

# FAIRGROUNDS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Dennis Johnson  
Executive board  
kardenj@aol.com

April 2010

P.O. Box 61731  
Vancouver, WA 98660  
576-8781

Greetings -

An informed electorate is important for the proper functioning of government so please make a point of attending both of these monthly meetings. Last month we had a lively discussion with Steve Stuart.

**APRIL 8, 2010** – Our guest will be Marc Boldt, county commissioner from district 2. Of the three current commissioners, Commissioner Boldt is the longest serving and perhaps has the longest ties to the county.

**MAY 13, 2010** – Last but not least is Tom Mielke, county commissioner from district 1, our district. Commissioner Mielke is the newest member of the Board of County Commissioners and has history as a representative to the state legislature in Olympia, but let's not hold that against him. :->)

**RECYCLING HAS BENEFITS.** Recovering reusable materials saves substantial amounts of energy, reducing air and water pollution, requiring less new raw resource material. The benefits of recycling are reduced costs and environmental protection – a win/win situation.

Fairgrounds NA and all other neighborhoods in Clark County have recyclable material collection service, under County auspices, by Waste Connections, Inc., one of the largest contractors in this business in the United States. Waste Connections collects and recovers all materials for which there is a reuse market. This includes metals, some plastics, cardboard, mixed paper, newspaper, glass, used motor oil, etc. New markets for re-using materials are developing and as these markets do there will be new recycling guidelines. This is an enterprise that is changing and growing. Please see the attached article provided by the City of Vancouver and Waste Connections for the latest information about best practices to facilitate recycling pickup.

**SALMON CREEK SUB-AREA PLANNING.** The Three Creeks Special Planning Area has been divided into eight subareas for detailed study and analysis. One of those is the Salmon Creek Subarea. This subarea is roughly bordered by I-5 on the west, Salmon Creek on the south, 50<sup>th</sup> Avenue on the east, and 190<sup>th</sup> Street on the north. It is approximately 2400 acres in size. Major employers in the subarea include Legacy Salmon Creek Hospital and WSU/Vancouver.

A Technical Advisory Committee of local concerned citizens (both Fairgrounds and North Salmon Creek Neighborhood Associations are represented), local businesses, and County government representatives are collaborating to review recent growth and anticipated future development with a view towards updating transportation facilities and land use zoning. The objective is to make best use of available resources for a livable community, both residential and commercial, with adequate infrastructure, including parks, trails, and other desirable amenities. The Technical Advisory Committee has met and been briefed on many aspects. The Committee's next task is to develop recommendations, to be combined with recommendations from other Subareas for presentation to and adoption by the Board of County Commissioners in late 2010.

Sincerely,  
Dennis Johnson  
for the Executive Board

# FAIRGROUNDS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

### **FGNA April 8 meeting**

**Clark County Commissioner Marc Boldt**

Thursday April 8 at 7:00 PM

Community of Christ Meeting Room, 400 NE 179<sup>th</sup> ST

### **FGNA May 13 meeting**

**Clark County Commissioner Tom Mielke**

Thursday May 13 at 7:00 PM

Community of Christ Meeting Room, 400 NE 179<sup>th</sup> ST

### **FGNA June 10 meeting**

Thursday June 10 at 7:00 PM

Community of Christ Meeting Room, 400 NE 179<sup>th</sup> ST

### **FGNA July 8 meeting**

**Annual summer barbecue at our new park**

Thursday July 8 at 7:00 PM

Community of Christ Meeting Room, 400 NE 179<sup>th</sup> ST

### **FGNA August 12 meeting**

**No August meeting, enjoy the county fair!**

Thursday August 12 at 7:00 PM

Community of Christ Meeting Room, 400 NE 179<sup>th</sup> ST

### **FGNA September 9 meeting**

**2010 election - Meet the candidates**

Thursday September 9 at 7:00 PM

Community of Christ Meeting Room, 400 NE 179<sup>th</sup> ST

### **2010 FGNA monthly meetings**

Second Thursdays at 7:00 PM

Community of Christ Meeting Room, 400 NE 179<sup>th</sup> ST

We meet the second Thursday every month except August. There are lots of local government and community groups that want to come talk to us. Who do you want to hear from? Contact Vicki Fitzsimmons, our meeting planner, at 360.573.6604 or e-mail to [Vicki.fitzsimmons@edwardjones.com](mailto:Vicki.fitzsimmons@edwardjones.com) to get your topic on our agenda.

# FAIRGROUNDS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

## FORT VANCOUVER REGIONAL LIBRARY

FORT VANCOUVER REGIONAL LIBRARY PROPOSES A LEVY LIFT. The Board of Trustees for the Fort Vancouver Regional Library District has unanimously approved placing a levy lid lift measure on the August 17 primary election ballot. The trustees and the District want voters to decide whether library hours of operation and the book budget should be restored to previous levels or accept more reductions later. With passage of the ballot measure library branches would return to being open six days/week (pre-2009 levels) increasing availability of all services offered to the public and the collection would be expanded with many new books, periodicals, reference materials, DVDs, etc.

State law limiting funding increases, the economy, declining property values, and greatly reduced construction activity combined drastically impacting money available. Library operating expenses have increased to the point that, in February 2009, it was necessary to reduce staff by 10% (24 positions) and reduce hours of operation by one day/week at most branches, to prudently stay within budget. At the same time of these forced service reductions demand for library services markedly increased, with many citizens seeking help with job searches, and others using public computers for communications and education. Book purchases have been severely curtailed also.

The exact amount of the levy lid lift will be determined in a few months, after updated property assessment projections are received from the Counties. It is anticipated that the increase will be about \$0.08/thousand assessed value. This is roughly the cost of one new book per year for a \$250,000 home.

## 14<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL DISCOVERY WALK FESTIVAL

Vancouver's Discovery Walk Festival is a three-day civic event (April 23-25, 2010), complete with pageantry, food, entertainment and non-competitive walking, swimming, and bicycling. Walks range from 3 kilometers to 42 kilometers (the marathon) in length. The bike rides range from 15 kilometers to 50 kilometers (30 miles). A modest registration fee is required to participate. Walk and ride finishers earn an award. This Annual Festival, sanctioned by the International Walking Association and the American Volksporster Association, draws hundreds of people from Europe and Asia who tour historic Clark County and participate in healthy outdoor recreation. Festival headquarters is the Vancouver Hilton Hotel. For more information see [www.discoverywalk.org](http://www.discoverywalk.org).

## FREE SHRED DAY

On May 1, 2010 from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. FREE shredding of up to three boxes of documents per person will be available in Bortolami's Pizzeria's parking lot at 99<sup>th</sup> Street and 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue. No charge, but donations accepted. This service is offered by the Stockford Village Business Association to help avoid identity theft and keep personal information private.

## FREE CHIPPER SERVICE

Also on May 1, 2010 (after you shred your papers) another complementary service is being planned: Chipping branches, limbs, shrubs, etc. at either Geyser Middle School (99<sup>th</sup> Street), or at the WSU/V property east of Hiway 99 on 78<sup>th</sup> Street. Updated information about this free service will be announced later when arrangements have been completed.

# FAIRGROUNDS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

## FAIRGROUNDS COMMUNITY PARK

Phase 1 is complete and it's open! Come visit our newest park! From 179<sup>th</sup> Street go south on NW 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue to NW 164<sup>th</sup> Street. Turn left and go ½ mile to the park entrance.

From a practical standpoint, the steep slopes and wetlands at the site limit the development to a "Neighborhood Park" for now. But since the size of this park puts it in the classification of a "Community Park" in addition to a play structure, ½ court basketball courts and a picnic shelter you'll find parking and restrooms.

Dedication of our new park is set for Saturday, May 22 at 10:00. Our County Commissioner Tom Mielke and our 2009 Citizen of the Year Florence Wager will join us for the ceremony. We'll serve snacks too. Join us at the hilltop of the Fairgrounds Community Park – the view is awesome!

## 2010 CENSUS

Add FGNA to the list of folks pestering you to fill out and return your 2010 Census form as soon as possible.

Doing so will save the feds from sending someone to knock on your door to complete the paperwork. What an expensive proposition that is. Every household that has not returned the form will receive up to 6 visits attempting to gather the information.

Our area has experienced rapid growth since the 2000 census. An accurate count is vital to make sure that our community is properly funded for government programs.

## NEIGHBORHOODS, USA CONFERENCE

Neighborhoods, USA (NUSA) is a nonprofit volunteer organization. NUSA holds the only annual national conference on neighborhood concerns. This year's conference will be held May 26-29 in Little Rock, Arkansas. The conference kicks off Wednesday evening with the Mayor's Reception at the Clinton Presidential Center Library.

In addition to 2 days of wonderful workshops other highlights include Neighborhood Pride tours on Thursday and 2 awards luncheons – Neighborhood of the Year and Best Neighborhood Programs.

The headquarters hotel is The Peabody – famous around the world for the twice daily 'duck walk' featuring their most famous permanent residents.

For more information on the NUSA 2010 conference contact Bridget Schwarz, a local member of their Board of Directors (360.573.5873 or [bridget@bridge-i-t.com](mailto:bridget@bridge-i-t.com)). For more information on NUSA and our conferences go to [www.nusa.org](http://www.nusa.org).

## THANK YOU !!

The Fairgrounds Neighborhood Association was launched in January 1999. In late 1998 a steering committee met for months to make plans. Those meetings were held at the home of Marge Meyer, a founding member of FGNA. Marge has been a member of the Executive Board since Day One. She is retiring from the EB. We will miss her active participation in our neighborhood association. Marge, we'll see you at our social events!

# FAIRGROUNDS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

## HELP YOUR RECYCLE TRUCK DRIVER HELP YOU

Recycling does take a little effort, but following the rules below will ensure your recycle truck driver collects the most recyclables in the best possible condition and you get the best benefit for your effort. The following explanations may help you understand the reasoning behind the rules:

**Separate Your Recyclables ~** In the past year Clark County and its cities switched from the 3-bin system to one bin for glass plus a recycling roll cart for almost all the other recyclable materials collected curbside. The new trucks have two sections; one for glass and one for most other materials. When the trucks return to the transfer station where the actual sorting is done, they deposit each category in a different location.

**Place your roll cart at least feet from other containers ~** This arrangement allows the automated truck to pick up your recycling cart without knocking over your garbage can or cart.

**Plastic bags are recyclable, but NOT in your cart~** Plastic bags tangle in the recycling sorting machinery and prohibit other more valuable commodities from being recycled. Most grocery stores have a special collection container for plastic bags near the front doors.

**Set Recycle Bin and Cart at the Curb by 6:30 am on Day of Pick Up ~** Our recycle truck drivers all start picking up recyclables by 6:30 am. You cannot always count on the fact that your driver usually comes by at a certain time; for any number of reasons, the schedule can change. If scavenging is not a problem you may want to set your recycling cart out the night before you pick-up is scheduled.

**Cut Cardboard Down to fit inside your Recycling Roll Cart ~** Cardboard is much more marketable if it is dry. If it is inside the cart, it saves time for the recycling driver and allows him to service more homes in a day, keeping costs down.

**Place Used Motor Oil or Antifreeze in a clear one gallon plastic jug with a screw top lid and place near cart ~** Motor Oil and Antifreeze will be picked up on a space available basis. Please use clear one-gallon plastic jugs with screw-on lids; they fit snugly in a special space on the truck so they won't spill. Also, please don't mix oil or antifreeze with water, brake fluid, or other liquids. Contaminated oil and antifreeze are not recyclable; they should be disposed of as household hazardous waste.

**Place scrap metal (no larger than 24" and less than 35 pounds) Inside Your Recycle Cart ~** Scrap metal includes brass, aluminum, copper and steel.

**Place Household Batteries on Top of Your Blue Recycle Cart~** Please place all household batteries, including batteries from flashlights, re-chargeable appliances, hearing aids, etc. in a clear sealed plastic bag on top of your recycle cart.

Recycling does take some work, but done properly, it has many benefits!

See the Brown Pages for additional information: If you received a Clark County Qwest Dex phone book, then you have a wealth of recycling, yard debris, and garbage information at your fingertips. Check out the Brown Pages (right behind the purple map section in the front of the book) and you will find the answers to your solid waste questions. Get up to date information from the local WCI website at [www.wcnorthwest.com](http://www.wcnorthwest.com).

*This article courtesy of Waste Connections Inc (360.448.6971).*

# FAIRGROUNDS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

## 2010 FGNA EXECUTIVE BOARD

Vicki Fitzsimmons	573.6604	vicki.fitzsimmons@edwardjones.com
Don Golden	566.8246	dgg98686@netzero.com
Dennis Johnson	576-8781	kardenj@aol.com
Maureen Jondahl	574.2600	mjondahl@hotmail.com
Winton Jondahl	574.2600	mjondahl@hotmail.com
Melvin Rodda	887.3295	ordda@pacifier.com
Bridget Schwarz	573-5873	bridget@bridge-i-t.com
George Vartanian	546-3243	gvart@comcast.net
# 9 position open		

---

### GENERAL MEETINGS:

WE MEET at 7 PM ON SECOND THURSDAYS AT THE COMMUNITY of CHRIST MEETING ROOM  
400 NE 179<sup>TH</sup> STREET, 1/2 MILE WEST OF I-5

### OUR BOUNDARIES :

NORTH: 219th Street      WEST: Lake River      EAST: NE 72nd Avenue  
SOUTH: *West of I-5*, NW 151<sup>st</sup> Street to NW 41<sup>st</sup> Avenue to 164<sup>TH</sup> Street; *East of I-5*, NE Kline Road to NE 119<sup>TH</sup> Street to Salmon Creek Avenue to Salmon Creek Street to Salmon Creek to NE 72<sup>ND</sup> Avenue.

### The fine print:

Fairgrounds Neighborhood Association newsletters are printed free of charge by the Clark County Public Information and Outreach Office. The information and views expressed are solely those of the Fairgrounds Neighborhood Association and not of Clark County Government or the Public Information and Outreach Office.

---

FAIRGROUNDS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 61731

Vancouver, WA 98666