



Cascade Highlands Herald

www.neighborhoodlink.com/vancouver/cascadehighlands

January 2008

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

Treasurer's Report

Current balance is \$916.94 minus \$690.00 for a check written to *Friends of Trees* for our Winter 2008 planting. The nine hundred dollar figure comes from City of Vancouver tree grant money, money donated specifically for replacement of vandalized neighborhood trees (thank you Roy and Ramona!), and the rest are funds we had in our account previously.

New Move-Ins to the Neighborhood

If you just moved in, or have a newly moved-in neighbor, please contact Jean Kent 896-7291, and we'll deliver our welcoming newcomer 'information sheets' to you (or them). THANKS!



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, Gary Bohman, Jo Byrne, Jennifer Chariarse, April and Scott Charleton, Rosenna and Ken*

Cheng, Cecil Davies, Son Do, Terry Fraser, Edith Hartley, Lisa Holmstead, Ann Horstman, Jim Hoover and Shareefah Abdullah, Brenda Jensen, Erika and Mark Johnson, Jean Kent, Peggy Liang, Sheila McKay, Elise Miller, Doug Mineau, Leanne Olmstead, Holly Orr, Nathalie Pinzone, Pat Poe, Diane Pudans, Ron and Shirley Royer, Barbara Scherr, Steve Schmidkofer, Marianne Stein, Jim Strouse, Anne Vitort, and Bill Wilton for helping with the November newsletter.

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Community Tour Available

You are invited to join others on one of the upcoming Community Tours of Evergreen Public Schools.

These tours offer a unique opportunity to get a glimpse into a day in the life of a student in the district.

The following tours are scheduled for the remainder of the 2007-2008 school year. Tours will begin at 8:00 a.m. and will end at 1:00 p.m.

The dates are:

* **Thursday, January 31, 2008** - Evergreen High School, Cascade Middle School, and Image Elementary School

* **Wednesday, March 19, 2008** - Heritage High School, Covington Middle School, and Sifton Elementary School

* **Thursday, May 15, 2008** - Union High School, Pacific Middle School, and Harmony Elementary School

If you know of family, friends, or neighbors who may be interested in attending a tour, please pass this information along to them. You may contact the Community Relations Department at 604-4088 for further information, or you may register on-line at www.evergreenps.org.

Grant Report 2007

Perhaps you've noticed that the ADA (Americans with Disability Act) ramps have been installed at the intersection of Parkcrest and Sunpark. These ramps are from last year's grant award. Sometime this year or early next year, we'll get the ADA ramps installed at Parkcrest and Stevenson, a result of the N.A.P. (Neighborhood Action Plan) grant awarded this year.

In regards to the Grant application for traffic calming, ADA ramps, and traffic management on 160th Ave., we received \$95,499.00 of the \$165,447.00 request. Of the three areas covered by the grant request, neighbors picked traffic calming as the first work to be funded, the ADA ramps as second, and if there's any money left, we'll deal with the traffic situation

up by Red Robin.

City transportation personnel have been advised of our preference, so once their preliminary plan is finished, we'll call a N.A. meeting, and the neighbors can inspect the plans and have an opportunity for input. After the final design and bid process is complete, the project will be carried out, possibly as early as this summer (2008). If you have comments to make at this time, you may call your chair, Jean Kent (896-7291) or contact Todd Boulanger (Senior Transportation Planner, City of Vancouver, 487-7726).

Clark County Atlas Updated & Available

The 30th edition of the Clark County Road Atlas is now in stock and may be purchased at the GIS Map Store on the 2nd floor, Suite 232, of the Public Service Center, 1300 Franklin Street, Vancouver. The price including tax is \$22.00.

This 30th Edition is the result of cooperation between local government agencies throughout southwest Washington and input from previous Atlas clients. This atlas features the latest in Geographic Information Systems (GIS) technology, combining aerial photography and shaded relief into a single image.

The ever popular Road Atlas displays public and private roads, hiking/biking trails, 200' contours; locations of airfields, boat ramps, recycle centers, and much more. We have a copy of this atlas if you'd like to see whether it's worth your money to purchase it. Please call 896-7291 to arrange to see it.



What Size is Vancouver's Carbon Footprint?

The City of Vancouver is about to begin a high-level inventory to measure the greenhouse gas emissions of its day-to-day operations as well as those of the general community.

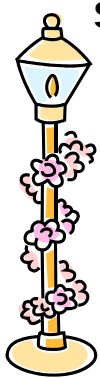
The city will be aided by Good Company, a Eugene, Oregon research and consulting firm, working with employees to gather data, analyze the information, present findings of the highest-leverage areas for change, and make recommendations for long-term green house

gas reductions. Among the many areas of city operations targeted for data gathering is: electricity and natural gas use, transportation with fleet and personal vehicles use, and garbage and composting rates.

Good Company will also examine existing data for a better understanding of the entire community's carbon footprint. Basically, that means measuring the impact human activities have on the environment in terms of the amount of green house gas emissions produced. The emissions are based on units of carbon dioxide which contribute to climate change. A carbon footprint also includes the results of general consumption like food, other goods and services, and commuting habits.

The overall project is expected to be completed in late summer 2008, with informational updates and reports expected along the way.

The inventory will set a baseline for the city's efforts to meet the *U.S. Mayors' Climate Protection Agreement*, which seeks to reduce global warming pollution levels at least 7 percent below 1990 levels by the year 2012. Our Mayor Royce Pollard signed the Climate Protection Agreement. The inventory also allows Vancouver to get a jump start on inventory requirements expected to be proposed at the state level in the near future.



Street Lights Out (or blinking)

The Vancouver Operations Center is responsible for the repair and maintenance of street lights. There are over 17,000 street lights in the City of Vancouver. However, there are only two people who repair these lights.

The City of Vancouver relies on neighbors to call and report non-working lights. If neighbors do not report non-working lights, they don't get repaired. To report a dark or blinking streetlight call the City Operations Center at 696-8177 during the day, or after hours, the same number and press '0' and leave a message. You could also fill out a work order request online.

METH AMPHETAMINE WORKSHOP

by Gary Bohman

On November 15, 2007 an event was held at Mountain View High school to educate the public in Clark county about the growing Methamphetamine problem. I'll attempt to summarize the two hour-long presentation:

The first part dealt with the "Montana Project" . It is essentially a public awareness program presented in the media with powerful and at times horrific dramatizations of the effects of Meth. The idea is to work on the "demand" side of the problem rather than the supply side. It is an attempt to show the disastrous effects of using Meth thus hoping to keep anyone from taking the first hit. The project has shown promise in Montana and it is hoped that the program might get started here.

In order to make the project work it is felt that a coalition must be formed between government and non-government entities to succeed. These organizations would be churches, clubs or other organizations which might have the assets and the desire to help rid our county of the blight of Methamphetamine. If you are interested you should get in touch with the Clark County **Meth Action Team**.

The second hour of the evening was spent with Detective Shane Gardner of the Clark County Sheriff's office. Shane's casual demeanor and informal style (longish hair and blue jeans) belie an intense desire to rid Clark County of Methamphetamine. He worked for several years to get a bill successfully passed in our state to control the sale of MSM, a cattle feed supplement used in "cutting" Meth, and also the sale of 7% tincture of Iodine, a primary ingredient in the Red Phosphorous/ Iodine method of manufacturing Meth.

Shane's presentation was filled with informative facts like: Oregon has made the sale of 7% tincture of Iodine illegal, resulting in 80% of the product sold in Washington being bought by Oregonians. I failed to mention that it takes one gallon of this Iodine to make a half **pound** of Meth. The street value of Methamphetamine is from 16 to 19 thousand dollars per pound. I guess that makes it worth the drive to Washington.

Detective Gardner's presentation was not only informative, his great sense of humor and obvious passion for his work made the hour enjoyable.

The bottom line here is that even though the restriction on the sale of Pseudo ephedrine and the passage of Detective Gardner's Iodine and MSM law have had significant impact, more needs to be done. Get involved and learn more about the problem, then act. Contact your congressional representatives, local officials and your organizations to end the scourge of Methamphetamine. You can also contact the Clark County Meth Action Team program coordinator Toni Eby 397-2211 x3384 or Toni.Eby@clark.wa.gov.

Detective Shane Gardner
Clark/Skamania Drug Task Force
P.O. Box 410
Vancouver, WA 98666
Tip Line: 360-256-5711



Mercury Light Bulbs Need Special Disposal

Switching from traditional light bulbs to Compact Fluorescent Light (CFL's) bulbs is an effective action people can make right now to reduce energy use at home. However, just like fluorescent tubes, the bulbs also contain mercury. Mercury is what allows the bulb to be an efficient light source, but mercury is also a toxic substance that is harmful to both humans and the environment. When fluorescent tubes and bulbs break, the mercury contained within can be released, creating a risk of exposure to mercury vapor.

If every home in America replaced just one incandescent light bulb with a CFL, in one year it could save enough energy to light more than three million homes. But increased use brings increased risk. The mercury is sealed within the glass tubing, which can break if dropped, roughly handled, or disposed of improperly.

Consumers should be careful when removing the bulb from its packaging, installing it, or replacing it. Always screw and unscrew the lamp by its base (not the glass), and never forcefully twist the CFL into a light socket.

Unbroken, used fluorescent tubes and bulbs should also be disposed of properly. Do not throw these bulbs in the trash, where they might be crushed, incinerated, or otherwise mismanaged. Recycling mercury-containing fluorescent tubes and bulbs is an effective way to prevent this problem.

Residents of Clark County or one of its cities, may recycle fluorescent tubes and CFL's at any of the following Household Hazardous Waste collection sites or events. Business-generated hazardous waste will not be accepted.

Central Transfer & Recycling Center
11034 NE 117th Avenue
Saturday/Sunday, 8 a.m.- 4 p.m.

West Van Materials Recovery
6601 NW Old Lower River Road
Friday/Saturday, 8 a.m.- 4 p.m.

Center Philip Services
625 S. 32nd, Washougal
1st Tuesday, 10:30 a.m.- 3:30 p.m.

C.E.R.T. Training Schedule

Clark County C.E.R.T. (Citizen Emergency Response Team) members (Vancouver Fire Department and Clark County Fire District 6) offer this yearly training which is beginning January 23rd this year.

It is recommended that at least three neighbors from each neighborhood take the training (CHNA currently has two trained CERT people, that we know of, anyway) as a team for maximum benefit in the event of a disaster. The cost of the training is \$20.00 instead of \$30.00 as noted on the flyer as a grant has been obtained to offset some of the cost.

Mill Plain Streetlight Installation Report

This project, initiated by us several years ago when we were awarded a grant which was insufficient to install enough lighting for safety, includes installation of 10 new double arm street lights (in the median) and two single arm street lights (south side, west of 155th Ave). This will complete the street lighting effort for that section of Mill Plain Blvd. from 148th Avenue to 160th Avenue.

The city has hired a consultant to complete the

lighting design. The plans have been partially reviewed and the city expects that the project design will be complete at the end of February, 2008. It will take a few months to process the paperwork and hire a contractor to begin construction. We anticipate that the construction will begin by the end of June, 2008 and be completed near December, 2008.

As neighbors who use Mill Plain between 155th and 160th on a regular basis, we will REJOICE at the completion of this project which has been in the works for years!



Our Neighborhood Tree Planting is Saturday, January 19th

Would you like to get dirty, probably be cold or at least chilly, meet some neat people, help the neighborhood, burn some calories, get your pick of donuts and coffee, and take one more tiny step towards slowing global warming? If yes, please meet at Mtn. View's (1500 SE Blairmont) north parking lot near the Forum door at 9:00 a.m. on January 19th for a morning of tree planting. (Remember: joy of joys, we don't have to dig the holes!!!) You'll be done by approximately 1:00 p.m. when you can return home, get warmed up, cleaned up, and have a happy feeling inside for doing a good deed!

Please call Erika Johnson, C.H.N.A. tree guru and City of Vancouver's urban forestry commission member, to sign up, or for more information (260-9140).

Grants for 2008

We are in the process of thinking about which areas we would apply for grants for the 2008 cycle. If you have an idea of an area which needs the kind of assistance provided by a grant from the city, please contact Jean Kent 896-7291. We need your ideas by the end of January.

We looked into using a grant to purchase paint to upgrade the play structure in the park, but the policy of the city is to have city personnel do this work.

At this point, the only traffic-related project we're seriously considering is to apply to have

ADA ramps installed at all intersections on Parkcrest and on Briarwood. On the back burner are plans to slow the traffic on Greenpark between Parkcrest and Briarwood.

We will again apply for a grant to help in the purchase of trees through *Friends of Trees* for our neighborhood.

Please let your executive board know your thoughts on these topics. We're doing our best to represent your needs, your interests, and your safety. Thank you.

Notes:

1. **Yard Debris** pickup dates in upcoming months are: Jan. 8, 22, Feb. 5, 19, Mar. 4. Please put out your garbage, recycle bins or recycle roll cart, and yard waste containers either Monday evening or Tuesday morning, and bring them back into your yard by Tuesday evening. It is illegal to have your bins out longer than that. You can be ticketed. Thanks!

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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