

Next Meeting:
7 - 8:30 p.m.
Thursday,
January 25 at
Franklin School

Northwest Neighborhood

Winter 2007



Dog park, update on Port expansion, and Burgerville Express!

Your Neighborhood Association has dates and topics for our next three meetings.

Thursday, January 25. Hey, dog lovers! Nancy Macklin of DOGPAW will help us see what it would take to develop and maintain a romper-room park for dogs. And, with Community Policing Specialist Judy Stewart, we will revisit the Neighborhood Watch program and learn how it can be tailored to our needs and resources (see story on page 3).

Thursday, April 26. Our winter and spring newsletters and meetings last year informed us of the plans for expansion of the Port of Vancouver and the transportation systems that support it. During our spring meeting we will receive updates from a variety of sources.

Saturday, July 14. Ready for another fun-filled family picnic? The Burgerville Express was a huge hit with kids of all ages last year. We are hoping to make it a part of this summer's neighborhood get together, too. But certainly there will be good food in abundance, games and door prizes, and perhaps a story from our neighbor and favorite storyteller, Pat Jollata.

Prospect of off-leash dog park tops meeting agenda Thursday

By John Rowe

Clark County's first official off-leash dog park was established in July of 2005 on nine acres of BPA property near its Ross Complex off Highway 99 at NE Ross Street.

Now some of our Northwest neighbors have shown interest in the development of an off-leash dog recreation area in our neighborhood, specifically on the property between 56th and 58th streets, across Cherry Street from Franklin Park. Most of this open area is owned by the city and contains Bonneville Power Administration power line towers.

Barbara Veals, an interested Cherry St. resident, is a frequent visitor at the Ross site with her husband Ralph and, of course, their (see Park, page 3)



Rail bypass on track, but WSDOT slips start of 39th St bridge construction

Recent escalation in construction costs have prompted the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) to delay the start of construction on the 39th St. bridge by one year, according to a recent letter from the SW Region Communications office. Additional time is needed to consider a number of ways to reduce the cost of the bridge portion of the Vancouver Rail Project.

Construction will begin as planned within the rail yard, however, where WSDOT will add two new bypass tracks to relieve rail conflicts. With more than one hundred trains passing through the Vancouver rail yard each day, Amtrak's passenger service is frequently delayed by freight trains. The new tracks should relieve the delay.

WSDOT will hold an open house with information on the project from 4:30 to 7 p.m. on Tuesday, February 27th at 4100 Main Street. Invitations to the event should arrive in neighborhood mailboxes early next month.