

THE YORKER

OCTOBER 2018



FROM THE YORK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION—BRINGING THE YORK COMMUNITY TOGETHER

York Neighborhood General Meeting

Wednesday, October 10th
at Garden Street United Methodist Church
1326 North Garden Street
5:30 to 8:30pm

5:30pm—Community Soup Supper *plus* Pumpkin Decorating Party for the kids! (YNA Board provides the soups. Please bring a salad or dessert to share.)

6:15pm—Neighborhood Police Report, Bellingham Police Department Officer **Eric Osterkamp**

6:30pm—Meeting & Speakers

- Topic #1: “**Rising Tides and Smoky Haze: The Lowdown on Climate Change**,” speaker **Warren Sheay**, longtime environmental activist, volunteer with Re-Resources Clean Energy Program, and graduate of the Al Gore Climate Reality training program, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Warren is also a former YNA president. He will share photos from “Rising Tide in Cascadia” to illustrate how a few local landmarks appear now... and how they might look in the future if appropriate action is not taken to quell rising sea levels and floods.
- Topic #2: “**Emergency Preparedness**,” speaker **Lieutenant Robert Vander Yacht**, Bellingham Police Department, will provide important information about our community emergency services for responses to earthquake, wind storms, power outages, ice, snow, and flooding.

A short business agenda will follow.

If you need childcare, please contact Tom Scott, president@yorkneighborhood.org, a few days before the meeting, so we can plan.

*Special thanks to York business
Great Harvest Bread for donating
dinner rolls for the harvest soup supper.*



IN THIS ISSUE

News from the 'hood	2
York's annual picnic held	2
The Mayor's Neighborhood Advisory Committee	3
Livability and laws in York	4-5
York artists on studio tour	6
“Stewards of Children” trainings available	7
A HAWK to land in York	7
Calendar of events	8

Hey, kids! It's pumpkin-decorating season.

We'll have the pumpkins and decorating gear. You bring your artistic talents and have fun getting ready for the Halloween season with friends in the neighborhood during the York Soup Supper, Wednesday October 10.



Prefer to read *The Yorker* in digital format?
Get it here:

yorkneighborhood.org/newsletters



YORK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

c/o 1445 Grant Street, Bellingham WA 98225

www.yorkneighborhood.org • President@yorkneighborhood.org • [#YorkNeighborhood](https://www.facebook.com/YorkNeighborhood)



News from the 'hood

Lights on for safety

Front and back porch lights help fight crime. Yes, it's true. But they are worthless if they're not turned on. So, light up the night and help York be a safer place. The police tell us the neighborhood should look like Halloween night every night, with lights on.

York's annual summer picnic—a fun time for all

Many new families and neighbors turned out for the Annual Picnic, August 18, at Harriet Spanel Park. A piñata was destroyed, kids scrambled for candy and treats, hot dogs and potluck dishes disappeared, and talented kids showed off their singing and scooter-riding skills. A pie raffle plus donations netted almost \$100 for the YNA bank account.

A BIG THANK YOU to Bellingham's Fire Department for making a grand entrance with sirens and lights a-blazing.



photos by Andrew Molitor

Come join the York Board!

Elections for the 2019 Board will be held at the Annual Meeting, January 9, 2019. With many new residents in the neighborhood, we are looking for new energy and ideas. We especially hope to recruit a college student to join. For almost 20 years we have had a student rep on the board, but sadly none were netted in 2018.

Board responsibilities include helping with annual events such as the summer picnic, the December holiday party and horse-wagon rides, Dumpster Day (a neighborhood clean-up), park volunteer work parties, writing articles for the *Yorker* newsletter, and attending city meetings to engage with our elected government on numerous topics. The YNA Board also hosts a variety of neighborhood potlucks throughout the year and selects educational speakers for our general meetings.

Think about it! This is a great opportunity for you to participate in your neighborhood's development and preservation as well as to get to know your community better and have fun putting your gifts to good use. *Picture yourself on the York Board in 2019!* For more information about serving on the Board, contact President@Yorkneighborhood.org.

Jean Ryan lines the kids up for the piñata smash



York Neighborhood Association Board

2018 Officers

President: **Tom Scott**

Treasurer: **Jean Ryan**

Secretary: **Leigh Mcdiarmid**

Members-at-Large

Anne Mackie • Sean Wheeler

Newsletter layout: **Mark Ellis Walker**

Mission Statement

of the York Neighborhood Association:

- To reduce isolation among residents;
- To enhance the quality of life in a low- and moderate-income urban neighborhood;
- To create a sense of community;
- To reduce or prevent crime; and
- To preserve the historic character of the neighborhood.

Get the inside scoop on city developments directly from the mayor!

By Jean Ryan

The **Mayor's Neighborhood Advisory Commission (MNAC)** meets monthly with **Mayor Kelli Linville**. All Bellingham neighborhoods have an opportunity to have one representative on this commission, and I have been serving as York's rep this year. The meetings are held the third Wednesday of the month at 6:30pm, in the downtown library. Anyone can attend. Come see for yourself—civics in action!

This is a fun job for someone who wants information right from the source,

our mayor. Meetings this year have included presentations on a variety of topics such as waterfront redevelopment, short-term rentals (AirBnbs, VRBOs, etc.), homelessness, urban tree conservation, wildlife feeding bans, information about urban village planning, and city transportation. Sometimes, we take a tour together of a new park or project.

After the presentations, the reps get to talk about our neighborhood successes and concerns in a roundtable format. Each MNAC representative also receives mailed

notifications of any relevant Conditional Use Permit (CUP) applications or requests for zoning variances in the neighborhood. We get a distribution direct from the mayor's office on relevant topics.

The MNAC rep position requires a small but vital devotion of time to be one of the best-informed people in Bellingham. York's rep is required to be a member of the YNA Board (voted on each year), and then the person is interviewed by the mayor for appointment.

York's 40th Annual Dumpster Day a huge success

Our annual Dumpster Day, held June 23, cleaned up alleys and parking strips of unwanted trash. Here, Dumpster Kings **Mark Sherman** and **Sean Wheeler** pack discarded furniture into the dumpster. Thanks to all the neighbors who helped, especially **Carolyn Mulder** for arrangements, and a special thanks to **Sanitary Service Company (SSC)** for the free dumpster, **Allied Waste/Republic Services** for the free dumping, and **Nelson's Market** for use of its parking lot.



Kim Haustedt, D.C., QNCP

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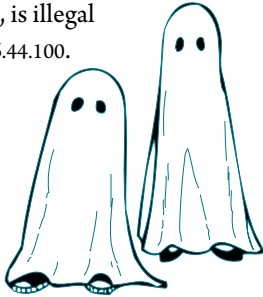
Livability and laws in York—know about your rights and responsibilities

By Sean Wheeler

With the York Neighborhood increasingly densifying, the opioid and homeless epidemics showing no sign of abating, and the recent return of many students, issues relating to peace, safety, and livability will inevitably expand. Here are many of the local laws, ordinances, and resources needed to address these issues when they arise.

Smoking & Alcohol

- Smoking and vaping are illegal in **all public places** within Bellingham city limits: BMC 8.16.
- Smoking or using **marijuana** in public, or in view of the public, is illegal statewide: RCW 69.50.445.
- Drinking or consuming alcohol in public, including all parks, is illegal statewide: RCW 66.44.100.



Safety

- If you experience any situation that makes you feel unsafe, your first call should be to **911**. Our Bellingham Police Department has repeatedly informed us this is the best means of relaying information to them—even if it isn't urgent or an emergency. The dispatchers are highly trained and will allocate resources and responses as needed.
- Our community is home to many young, older, disabled, and four-legged residents who often walk and bike, so **slow down and fully stop at all intersections**.
- As it gets dark earlier, **turn your porch lights on**; they brighten up the neighborhood and deter unsavory behavior. An LED bulb will save tons of energy (\$), alleviating the guilt of leaving outside lights on.
- Cyclists, be sure to **equip your bike with a bright light**. After dark, they're required by law: RCW 46.61.780.



Noise & Fireworks

- This is a dense and varied neighborhood, with many households home to young children, workers with odd hours, and students studying. Fortunately we're within walking distance of downtown, which is much better suited to loud partying. **Be mindful of your volume**, especially when hanging out on porches or walking home late at night.
- Bellingham's **noise ordinance is enforceable at all hours** and prohibits (among other things) loud and disturbing sounds resulting from vehicle repair or operation, band or instrument practice, and stereos audible more than 50' from their source: BMC 10.24.120.
- All loud construction projects must be halted **between 10pm and 7am**: BMC 10.24.120(C)(4).
- All **fireworks are banned year-round** within Bellingham city limits: BMC 10.24.130.

Resources

For laws cited above:

State: app.leg.wa.gov/rcw

City: bellingham.municipal.codes/BMC

WWU Campus Community Coalition

Julia Burns, Coordinator

360-650-6863 / julia.burns@wwu.edu

Bellingham Police Department

Neighborhood Officer Eric Osterkamp

360-778-8785 / eosterkamp@cob.org

Langley West, Code Enforcement (litter/illegal camps/etc.)

360-778-8735 / ljwest@cob.org

Parking Enforcement—360-778-8802

City of Bellingham

Rental Registration & Inspections

360-778-8361 / rentals@cob.org

Code Investigation Request Form

www.cob.org/documents/planning/applications-forms/017-compliance-investigation-form.pdf

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Litter & Trash

- It's gross and unsightly, pollutes our parks, forests, rivers, and streams, and attracts mice, rats, and vermin, so do your part to ensure all your **trash and recyclables are kept neatly in the bins.**
- All Bellingham properties are required to have a **covered garbage container**, must keep their premise **free of litter at all times**, and are subject to fines if it piles up and accumulates: BMC 9.12.030, 10.60.130, 9.12.070.

Parking

- On-street parking is in high demand in many portions of York, so **pull up to the vehicle in front of you** to maximize space; leaving large gaps removes parking capacity.
- Vehicles cannot be continuously parked on the street for more than **72 hours**: BMC 11.33.060(A)(25).
- Vehicles must be **parked in the direction of traffic**: BMC 11.33.070(B).
- Vehicles may not be parked in **yards**: BMC 11.33.185.
- Vehicles may not be **parked in alleys or obstruct traffic, emergency vehicles, or sidewalks**: BMC 11.33.060(A)(1)(2)(3)(22).



City Gate Apartment residents pick up trash once a month in York. Thank you, guys, for your important community service.



Rock Hill Park Work Party

Saturday, October 6, 10am to 12pm

Join neighbors and Parks Department staff and volunteers for our annual fall clean-up at **Rock Hill Park**, located in the 1300 block of Iron Street—up the unpaved street by the I-5 freeway wall. We'll be knocking down some weeds and spreading mulch, to put the garden to bed for the winter. Parks Department staff will soon be removing the overgrown shrubs along the alleyway to help create better visibility into the park. A park redesign task force is organizing, so please let us know if you'd like to be involved. Email to: President@Yorkneighborhood.org.

Harriet Spanel Park Work Party

Saturday, December 8, 10am to 12pm

Join your neighbors to help clean up and improve habitat in the park, located one block south of Lakeway Drive at the corner of Grant and Whatcom streets. Come rain/snow or shine. Tools, guidance and coffee/refreshments provided. For more info, email HarrietSpanelParkSteward@YorkNeighborhood.org.

Garden Street United Methodist Church

1326 North Garden Street · Bellingham

*A reconciling, LGBTQ-friendly congregation
Growing relationships, with God*

Sunday worship services 8:30 am and 10:30 am



Rev. Kathy Hartgraves
360 733 7440
www.gardenstreetumc.org



Jane Richardson PT, SCD, OCS, COMT

360-738-4300
FAX: 360-738-8010

1408 N. Garden Street
Bellingham, WA 98225

www.skyline-physicaltherapy.com

Two York artists join annual studio tour

The **Whatcom Artist Studio Tour** will be held on the weekend of October 6 and 7, and again on October 13 and 14, and features two York artists. Studios will be open from 10am to 5pm.

Vivian Mazzola's studio is tucked into the alley at **1335 Grant Street**. Her paintings are inspired by her surroundings, floral scenes, alleys, beaches, and sea life. She has previously been a featured artist at the annual Wings over Water Festival held in Blaine. Her painting of historic Nelson's Market hangs in the store at 514 Potter Street.

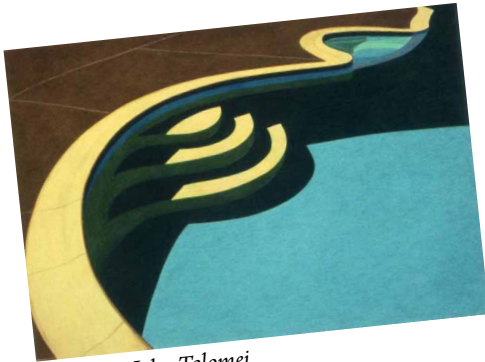
Vivian and her husband, Jerry, own the **Sweet Art candy shop** downtown at 1335 Railroad Avenue. Perhaps a bite of chocolate will be available at the studio tour? To view Vivian's art, go to her website at vmazzolastudio.com.

John Tolomei's studio is located at **1475 Grant Street, #1** (at the corner of Gladstone and Grant). He describes his drawings and paintings as realism, with influences from many years working in pre-digital photography. His work can be viewed at jtolomei.com.

Congratulations to Vivian and John for participating in the annual tour. Go to www.studiotour.net for a full list and map of all the art studios on the tour!



Self-portrait—Vivian Mazzola



Pool 20—John Tolomei

WHATCOMARTISTSTUDIOTOUR



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**house-made
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"Stewards of Children" trainings available

If you've walked down Holly Street from York into Downtown, you've probably seen the **Brigid Collins Family Support Center**, at the intersection of Holly and Garden streets, just before the Co-op and across from the Shell station and FedEx, and admired their homemade tiles which enliven the sidewalk. But chances are you don't know how what's in that building is helping Bellingham!



The Brigid Collins Family Support Center, founded in 1990, is a commitment-based organization working toward the end of child abuse. They believe that when one child is hurt, it means the child, their family, and our community need healing. The center is the legacy of a core group of volunteers who had a hope of better coordinating the community's response to child sexual abuse. Their services include a monthly series of Parenting Academy seminars and a team of support professionals on call daily.

To empower adults and protect children, the center also proudly partners with the Charleston-based Darkness to Light program to provide the nationally recognized Stewards of Children training. This revolutionary program educates adults to recognize and react responsibly to child sexual abuse. It is the only child-abuse prevention program shown to increase awareness of child sexual abuse, improve attitudes about adult responsibility, and increase protective behaviors.

Would you like to learn more and get involved in this effort? Trainings are offered to the public each month and, unless otherwise indicated, begin at 5:30pm and last two hours. To cover the cost of materials, there is a \$10 fee to attend. Preregistration is required.

Facilitators are also available for groups of six or more, in case you're interested in providing training to your group, organization, or business. For more information and scheduling, contact **Andrea Harrison** at aharrison@brigidcollins.org or call 360-734-4616.

Brigid Collins Family Support Center's executive director is **Byron Manering**, whom we are proud to have as a longtime York resident.

Upcoming Stewards of Children trainings:

October 23, 5:30–7:30 pm
November 27, 5:30–7:30 pm

Upcoming Parenting Academy seminars:

October 11: **Raising Confident, Competent Children**
November 8: **Raising Resilient Children**

Held at **Brigid Collins Family Support Center**
1231 North Garden Street

A HAWK to land in York

Construction began on Lakeway Drive at Grant Street last month to install a new **High-intensity Activated crossWalk** (HAWK) signal adding a new signal to stop traffic at the crosswalk. This is Bellingham's first "Bike HAWK" crossing that has a cycle crosswalk included. Depending on weather, construction should be completed by the end of the year.

The Lakeway–Lincoln Pedestrian–Bike Safety Project includes new street markings, hardscape improvements, and signals to establish a bike boulevard in the Puget and York neighborhoods. The purpose is to improve mobility and safety for pedestrians and cyclists through our neighborhoods and across key busy arterials. This new HAWK will be the first in the neighborhood to have a cycle crosswalk included.

As part of this project, a second crosswalk will be installed on Samish Way in south York at Otis/Maple and Samish Way. Shared lane markings on the new bike boulevards will connect to the bike lanes on Meador Avenue (south York) and to the Bill McDonald Parkway (near Sehome Village). To view the project map, go to: www.cob.org/photos/Government/PW/ES-0538-WEB.jpg.



Lakeway Drive and Grant Street intersection gets surveyed in preparation for a new HAWK bicycle-pedestrian crosswalk.

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Contact: YorkerEditor@yorkneighborhood.org

We appreciate the support we receive from our local businesses!



Calendar of York Events

October

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

November

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	ELECTION 6 DAY	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

December

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	Happy New Year!				
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat

Rock Hill Park Work Party

Saturday, October 6
10:00am–12:00pm

Harriet Spanel Park Work Party

Saturday, December 8
10:00am–12:00pm

Whatcom Artist Studio Tour

Saturday–Sunday, October 6–7 and 13–14
see page 6 for York addresses

York Holiday Caroling Party
& Horse Wagon Rides

Saturday, December 8
5:30pm–8pm Wagon Rides
Free, but riders are asked to please bring a
nonperishable food item for the Food Bank

General York Meeting

Wednesday, October 10
Soup Supper &
Pumpkin Decorating Party—5:30pm
Speakers & Meeting—6:30pm
at Garden Street United Methodist Church
1326 North Garden Street

WWU Finals Week

December 10 to 14

Election Day

Tuesday, November 6
VOTE!!!

WWU Winter Break

December 15 to January 7

YNA Board Meeting

Wednesday, November 14
7:00pm
at Garden Street United Methodist Church
1326 North Garden Street

2019

YNA Annual Meeting
& Board Elections

Wednesday, January 9
5:30pm Supper & Social
6:30pm Meeting
at Garden Street United Methodist Church
1326 North Garden Street

WWU Thanksgiving Break

November 21 to 25

CONTACT

York Neighborhood Association

c/o 1445 Grant St
Bellingham WA 98225

President@YorkNeighborhood.org

website: www.YorkNeighborhood.org

For advertising / business
donations, contact:

YorkerEditor@YorkNeighborhood.org

Donations to the York Neighborhood Association are appreciated!

YORK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION DONATION FORM

suggested donation levels

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