

FAIRGROUNDS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Bridget Schwarz
Executive Board
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February 2012

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Greetings -

This month (February 9) Marc Boldt, chair of the Board of County Commissioners, will be our guest. At our meeting Marc will share his viewpoint on county issues and the various concerns that he focuses on.

As usual, we will have lots of questions, comments and concerns to share with the commissioner. *So join us at 7 pm on Thursday February 9 in the Community of Christ meeting room at 400 NE 179th Street (1/2 mile west of I-5).*

And stay tuned. We have scheduled monthly meetings with numerous other local elected officials in the coming months.

A new way to monitor disease outbreaks. Last November, some parents of Truman Elementary school children got an automated phone call from Clark County Public Health. The message explained the call was made because their child was absent from school.

Public Health employee Lianne Martinez had just completed two grueling days in a call center that formed to interview 497 people within 36 hours about possible measles exposure. The call center was expensive—about \$4,100 in staff time.

Lianne knew about CRESA's Emergency Community Notification System, sometimes called Reverse 9-1-1. She wondered if Public Health could use this technology instead of a costly, time-consuming call center.

Lianne got a chance to test the system in November, when Truman Elementary School notified Public Health that 10 percent of the student body was absent.

Public Health activated the system to call households of the absent Truman school students. Within 3 minutes, they received data from 44% of the households called. In less than 30 minutes, staff determined that this was a viral outbreak and not something more serious like E.coli.

The cost? Just \$7.50. What a great example of problem solving, innovation, and saving taxpayers money during a bad economy!

Public Health plans to use the system during future disease outbreaks or other public health emergencies. If you are contacted, you will hear a message identifying Public Health as the message originator and explaining the process for responding to questions.

If you don't recognize the caller ID and choose not to answer the call, the system will leave a message telling you that it will call again in 15 minutes, and letting you know the number you should expect on your caller ID.

Bridget Schwarz
on behalf of the Fairgrounds Neighborhood Executive Board

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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 Kline 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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