

Sept 2014

Happenings

Neighborhood Meeting 17 October (Fri) 7pm

WHERE : Northside Baptist Church,
5201 NE Minnehaha St, Vancouver

AGENDA:

- **SHAFFER PARK**
- Sidewalks
- EMNA Bylaws Amendment
- Discussion of Home Rule Charter
- Meet the Clark County Candidates

Nan Henriksen & Peter Silliman will be our speakers on Home Rule - -Check the July 2014 *Happenings* for more information on the Charter

Learn About Home Rule Come with your Questions on 17 October

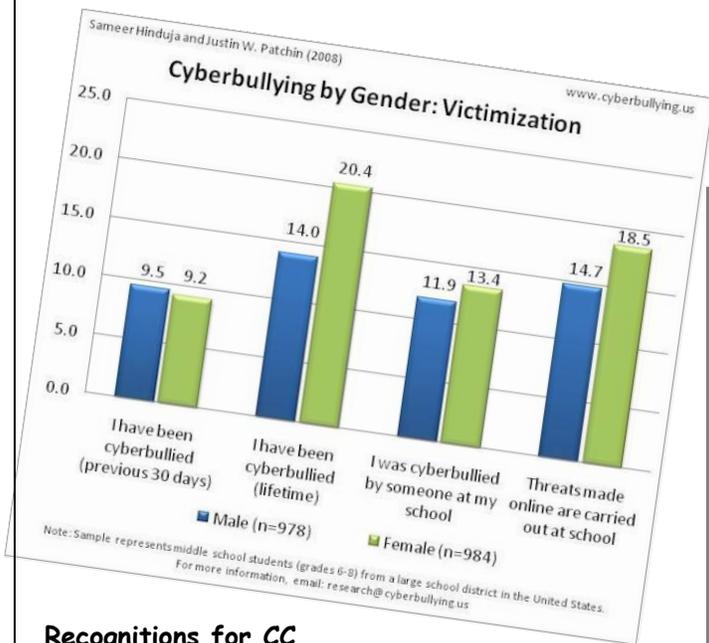
Clark County Residents will find the Home Rule Charter option on the 4 Nov Ballot. Speakers both **for** (Nan Henriksen, Board of Freeholders, chair) and **against** Peter Silliman) the charter will answer your questions and hear your opinions at our October 17 meeting. We encourage and welcome your participation. We have invited all of the Candidates to attend and assume we will have a great candidate turnout as we did at the 31 July meeting. The Columbian will be covering Home Rule in upcoming issues. Check out the 2 June 2013 article: <http://www.columbian.com/news/2013/jun/02/home-rule-has-rocky-history/> to learn how CC residents have voted in the past on home rule, what other counties have home rule, how it works, etc. More Info both pro and con: charteryes.com or votenocharter.com

Sidewalks

We continue to work with the county to get a sidewalk on the corner of 58th St and Andresen. An independent contracting co has been hired to evaluate our request as well as two other neighborhoods. One of the three neighborhoods will be selected. Your Help Needed: Send a note to Sue, just saying you agree the sidewalk is needed. It is a safety issue and without a sidewalk many are house-bound or car dependent.

Meet Clark County Candidates

We have invited all of the candidates to attend the 17 Oct meeting as an opportunity to mix and mingle with the residents and answer questions you may have.



Shaffer Park

The City of Vancouver needs to relocate their Water Works Park and, working with Clark County Parks, have determined Shaffer Park would be a good site for this relocation. The Clark County Parks Advisory board has approved the transfer of Shaffer Park to Vancouver City in exchange for the county share of the property's fair market value. Bill Bjerke, Parks Manager, CC Parks, shared the the park was purchased by the City & County in 2010 for \$2.8 million. The value has dropped considerably since 2010. The 2014 fair market value is \$1,886,000 and the county share is \$1,093,880. The final amount is still being negotiated.

A staff report will be submitted to the Board of Commissioners for consideration and final approval. According to Bill Bjerke, "transferring the property would improve the timeline of the property being improved into a park much sooner than if Clark County retained it." When the Board of Commissioners approves the transfer, a news release will be issued.

Recognitions for CC Sheriff's Office Central Precinct

- Brian Ellithorpe – K9 presentation to NACC
- Joe McLoughlin – Life Saving award
- Bill Sofianos – Life Saving award
- Tim Gosch – Exemplary performance award
- Scott Bain & Robin Yakhour – Exemplary performance award
- Phil Walker – Deputy of the month (July) Central Precinct

Vancouver Public Schools

According to Bill Link, NCSP and Rtl/PBIS Coordinator for Vancouver Public Schools (VPS), VPS not only supports the Federal and State guidelines and laws regarding bullying & cyberbullying; but has taken a very proactive approach to the issue in our schools. This year they are implementing "Design II Goals." The sixth goal is a "Safe and Supportive Schools' – Creating more inviting, culturally respectful, and emotionally safe places for students to learn.

Students from grades three through nine are involved in classes devoted to Digital Citizenship intended to develop awareness and understanding of the issue. Bullying may be initiated outside the school boundaries, but when the school becomes aware of its effects impacting students and their learning preemptive steps are taken.

Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) is a proactive approach to establishing the behavioral supports and social culture and needed for all students in a school to achieve social, emotional and academic success. There is a three tier design to this; initially an universal support and intervention approach to problematic behavior is Tier 1. Tier two is a targeted, group-based interventions approach designed to serve students who were not reached in the Tier one. Tier Three concentrates on students who were unresponsive to Tier one & two efforts. Generally, about 5% of the school population needs this Tier three individualized intensive services

To learn more go to : <https://www.pbis.org/>

Bullying VS Cyberbullying

The Clark County Sheriff's Community Outreach Office provided this information as part of a PowerPoint Presentation [more on page 5]. If you would like to see the entire presentation, contact Sue Lintz.

- A bully says something nasty and it's only heard when he or she says it
 - The bully makes him or her self known to the victim
 - Bullies are usually bigger and stronger than victims
 - Bullies are usually limited to harassing during the day
 - Bullies usually attack their victims face to face
- A cyberbully can say something online and it can be around forever.
 - A cyberbully can remain anonymous
 - Physical strength or size is not required
 - Cyberbullies can harass their victim 24/7
 - Cyberbullies are never in the victim's presence when they attack



Clark County Chief for a Day

Sheriff Cole Merle attended the Chief for a Day Event in Burien, WA where he was officially sworn in along with 33 other children. What a wonderful day and a great way for the kids to experience some fun and a day to not have to think about their illnesses. The thing Cole enjoyed the most was handcuffing all of us -- the recruits from the Academy, the Explorer's, and some Sheriff Deputies



Statistics on Bullying

from www.seattleschools.org

- 1 in 3 kids in the US are victims of online bullying
- 41.5% of the kids who were bullied did not tell anyone, and only 11.3% told a parent. Only 3% told a teacher
- 1 in 6 Middle School students say they have been cyber-bullied at least once in the last couple months
- 36% of 12-17 year olds reported that someone said threatening or embarrassing things about them through text messages, email, or other electronic means.
- Kids who are bullied are 5X more likely to be depressed and far more likely to attempt suicide
- Harassment and bullying are linked to 75% of school shootings including the fatal shootings at Columbine HS and Santana HS in Santee,CA

Cyberbullying Tips from ConnectSafely.org

Don't respond. If someone bullies you, remember that your reaction is usually exactly what the bully wants. It gives him or her power over you. Who wants to empower a bully?

Don't retaliate. Getting back at the bully turns you into one and reinforces the bully's behavior. Help avoid a whole cycle of aggression.

Save the evidence. The only good news about digital bullying is that the harassing messages can usually be captured, saved, and shown to someone who can help. You need to do this even if it's minor stuff, in case things escalate.

Talk to a trusted adult. You deserve backup. It's always good to involve a parent but – if you can't – a school counselor usually knows how to help. Sometimes both are needed. If you're really nervous about saying something, see if there's a way to report the incident anonymously at school.

Block the bully. If the harassment's coming in the form of instant messages, texts, or profile comments, do yourself a favor: Use preferences or privacy tools to block the person. If it's in chat, leave the "room."

Be civil. Even if you don't like someone, it's a good idea to be decent and not sink to the other person's level. Also, research shows that gossiping about and trash talking others increases your risk of being bullied. Treat people the way you want to be treated.

Don't be a bully. How would you feel if someone harassed you? You know the old saying about walking a mile in someone's shoes; even a *few seconds* of thinking about how another person might feel can put a big damper on aggression. That's needed in this world.

Be a friend, not a bystander. Watching or forwarding mean messages empowers bullies and hurts victims even more. If you can, tell bullies to stop or let them know harassment makes people look stupid and mean. It's time to let bullies know their behavior is unacceptable – cruel abuse of fellow human beings. If you can't stop the bully, at least try to help the victim and report the behavior. -- www.safekids.com/tips-to-stop-cyberbullying/

Additional advice for parents

Know that you're lucky if your child asks for help. Most young people don't tell their parents about bullying online or offline. So if your child's losing sleep or doesn't want to go to school or seems agitated when on his or her computer or phone, ask why as calmly and open-heartedly as possible. Feel free to ask if it has anything to do with mean behavior or social issues. But even if it does, don't assume it's bullying. You won't know until you get the full story, starting with your child's perspective.

Work with your child. There are two reasons why you'll want to keep your child involved. Bullying and cyberbullying usually involve a loss of dignity or control over a social situation, and involving your child in finding solutions helps him or her regain that. The second reason is about context. Because the bullying is almost always related to school life and our kids understand the situation

and context better than parents ever can, their perspective is key to getting to the bottom of the situation and working out a solution. You may need to have private conversations with others, but let your child know if you do, and report back. This is about your child's life, so your child needs to be part of the solution.

Respond thoughtfully, not fast. What parents don't always know is that they can make things worse for their kids if they act rashly. A lot of cyberbullying involves somebody getting marginalized (put down and excluded), which the bully thinks increases his or her power or status. If you respond publicly or if your child's peers find out about even a discreet meeting with school authorities, the marginalization can get worse, which is why any response needs to be well thought out.

More than one perspective needed. Your child's account of what happened is likely completely sincere, but remember that one person's truth isn't necessarily everybody's. You'll need to get other perspectives and be open-minded about what they are. Sometimes kids let themselves get pulled into chain reactions, and often what we see online is only one side of or part of the story.

What victims say helps most is to be heard – really listened to – either by a friend or an adult who cares. That's why, if your kids come to you for help, it's so important to respond thoughtfully and involve them. Just by being heard respectfully, a child is often well on the way to healing.

The ultimate goal is restored self-respect and greater resilience in your child. This, not getting someone punished, is the best focus for resolving the problem and helping your child heal. What your child needs most is to regain a sense of dignity. Sometimes that means standing up to the bully, sometimes not. Together, you and your child can figure out how to get there.

One positive outcome we don't often think about (or hear in the news) is resilience. We know the human race will never completely eradicate meanness or cruelty, and we also know that bullying is not, as heard in past generations, "normal" or a rite of passage. We need to keep working to eradicate it. But when it does happen and we overcome it – our resilience grows. It's not something that can be "downloaded" or taught. We grow it through exposure to challenges and figuring out how to deal with them. So sometimes it's important to give them space to do that and let them know we have their back. <http://www.connectsafely.org/tips-to-help-stop-cybi>

The League of Women Voters is sponsoring Candidate Forums for the 2014 General Election

Thursday, October 2

Luncheon at The Cedars on Salmon Creek

Sponsored jointly with the Battle Ground Chamber of Commerce

The following forums will be held at the Vancouver
Community Library, 901 C Street, Vancouver

Tuesday, October 7

6 - 8:30 p.m.

Candidates for Sheriff, Prosecuting Attorney and Superior Court
and a discussion on the proposed
Clark County Home Rule Charter

Wednesday, October 8

6 - 8:30 p.m.

Candidates for Clark County Commissioner, Assessor, Clerk,
Treasurer and Clark Public Utilities Commissioner

Thursday, October 9

6 - 8:30 p.m.

Candidates for State Representative, Legislative Districts
17, 18 and 49

DID YOU KNOW: Many forms of bullying alone are not a crime.

But often bullying will involve harassment and/or low level assault, which is a crime. Eric Gilman, from the Clark County Juvenile Justice Center shared most of the juvenile “first-time” offenders are offered the option of “diversion” (not appearing in court before a judge and avoiding a criminal record). This option exemplifies one of the most important or a major drive of the juvenile court’s philosophy which is to hold juveniles (generally between the ages of 12-18) accountable in meaningful ways. The option involves teaching those who may be acting out the pain in his/her own life that the behavior is not acceptable. Through classes and intervention, juveniles learn new methods of dealing with anger and the stresses of life. This process requires the juvenile to sign a contract signifying their commitment to complete the prescribed process. The involvement and engagement of parents or guardians is another significant component of this program. Second-time offenders are not offered this option.

The following is found on their [website <http://www.clark.wa.gov/juvenile/index.html>]

“Balanced and Restorative Justice is not a new set of programs or short-term projects. It is a new way of thinking about crime, community, and working together for the future. Balanced and Restorative Justice requires vision, creativity, and shared leadership on the part of the justice system, victims, offenders and the community.

“Juvenile offenders should leave the justice system more capable of being positive, contributing members of the community than when they entered the system. Rather than simply receiving treatment and services aimed at suppressing problem behavior, offenders should make measurable improvements in their ability to function as productive, responsible citizens. One characteristic of a responsible citizen is the ability to take responsibility for their own actions and being willing to be accountable for the impacts of their decisions.”

Mick Hoffman, director of safety, security and athletics, for Vancouver School District, shared the following statistics about Vancouver Schools. There are 23,000 students on 21 campuses to include the four comprehensive high Schools. The number increases to 25,000 when staff and teachers are included. He reiterated the importance of the PBIS philosophy (Positive Behavior Intervention) in teaching students “what respect looks like,” reinforcing expectations, and providing positive affirmation vice bullying.

A School Resource Officer (SRO) is assigned to all 4 comprehensive Vancouver Public high schools, either from Vancouver City Police or Clark County Sheriff’s Office, depending upon where the school is located. The SRO Program creates a sense of safety for students, parents and staff and provides a conduit for information that keeps school personnel aware of community issues that directly impact the school climate. Consequences for criminal behavior by students are dealt with immediately to prevent retaliatory issues and to set a high thresh-hold for expectations. One of the Clark County SRO officers was among the first responders at Reynolds High School earlier this year.

Neighborhood Schools SRO

Gaiser Middle School - Jeremy brown@clark.wa.gov
Skyview HS -- Scott.Bain@clark.wa.gov
Walnut Grove -- Jeremy brown@clark.wa.gov

What is Cyberbullying???

- The legal name is “Cyberstalking”- RCW 9.61.260
- “Harassing, intimidating, tormenting or embarrassing someone using electronic communications, other than a phone call.”
 - ▲ Using obscene or crude language or pictures
 - ▲ Anonymous or repeated contacts, even if no message or conversation happens
 - ▲ Threatening to hurt or damage any person or property
- Just ONE contact is enough to face criminal charges. Cyberstalking can be a FELONY.
- What does Cyberbullying look like? . . .

What to do if You are a Victim

- TAKE ACTION IMMEDIATELY- tell a parent, teacher, or other trusted adult about the activity
- BLOCK ACCESS- of anyone who contacts you in an inappropriate or threatening way
- DO NOT RESPOND- Bullies want to get a response to know they upset you or got to you. Do not give them that satisfaction. If you respond, they will continue
- REPORT BULLYING- to your service provider and even the police if the contact is serious or dangerous enough. If you’re not sure, ask a parent or other adult. Speaking up shows you respect yourself enough to not take abusive behavior

Results for Bullies

- Bullies do not learn important skills such as negotiation and compromise, causing problems as they get older
- Almost **60%** of middle school bullies end up with at least one criminal conviction by age 24
- Statistically, bullies have problems making and keeping friends, often do poorly in school, and are at an increased risk of using alcohol and drugs
- Bullies continue to bully as they get older- limiting their work and financial success. People do not want to work with or for bullies
- In one study of over 16,000 juveniles, it was shown that *both victims AND bullies are at an increased risk for depression and suicidal thinking. Depression is equally likely to occur for both victims and bullies*

Social Responsibility-when you are a witness . . .

- 85% of middle school kids do not engage in bullying behavior- YOU ARE THE MAJORITY!
- We each have to take responsibility for our actions towards others.
- We also need to *support others and stand up for what is right* in life’s everyday situations.
 - What responsibility to you have to protect others?
 - Would you want others to protect you if you are being attacked?
 - If you don’t take action, are you partly at fault?
 - Even if you don’t act right away, what else can you do to fight bullying and help others?

From Clark County Sheriff’s Department

The Clark County SRO supervisor for CC Sheriff’s Office and the Community Outreach Sgt. stated “I also love that the presence of the SRO’s in the schools normalizes the existence of police in our community. Police should not be considered to only be around when something bad happens, but should be a part of everyday life, helping when they can, teaching when they can, mentoring when they can, and enforcing when needed.”

East Minnehaha & Roads End Neighborhood Associations

Neighborhood Associations were established to unite the common interests and promote the welfare of the neighborhood. The association is involved with a variety of matters which affect the livability of the neighborhood and community in general. All residents within the neighborhood association boundaries are invited and welcome to attend and participate in the association. If you have any questions or would like more information please contact one of the officers or board members listed on this page. The EMNA & RENA do not subscribe to any religious affiliation or political party. The desire is to work together for the common good of the neighborhood in which we all live.

Neighborhood Association newsletters are copied free of charge by the Clark County Public Information and Outreach Office. The information and views expressed are solely those of the neighborhood Association and not Clark County Government or the Public Information and Outreach office.

East Minnehaha Neighborhood Association

President: Sue Lintz [693-9153] tonysuel@aol.com
5914 NE 65th Court, Vancouver, WA 98661

Vice President: Megan Hill

Secretary: Lynda Maguire (temp)

Treasurer: Robert Butler (temp)

Board Members: Andrew Hill

SHERIFF LIAISONS: CENTRAL PRECINCT 397-6195

Deputy Paul Uminski 397-2211 x5460

paul.uminiski@clark.wa.gov

Deputy Jesse Henschel 397-2211 x5428

jesse.henschel@clark.wa.gov

Treasury Report: \$30 Balance

Boundaries: North: Minnehaha Street & 63rd Street / East: I-205 / So: 51 & 52 Streets 7 Vancouver City boundary/ West: St. Johns Rd.

Roads End Neighborhood Association

Vice President: Barbara Murray, [694-1689] bemur@comcast.net
5513 NE 40 Street, Vancouver, WA 98661

SHERIFF LIAISONS: CENTRAL PRECINCT 397-6195

Deputy Eric Swenson 397-2211 x5464

eric.swenson@clark.wa.gov

Deputy Joe McLoughlin 397-2211 x5365

joe.mcloughlin@clark.wa.gov

Boundaries: North: 51st St. / South: Vancouver City limits (SR-500) / West: 54 Ave. / East: Vancouver City limits (66 Ave.)

(Please put Minnehaha or Roads End your subject line to ensure it is read and not "junked, trashed, or deleted")

Volunteers are needed to serve on the boards of both associations.—Call Sue Lintz or Barbara Murray for more information

Home Rule: If you have a question or an issue you wish to be addressed by each of the presenters during the 17 October 2014 Neighborhood Meeting focusing on Home Rule, please send them to: Sue Lintz. 693-9153 or tonysuel@aol.com

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East Minnehaha & Roads End Neighborhood Assoc
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