



Whispers

WHISPERING HEIGHTS / COLLINGWOOD

COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

JUNE 2008, VOLUME 17, ISSUE 2

WWW.WHCCA.ORG

4957 LAKEMONT BLVD SE, PMB 342, BELLEVUE WA 98006

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Second Annual Coffee Social: a new tradition begins

You may not have felt the earth shake, but a new tradition has begun! On April 16th we had our second annual "Coffee Social." The objective is to provide a casual week-night forum for neighbors to gather, chat, and learn about issues of common interest.

This year the theme of the event was "Emergency Preparedness" and we had a great turn out. Thank you to everyone who came to this event at the Lewis Creek Visitor Center, and to Starbuck's at Lakemont which donated coffee and coffee cake. The WHCCA also provided cookies and pound cake, so no one went away hungry.

(Continued on page 3, Coffee Social)

Call for new Whispers graphic

As you can clearly see above, our *Whispers* masthead is very out of date after the terrific re-landscaping project completed this past Fall. Submissions of proposed new graphics are welcome from any resident. If several options look good, we'll put them up for a vote in the next *Whispers*. Please send photos and/or proposed new graphics to the editor (see back page for address).

The Hot Sheet! For more information,

4th of July Bike Parade and Picnic

Mark your calendar for this years annual 4th of July Bike Parade and Picnic! Once again this year, the event will start with bike decorating - decorations, hand stamps and face paints provided by WHCCA. The fire engine will arrive at 11:00 to lead the parade. After the parade, sandwiches, chips, drinks and ice cream will be provided in Collingwood Park. This is another great opportunity for neighbors to get to know one another. We'll see you there!

Summer Play Dates at Lattawood Park

Come one, come all! We thought it would be fun to arrange some summer play dates at Lattawood Park to give neighborhood parents and children an informal opportunity to get together and meet new friends. If you're free, bring your toddlers, pre-schoolers and/or grade school age children for some fun in the sun. Questions, please contact Natasha Vorley at 425-945-0526.

- Tuesday, July 8 @ 4:00pm
- Thursday, July 17 @ 4:00pm
- Thursday, August 14 @ 4:00pm
- Tuesday, August 26 @ 4:00pm

Annual Picnic – Saturday August 16th at Noon

Join us on Saturday, August 16th for the Annual WHCCA Picnic at Lattawood Park! The board invites you to come mingle with your neighbors as we provide an afternoon of food, drinks, ice cream and fun. There will be games and a bouncy house for the kids. Come visit with your neighbors and make new friends too. Let's hope for great weather!

Garage Sale – Saturday, September 20th from 9am-2pm

Mark your calendars for our upcoming neighborhood garage sale, which will be held on Saturday, September 20. For Husky fans, we ensured that the date does not coincide with a home game! As they say, one person's trash is another's treasure. Take advantage of free marketing and the increased traffic due to a large neighborhood sale. We will advertise the garage sale through newspaper ads, online through Craigslist and using neighborhood signs.

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

a map hand-out that will be tacked on the sandwich boards, and a balloon for your yard sale table, please contact Natasha Vorley by September 15 at: 425-945-0526 or by e-mail at vorley@netzero.com. Also, please feel free to get in touch with me if you have any suggestions for organizing this year's neighborhood garage sale.

If you are planning your first garage sale, here are two web sites that provide some helpful pointers:

<http://tipnut.com/garage-sale-tips-for-success-how-to-guide/> and

http://www.ifg-inc.com/Consumer_Reports/GarageSale.shtml.

Additional Garage Sale Tips

- Ensure all items are priced and price tags are easy to read.
- Make your sale inviting and easy to browse. Attract customers by placing highly-desirable items near the road.
- Be friendly. Greet people as they arrive.
- Be willing to bargain, but be less flexible at the start.

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

By Howdy Neighbor

Who says kids don't help out!

Did anyone else at the egg hunt notice the handful of teenagers who, after all the eggs had been found, were going around dropping their eggs right in front of toddlers so the little ones could experience the joy?

This is what our neighborhood is all about! Thank you for being so thoughtful!

Appreciative mother of egg-hunting toddler

Lawns gone wild...

It's that time of year again when everything's growing tall and leafy – lawns, trees, flowers, but also weeds. Timely yard maintenance is described in detail in covenants by which each WHCCA homeowner has agreed to abide.

Most of the yards and homes in our community

look fabulous, are kept tidy, and show pride of ownership to neighbors and visitors alike. However, some properties within the WHCCA are obviously overdue for attention in this regard.

Can the WHCCA board help by notifying the really careless property owners that their lack of maintenance is lowering their neighbors property values?

Mad about weeds

Speeders look out!

Morning commute time and weekend nights are sometimes unsafe in our neighborhood due to speeding traffic. One recent morning a small, silver SUV actually failed to stop for a school bus with it's red lights blinking!!

We constantly hear teens' loud music late at night and the sound of their fast driving. Please drive **slowly** and **safely!** And parents, please remind your teens to drive safely to help keep

their neighbors safe. Ask them how they would feel if they accidentally hit a child or elderly person walking in the neighborhood.

Perhaps it wouldn't hurt to ask the Bellevue police to hide out to nab fast drivers at either end of the dip on SE 46th, or other areas that have tendencies for over-the-speed-limit drivers?

Mother against neighborhood speeders

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.

Yours truly, Howdy Neighbor

Paying your WHCCA dues... Thank you!

Below are the names of those who have paid their dues so far in 2008. This is a level of participation that lags most previous years, so if you have been busy and overlooked the request on the back page of your newsletter, please take the time to send your dues now! And thank you to those who have already done so:

Abolrous, Sam & Camelia Solomon
Afforde, Mark & Sharon
Ankarberg*, C.D.
Barac, Dragos
Bellinger, Ned & Gale
Bigley*, Raymond & Nancy Gigante
Blaisdell, Robert & Charlene
Blatt, "Ms. Zanetta"
Burke/Stuckey, Pat & Carol
Butterworth, Stephen & Angela
Cash, Rob & Michelle
Cavness Robert & Barbara
Chen, Bin & LU YI
Chien, YAU-Ming & Diane
Davis*, Paul & Phyllis
Dawson*, Joe & Bev
Dolkiewicz, George & Christina Dolk
Drisch, Diane
Durenberger, Donald & Ingrid
Fleck, Dennis & Jan
Forrest*, Cameron & Carlyn
Francis* David & Heidi
Funkenstein, Jakob & Irma

Graham, Rick & Therese Arends
Graham*, Daina & Malcolm
Grantham*, Capt Al & Pearle
Griswold, Patriacia
Haberman, James DDS & Helen
Hall, Muriel & Austin
Halliday, Mike & Cathy
Halling, John & Caroline
Hang, HH & HX Doan
Hansen*, Leonora & Doug
Hart, Bill & Carol
Havok, Reek
Henson, Walter
Hsie, Tadd & Elena
Huang, Jason & Xucheng
Iwamura, Hiroo & Nobuko
Jacobs, Cynthia
Kestyus, Ms. Mary Ann & Lyndon
Lee, Janet Abe & Steven
Lee*, Young & Hana
Liao, Xinsheng Mike & Nanyan Jiang
Lindsey, Gretchan & Kyle
Louisell, David & Judy
Marten, Ann
Matthew*, Judy & Ron
McCauley*, Richard & Anne
McCrone, Heather & Lawrence
McLean, Kathryn & Kristine
Milton, Larry & Carol Ann
Mix, Carole
Monwai*, Peter & Marian
Mullen*, Charles & Carol Wilson

Nieman, Stella
O'Connor*, Jim & Viki
Osborn, Carolyn & Howard
Patterson*, Allen
Plewa, Ken & Lynne Boeger
Ralph, David & Margaret
Reeves, Richard & Setsuko
Rehrl, Friedrich & Joan
Richards*, Byron & Diane
Rothman*, Steven & Lynn
Sanford, Steve & Lin
Schaff*, Duane & Marty
Scheidegger, Grace & Ralph
Schreer*, Andy & Kelly
Sekijima*, John & Celia
Shertz*, Bill & Pat
Slater, Meljssa & John Slater
Smith*, Jon & Michelle
Thompson, John & Diane
Tjoelker*, Rod & Tenda
Townsend*, Rebecca & Nate
Turner, George & Lieberta
Tuskes, Kenneth
Van Dongen, Merrick & Shauna
Vorley, Natasha & Wade
Waldbaum, Alan & Kim
Watanabe*, Kaz & Mary
Waters, William & Carol
Wilson, Nancy & Dale
Wood, Laura & David
Xia, Yiping & Hua Liu
Yamamura, Lilly & Ted

* Paid more than the suggested amount.

(Continued from page 1, Coffee social)

Our guest speaker was Vernon Owens, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator with the Bellevue Fire Department. He brought emergency prep DVDs for attendees and talked about the importance of being prepared for potential disasters by storing water and supplies, establishing out-of-area contacts, and the importance of practicing safety. He also discussed the importance of securing bookcases and strapping water heaters to the wall.

Vern also talked about how to respond to injuries, dealing with leaking natural gas, and the hazards of leaving kids home alone. The take-home message is the more we prepare for a disaster, the more effective our response to it will be.

We were also fortunate to have at the meeting long-time WHCCA resident Larry Brickman. Larry is a very active block watch captain and he spoke about the need to strengthen preparedness among

neighbors. He stressed the importance of watching out for each other and in the event of an emergency, we might be all we have. In a serious disaster, we'd have to work together since the police and fire departments likely wouldn't be able to get to us right away.

If you didn't attend, you missed a fun evening, but there's always next year!

Whispers delivery

Do you ever wonder how the Whispers newsletter arrives on your doorknob every couple of months? It's thanks to the hard work of the WHCCA distribution team.

For several years, Lin Sanford and Judy Matthew have been leading the charge and organizing the preparation, allocation

and delivery of the newsletters to dozens of busy helpers.

Below is a current list of the volunteers but we'd like to also recognize those who have helped out in the past. The WHCCA board would like to take this opportunity to thank them all for their time & effort!

Whispers delivery team:	Judy Matthew (co-captain)
Bonnie Bennett	Julie Mezs
Bob Blaisdell	Joan Muth
Jennifer Carey	Suzanne Peery
Katie Chace	Sally Raferty
Cathy Cooney	Wendy Saiki
Phyllis Davis	Cathy Salmon
Dennis Fleck	Lin Sanford (co-captain)
Donna Funcke	Vickie Shimada
Guilia Johnson	Andy Taylor
Frank Mainella	Barbara Unger

Odds & Ends (but important ones!)

Egg Hunt wrap-up (Mar 22nd)

I wanted to thank all those who helped make the 2008 WHCCA Egg Hunt such a success! We had about a dozen folks at Lattawood Park starting at 9am scouring the bushes for dog droppings and marking search areas prior to hiding over 2,000 eggs in preparation for the 11am start.

We estimated that we had about 150 kids take part! The weather was spectacular with great views of the Olympics, and many neighbors got the chance to meet and talk to others while watching their kids scour the grounds for eggs. We even managed to collect some donations and dues from residents.

I especially would like to thank Heather McCrone for such an excellent job in organizing this event. We received many compliments about how smoothly the Egg Hunt went and how organized we were, and this was mainly due to Heather's efforts. Having a bull-horn this year with Heather making announcements and plugging the Coffee Social and the Spring Clean-up, while kids were itching to rush the field was just great prior to "GO!"

Having done such an excellent job with her first time organizing this event, I hope that Heather feels up to doing so again next year.

*Merrick Van Dongen,
WHCCA President*

Spring cleanup was April 19th

On behalf of our neighborhood board, and myself personally - I would like to thank Michelle and Rob Cash for heading up the spring cleanup for our neighborhood. It takes a great amount of time and effort to put on an event like this and we really appreciate everything that you have done. Despite the winter weather I think everyone had a good time (I know we did) and we got alot of plants in the ground!

Our neighborhood parks and trails look great because of this event that you have managed for so many years. Thank you!

*Gretchan Lindsey
WHCCA Board*

New WHCCA webmaster Gretchan Lindsey

In a secret ceremony (just kidding) earlier this month, Gretchan took over from Will Hargreaves the job of maintaining and updating the WHCCA website.

Beginning in 2005, Will implemented a number of updates to the form and function of the website. He also managed the transition to out-of-region professional hosting (with critical technical help from Jonathan Su), and introduced the use of the whcca.org domain (whcca.com is still active but forwards to the "org" address).

Thank you in advance to Gretchan for taking on this important job!

WHCCA 2008 Annual calendar

- Bike parade, Jul 4th (Fri)
- Picnic, Aug 16th (Sat)
- Garage sale, Sep 20 (Sat)
- Annual meeting, Nov 10th (Mon)

2007 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Officers —

President: Merrick Van Dongen
vandongen@earthlink.net, 425-644-7676,
4660 159th Ave SE

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

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

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

Board Members at large —

Mark & Sharon Afforde
Mark: Mdafforde@yahoo.com, Sharon: af-
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150th Place SE

Mike & Cathy Halliday
Mike: halliday.m@comcast.net, Cathy:
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SE 46th Way

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netzero.com, 425-945-0526, 4726 163rd Ct
SE

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

Meet new WHCCA board members

Natasha & Wade Vorley



We moved from the Bay Area in the summer of 2003, and have been very happy living in Collingwood with our two children, Wesley (5) and Alexis (3).

Wade was raised in Vancouver, B.C. and has always loved the Pacific Northwest. He graduated from the University of British Columbia & received his graduate degree in architecture from U.C. Berkeley. He currently works for an architecture/engineering firm in Seattle.

Natasha grew up on the east coast, graduating from Williams College in the beautiful Berkshires and Wharton Business School. Formerly in management consulting with Accenture, she is now a stay-at-home mom, enjoying time with her children who are growing up fast!

Our family enjoys exploring the many parks, beaches & museums in Seattle and the Eastside, and we're looking forward to exploring more of Washington this summer. We feel lucky to be in a neighborhood that has such a strong sense of community.

Wade & Natasha Vorley

WHCCA ADJUNCT FUNCTIONS

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

Emergency planning, blockwatch: currently unassigned (any volunteers?)

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

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

Web site: Gretchan Lindsey,
GretchanL@hotmail.com, 425-644-4580

Whispers distribution: Lin Sanford,
lin@linsanford.com, 425-649-9042, &
Judy Matthew, jpmatt1013@aol.com

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

Thank you to outgoing board members Ingrid and Don Durenberger.

This dynamic duo left the board at the end of 2007 after two very active years of membership. Ingrid ran the Egg Hunt every year she was a board member. Don was an active board meeting participant and played important roles in the annual picnic each August. The continuing board members wish them both well!

Volunteers needed! The WHCCA depends on YOUR participation! A person to head the Blockwatch and Emergency Preparedness program is most urgently needed. Contact any board member to volunteer!



Please send your dues today! The suggested amount is \$30 per household...

COMPLETE & MAIL this form with check payable to "WHCCA". Send to:

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

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

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

WHCCA Treasurer, PMB 342
4957 Lakemont Blvd. SE
Bellevue WA 98006

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, please tell us:

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