



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 August 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 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...

This is the Last One: Paper-less will be the New Normal. Newsletters are Going Paper-less!!!

This is the last regularly delivered paper version of the newsletters. 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 fnanews@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. 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 fnanews@gmail.com or contact any officer.

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

Upcoming events:

Aug 2: FNA Monthly Meeting at Firstenburg Community Center 7PM @ 700 NE 136th Ave. Come at 6:30PM to socialize!

Aug 10: Vancouver Neighborhood Alliance (VNA) Meeting
Looie & Sally attending

Aug 16: Neighborhood Transportation & Safety Association (NTSA) Meeting
Looie attending

Aug 31: First day of school

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

Sept 13: VNA Meeting
Looie, Sally & LeeAnn attending

Sept 18: NTSA Meeting
Looie attending

We have t-shirts with the FNA logo for sale and will soon have decals for you cars. Soon you will be able to display your pride in your neighborhood.



Evergreen Farmer's Market

by LeeAnn O

Support local farmers and businesses by shopping at the Evergreen Farmer's Market. Offering fresh local seasonal produce and other great products from local businesses. Happening every Saturday through September 24th at Endeavor Elementary School at 2701 NE Four Seasons Lane from 9am-2pm. They accept EBT/Credit/Debit cards. Find more information at www.vancouverfarmersmarket.com.

Compassion Vancouver East

by LeeAnn O

Uninsured and underinsured members of Vancouver can get basic medical exams, basic dental cleaning and emergency treatment, basic chiropractic exams, basic eye exams, a social service fair, children's activities, free haircuts and free lunch at Compassion Vancouver at Mill Plain Elementary on September 24th from 9am-3pm. All languages welcome. For more information check out www.compassionvancouver.com/east.

Sex Offenders in Fircrest

by LeeAnn O

We all know that after they've served their time sex offenders are released to the general public and they need to live somewhere. Unfortunately for us, a few of them live in our neighborhood. Please educate yourselves and protect yourselves and children by checking www.clark.wa.gov/sheriff/community/offenders.html and utilizing the WASPC "Offenders Near Me" search.

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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Vacant

Transportation & Safety :

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Zoning & Development:

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City Numbers

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360-696-8177

Vancouver PD-East Precinct:

360-487-7500

Community Mediation:

360-334-5864

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Animal Control: 360-397-2488

Code Compliance: 360-487-7810



Thank You for Your Thankfulness

Thank you to Alice G. for organizing the June tree dedication. Fircrest owes much gratitude to Ralph Peabody for his work in our neighborhood and we all are thankful for men like Harley Hall.

Tree Dedication

Hi Neighbors, Sorry you all couldn't be at the Tree Dedication Ceremony June 25th 2011 at Fircrest Park. We had a very nice turnout.

As you probably know we dedicated a tree to our own Ralph Peabody. He has been a real worker of the Fircrest Neighborhood. Traffic and safety was a big part of his efforts on our behalf. Anything to improve the neighborhood. (Editors note, It was Ralph who was instrumental in getting the sidewalk on the south side of 9th Street. He also worked hard on getting the proper type and height of the speed cushions on 9th Street).

Looie Disparte gave a wonderful dedication speech. L.D. uses a lot of humor when asked to speak.

Ralph, we love you and all thank you very much.

We also dedicated a tree to the prisoner of war and missing in action men from all wars. It was named for Harley H Hall. He was Vancouver raised and a graduate of Evergreen High School. He spent time as the Commander of the Blue Angels Flying Team.

Flying off the USS. Enterprise, CDR Hall was shot down the last day of the war and was the last Navy air casualty of the Vietnam War.

Some of the attendees included, Louis Disparte, Royce Pollard, Larry Smith, and Bart Hansen. Also in attendance were the Freedom Riders of the American Legion, Jerry Keen and various members of the Fircrest Neighborhood.

I want to express my gratitude to those who helped, Stacey, Veronica and Sandra Glessner, Norma Martinez, Ann McEnery-Ogle were just a few. I'm probably leaving a few people out but there are always unsung heroes. I love them all very much.

Hope to see you all at the next Fircrest Neighborhood Association meeting, August 2 At the Firstenburg Center, Community Room. Social time at 6:30, meeting starts at 7.

-Alice G



Here are a few pictures from the tree dedication:





Thanks for the Helping Hands!

Thank you to all the Fircrest neighbors and families who volunteered at the June 11th Community A-Fair. It was a wonderful day enjoyed by all who attended and it wouldn't have gone as smoothly without the help of many. Thank you for your help!

Changes to the Comprehensive Plan for Vancouver

by LeeAnn O

The Vancouver Comprehensive Plan is the long-term vision and plan for managing the built and natural environment in the City of Vancouver. It includes policy direction for community development, housing, economic development, environmentally sensitive areas, public services, annexation, and related issues. The policies of the Comprehensive Plan are also implemented through [subarea plans](#), Vancouver [Municipal Code](#) requirements, and other local standards.

City staff has been working with the community to update portions of the Comprehensive Plan. An initial Public Comment Draft of the Vancouver Comprehensive Plan 2011-2030 is now available for review and comment. Most changes are to the text, tables and informational base of the Plan. Seven new and 18 amended Comprehensive Plan policies are proposed. 25 individual properties citywide have been identified for potential changes to their plan/zone designations, primarily to make zoning consistent with existing small scale commercial or office uses.

For more info visit <http://www.cityofvancouver.us/compplan.asp?menuid=10463&submenuid=10485>

Ivy Trimming on 9th Street

The Fircrest Neighborhood Association is planning to tidy-up the ivy on 9th Street. We will not be removing it completely but we'll be trimming it off the trees, trimming it off the curb and pulling the weeds and trash out of it. We need about 6-8 people to come help us with their weed-eaters, edgers and hands. Please contact Looie at 360-607-9143 or l.disparte@comcast.net if you'd like to help with this during the first part of September.

Who dun it? Like a mystery? Here's one:

by Looie

We would like to thank the mysterious weed puller who stole the weeds from the tree boxes on 9th Street in front of Fircrest Elementary. Plans were being made to clean those boxes and plant flowers with bark dust to keep the weeds down. You may keep the weeds with our blessing.

We have some other areas that need cleaning and will be organizing a clean-up for these areas in the near future and will need volunteers, we hope you'll come help us.



Thank you for the Fresh Coat

Thank you to Autumn R. for her work on the building near the water tower area. It was covered with graffiti but with Autumn's help it now has a fresh coat of paint. Thank you to Autumn and her helpers for their efforts to clean up Fircrest.

Register to Vote: Special Elections Coming Up

By Becky A

The last day for submitting a mail-in voter registration form or registering online for the **Tuesday, Aug. 16**, primary and special election was **Monday, July 18**.

Citizens who are not currently registered to vote anywhere in the state of Washington have an additional time period, running through **Monday, Aug. 8**, to register by appearing in person at the County Elections Department, 1408 Franklin St., Vancouver. Visit the Elections Office website at clarkvotes.org.

Speaking of Elections: FNA Officer Elections

Elections for neighborhood officers start soon. Nominations will take place in September and voting will take place in October. Please attend our monthly meetings to raise your voice about who's running your neighborhood (or who's speaking on your behalf with the city).

Speeding on 9th Street

by LeeAnn O.

A 3-day traffic study was recently taken on 9th Street. The results of that is that only one car in three days was clocked at above 40 mph which means that the problem on 9th Street is that we who travel it and live on it **perceive** it to be a problem but the problem is not great enough to warrant more patrols. What we CAN do is track speeding patterns and report them to the traffic hotline. If we know there is a car or two that speeds on 9th Street on certain days and certain times and we report those days/times, VPD will send patrols out at that time to try to address this problem. Please call 487-7402 to report traffic problems. Thank you to the VPD for providing this traffic study for us on 9th Street and offering a way we can work with the VPD to correct the issue.

Special Request from your Neighbors

If you enjoyed your 4th of July by setting off fireworks, could you please clean up your residue from the street? The 4th is over but there is still quite a bit of trash left over from the festivities. The street sweepers aren't coming by as often and it is up to us if we're going to keep Fircrest clean.



On the Agenda for August Meeting

VPD Commander Delgado will be speaking at the August 2nd FNA meeting to discuss gang activity in general and specifically within the Fircrest Neighborhood. If you think the gangs are not active in our neighborhood, your head is in the sand. Please come join this ultra important discussion.

You CAN Make a Difference

It's been said that the officers of a neighborhood organization are the lowest level of elected officials in the city.

We make some decisions and influence others that affect lives on a direct basis possibly daily. Did you know that last Christmas we furnished food to many families less fortunate than others? Did you know that we donated monies to provide shoes for needy kids in our schools? Any monies donated to programs like those above are only re-invested in our neighborhood.

Have you seen the trees in the park with the stakes guiding their growth? Where do you think those came from? It's either due to the neighborhood purchase or negotiations with suppliers.

This fall we are organizing a cleanup of the English Ivy on Ninth Street across from Haagen Park. All equipment and labor will be furnished by neighborhood volunteers. What I'm wondering is "Will you be there"? No one can give everything, but everyone can give something.

We spend a lot of time complaining about what happens at the Federal level, State level and I think soon we'll have something to complain about with the county. Over 131,000,000 people voted in the election of 2008. I think during the last election at the Fircrest Neighborhood Association the number of voters was less than 10.

The FNA has influence on the streets you drive on, both in quality and safety, the parks where you play among others areas of the 'hood. We attend meetings on your behalf with the City council, Neighborhood Traffic Safety Alliance and the Vancouver Neighborhood Alliance. We learn of things to bring to you to improve life. The last VNA meeting the subject was Elder Care. In the near future the NTSA will be deciding on the allocation of some monies to improve safety on our streets

Maybe you could come to a FNA meeting, have a cup of coffee and see what it is that we do. We sure like to meet the folks we represent. Meetings are the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 in the Community Room at Firstenburg Community Center.

-Looie Disparte, Fircrest Neighborhood Chair for 2011