

# THE YORKER



YORK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

SPRING 2005  
CIRCULATION: 800

## LITTER CODES NEED ENFORCEMENT

by Miss Manners

Jason Christopherson, Litter Compliance Officer with the City of Bellingham Police Dept., is working in the York neighborhood to get property owners to clean up their chronic litter problems. If you need to report a property that is in violation of the litter codes, contact Officer Christopherson at 676-6859, or email him at [jchristopherson@cob.org](mailto:jchristopherson@cob.org).

The Municipal Codes that need enforcement in the York neighborhood include:

(10.60.130) "The owner or person in control of any private property shall at all times maintain the premises free of litter..."

(10.60.230) "upon failure, neglect or refusal of any owner to properly dispose of litter...the city is authorized...for the disposing of such litter..."

(10.60.250) costs and expenses (including removal of litter and court costs) shall be owed to the City by the property owner.

These codes need to be enforced so that irresponsible property owners don't bring our quality of life and values of surrounding properties down.

## NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING

Wednesday, April 6th, 7pm  
WECU Educational Center  
511 Holly St. (next to Kinko's)

### AGENDA

Speaker: Jeff Peterson, Washington State Department of Transportation, on "Completion of the I-5 Sound Wall Project: landscaping, fencing, and final details."

Other topics: Plans for spring clean-up events and committee reports.

## ALCOHOL-RELATED OFFENSES CREATE NEW JOB OPPORTUNITIES IN YORK

By Anne Mackie

Drunk and disorderly in the York neighborhood? A minor in possession? We've got job opportunities for you! Just apply here...

This spring a project is being launched with the City Attorney's office and the York Neighborhood for people who have been charged with minor in possession of alcohol (MIP) or disorderly conduct and who live in the York neighborhood and received the charge in the York neighborhood. As penalty for their offenses they will be required to perform community service in the neighborhood and attend neighborhood meetings. (Now that's a terrific

deterrent for future crimes!)

Steve Kirkelie, City Prosecuting Attorney, spoke at the March 2<sup>nd</sup> York neighborhood meeting and explained how the program will work. "When someone is charged with alcohol-related offenses in the York neighborhood, they will be expected to complete some of their community service hours back in the neighborhood," he said.

The pilot project is being coordinated through the Bellingham-WWU Campus Community Coalition, the City Prosecutor's office, and the York Neighborhood Association Board. Examples of service work include

(CONT ON P.3)

## LITTER...ENFORCEMENT (CONT FROM P.1)

### Parking On Residential Lawns Prohibited

If you don't want to get ticketed, then park your car on the street and not on the lawn. City Municipal Code (11.33.185) states: "No person shall stop, stand, or park a vehicle within the area designated as a Minimum Front Yard, or Side Yard on a flanking street..."

### Why do we care about cars parked on the lawns?

Obviously, it makes the neighborhood look bad, wrecks the lawns, muddies the sidewalk, and there's a LAW prohibiting it! Welcome to the York neighborhood – a place where residents care about how their properties and surroundings look.

To report cars parked on lawns illegally, call 676-6677.

## ANNUAL DUMPSTER DAY CLEANS UP NEIGHBORHOOD

Again this year York will have a free dumpster in the Nelson's Market parking lot, Saturday, June 1, from 8:30 to about 10:30 a.m. (or until it fills up and it usually fills quickly). The dumpster is provided free of charge to the neighborhood, compliments of SSC and Recomp.

What you CAN'T dump:

- No yard waste (take that to the City's Clean Green Yard Waste Site at the corner of Lakeway & Woburn; \$2 per load, cash only; open Sat. and Sun., 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.)
- No chemicals, no paints or paint cans, hazardous materials, pesti-

## ENHANCING OUR COMMUNITY

*By Judy Bachman*

**A**t future York Neighborhood meetings, the topic of how to develop a program for beautification and enhancing curb appeal of our neighborhood will be pursued. We want to take advantage of programs available for improvements such as the recent grants for the Historic Brochure and the development of the Butterfly Garden.

Through the Arbor Foundation, City and Federal special no-interest loan programs, grants and community service resources, we can accomplish a number of improvements. We want your input and ideas. A notebook is available at Nelson's Market to write your ideas if you cannot participate at future meetings.

cides, used oil, antifreeze, fluorescent light tubes, TV's – take these free of charge to the Disposal of Toxics site, 3505 Airport Drive, Bellingham; open the first Saturday of the month 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Closed holidays.

- No recyclables (like newspapers, scrap paper, cardboard, aluminum cans, and glass)

Calling all Trucks: Each year we organize a fleet of trucks to roam the alleys picking up junk. To volunteer, call Carolyn Mulder, the "Dumpster Queen" at 647-1642.

Recycling Hotline: Answers to your questions about waste reduction, recycling, composting and house-

## YORK NEIGHBORHOOD WINS BUTTERFLY GARDEN GRANT

*by Anne Mackie*

**W**ell, flutter me butterflies! The York Neighborhood has received a Small & Simple project grant from the City of Bellingham to install a butterfly garden at Rock Hill Park in the lower perennial bed area. Funds will be used to purchase a second garden bench, masonry retaining blocks for the flower beds, an entrance arbor, signage, butterfly houses and watering stations, concrete and tile stepping stones, soil and plants.

We hope to involve many volunteer organizations in this project including neighborhood scout units, day cares, WWU students, and members of the neighborhood garden club. Anyone interested in getting involved in this fun and exciting project is invited to attend the first planning meeting Saturday, April 9, 10:00 a.m. at Nelson's Market. For more information, contact Anne Mackie, 738-0542.

hold hazardous waste: weekdays 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. (360) 676-5723 or 384-8040.

More information: Visit the Whatcom County Public Works website at [www.co.whatcom.wa.us](http://www.co.whatcom.wa.us) for more information about building and using low-cost compost bins, building and using a worm compost bin, and easy lawn mowing.

## FRANKLIN PARK PLANNING TASK FORCE FORMS

By Judy Bachman

Currently, Franklin Park has limitations due to soggy ground most of the year. A re-design of areas for specific utilization will solve some of the problems, which include: children reluctant to use the playground because strange adults are sitting in the area; uncontrolled dogs annoying people relaxing; no suitable area to ensure quiet activities without disruption; and a large wooded area that is misused.

The Parks Department needs to cut expenses and one of the considerations is to remove the fence. With street on three sides and poor visibility for passing cars, we feel it would be safer to maintain the fence. By working with the Parks Department, we hope to come up with a plan for our assuming planting and maintenance of this area.

Our concept is to define the areas for different activities and promote utilization by adding amenities. By building a circuit trail around the perimeter for walking, young children biking and exercise stations, the park can be used during the wet months. This will promote year-around exercise capabilities.

Anyone interested in better utilization and beautification of Franklin Park can participate at several levels. We are looking for people to help plan interest task forces. They include Playground, Field Activities, Circuit Trail, and Park Amenities. A member of each task force will work on a

## SPRING NEIGHBORHOOD POTLUCK AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION MEETING



By Kathy Johnson



The neighborhood meeting May 4<sup>th</sup> will focus on the York Neighborhood's historic past. We invite all of our neighbors to bring a potluck dish and any historic pictures or stories to share. The historic committee will present some historic highlights of the neighborhood and assist those of you who would like to do research on your own home.

The committee will provide instructions for applying for designation as an historic site and/or obtaining a plaque for your house. If you have ideas for this historic night or are interested in joining the neighborhood historic committee, please contact Kathy Johnson at 756-9847. Meeting location and time will be announced.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Accolades keep coming in from around the City for the York Historic Map and Walking Tour. An article in The Bellingham Herald generated a lot of interest, and people stop by weekly to pick up an extra copy at Nelson's Market and share their stories and memories about the neighborhood. A notebook at the market has been started to collect these stories, so that someday, perhaps, a larger publication may be written.

### ...JOB OPPORTUNITIES... (CONT FROM P.1)

help with park maintenance, weeding, and trash clean up.

Lara Welker, Campus Community Coalition Coordinator, said, "The goal of the project is to increase students' positive involvement in the neighborhood, and ultimately to improve the relationships between students and their long-term neighbors." The pilot project will begin spring quarter (March 29 through June 10); and if successful, it will be expanded to include other neighborhoods surrounding WWU's campus.

In addition to getting students involved in neighborhoods, the Campus Community Coalition is also working to create more late-night programs on campus as an alterna-

tive to off-campus parties, as well as increase the enforcement of disruptive parties in neighborhoods.

The York neighborhood has battled the problem of loud parties for years. Finally, through the initiative of the Campus Community Coalition, a positive intervention with the offenders has great promise to change the relationships between rowdy partiers and the neighborhood. We hope offenders will gain respect for their neighborhood and realize that York is a very diverse mix of ages and eclectic interests. With some common courtesy, it can be a great place to live harmoniously.

### ROCK HILL PARK WORK PARTY, SAT, MAY 21ST

Greenways Volunteers and York gardeners will hold a work party at Rock Hill Park, Sat., May 21, from 10:00 a.m. to Noon. In addition to removing ivy that is threatening native trees and plants, we will be weeding the perennial bed maintained by the Garden Club. Bring your gloves, tools, and water bottles. Hope to see you there!

planning committee with the Parks Department's volunteer coordinator to plan, acquire approvals, and implement fund-raising for improvements.

Anyone interested in helping, please contact Judy Bachman, 714-1615, or [judybachman@Kise1.org](mailto:judybachman@Kise1.org).

**MANY THANKS TO GREG HEFFRON** for putting together this newsletter. If you need graphics, photography or website work, see his portfolio at [www.midline.net](http://www.midline.net) or call 739-9067.

# SPRING CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Wed., April 6 7:00 p.m.	<b>York Neighborhood Assoc. general membership meeting,</b> WECU Education Center, 511 Holly. Speaker: Jeff Peterson, Dept. of Transportation on the I-5 Sound Wall Project.
Sat., April 9 10:00 a.m.	<b>Butterfly Garden Project Meeting</b> Nelson's Market. Walk to Rock Hill Park.
Sun., April 17 5:00 p.m.	<b>York Board Meeting</b> Nelson's Market
Sat., April 23 & Sun., April 24 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.	<b>Countywide Earth Day Garage Sale</b> – if you want to hold a garage sale at your home/apartment, you will receive a free ad in local newspapers and a packet of signs. Contact Whatcom Co. Solid Waste Division, 676-7695.
Wed., May 4, 6:30 p.m.	<b>York Neighborhood Assoc. general membership meeting and spring potluck.</b> Topic: "How to research your home's history." Location to be announced. Call Kathy for more info, 756-9847.
Sun., May 15 5:00 p.m.	<b>York Board Meeting</b> Nelson's Market
Wed., May 18 6:30 p.m.	<b>Garden Club meeting;</b> for location, contact Amelia Lunde, 734-6739.
Sat., May 21 10:00 a.m. to Noon	<b>Rock Hill Park</b> clean-up with Greenway Volunteers
Sat., June 4 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.	<b>Dumpster Day,</b> at Nelson's Market parking lot, 514 Potter St.

## THANKS NEIGHBORS FOR YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT!

Your membership donations help fund this newsletter, meeting announcement fliers, mailing costs, special projects such as the "Welcome to York Neighborhood" sign, the Historic Map and Walking Tour brochure, and park improvements.

Membership donations during the past year (from February 2004 through April 2005), have totaled \$1,285. WOW! Thanks to the following financial and in-kind contributors\* who have made our fundraising efforts a HUGE success:

Eric & Carolyn Baumgarten; Patrick Bertels; John & Ashleigh Bobovski; Bruce Brabeck; Raymond Brockman; Laurie & Jeff Brown; Amy Calligan; Fred & Kristi Charlton; David Chicovsky; Barbara

Davenport; Don & Helen Dorn; Jan Driscoll; Marion Ebergson; Marion Exall, Jim Foulk; Judith Frane; Joan Frazier; Patricia & Larry Freeman; Margaret Gahard; Patricia Grover; Garden Street United Methodist Church; Bryan Hagen; Maggie Hanson; Robert & Barbara Harnden; Steven Hembree; Don Hilty-Jones; June Hinton; Tani & Rick Hunt; Helen Ives; Charlie Jabbora; David & Kathy Johnson; Leslie Keenholtz; Joel Koivu; John & Karin Koons; Dale Kreider; Angela & Andrew Krzysuik; Goldine G. Lathrop; Greg Lee; Anne Mackie; Lisa & Dan McShane; Cecilia Meadows; Melinda & Annie Meeker; Midline Design; Martha Miller; Greg

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(\* list as of 3/31/05) *This list includes several landlords who own property in the York Neighborhood.*