



**East Minnehaha Neighborhood Association
& Roads End Neighborhood Association**

Happenings

A Visit with Our Sheriff

Sue Lintz arranged for the Board to spend some time with Sheriff Chuck Atkins discussing some issues pertinent to East Minnehaha Neighborhood.

Some of the issues on her list to review were his vision for the Sheriff's Office, staffing issues, response time to 911 calls from residents, and concerns surrounding new marijuana laws.

Staffing issues in all three branches (patrol, civil and custody) are his major concern. Right now staffing per 1000 residents is at an all-time low based on his 36 year experience. Employment procedures have been modified to streamline the hiring process, including the newly implemented on-line applications which are available all year. Staffing positions were cut in 2008 and they are still in the "catch-up mode." With the new process in-place they have hired 44 people in the last 10 months, an improvement over the 14 hired in each of the previous two years.

The jail which is operated by the Sheriff's Office provides services to both the City of Vancouver and Clark County. Currently it is too small and not configured to current safety standards. Also, plans are to enlarge the jail, and as a part of this renovation the "kitchen" facilities will be brought in house eliminating the need to transport meals to those confined at the jail.

He stressed the importance of using the jail to incarcerate criminals and not the mentally ill and homeless. The Sheriff's Office is continuing to work with public health, mental health, and social services to find alternative methods to help this population.

911 calls are prioritized with critical or emergency calls receiving immediate responses. He emphasized preventative law enforcement. Residents should not hesitate to call to report a suspicious person or activity. Your call may be the final piece of information which when combined with other information leads to an arrest. Better Safe Than Sorry!!

Under Sheriff Mike Cooke added that his major concern is the apparent conflict in Federal and State marijuana laws. He mentioned the lack of zoning laws to control the growing of medicinal marijuana plants. These grows often occur in residential areas and the associated offensive odor is a common neighbor complaint.

Thanks to Each Candidate

More than 80 residents came together to listen to each of the candidates followed by an opportunity to chat individually with them. We appreciated their taking time to share their views and platforms.

Beginning in January 2016

East Minnehaha and Roads End NA's are part of District 1 and our interests are represented on the Board of Councilors by Tom Mielke

We thank Marc Boldt for coming to our last meeting and congratulate him as the newly elected Chairman of the Board.



Marc Boldt



Tom Mielke



Sheriff Chuck Atkins



 <p>Free Christmas Fun in Uptown Village</p> <p>Blog, Clark County, Local Events, Vancouver USA</p>	 <p>Celebrate Christmas Around Town</p> <p>Battle Ground, Blog, in the couve, Live, Local Events, Neighborhoods, Vancouver USA, Celebration of Christ, Christmas Around Town, Christmas Concert, Holiday Tea, Polar Express</p>	 <p>Christmas at the Fort</p> <p>Blog, Clark County, in the couve, Live, Local Events, Neighborhoods, Vancouver USA, Christmas at Fort Vancouver, Downtown Vancouver, Family Fun, Historical, Vancouver WA, Wreath Making</p>	 <p><i>We're Always Here!</i></p> <p>Joining Journey Journeyman Lineman</p> <p>Learn more at ClarkPublicUtilities.com/AlwaysHere</p>  <p>Clark County Holiday Gift Fair November 20 - 22 Free Parking!</p>
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Looking for something to do this coming holiday season, check out Clark County Live --<http://clarkcountylive.com/>. Listed above are just a few options.

Five Christmas Safety tips

We wish you the best this holiday season, but accidents happen, and we would be remiss if we didn't share our annual reminder...

With all the hustle and bustle of holiday activities, safety can be forgotten. There are more than 12,000 fires each year during the holiday season, almost 500 fire-related deaths, and approximately a thousand injuries from decorating (think ladders).

Here are some simple safety tips to keep in mind as you celebrate:

1. Christmas lights and decorations can be hazardous to your health.
 - Two-to-three people are injured every hour of every day falling off ladders while trying to install decorations.
 - Using last year's lights? Frayed or improperly installed wiring and extension cords can cause fires.
 - Read the box. Never use "interior only" lights outdoors.
 - Do not run extension cords under carpet. Carpet tacks can penetrate the cord and it only takes one spark to ignite the carpet.

Takeaway: A few dollars for a new set of lights or an extension cord is an excellent investment to keep your family safe.

2. Christmas trees are *extremely* flammable
 - Make sure your tree is fresh.
 - Once you get it home, cut three inches off the bottom to allow water to penetrate into the tree, and then keep the tree in water, as if it were a cut flower.
 - Keep them away from heaters, as the warm air will dry them out faster.
 - Make sure the tree is placed in a safe location away from fireplaces and candles.
 - Keep trees where animals and small children cannot climb them and knock them over.

Takeaway: Water your tree!

3. Candles are the biggest cause of fires during the holidays
 - Never place them near curtains, Christmas trees or anything else flammable.
 - Keep them away from areas where they can be knocked over by pets or children.
 - Use hurricane-type glass enclosures rather than open flames.
 - Whenever you leave the room or at bed time, make sure all candles are completely extinguished.

Takeaway: Candles are not toys.

4. Cooking can lead to both fires and injuries
 - Children want to help, but with the distraction of guests, they can get burned or cut more easily than other seasons.
 - Be sure to keep cooking food on the back stove burner and pan handles turned towards the back.
 - Make sure everybody is clear of splattering grease.
 - When you reach over a stove's front burner to reach a back burner or cupboard overhead, make sure you do not have any clothing hanging down that can brush against the flames.

Takeaway: Make sure you take special care during the holidays when company can distract you.

5. Prepare your escape routes
 - Make sure everybody knows two exit routes out of the house ahead of time in case one route is blocked by fire.
 - Make sure the exit routes are cleaned of toys, wrapping, trees, lights, etc. before bedtime *every night*.
 - If there is a fire, get everybody out safely, then call 9-1-1 for help. Do not stay inside to call 9-1-1 or go back inside once everybody is safely out, as smoke, not heat is the greatest danger.
 - Also make sure that you have two exit routes out of the community, in case the fire grows beyond the house, and that you have a pre-planned meeting place in case you are separated.

Takeaway: Stuff happens. Be prepared.

Keep these tips in mind – share them with family and friends, and especially children – and they will help your holidays be happy and safe. Have a wonderful holiday season!

For more holiday tips, visit the Electrical Safety Foundation International's Holicay Safety website at <http://www.esfi.org/winter-safety>

Differences between Neighborhood Associations and Homeowner's Associations

Because of their similarity in names, some might confuse a neighborhood association and a homeowner's association. However, the two entities are quite different.

A **homeowner's association** is formed by a developer and pertains to a specific subdivision or project. The association provides the framework for the future maintenance of the development's common grounds and amenities, for instance a pool; clubhouse or common area landscaping. All homeowners sign a contract at the time they purchase their homes; become members and now are required to follow the codes, covenants and restrictions (CC&Rs) governing the development; and pay association dues. Homeowner's associations may exist within a single Neighborhood Association or potentially cross neighborhood association boundaries.

Each of the county **neighborhood association** boundaries were adopted by the county's neighborhood outreach program. With this common identity, Neighborhood Associations offer a place to meet friends, exchange information, create projects and priorities, propose solutions, and have fun.

In Clark County, an important aspect of a neighborhood association is to identify needs and desires of all its residents. The association will give residents a forum to discuss common concerns and to brainstorm possible solutions. Some potential outcomes may be: improved street lighting, bike paths, sidewalks, traffic calming devices, parks and open spaces, zoning and land-use planning, park amenities, beautification projects and neighborhood clean-ups. Many neighborhood associations have summer picnics, holiday parties and other special events in order to have fun as well as to keep the lines of communication open with their neighbors. [An example of this united effort of East Minnehaha Neighborhood Association residents is the sidewalks along 58th Street which are in the planning phase and should be installed in about one year.] If you are interested in participating with either EMNA or RENA, contact your Board members.

Neighborhood associations give citizens a voice and an advocate and greatly improve the two-way communication between the county and its residents. Attending the meetings provide you a way to meet people who live near you and share the fondness and frustrations of your area. We recommend you join Neighborly at ClarkCountyLive.com and use this venue to communicate with your neighbors.

Organizing also opens the door to increased communications with county government at the monthly meetings where Neighborhood association leaders are briefed and discuss issues of common concern. This increased communication can be a resource for upcoming meetings or other community opportunities. There are no special rules for residents of the Neighborhood and no dues. We do rely upon contributions from residents to help us pay for all expenses we incur.

LEAVES HANGING AROUND YOUR YARD???

Clark County is providing county residents with coupons to drop off up to 5 cubic yards of leaves at no charge through Dec. 31. Leaves must be emptied from bags at the four disposal sites. Free disposal is for leaves only. Coupons can be downloaded from the county's website, www.clark.wa.gov/environment, and used at four locations. The closest to us is:

- City Bark, 2419 N.E. Andresen Road, (360) 253-8461. 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Closed Thanksgiving, Christmas and Sundays. Closes early on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve.

Clark County reminds residents not to blow, rake or sweep leaves onto streets, where they can block storm drains, cause flooding and create driving hazards. To help prevent flooding, residents can clear clogged storm drains by standing in a safe place and using a rake or other garden tool to pull leaves from the path of flowing water. However, residents should not try to clear storm drains on busy streets. Call Clark County Public Works at (360) 397-2446 to report clogged storm drains or flooding outside of city limits.

Your Newsletter can be seen on-line at
<http://www.co.clark.wa.us/neighborhoods/weeklyupdate.html>
<http://www.co.clark.wa.us/neighborhoods/weeklyupdate.html>

DID YOU KNOW – Newly Found EMNA Neighbors

We welcome the 200 residents of Van Mall retirement community who just learned they are part of our East Minnehaha Neighborhood. We look forward to seeing you are our next meeting in the Spring 2016.

Generation Place HOA Managing Parking Areas



David Matheny, President of the Generation Place HOA, would like residents to know that signs have been posted designating no parking areas and tow away zones within the HOA boundaries. The Generation Place HOA officers are asking residents and their visitors to obey the signs to avoid the consequences of being towed.

Vehicles are towed at the owners' expense. It is unfortunate vehicles need to be towed, but in a high density neighborhood with narrow streets the rules and bylaws of our covenants (that as home owners we all signed and agreed to) must be enforced

Did You Know??

With so many people on the move for the holidays, FEMA's regional office in the Pacific NW is providing three vacation traveling tips.

- **Pack** a small emergency kit for your suitcase. Batteries, a flashlight, a portable radio and USB power bank are a GREAT start.
- **Download** FEMA's app, which lets you receive weather alerts for up to five locations – set one for your holiday destination to stay informed.
- **Use STEP**, the Department of State's the [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program](#) if you're traveling abroad. This will help the U.S. Embassy contact you in an emergency in the event of a natural disaster, civil unrest or family emergency.

East Minnehaha Neighborhood Association

Co-Presidents: Sue Lintz [360-693-9153] & Lynda Maguire [360-635-2409]

Secretary: Lynda Maguire (act)

Treasurer: Robert Butler [360-931-0204] Treasury Report: \$234.80 Balance

Board Members: Andrew Hill

SHERIFF LIAISONS: CENTRAL PRECINCT 397-6195

Deputy Paul Uminski 397-2211 x5460
paul.uminski@clark.wa.gov

Deputy Jeremy Brown 397-2211 x5461
jeremy.brown@clark.wa.gov

Boundaries: North: Minnehaha Street & 63rd Street / East: I-205 / So: 51 & 52 Streets & 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.)

(Sending a note: Please put Minnehaha or Roads End your subject line to ensure it is read and not 'junked, trashed, or deleted')

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 support these volunteers by printing and distributing their newsletters.

Holiday Giving at Walnut Grove:

The holidays are a joyous time of year, but they often put enormous financial strain on families. If you are interested in helping our students and families this holiday season, please consider donating coats, gloves, shoes or other clothing items to the school resource center. Another way to help is to donate Winco cards for groceries, gas or other necessities. If you are interested in donating, or are looking for ways to be involved at the school, please contact Amanda Harding in the Family-Community Resource Center at [\(360\)313-2964](tel:3603132964).

Have Children Or Grandchildren Between the Ages 0-5?

Join us here at Walnut Grove Elementary on Friday afternoons from 1:00 to 2:30 for **1-2-3 Grow and Learn**. This is a fun group hosted by ESD 112 that introduces young children and their adult caregiver to the school environment, helps them socialize, learn, grow and HAVE FUN! There is no cost and this program is drop-in. Hope to see you there! Amanda Harding, Community Resource Center, at [\(360\)313-2964](tel:3603132964)

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