



# Cascade Highlands Herald

[www.neighborhoodlink.com/vancouver/cascadehighlands](http://www.neighborhoodlink.com/vancouver/cascadehighlands)

March 2006

## CHNA Meeting Update

**Next Meeting** - April 16th, WEDNESDAY, 7:00 p.m.  
Mountain View H.S. Forum room (NE corner of the campus  
near parking lot)

City Transportation People will present the preliminary  
design for Parkcrest Traffic Calming Phase II,  
Blairmont/15th to Mill Plain.



Thank you to all of our dedicated newsletter distributors -  
you help make Cascade Highlands a great place to live!  
Thank you to *Judy and Dick Bird, Eileen Blackman, Joe  
Byrne, Jennifer Chariarse, Rosenna and Ken Cheng, Cecil  
Davies, Son Do, Terry Fraser, Mark Harris, Edith Hartley,  
Lisa Homestead, Bill, Brandon, and Cheri Hutchens, Jim  
Hoover and Shareefah Abdullah, Brenda Jensen, Erika and  
Mark Johnson, Jean Kent, Peggy Liang, John and May  
McCaul, Sheila McKay, Elise Miller, Leanore Olmstead, Holly  
Orr, Nathalie Pinzone, Diane Pudans, Ann Rangos, Ron and  
Shirley Royer, Marianne Stein, Jim Strouse, Anne Vitort,  
and Bill Wilton* for helping with the January newsletter.



## 2006 Grant Applications Filed

Grant Pre-Applications have been filed for  
4 grants for this cycle: 160th Traffic  
Calming (REET), Blairmont ADA Ramps  
(CDBG), 15 St. Passthrough Lighting  
(Matching Grant), and Parkcrest

Crosswalks and ADA Ramps (NAP).

**April MEETING**  
**Wednesday, April 16<sup>th</sup> 7PM AT**  
**Mountain View HS Forum**

### C.H.N.A. LEADERSHIP

#### *Chair*

Jean Kent 896-7291

[jeaken@pacifier.com](mailto:jeaken@pacifier.com)

#### *Co-Chair*

Gary Bohman 254-2009

[pegarma@aol.com](mailto:pegarma@aol.com)

#### *Treasurer*

Nathalie Pinzone

#### *Secretary*

Mark Johnson 260-9140

#### *City Liaison*

Antoinette Gasbarre 619-1114

[antoinettegasbarre@](mailto:antoinettegasbarre@ci.vancouver.wa.us)

[ci.vancouver.wa.us](mailto:ci.vancouver.wa.us)

#### *P.A.T. (Police Advisory Team representative)*

David Holler 896-6813

[daveholler33@hotmail.com](mailto:daveholler33@hotmail.com)

#### *Newsletter Editor*

Mark Johnson 260-9140

#### *Newsletter Distributor*

Erika Johnson 260-9140

#### *Website Coordinator*

Dan West

[vetnavy@comcast.net](mailto:vetnavy@comcast.net)

## January 2006 CHNA Survey Results

As of February 1, 2006, we received 40 surveys filled out by CHNA residents. Here's a big thank you to all who participated in this effort and took time from your busy lives to help us know your interests, concerns, and thoughts.

The following is a synopsis of responses:

Are you aware of CHNA? *yes 38, no 2*

Do you know CHNA is led by a volunteer group of neighbors? *yes 38, no 2*

Have you attended a meeting? *21 yes, 19 no*

If no, why? *busy 12, not enough notice 3, no interest 3, can't get there 1, not willing to attend 1, thoughts are represented so no need to attend 1, where is Mountain View forum 1, no time specified 1, didn't think about it 1 (some people who said yes, also included a reason why they were unable to come at times)*

Do you think your thoughts are represented at meetings regardless of your attendance? *yes 25, no 8, to a point 1, no answer 6*

Are you neighborhood assoc. needs met in general? *yes 35, no 1, no response 4*

Any changes which would result in your attending meetings more regularly? *no changes 22, yes 2 (too late at night, Sat a.m. better), Wednesday, no response 6*

Do you read the newsletter? *yes 39 no 2 (one person marked both boxes)*

If yes, please describe reaction to it: *informative 33, waste of time 1, no interest 2, no response 4*

Do you know CHNA has a website? *yes 24, no 16*

Have you examined the website? *yes 6, no 34*

Do you feel CHNA is an asset to the neighborhood? *Yes 35 no 2, I don't know 3*

Do you know of a benefit you've derived from CHNA? *Yes 34, No 5, don't know 1*

Examples of benefits listed: *annual cleanup at Mt View, Traffic changes, Traffic*

*Calming, Garage Sale, Recycling coupons (leaf and debris), Fence Painting, Neighborhood Beautification, Tree Planting, Feel better informed about my neighborhood, all the grants, representation at the city level, info on dog poop in yards, new building info.*

Thanks to those that took the time to complete the survey. Your responses, including topics for the newsletter, suggestions for future neighborhood projects and additional comments are appreciated and will be considered by the board when determining future actions.

## By-Laws Changed by Unanimous Vote

Four changes in our By-Laws were enacted by unanimous vote by attendees at the January, 2006 CHNA meeting. We will be required to have one executive meeting, and one general meeting per year, voting members must reside within the boundaries of our neighborhood, and the residents must have at least 7 days notice for amending the by-laws.



## Meth House Information

If you think that there is a drug house in the neighborhood you need to keep a log or journal of the type of activity which occurs around that house. Each neighbor who can witness the activity should keep a log.

After you have kept a log for a few weeks, please contact either the Neighborhood Response Team through the Police Department, or the Narcotics Task Force at 256-5711 and give them the information in your log(s).

Note: they may or may not be interested. It takes a huge amount of "evidence" of activity at any given residence to warrant further investigation.

Also, please keep in mind that some people are gregarious and entertain often which can be misconstrued as drug activity.

Finally, please note that during our May 10, 2004 meeting, Armetta Burney and Kathy McNicholas made a presentation about the Meth problem in Vancouver and Washington State. They showed a video called '*Hidden Dangers*' which focused on recognition of and protection from meth labs. Pamphlets and brochures regarding meth awareness were handed out and are available if you are interested.

### **Curbside Appliance Pick Up**

Beginning February 15, reservations will be taken for free curbside pick up of non-working major appliances from homes inside the Vancouver city limits. The program includes recyclable major appliances only, such as refrigerators, freezers, stoves, washers, dryers and dishwashers. *Non-recyclable items such as microwave ovens, vacuum cleaners and water softeners will NOT be accepted.* Residents are limited to two appliances per address. The appliances will be picked up during the month of April. Call Solid Waste Services at 696-8186 for more information or to schedule an appliance pick up.

### **Coyote Sightings**



For several years, we have noted brief sightings of coyotes traipsing through our neighborhood. Last year there were at least two separate animals, one older, and rather scruffy looking, and the other younger, more lean, and noticeably energetic. Please remember to keep pet food inside. Also, consider maintaining your cats as inside cats for safety's sake.

### **Talents/Willing to Share with Neighbors**

In our survey, several people volunteered to share their talents/interests with needy

neighbors although we received confirmation about publication in the *Herald* from two:

Summertime yard work - Shareefah Abdullah

Handyman - Joe Byrne

Please call your chair for contact information.

### **Who's Digging the Trenches?**

Clark Public Utilities is being proactive and replacing the existing electrical cables (because they are deteriorating) BEFORE we lose service.

City Utility Inspector Sharron Wannamaker has contacted the contractor (Magnum Power) for the job (by speaking with the City of Vancouver's franchise utility inspector) to hopefully ensure that the repaving is done to a high-quality standard. The final paving can only be completed when the streets are dry, so it might be a while before the trench surfaces are paved. If you have any additional questions, please contact Sharron at [Sharron.wannamaker@ci.vancouver.wa.us](mailto:Sharron.wannamaker@ci.vancouver.wa.us).

### **Odd Stuff Recycling Opportunities**

*Household hazardous waste, electronics, and block foam* can be recycled at the following places, times and dates:

Friday, April 21, Sharp Microelectronics 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Saturday, April 22, Clark College 9 - 1, parking lot by soccer field

Saturday, June 17, Camas 9 - 1, Public Works Operations 1620 SE 8th AVE.

Saturday October 7 Clark County Public Works Operations 9 - 1

There are additional locations and dates available, although they are all further from us here in CHNA. Please call Clark County Solid Waste if you need further info at 397-6118.

## Parkcrest Traffic Calming Phase II Subject of Meeting

If you have an interest in participating in the design of the traffic calming north of Blairmont/15th on Parkcrest, please plan on attending the April 16th meeting. The city values our input and wants to know what we need and care about.

## Bella Vista N.A. Joining us for Cleanups

The Bella Vista N.A. will be joining us for our July 29th neighborhood cleanup, and we can join with them with their fall yard waste cleanup. The fall date will be announced in a later newsletter. Combining two neighborhoods like this makes the events more efficient and spreads out the workload for the volunteers.

## CHNA Tree Planting January 21st Wildly Successful!



Here's a big thank you to all of you who participated in the tree planting on Saturday, January 21st. Together we and crews from *Friends of Trees*,

planted 75 (that's seventy FIVE!) young, healthy trees. WOW. Thank you Erika Johnson for all the hours and hours of work she did canvassing, contacting potential planters, disseminating information, arranging for the sites to be checked out by the utilities and the city, communicating with *Friends of Trees*, spreading compost, and taking care of all the details involved in such a large, and successful undertaking.

## Tree Class

Your chair took a class on livable communities which focused on the benefits of growing trees. Here are some interesting facts: Merchants enjoy greater sales, consumers shop more often for longer periods of time and are willing to

pay more for parking and for merchandise, when there are trees growing along the sidewalks by the stores.

Neighborhoods with well-shaded streets can be up to 10° F. cooler. 100 trees can remove 5 tons of carbon dioxide per year, and 1000 pounds of pollutants. Trees can reduce crime rates and domestic violence. Hospital patients with a view of trees need less medication and have faster recovery rates following surgery. It's important to have trees in parking lots because cars which sit in the sun are a primary source of smog (from fuel tanks and worn hoses). Cascade Highlands is sporting 75 new young trees to increase our quality of life right here!

## Are You A Newcomer to Cascade Highlands?

First of all, WELCOME to our neighborhood! We hope you're happy here! Here are some useful resources for new residents (Note: a more detailed welcome packet is currently being worked on by the CHNA Board):

### Utilities & Public Services

**Electric Power** - Local power is provided by Clark Public Utilities (992-3000 or [www.clarkpud.com](http://www.clarkpud.com); aka Clark PUD, formerly known as Clark County Public Utility District No. 1), but there are now some newer options that permit you to purchase power from "green" environmentally friendly sources, delivered, of course, by Clark PUD.

**Water & Sewer** - Both are provided by the City of Vancouver (696-8177 or [www.ci.vancouver.wa.us](http://www.ci.vancouver.wa.us)), and are billed in 2-month increments in a single statement. For more equitable billing, summer sewer rates are based on winter water usage.

**Garbage & Recycling** - Both are currently provided by Waste Connections (892-5370 or [www.wasteconnections.com](http://www.wasteconnections.com)), under a contract with the City of Vancouver.

Please consider being a consistent and faithful recycler, both to lessen your, our

neighborhood, and our city's contributions' to land fills, but also to make it possible to reuse and recycle everything possible. (It's also cheaper when you have less garbage.)

## Communications

**Telephone** - Qwest (1-800-244-1111 or [www.qwest.com](http://www.qwest.com)) is the regional bell for this area, and they own the phone lines in the street right-of-way. However, there are many other carriers that license the use of Qwest lines and can provide local service to your home, so you have many options and can choose a plan and carrier that best suits your needs and wishes.

**Internet** - A wide variety of choices are available for dial-up, high-speed, and wireless Internet access. Nearly all national (AOL, MSN, etc.) and local Internet access providers provide toll-free dial-up access in this area. Comcast (1-800-COMCAST or [www.comcast.net](http://www.comcast.net)) is the only cable Internet service provider in this area. Qwest (1-888-777-9569 or [www.qwest.net](http://www.qwest.net)) offers DSL and Internet service over their phone lines, but a variety of other service providers can handle the Internet access portion of this service.

**One last note:** the DMV asks that you update your license information within 10 days and your vehicle(s) registration(s) within 30 days. And the Secretary of State asks that you cancel your voting registration in your former county along with registering to vote in Clark County.

## Report Low Level Crimes Online 24 Hours a Day



The Vancouver Police Department has a convenient way for citizens to report low level crimes 24 hours a day. Visit their website at

[www.vanpolice.org](http://www.vanpolice.org) and file

a report online. The online reporting system allows citizens the opportunity to file a low level crime report at a time and place that is convenient and with less chance of error

since the citizen inputs the information themselves. Completing a low level crime report online gets the information into the electronic police reporting system faster and provides the Vancouver Police Department with an automated way to inform citizens of the status of their report as soon as information becomes available.

The following crimes *can* be reported online:

- o Theft or malicious mischief involving loss of damage of \$1500 or less
- o Vehicle prowls
- o Lost property

Do *not* file an online police report if there is suspect information, physical evidence is available (fingerprints, items left behind), firearms were involved (whether used by a suspect or taken in a theft), or a motor vehicle was stolen. For these crimes or if the crime is of a serious nature, please call 9-1-1.

In an effort to improve timely access to Vancouver Police services we offer this online reporting option as one more tool for citizens to report crime. If you do not feel comfortable using this service and would rather speak to a Vancouver Police Department staff member please call the precinct nearest you (precincts are open Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. - 6 p.m., except holidays) For the East Precinct, call 696-8100.

## January 17, 2006 Meeting Minutes

1. Evergreen S.D. Levy Information - Carol Fenstermacher, Evergreen S.D. Carol informed us of a Replacement Levy on the ballot February 7th. The Levy would fill the gap between what the state funds and what it actually costs to maintain current educational programs in Evergreen Public Schools.

2. Vote on changes in by-laws. Four changes made (see last newsletter for changes). By-law changes were voted for



unanimously by all neighbors in attendance. At the time of the meeting, 20 CHNA surveys had been turned in.

3. Demolished Bus Shelter (SE corner of Parkcrest and Mill Plain) - Jean Kent reported that C-Tran said that the shelter would be replaced as soon as the pad could be repaired. The shelter was a victim of a vehicular accident.

4. 15th St. Passthrough Lighting Update - Jean Kent. Jean will look into writing a grant for it, but it would likely take a year before money would come through. Ideas for paying for the lighting included going to businesses on that street and asking for help, as well as putting info on how residents could make a donation to the cause in the newsletter

5. Treasurer's Report - Nat Pinzone. Bank statement says \$1,526.91, but that amount doesn't include checks written for purchase of 160th foliage or purchase of trees for Jan 21 tree planting (check amount \$1,245.00).

6. P.A.T Report - Dave Holler. New Commander of the building project (of the new police station) is Commander Smith. The project is ahead of schedule and under budget. The new police station may be open by May. Overall, they would like the community to be more involved in police and "*Commander's Minutes*" may go in future newsletters.

7. NTSA Report - Jean Kent. NTSA is getting a new chair, Chuck Hoover. Currently, NTSA's main task is evaluating transportation grant proposals and making recommendations to city transportation. CHNA's applications are focused on Blairmont ADA ramps, 160th (concrete barrier and humps), possible grant for more trees, and pass through lighting.

8. Tree Planting - Erika Johnson. The 4th Annual Neighborhood Tree Planting will result in 74 trees planted, adding up to 187 total trees planted in the last four years. Look for new trees lining the street on Blairmont, Briarwood, and Park Crest, as they will play a role in helping to slow traffic along these busy streets.

9. Topics of Interest/Concern: Neighborhood Clean-up is scheduled for July 29th.

10. Following Meeting: the next meeting will likely will be our traditional dessert meeting in the park scheduled in July.

Follow up to meeting suggestions;

1. We wrote letters to Bally's Fitness and Beacock Music asking for donations to our Passthrough lighting fund, since many customers to those businesses use the passthrough to get to their places of business.

2. Put up a sandwich board with information about donating to the pass through lighting fund. Nearby neighbor Richard Bignall will put sandwich board out each morning and take it in each night. As of this writing, \$115.00 has been donated.

## Upcoming Activities

1. *Curbside Appliance Collection* - month of April (call 735-8842 for reservation)

2. *Yard debris and tire coupons* redeemable - April, May June - (coupons attached to this newsletter)

3. *Dozer Day* May 20, 9 - 4 (Mill Plain between (172 Ave. and 192nd Ave.) (Fundraiser for Parks and Rec. Help support our Homestead Park)

4. *Neighborhood Cleanup* - July 26 - 8 to noon, Mtn. View parking lot, we need volunteers.

5. *Leaf Disposal Coupons* - Oct. through Dec. (coupons will be attached to Sept. 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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