

# Newport Hills Community Club



Summer 2010 Newsletter

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## Mission and Objectives

The Newport Hills Community Club (NHCC) is a volunteer neighborhood organization that serves its membership by:

- disseminating news and information via the web and newsletter;
- acting as a forum for issues of importance to the neighborhood;
- supporting and participating in community improvements;
- promoting regular social events throughout the year.

Since the Club's inception in 1969, it relies on volunteers to accomplish its Mission and Objectives. Join the Board of Directors and your neighbors at the General Membership Meetings in March and October and at Board meetings on the third Tuesday of each month. All meetings are held at 7:00pm at the Newport Hills Community Church, 5833 119th Ave SE.

Membership dues are voluntary and are \$10.00 per year. (*Note: Dues are not tax deductible because the Club is a neighborhood association.*) The Club's mailing address is 5806A 119th Ave SE, PMB #222, Bellevue WA 98006.

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## The Fourth is on the Third This Year!

*Lisa Viereck, 4th of July Chair*

The Newport Hills Community Club, the Newport Hills Community Church, the City of Bellevue, and local merchants host the annual 4th of July Celebration. Festivities include a children's parade, an old-fashioned picnic, live performances, field games, arts, Dizzy's Tumble Bus, and lots of fun in the Newport Hills Park!



This traditional and exciting event begins with Ed Raftery in his 1928 all-original Model A Ford Roadster pick-up leading the children's parade with decorated bikes, trikes, wagons and strollers around the track at the former Eastside Catholic High School. After the parade, hamburgers, hot dogs, cheese quesadillas, vegetarian options, popcorn, and other delicious picnic dishes are prepared and served up by your Newport Hills volunteers.

As part of this annual celebration, the Newport Hills Community Church choir will perform a wonderful selection of old time favorites and patriotic songs. Entertainment will also be provided by the Cornerstone Dance Theater and Belize dancers, and martial arts demonstrators from Lee's Martial Arts. Walk among the many booths including one staffed by our local Cub Scouts.

Fun activities during the picnic include: bouncy house(s), water balloons, face painting, kid's games, sports, Dizzy's Tumble Bus, and our neighbor, Attorney General Rob McKenna may be joining us to flip burgers and chat with neighbors. PLUS a potential visit from the Fire Department with a real fire engine.

See page two for the event's schedule.

### July 3 Schedule of Events

10:00 - Local Merchants, BQs, COB, Newport Hills Community Church and membership tables set up in Park

11:30 - Children's Parade begins at the Bellevue Middle School track (formerly Eastside Catholic)

11:30 - Inflatable bouncy house and toys set up for kids in Park

11:30 - Patriotic songs by the Newport Hills Church Choir in Park

12:00 – 12:10 NHCC President's Welcome

12:10 – 2:30 Annual Community Barbeque in Bellevue Newport Hills Park (donations and membership accepted)

12:00 – 2:00 Dizzy Tumblebus for Kids (time frame may change!)

12:00 - 3:00 various games and fun for kids, tug of war, face painting, drop in soccer games...

12:00 - 3:00 Famous thumb prints with our local Newport Hills Dentist and visit with other local merchants

12:45 – Cornerstone Dance Theater performance

1:15 – Performance and audience participation

2:00 – Our local Cub Scouts introduce our neighbor and Attorney General Rob McKenna (if attending)

2:05 – 2:30 Newport Hills Taekwondo Demonstration, sponsored by Dan Piatt & Wendy Schaffer

3:00 – End of Picnic in Park

3:00 – 7:00 Free swimming and more fun at the Newport Swim and Tennis Club, celebrating 50 years!

**A HUGE THANK YOU** to all of the neighbors (past and present) who made our 4th of July Picnic and Children's Parade an enjoyable community event in the past! The success of this event is a reflection of the shared community involvement which many of us experience here in Newport Hills. **THANK YOU SO MUCH!**

If you have questions regarding the children's parade please contact the children's parade chair, Sandi Tampa: sanditampa@windermere.com. Thank you Sandi

for organizing this fun event over the years!

Remember to support your local merchants in Newport Hills. The on-going generous support for this traditional event from Newport Hills Community Church, Mustard Seed Grill and Sports Pub, Corky's Newport Hills Chevron, and The City of Bellevue is commendable!

Want to volunteer.... have Ideas... or need more information? Please call or email your Newport Hills 4<sup>th</sup> of July Event Chair, Lisa Viereck at lisav@windermere.com, 206-852-2289.

### Community Events

All Newport Hills residents are encouraged to become an active member by supporting the Club through annual dues of \$10, participating in community events, and attending meetings.

Fourth of July Picnic & Parade	July 3
Membership Meetings, NH Community Church, 7PM	June 15
	July 20
	August 17
Community Landscaping Project	October 16

### The President's Message

*Michelle Hilhorst*



Dear Neighbors:  
My hope is that at this newsletter's arrival, we will truly be on the threshold of better spring/summer weather! I know that I am ready!

The first six months of this year have been a whirl-wind of activity here in the neighborhood! Here are some highlights:

- The community was awarded a new park by the City of Bellevue
- A very successful annual Spring Egg Hunt
- An on-going membership drive
- A redesign of our website
- A new Facebook page

- From the City of Bellevue, news of planting efforts and the awarding of a bench around the SE 60<sup>th</sup> trailhead and mini-park
- Repaving efforts through much of Newport Hills
- Community participation of our last Neighborhood Enhancement Program cycle
- Planning the 4<sup>th</sup> of July picnic
- A concept review of the neighborhood art project
- A presentation by the Bellevue Economic Development at the May meeting to discuss plans and steps towards revitalization of our retail center
- Formation of a committee to organize a Fall community event, and so much more!

I look back at all we have accomplished and I'm thinking "Wow, and it's only June!" There is so much more planned for the second half of this year in our wonderful neighborhood. I look forward to celebrating all of it with my family and with all of you. During my first six months as president, I have been introduced to many neighbors in Newport Hills and Lake Heights and it only reinforces my feeling of community that we have atop this hill and what a great place for our families to be. I look forward to the next six months and hope you will join me and the Club in helping to accomplish all that we have to do this year. Together we can make great things happen! Thank you to those who support the Club in whatever way you do, and for those of you who are not involved, please join us. We look forward to meeting you!

Don't forget to join your neighbors at the annual 4th of July Picnic, on the 3rd of July. While enjoying the fine food and entertainment, stop by the NHCC booth and give us your ideas for rejuvenating the Newport Hills Shopping Center.

### Support Local Businesses

Even though the grocery and drug stores have left the community, several businesses have not. What better way to say thanks than to stop in for a meal, beer, haircut, or manicure. If you don't already use the many services provided here, maybe you are looking for a new dentist, mechanic, dry cleaner, or your child wants to dance, improve his/her batting stance, or explore martial arts. We need these businesses as much as they need us.



### Treasurer's Report

*Matt Camrud*

Since the beginning of our fiscal year on April 1, 2010, here how the numbers look through the end of May:

#### Income

Dues: \$4,009

Donations: \$2,103

#### Expenses

Events: \$501.58

Newsletter: N/A

Liability Insurance: \$1,665

Operational: N/A



Keep up-to-date on community events, park and public art projects, and issues that need your attention by using Facebook or the NHCC blog – see the address at the bottom of the page. Use the blog to voice your opinions or to begin a discussion on issues that concern you.

## Membership Matters

*Sandi Tampa*



Thank you to those who have joined as new members, and renewed as existing members. But we are still 175 members behind our goal of 600.

If you haven't joined or renewed, it's not too late! There are four simple ways to join:

1. Mail your \$10 dues to Newport Hills Community Club, 5806A 119<sup>th</sup> Ave SE, PMB #222, Bellevue, WA 98006.
2. Bring your dues to the Newport Hills Mailbox store.
3. Use PayPal on the web site.
4. Visit the membership booth at the 4<sup>th</sup> of July picnic.

Visit the Membership area of the blog for more information.



### Senior Programs at Coal Creek

The Active Older Adult Program offers activities at the YMCA Coal Creek Facility (located at 13750 Newcastle Golf Club Road, Newcastle) along with some games at Lake Heights.

Senior Coffee: Monday—Friday  
9:30-10:30am

Time to socialize, laugh and have fun around the table in the Community Kitchen. Free with a YMCA membership.



Senior Crafts & Lunch: Tuesdays & Thursdays  
10am-1pm

Enjoy the company of others while eating a nutritious meal and making beautiful crafts for local children in need. Meets in the Community Kitchen. Reservation for lunch required.

### Monthly Day Trips

Monthly outings to local hot spots from the Ballard Locks to Snoqualmie Falls. Call the number provided below or check the Membership Services Desk for current schedule.

#### Bridge & Pinochle Games

Bridge Thursday 10-Noon

Pinochle Tuesday 9:30-Noon

### Senior Programs Lake Heights

#### Bridge & Pinochle Games

Bridge Tuesday 9am-Noon

Bridge Wednesday Noon-3pm

*For more information about the YMCA programs, contact Dave Mayer at [dmayer@seattleyymca.org](mailto:dmayer@seattleyymca.org) or 425-644-8471.*

### Newport Hills Shopping Center Update

During the May NHCC board meeting, two staffers from the City of Bellevue (COB) addressed the attendees on the status of the Newport Hills Shopping Center (NHSC): Tom Boydell, Manager, Office of Economic Development and Dan Stroh, Planning Director.

The City is very concerned about the demise of several small neighborhood shopping centers as owners feel pressured out by larger stores. The only way to save the NHSC is by engaging the owners of the various properties. As of this date, Tom and Dan have the support of the majority of the owners and are confident that the others will be on board very soon.



The plan moving forward is to create a budget, funded by the owners, to hire a consultant tasked with developing a market feasibility study. This study will determine what type of businesses are appropriate for the neighborhood and what type of businesses the community desires.

There are three approaches to reinvigorate the property:

1. Re-Tenant. Research new uses for the existing space. Are there local artists who need studio space? Are there neighbors who have a home-based business who want to expand? Is there a business that would be an appropriate anchor for others?
2. Redevelopment. Remodel the space so that it's similar to what is currently there, perhaps adding more rentable space.
3. Redevelopment and Mixed Use. Create retail space on the bottom floor, then adding a floor or two of housing.

As the City sees it, there are three phases to this development project:

1. Property Owner Support. Enlist the support of all property owners and begin the market feasibility study.
2. Design and Development Study. This will depend on the approach taken for the property. From an owner standpoint, the cost of the design and development must be covered by the rent from the various businesses. Since owners manage property, they rarely have experience in development. It is the City's responsibility to match the owners with the proper developer.
3. Neighborhood Vision. Once the owners and the City are in agreement on what approach to take, community input is required.

After Tom and Dan's presentation, attendees offered the following ideas:

- Install a "suggestion box" at the upcoming 4<sup>th</sup> of July picnic to gather ideas about the NHSC. These suggestions will be gathered before any study has taken place so neighbors can enter any ideas that they want.
- After the market feasibility study has been published, use the NHCC web site to

gather ideas from the community that directly address the results of the study.

- Conduct community forums on a regular basis.
- Invite Tom, Dan, or one of their colleagues to the monthly board meetings to provide updates.

### Keep Your Property Safe

Car prowling and break-ins are on the rise in the Newport Hills and Lake Heights neighborhoods. Before leaving home, check all doors and windows to make sure they are locked. While inside or outside your home, lock your doors and your car doors. Do not leave any valuables in your car, visible from the outside. Even padlocks are not deterring thieves, as reported by a Lake Heights resident. Many of you have installed secure mailboxes or have opened a post office mailbox, preventing the theft of your mail and possibly your identity. We encourage everyone to follow suit.



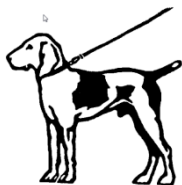
### Local Wildlife

As the weather warms, many of us will be tempted to leave pets, water and food bowls outside for the night. But neighborhood raccoons are attracted to food and water too. There are reports of distemper in local raccoons and we are advised to bring these items inside to avoid infecting our pets. (Distemper is not contagious to cats or humans.) The beautiful greenbelts that surround us are home to coyotes and they **will** prey on cats for food. For your pet's safety, please bring water and food bowls and your pets in at night to protect them from the local wildlife. Your pet will thank you.



### Dog Etiquette

Many in our community are not comfortable with dogs off leash, especially if they do not know the dog or there are small children present. A gentle reminder to please keep your dogs on leash when out for a walk and where they can interact with other neighbors. Also, PLEASE pick up after your pets. The Club has received complaints about pet owners allowing their dogs to foul the sidewalks and not cleaning up. Walkers and strollers use the sidewalks and children use them to walk to school or wait for the bus. Please be respectful of your neighbors and city property by cleaning up after your dog and disposing of the bag appropriately. We all thank you.

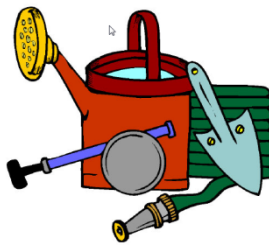


### Public Art Project

In May, artist Bruce Meyers presented his ideas for the public art project along 119<sup>th</sup>, between 56<sup>th</sup> and 60<sup>th</sup>. Bruce brought inspirations of nature from our neighborhood into his concepts of the art itself. Some of his ideas include rock chairs surrounding a canopy tree, stone mosaics, varied-leveled rocks in a playful display, and a “rain chain” down which rainwater will cascade. This chain will include symbols representing Newport Hills, such as our commitment to community, nature, and home. Bruce and Bellevue Arts Director Mary Pat Byrne collected feedback from those present and Bruce will create illustrations and models for display at our 4<sup>th</sup> of July picnic. Please stop by the kiosk during the picnic to see what Bruce has created.

### Stewardship Saturday Planting

On Saturday October 16<sup>th</sup>, the Newport Hills community will meet at the mini-park and trailhead on the corner of SE 60<sup>th</sup> and 129<sup>th</sup> Avenue to plant new greenery. Our labor is in exchange for the City of Bellevue providing us plants, professional design services, and a new bench for the park. WE NEED YOUR HELP – PLEASE volunteer by emailing your support to [president@newporthillscommunityclub.org](mailto:president@newporthillscommunityclub.org). More details on what time and what to bring are forthcoming.



Is food a problem for you? Do you eat when you're not hungry? Do you go on eating binges? Is your weight affecting your life? Contact Overeaters Anonymous. No dues, no fees, no diets. We are a fellowship. Join us Monday evenings from 7:00 - 8:30 pm in the back classroom of the Newport Hills Community Church. Contact Sarah at 425-603-0710 with questions or go to [www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org) for more information.

**Executive Board and Volunteer Chairs**

The Club is composed of volunteers and it needs you! Below is a list of staffed and unstaffed positions. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact any Board member.

<b>Position/Volunteer</b>	<b>Phone</b>	<b>Volunteers Needed</b>
President, Michelle Hilhorst	430-1976	Assistant Secretary
Vice President, Lisa Viereck	852-2289	Assistant Treasurer
Past President, Cheryl Nygaard	401-5126	Assistant Web Designer
Treasurer, Matt Camrud		Community Outreach
Secretary, Debra Haraldson	644-4673	Public Safety Chair
NH Community Church, Rev. Paul Burnham	746-8034	Trustees for areas 2, 7, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20, 23, 24, 26, 28 & 29
Newsletter, Debra Haraldson	644-4673	
Web Designer, Grace Whiteaker	562-3096	
Volunteer Appreciation, Denise Dice		
Santa Tour, Michelle Hilhorst	430-1976	
Spring Egg Hunt, Julie Tsai	350-4678	
Fourth of July Picnic, Lisa Viereck	852-2289	
Holiday Lights, Steve Walker	644-9601	
Membership, Sandi Tampa	445-8863	
Government Liaison, Ray Osburn	401-1505	
Bellevue Liaison, Rich Dolleman	452-2879	
Signage, Bill Dennis		

**Don't forget! The 4<sup>th</sup> of July Picnic is on the 3<sup>rd</sup> this year!**



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PMB #222  
Bellevue WA 98006