

First Place Neighborhood Association
PO Box 872261, Vancouver, WA 98687

January 2025
Volume 35, Issue 1

1Q25 Newsletter

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hi FPNA Community! Happy New Year and here's to 2025!

A lot is happening for 2025: We had 34 people participate in our fourth quarter General Meeting and were able to unanimously pass the 2025 FPNA Budget. We are looking forward to a great 2025. Here are some highlights:



-With the darkness of night, we are looking into painting street addresses on curbs throughout the entire neighborhood. You will see two emails regarding this. Please let us know by January 31, 2025 if you are interested in having this done. If we don't hear from you, we will assume you are not interested.

-Ladies Happy Hour: Bonnie McCampbell is retiring as committee chair. We thank her for all she has done. If you are interested in chairing the Ladies Happy Hour committee, please let us know at FPNACommunicate@gmail.com. It is a fun time for the women in our community to get together!

-CC&R Update: The FPNA Board is interested to move forward with updating important aspects of FPNA's CC&Rs (Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions) document and will be coming around to each household soon to discuss the proposed updates and gain neighborhood input. Our desire is to maintain the beauty and integrity of the First Place neighborhood community. More to come!

-Garage Sale: Pat Tarnow has decided to retire from Chair of the Garage Sale event. We thank her for her years of service. If you are interested to chair this committee, please let us know at FPNACommunicate@gmail.com.

-Volunteer Appreciation Dinner: Over 60 members representing hundreds of hours have donated their time this year to support our FPNA community. We will be hosting a Volunteer Appreciation Dinner in their honor for all their work this past year.

-The 2025 FPNA Neighborhood Picnic budget has passed and Doug Stalheim will have an announcement soon!

Let's make 2025 the best year ever!

Sincerely, Dale Cisco, FPNA President

First Place

Neighborhood Association



UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Men's Luncheon**
January 17th at 11:30AM
at Kabob City Grill
- Please RSVP to
Wayne Sparks by 1/15
- **Ladies' Luncheon**
January 21st at 11:30AM
at Pho Vi Van restaurant
- Please RSVP to
Diana Petty by 1/18
- **2025 FPNA Annual Dues: Dues Due Now! Do it: \$30**
- See Page 9
- **18th Street Redesign and Widening:**
Meetings are on-going
- contact Grace Teigen
- **FPNA Volunteer Appreciation Dinner:**
February 8th at 4:00PM
- contact Kandi Cisco
- **First Place Association General Meeting:**
1Q2025/TBD at 7PM
- contact Dale Cisco
- **FPNA Neighborhood Picnic in the Park:**
July 19th
- contact Doug Stalheim

NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY

Crime Prevention and Early Detection

Keeping an eye out for unusual vehicles in our First Place Neighborhoods tied to criminal activity can have several **benefits** when it comes to our neighborhood safety:

1. **Crime Prevention:** we can play a crucial role in preventing crime. By noticing unfamiliar or suspicious vehicles, you can help deter criminals. For example, if you see an **unusual car parked on your street for an extended period**, it's essential to take note of the **license plate or VIN number** and report it to the Vancouver police.
2. **Early Detection:** Recognizing vehicles that don't belong to our neighborhood or appears out of place can lead to early detection of criminal activity. Whether it's someone casing the area or other criminal activities, your vigilance can help us maintain the First Place Neighborhood as a great place to live.

Remember, reporting suspicious behavior or unfamiliar vehicles is essential for maintaining safety and security within our neighborhoods.



Latest example, this truck appeared early December in front of **1201 NE 152nd Ave.** It appears to be abandoned or stolen. After closer inspection, the VIN number on the dash appears altered and the plate is 8 years expired if it goes with this vehicle at all!

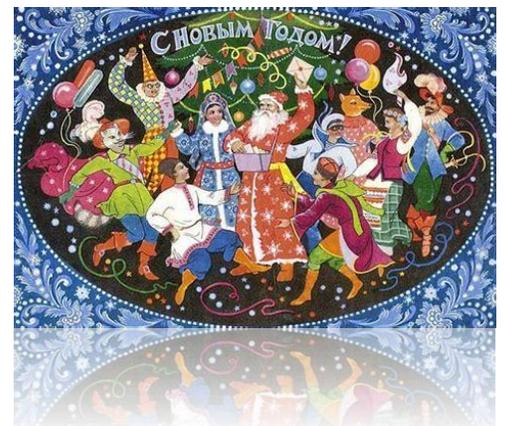
This makes the third car to be stolen/abandoned on 152nd Ave in the past year. It was been reported to Vancouver Police.

So, keep those eyes peeled and if something seems out of the ordinary, don't hesitate to call the authorities! Vancouver Police Department Traffic Complaint Hotline 360-487-7402 or use the Online Submission Form: www.cityofvancouver.us/police/webform/traffic-complaint-form 🚓📄

- Rick Burke, FPNA Safety Chair

You can also report parking concerns at: <https://www.cityofvancouver.us/services/report-concern/>
These complaints/infractions include:

- Abandoned – Stored on Street, Prolonged, Inoperable, and Possibly Stolen
- Crosswalk – Blocking crosswalk, too close to intersection
- Driveway – Too close to driveway
- Expired Tags
- Improper – Displayed for sale, Repairing vehicle on street, Parked in wrong direction or too far from curb
- No Parking – parking in a signed no parking area (not a fire lane)
- Prohibited Parking – Too close to stop sign, on the sidewalk or planting strip, too near fire hydrant
- **Recreation or Personal Trailer – Boat, Trailer or RV (not lived in) in Street**
- Semi-Cab/Trailer – Semi or commercial vehicle, including box van or utility trucks



18TH STREET WIDENING PROJECT – COALITION UPDATE

If you ever wonder what's happening on the 18th Street widening project, the most up to date information can be found at www.ne18thstreet.info.

We are in the process of making some website revisions and, if you are on the FPNA Communicate list, whenever we add information you will receive a notice that lets you know that it's time to check the website. Watch for a notice in your email soon.



Over the last several months, the Coalition has been meeting with all the prospective engineers who hope to be chosen to design the road. That the city is granting us this kind of access is extraordinary and speaks to their desire to work with us to build the best road possible. We are laying out our “wish list” (developed from the survey many of you completed several months ago). We are meeting with these candidates in the hope that the chosen one will be able to support our vision. The reception we've received is encouraging, but we are always mindful that it will all come down to budgets, including the

manpower available to support our hopes. We are optimistic that though we may not get everything we ask for, the city will try to give us as much as possible.

The design process will begin in early spring and will take two years. It may seem that nothing is happening, but your coalition will be meeting with the design team throughout that time. The goal is to not only attempt to influence the outcome, but to educate ourselves and you as to what options there may be and what we can expect. There will be a Public Input process and we hope to provide you with information that will be helpful. If you have questions, we will be active and available during that time.

The Hedgerow

In order to create a robust privacy, noise, and environmental-damage screen for folks who live on 16th Street, we worked with the Stonebriar neighborhood to the east of First Place and jointly applied for and received a \$5000 grant from Watershed Alliance to cover much of the cost. Five First Place and eight Stonebriar homes took advantage of the opportunity, leaving us enough funds to plant an additional 300 feet of shrubbery behind First Place Park at the west end adjacent to the picnic/play area. We received an additional grant to install an irrigation system in this section and the city agreed to provide any needed water at no cost. Utilizing funds provided by the grants and leaning heavily on generous volunteer labor, we were able to successfully plant 672 native bushes and shrubs. A special thanks to Dan Gibson who spent many hours on a bobcat to assist in the spreading of dozens of truckloads of bark chips, and additional hours with Ken Kreitz planning and laying out an irrigation system. We also owe an enormous debt of gratitude to Russ Scofield, Chair of the Burton Evergreen Neighborhood Association who personally predrilled 672 holes with a post hole digger and then led dozens of scouts to assist in the final planting. Mike Leland and Amber Schroeder, Stonebriar neighbors, helped gather and inform participating neighbors and Carol Warrens of First Place and Valerie Wright of Stonebriar helped to distribute plants to participants.

Working on this project, I am constantly aware that we are so fortunate to live in this vibrant, active, supportive neighborhood. The volunteer hours that so many neighbors spend is extraordinary. For me, being even a small part of it is very rewarding and as we begin another year, I want to thank the FPNA Board and so many neighbors for the work they do on our neighborhood's behalf.

Grace Teigen
NE 18th Street Coalition Liaison

WALK & KNOCK FOOD DRIVE

Thank you to the FPNA Community for participating in the annual Clark County Walk & Knock Food Drive. Your contributions help to fill a critical need in our community and your willingness to help others is a true act of generosity.

Our success to deliver on the FPNA's commitment to support Walk & Knock can only happen with our team of volunteers. A HUGE thank you to the following neighbors for their efforts to collect your donations and deliver them to the drop-off location:

- Susan Caven and Nick McCutchen
- Joe and Carol Ghaffari
- Tim and Nancy Moushey
- Dana, Michaela and Steven Mckenzie
- Joe and Candy Serroels
- Wayne and Pat Sparks
- Charlie and Brenda Valentine

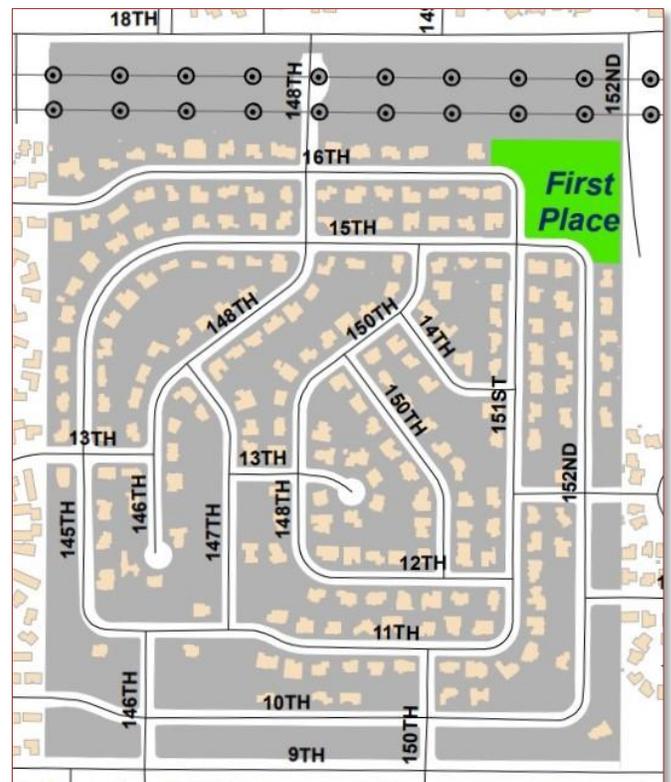


If you wish to donate money, visit walkandknock.org or send a check to P.O. Box 353, Vancouver WA 98666.

- *Patti Hines*

Let's extend a warm welcome to our newest neighbors:

- **10th Street:**
 - Randy Colson
- **15th Street:**
 - Cheng-Jen Geo & Wan Ya Amy Wang
- **150th Avenue:**
 - Ryan & Toni Amy
- **152nd Avenue:**
 - Anne Knoedler





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 First.Place.Newsletter@gmail.com

(Note: To protect our neighbors, personal contact information is intentionally omitted from the FPNA Newsletter. 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!

163 First Place neighbors participate on Facebook

First Place Neighborhood Association

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

Email Addresses and Info:

FPNAcommunicate@gmail.com

Changes to group participation, email, or contact information changes

First.Place.Newsletter@gmail.com

For submissions and questions

[NextDoor App](#)

Information shared by neighbor members

[Facebook Website](#)

Information shared by neighbor members



Nextdoor



FPNA Executive Board: 2025

Chair – Dale Cisco

Vice Chair – Steve Zapp

Treasurer – Evan Meessen

Secretary – Bonnie Mallory

Neighborhood Committees:

Annual Picnic – Doug Stalheim, Lorene Stalheim, Laura Dubois, Patti Hines, Kennan Kuffel, Joan Lamy, Penny McElvain, Dan Gibson, Steve George, Poni/Chelsey Tupuola

Annual Spring Cleanup – Tom Harriman

Communications Coordinator – Patti Hines

18th Street Widening Project – Gene Wigglesworth, Grace Teigen, Ellen Sward, Bill Savoie, Margie Schnack, Wayne Sparks, Sherry Bala, and other interested neighbors.

Facebook – Penny McElvain

First Place Directory – Kandi Cisco

Garage Sale – **Open**

Holiday Ladies' Luncheon – **Open**

Ladies' Luncheon – Candace Africa

Landscape (including 18th St entrance circle) – Steve Zapp

Men's Luncheon – Wayne Sparks

Neighborhood Ambassador Program – Doug Stalheim, Pat Sparks, Sheree Belanger, Julia Karnes, Helena Lee, Joan Lamy, Kandi Cisco, and Kay Scott

- **Welcome Basket Production Team** – Penny McElvain, Kay Scott

- **New Neighbor Spotters** – Joan Lamy, Joe Serroels, Bryan Fix (local realtor)

Neighborhood Socials – Sharon Bevan

Newsletter – Darren Belanger

Next Door Website – Joan Lamy

9th Street Garden Gang - coordinate/maintain FPNA properties backing to 9th street – **Open**

Safety Committee – Rick Burke, Sut Oishi

Scholarship Committee - Sharon Bevan, Kandi Cisco, Sharon Graven, Tim Eannarino

Volunteer Appreciation Dinner – Kandi Cisco

Walk & Knock – Patti Hines

Women's Happy Hour – **Open**





What do committee volunteers and board members do?

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. Additionally, 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

First Place Neighborhood Ambassadors - The Ambassadors welcome new neighbors and deliver welcome baskets

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

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

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 then sends the newsletter to the FPNA Chairperson for review and approval. Works with the City of Vancouver and the Office of Neighborhoods to promote the quality livability of the First Place Neighborhood

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

WE DON'T NEED SOME PEOPLE TO DO EVERYTHING,
WE NEED EVERYBODY TO DO SOMETHING
VOLUNTEER IF YOU CAN

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

[Send Email to FPNA Communicate](#)

(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"/> |
|---|------|--------------------------|-----|--------------------------|

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"/> |
|----------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|

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.



FPNA Annual Dues Notice

\$30 per household

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

Check: Make payable to First Place Neighborhood Association (FPNA)

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

** FPNA no longer accepts Paypal until further notice **

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

Name(s) _____

FP Address _____

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

FPNA Scholarship Fund \$ _____

Any other FPNA activity \$ _____

18th Street Coalition (Widening Project) Support \$ _____

Thank you for your continued support!

-Your FPNA Board and FP Neighbors

Your donation may be tax-deductible. FPNA's EIN is: 76-0733017

NOTE: FPNA no-longer accepts PayPal

Due to new IRS regulations, PayPal and other services must report combined transactions over \$600 to the IRS. This creates a tax obligation for the First Place Association and therefore we have decided to not allow these types of payments. Nevertheless, there is an effort underway to open a *non-profit* PayPal account and to eventually allow electronic payments again. But for now, please pay your annual dues and contributions by check (or cash).