

TRUMAN NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

February 22, 2018, 6:30-8:00 pm

Truman Neighborhood Association General Meeting at the American Legion Hall, Smith Reynolds Post #14, 4607 NE St. James Road.



It is that time of year for our Truman Neighborhood Association Council elections. Please join your neighbors at the February 22, 2018, meeting. Your voice and support is vital to our community.

February 22 Meeting Agenda

- ◆ Check-In to receive a ballot.
Bring ID with proof of address to show you are Truman resident.
- ◆ Treasurer Report
- ◆ Introductions of council candidates
- ◆ Voting & ballots collected
- ◆ Update on projects
- ◆ Vancouver Schools—Update on Truman Elementary project status
- ◆ Election Results
- ◆ Social time

2018 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 24th Truman Neighborhood Association General Meeting.

June 1st Truman Neighborhood Bicycle Safety Fun Fair at Truman Elementary School

July 20th & 21st Annual Truman Neighborhood Yard Sale

August National Night Out Against Crime

September 9th Our 6th Annual Truman Neighborhood Community BBQ at Truman Elementary School

Clark County Sheriff's Office Public Safety Day (Date to be determined)

October 25th Truman Neighborhood Association General Meeting



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2018 TNA Council Candidate Statements

David Benedicktus - I have served on the council since 2010 supporting neighborhood clean-up events, working with the county to address the impact of the abandoned homes in our neighborhood and growing the relationship with Truman Elementary School PTA and local community partners. I look forward to working with school district and county agencies addressing traffic safety issues for the new Truman School construction.

Barb Cabe – I have been a resident of the Truman neighborhood for 32 years. I have served on the Truman Neighborhood Council for ten years after reactivating our neighborhood. I have actively volunteered at our annual Bicycle Safety Fun Fair, our annual TNA barbecue, CCSO Open House, and neighborhood parks clean up. I serve as liaison to the Truman PTA and School, liaison to CCSO Citizen Advisory Board, and represent TNA at the Neighborhood Associations Council of Clark County (NACCC) and serve as NACCC's Secretary. I am committed to helping make our neighborhood a great place to raise our families and encourage neighbors to become involved in that process.

Cherryl Burkey – I have lived in the Truman Neighborhood since 2012 and served on the Council for 4 years. I have chaired the yard sale committee for 3 years and the Helping Hands Project for 2 years. I also volunteer at Truman Elementary, tutoring 5th-grade math and am a neighborhood coordinator for the Clark Neighborhood Green Bag Food project. I would love to continue on the Council to support and grow our wonderful Truman Neighborhood, bringing neighbors together and strengthening our neighborhood bond.

Margaret Snitzler – I have been in the neighborhood 45 years and served on the council since 2008. I have volunteered at the bicycle fun fair and annual BBQ. I would like to continue on the council to help make our community more livable and safe.

Candy Plaster - I have lived in the Truman neighborhood for 40 years and served on the Council for several years. I appreciate our diverse neighborhood and am thankful for the people who participate in our activities. I believe we have a strong sense of community and neighbors who genuinely care about each other. I would appreciate the opportunity to serve again on TNA Council and continue building on the foundation we have as a community.

Kenneth Rose - I have been co-chair with my wife Sally of the annual Truman BBQ the past six years. I have done graffiti removal for five years to improve the appearance of the neighborhood. I have served as a council member since 2014. I was a council member 1998- 2001 on the original TNA council.

Donna Benedicktus - I am a 31-year resident Truman Neighborhood. I've served on the council for three years. I've volunteered in the Truman elementary school Lunch Buddy Program for five years, the yearly Truman elementary bicycle safety fun fair and the TNA yearly picnic. I love our neighborhood and would like to continue to help make it an even better place to live.

Terri Risling – I have lived in the Truman community since 1987 and serve on the Council for 3 years. I volunteer at Truman Elementary as a reading tutor, a lunch buddy, helping kindergartners on the first days of school and many other programs/ events. I would like to continue working for our neighborhood and for my neighbors to keep us together, strong and safe.

Sally Rose - With my husband Ken, I have co-chaired the annual Truman BBQ the past six years. I have served as a council member since 2014. I'm interested in making the neighborhood more neighborly by encouraging people to help each other.

Council information from our ByLaws (Article 8, Section 1): The Council shall consist of nine (9) members; Four officers: Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer, with an additional five (5) as Council members-at-large. Once the nine council members are elected, they shall elect four officers listed above from their ranks at the first convened Council meeting following the Association election meeting. The Council may choose to appoint more members as needed to lead large or special volunteer projects.

Elections (Article 10, Section 1): Elections for Council members shall take place at the first Association meeting of the calendar year. Announcement of the slate of candidates to appear on the ballot for election to the Council shall be published in the Truman Neighborhood Association newsletter, mailed prior to the first calendar year Association meeting.

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS—CRIME & SAFETY

"WARM-UP THEFTS" - DON'T LEAVE YOUR CAR RUNNING AND UNATTENDED!

From Marilee McCall, Neighborhood Relations Coordinator, Clark County

There have been two recent car thefts in the Hockinson area, according to a Flash Alert received from the Clark County Sheriff's office. In both incidents, the victims' vehicles were "warming up" and left unattended. It is a winter ritual to take extra time each day to get outside and scrape windows and get our cars warmed up before we prepare to leave. To assure that you can see clearly (and that others can see you, too) it's important to take that extra time to completely clear the snow and ice from ALL of your windows prior to moving your car. **Don't forget to clear your headlights and taillights as well.**

The time of day you go outside to start your car as well as the amount of time you leave it running are both observable to anyone "staking out" a neighborhood. If you aren't vigilant in protecting your property, the thief can watch your patterns for a few days and then wait for you to start your car and then go back into your home "for just a few minutes", giving them the opportunity to jump in and take off with a nicely warmed-up vehicle that's already running. There is an unquestionable link between ease of a possible theft and rate of theft. So let's make it tougher for thieves to take your car!

Following these simple tips will help keep your car safe:

- ◆ Never leave your car running or the keys in the ignition when you are away from it, even for "just a minute."
- ◆ Keep valuables out of sight or in the trunk. Purses, credit cards, and cell phones in plain view only help attract thieves.
- ◆ Always roll up the windows and lock your car, even if it is in your driveway, garage, or in front of your home. Never leave the vehicle title in your car. If stolen, it makes it easier for the thief to dispose of your vehicle. It can also make you a target for identity theft.
- ◆ Be alert when approaching your car, have a plan of action, and have your keys in your hand. Check around, under, and in your vehicle for suspicious individuals. Immediately leave the scene to get help if you have any concerns for your safety.
- ◆ Only park your car in busy, well-lit areas.
- ◆ Install a mechanical locking device - commonly called a club, collar, or j-bar - that locks to the steering wheel, column, or brake.
- ◆ If your vehicle has an alarm or other anti-theft device, USE IT.

Additionally, Washington State Law states that it is illegal to leave your car running and unattended: RCW 46.61.600 - Unattended motor vehicle. (1) No person driving or in charge of a motor vehicle shall permit it to stand unattended without first stopping the engine, locking the ignition, removing the key and effectively setting the brake thereon and, when standing upon any perceptible grade, turning the front wheels to the curb or side of the highway.

You should also read your car insurance policy carefully.

Some insurance carriers may have language in the coverage to exclude the policyholder from claiming a loss if they have left the car running and unattended in the driveway with the keys in the ignition and doors unlocked. Note any language about the policyholder being liable if he or she "increases the risk of theft" (like leaving your car running unattended).

COMMUNITY CRIME MAP

At our October 2017 meeting, CCSO Sgt. Kevin Allais presented information on the new LexisNexis® Community Crime Map.

Many of you may have already gone into the site and seen the reports for our neighborhood along with reports for other neighborhoods. If you have had problems navigating the site, here are a few easy directions:

- A. Access the site from your browser with:

www.communitycrimemap.com

There will be a gray menu on the left side of the screen and a U.S. Map on the right side; Just click on the state of Washington; Then select Clark County from the drop down menu.

- B. From the gray menu on the left, select Agency Layers. This will give you a drop down menu.

Under the Vancouver Police Department, check the box for NBRAssociations – this will highlight/outline all the different neighborhoods

- C. From the gray menu on the left, select Event .

This will give you a drop down menu where you can check mark which crime reports you would like to view.

You can scroll over and enlarge the map of our neighborhood. It is important to remember that it may take a few days for the incident reports from the police/sheriff to be filed and uploaded to this site. Once you are comfortable with these steps, go ahead and try some of the other menu selections.

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS — CRIME & SAFETY

ALERT: MAILBOX THEFTS

by Barb Cabe

While things have been relatively quiet in the Truman neighborhood for the past several months, we are receiving reports of a lot of mailbox thefts all over the neighborhood. The primary target is the "cluster mailboxes" scattered throughout the neighborhood. Thieves have been using wrenches, screwdrivers or similar tools to break the locks on these boxes. It seems to be happening between the time the mail is delivered until the neighbor returns home in the evening.

If this happens to you, it is **imperative** you go to the post office to report the break-in and the damaged lock. You will need to ask the post office to do a mail hold which is free for 30 days. Some neighbors have placed a "spinner ring" on their existing lock; you use the same key. These are available for about \$10 from Harry Locksmith downtown Vancouver. It does seem to make a difference and is more difficult to break into.



For those of you interested, you can go to Nextdoor.com and sign up to be a part of Truman Nextdoor where we have over 600 neighbors participating. This is where most of our crime watch information is shared. We encourage you to consider signing up for Truman Nextdoor and be aware of what is happening. We encourage neighbors to share about what is happening around them. We have found this option works very well and we think you might like it. It is much more than crime reporting, it is neighbors sharing a lot of different topics and useful information.

If you see anything suspicious, please call 311 and report it on the CCSO website as an online crime report: <https://www.clark.wa.gov/sheriff/file-crime-report>

If you are seeing a break in, call 911. Please do not attempt to approach anyone. It's likely they will move on to the next set of mailboxes, and perhaps the deputy can catch them in the act.

WINTER FIRE & HOME SAFETY

by David Benedicktus

Working smoke alarms save lives! No residence should be without working smoke alarms on every level of the home and outside each sleeping area. Clark County Fire & Rescue will provide and install smoke alarms, in an owner-occupied home, if the homeowner is a senior citizen, disabled, or living on a fixed income. Personnel are also available to inspect and install resident purchased smoke alarms in any residence within fire district boundaries.

Since we are most vulnerable to the effects of carbon monoxide poisoning while we sleep, it is important to place alarms near your family's bedrooms. If you only have one CO alarm, place it as close to everyone's sleeping area as possible. Ideally, you should have carbon monoxide detectors placed throughout your home, as you do smoke alarms. You should place a CO detector in each major area of your home: in the kitchen, in your living/dining room, in your bedrooms, and the office. If you have children or elderly family members living with you, provide extra protection near their rooms. If you live in a multi-story home, be sure to place at least one carbon monoxide detector on each level. The recommended height for placement is no more than 5 feet off the floor.

Clark County Fire Marshal

Phone [\(360\) 397-2186](tel:3603972186),

Email firemar@clark.wa.gov

NEIGHBORS ON WATCH (NOW) HAS BEEN RENAMED

The Neighbors on Watch program is now called the Sheriff's Auxiliary. For more information or to receive a CCSO Auxiliary application, please contact:

Kasey Frazier

Kasey.Frazier@clark.wa.gov



NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS – LOCAL

TRUMAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL GARDEN COMING IN THE SPRING

by Cherryl Burkey

Truman Elementary has been granted funds to buy 4 classroom raised garden beds. These will be bought at cost from Shurway Lumber who will assemble them for us and Yard and Garden has agreed to donate soil for the beds. This is a project Michelle Ames, the Family Community Resource Coordinator, has been working on since last year to implement at the school. What a great opportunity for the children to learn where vegetable actually come from (not just the store), to be able to take some food home and taste fresh vegetables they grew themselves. This is a positive impact we can have in our community and with the next generation.

Volunteers Needed: We need some people with trucks to help pick up the raised garden beds and deliver them to the school and also people help fill the beds with soil. Do you have gardening skills? We could really use 4 classroom volunteers to be connected to a specific class/teacher to help the kids do the gardening. (To volunteer with the classrooms you would need to complete a background check with the Vancouver School District. There is no cost to you.)

Home vegetable gardening is becoming a thing of the past. Help us pass this vital skill on to our children. If you would like to help please email us at: trumanneighborhood@gmail.com.



2017 HELPING HANDS PROJECT A RECORD BREAKING SUCCESS

by Cherryl Burkey

Thanks to the generosity of our Truman Neighbors and several large donations we were able to purchase much needed warm clothing for **10** children from Truman Elementary. This surpasses our helping 8 children 2 years ago. We had several new volunteers for shopping this year and they said they had a fun time. It was great meeting a couple of new neighbors - after shopping we ended up in the parking lot just talking (it was a nice sunny day).

Thank you to our shopping volunteers: Kathy Robertson, Gladys MacIntosh, Kathie Ray-Annis, Barb Cabe, Terri Risling, Anita Bauman, Cherryl Bukey. The gift bags were taken to Michelle Ames, FCRC at Truman, the so she could distribute them before the winter break. We have posted pictures on Facebook, so please check us out at Truman Neighborhood Association; the bags look so much better in color.

We also made a \$50 donation to Santa's Posse, which was approved at the October general meeting. Our donation became \$100 because of a matching donor to the program.



We are still in the process of purchasing shoes from thrift stores to gift to Truman Elementary. So far we have bought 22 pairs and only spent \$33. This was made possible by our Truman neighbor Lesa Osilla who volunteers in the shoe department at the Retails Thrift store on 4th Plain Blvd. She took the time to put aside shoes for several weeks for us to choose from – then we bought them on Senior's Day with 50% off. I will take what we have so far to Truman Elementary the first week in January. We have \$100 set aside for shoes, so we will continue to keep shopping (and washing & drying). After all, shoes are needed through out the year.

Thank you again neighbors for giving of your time and money to make this a wonderful Truman Neighborhood Holiday Tradition!

COUNCIL MEMBERS

David Benedicktus	Terri Risling
Margaret Snitzler	Sally Rose
Candy Plaster	Cherryl Burkey
Ken Rose	Donna Benedicktus
Barbara Cabe	
	Newsletter Editor
	Jennifer Kerr

If you want to email our Council members, please do so to trumanneighborhood@gmail.com, and include the Council member's name in the subject line.

Phone 360-600-2296

TRUMAN NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION PURPOSE

1. To address community issues within our boundaries
2. To form a greater sense of community between residents
3. To generate a unified voice in local government.
4. To create a sense of neighborhood ownership for all persons residing within the boundaries
5. To organize social and community enhancement events to bring the neighborhood together

All persons 18 years of age or older and businesses residing within the boundaries will be considered members of the association. This applies equally to homeowners and renters, as this is a neighborhood association not a homeowner's association.

ELECTIONS for council members will be held at our next general meeting!

Thursday, February 22, 2018 6:30 p.m.—8:30 p.m. American Legion Hall, 4607 NE St. James Rd.

Candidate statements are inside this newsletter. *Please remember to bring your I.D. with proof of address to vote!*

