six CHNA neighbors donated 1,219 pounds of food (and personal care products) and \$380.00 to F.I.S.H. of Orchards.

In April, together, we donated 1,175 pounds and \$455.00 to F.I.S.H. of Orchards. We are making a difference, people! Thank you!

If you want to be a part of this rewarding and easy way to donate food to people who need a little help just contact me, Jean Kent. I'll get you started. "THANKS!" to our donors!



Want to Become CERT Certified?

CERT stands for Community Emergency Response Team. The next class starts in September. This training is an opportunity for people of all

ages, sizes, and physical abilities to learn valuable basic skills needed during an emergency.

Whether you are interested in learning how to take care of yourself and your family, your neighborhood, or taking an active role in community preparedness, the CERT training will help increase your confidence and provide peace of mind.

CHNA is willing to pay your fee (limited spots) for having taken this class, although you need to inform us before signing up.

For further information please consult: <https://www.certclarkcountywa.com/>

Stolen Mail

by Jean Kent

While I was walking my dog this morning, I found evidence of two separate incidents of mail torn and scattered about. While mail theft is rare in Cascade Highlands, it does occur, so we strongly recommend that you consider installing a locking mailbox if you haven't already done that.

CHNA Chair, Treasurer, Newsletter Distributor

This year these three offices are up for election. If you want to be a candidate for one of these positions, please contact any executive board member. At this time, Jean Kent (chair), Maureen Humbert (treasurer) and Erika Johnson (newsletter distributor) are all willing to serve for another two years. THANKS!

Disposing Of Bulky Items (through Waste Connections)

If you are not able to make it to the Annual Clean Up on June 15th, remember that you can get a one-time/year, free curbside pickup for up to five bulky items (e.g. worn-out furniture, old mattresses, broken lawn chairs, bulky rugs). You can schedule the pickup by going to <https://wcor্থwestcom/> and clicking on "Free Bulk."

Newly Moved-In Neighbors

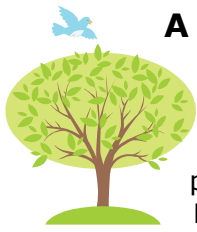
If you just moved in (or have a newly moved-in neighbor) and would like to receive our welcoming newcomer 'information sheets', please contact Brian Hartl (bhartl2@juno.com) and – "Welcome to the Neighborhood!"

We Have Another Tree-Planting Grant!

Plan now to participate in our annual Friends of Trees planting come November or December, 2024. We applied for and have received another grant from the Watershed Alliance so each of your new trees will cost only \$25.00. More specific information will come in later newsletters but do start thinking about planting a tree or two now.

National Night Out is Coming

The first Tuesday in August (August 6th this year) is National Night Out (NNO), a time set aside for immediate neighbors to get together and just visit with each other. The event can be anything you want it to be - with food or without, with seating or without, long-time or short hi-'bye. The goal is to get to know your immediate neighbors better. Most get-togethers start around 7:00 p.m. We encourage each street to organize a NNO event!



A Third Work Party for Homestead Park

On April 16th, 6 volunteers and two City of Vancouver staffers performed volunteer service at Homestead Park. Together we planted 60 plants, spread 5 cubic yards of mulch, picked up 2 cubic yards of yard debris, and hand-watered all of the new, but unfortunately, very dry plants. We focused on the long skinny area next to 159th Place which used to be empty of foliage (other than weeds). Between the Watershed Alliance grant and several plantings sponsored by the city, that area looks much more interesting and is healthier for the soil, as well as a source of food for pollinator species.

Thank you to all who donated their time, planting energy, stick-picking-up skills, and mulch-distributing acumen.

We Were Awarded a City of Vancouver Grant!

Our very own treasurer, Maureen, did such a great job filling out the Community and Neighborhood grant application that we were awarded the \$1,000.00 grant for which she applied. We now have enough money to have two additional benches installed in Homestead Park when the playground equipment is put in.

Thank you, Maureen, and thank you to the five neighbors who donated \$1,325.00 to our kitty to help with the \$6,000 cost of the two benches.

Did you participate in the City of Vancouver survey regarding the play structure choices? If you did, thank you for doing that. Our contact at the city said our 206 responses were outstanding and showed an intense interest in providing swings as a choice element. The city is looking into including swings along with the other elements - the playground area is fairly small so space is a limiting factor.

Short-Term Rental Follow-up

The Vancouver City Council voted unanimously to adopt a short-term rental (STR) ordinance which went into effect in January of 2024. There is a 24-month pilot period.

The City also established a set of goals including:

- Limit the total to no more than 870 units.
- Monitor ongoing impacts on long-term rental market (including housing affordability).
- Minimize public safety risks and possible noise and trash problems.
- Monitor code compliance cases.
- Conduct ongoing stakeholder outreach to determine program effectiveness and future possible refinements.

If you have questions email development review manager Jason Nortz (who spoke at our summer meeting) jason.nortz@cityofvancouver.us.

What's the Future of the NTSA?

In Vancouver, NTSA stands for Neighborhood Traffic Safety Alliance. This group is an all-volunteer group representing all participating neighborhood associations which meets monthly. It was formed when the city annexed the large Cascade Park area from the county in the 1990's.

At the time of annexation, many city staffers were interested in having neighborhoods participate in traffic safety projects. The goal was for the city to partner with the NTSA to evaluate and award around 2 million dollars annually to projects which promoted neighborhood safety: fixing sidewalks, funding plantings, installing curb cuts at intersections, and slowing traffic using various means like speed humps/bumps and lane designations.

Through the years, the amount of money dedicated to this partnership was lessened mainly due to economic factors and, during a few years of fiscal austerity, was actually cut to zero. This greatly curtailed what projects could be awarded and restricted the kind of projects to strictly street elements (radar signs, speed tables/humps, crosswalk flashing lights, etc.).

For the last couple of years, the city has set aside \$300,000 per year for projects. This amount goes fast so few projects were carried out although interest in calming neighborhood traffic in the city has never flagged.

In the past year or so, city staff decided that the partnership with the NTSA was not integral

(continued from p.4)

to the essence of the neighborhood traffic program, so the NTSA board was informed that the NTSA no longer has any role in awarding the grants.

Dan West and Jean Kent have represented CHNA in the NTSA for many years. CHNA was the beneficiary of NTSA grants a few times - calming on 160th Ave. and on Park Crest (four separate grants, amazingly enough) are notable for having slowed traffic and made those corridors safer for travelers of any type - bicyclists, pedestrians, etc.

The question now is whether or not the NTSA will continue and, if so, what its purpose is. There will be a discussion as to the continuation or dissolution of the NTSA at the May 21st on-line meeting. If you'd like to attend, please contact Dan or Jean.



Thank you to all our dedicated newsletter distributors - you help make Cascade Highlands a great place to live! Thank you to *Jackie Andrewjeski, Judy and Dick Bird, Gary and Peggy Bowman, Mark Crawford, Son Do and Jessica Tu, Marion Dittman, Pat Henderson, Jim and Shareefah Hoover, Ann Horstman, Maureen Humbert, Mary Ellen Hunt, Annette Idler, Mark Johnson, Judie Kearney, Jean Kent, Pearl Liang, Julie Nakao, Holly and Rob Orr, Pat Poe, Rose Ann and Tony Ranft, Steve Schmidkofer, Reland Short, Mike Small, Lee Ann Stewart and Teddy Peetz, Paige Tyson and Bryan Schofield, Sharon Wilton and Niel Wolfe* for helping distribute the February 2024 newsletter.

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.

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*** * DUMPSTER/RECYCLE COUPON * ***

Cascade Highlands Neighborhood Association Cleanup

Good for drop-off of bulky items. No hazardous waste, tires nor concrete, please.

Mountain View H.S. Parking Lot (1500 SE Blairmont)

VALID: **Saturday, June 15, 2024**

8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. only

You must live between SE Blairmont/Parkcrest and SE 164th Aves.,
and McGillivray and Mill Plain, please.

*My signature releases all CHNA volunteers from any damage that may occur as a result
of the neighborhood cleanup.*

signature

street address

Please bring these/this **coupon(s)** and some **canned**, non-perishable **goods**,
household cleaning, or **personal care products** to **donate**. Thank you!
ONE COUPON PER LOAD - NO LIQUIDS of any kind.

*** * CHIPPER/YARD DEBRIS COUPON * ***

Cascade Highlands Neighborhood Association Cleanup

Good for drop-off of large yard debris, clippings, leaves. No plastic bags nor wood.

Mountain View H.S. Parking Lot (1500 SE Blairmont)

VALID: **Saturday, June 15, 2023**

8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. only

You must live between SE Blairmont/Parkcrest and SE 164th Aves.,
and McGillivray and Mill Plain, please.

*My signature releases all CHNA volunteers from any damage that may occur as a result
of the neighborhood cleanup.*

signature

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