



# Fircrest Neighborhood Newsletter

Get current neighborhood news and the newsletter delivered to your inbox. Send email to [fjanews@gmail.com](mailto:fjanews@gmail.com) to be added!

- Fircrest NHA monthly meeting is scheduled for February 2nd
- 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](http://www.vanpolice.org) and click on Fircrest or contact Vancouver Police Analyst John Laws at 487-7539.
- The newsletter is online! Check out <http://www.neighborhoodlink.com/Fircrest/home>. Go to the "Newsletter" link on the right side of the page under "Our Info" to access current and past newsletters. Roam the site to find meeting agendas and discussion boards to advertise garage sales, look for babysitters and more...

## EXTRA EXTRA!!

## READ ALL ABOUT IT!!!

### Newsletters are Going Paper-less!!!

It's official, as of July, newsletters will not be delivered to your door in paper form *unless you request it*. To repeat: ***if you want the paper version of newsletters to continue being delivered to your door you need to contact [fjanews@gmail.com](mailto:fjanews@gmail.com), call 360-910-2451 or any officer listed on page 2 of this newsletter and provide your name and address to sign up for paper delivery.***

The newsletter will continue to go out via email as an attachment and be available online at [www.neighborhoodlink.com/Fircrest/home](http://www.neighborhoodlink.com/Fircrest/home). To get to the current and past newsletters click on the "Newsletter" link on the right side of the page under "Our Info". You do not need to join the site to view the newsletters but you do need to join to take part in discussions.

To sign up for email delivery, send your email address to [fjanews@gmail.com](mailto:fjanews@gmail.com) or contact any officer.

Printed newsletters will also be available at Firstenburg Community Center near the Community Board by the Teen Zone.

## Port Report

There will be an unveiling of the 2011 Port Report on February 24<sup>th</sup> from 7:30am-9am at the Red Lion Hotel at the Quay. The cost is \$25 and RSVP is required to the Greater Vancouver Chamber of Commerce 360-694-2588 or visit [www.vancouverusa.com](http://www.vancouverusa.com) for more info.

### Upcoming events:

**Feb 1: FNA Monthly Meeting at Firstenburg Community Center 7PM @ 700 NE 136th Ave. Come at 6:30PM to socialize!**

**Feb 5: Free Children's Dental Clinic @ Clark College from 7:30am-4:30pm. Info on pg. 2**

**Feb 10: Bunco Night Benefit for Columbia Springs. Info on pg. 2**

**Feb 24: Port Report meeting. See bottom of page for info.**

**April 21: Lunch w/ ESD Superintendent 12:00PM @ Admin Services Center, Evergreen Rm, 13501 NE 28th St**

**April 30: Chipper Day/Clean-Up and Plant Sale**

**May 21: Bike Rodeo @ Fircrest Elementary**

**March 26: Tree Planting See pg. 4**

**June 4: FNA Picnic**

**July 16: Haagen Park Clean-up**



## Free Children's Dental Clinic

A free children's dental clinic will be offered from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on **Saturday, Feb. 5**, at Clark College, 1933 Fort Vancouver Way.

Low-income children ages two to 19 in Clark and Skamania counties without dental insurance are eligible for X-rays, sealants, fluoride treatment, fillings and extractions. Cleanings are not provided. Children will be seen by appointment only. To schedule an appointment, call **360-397-8000**, ext. **7371**.

This is the fifth year the event has been offered. Last year, 230 volunteers, including dentists and other oral health professionals, served 310 patients, providing dental services valued at nearly \$104,000.

Services are donated by Clark College, Clark County Dental Society, Clark County Public Health, Free Clinic of Southwest Washington, and Greater Southwest Washington Dental Hygiene Association. Funding is provided by Ronald McDonald House Charities and Washington Oral Health Foundation.

## Resolution: Have more fun!

Enjoy a night out for a great cause! Join Columbia Springs on Thursday, February 10 from 5:30-9pm at [Divine Consign](#)



for a night of [Bunco](#)! We will be letting the good times roll with this classic dice game, wine, appetizers, and prizes with all proceeds directly benefiting Columbia Springs. [RSVP online today!](#) For more information, email [development@columbiasprings.org](mailto:development@columbiasprings.org) or call 360-882-0936 ext. 222.

### F N A Officers

**Chair:** Looie Disparte  
[L.disparte@comcast.net](mailto:L.disparte@comcast.net)  
360-892-7694

**Vice Chair:** Larry Kennedy  
[LarryK55@q.com](mailto:LarryK55@q.com)  
360-885-3254

**Secretary:** LeeAnn O'Neil-Ocampo  
[franews@gmail.com](mailto:franews@gmail.com)

**Treasurer:** Margaret Milem  
[mgmilem@comcast.net](mailto:mgmilem@comcast.net)

**Parks, Chair:** Becky Archibald  
[bv-arch@comcast.net](mailto:bv-arch@comcast.net)  
360-896-8632

**Transportation & Safety Chair:**

Bill McFee  
360-254-3636  
[bill.mcfree@comcast.net](mailto:bill.mcfree@comcast.net)

**Zoning & Development Chair:**  
Empty

**Fundraising/Special Events:**  
Alice Glessner  
360-896-8379

### City Numbers

**City Liaison, Terry McClure:**  
360-696-8177

**Vancouver PD-East Precinct:**  
360-487-7500

**Community Mediation:**  
360-619-1140

**Job Hotline:** 360-696-8128

**Animal Control:** 360-397-2488

**Code Compliancy:** 360-487-7810

### 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.



## Cops Corner

A short overview of what's happening with the Vancouver Police around our neighborhood.

- ◇ A warrant was served in Vancouver by Camas police. Found were Vancouver residents property and items from "smash and grabs". Officers believe the person was working the southeast part of town.
- ◇ The "Drug Free Communities Coordinator" is working toward convincing the City Council to pass an ordinance excluding sales of drug paraphernalia from the city of Vancouver. According to sources, currently there is one store in the 98684 zip code selling these items. We will schedule a speaker on this topic in the near future.
- ◇ Remember to lock your cars when parked in your driveways and do not leave your cars running and unattended. If you regularly leave your car in your driveway consider installing motion detecting flood lights over the driveway. Some folks have them and they work very well specifically to deter car prowlers.
- ◇ Vancouver Police caution us about mail theft. Do not send cash and think about installing a locking mail box.

More on these and other stories can be found at:

[www.cityofvancouver.us/police.asp?](http://www.cityofvancouver.us/police.asp?policeID=31528)

[policeID=31528](http://www.cityofvancouver.us/police.asp?policeID=31528) and

[www.cityofvancouver.us/upload/contents/872/Smash and Grab Final HQ\\_001.wmv](http://www.cityofvancouver.us/upload/contents/872/Smash%20and%20Grab%20Final%20HQ%20001.wmv)

## Fight Gang Graffiti

Graffiti creates a perception that the area is unsafe and , if left on display, invites responses and more graffiti. These are OUR streets so do your part to make graffiti disappear before the rivals even get out of bed the next morning. Here's how:

Recording – Take a picture, document the date, time, location and color.

Reporting – Provide details to the appropriate agency

Removing – Once notified, wash or paint away quickly and thoroughly.

If you see active involvement in graffiti or other vandalism contact 911 immediately. Reporting is important because it identifies trends that may been attention. By reacting quickly and responsibly we can help improve public safety on OUR streets. Here are the numbers to contact based on the location of the graffiti:

Private property call Vancouver PD 360-487-7355

Public property all City Operations 360-6989-8177

State Highways call WADOT 360-759-1300

Electrical Boxes call Clark PUD 360-992-3000

Bus Stops or Buses call C-Tran 360-695-0123

### Share the Flavors!

Do you have a favorite recipe you'd like to share? What's your family's easy night dinner idea? Send it to [fnanews@gmail.com](mailto:fnanews@gmail.com) to share it .



## **Our Very Own Redwoods!**

This morning we planted 6 Dawn Redwood trees in Haagen Community Park with the assistance of Cascade Jr. High Science class, Jessica Antoine with the City of Vancouver, Becky Archibald and Louis Disparte, both of the Fircrest NHA. Thirty people showed up at 9am to plant & stake the trees and welcome them into our neighborhood Park!



The next time you take a walk, you will see our new additions in the NW area near the walking path.

Great job everyone and thank-you for helping to make a difference!

## **Join the Fircrest Neighborhood Tree Planting!**

Planting a tree in your yard or parking strip creates long lasting benefits enjoyed by everyone. Did you know that trees remove pollutants from the air? A typical tree absorbs 10 pounds of pollutants, cleans 330 pounds of carbon dioxide, and creates 260 pounds of oxygen each year. Having cleaner air in your neighborhood has all sorts of health benefits, such as reduced asthma rates. Trees also help intercept and retain 760 gallons of rainwater each year, which help keep our rivers clean and help save us money on storm water fees. Trees can cool our homes in the summer and shade our city which helps us stay cool all summer. Trees raise the property value of your home by up to 20%. Also, unlike many other things, trees appreciate in value each year. And by planting trees now, we can keep our city green into the future.

This winter, the Fircrest Neighborhood Association is teaming up with Friends of Trees to offer homeowners trees for their yard or parking strip for \$50. The cost will include a site inspection by the Urban Forestry Department to ensure you choose the right tree for your home, hole digging, help with planting your tree, stakes, mulch, ties, labels, follow-up monitoring, and information on proper tree care techniques. For more information, please visit [www.friendsoftrees.org](http://www.friendsoftrees.org). Planning has begun for the Fircrest Tree Planting Event, scheduled for March 26th, so contact Nicole at 360-619-1127 to get involved with this great event!





## 18<sup>th</sup> Street Project Update

The scope of this project includes the area between NE 18<sup>th</sup> St from the I-205 overpass to 300 ft. east of NE Four Season Lane and NE 112<sup>th</sup> Ave from 200 ft. south of NE 16<sup>th</sup> St to NE 22<sup>nd</sup> St. The project has been broken into two phases to maintain two-way traffic throughout the majority of the project. The first steps have been completed and here is what you can expect:

On 18<sup>th</sup> Street:

- East of 112<sup>th</sup> Avenue, construction crews are working on both sides of the existing roadway to excavate, rough grade and begin building retaining walls on the south side of 18<sup>th</sup> Street. On the north side, crews must build up the roadway with fill.
- West of 112<sup>th</sup> Avenue, crews are excavating both sides of the existing roadway.

On 112<sup>th</sup> Avenue:

- On the east side of the existing roadway, crews are excavating and prepping for construction of a retaining wall.

City inspectors are working closely with Clark Public Utilities, which will be relocating its facilities.

For more information go to [http://www.cityofvancouver.us/upload/contents/512/frequently\\_asked\\_questions\\_v5.pdf](http://www.cityofvancouver.us/upload/contents/512/frequently_asked_questions_v5.pdf)

## 112<sup>th</sup> Avenue Corridor Subarea Plan

The City of Vancouver will hold a public workshop to hear your ideas and take your input on the future of the 112<sup>th</sup> Avenue Corridor planning area. The process will focus on how to enhance the livability of the plan area by capitalizing on the opportunities and assets and promoting strategies to overcome identified challenges. There will be 3 public workshop meetings each with different purposes and exercises. We encourage you to attend all 3 workshops to give us your ideas and input on the future of your neighborhood.

Public Workshop Schedule:

- February 8<sup>th</sup>, 6 – 9pm, Firstenburg Center, Room A, 700 NE 136<sup>th</sup> Avenue
- April 6<sup>th</sup>, 6 – 9pm, Evergreen School District Complex, Lewis Room, 13501 NE 28<sup>th</sup> Street
- May 25<sup>th</sup>, 6 – 9pm, Evergreen School District Complex, Lewis Room, 13501 NE 28<sup>th</sup> Street

For further information contact: Sandra Towne, 360-487-7947 or [sandratowne@cityofvancouver.us](mailto:sandratowne@cityofvancouver.us) or come to the Feb 1 FNA membership meeting to talk to Sandra directly.



## How To: Keep Fircrest Roads Clear

It's that time of year again. With the wind and the rain, the leaves are backing up storm drains and causing occasional high water on roadways.

White lines on the curbs indicate storm drains below. If you live near a drain please rake/shovel leaves out of the drains before or during hard rains or let us know the intersection at [fnanews@gmail.com](mailto:fnanews@gmail.com) and we'll see that it gets taken care of.

Anyone with a snow plow or attachment willing to help out if needed please contact a board member (see pg. 2) or the email listed above with your phone name and # (not to be shared outside Fircrest). If you find a road that needs plowed, call or email a board member. Fircrest drivers thank you!

## Map Your Neighborhood

Judy Bailey of the Office of Neighborhoods spoke to the Fircrest membership at the January meeting regarding the Map Your Neighborhood program.

With the recent budget cuts to local fire and emergency services the need to prepare our individual homes and communities in case of disaster is even more important. Ideally 12-15 houses would come together to devise a plan and train in what to do in an emergency. The NA is happy to assist in organizing a meeting in your area. For more information contact LeeAnn at 360-910-2451 or visit :

[www.emd.wa.gov/myn/index.shtml](http://www.emd.wa.gov/myn/index.shtml)

## Set the Pace

.....When going to the store

.....Taking the kids to school

.....Going to Grandmas

.....Coming to the meeting

If the speed limit is 25 and there are people behind you don't be intimidated into going faster than the limit, set the pace.

## Set the Pace

When coming to a "Yield" sign, give way

When coming to a "Stop" sign, come to a complete stop. Not a California stop.

Let people know that we drive safely in our neighborhood. Soon people will get the idea and circumvent our neighborhood. This is not a quick fix, it will take time to influence other drivers, but if we stick to it, this will serve to make our streets safer.

## On the Agenda for February Neighborhood Meeting

The guest speaker for the February 2nd membership meeting is Sandra Towne, Principal Planner on the 112th St Project. Come with questions and we'll see you there at 6:30 to chat, the meeting will start at 7pm.