



Whispers

WHISPERING HEIGHTS / COLLINGWOOD

COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

June, 2007 VOLUME 16, ISSUE 2

WWW.WHCCA.ORG

4957 LAKEMONT BLVD SE, PMB 342, BELLEVUE WA 98006

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Entrance island landscaping project

We've been making good progress on the Entrance upgrade project. City of Bellevue representatives with whom we have met approve of our plan and have been providing guidance in bringing the plan to fruition. Most importantly, we have been approved for matching funds. This means that the city is picking up half the cost of the improvements!

In addition, the city can provide the plants at wholesale prices which further reduces the cost to the WHCCA. One minor change is that the size and shape of the boulders in the island entrances must be modified slightly to a comply with right-of-way ordinances.

A separate but related project is the removal of the old fence around the retaining pond at the entrance to "Collingwood 2" and replacing it with plantings.

The fence removal project cost will be completely covered by the Bellevue Utilities Department, but they have solicited our input on the plantings. Therefore we can integrate the look of the new plantings with our Entrance Upgrade project and we will be able to coordinate the work with our upgrade.

Jon Smith, President

The Hot Sheet! *For more information, go to www.whcca.org*

Neighborhood Enhancement Program (NEP) Meeting, June 7 (Thursday), 7pm, Lewis Creek Park visitor center

Hopefully you will receive this newsletter in time to be reminded of this important meeting. Make your views and preferences heard! Details of the NEP program are on page 3.

Garage Sale, 16 June (Saturday) 9am - 4pm

The entire Whispering Heights/ Collingwood and Horizon Crest neighborhoods can take advantage of ads placed in the daily papers a few days in advance of the event. This is your chance to turn that garage-filling "stuff" into someone else's jewel.

Garage sale aficionados city-wide look for this event each year. If you would like the visibility of having your address marked on a map hand-out

showing participants which will be tacked on the sandwich boards, and a balloon for your yard sale table, call on or before 14 June to:

425 746 1757 (Larson residence) or 425 747 0318 (Reeves residence).

We will do the rest to arrange ads in the paper, nail take away maps on the sandwich boards, and deliver the balloons by 9 Saturday morning.

Wally Larson & Richard Reeves

July 4th Parade and Picnic

The children's bike parade is always a popular event in our neighborhood, and with the free picnic lunch provided at Collingwood Minipark afterwards, it just keep getting better!

Check the A-signs and web site for details as the event nears. Usually we meet at the park at 11am to decorate bikes. After the neighborhood

parade with bikes and fire engine, meet back at the park for a picnic lunch provided by the WHCCA board.

Annual neighborhood picnic Aug 18th (Saturday)

Once again the WHCCA board will be providing an afternoon of food, fun, and games at Lattawood Park. This is a great opportunity to meet your neighbors and enjoy some of that world class Seattle summer weather.

Hillside School events

Hillside school's drama nights are June 14, 15, and 16th (8PM) and are open to guests. See www.hillside.sc.org details.

Hillside is a small, state-approved, nonsectarian college-prep school, grades 5-12 at the end of the Whispering Heights neighborhood.

Rants and raves! Selected compliments and complaints from the 'hood

I wanted to commend Donna and Larry Brickman for always looking out for their neighbors. We left our garage door open one night and went to bed. When Larry was out walking, he noticed it was open and knocked on the door to let us know.

Donna and Larry are always looking out for the best interest of their neighbors. We tend to get caught up in our own busy lives and don't always take the time to notice neighbors that may need assistance. Thank you Donna and Larry for noticing!

....a Collingwood Neighbor

It is really a shame that some people in our neighborhood don't do *anything* to control the tall weeds in their front yards. If you are one of these, aren't you embarrassed? Just an occasional mowing and a little biodegradable weed killer would create a respectable yard. You owe that to your neighbors!

...Mad Mom against weeds

My Mom says I should thank somebody for getting the porta-potty at the park. It's a lot more fun now when we don't always have to leave early because my little sister has to "go!"

...Emily's big brother

With the onset of warm summer nights, we will all be keeping our windows open more. A barking dog can make it hard to go to sleep. If you have a dog, please don't leave it outdoors alone where it can bark for long periods.

...a dog lover *and* a sleep lover

Submitting future Rants or Raves
If you see something in the neighborhood that warrants a Rant or a Rave, mail a brief note to our WHCCA mail box, Attn: Howdy Neighbor Rants and Raves, PMB 342, 4957 Lakemont Blvd SE, Bellevue, WA 98006. Or email it to the Whispers editor. We will do our best to publish all comments (at least those which don't get censored!) in the next Whispers.

Thanks for paying your dues...

Abler, Larry & Pat
*Acosta, Maria & Brett Schwarz
*Afforde, Mark & Sharon
Ahrens, Doug & Linda
Anderson, Mark & Tamzin
Ankarberg, C.D.
Audycki, Katherine & William
Barnett, Paul & Kathleen Osler
Barth, Webs & Tina
Bennett, Lowry & Dorothy
Benson, Tom & Kathy
Berry, Richard & Sandra
*Bigley, Raymond & Nancy Gigante
*Blaisdell, Robert & Charlene
Boldo, Dan & Tal
Boyd, Steven, Sheila
Brickman, Larry & Donna
Brunette, Sally & Andrew
Burke/Stuckey, Pat & Carol
Butterworth, Stephen & Angela
Cacchione, Fred & Josephine
Campbell, Neil & Loree
Chien, YAU-Ming & Diane
Christiansen, Shannon
Claypool, James & Frances
Cruz, Mernilo & Lorenza
*Davis, Paul & Phyllis
Durenberger, Donald & Ingrid
Egaas, Dave & Lorrie
Fleck, Dennis & Jan
Forrest, Cameron & Carlyn
Funcke, Craig & Donna
Fusaro, Aldo & Karen
Garrett, Durward & Anne

Gianni, Monica
Graham, Rick & Therese Arends
Griswold, Patricia
Haas, Brian & Amy
Halliday, Mike & Cathy
Halling, John & Caroline
Hanks, John & Betty
Hargreaves, Will & Karen
Havok, Reek
Henn, Kristin & John
*Henn, Gary
Henson, Walter
Holding, Boyd & Cheryl
Holmen, Reidar & Polly
Huang, Jenn-Ming & Shu-Ing
Ishida, Yoichi & Saachiko
Iwamura, Hiroo & Nobuko
Kacholia, Kalpana & Praful
Kao, Hung-Yen & Shiu-Mei
Kawaoka, Susan & Milton
Kestyus, Mary Ann & Lyndon
Kiefer, Jeremy & Keri
Knudsen, Peter & Laura
Knudtsen, Jack & Julia
Koshiyama, Paul & Martha
Kuhlmann, Andreas & Edda
Larson, Wally & Bobbie
*Lee, Janet & Steven
Lin, Yun & Difei Yang
Lindsey, Gretchan & Kyle
Lindstadt, Greg & Dana Brudie
Liou, Yong & Esther
*Louisell, David & Judy

*Lowenson, Minna & Jeffrey
Mainella, Frank & Pat
*Martin, Jeff & Donna
Mason, Richard & Karen
Mathews, Lafayette
*McCauley, Richard & Anne
McEachran, Robb & Rebecca
*McEachran, James & Nancy
Michelman, Irwin & Iryna
Minch, Peter & Leslie
Mix, Carole
Monwai, Peter & Marian
*Mullen, Charles & Carol Wilson
Myers, Eric & Linda
Nieman, Stella
Niiyama, Craig & Chisaki
Nordsieck, Arnold & Hisako
O'Connor, Jim & Viki
Ong, Tin-Fook & Daphne
Osborn, Carolyn & Howard
Ota, Shinji & Miyuki
Parazynski, Ed & Linda
*Parker, Rodney & Heather
Patterson, Mark & Charlotte
Prudente, Shane
Rands, Gary & Marilyn
Reeves, Richard & Setsuko
Rehrl, Friedrich & Joan
Rhinehart, Bill & Beth
*Richards, Byron & Diane
Rittenhouse, William Jr. & Suzanne
Rodan, Brian & Cheryl Zakrzewski
Rosen, Ruth & Stuart
Saiki, Terence & Wendy

Scheidegger, Grace & Ralph
*Schreer, Andy & Kelly
*Sellen, JJ & Patt
Senio, Paul & Mary
*Shertz, Bill & Pat
Shimada, Vickie & Jon
Silverstone, Vladimir & Iraida
Simcoff, Lanny
*Smith, Jon & Michelle
Taherzadeh, Jim & Trang
Tellefson, Corinna
Thompson, John & Diane
Tinney, Edward & Cara Sugihara
Town, Kelly & Cassandra
Tran, Hiep
Turner, George & Lieberta
Tuskes, Kenneth
Velton, Edward & Karen
Viafore, Ken & Cara Cella
*Vlasuk, Susan
Watanabe, Kaz & Mary
Waters, William & Carol
Wheat, Yvonne & Max
Whiteley, John & Jane
Wood, Laura & David
Wood, Paul & Michelle
Xia, Yiping & Hua Liu
Yamane, Susie & Jeff
Yang, Hong & Xuezhai Ni
Yurkanin, John & Julie
Zorno, Bruce

*Donated more than the suggested \$30

Neighborhood Enhancement Projects (NEP)

Every three years the Neighborhood Enhancement Program (NEP) allows residents to petition for city-funded construction projects in their neighborhoods. City capital improvement funds are reserved each year for construction projects selected by residents that improve neighborhood safety and appearance.

Typical enhancements, which must each cost less than \$150,000, include park improvements, new trail connections, additional street lights and new curbs or sidewalks.

The NEP funds for 2007 have become available for our neighborhood and newsletters were mailed to you in February. While the deadline to submit project requests will have passed prior to this Whispers printing, the next phase will soon be here for your input. An **NEP workshop** will be held **June 7th** where you can comment on proposed pro-

jects and talk with city staff and neighbors. (see front page for details)

2007 NEP schedule:

February 2007 – NEP information was mailed
March 15, 2007 – Customer Action Requests were due

June 7, 2007 – NEP Workshop (see P1)

July 2007 - Ballots will be mailed to residents
September 2007 – Action plan with voting results will be mailed

Fall 2007- Fall 2009 - Projects designed and constructed

NEP Update for 2004 Project

In 2004, our Neighborhood Enhancement area voted to fund sidewalk replacement near the Eastgate Elementary school (where the deteriorating asphalt sidewalk is). However, the subsequent design engineering work disclosed that the project was going to well exceed the \$150,000 maximum for NEP pro-

jects.

Because of the cost overrun, the project was removed from NEP and the funds were put back into the NEP 2007 cycle. The sidewalk replacement project was then referred to the Capital Investment Program (CIP).

Fortunately there is now a project in the city's current CIP for 152nd Ave SE and SE 45th St, from SE 46th St to Newport Way. Funding for this project was available partly due to the community input during the CIP public processes.

This project will design and construct a curb, gutter, and 6-foot sidewalk on the west side with necessary roadway stabilization maintenance. It is scheduled for design in late 2008 and construction in 2010. Go to whcca.org for a map.

Odds & Ends (but important ones!)

Neighborhood car prowls

In the past few months, there have been several thefts overnight from unlocked cars in the Heights #2 subdivision. Based on the nature of the theft and the items taken, these seem to be opportunistic actions by kids rather than the work of serious thieves. Please keep your cars locked when not parked inside your garages!

Neighborhood traffic

Many residents have voiced concerns over the speeds at which cars travel through our neighborhood. The main road between the Collingwood entrance to the Whispering Heights entrance, SE 46th Way, is the area of most concern so far.

Our neighbors that live along this road and our children that cross the road to get to the school bus or parks are at risk when cars speed through our streets. For their sake, please don't exceed the 25 mph speed limit.

If you feel cars are going too fast down

your street, the city of Bellevue encourages you to call the Police Traffic Division at (425) 452-6940 to request speed enforcement in the form of friendly police officers with radar guns!

Recent WHCCA Activities

The **Egg Hunt** was again organized by Ingrid & Don Durenburger. The weather cooperated with a well-timed break in rain showers for this year's WHCCA Spring egg hunt, which took place on April 7th at Lattawood park.

1,200 candy-filled eggs were hunted by neighborhood youth while adults visited and got acquainted with their neighbors. Many thanks go out to Dana Brudie and her kids for filling more than 600 eggs, and to Dana, her son Ian, plus board members Sharon and Mark Afforde, Keri Kiefer, Gretchan Lindsey, Scott Winter and Bob Blaisdell for their help with setting up, running the hunt, and cleaning up afterwards.

A special thank-you is given to Heather McCrone, who spearheaded the plastic

egg recycling effort so that the eggs can be washed and reused at next year's hunt. Heather has also graciously stepped forward to chair next year's hunt. She will be assisted by generous volunteers Dana Brudie, Heather Smith, Shauna Van Dongen, Stacy Hauser, Anna Xie, and Libby Yuskaitis.

If you are interested in joining this able crew to help with this fun event next year, please contact Heather McCrone at hansli@juno.com.

The **Annual Spring Clean-Up** was held April 21 from 9:00 am to noon, organized again by Michelle & Rob Cash. For some reason there were fewer participants this year than in the past, but that didn't prevent big jobs from getting done!

The most amazing feat was the spreading of 18 yards of bark on the woods trail at Lattawood Park. Thank's to those who did make the time for a few hours of exercise and camaraderie on a Saturday morning, and thanks again to Starbucks and Krispie Kreme for providing refreshments.

2007 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Officers —

President: Jon & Michelle Smith
Jonlsmith@gmail.com, 425-945-0524,
16200 SE 46th Way

Vice President: Mark & Sharon Afforde
Mark: Mdafforde@yahoo.com, Sharon:
afforde@yahoo.com, 425-641-3478,
4685 150th Place SE

Secretaries: Mike & Cathy Halliday
Mike: halliday.m@comcast.net, Cathy:
cphalliday@comcast.net, 425-614-
3520, 4708 155th Place SE

Treasurer: Bob Blaisdell
rgblaisdell@att.net, 425-746-3346,
15911 SE 47th Court

Board Members at large —

Donald & Ingrid Durenberger
kingrid@earthlink.net, 425-603-1802,
15832 SE 47th Place

Laura & Bruce Warren
gypsygirl6@hotmail.com, 206-388-
3191, 4631 161st Avenue SE

Scott & Danielle Winter
Dswinter66@msn.com, 425-746-3346,
15723 SE 46th Way

Gretchan Lindsey
GretchanL@hotmail.com, 425-644-4580
15422 SE 47th Street

Jeremy & Keri Kiefer
Keri.kiefer@comcast.net,
Jeremy@brightonjones.com,
425-747-2447, 16208 SE 46th Way

New board members for 2007

Keri & Jeremy Kiefer joined the board this year for the first time and have shared the following personal details:

“We purchased our home in April 2006 and after a remodel, moved in July 2006. We have a son, Ragen (3) and daughter Maggie (9 months).

Both Jeremy & I grew up in Bellevue although we didn’t meet until college. We are avid Washington Husky fans after both graduating from the UW.

Together, we enjoy traveling, spending time with friends, and watching sports. Jeremy loves to golf and I’m more interested in shopping. We really love the area and are lucky to have such great neighbors!”



WHCCA ADJUNCT FUNCTIONS

Communication: Al Patterson,
allenp@cryptosafe.com, 425-643-1905

Emergency planning, block-watch: Mark & Sharon Afforde,
Mark: Mdafforde@yahoo.com,
Sharon: afforde@yahoo.com,
425-641-3478, 4685 150th PI SE

Residents database: Steve Sanford,
steve.sanford@comcast.net,
425-649-9042

Landscape liason: Mike Halliday,
halliday.m@comcast.net,
425-614-3520

Web site: Will Hargreaves,
willhargr@aol.com, 425-643-0549

Whispers distribution: Lin Sanford,
lins@johnlscott.com, 425-649-9042

Whispers editor: Will Hargreaves,
willhargr@aol.com, 425-643-0549

Volunteers needed!

The WHCCA depends on YOUR participation! We need volunteers on the Board of Directors.

Please call or email any board member to today, or use the dues submission form below to indicate your willingness to help out.



Please send your dues today! For 2007 we are requesting \$30 per household...

COMPLETE & MAIL this form with check payable to “WHCCA”. Send to: ; WHCCA Treasurer, PMB 342

NAME _____

4957 Lakemont Blvd. SE

ADDRESS _____

Bellevue WA 98006

PHONE _____

EMAIL ADDRESS FOR OCCASIONAL WHCCA MAIL _____ (NOT SHARED OUTSIDE WHCCA)

Dues enclosed \$ _____ (\$30 suggested) I am also enclosing an additional donation of \$ _____

I’d like to help on these neighborhood activities: WHCCA Board of Directors __, Annual Picnic __, Egg Hunt __, Newsletter editing or distribution __, July 4th Bike Parade __, Emergency Planning __, City liaison __, Block Watch __, Garage Sale __, Spring Clean-Up __, Membership Drive __, Other interest/expertise (please describe) _____

So that we may realistically assess the role our website (www.whcca.org) can play in helping keep you informed, tell us:

Do you have internet access at home? YES __, NO __. How often do you use the internet at home? DAILY __, WEEKLY __, OTHER __?