

Art by Karol Paquette

## **FISHERS CREEK** **Neighborhood Association**

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

**January 2005 Newsletter - A service of your Neighborhood Association**

### **FCNA Leadership**

**President:** Stacey Johnson-  
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**Co Vice Presidents-** Mark Miller  
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& Heidi Olsen- [kurtoly@comcast.net](mailto:kurtoly@comcast.net)

**Secretary:** Sandy Moszer [mamoszer@comcast.net](mailto:mamoszer@comcast.net)

**Treasurer:** Rachelle Moehring  
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#### **Members at Large:**

John Stouffer-[john@pnanet.com](mailto:john@pnanet.com)

Norm Krasne -[npk1030@cs.com](mailto:npk1030@cs.com)

Jennifer Maddox- [jkmaddox@hotmail.com](mailto:jkmaddox@hotmail.com)

#### **Committee Chairs**

**Area Coordinators:** Jennifer Maddox

**Grant writing Chair:** Heidi Olsen

**Grotto Chair:** John Stouffer

**Matrix/Gables Chair:** Sandy Moszer

**Newsletter:** Heidi Olsen & Rachelle Moehring

**Park Chair:** Sandy Moszer

**Section 30/ Dump Chair:** Stacey Johnson & Heidi Olsen

**Special Events:** Rachelle Moehring

### **Presidents Message**

Neighbors,

I hope that all had a wonderful holiday season. Our neighborhood sure looked great with all of the decorations! Caroling through the neighborhood was fun albeit a wet experience!

In late October, Fisher's Creek Park dedication was awesome with the Mayor Royce Pollard and over half of city council in attendance. We even had State Representative Deb Wallace as one of the keynote speakers along with the many assistants from the Vancouver/Clark Parks and Recreation Department. The park is beautiful so please be sure to pay a visit if you haven't already done so. The infamous path to nowhere in the Hiddenbrook area will be connected as soon as the Gables (across from QFC) is completed. This will come out on 42<sup>nd</sup> Street just a short distance from the park.

We hope to have a successful affirmative vote from the Hiddenbrook Community Association (HCA) residents soon so that we can connect our neighborhood trail system on the other side of the neighborhood through the area formerly known as the Grotto. It will be beautiful trail, meandering through trees and along side Fisher's Creek, several ponds, and a lake. Although the HCA residents must approve a short easement through some unused greenspace, the majority of the neighbors throughout Fishers Creek are extremely excited at this potential opportunity that is being donated by the City of Vancouver and developer Dave Nelson.

On a personal note, we want to wish all the best to John Lynch, President of Hiddenbrook Community Association as he recovers from a recent severe illness.

Good health and best wishes to all!

Stacev ☺

*The City of Vancouver supports the Neighborhood Associations in their effort to share vital information with residents to create a more informed public.*

*However, the information provided and the opinions and views expressed in Neighborhood Association newsletters or other documents do not necessarily represent the position of the City of Vancouver, nor does the City determine whether the information published is accurate or appropriate. Printed by the City of Vancouver Office of Neighborhoods*



## Updates

### *The Gables*

You've all noticed by now that work has begun on The Gables, to the west of QFC. Construction on the homes began this fall. For other questions about The Gables, contact Sandy Moszer at [msmoszer@comcast.net](mailto:msmoszer@comcast.net).

### 192<sup>nd</sup> Interchange

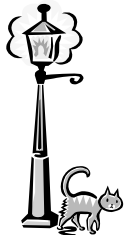
For more info:

<http://www.ci.vancouver.wa.us/transportation/192ave/index.html>

## *A Very Special Thank You to Our Area Coordinators.*

The close go-to people, the ones who deliver your newsletters and keep you up to speed on the goings on. Our great FCNA area coordinators are: Ted Smith, Leigh Anne Tyler, Lauri Stokes, Maria Masson, Rachelle Moehring, Norm Krasne, Lance Thompson, Carrie Reschke, Jolynne Alger, Sandy Moszer, Lisa & Sharma Mageo, Jennifer Maddox and Stacey Johnson.  
Thanks for all your hard work!

### Who do we contact to fix problem lights?



If they are on a public street, contact Operations Center for maintenance and repair at 696-8177. If they are on a private street, the HOA would be responsible for the maintenance and repair.

# *Happy New Year!*

## 2005



### 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

New to the Area and feeling the shakes or hearing noises???

You can find the very latest update provided to Hiddenbrook Terrace Community Association here – Great history and answers to your questions regarding the quarry.

<http://home.comcast.net/~rvellek/quarry/>  
Thanks to Rolf Vellek -Hiddenbrook Terrace Homeowner for his great work keeping tabs on this issue

Newsletter compiled by Heidi Olsen  
Comments: [kurtoly@comcast.net](mailto:kurtoly@comcast.net)

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



## **You're Invited!**

**Are you interested in having your neighborhood be part of a Neighborhood Watch Program in the Fisher's Creek area?**

**Neighborhood Watch Programs help reduce crime, promote communication, personal safety and home security, and build a sense of community. The Fisher's Creek Neighborhood Association passed out some literature about the Neighborhood Watch Program at a previous meeting; however, there was not a large enough group of people at the meeting to get a true sense of interest for the Program. As a result, we have scheduled a Neighborhood Watch Program meeting where our assigned Community Police Specialist will be in attendance to provide details on the program, answer questions and help guide us through the next steps to setting up our own Neighborhood Watch Program if there is enough interest. Please show your support for this program by attending the below meeting:**

**What: Neighborhood Watch Program Meeting**

**When: Thursday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2005**

**Where: Fisher's Landing Elementary**

**Contact Person- Area Coordinator Committee Chair**

**Jennifer Maddox- [jkmaddox@hotmail.com](mailto:jkmaddox@hotmail.com)**



### Support Your Symphony

In conversing with many neighbors since moving into the FCNA area, I have become aware that most of them are not even aware that Vancouver has its very own professional symphony orchestra. I have had the opportunity and pleasure of attending numerous concerts given by our symphony since my arrival from New York ten years ago. Directed by our charming, wonderful maestro, Salvador Brotons, a resident of Barcelona, Spain, the symphony has recently added several musicians to its roster and its playing keeps getting better.

There are four concerts left on the symphony's 2004-05 schedule, including the annual Young Artists concert in April, which features winners of the 2005 Young Artists Competition. In May, Carl Orff's scintillating Carmina Burana, with guest soloists and choir, is the featured work. And, the opportunity still exists to purchase a 3 or 4-concert series at a discounted price.

All concerts are performed at Skyview High School's beautiful auditorium. The Saturday afternoon concert is at 3 PM while the Sunday evening concert, which performs the same works, begins at 7 PM. The dates of all remaining concerts as well as ticket prices, which are below reasonable, and other essentials can be found on the symphony's website: [vancouversymphony.org](http://vancouversymphony.org) I urge each of you to at least try a single concert. Once having heard them, I'm certain you'll want to become a subscriber. Take your children with you and add some beauty to their lives. Perhaps one day they'll aspire to become musicians.

See you at the next concert of The Vancouver Symphony Orchestra.

Norm Krasne



### Meetings of Note

The public hearing on the Nelson development in the grotto (The Lakes) will be held at 7 PM on Tues. Jan. 25 at City Hall-Council Chambers (1st floor) located at 210 E. 13th St. downtown.

**What:** Neighborhood Watch Program Meeting

**When:** Thursday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2005

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**Contact Person-** Area Coordinator Committee Chair

Jennifer Maddox-  
[jkmaddox@hotmail.com](mailto:jkmaddox@hotmail.com)



## Status of the Proposed "Grotto Trail"

January 2005

### Background on the Trail

The Fisher's Creek Neighborhood Association (FCNA) has been working the development of a trail access route to the area formerly known as the "Grotto" for a couple of years. Support for this came from both formal and informal discussions throughout the FCNA neighborhood. The Grotto Trail Project is a proposal to extend the current path (located between the new park and 180th Avenue near the center of the neighborhood behind Hiddenbrook Terrace homes along Fishers Creek) down to an area known as the "Grotto," on the southwest side of the neighborhood. This would be at no cost to the homeowners, as the Vancouver/Clark County Parks Department agreed to incur all costs and liability. Last year, the FCNA began to focus more time and attention to the development of the Grotto Trail.

In June 2004, the FCNA published a report on the proposed trail (available online at the FCNA website: [www.fisherscreek.org](http://www.fisherscreek.org)). The report outlined the proposal and addressed some of the issues by citing valid independent research from various public agencies and educational institutions. The report concluded that the development of the trail would be a positive enhancement to the neighborhood for a variety of reasons. Cont...

Grotto cont. It had been determined that the best location to construct the trail (essentially a narrow footpath no more than 3 feet in width) was adjacent to Fisher's Creek on the north side. The property is owned by the Hiddenbrook Community Association (HCA), who would have to grant the Parks Department an easement in order to build the trail.

In the meantime, the property on which the "Grotto" was located was purchased by a local developer. The developer's intent was to build high-end townhomes on the property, which would be a gated community without public access. Although homes will be built on the property, portions of the wooded area along Fisher's Creek would remain, and a trail through this area constructed at the expense of the developer.

The ultimate plan was to connect the developer's trail to a trail constructed along the HCA property. This would provide a continuous trail network in the neighborhood, and the *only* public access to the old "Grotto" area.

### Support & Opposition to the Trail

At about the same time the FCNA's report was published, a small group of individuals opposing the trail began to go door-to-door in the HCA neighborhood soliciting petitions opposing the development of the trail. Much of the opposition came from some of the few homeowners living on the north side of Fisher's Creek, along with others who resided in homes on the south side in the Gentry's development. Apparently, they collected a number of signatures (unknown what the exact number was) in opposition. These were subsequently presented to the HCA Board.

Following this, volunteers from the FCNA conducted a door-to-door campaign in the HCA neighborhood providing copies of its report, answering questions, and discussing the proposal. The FCNA also circulated a petition of *support*, along with a petition in which those who signed the original opposing petition could *withdraw* their opposition.

Continued ...

Grotto cont.

The results were:

Petition Supporting the Trail: 59 households (77 signatures)

Petition Withdrawing & Now Supporting: 27 households (41 signatures)

*Total Supporting the Trail: 86 households (118 signatures)*

Unfortunately, the HCA Board was unwilling to accept either the FCNA's petitions in support, or those of the opposition. In addition, the HCA Board had a number of questions concerning the potential trail, and wanted an opportunity to have these addressed directly by public officials and others.

The result was that the majority of homeowners living in the HCA neighborhood supported the proposed "Grotto Trail." In addition, 83 individuals from outside the HCA (but living in the FCNA neighborhood) signed the petition in support of the trail.

### **Decision by the Hiddenbrook Community Association**

Following this, last summer the FCNA formally presented the results of its petition to the HCA Board. In August 2004, the FCNA sponsored a townhall-type meeting concerning the proposed trail. All interested residents of the HCA were invited to attend and ask questions. Representatives from the Parks Department, Vancouver Police Department, Vancouver City Attorney's Office, FCNA Board members, Nelson Development (the developer of the "Grotto" property) and other public officials were on hand to answer questions and address concerns.

It was agreed at the conclusion of the meeting that the Parks Department would meet (on-site) with the residents living on the north side of Fisher's Creek, as well as other interested HCA residents, to specifically map out a trail route that would have the least impact on those residents. This was done in October.

### **Current Status of the Proposed Trail**

Not long after the meeting, the HCA Board advised the FCNA that it would only grant an easement if the majority of HCA homeowners approved it. In November 2004, the HCA Board distributed a ballot measure with background information on the proposed trail. The document included statements both in support and in opposition to the trail. The Board asked residents to vote during its November meeting.

Although the HCA has not formally notified the FCNA of the results, information provided by one member of the HCA Board was that 50 ballots were cast: 25 in support and 25 against. This represents more than a third of the residents, but falls well short of the majority. The FCNA has been told that the HCA Board will give residents another opportunity to vote by January 15, 2005.

The FCNA continues to support the proposed "Grotto Trail," as an additional amenity to this wonderful neighborhood. It is hoped that the homeowners will make an informed decision based on the facts. Even after the homes have been built on the old "Grotto" property, attractive and serene green spaces will remain untouched along Fisher's Creek. Since this area will be private property with no public access, development of a trail would be the *only* access.

Should it fail, residents the FCNA neighborhood will never again be able to enjoy this beautiful area.

## Survey Questions- Thanks for participating

In order to increase participation in 2005 we want to ask some questions regarding special events.

1. Circle the events you plan on participating in 2005.  
Picnic - Easter Egg Hunt in the Park – 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade – Dump Day- Caroling – Garage Sale
2. Specify two of your favorite events \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_
3. If we do the neighborhood picnic- circle location you prefer? Park or School
4. Do you wish to volunteer for any of the above events this year? Yes or No
5. Do you feel that the FCNA should spend time and energy providing these activities?  
Y N
6. Suggestions \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

The next few questions are regarding grant monies sometimes available from the city.

1. Do you feel we should spend time and energy pursuing grant dollars from the city?  
Y N
2. Where would you like grant monies spent? Please circle  
Park Foliage/Trees Traffic control Communication Other  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Would you like to see a community resource board erected at the Fisherscreek Park?  
Y N

Regarding the newsletter/website

1. Do you find the newsletter (please circle one) Helpful and Useful Waste of paper
2. Delivery of Newsletter would be best if Emailed or Mailed or Hand delivered
3. Do you go to the FCNA website? Daily Weekly Monthly Yearly Never
4. Do you find the website a valuable resource Y N

Do you wish to volunteer for the board or a committee? Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Number or email \_\_\_\_\_ Thanks again for your input.

Schdvh#wdsh#forvhg/#vwdps#dqg#pdlo#  
Wkdqn# | rx#djdlq#iru# | rxu#sdwlf lsdwlrq#

From \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Stamp  
here

(Optional)

SEND TO:

Rachelle Moehring  
3809 SE 182<sup>nd</sup> Ct.  
Vancouver WA 98683

Thanks.

Survey Results  
FCNA Jan. 2005

**Survey results**