



Spring Issue

Newport Hills

Community
Club
Newsletter



MARCH 2009

Mission and Objectives

The Newport Hills Community Club is a volunteer neighborhood organization that serves its membership by publishing news and information, by acting as a forum for issues that pertain to our area, by supporting and taking positive action towards community improvements and promoting regular social events throughout the year for all residents who receive the Club's newsletter.

Since the Club was formed in 1969 we rely on volunteers to accomplish our Mission and Objectives. We are 100% volunteer. Come and join us at the General Membership Meetings in March and October or Board Meetings on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:00pm at the Newport Hills Community Church, 5833 119th Ave SE, Newport Hills, WA 98006. Membership dues are voluntary and cost \$10.00 per year. **(Dues are not tax deductible because the Club is a neighborhood association.)**

Mailing Address: Newport Hills Community Club, 5806A 119th Ave SE, PMB #222, Bellevue WA 98006

Visit our website at: <http://www.newporthillscommunityclub.org>

Newport Hills Community Club Newsletter is published and funded by your voluntary yearly membership dues.

2009 Membership Drive Begins

The Club Needs Your Help!

April marks the kick-off of our 2009 membership drive. For a mere \$10 a year, your membership supports our annual events—the Spring Easter Egg Hunt, the Fourth of July Picnic, the Santa Tour—and, of course, the newsletter. Where else could you get so much bang for your buck?! Please review the enclosed membership form and envelope. This year's goal is 700 members. Help us get there--**JOIN TODAY**—and become a supporting member of our great community.

(see inside for details).

Spring Egg Hunt



Children of Newport Hills are invited to the Newport Hills Community Club Spring Egg Hunt.

April 11th, 2009
9 to 10 a.m.



Children ages 2 to 10 years old are invited to hunt for chocolate eggs and other delights scattered around the NEW Newport Heights Elementary School playground.

The hunt begins at 9 a.m. sharp—starting with the youngest children, followed by the older children in age groups. A “real” (a person sized) Bunny will show up to make it special for both children and parents. Bring your camera for family pictures.

ALERT!!

To make this family fun event a success, we need volunteers to help! Only an hour or two of your time makes this a really fun family event. Please contact Julie Rossman if you'd like to help: call 425-350-4678 or her email: vicepre@newporthillscommunityclub.org.



Holiday Lights Contest



The Newport Hills Community Club is excited to announce that Dan and Susan Ulrich at 12641 60th Ave SE, Bellevue are the 2008 winners of the Holiday Lights Contest!

The holiday lights contest is an opportunity for everyone to participate and to make our community a brighter place during the holiday season. NHCC Board Members searched the neighborhood for an outstanding light display and awarded the winner a \$25 gift certificate.

Thanks to all families who help brighten the neighborhood by decorating their homes during the 2008 season.

The NHCC BLOG Has Launched!
(see inside for details)

Visit the Newport Hills Community Club website at: <http://newporthillscommunityclub.org>

Newport Hills Community Club Executive Board and Volunteer Chairs

All members are invited to attend the monthly Board meetings held on the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Newport Hills Community Church.

The Newport Hills Community Club encourages members to become involved and welcomes your ideas and assistance with our various Club positions and activities.

Position	Volunteer	Phone #
President	Cheryl Nygaard	401-5126
Vice President	Julie Rossman	350-4678
Secretary	Debra Haraldson	681-3441
Assistant Secretary	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	
Treasurer	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	
Assistant Treasurer	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	
Past President	Gary Thramer	747-9351
NH Community Church	Pastor Paul Burnham Sr	746-8034
Newsletter Publisher Chair	Pastor Paul Burnham Sr	746-8034
Newsletter Editor Chair	Barbara Lee	614-3476
Website Chair	Grace Whiteaker	562-3096
Assistant Website Chair	Ray Osburn, Mark Chenovick	401-1505
Volunteer Appreciation	Karen Yellman	746-2978
Youth Activities Santa Tour	Michelle Hilhorst	430-1976
Youth Act Spring Egg Hunt	Julie Rossman	350-4678
Community Outreach Chair	VOLUNTEERS NEEDED	
Vice Chair- 4th of July	Lisa Viereck	852-2289
Vice Chair-Car Show	Gary Thramer	747-9351
Vice Chair- Holiday Lights	Steve Walker	644-9601
Land Use & Comm. Appearance	Steve Penner	643-9024
Membership Chair	Sandi Tampa	445-8863
Merchant Liaison Chair	Don Hunt	
Government Liaison Chair	Ray Osburn	401-1505
Public Safety Chair	Debra Haraldson	681-3441
Bellevue Liaison	Rich Dolleman	452-2879
Signage Coordinator	Bill Dennis	
Trustees	VOLUNTEERS NEEDED	
	Areas 2, 7, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20, 23, 24, 26, 28 & 29	

President's Message

Cheryl Nygaard

Newport Hills Community Club President

Newport Hills is experiencing change and my theme of "*Neighbor and Community*" is more important than ever.

The charm and character of our neighborhood was not built just by the builders of the homes. It was molded by involved community members who's heart and sweat pushed the City of Bellevue to buy the land where two of our neighborhood parks are today. It took energetic neighbors to start our 4th of July Picnic and expanded it to add the Children's Bicycle Parade. I am very proud of our neighborhood and it will take all of us to maintain our quality of life during these challenging economic times. We have an opportunity to be a driving force to determine the next era. I encourage everyone to become involved and **take action—NOW**.

Please join with me and become involved in OUR neighborhood and the Newport Hills Community Club. By giving just a little of your time, you can impact the future of not only your home, but the investment in Newport Hills and possibly have a fun time getting to know your neighbors. We all can redesign and rejuvenate *our community* and be proud of our special neighborhood. Thank you!

Newport-juventation!

Our community has received quite a shock regarding the closing of the Red Apple Market and now the Newport Hill Drug. Several meetings and conversations across fences, phone calls, emails and print media have been exchanged. Many of us feel we have lost our neighborhood center.

A group of concerned neighbors has created a **Newport Hills Rejuvenation Task Force**, who are meeting to gather information and try to identify some action steps that we as a community can take to help drive the direction for a "rejuvenation" for Newport Hills in the best interest of the community.

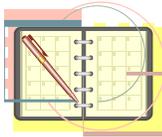
Initial efforts inquired if Trader Joe's Market might have interest. Although their initial statement said "they currently are not interested at this time." I would still encourage anyone who would like to add your voice to go to the online Location Request on Trader Joe's website and input a request for Newport Hills.

The amount of citizen response has been truly amazing. We're staying positive and looking around for possible answers.

It's important that before re-development occurs we take care not to let the parking lot become unsafe or unsightly.

It is the core of our community, and as such could become a vibrant "main street" of sustainable gathering places for residents of all ages. Swap meets, a farmers market, a hardware store, café, bookstore, PCC (Puget Consumer's CoOp), and a BCC branch have all been suggested. What are your ideas? Let us know by leaving a comment at the Newport Hills Community Club's new website blog.

Mark your calendar



The Newport Hills Community Club supports the QUALITY OF LIFE for our community by taking positive action towards community improvement and promoting social events. All Newport Hills Community residents are encouraged to become an active member by supporting the club through annual dues of \$10, participating in community events and attendance of meetings.

UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS:

Spring Egg Hunt April 11, 2009
Fourth of July Picnic/Parade July 4, 2009

UPCOMING MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS:

All Newport Hills residents are invited to attend upcoming meetings. Newport Hills Community Club meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of month at 7:00 p.m. at the Newport Hills Community Church, address: 5833 119th Ave. SE, Bellevue, WA, phone: 425.746.8034.



March 17th, 2009 — We are pleased to announce Jack McLeod, Director of Facilities and Information Technology for the Bellevue School District will be presenting plans for the old Newport Heights Elementary School and Eastside Catholic High School building.

April 21st, 2009 — Special presentation by Robert Derrick, City of Bellevue Economic Development Director and Steve Sarkozy, City Manager. In addition, Cheryl Kuhn, Neighborhood Outreach Manager and Dan Stroh, Director Planning will be available to answer question.

It is important that YOU attend!

WE Want YOU!



4th of July NHCC Picnic and Children's Parade
We want YOU to come, have fun and volunteer.

Only a couple of hours or more would make this year's event extra special. Volunteers are needed to help with several different tasks —parade, BBQ / cook helpers or help with the children's games & more. Special note to students —This is a great way to earn community service hours!

For more info please contact Lisa Viereck at 852-2289 or email Lisav@windermere.com.

Neighborhood Identification Project

Newport Hills & Lake Heights
Community Meeting Overview

Gary L. Thramer



Newport Hills & Lake Heights Neighborhood Identity Project: On February 6th the city of Bellevue received the final construction drawings for our neighborhood entrance signs. Permitting is underway and a contractor has been retained to oversee construction of the project. The Community Club is hoping to see some activity by the end of March on the actual construction phase with the landscaping to follow later in the spring.

Public Art in Neighborhoods Project: The artist has been selected and approved by the Bellevue City Council. His name is Bruce Myers. The central focus of the project will be the Newport Hills bus shelters on 119th Ave SE between SE 60th & SE 56th. Bruce has experience working artistically with of community themes of sustainability, the environment and connection as a unified thematic element—connecting people to history, the natural setting, ecology of place and to each other.

Two projects from the recently passed parks levy are in or near Newport Hills. The Newport Hills Park Field Project includes the installation of a synthetic playing surface on the existing soccer field. Construction is expected to early next year. We will host a community meeting later this spring to describe the project and timeline and ask for feedback from the community.

The second project involves Improvements to the Coal Creek Natural Area Trail System. The City has replaced four pedestrian bridges damaged in recent storms. We anticipate completing surface repairs to many of the trails throughout the Coal Creek system, install additional trail signage, and complete trail-head improvements at three locations.

Public Safety Update



We all know about the Red Apple Market leaving our neighborhood. Is a vacant building a public safety concern? It can be as it can lead to vandalism, disrepair and graffiti. When a building suffers from these ailments, people get the impression that it is not safe around it.

Surrounding businesses might lose customers as people shop elsewhere. I encourage all of you to patronize our restaurants, hair and nail salons and all other businesses that call Newport Hills home. A prospective tenant will want to see the existing businesses thriving, proving that a new store has the community support it needs. Also, keep an eye on the property. Report any suspicious activity to the police. If you see trash around the building, pick it up. Let's all pitch in to make the shopping center an attractive investment for a new business.

Newport Hills Santa Tour



December 20th was a great day for a convertible car ride to lead Santa's sleigh through Newport Hills delivering candy canes and oranges to neighborhood children! Once again

Mother Nature made things interesting for the Santa Parade by creating a winter wonderland for Santa to make his appearance this season! It felt like Christmas had truly arrived early in Newport Hills. And adding a shiny red convertible to the parade made it a memorable year! Thank you to the volunteers who assisted with this event.

Special thank you to everyone who donated to our food drive. This is only second year and we are excited to share a tally of 371 lbs of food was collected and donate to local families in need. What a great way to end 2008!



Michelle Hilhorst

Youth Co-Chair Santa Parade Coordinator

Thank You!

Your Dues Dollars At Work

⇒ 4th Of July NHCC Neighborhood Picnic and Children's Parade.



⇒ Cool Car Show



⇒ Spring Egg Hunt



⇒ 2008 Guest Speakers



- City of Bellevue Mayor, Grant Degginger
- Neighborhood Outreach Manager, Cheryl Kuhn,
- WA State Attorney General, Robert McKenna

Thank you to the following merchants and residents for their help in the 2008 Newport Hills Santa Tour:

- * Red Apple Market - Assistance with providing oranges & club discount
- * Newport Hills Pharmacy - Donation of the candy canes
- * Cornerstone Dance Studio - Donation of studio to meet and greet Santa
- * Rotary Club of Newcastle - Use of the sleigh
- * Bellevue Fire Department and Mark Vinup - Donation of time to drive fire truck through the neighborhood.

Extra Santa Helpers

Also a **BIG** Thank You to the extra Santa Helpers who donated several hours to help make this event a great success:

- * Mark Vinup
- * Gary Thramer
- * Ashwin Satpute
- * Cheryl Nygaard
- * Grant Suyaman
- * Daniel Lim
- * "Herb and his Love Bug"
- * Margaret & Tom Shilley - **Jolly Elf in Red Suit**
- * Sheila & Don Anderson
- * Grace & Mike Whiteaker
- * Taylor Suyama
- * Sandi Tampa
- * Bentley Altizer
- * Kuba Jeffers



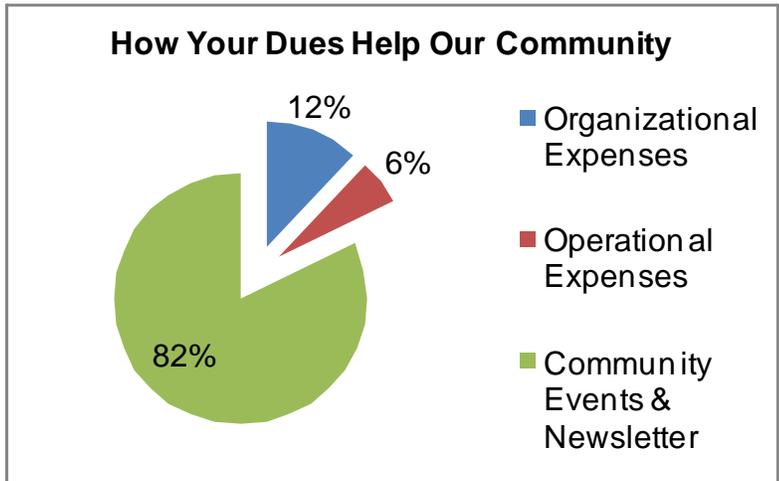


2009 Membership Drive

Please help us make 2009 a great year. We know times are tough, but investing in your community is still a priority. Without your support we can't enjoy the 4th of July Picnic, Spring Egg Hunt, and the Santa Tour. Please keep us in your budget—your \$10 dues go a long way!

Once again this year, we'll be conducting our membership drive via the newsletter. We have simplified the membership drive and by adding 2 additional ways to pay your dues:

- * **Be traditional**—mail in your dues with the completed form below using the enclosed envelope;
- * **Save a stamp**—drop your completed membership form, dues and envelope at the Newport Hills Mailbox store
- * **Go paperless**—We hope to incorporate PayPal. To learn more please visit our website:
www.newporthillscommunityclub.org



Frequently Asked Questions

Q: When does the membership year begin and end?

The club's fiscal & membership year, runs from **April 1st 2009 to March 31st 2010.**

Q: Are my dues and donations tax deductible? No. Our dues are voluntary & while we do accept donations, we are not a charitable organization (we are registered with the state and the IRS as a Neighborhood Association).

Q: Will my information be sold? No! Rest assured, your information will never be sold, auctioned, given or traded.

Only you can help us reach our 700 member goal!



Newport Hills Community Club Membership Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email address: _____

Your email will be added to our announcement list (occasionally we have time-sensitive updates to our website). You will receive a confirmation email that needs a reply. Your email address will not be given to other individuals or organizations.

Yes, I would like to volunteer _____ Dues amount is \$10
Please provide a phone number or email address

Additional donations support community events & youth activities such as 4th of July Picnic: \$ _____

Mail, or bring, dues to: Newport Hills Community Club, 5806A 119th Ave SE, PMB #222, Bellevue, WA 98006

WEB-UPDATE...

The Newport Hills Community Club blog has launched! The re-design of the community club website and movement into blog format is mostly complete.

<http://www.newporthillscommunityclub.org/>

How will it work? If you visit the same link that formerly held our website, you will now be directed to the Club's blog. The main page that comes up is a listing of the most recent entries to the site, known as posts. Each entry is a little text blurb, perhaps with a photo, with information that relates to the neighborhood in one way or another and has been posted by a Club Board Member or Chair. There might be embedded links out to other sites, news stories, etc.

When a NHCC Board Member or Chair adds a new entry, it goes at the top, pushing all the older entries down. This blog also has a right sidebar that contains additional permanent links to content that formerly made up the various pages of the website. The Chair or Board member responsible for any of these pages might update the content of the sidebar pages weekly or monthly as well as posting time sensitive information.

With this blog there are now many ways to consume neighborhood information and provide feedback to the Club and your neighbors.

You can visit the blog whenever the mood strikes you and catch up on all posts made since your last visit.

You can use RSS Syndication to be alerted whenever there are new posts to the blog or changes to the content of the permanent pages.

You can leave a comment about any post or page. The comments will need to be approved by an administrator of the blog at first, but after you have a few comments approved, you will no longer have to go through an administrator.

Come visit, check out the photos on the event pages, and leave a comment about what you like, don't like, and what you'd like to see added. We can respond to your comments as well, right in the blog.

Happy exploring!

Grace Whiteaker — NHCC Blogger

Table Tennis In Newport Hills

Every Tuesday evening from 6:30 to 8 p.m. people are gathering together to play table tennis. The club meets at Newport Hills Community Church and is organized by Jeff Adolphson. If you are interested in playing drop by the educational wing of the church building and join in the fun. Two tables are playing at the same time for table tennis enthusiasts to enjoy themselves. For more information contact Jeff at 425-753-8849.

Volunteer Spotlight



Julie Rossman

After watching our college friends move from Seattle out to the "burbs," we knew they were onto something. Dustin and Anna bought a house in the heart of Newport Hills and gave us the scoop on a terrific neighborhood. My fiancé Jed and I soon followed by purchasing a house on the same block. We bought our little ranch home last August and upgraded the electrical. And then the plumbing. And then the rest of the house. After the long construction process was complete, we finally moved in this past December. Just in time to celebrate a white Christmas.

Taking the Newport Hills experience to the max, I recently volunteered as vice-president of the Newport Hills Community Club. It is a privilege to be involved in our community and has been a great learning experience. I am extremely happy to be a part of this neighborhood. One of my goals is to help connect the younger residents of the neighborhood with those who have been lucky enough to watch the neighborhood grow and develop. Besides volunteering for the NHCC, you can find me jogging through the neighborhood, cycling when it is warmer, and cooking in my newly remodeled kitchen.

Jed, our cat Bruce, and I are excited to be moved in and officially a part of this wonderful neighborhood. I look forward to meeting our friendly neighbors.

Julie Rossman

Operation Care

With the closing of the Red Apple Market and the soon to be closing of the Newport Hills Drug store there may be a need for some of the elderly in Newport Hills to get to the grocery store and to pick up medications at a drug store.

At Newport Hills Community Church we will be coordinating rides for getting community senior citizens to the grocery or pharmacy.

**If you can volunteer to supply a ride!
Give us a call.**

**If you know someone who needs a ride!
Give us a call.**

We will put the need together with those who can help and get the need cared for.

**Newport Hills Community Church
425-746-8034**

SPRING EGG HUNT

Saturday, April 11th 2009

9:00 AM

Sponsored by your Newport Hills Community Club.

Children ages 2 to 10 are invited to come and search for the chocolate eggs and other delights at the playground of
New Newport Heights Elementary School
 5225 119th Ave SE, Bellevue.



This event begins at 9:00 AM sharp.

There will be four age group events, with the youngest children first.

If you would like to volunteer to help set up ropes and place candy, please contact Julie Rossman at (425) 350-4678 and arrive at 8:30 a.m.



Parents, remember to bring your camera to capture those lasting memories.



Parents: Remind your school age kids that volunteer work for the Newport Hills Community Club is a GREAT way to fulfill community service hours!

YMCA Update

"The Lake Heights Family YMCA is in the process of establishing their emergency preparedness plan. Each day we serve approximately 200 children here on site. The children range in age from 12 months through 12 years. In case our community experienced a catastrophic emergency we are trying to identify a HAM operator in our area that would contact our out of state YMCA number. We would be appreciative of any volunteers living near the YMCA that may be able to lend a hand during this sort of emergency."

Judy Richard

Senior Program Director Lake Heights Family YMCA
 425-644-8417 or www.lakeheightsymca.org

Senior Programs

Open to ages 55 and older meets at the YMCA facility, 12635 SE 56th St. Newport Hills.

* Tuesdays & Thursdays 9:30 am – 2 pm for community service projects, crafts, intergenerational activities, pinochle, field trips and fellowship. Sack lunches are provided by Senior Services (suggested \$3 donation).

* Exercise classes are available and ongoing. For a schedule and more information about any of these activities call 425-644-8417.

* An active Bridge group plays Tuesdays 9am-12 and Wednesdays 12-3pm. Bridge contact call 425-255-0895.

Please join us for any of our programs.

Thanks,

Betty-May Coburn



School Safety

Thank you for supporting the move of Newport Heights Elementary School from SE 56th Street to 119th Ave SE. We are extremely happy in our new state-of-the-art facility. The new facility was certainly timely because our enrollment has grown from 488 students in 2007-2008 to 543 students in 2008-2009. As you know, SE 119th Street is a busy thoroughfare. For this reason, I wanted to make you aware of the peak times that our students are coming and going.

The doors to the school open at 7:40 a.m. and class begins at 8:00 a.m. Morning peak traffic is approximately 7:30 a.m. to 8:15 a.m. Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays—Students are released from school at 2:25 p.m. Afternoon peak traffic is approx. 2:15 p.m. to 2:45 p.m. On Wednesdays, students are released at 12:05 p.m. The peak traffic times are from 11:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Please exercise caution when driving on the roads surrounding the school or avoid the roads altogether during these peak times so that you can help us keep our students safe.

Sincerely,

Stephen Marafino, Principal, Newport Heights Elementary School





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MARCH 2009

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5806A 119th PMB #222
Bellevue, WA 98006

Newport Hills
Community Club

SPRING NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2009

Inside your Newport Hills Community Club Newsletter you will find:

- * NHCC Spring Egg Hunt—Page 1
- * Membership Drive—Page 1
- * Holiday Lights Winner—Page 1
- * NHCC Presidents Message - Page 2
- * NHCC Volunteer and Board Contact List—Page 2
- * Trader Joe's Report—Page 2
- * Calendar of Events — Page 3
- * Neighborhood ID Update—Page 3
- * Public Safety—Page 3
- * Santa Tour Thank You's—Page 4
- * Membership Drive — Page 5
- * Volunteer Spotlight — Page 6
- * Website Update—Page 6
- * Operation Care—Page 6
- * NHCC Spring Egg Hunt —Page 7
- * Senior Program—Page 7
- * YMCA Update—Page 7
- * School Safety—Page 7

April is
Membership Month
Sign Up Today!