

*Annual
Holiday Events
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THE YORKER



Sponsored by the York Neighborhood Association November 2010

Board of Directors Election

Wed., January 12, 2011
7pm, Garden St. Methodist
Church

Volunteers are needed to serve on the YNA Board. Responsibilities include attendance at approximately six Board meetings per year, and bi-monthly general meetings. YNA's 16-member Board is responsible for coordinating neighborhood projects: grants, the newsletter, RATS trash pickup, Franklin and Rock Hill Parks improvement, historic preservation projects, annual dumpster day, neighborhood planning, annual holiday party and horse wagon ride, and annual picnic.

Four Board members serve as officers: President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. One Board member serves as representative to the Mayor's Neighborhood Advisory Council (MNAC), appointed by the Mayor. If you are interested in joining the Board, contact Anne Mackie for more information about the duties and responsibilities, at:
president@yorkneighborhood.org

" Historic Home Restoration Techniques"

Speaker: Jim Gunsolus,
Owner, Craftsman Woodworking

York Neighborhood Meeting and Dessert Potluck

Wednesday, November 17, 7 p.m.

at Garden St. Methodist Church
Business Meeting will follow after speaker

Local craftsman and historic preservationist **Jim Gunsolus**, will be the featured speaker at the November 17 York Neighborhood Association meeting. Jim will present information about how to use non-toxic materials for refinishing old woods, how to restore and weatherize old windows, and safe techniques for stripping paint.

Jim teaches home owners ways to undo "remuddled" older homes and return them back to their glory days. He appreciates the materials and details early builders incorporated in old houses and works to maintain them while bringing houses up to 21st century energy efficiency standards. Jim's published articles include "Matching Old Wood Finishes," in the magazine *Old House Journal*, December 1999. Join us for this informative presentation and opportunity to ask questions.

Light Your Porch for Safer Mail Delivery

In these darker winter months, please keep your porch lights on and wet leaves off the steps for safer mail delivery. Lights also create a safer neighborhood for everyone.



Holiday cheer comes to York with caroling and horse wagon rides December 11th



File photo

Families climb on board for York's annual holiday wagon ride.

York's annual horse wagon ride and caroling party will be held **Saturday, December 11**. The caroling party starts at 6:00 p.m. at Nelson's Market. The wagon will leave Nelson's at 6:30 p.m., 7:00 p.m., and 7:30 p.m.

The wagon route includes Shukshan Healthcare Center, Lincoln Square, Franklin Park and throughout York Neighborhood. Bring cookies to share. Hot cocoa provided.

If you would like your business to help sponsor this annual holiday event, please contact Tom Scott at TomRScott@On-SiteComputer.com.



Annual holiday progressive dinner serves laughs, good food, and weird gifts

York's Wine & Roses Garden Club will host its annual Holiday Progressive Dinner on Saturday, December 4th, 6:30 p.m. The potluck dinner begins with an appetizer course, then moves on to the second house for soup and salad, and ends at house number three with desserts and a White Elephant gift exchange. (Here's your chance to re-gift that weird item you've stashed in your closet.) Join the fun and get to know your neighbors. For more information, or to volunteer to help out, contact Carol at 671-2955, or email: Garden@yorkneighborhood.org;

Wiffleball Warms Up at Rock Hill Park

A group of York neighbors are interested in setting up bases in the lower-level flat play field at Rock Hill Park for the purpose of having a wiffleball field.

You ask, "What is wiffleball?" It's *like* baseball but uses plastic bats and balls so nearby windows don't suffer.

More discussion on this idea will be held at the upcoming York General Meeting, Nov. 17, 7:00 p.m. The area proposed for the wiffleball field is known as "Herb's Hill" on the lot just north of the basketball court.

Dear Santa:

Please deliver to us a new newsletter editor. We thank you for the one you delivered last year, Chris Collison; but he has moved on to bigger and better employment pursuits in Seattle. He was the BEST editor we ever could have wished for, and he even had a journalism degree from Western! Now we are sad because we have lost him. We thank Chris for his hard work and contributions to the York Neighborhood this last year and wish him the best of luck in his new big-city life. Chris, you are missed...as we go to press...and into the future!

Signed, the YNA Board

Giving Thanks



A very special thank you to **Garden St. Methodist Church** for providing free meeting space to York Neighborhood Association again this year and *especially* to **Paul** for setting up our meetings!



Thanks to the 72 **“Make a Difference Day”** volunteers who planted 700 native plants, bulbs and trees at Franklin Park on October 23.



Thanks to these **local businesses** for their ongoing financial support to the YNA and this newsletter: A.A. Anderson Co. Heating & Electrical, Binyon Vision Center, Favinger Plumbing, Master Lube, Pipeline Pizza, TPlanned Parenthood, Face It Salon, Signs Plus, Nelson’s Market, and Stan’s Auto Body.

Neighborhood Faces: Our Outstanding Volunteers – the RATS!



Photo by Anne Mackie

York’s Recycle and Trash Society (RATS) spends two Saturday mornings a month picking up litter, bottles, and cans making our neighborhood a cleaner place in which to live. Using their “nifty nabbers” they can be seen “rattling about” the neighborhood each first and third Saturday morning. *Want to join in?* Meet at Nelson’s Market at 8:45 a.m. Bring your gloves. They’ve got the bags and nabbers.

York Neighborhood Association Donation Form

Is it time to renew your donation? We need your support!

- Students \$5 Singles \$10 Households \$20
 - Business \$100 (includes a business-card-size ad in the newsletter)
- Indicate Cash or Check

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL: _____

Make check out to York Neighborhood Assoc. (YNA); mail to Lisa Anderson, YNA Treasurer, 520 Edwards St., Bellingham, WA 98225

**York Plan
amendments move
forward to Council
work session**
By Anne Mackie

Many York residents testified at the Oct. 25 City Council Public Hearing in favor of the proposed rezone for Area 9 Ellis Street. The Council also heard support for the proposal to acquire property along Whatcom Creek for creation of a new park, at which time the property changes ownership from being the school bus barn.

The Council will hold a daytime work session Nov. 22 to further discuss York's Plan Amendments; a decision is expected Dec. 6.

Tax exempt zone:

A second public hearing was held Nov. 1 to address plans for expansion of a 10-year tax exempt zone into the Samish Way Urban Village (York's Area 8). YNA officers spoke in favor of the proposal but asked Council to redraw the tax exempt zone boundaries to exclude the northern portion of Area 9 Ellis St. and Area 4, the "triangle district", so that historic housing will not be targeted for redevelopment.

Contact York Neighborhood
at www.yorkneighborhood.org

What's New at Franklin Park?

By Helen Jackson, Franklin Park Projects Coordinator

Over 700 new native plants, shrubs and trees were planted on the Hillside and in the mulched beds close to the shelter on Make a Difference Day held Saturday, October 23. More than 70 enthusiastic volunteers from around the City and the York Neighborhood joined up on a welcoming sunny morning to continue the 5-year restoration of these open natural spaces.

A great many thanks to:

- The 72 hard-working volunteers who made the day joyful and successful!
- *The Jeff Reed Family*, who donated \$1000 to purchase plants.
- *City-wide organizers:* The Whatcom Volunteer Center and Bellingham Parks Volunteer Program, Rae Edwards Coordinator.
- *The York Native Plant Committee and Volunteer Leaders:* Kirsti Charlton, Judy Hopkinson, Helen Jackson, Cindy Kaufman, Carrie Schwarz; and Ron Barnett, Jeff and Sarah Bates who helped us lead volunteers.
- **Meredith Charlton** for cookies galore.
- **Rudy's Pizzeria** at 1232 State St. for 10 fabulous pizzas.
- **Starbucks Coffee** inside Haggen's on Meridian St.

**To All who visit Franklin Park and Trail:
Please Stay on Trails, Paths and Grass to let
New Native Plants Grow.**



Photo by Anne Mackie

The York Native Plant Committee organized bulbs and plant starts for Make A Difference Day. From left to right: Carrie Schwarz, Ron Barnett, Cindy Kaufman, Helen Jackson, Judy Hopkinson, and Kirsti Charlton