



PORT GARNER NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION NEWS

www.portgardner.net

There are no neighborhood meetings in July and August.
NEXT PGNA MEETING
Monday, Sept. 9 at 7pm
Jackson School
3700 Federal Avenue
HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!



SOCIALIZE AND ORGANIZE

Celebrate National Night Out! Tuesday, August 6, 2013

In 1984, National Night Out was founded, based on the idea that a connected neighborhood is a safer neighborhood. The primary objectives of the evening are to promote involvement in crime prevention activities, foster police-community partnerships, create neighborhood camaraderie and send a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back. Now, after 30 years, National Night Out is a nation-wide tradition and our neighborhood is a part of it!

The Port Gardner Neighborhood Association is sponsoring gatherings at two places: Kiwanis Park, starting at 5:30pm and at Rucker Hill Park, starting at 5pm. Catch up with old neighbors, and get to know new ones on your street. Play some games and meet the kids from your block. Throughout the evening, representatives from the Police and Fire Departments and city officials will be on hand to hear your ideas and concerns and share tips on building a more connected neighborhood.

LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ALL THERE!!

RUCKER HILL PARK GATHERING

On the corner of Niles and Laurel
5:00-8:30pm

Bring: your own picnic dinner to grill, and a side dish or dessert to share, lawn chairs and beverages.
(Please no alcohol!)

We provide: Grills, paper goods, cutlery, and water.

Activities: Bouncy House, relay games,
White Elephant exchange (bring a desirable gift worth 5-10 dollars)

Volunteers needed: **Contact Yvonne Ricker**
425-233-2558, or yricker@msn.com

KIWANIS PARK CELEBRATION

On the corner of 36th Street and Rockefeller
5:30- 8:30pm

Bring: a picnic dinner and blanket to sit on the grass.

We provide: Refreshments and dessert.

Activities: Balloon maker and chalk for the kids.

Volunteers needed: **Contact Claire Griffith**
425.258.1227, or clairegriffith@comcast.net

FORGOTTEN CREEK SECURITY

ILLEGAL TREE CUTTING - WE NEED THE NEIGHBORHOOD'S HELP!

Recently there has been some illegal cutting of city-owned trees on the hillside above Forgotten Creek. This contributes to bank destabilization, damages or destroys restoration plants which the trees fall on, reduces shade for the shade-tolerant plants we use in restoration, eliminates habitat for birds, produces ugly scars, and is **illegal**. Those of you in the neighborhood who regularly walk the trail have been terrific about picking up litter along the way. If you should see or hear any tree trimming or cutting in the ravine, please add calling to report it as another of your good deeds. I can be reached at Bob Jackson, 425 303-0127 or bjacksonjmurphy@aol.com.

Calling 911 is always an option. Thanks.

The Pigeon Creek Trail is CLOSED for repairs July 1-3, July 8-12

THE NEIGHBORHOOD DIRT IS BACK! Check out page 4

IMPORTANT MEETINGS IN JULY

Agendas for City Council, Planning Commission, School Board and Port of Everett meetings are usually not available in time for our Newsletter. **Please check the websites a few days ahead to confirm.**

PORT OF EVERETT Waterfront Center 1205 Craftsman Way Blue Heron Room

July 9 5:00 pm

Check <http://www.portofeverett.com/home/index.asp?page=193> for Agendas and <http://www.portofeverett.com/home/index.asp?page=255> for podcasts of Port of Everett meetings.

EVERETT CITY COUNCIL Everett City Hall 3002 Wetmore Avenue Everett City Council Chambers

July 10, 17 at 6:30pm July 24 at 12:30pm

Check <http://www.everettwa.org/default.aspx?ID=10> for Agendas and podcasts of Everett City Council Meetings

EVERETT SCHOOL BOARD Educational Service Center 4730 Colby Avenue Board Room

July 2 at 4:30pm Check <http://www.boarddocs.com/wa/waesd/Board.nsf/Public> for Agendas.

EVERETT PLANNING COMMISSION Silver Lake Elementary School 12815 Bothell-Everett Highway

July 16 at 6:30pm

- 1.) Workshop presentation by property owner on a proposal plan for 105 townhouse development north of Silver Lake.
- 2.) Workshop presentation by city staff on proposed draft recreational marijuana zoning regulations.
- 3.) Public Hearing amendment to zoning code for off-street parking for senior citizen housing.

COUNCIL OF NEIGHBORHOODS UPDATE

Council Administrator Deb Williams spoke on behalf of President Moore. Citizens wishing to contact Everett City Council members may email Council@everett.wa.gov.

Most council members are visiting neighborhoods to introduce themselves and to hear citizen concerns.

Councilmember Brenda Stonecipher initiated the request for a presentation by Puget Sound Air Agency and other officials regarding possible toxic dust raised by demolition at the Kimberly Clark Mill Site. The city now will be receiving quarterly updates.

There are many activities this month including the Casino Road Football Camp for kids ages 7-14. Four hundred kids are expected to participate in this week-long camp.

Paul Roberts is serving as Everett's liaison to the Association of WA. Cities, where he is working with other cities to determine how to best create nuisance abatement policies. He continues to represent the city on the Sound Transit Board.

Alan Giffen, City Planning Director continues to work on the 2025 Comprehensive Plan. This will affect density and development throughout the city. Check out http://www.everettwa.org/Get_PDF.aspx?PDFID=932 for more information.

Sara Oishi announced that there will be a Summer CERT training session, July 22-August 15, Monday and Thursday mornings 9am to noon. Contact Sara at the Emergency Management Services 425.257.8700 or everetteoc@ci.everett.wa.us for full details.

Jan Meston of the Planning Department stated that there is a Fair Housing Survey available on line. This will be used by HUD to help examine barriers to fair housing. Contact the Fair Housing Center or Human Rights Commission if you have a complaint or concern about discrimination.

Eileen Simmons, Everett Public Library Service spoke briefly about the summer reading program. A mainstay of youth programs, now it is being offered for adults. Contact the Library for information, <http://www.epls.org>. The city is proceeding with the Evergreen Branch Library expansion feasibility study, and expects results near the end of August.

There are many charities asking for your dollar. Many fail to put much money to relief efforts, and more is spent on administrative expenses and some high salaries. Choose who you donate to wisely. Visit CharityNavigator.org to protect yourself from scam foundations.

Law enforcement has spoken about Crimemapping.com. This tool allows you to input your address and evaluate crime in your immediate neighborhood. This seems to be a very valuable tool for our neighbors.

A DEPOT PARK THANK YOU!

On Saturday, June 16th – Depot Park was filled with over a dozen energetic volunteers. The tasks at hand on that summer morning were spreading topsoil, pulling weeds and planting of masses of geraniums. Linden and Diane send out a big thank you to everyone who participated including: Jennifer Crossen and County Youth, Jean Jackson, and Deroy and Linda Mahagan. And Depot Park was visited by another group of hard workers on Saturday the 29th. A very special group of women from Boeing spiffed up the park with some pruning weeding and general maintenance.

Be sure to stop by the bottom of Bond Street to enjoy the flowers and take in the view!

SUMMERTIME SAFETY – START A BLOCK WATCH!!

The key to having a safer neighborhood is its neighbors. If you have been concerned about safety issues on your street, now it is time to take action. Starting a Block Watch is easy – just follow these simple steps:

CONTACT YOUR NEIGHBORS

It starts with knocking on doors. Canvass your surrounding neighbors to see if they are interested in participating in a Block Watch. Plan a meeting to get to know each other, and to choose a Block Captain and Co-Captain, people who would be responsible for creating a street database and interacting with the Everett Police Department.

SHARE INFORMATION

Once you have your group – share your information. It is

vital to know everyone's name, street and email addresses, and contact telephone numbers. In the event of a problem or concern, members can easily get in touch with each another.

PARTNER WITH THE POLICE

The Everett Police Department is committed to working with residents on helping us make our neighborhood a safer place. There is a wealth of information on forming a Block Watch group online at

<http://www.ci.everett.wa.us/default.aspx?ID=1809>.

ENJOY YOURSELF !

A Block Watch not only helps combat crime, it builds community as well. This is a great opportunity to get to know your neighbors and socialize too !

ADD SOME "SPARK" TO OUR NEIGHBORHOOD

Do you have some ideas on how to build community or create an event to foster neighbor-to-neighbor connection? Well, the City of Everett and the Office of Neighborhoods is willing to help!

If you need a little bit of cash for a neighborhood improvement project or to support a community event, consider applying for a Community Sparks Grant through the City of Everett Office of Neighborhoods.

Up to \$250 is available per project, to be matched by community volunteer hours and community donations. These matching grants allow individual Everett residents to carry out projects such as:

- launch community building projects that bring neighbors together (Little Free Libraries, etc.)
- spark community dialogue, mutual support and exchange (game night with the neighbors)
- encourage neighborhood disaster preparedness (learn about Map Your Neighborhood)
- support Block Watch or National Night Out events
- host multicultural appreciation and diversity awareness events
- make improvements to local parks or community areas
- foster neighbor to neighbor connections and fun times (like a pie bake-off or a mini mutt strut)

It's all about having fun and making links with Everett neighbors and community residents who might not otherwise get connected. Not sure if your idea would qualify for funds? Just give the Office of Neighborhoods a call.

For more information, contact Wendy McClure, Coordinator, Everett Office of Neighborhoods at 425 257-8717 or wmclure@everettwa.gov

WE NEED YOU – AND YOUR IDEAS

***Do you have any suggestions for speakers or topics you'd like addressed at our PGNA meetings?
Please contact any Board member (contact info is on page 5) and let us know your ideas!***

THE NEIGHBORHOOD DIRT

by Christina Robertson

The internet is a dark and dangerous place. It lures you in, appealing to those yearnings you successfully ignore most of the time. But in a moment of weakness, say, a long boring Memorial Day weekend with nothing interesting to do, a girl can be sucked into the vortex of endless online possibilities.

“Pssst...” the computer whispers. “Take a look at this.” A few short mouse clicks, and there they are: pages, and pages of the most gorgeous specimens, all shapes and sizes, wanting to go home with **YOU!**

And then you spy that one, the blond with the most perfect face, the fellow you didn’t even know you’d been secretly longing for: a Labrador/Shepherd puppy, waiting for adoption.

Oh, but he was irresistible. Short and squat, with small, floppy ears, a little tail that hung like a dandelion, a wide, dark smoochable muzzle, and the deep, earnest eyes of a very wise soul. Too young yet to travel, (note to self: HINT!), he was still with his mama and sibling in foster care in Yakima, being offered by a puppy-rescue group. After I passed muster as a qualified pet-owner via an online adoption application, it was arranged that we would meet on June 8 for the transfer. He would be 7 weeks old on that day.

I could hardly wait - I was so ecstatic. I e-mailed family and friends, posted his pictures on Facebook, hauled out and cleaned Molly’s old chew toys, and set in a supply of healthful puppy meals and snacks. I already envisioned me and my handsome new beau going for long walks every day, heading out on exciting road trips and having far-flung campground adventures.

The night before I was to pick him up, I couldn’t sleep at all I was so excited. Nervous too; I knew I was in for a couple of weeks of interrupted sleep until he was potty trained. I knew the cats would take a while to warm up, but I figured they would recognize he was just a youngster and look kindly on their new little brother. **Fat chance.** They took one look, one long sniff, hissed, shot me looks clearly displaying their feelings of abject betrayal, and headed upstairs where I rarely saw them for the duration. But I digress...

The drive to Easton was gorgeous, I pulled into the parking lot and there he was, snuggled in the fellow’s arms, looking surprisingly smaller than he appeared in the pictures they had sent me. Alot smaller in fact. A blond, thickly furred, little canned ham. But, oh that face. I was instantly and hopelessly in love. As I picked him up and he licked and snarled me, I was hit with the intoxicating scent of perfect puppy breath, literally one of the sweetest smells in the world, don’t ask me why. We headed home, him sound asleep next to me and me envisioning our future journeys.

Did I mention he was only 7 weeks old? And did I mention that absolutely everyone I talked to said most puppies should never head out into the world until they are at least 10 weeks old, preferably 12? A 7-week old puppy is basically an infant, an infant that can RUN. An infant that can bite, chew and scream bloody murder if left alone even for one second. Even while sitting on the bath mat 12 inches away, clearly seeing me through the transparent shower curtain, clearly hearing me sing to, talk to and cajole him. Still screaming bloody murder. **Oh, dear.**

I have had two dogs before in my life: Lucy, the coolest black Lab ever. Not truly a dog, at her core, she was really a wise intellectual who just happened to be unfairly stuck in a dog suit. She potty trained

immediately, and her only doggyish bad habit was eating the heels off my most expensive shoes while she was teething. She was with me all through my 30’s.

Then came Molly, a 4 month-old black Lab/Irish Wolfhound mix. She was such a DOG, a huge, happy bundle of humor and energy; she could spring 4 feet up in the air from a standing position just so she could look in the window at us. Her puppyhood included eating the covers and spines off of dozens of my books – cookbooks were a favorite. Her life span covered my 40’s.

I am now in my 50’s. Not nearly as able to withstand lack of sleep as I was when younger. Can’t really handle it at all, I quickly learned. And I had already started Day One with a full night’s sleep deficit.

My plan for nighttimes was to bring him outside for one last round, then have his crate next to the bed for easy access. It seemed to work ok; he would whine for just a minute or two then sleep soundly for about 3 ½ - 4 hours before stirring. At that point I would get him out and carry him downstairs and outside for a potty. Once back in, knowing he was devoid of liquid, I simply placed him on the bed where he played and chewed for a few minutes then slept again – usually on my head, for another 3-4 hours. He was way too young to just leave crated someplace like the laundry room; neither of us could have endured his lonely misery.

By the end of Day Three, feeling half-dead from sleep deprivation - nauseated, headachy and weepy – it was dawning that I had months of this schedule ahead of me. A quick internet search delivered the bad news that I should have found out before I started this. You see, dogs are unable to start potty training until 12 weeks old - they are physically unable to control their muscles until then. I’d never make it.

Here I was, lucky enough to have found the sweetest, most adorable young dog – smart, playful, mellow, and perfect in every way - and I couldn’t do it. The awful, terrible, horrible, depressing, guilt-inducing thought was already forming: I could not hang in there long enough to get him through infancy to adulthood. He would have to go back, and fast while he was still highly- adoptable and while they still had his mother and sibling for him to return to. I wanted to cause him the least trauma possible, even though I was already completely attached to the little guy. This fiasco was all my fault and I had to undo it.

So I called the people, they had no problem taking him back, and on Day 5 he was on his way back to Yakima. After seeing him off, I cried all the way home.

I had named him Cooper. And part of me will miss him forever.





THE SOCIAL CALENDAR

ONGOING EVENTS

- SUNDAYS** **Everett Farmer's Market** 1728 W. Marine View Drive 11am-4pm
 The freshest farm products in Snohomish County, fresh flowers, delicious baked goods and unique works by local artisans. until October 6th RAIN OR SHINE <http://everettfarmersmarket.net>
- UNTIL 8/25** **The Forest Park Animal Farm** 802 E. Mukilteo Blvd 10am-4pm
 Visit all our barnyard friends: sheep, ducks, hens, rabbits, calves and pigs. Donations are greatly appreciated to help pay for food and barnyard maintenance. <http://www.everettwa.org/default.aspx?ID=507>
- UNTIL 9/5** **Jetty Island Days** 10th and W. Marine View Dr. M-Th:10-6:00pm Fri/Sat:10-9pm Sun:10-7pm
 Take a free ferry and enjoy the day. Wriggle your toes in the warm sand, play in the water and explore the nature trails of Everett's two-mile long scenic gem. Everett Residents can call ahead and reserve a space - try 425-257-8304. Parking is \$3 Thurs. – Sunday. <http://www.portofeverett.com/home/index.asp?page=87>
- UNTIL 8/22** **Children's Concert Series** Thornton A. Sullivan Park 11405 Silver Lake Road Thurs.: 10-11am
 Join us for a fun-filled, toe-tapping, rockin'good time on the shore of Silver Lake. Bring your friends, blankets, chairs and be ready to sing and dance. Silver Lake offers a playground next to the stage area, a sandy beach and swim area, picnic tables, restrooms and is ADA accessible. <http://www.ci.everett.wa.us/default.aspx?ID=1120>
- UNTIL 8/29** **Music in the Park Waterfront Concerts** 1700 West Marine View Drive at 18th Street
 Thursdays: 6:30-8:30pm Saturdays: 6:00-8:00pm Sundays: 2:00-4:00pm
 Everett's Port Gardner Landing offers a great concert venue with plenty of parking, ADA access, and public restrooms. Bring your picnic and blanket or chair. <http://www.ci.everett.wa.us/default.aspx?ID=1124>

SPECIAL EVENTS

- August 10** **Mutt Strutt** Langus Riverfront Park 400 Smith Island Saturday 10am-2pm
 One mile community dog walk with free bandanas for participants, displays, competitions and prizes. Snohomish County and Everett Animal Shelter will provide free micro-chipping for dogs and cats from 10-noon. Dogs and cats from rescue organizations will be available for adoption. For more info <http://www.everettwa.org/muttstrut/>

THE 2013-2014 PORT GARDNER NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD				CITY STAFF: OFFICE OF NEIGHBORHOODS Wendy McClure wmclure@everettwa.gov 425-257-8717
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