

Fircrest Neighborhood Newsletter

Get current neighborhood news and the newsletter delivered to your inbox. Send email to fnanews@gmail.com to be added!

- Fircrest NHA monthly meeting is scheduled for April 6, 2010
- Know what's going on in YOUR neighborhood! Last 90 days of criminal activity. Map dots indicate criminal incidents. The pie chart indicates property crimes per 1000 population. Go online: www.vanpolice.org and click on Fircrest or contact Vancouver Police Analyst John Laws at 487-7539.
- The newsletter is now available on Fircrest's very own website! Check out <http://www.neighborhoodlink.com/Fircrest/home> for great community communication tools—upload YOUR profile today!

Chipper Day 2010

Hello Fircrest,

We will have our Chipper Day on April 17th from 8AM—1:30PM.



Hope you can be there to drop off any yard debris that you have to get your yard all pretty. Please don't bring wood scraps with nails or branches larger than 6 inches around as the chipper cannot handle them. Thank you in advance for not bringing unacceptable items!

We do love seeing you so come by and give us a smile! We will have a limited crew to pick up your loads. If at all possible, see if some of your neighbors will add what they have to your loads.

Call me if you truly need help. Remember we are to help if we can but we are volunteers. We will also have extra coupons.

Thank you,
Alice Glessner
896-8379

Plant Sale!!!

The Fircrest NA and the Fircrest Parent/Teacher Organization (PTO) are joining together to offer a plant sale on April 17th in the Fircrest Elementary School parking lot. Come get your garden starts and support your neighborhood association and the Fircrest PTO at the same time!

Upcoming events:

April 6: FNA Meeting
at Firstenburg Community Center 7PM @ 700 NE 136th Ave. Come at 6:30PM to socialize!

April 17: Chipper Day
at Fircrest Elementary from 8am-1:30pm.

April 17: Plant Sale at Fircrest Elementary School from 8-1:30pm/ First day of planting at Leroy Haagen Community Food Garden.

May 4: FNA Meeting

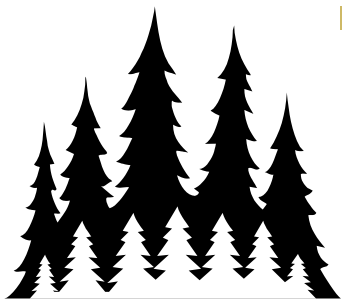
May 22: Bike Rodeo @ Fircrest Elementary.
Volunteers needed— see pg 2 and watch here for more info in April!

May 29: Fircrest Annual Clean-Up at Fircrest Elementary

Parks Hours

Please remember that our local parks are closed after 10pm. If you see activity in the parks after that, please call 911.

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Welcome New Transportation/Safety Co-Chairs!

Fircrest neighbors Bill McFee and Looie Disparte have volunteered to co-chair our Transportation & Safety Committee. Thank you for your involvement with your neighborhood and welcome to the table!

So Many Thanks for New Trees!!

By unanimous approval of the Fircrest Membership, Fircrest Neighborhood Association purchased 10 trees for the recent Tree Planting through Friends of Trees. In addition, Friends of Trees donated eight trees to Fircrest to be planted at a later date. A total of 59 trees were planted in Fircrest, Marion, Burton Ridge, Oakbrook and Ogden neighborhoods on March 20th with the help of Becky Archibald Larry Kennedy, Margaret Milem, and Lee Glessner.

One tree was planted in honor of Harley Hall, a native of Vancouver who led the Blue Angels and was the last pilot shot down in Vietnam. One tree was planted in gratitude and honor to Ralph Peabody and his years of dedication and hard work on behalf of Fircrest. One tree was planted in honor of Dr. and Mrs. Jones; longtime residents of Fircrest and huge supporters of the FNA. Dr. Jones is known for his dedicated work helping make medical care available for those in need in Vancouver.

Thank you Fircrest residents for your donations that have made this possible and thank you to those members present to approve this purchase to increase our canopy!

Thank you to the VVA Chapter 512 for their donation to the Fircrest Neighborhood Association. The funds were used to feed the volunteers at the tree planting.

Thank you to the volunteers that came out to help on March 20th and a great big thank you to Friends of Trees for such a wonderful program and planting event!

Thank you to Becky Archibald for coordinating this effort for Fircrest and all her hard work in our parks and elsewhere!

F N A Officers

Chair: Jesse Magaña
JMagana42@aol.com
360-254-4205

Vice Chair: Larry Kennedy
LarryK55@q.com
360-885-3254

Secretary: LeeAnn O'Neil-Ocampo
fnanews@gmail.com

Treasurer: Margaret Milem
mgmilem@comcast.net

Parks, Chair: Becky Archibald
bv-arch@comcast.net
360-896-8632

Zoning & Development Chair:
Carl Cooper
cmcooper2@comcast.net

Transportation & Safety Co-Chairs:

Looie Disparte
l.disparte@comcast.net
Bill McFee
360-254-3636
bill.mcfee@comcast.net

Fundraising: Alice Glessner
360-896-8379

City Numbers

City Liaison, Terry McClure:
360-696-8177

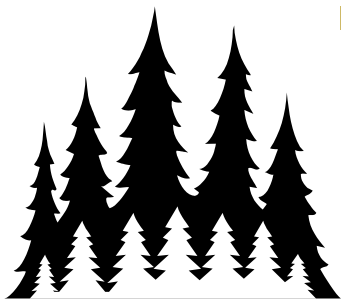
Vancouver PD-East Precinct:
360-487-7500

Citizen Advocate: 360-487-8611

Community Mediation:
360-619-1140

Job Hotline: 360-696-8128

Animal Control: 360-397-2488



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Help at the Fircrest PTO Bike Rodeo!!

The Fircrest PTO is having a Bike Rodeo in May! Bring your kids to hear a bicycle safety course, pick-up your pre-ordered helmet at a discounted price and decorate their bikes for the Bike Parade down 9th Street!

Volunteer certified flaggers are needed to help direct traffic while the kids move down 9th St from the Fircrest parking lot to the first entrance of Leroy Haagen Park. Anyone interested in helping in this event should contact FNAnews@gmail.com for more information.

Foreclosure Assistance

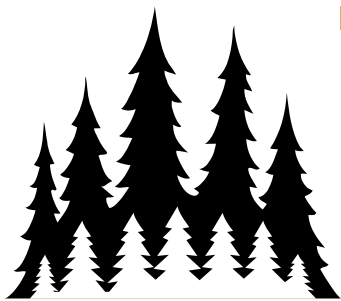
Kevin Gillette, Program Manager for the Community House Resource Center (CHRC), was the guest speaker at the Fircrest's March meeting. He offered tips on avoiding foreclosure and an overview of all services offered through CHRC. For a small fee (the cost of a credit check), homeowners struggling with their mortgages can obtain counselor assistance in establishing a workable solution with their lender. In addition to this home-saving program; CHRC offers Pre-purchase Assessments, Credit Smart® classes, Credit Repair/Debt Management/and Budget Counseling, Homebuyer Education Workshops, Home Choice Counseling and free tax preparation services. More information can be found at www.homece.org or by calling 360-690-4496. The center is open to all residents in both Washington and Oregon. Their best tip on dealing with foreclosure? Call them early in the process!!

Mailbox Security

There have been several recent reports of mailboxes being broken into in Fircrest. Please do not leave your mail in the box any longer than necessary. Call 911 ASAP if you see anyone tampering with mailboxes and get a license plate # and/or description of the person(s). A picture would be very helpful as well if you can get one. For your own protection, investing in a locking box may be worth the money! Call the Postmaster if you are having repeated problems.

City of Vancouver Disclaimer

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.



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All Eyes on Joe's Farm

Joe's Farms on 112th Ave spread out throughout Fircrest, providing fresh, local produce and open spaces in our neighborhood. Several months ago one of Joe's barns was burned down by an arsonist. Then the city condemned his property in order to lay claim to what has been, for decades, farm land on 18th Street which will be cut into as expansion of 18th Street continues. The most recent attack on Joe's has been by some idiot with a big truck and small brain. Someone stole two of his peach trees, ran over and broke a cable blocking the entrance to a field and did cookies in two of his fields. Joe's has been a fixture, a landmark and a tradition in our neighborhood for as long as anyone can remember. Please help Joe by keeping an eye on his farmlands if you're living or walking near them. If you notice a big truck with deep treads and damage to the front from a cable wire please contact the Vancouver Police Department with a license plate and/or description of the vehicle.

Coming Soon to the Park Near YOU!

The city is planning on installing a new, natural play area in Leroy Haagen Park this summer and has invited all Fircrest residents to come help with the building of it. The play area will feature pine cones, tree stump stools, bird houses and maybe even a bridge! More information will be posted here as it is available but current plans are for a building date in June where kids can make the bird houses and help make this latest addition their own!

Update to Fircrest NA By-Laws

Over the next couple of months, the Fircrest Board and Membership will be updating sections of our By-laws. We will let you know in each newsletter which by-law will be on the agenda at the following month's meeting and invite each of you to attend and help us write by-laws with as much community involvement as possible. First up: The dollar amount available to board members without prior approval of the membership. The amount has been \$50 but a motion has been made to increase this amount to \$150 with board approval.

April Agenda

Chris Malone, Project Transportation Manager for the 18th Street Project, will be our Guest Speaker in April. Come to find out what's happening with this project and how it will impact our neighborhood.