

FAIRGROUNDS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Maureen Jondahl
Executive board
360.574.2600

June 2010

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Dear neighbors,

As the days are getting longer and our hope that warm sunny days will be here soon, take the time to find out what is happening in our neighborhood.

The Fairgrounds Community Park is now open. If you haven't already checked it out, be sure to do so. There is state of the art playground equipment for the young ones and 2 half court basketball courts. There are also beautiful walking trails around the park. The Park is open from dawn to dusk every day. The Neighborhood Association was instrumental in planning this park so come see the results of our efforts.

As we move forward, our June meeting will have a representative on hand to talk about the plan and design for the newest park in our neighborhood, Kozy Camp Park. Nobody knows the neighborhood needs and usage as well as the people living there. The time to get involved is now to provide the input into the park design.

In addition to our input, developments surrounding Kozy Kamp will have an impact on the park. It is possible that required road improvements to address safety concerns will make Kozy Kamp too expensive to develop. At our June meeting we'll hear about the issues and possible solutions.

89 homes behind Kozy Kamp Park were approved in 2008. The site access was to be from NE 179th Street via a new road (NE 27th Avenue) built by the developer. Community Development has received a post decision review request that asks that access to these homes be from NE 29th Avenue instead. The increased traffic will exacerbate traffic safety concerns near the park. At our June meeting we'll be meeting with the developer to learn of his plans and consider the impacts.

I hope everyone is using their big blue recycling bins. Just a few reminders

- Paper, Plastic bottles and cans all go into the big blue bin. Please remove lids from all plastic bottles. Be sure to set the bin with the metal bar facing the street.
- Glass goes into the bin and placed next to the blue bin at least 3 feet apart
- Other items that can be recycled include motor oil and anti-freeze. These should be placed in gallon jugs with a screw on lid and left near the bins.
- Batteries can also be recycled by placing in clear plastic bags and left on top of the blue bins.

Plan on attending our July Picnic/Potluck at our new neighborhood park.

I hope you enjoy the summer and be safe.

Sincerely,

Maureen Jondahl
For the Executive Board

FAIRGROUNDS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

FGNA June 10 meeting Traffic Safety on NE 29th Avenue

Thursday June 10 at 7:00 PM

Community of Christ Meeting Room, 400 NE 179th ST

We have always described NE 29th Avenue as a 2 lane freeway from I-205 to Battle Ground. As new subdivisions along NE 29th have flourished, the traffic safety issue has become more of a problem. Residents are concerned that limited sight distance for cars entering NE 29th along some stretches causes a traffic safety hazard. The development of the Kozy Kamp Park (at NE 175th Street) may require traffic improvements that are not affordable. Meanwhile it appears that access to 89 homes (at NE 172nd Street) will add to the burden. At our monthly meeting we'll learn about development proposals and the traffic and environmental impacts.

FGNA July 8 meeting Annual summer barbecue at our new park

Thursday July 8 at 7:00 PM

NE 164th Street 3 blocks east of NW 11th

Time again for our picnic potluck! Our new park has a wonderful shelter with lots of seating. Let us know what you'll bring. As always, we'll supply the plates, utensils, napkins, lemonade and root beer floats.

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 179th ST

FGNA September 9 meeting 2010 election - Meet the candidates

Thursday September 9 at 7:00 PM

Community of Christ Meeting Room, 400 NE 179th ST

FGNA October 14 meeting Local transportation projects

Thursday September 9 at 7:00 PM

Community of Christ Meeting Room, 400 NE 179th ST

2010 FGNA monthly meetings

Second Thursdays at 7:00 PM

Community of Christ Meeting Room, 400 NE 179th 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 to get your topic on our agenda.

FAIRGROUNDS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

GANGS IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD

FROM George Vartanian of the FGNA Executive Board:

Please understand these are the result of my notes during the presentation at the Sheriff's Office West Precinct Advisory Board meeting.

People wonder about gangs and their presence. Many think the problem is only in the cities, but there are gangs almost everywhere. Salmon Creek and Hazel Dell are examples.

Gangs are getting more and more sophisticated in their methods of drug trafficking. Especially with distribution and "marketing". Distribution can occur in many ways - from hiding drugs in vehicles, masking the scent with other materials (coffee), to just selling it in schools.

It's not uncommon to see gang members recruiting new members at schools, even when school is in session. Recruits can be young people who feel disenfranchised or lonely seeking companionship. But other, seemingly more stable, people can fall prey also.

Gangs are well organized with hierarchies and "foot soldiers".

Gangs recruit or get friendly with people who have no felony record and are considered to be "clean". These people get positions in apartment management and rent five or six apartments to gang members who otherwise would not pass background checks. These rooms can be used as "safe houses", weapons and ammunition storage, and drug warehouses. If the word gets out that there is gang or drug activity in an apartment complex, the odds are only one in five that the gang members will be in an apartment when law enforcement "hits".

There is evidence that orders can come to local gangs from people incarcerated in prisons.

NUMBER 42 SPEAKS TO NUSA

FROM Bridget Schwarz of the FGNA Executive board:

Neighborhoods, USA holds the only annual national conference on neighborhood concerns. The Host City this year was Little Rock. Their most famous resident was our guest. Wednesday night we were invited to his library for a reception. On Friday the Mayor of Little Rock introduced the Governor of Arkansas who introduced Bill Clinton. The day started listening to Bill Clinton speak and ended with listening to Earth, Wind, & Fire sing.

What a great conference! Seriously consider joining us in Anchorage next year. Sarah Palin is not invited :-)

FAIRGROUNDS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

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GENERAL MEETINGS :

WE MEET at 7 PM ON SECOND THURSDAYS AT THE COMMUNITY of CHRIST MEETING ROOM
400 NE 179TH 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 151st Street to NW 41st Avenue to 164TH Street; *East of I-5*, NE Klineline Road to NE 119TH Street to Salmon Creek Avenue to Salmon Creek Street to Salmon Creek to NE 72ND Avenue.

The fine print:

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