



# Cascade Highlands Herald

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

April 2012

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

## Important Neighborhood Dates

- 1) Summer Dessert Meeting: July 23, 7:00 p.m., Homestead Park, south end.
- 2) Neighborhood Cleanup: July 28, 8 am to noon.

## Current CHNA Bank Balance

Current Balance \$1,583.33 (\$380.00 of that is reserved for park maintenance). Parks Foundation balance \$425.00 making for a total of \$805.00 towards the needed \$4400.00 to maintain our park during the summer months.

## Dec. 2011 Cascade Highlands Statistics

Dwellings: 1,845. Residents: 4,066.

## New Move-Ins to the Neighborhood

If you just moved in (or have a newly moved-in neighbor) and would like to receive our welcoming newcomer 'information sheets', please contact Jean Kent 896-7291. THANKS, and *welcome to the neighborhood!*



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 and Joe Blackman, Gary Bohman, Joe Byrne, Rosenna and Ken Cheng, Cecil Davies, Marion Dittman, Julie Dunn, Edith Hartley, Ann Horstman, Brenda Jensen, Erika Johnson, Jean Kent, Larry and Carol Kirk, Cathy Lauer, Annette Leone, Peggy Liang, Yu-Ying Liu, Elise Miller, Doug Mineau, Holly Orr, Pat Poe, Diane Pudans, Barbara Scherr, Steve Schmidkofer, Marianne Stein, Donna Stolz, Jim Strouse, Mike Stroy, Anne Vitort and Bill Wilton* for helping with the last newsletter.

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

#### *Chair*

Jean Kent 896-7291  
[jeaken@pacifier.com](mailto:jeaken@pacifier.com)

#### *Vice-Chair*

Gary Bohman 254-2009  
[pegarma@aol.com](mailto:pegarma@aol.com)

#### *Treasurer*

(Position is Currently Vacant)

#### *Secretary*

Mark Johnson 260-9140

#### *City Liaison*

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#### *Newsletter Editor*

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#### *Website Coordinator*

Dan West  
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#### *Neighborhood Police Officer*

Corporal Charlie Ford  
487-7540  
[Charlie.Ford@cityofvancouver.us](mailto:Charlie.Ford@cityofvancouver.us)



## Executive Board Replacement/ Succession

Your current executive board has been in office and willing to serve the neighborhood for several years now. Our treasurer's family has moved from the neighborhood and thus she is no longer eligible to fulfill her executive position on the board. Furthermore, her departure pointed up the fact that our by-laws have minimal provision for replacing resigned officers, and also the positions listed do not reflect the actual makeup of our board. We are proposing the following changes to the by-laws:

4. OFFICERS - *Officers of the Cascade Highlands Neighborhood Association shall be a chairperson, a vice chair, a secretary/ newsletter-editor, a treasurer, a newsletter distributor, and a web-site editor. (This change separates the position of secretary and treasurer, unites the secretary/newsletter-editor jobs, and makes 'official' the web-master job.) One board member may fulfill more than one position. Officer vacancies shall be filled by appointment by the remaining board members. Any appointed office shall be voted on at the next general meeting, and will coincide with the other officers' terms. The chair, with board agreement, may appoint other positions as needed, to be voted on at the next general meeting.*

9. ELECTION OF OFFICERS. Officers shall be elected biannually. ~~Elections to fill vacant positions shall occur whenever vacancies occur.~~

We will vote on these changes at our July meeting.

## Treasurer Position Vacant

We are currently looking for someone to volunteer to be the CHNA treasurer until the end of the term in July 2013. Tasks include: writing checks (upon approval of the board), depositing money (generally at garage sale time, but also when we receive money from other sources), and keeping the checkbook and other banking materials in a safe place. The treasurer also receives communications from the board (generally in email-form) and is expected to weigh in on issues being discussed. A positive, collaborative, broad-perspective attitude is appreciated and valued.

If anyone is interested in volunteering for any of these offices, but in particular the treasurer at this time, please contact one of the current board members. We will put your name in the July 2013 newsletter and your position can be voted on during the July election. Thank you for your interest in serving the neighborhood!

## April Coupons

CHNA residents will get two sets of 'commercial' coupons this year in your Waste Connections bill. **Yard debris** and **tire coupons** will be enclosed in your early April Waste Connections bill. The coupons may be used from April 5 through June 30, 2012. This is being done because of the neighborhoods which have changed to online newsletters. It also ensures that each customer throughout the city receives one set of coupons at the earliest possible date.

Yard debris coupons can be used at West Van Materials Recovery Center, H & H Wood Recyclers, City Bark, or McFarlane's Bark. Please see addresses and hours on the coupons.

Tire coupons can be used at West Van Materials Recovery Center, Central Transfer and Recycling or the Washougal Transfer Station. Be sure to check the facility locations and hours on the back of the coupon before you go. Note: West Van is closed Sunday and the Washougal Transfer station has limited public hours.

Tenant Coupons: Residents whose garbage services are paid for by their landlord should contact the landlord to obtain coupons that are being delivered with the April bill.

Online Bill Payers: Garbage customers who receive their Waste Connections bills online will receive an email telling them to contact the City of Vancouver's Solid Waste office by email for their yard debris and tire coupons.

Questions? Contact the Solid Waste office at [solidwaste@cityofvancouver.us](mailto:solidwaste@cityofvancouver.us) or 619-4120.

## Free Document Shredding

Right here, within CHNA boundaries, will be a free document shredding event at the First Independent Bank branch, 1408 SE 164th Ave., from 9:00 a.m. until noon on Saturday, June 16th. Other locations and dates for additional shredding 'parties' are: April 28 in Battle Ground (601 W Main), May 12 in Hazel Dell (8015 NE Hwy. 99), and June 9 (in Orchards 10705 NE 4th Plain).



## VPD Launches New On-line Reporting System

On March 19, 2012, the Vancouver Police Department

launched a new online crime reporting system on the Vancouver Police Department website ([www.vanpolice.org](http://www.vanpolice.org)). This system allows citizens to make low level 24/7 crime reports for crimes that occur within Vancouver city limits.

Citizens in Vancouver have had the ability to report low level crime via the Vancouver Police Department website for several years. However, this new online reporting system, through COPLOGIC, has increased user friendly features and enhancements, such as the ability for supplemental information to be added if necessary once a report has been entered. Only crimes which occur within Vancouver city limits can be reported using the online system and only the crimes listed below, that have no suspect information, can be reported online.

Citizens can report the following crimes online:

- Harassing phone calls
- Vehicle Prowl-Motor Home
- Identity Theft/Fraud
- Malicious Mischief
- Vehicle Prowl
- Lost Property
- Graffiti/Tagging

Reports submitted by citizens using the online reporting system are entered into the same electronic report system as police reports that are generated by Vancouver Police Department personnel and are reviewed by staff prior to final approval.

For crimes with identifiable suspect information, citizens should contact the Vancouver Police Department directly. For all crimes in progress or any violent crimes, always call 911.

Citizens **cannot** report the following types of crime online:

- No crimes where there is suspect information (the online system cannot accept suspect information; for crimes with suspect information call 911 or the Vancouver Police Department)
- No vehicle theft reports (call 911)
- No weapons related calls, including thefts of weapons (call 911)
- No missing persons or runaways (call 911)
- No traffic accidents, including hit and run

- No traffic complaints (call VPD traffic complaint hotline 360-487-7402)

## Non-Working Major Appliance Free (one per year) Pickup

The city and Waste Connections provide a curbside pickup for disposing of your non-working major appliances. Call Waste Connections at 892-5370 to schedule your free once-a-year pickup. You can schedule additional pickups of non-working appliances with Waste Connections, but you must pay for those. Major appliances include refrigerators, freezers, washers, dryers, dishwashers, stoves and water heaters. Scheduled pick-ups of other "bulky items" (such as sofas, chairs and mattresses) can be arranged through Waste Connections for fees ranging between \$10 and \$15. Or, you can wait for our cleanup at the end of July.

## Curb Painting (House Number)

A number of years ago we had a fund-raiser by asking for a \$5.00 donation if we painted your house number on the curb in front of your house. If you would like your number refreshed - for free (or most certainly for a donation if you're willing to do that!), please contact Jean Kent, 896-7291. Paint on the north and east sides of the street has held up the best and of course those curbs which are smooth have held up better than the bumpy ones. We'll come out and refresh (or paint new, if you didn't participate in this program in the past - but would appreciate your donation) your house number when the weather cooperates and we also have the time. Having your house number readily visible from the street is critical for emergency workers.

## Newsletter Distributors Needed

Do you enjoy reading this publication? If so, please consider volunteering to be a distributor. We have four open routes (each about 35 houses), as well as a need for additional subs. Please contact Erika Johnson (260-9140) to sign up and help out!



## Summer Park Meeting (July)

On Monday evening, July 23rd, 7:00 p.m., south end of the park, we will hold our annual summer dessert meeting. Prospective speakers are: **Jim Bittner**, Project Estimator, Cascade Radon, Inc. will speak briefly about radon, where it comes from, how it enters our homes, the risk, how to test for radon, and how to mitigate a home with elevated levels; and **Mindy Johnston**, Crime Victim Advocacy Program; this program works to support people and communities who have been victims of crime in Clark County. Assistance includes and is not limited to, guidance on filling out and filing for crime victim compensation, the ability to attend court proceedings, cultural and legal advocacy, safety planning, community education and support to secondary victims/survivors. Additional speakers have been invited and we will vote on the proposed by-law changes.

## Donating for Homestead Park Through the Foundation Website?

If you would like to donate towards the upkeep of Homestead Park through the Parks Foundation website, please enter the URL below and type in "Homestead Park Maintenance" in the notation box. That way you will receive a receipt from the foundation for the tax-deductible donation.

<http://www.parksfoundation.us/DonateNow.php>

You may also donate directly to the CHNA account, but you won't receive a tax deduction for your donation. We need \$4400.00 per season to keep the park watered and mowed. If 100 households (out of our 1,845) donated \$44.00 each, we'd have more than enough money to keep our park green and mowed all summer since we already have some funds set aside.

Another use for donated park money is to replace our monkey bars. The bars themselves aren't that expensive, but bringing the park up to ADA standards which is required with the installation of the monkey bars would cost a lot (back-of-envelope estimate is \$10,000); If 227 of us donated \$44.00 we could get our monkey bars!!

## "Adopt a Corner/Block"

Since budgetary cutbacks have limited the maintenance workers available to maintain our public areas, we're looking for individuals, families, or groups willing to 'adopt a corner' or 'adopt a block'. This work would involve periodically clipping, trimming, raking, neatening an area for the benefit of all. Would you be willing to sign up? Corners/blocks include, but are not limited to: SE 160th Ave. and 17th St., 18th St., Village Loop, McGillivray (north side), Mill Plain near SE 155th Ave., and Blairmont. As I (Jean Kent) used to tell my daughter when urging her to help clean up, "Many hands make light work" and she, the one who seemed to actually enjoy a night-mare bedroom, would answer cheerily, "But mom, too many cooks spoil the broth!"



## Parking in the Neighborhood

It is the time of year when additional vehicles become parked on our neighborhood streets. Boats, campers, and RVs come out of storage as neighbors prepare them for the summer, plus we often hold social gatherings and so visitors also call for increased use of on-street parking. Much of this activity is lawful, but sometimes it can become an issue for neighbors. The City of Vancouver Parking Program is committed to working with the community to address all parking issues. A Parking Complaint Hotline: 360-487-8653 is available for you to leave a recorded message about specific parking concerns.

When calling the hotline, please be prepared to leave a detailed description of the parking issue including:

- The exact location of the parking issue.
- The usual time of day you notice the parking problem.
- A description of the vehicle.
- Your name and phone number. This is a very important piece of the problem-solving process. Parking Enforcement Officers will investigate the calls and may need to call you back for more information.





## Attend Recyclingest Neighborhood Training?

Would you like to represent CHNA at one of the city's Recyclingest Neighborhood Training classes? They will occur July 25, and Oct 1. Please contact Jean Kent (896-7291) to sign up.

## Get Rid of Unwanted Medications Safely

If you have medications that are no longer needed, you can dispose of them safely from between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Saturday, April 28, at Clark College's Purple Parking Lot #1 (by the soccer field), 1900 Fort Vancouver Way. This event is sponsored by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, the Clark County Sheriff's Office and the Clark County Department of Environmental Services, in partnership with PREVENT! The Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition of Clark County and Clark College.

Prescription drugs no longer needed and left in homes increase the risk of dangerous and inappropriate uses. Proper drug disposal also is an environmental issue. Unused medications should **not be flushed** down the toilet or dumped down the drain.

Unwanted medications also can be disposed of at several collection sites across Clark County. Controlled substances, such as pain killers and tranquilizers, can only be taken to participating law enforcement agencies. Non-controlled substances, such as over-the-counter medications, can be taken to local participating pharmacies. All unwanted medications (controlled and non-controlled) will be accepted at the April 28 collection event. For more information about disposal or recycling options, call Clark County Environmental Services at (360) 397-2121 ext. 4352

## Stop those Phone Books (if you want)

[www.yellowpagesoptout.com](http://www.yellowpagesoptout.com) will stop all phone book delivery. Here are other contacts to stop just one book (ex: DEX/Quest dexknows.com and select Directory Options, then Personalize your directory order; to stop Yellow books - call 800-929-3556 and press 3).

## Tobacco Free Vancouver Parks

Did you know that City of Vancouver parks are now tobacco-free? Along with scoop and leash laws, noise restrictions, a ban on discharging guns and fireworks, and drinking alcohol (without a permit), tobacco use is prohibited in city parks.

## The Death of a Good Dog

By Jean Kent

Pearl is a black and white Border Collie with black freckles on her face - or rather, Pearl WAS a black and white Border Collie. She was hit by a vehicle and left to suffer, and then die, by the side of the road - the road? Meadowpark, within our own neighborhood association's boundaries. Perhaps you have met Pearl as she and her owner often visited Homestead Park. In our neighborhood most all residents want to live on safe streets - and safe streets include drivers who accept the responsibility for their driving actions.

If you accidentally damage something, or hit a dog(!) please stop, find help, or render assistance yourself. Please do not leave an animal to suffer!

## Dogs, Dogs, Dogs

Some of us have and love dogs. Some of us love other people's dogs. Not many of us love even our own dog's poop. And just about nobody loves somebody else's dog's poop in their yard. Please be sure to clean up your own dog's droppings if they land in somebody else's yard. THANKS!

## Young Tree Care

For three years, a 'baby' tree needs to be watered each week, all at one time (this promotes deep roots which eventually can find their own water). Set the hose to run at the base of your young tree, turn the faucet handle so the water is flowing at a rate which matches the diameter of your little finger, and allow the water to flow for about 30 minutes per tree.

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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