

FAIRGROUNDS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Vicki Fitzsimmons
Executive Board
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September 2011

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GREETINGS FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS!

Another summer has rolled by and we quickly begin our fall season. The Clark County Fair has ended another successful run and the weather helped by cooperating perfectly. I guess we will forget about the slow, rainy start to summer and enjoy the mild sunshine while it lasts.

The Fairgrounds Neighborhood Association would like to thank those that turned out for our summer picnic at Fairgrounds Community Park. There were many new faces in attendance and we would like to see more of you at our meetings throughout the year. The picnic was also our chance to say goodbye to George Vartanian, longtime board member and treasurer of FGNA. We thank George for his many years of service and give much appreciation for all his hard work.

Looking ahead to our Autumn meetings we have a full schedule of interesting topics. Our September meeting will feature Heather Stuart of Keep Clark County Moving. She will present to us information regarding the vote on CTRAN bus service which is scheduled for this Fall.

Our October meeting topic will be Transportation and we will have representatives from both WASH DOT and Clark County to update us on various road projects. The new interchange at 134th Street and the Salmon Creek Park and Ride are both well underway. The 205 freeway has some new exit and entry lanes being added. We will also get updates on the plans for the 179th St exit. There is a lot of road construction activity happening in our area and this is our opportunity to get all your questions answered at once.

November's guests will be deputies from the Sheriff's office to talk about crime prevention in our neighborhood. We will hopefully be updated on some of the crime activity which has become an issue this year. Also we will discuss ideas to prevent crimes and avoid becoming a victim. If people are interested we may be able to set up some neighborhood watch groups.

December is our annual Christmas Cookie Exchange. Lots of yummy treats and a chance to talk and tell us what is on your mind. It's great to hear from our neighbors about what topics are most important to you. We do our best to schedule speakers that will help keep us informed with timely information. Our calendar for 2012 will reflect the feedback of those who join in and participate.

As always we hope you will attend, participate, and show an interest in community issues. Our goal is to make our area livable and vibrant. To keep people informed and engaged and to be part of a healthy happy community. We are always looking for more people to take an active role. Our board currently has open positions. Please join us each month to help make the Fairgrounds Neighborhood the best that it can be.

Sincerely,
Vicki Fitzsimmons
on behalf of the Fairgrounds Neighborhood Executive Board

FAIRGROUNDS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

FGNA MONTHLY MEETINGS

Thursday, September 8 @ 7 pm
Keep Clark County Moving

7:00 PM at the Community of Christ meeting room (400 NE 179th Street)

There is a sales tax measure on the November ballot from the folks at C-Tran. For the last several years C-Tran has been meeting their budget by spending reserve funds. Those funds will run out. Proponents of the tax increase will explain how the outcome of this vote will affect C-Tran service.

Thursday, October 13 @ 7 pm
Transportation projects

7:00 PM at the Community of Christ meeting room (400 NE 179th Street)

Our road project meeting is always well attended. Perhaps that is because there are always so many of them in our neighborhood? Come hear the status of state and county road improvements. We will also get updates on the funding of other road projects scheduled for our area.

Thursday, November 10 @ 7 pm
Sheriff's office update

7:00 PM at the Community of Christ meeting room (400 NE 179th Street)

The Sheriff's office tracks crime statistics by neighborhood. Come hear a report on the number and type of crimes committed in the Fairgrounds neighborhood. We will also learn about the benefits of creating a neighborhood watch program.

Thursday, December 8 @ 7 pm
If it's December, it must be cookie time!

7:00 PM at the Community of Christ meeting room (400 NE 179th Street)

As is our tradition, in December we meet and eat. Cookies! You can bring some to share. Certainly plan to take some home, because we always have plenty of leftovers.

FGNA monthly meetings

Second Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM

Do you have a topic to discuss? Come to our meetings. Do you have a speaker you want us to invite? Tell Vicki Fitzsimmons at 360.573.6604 or e-mail her at vicki.fitzsimmons@edwardjones.com.

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SPECIAL DAY for SPECIAL KIDS at the FAIR

THANK YOU to the Clark County Fair and Butler Amusement, the carnival operator. On Tuesday August 9, the fair opened as usual at 10 am. The carnival rides started as usual at noon. But half a dozen rides operated in “sensory friendly” mode for the first hour – reduced speed, noise and lights. What a special day for special kids at the Clark County fair! We’ll work on a repeat for 2012!

NORTHWEST NATURAL GAS CASH INCENTIVES

Energy Trust of Oregon (OK, that’s a misleading name, but accurate) administers cash incentive programs for upgrades by NW Natural Gas customers to help save energy and money on utility costs. Cash incentives for home improvements include weatherization, furnaces, direct-vent unit heaters, direct-vent fireplaces and water heaters. NW Natural Gas customers call 1-888-368-7878 for info.

TRAIL USERS TRIP COUNT

Parks & Rec needs volunteers to help count local trail users as part of the National Bicycle and Pedestrian Documentation Project. Volunteer for one or more 2-hour shifts at trails in our area. A training session for volunteers will occur on Tuesday August 30th and Thursday September 8th from 6 to 7:30 pm. Counts will be done September 13 and 15 from 5 to 7 pm and September 17 and 18 from 9 to 11 am. Each trail location needs one volunteer (bring a friend). To sign up to volunteer please contact Nastassja Pace at 487-8324 or cityparks.volunteercoordinator@ci.vancouver.wa.us.

AMERICANS ELECT

How about this idea? American voters directly nominate a candidate for President. This is an ambitious project that asks voters to define priorities, shape the debate via platform questions, choose the candidates that best fit, and vote for President/Vice President candidates directly. To learn more go to www.americanselect.org.

Most of the site is in beta right now. They claim 1.7 million voters have already joined. You answer lots of questions on 7 subject areas (my colors) and can then compare yourself to others (national colors).

Whether this process strikes you as liberal or conservative (both sides are claimed by bloggers) I found the survey questions thought provoking. The national responses were by turns expected, reassuring, surprising, frightening and very entertaining. *(Try it and tell me what you think. Bridget)*

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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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