

West Hazel Dell Neighborhood Association

Fall Newsletter & Meeting Reminder

**Our next meeting is on Thursday, November 6 –
*This is a date change for this month only.***

**Clearwater Springs Assisted Living Center, 201 NW 78th Street
Starts EARLY at 6:00, goes until about 8:00 p.m.**

This will give us an opportunity to talk about what we can and cannot do as a neighborhood association and consider ways in which we can increase our voice in the County. I am also looking for a volunteer to attend the monthly NACCC (Neighborhood Association Council of Clark County (second Mondays – 7:00-9:00 p.m. at the 78th Street Public Service Center). When I am out of town, WHDNA misses having representation there and NACCC is a wonderful resource. The reps from all 27 of the unincorporated Clark County NAs attend and share information and offer solutions. Many NAs send multiple reps and WHDNA certainly can as well. It's after dinner for most people and really is beneficial.

Ila Stanek, President

ELECTION MONTH

PLEASE READ YOUR VOTERS' PAMPHLET

EDUCATE YOURSELF AND VOTE

Sometimes I am amazed at what gets voted into law in our community. I know voters mean well, but lately we have been subjected to some very unpleasant results from what seemed like good ideas when they are initially presented. There is no substitute for research and learning about issues before marking your ballots.

The **biggest thing on the ballot this time is the CHARTER** and it deserves a lot of thought and careful consideration. As our county continues to grow, the method of the operation for county governance created in the last century may not fit anymore – *but maybe it does*. That is your decision on this ballot measure. It isn't a simple matter. The Freeholders elected last year to consider the way our county is governed spent months researching it and have submitted this proposal on the Charter to the voters of Clark County.

This is a rare great opportunity to help determine the direction of Clark County government for years to come and is not to be taken lightly. Read both sides before you decide. The ballot box is how we speak. **Please do!**



If you live within the West Hazel Dell Neighborhood Association (WHDNA) boundaries, you are a “member” of our neighborhood association.

We begin on the south at the Vancouver city limits, on the north we go to NE 104th Street, on the east we stop at NE Hazel Dell Avenue, and on the west our boundary is NW Lakeshore Avenue.

To make the association work for everyone, we need input – about good, bad, strange, or new things. Give us a call or send an e-mail.

Send your e-mail address to:

timeout29@comcast.net

and we'll send meeting reminders for community events.) You can reach me there at night and on weekends as well. You can leave messages at (360) 573-7376: **PLEASE** repeat your phone number and name clearly.



Storm City Roller Girls roll into *Clearwater Springs & Our WHDNA meeting*

Clark County team members will share with us:

- what it takes to win a match;
- who they fear on the team;
- explain their grueling training schedules;
- and community projects and life outside the rink.

Bring your questions for a fun and educational evening.

What: Learn what Storm City Roller Girls' life is all about
When: Thursday, November 6th from 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Where: Clearwater Springs Assisted Living, 201 NW 78th St.



A NOTE ABOUT THE CALLS WE GET:

A current problem is what to do about neighboring trees and blackberry bushes. The County has no rules in place or funding to remove the invasive bushes that crawl all over our fences. Any residents who have had success in removing blackberries, PLEASE share that information as I get calls frequently and have no resources to help our WHDNA neighbors.



The same is true for the trimming of overhanging tree branches. We even have reports of such trimmed trees dying as a result of the removal of too many branches. Again, even though I've taken photos of the damage, there is little recourse available. As I understand it, if a tree actually dies – then you have legal recourse; but that's a lot like a restraining order that only works after someone has defied it. Any gardeners with ideas, resources, or clues as to how to handle these constant problems, PLEASE let me know. I will share it with the families who need it.

Did you know that our WHDNA newsletter is published on the **CLARK COUNTY LIVE!** Website? It's there along with a lot of other timely information about activities in your area. **Check it out!**



REMINDER THAT THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' Tuesday meetings are open to the public.

While many of us holding full time jobs really do want to attend the day time meetings the BOCC holds, but we can't get away from work to do so. However, a goodly number of WHDNA residents have more flexible schedules and could certainly make an occasional appearance to let the BOCC members know that you care about what they are doing and deciding – and what we need in West Hazel Dell.

Over the course of this year much has been done and decided at the **Tuesday morning meetings (10:00 at 1300 Frank Street, 6th Floor Hearing Room)**. There is also an opportunity on the **first Tuesday of each month to attend the meeting in the evening (6:00 p.m.)**. That one Tuesday each month the morning meeting is replaced by an evening meeting to accommodate citizens.

OCTOBER - FIRE SAFETY MONTH

Every October your Clark County Fire District #6 (CCFD6) has outreach representatives visit area elementary schools to educate students on the dangers of fire in the home – and - more importantly how to prevent fires.

The success of the program is remarkable and the instances of young children starting fires have dropped dramatically since the program was initiated over a decade ago. However, even with the work we've all done, still we lost Crestline Elementary School to a young person's actions. Teach safety at home.



Students in grades 3, 4, and 5 are taught the rules on fire safety and encouraged to create fire safety posters. The posters are submitted to CCFD6 and with judges from local businesses; winners are selected from each grade plus a grand prize winner. The framed winning poster is on display at the fire station. Schools and winners get prizes and checks to their art programs. *(All done by volunteers and donations - no tax dollars spent.)*

West Hazel Dell Neighborhood Assn.
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Vancouver, WA 98665

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We are not a non-profit 501(c) (3) organization yet; any contributions to WHDNA are not tax-deductible. Donations made to the WHDNA directly are not tax deductible, but are greatly appreciated.

West Hazel Dell residents are always welcome at the monthly meetings of their neighbors in the NE Hazel Dell Neighborhood Association. They meet at the Clark County Operations Center Community Room at 4700 NE 78th Street at 7:00 p.m. the third Tuesday of each month.

Our neighborhood association includes about 4,632 homes or over 11,500 individuals. Providing services for and information to a diverse group that large is a difficult when working full-time. That's no surprise to anyone. What may be surprising is how much effort goes into gleaning information from various sources to provide some answers to residents. Your board consists of four individuals who give their time to the WHDNA. **We have been working on setting up "sections" of West Hazel Dell** to more accurately reflect and represent the needs and concerns in those smaller areas and we have had a few volunteers. Once a few more areas step forward we will schedule a meeting and see what we can come up with to improve the West Hazel Dell area for all of us. What would be required is something like a 'block home' arrangement where a fair-sized division would be represented at the bimonthly meetings by one individual; maybe eight sections with phone trees. That person would bring the current concerns or ideas to the rest of the membership. To get this underway would require an organizational meeting prior to the next bimonthly meeting. This is still a work in progress, so let us know what you think. **Better ideas always welcome!**

Neighborhood associations are volunteer groups and not agents of Clark County government. Newsletter information and views are solely those of the neighborhood association and not of Clark County. Clark County Public Information and Outreach Office supports these volunteers by printing and distributing their newsletters.