



Art by Karol Paquette

**FISHERS CREEK**  
**Neighborhood Association**  
[www.fisherscreek.org](http://www.fisherscreek.org)



September 2005 Newsletter - A service of your Neighborhood Association

## Here's what's happening around here!



[www.fisherscreek.org](http://www.fisherscreek.org)

**GENERAL MEETING**  
**OCTOBER 18/7:00 P.M.**  
**FISHERS LANDING ELEM.**  
**FORUM.**

**WE WILL HAVE 2 GUEST SPEAKERS**

Someone from the Library campaign will address questions and Jane Van Dyke from the Columbia Springs Environmental Education Center will share nature opportunities in the area.

Board members with special interest in New Developments, 192<sup>nd</sup> opening, natural spaces, park upgrades and quarry news will be there to inform and answer questions. See you there so you know what's going on!

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**FCNA Mission Statement**

The mission of the Fisher's Creek Neighborhood Association is to preserve, protect, and enhance the quality of life in the Fishers Creek neighborhood. It is through this effort that we strive to increase community awareness, and be proactive on those issues that affect residential property values.

**Your board FCNA August 2005**

<b>Name-Position</b>	<b>Special Interest</b>	<b>email contact</b>
President- Heidi Olsen	All, Newsletter, Grants	president@fisherscreek.org
Vice Pres. John Stouffer	Website, New development	vp@fisherscreek.org
Treasurer-Rachelle Moehring	Special Events, Treasurer	treasurer@fisherscreek.org
Secretary- Mark Miller	Secretary	secretary@fisherscreek.org
Member-AL- Jennifer Maddox	Area Coordinator chair	Member3@fisherscreek.org
Member-AL- Stephen Pastor	Natural area/trees, Grants	Member2@fisherscreek.org
Member-AL- Hank Vaandering	Co-Quarry Liaison	Member4@fisherscreek.org
Member-AL-Patrick Rank	Co-Quarry Liaison	Member1@fisherscreek.org

To contact the entire board: [fcnaboard@fisherscreek.org](mailto:fcnaboard@fisherscreek.org)

**Hi Everyone,**

**School has started; the weather will be turning soon. Last year I witnessed a problem I wanted everyone to be aware of. My daughters' attend Fishers Landing Elementary, as I am sure many of your children do. While walking my kids to school I noticed on more than one occasion, cars going THRU the crosswalk when a crossing guard is in the striped area. One child was almost struck! It happens at least once a week.**

**It is necessary for you to wait until the crossing guard has reached the safety of the sidewalk before entering the intersection.**

**Walkers/Students going to Fishers Landing Elem. start arriving at 8:30 am and classes begin at approx. 8:50. Children are in that area all of that time. Please be aware and tell all drivers in your home that driving through this safety area while a child is present is against the law, and incredibly dangerous. Adult supervisors write down your license plate and report you to Police. Even if you are running late, this is not an excuse to cut corners and do this, even if you are looking. Please choose another route out of our neighborhood if you believe you might need to rush.**

**I believe kids' safety is all of our jobs.**

**Thanks,**

**Heidi Olsen**

**FCNA President**



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## Quarry Update

I would first like to correct my mistake from the article in our last issue. I had mentioned that the mining on the south end of the neighborhood would continue to move eastward. What I meant to say is that it would move westward. The mining in this direction should continue for approximately 3 to 4 years.

I recently took a tour of the quarry and met with their superintendent. At our meeting, we discussed both future plans for the site, as well as how we can all work together during the mining process. He assures me that Rinker Materials will continue to listen to constructive input from the community like they have in the past. Currently, they are doing some things to reduce the adverse impact on the neighborhood such as trying to restrict mining in certain areas at night, using strobes instead of back up alarms at night (where possible), and following regulations to monitor each blast with seismographs insuring that they remain below allowable levels.

There are some changes going on besides the new Hwy 14 access. Some of you may have noticed that a portion of the quarry east of the new 192<sup>nd</sup> is now for sale. This is an area that is currently owned by the state of Washington. Also, there is large equipment perched on top of the hill removing dirt. At some point during the mining process, this material was placed there and now a large part of the quarry west of 192<sup>nd</sup> is in the process of being filled in from the berm at the east end of Hiddenbrook Terrace. As Rinker continues to move westward with their mining, they will remove more of this berm and fill in different areas as needed. In the short term, the berm will be lowered to the height of the dirt road. Eventually, the entire berm will be taken down to match the level of the berm bordering the south of Hiddenbrook Terrace.

While the mining continues over the next 5 to 6 more years, the berm must remain at the following dimensions:

Starting 15' off the property line, 52' wide at the base with a 2 to 1 slope. This keeps the mining a minimum of 67' from the neighborhood, and the berm at least 13' high.

I will continue to investigate future plans and changes at the quarry and keep you updated. If you have questions please feel free to contact Rinker Materials or myself.

Hank Vaandering

# Have Fun at Firstenburg!

## Pass Sales begin for Firstenburg Community Center

Be "First in Firstenburg". Annual passes to the new [Firstenburg Community Center](#) -- east Vancouver's new community "living room" -- will be available for purchase beginning Wednesday, August 10 at the Qwest Noon Concert Series at Esther Short Park. The center is slated to open this fall. Passes can also be purchased at the Jim Parsley Center, Marshall Community Center and Clark County Indoor Sports Center. Members who sign up early for an annual pass will receive plenty of extra benefits, including: one free month; ten percent off FCC class registration during Dec.-April; a "First in Firstenburg T-shirt for each adult; a poly carbonate water bottle for each adult; and a beach ball for each child. "We're thrilled that in just a few short months this facility will be open to everyone in our community," said Vicki Vanneman, project manager. "An annual pass will be the most economical way to participate in all that the center will have to offer." Annual pass fees, which will be automatically deducted monthly from either a credit card or checking account, are: Age 0-3 : Free; Age 4-18: \$18/month; Adult 19+: \$33/month; Family: \$54/month; Couple: \$49/month; Senior 60+: \$27/month; Sr. couple: \$39/month. There is no joining fee. To learn more, contact Annie Rusunen at 619-1138, or Vicki Vanneman at 619-1113.

The Firstenburg Community Center will be a place to swim, work out, play ball in the gym, take a class, attend a celebration, or meet your neighbors. The center promises something for everyone!

- Activity pool with slide
- Two-court gymnasium
- Community room with catering kitchen & patio
- Teen lounge
- Senior lounge
- Game room
- Aerobics/dance studio
- Fitness space, Multi-purpose classroom



Annual Ghosts Stories event **cancelled**

Tuesday, August 23, 2005

Contact: Judi Bailey, Events Coordinator, (360) 619-1131

The annual Ghost Stories event on Officers Row has been canceled for 2005. The upcoming World War II commemoration on the Vancouver National Historic Reserve has tapped available special event resources at the City of Vancouver.

In 2006, the City will assess and potentially retool the program which has been entertaining the community since the early 1990's.

Ghost Stories is a family-oriented event held every October that features dramatic scenes, storytelling and music on the porches and in the parlors of the buildings along Officers Row.

Articles from City of Vancouver's website.



### Grant from the City of Vancouver Yields Native Plants for Fisher's Creek Park

Last year Fisher's Creek Park was opened for public use. The park includes play ground equipment, a lawn area, a natural area, and a trail which continues outside the park. This arrangement resulted from public meetings where local residents expressed what they wanted for the park.

Last summer invasive non-native Himalayan blackberries were removed from several areas within the park. Although this was a good thing (Himalayan blackberries are not good for various reasons - more about them in later news letters), it did leave a few areas looking pretty barren. Without any further attention, those Himalayan blackberries would take over those areas again. Volunteers have been quietly continuing to eliminate blackberry plants growing from seeds and roots that are still lurking in the ground.

Now, help is on the way! The city has given our Neighborhood Association a grant to purchase native plants to put in those barren looking areas within the park. These plants will not only improve the appearance of the park, but will occupy space that won't be available for the blackberries, provide food and cover for birds, squirrels, deer, and other critters that live in or visit our park, and eventually shade out any non-native blackberries that try to grow in the park.

This will be an opportunity for everyone to learn about native plants: how to recognize them, how to plant them, and how to take care of them. You will discover that, if you put the right native plant in the right place, it will require little or no care once it becomes established.

The city will also provide their expertise and time to help us with this project.

Our part of the deal is volunteering to do the actual planting...  
So, please consider coming by the park at 9:00 the morning of Saturday January 14, 2006. Be sure to dress for the weather and maybe getting a bit dirty, and bring a shovel and gloves.

Steve Pastor- FCNA Board member / Special Interest- Greenspaces

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## **FCNA Website Updated and Redesigned**

The FCNA website, located at [www.fisherscreek.org](http://www.fisherscreek.org), recently underwent a redesign, and was updated to include several new pages and a new feature—the **FCNA Forum**. The forum was created to enable our neighbors to discuss topics of interest, vote on issues and enable the FCNA to communicate electronically by e-mail to as many neighbors as possible. If you are a resident of the FCNA, you are encouraged to go to the website and register at the forum. E-mail addresses of neighbors will not be shared with outside organizations.

Another new feature is the creation of the **Social Activities** web page. The purpose of this is to provide a means for our neighbors to develop and participate in various social activities. These can be anything from creating a book club to parents seeking to join a playgroup with their kids. Those with an interest in developing such activities should go the FCNA website and click the Social Activities button.

The **Local Events** web page typically lists FCNA-sponsored events, but if you are aware of other local events that may be of interest to our neighbors, visit the website and click the e-mail link to suggest adding one.

The FCNA website was developed to provide an additional means of communicating important information to our residents. Please take time to visit the site. Your FCNA Board is always open to suggestions for improvement or additional features. Contact FCNA Vice President John Stouffer at [vp@fisherscreek.org](mailto:vp@fisherscreek.org) with your comments.

## **To All Homeowners~**

**If you have ever signed up to be a volunteer and not been contacted, we apologize. It is our wish to put together a new list. Please contact us if you would like to help, we really appreciate your time and energy. Thanks.**

[www.fisherscreek.org](http://www.fisherscreek.org)

## New Additions to Curbside Recycling Family

In case you haven't heard the news...there are a few new kids in town and their names are ANTIFREEZE, HOUSEHOLD BATTERIES, AND EMPTY AEROSOL CANS.

Here are a few guidelines for welcoming them into your recycling family:

- ★ ANTIFREEZE BESIDE THE BINS: Place used antifreeze in a plastic, one-gallon milk jug with a tight fitting lid. Please do not mix used antifreeze with *any other liquid*.
- ★ HOUSEHOLD BATTERIES BESIDE THE BINS: Please place all household batteries, including batteries from flashlights, re-chargeable appliances, hearing aids, etc. in a clear, re-sealable plastic bag. Please don't set out vehicle batteries; those may be recycled at a Household Hazardous Waste collection site.
- ★ EMPTY AEROSOL CANS IN WITH OTHER CONTAINERS: Please place empty aerosol cans in with other **containers** such as milk cartons, plastic bottles, cans and glass. Please throw the lids in the trash. Please don't put partial or full aerosol cans in with other recyclables; these may be taken to a Household Hazardous Waste collection site.

### ***FREE Household Hazardous Waste Drop-off during the hours marked (\*) below***

**West Van Material Recovery** 360.737.1727

**6601 NW Old Lower River Road**

6 am - 6 pm Mon-Fri; 8 am - 4 pm Sat

**\*Haz Waste ~ 8 am - 4 pm Fri & Sat ONLY**

**Closed:** All Sundays, New Year's Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas Day

**Central Transfer and Recycling**

360.256.8482

**11034 NE 117th Ave**

6 am - 6 pm Mon-Fri; 8 am - 4 pm Sat & Sun

**\*Haz Waste ~ 8 am - 4 pm Sat & Sun**

**ONLY Closed:** New Year's Day, Memorial Day, 4th of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day

Request a **FREE** Recycling Directory from the City of Vancouver Solid Waste, call **360.696-8186**

**Brown Pages for additional information:** If you received a Clark County Qwest Dex phone book, then you have a wealth of recycling, yard debris and garbage information at your fingertips. Check out the Brown Pages, (right behind the green Community pages in the front of the book) and you will find the answers to your solid waste questions.

Article courtesy of Waste Connections Inc.  
360.737.1727

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Special events and activities welcome nationally acclaimed Lewis & Clark exhibit  
to  
Vancouver's Water Resources Education Center

Vancouver (Sept. 1, 2005) – Step back in time two hundred years and follow along the river-rich journey of Lewis and Clark, as seen through the vivid images and sounds of “Discovering the Rivers of Lewis & Clark,” presented by American Rivers, opening Sept. 9, at the Water Resources Education Center, 4600 S.E. Columbia Way.

The award-winning exhibit explores the expedition's incredible journey covering more than 8,000 miles and taking more than two years to complete.

During its run here through Oct. 28, the exhibit will take top Water Center billing, serving as the focus for a variety of special events and activities. To be among the first to see the exhibit, attend family friendly Second Saturday activities, from 1 to 3 p.m. on Sept. 10 or a new artistic showing at the White Sturgeon Gallery from 2 to 5 p.m. that same day. To be part of the big, official launch, join Mayor Royce Pollard at the Reception at the River, a signature community event from 5 to 7 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 13, featuring entertainment, refreshments and merrymaking fit for a Meriwether or William. Admission is free to the Water Center and the exhibit.

Watch also for announcements of other happenings, including First People on the River events in honor of Native Americans, as well as extended Sunday hours, more related Second Saturday activities for kids, and a special one-time River in Our Backyard, a family fun day from noon to 4 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 16.

Since its debut in May 2001, the exhibit has visited more than 25 venues in 13 states, and has been viewed by more than 1.5 million Americans. In 2005, it received the Natural Resources Council of America Education award. The exhibit is co-sponsored by the U.S. Army, The History Channel, and The Dibner Fund.

“The rugged spirit of the Lewis and Clark Expedition and the bounty they encountered fundamentally shaped who we are as people of the Northwest. The Lewis and Clark bicentennial provides an opportunity to not only look back, but to look forward. This exhibit can be the catalyst for local and regional dialogues about how we work together to ensure a great future for the rivers of Lewis and Clark and the communities along the trail,” said Rob Masonis, director of the Northwest office of American Rivers.

The exhibit offers visitors a chance to follow along the trail, viewing hand-drawn maps and reading excerpts from the expedition's detailed journals, revealing the natural beauty and bounty of the Missouri, Yellowstone, Snake and Columbia rivers some 200 years ago. They will also see and hear how these same rivers have been harnessed and changed by humans since that time, and learn how communities are restoring them to health in commemoration of the expedition's bicentennial.

**SPECIAL EXHIBIT FEATURES:** Audio stations offering music and voices from past and present and a replica of the prow of the explorers' keelboat, providing children a learning opportunity to climb in and imagine being part of the historic voyage.

Article from City of Vancouver's website

## **History takes flight as Pearson Field celebrates a centennial of service**

September marks the 100<sup>th</sup> birthday of Pearson Field Airport. This milestone will be commemorated with events and activities that are free and open to the public. The celebration will take place on Saturday, Sep. 24, from noon - 3 p.m., at Pearson Field. Food and beverages will be available for purchase on-site.

The day will feature:

- Rededication of Pearson Field including recognition of Alexander Pearson's niece and an unveiling of a new collection and exhibit wall at Pearson Museum
- Open house of the Fixed Base Operator maintenance hangar and flight school
- Display of general aviation aircraft
- Aviation exploration for kids
- Guided walk on the new National Parks Service Spruce Mill Interpretive Trail
- Evening aviation movie at Pearson Museum

Pearson Museum and Fort Vancouver will be open and charge regular admission.

In 1905, Lincoln Beachey took off in his Baldwin airship from the grounds of the Lewis and Clark Centennial Exposition in Portland and landed on the polo field at Vancouver Barracks, completing the first aerial crossing of the Columbia River. In 1911, continuous fixed-wing aviation made its debut at Pearson Field which has since played host to a number of aviation milestones.

Pearson Field is operated by the City of Vancouver and provides aviation services to the greater Vancouver, Wash., community. In addition to being one of the nation's oldest operating airports, in 2001, the airport was named among the country's 100 most needed airports according to the National Air Transportation Association. Pearson is the only airport in the United States that operates adjacent to and partially within the boundaries of a national historic reserve.

Facilities at Pearson Field include a 3,275 foot long runway, parallel taxiway, aircraft parking areas, 150 T-hangars, a full-service fixed base operator and Pearson Air Museum. The airport is home to approximately 175 based aircraft and serves a variety of public and private business and recreational aviation interests. It is recognized as a desirable tourist destination for visiting pilots. In July, Pearson Field hosted the National Short-Wing Piper National Convention which drew over 70 aircraft from across the country.

The City of Vancouver recognizes Pearson Field as a valuable transportation, public service and economic asset of both historic and contemporary significance.

Article from the City of Vancouver's website.

## Vandals hit school and Fisherscreek Park

The sign for Fisherscreek park was spray painted with graffiti on the night of August 30<sup>th</sup>. The sign was covered with writing and spray cans were thrown about. The portable classrooms at Fishers Landing Elementary school were also hit the middle of July with sprayed on obscenities. Please keep a lookout for suspicious behavior in the area and talk to your kids about respecting others' property. We can all work together so this won't happen again.

Please contact the non-emergency number for the East Precinct if you suspect anything or see some goings-on.  
@ 696-4174

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4<sup>th</sup> of July parade was a huge success. All the kids had a ball. Thanks for coming out and celebrating with us. We hope you had a great summer!

Let's keep it clean-

Based on comments from around our community, I thought I would include a few suggestions on garbage collection, in order to keep our neighborhood as attractive and clean as possible. Most of you are probably aware that automated trucks collect our garbage. These trucks lift our garbage cans high in the air before they are dumped. This can allow some of the lighter refuse (especially paper) to blow away from the truck. Putting all of your garbage into tied plastic bags would prevent this from occurring. Also, various Homeowner's Association C.C. & R.'s govern most of our neighborhood. I know in my area we would be in violation of our C.C. & R.'s if we left our garbage, yard debris or recycling containers at curbside for more than 24 hours. The containers are unsightly and can block traffic on our sidewalks. So it seems like a common sense and neighbor-friendly gesture to remove your containers as soon as possible after pick up. If you know that you won't be able to do so, ask a neighbor to help you out.

## Spring/Summer Event Stats

### **Dump Day was a huge success!**

A big thank you to our awesome volunteers for Dump Day: Shari Eggleston, Hank Vaandering, Mo Brock, Barbara Williamson, Tom Williamson, Michael Henrickson, Stacey Johnson, Heidi Olsen, Ryan Theodoriches, Beverly Bursey, and our coordinator Rachelle Moehring. Another thanks to Alex who came to Dump day and stayed and helped.☺  
People got rid of approx 25 BBQ's. Many items were taken to be reused by others.  
Total of Neighbors that used Dump Day: 158 ( and many used it more than once)  
Total tonage and # of dumpsters for Dump Day: two drop boxes of yard debris and 3 truck loads of junk. The yard debris totaled about 70 yards and cost \$252.84 to dispose and the junk totaled 16.17 tons and cost \$1215.93 to dispose. The "junk" is up from 14.24 tons last year and 7.65 tons in 2003. Money earned for the Dump Day: \$214.00

### **Neighborhood Garage Sale was bigger than ever!**

Money earned for the Neighborhood Garage Sale: \$275.00  
Homes participating: 55

Both events will be happening on the same weekends next year to help people plan ahead for them. ;)

Donations will be used for supplies for welcome wagon packets and Neighborhood association sponsored events. Thanks for your donations.

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## Welcome to our new neighbors in: The Gardens at Fisher's Landing and The Gables at Hiddenbrook Terrace!

**The Gardens at Fisher's Landing** is located on the West end of the Fisher's Creek Neighborhood Association (FCNA) at SE 34<sup>th</sup> St. and SE 176<sup>th</sup> Ave. There are 60 new homes located there with 95% of them completed and currently occupied. Of the 3 remaining unoccupied homes, one is the model home, and the other two look to be completed very shortly. Village Woods Open Space is a park located in the NW corner of the development where there are walking trails and benches.

**The Gables at Hiddenbrook Terrace** is located on the East end of the FCNA at SE 34<sup>th</sup> St. and SE 192<sup>nd</sup> Ave., with some retail space located in the NE corner of the development. There are 128 new homes being built there with approximately 25% of the homes completed and currently occupied. All but approximately 20% of the lots are sold and they anticipate that building will be complete around February of 2006. The Hiddenbrook "path to no where" now meanders back between the SE edge of the Gables and the Hiddenbrook Terrace green space and pops out onto SE 189<sup>th</sup> Ave. in the Gables and SE 41<sup>st</sup> Drive in Hiddenbrook Terrace.

The Fisher's Creek Neighborhood Association (FCNA) wants to welcome all of you to our Neighborhood Association. We encourage you to get involved so that your subdivisions feel adequately represented and stay well informed. **We are currently in need of Area Coordinators (AC's) for the Gables at Hiddenbrook Terrace.** AC's deliver newsletters and informational flyers to homes in your subdivision throughout the year and welcome new neighbors into the area. Please contact Jennifer Maddox through the FCNA website ([www.fisherscreek.org](http://www.fisherscreek.org)) or at [jk Maddox@hotmail.com](mailto:jk Maddox@hotmail.com) if you are interested in being an AC. Again, welcome, and we look forward to getting to know you.

### Here's the difference between a Neighborhood Association and a Homeowner's or Community Association.

**Homeowners or Community Association-** a body that receives dues to monitor and regulate properties according to neighborhood CCR's. Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions are rules homeowners must follow or there will be a penalty. Homeowners sign off on rules when they move into a participating neighborhood. Includes: Landscape, maintenance, common areas, architectural guidelines, rules to help secure home values. This is the one who you can call if you are worried about your neighbors yard etc.

**Neighborhood Association-** This body works with city employees and governments to make recommendations for public safety and enhancements in our area. We host informative meetings and listen to neighbors' concerns to address issues that come up. We host Dump Day every year and sponsor a large neighborhood Garage sale. Next year we plan to host a large event of some kind in the park for all Neighborhood association members. There is no charge to belong. You are members based on your geography. Our job is to inform and to listen and to make changes based on what homeowners want for their community. Our newsletters are hand delivered by volunteers a few times a year. So, if you see someone taking around some green flyers like this one, give them a smile.

**We are all working together to make the best neighborhood we can. Thanks.**