



The Village News



April 2024

NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS STAY NEIGHBORS

IN THIS ISSUE

Clark County April Events

Below is a list of some March fun in Clark County for you to explore with your Village friends. Please let us know if you would like us to help arrange a group outing for the in-person.

Conscious Consumption: Cooking with Leftovers 4/3 6:00-7:30
 Cascade Park Library. They will explore various topics related to conscious consumption; meal planning, food storage, and creative ways to use leftovers and how to transform those into delicious meals. For more info, go to: <https://fvrl.librarymarket.com/conscious-consumption-series-cooking-leftovers-budget-0>

Lilac Days: 4/20-5/12 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Hulda Klager Lilac Gardens, Woodland. In addition to the variety of lilacs and the Historic House, they also opened up a new barn museum with exhibits. For information and to see what is happening each day, go to: <https://lilacgardens.com>

Port Lecture #3 "The Mighty Columbia-Our Working River" 4/24 6:30-8 p.m. Kiggins Theatre. Learn about the fascinating job of the river pilots, the history of the river, types of ships they pilot, technical aspects and challenges of piloting and facts about the river system. For information and tickets, go to: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/port-lecture-3-the-mighty-columbia-our-working-river-tickets-836261800557?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>



Members we need your help with a project. To see what it is, turn to **page 2**.



Give Big is coming up in May. See how you can help VCC and other charities on **page 4**



Repair Clark County is back. Find out what it is and how the new system will work on **page 5**.

NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK 2024



VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION WEEK is April 21-27th.

We wish to **Celebrate** the **Service** that all of our volunteers offer to Village Clark County's members.

We **Need Your Help** to tell them how awesome they are.

What You Can Do-tell us how our volunteers make a difference to you! For example:

- Thank a particular volunteer for something they have done.
- Thank all of the volunteers for all they do for you and others.
- Say whatever you wish that will show your gratitude for the volunteers that make VCC awesome.

CALL US:

- Call 360-553-1520 to leave a voicemail message of gratitude.
- We will transcribe it and deliver it for you.
- We will share your message with **ALL** of the volunteers at our **CELEBRATION**.

All Volunteer Roundtable Meeting-April 24th. Details TBA.

VNW Needs your Help!

There is a committee working on a series of Housing & Resources meetings for all Villagers of Villages NW, our "hub" organization, to attend. The first meeting is planned for July 2024. The intent is to offer ideas and resources to help us evaluate when, where, and how we should proceed to prepare for making important decisions, should our current living situation no longer meet our needs.

We all continue to hope that we'll never reach that point. Yet wouldn't it be great to have an already researched plan in our pockets should something life-changing happens unexpectedly? These decisions are too important to be made in the spur of the moment or due to an emergency.

One of the ways you can assist us is by contributing your own stories, should you already have been through the process of choosing a group living situation. What points did you consider? What was the best decision you made? What didn't turn out how you expected (both positive and negative)? Did you receive assistance to make your choice?

We can speak to you on the phone or in-person. If you prefer to write, that is also welcome. You can call VCC message phone (360-563-1520) to set up a callback or email info@villagesclarkcounty.org. Your story could help another Villager in ways you might not expect.

April VCC Events

Check the website calendar before all events/meetings for any changes or updated information. (<https://villagesclarkcounty.org/blank-page/events/>). Also check your email for invites and more information. All in-person events are subject to current COVID guidelines and may become virtual or rescheduled if needed. VCC events are for Members and Volunteers (Villagers) unless noted as "Public".

April 3rd-VNW Circle of Representatives-Zoom

April 8th and April 22nd @ 10-12 p.m. InStitches handstitching group. April 8th-Elsie Chan's house. April 22nd-Phyllis Robinson's house. (Call 360-553-1520 for addresses).

April 8th-VNW Volunteer Affinity Group-Zoom

April 11th @ 1-3 p.m. Governing Council. Join us in person at First Presbyterian Church, Library Room or on Zoom. Villagers are encouraged to attend. Contact Janet Houck via email at jhouck@villagesclarkcounty.org

April 17th-Book Club. See details below.

April 20th @ 10:30-11:30 a.m. V101 Presentation (Public) Camas United Methodist Church. See details below.

April 22nd-10-11 a.m. VNW Membership Affinity Group-Zoom

April 24th @ 1-3 p.m. All Volunteer Roundtable at First Presbyterian Church Room 121 or Zoom. Volunteers only.

April 27th @ 10 a.m. Chair Yoga. Location is Patricia Rimmer's home where there will be 30 min. of YouTube instructor-led session and possibly a short Body Groove session to get our hearts pumping afterwards. Once the active session is over, there is time for tea, coffee and a healthy breakfast snack. Feel free to bring your own drink or snack if you are on a restricted diet. Call the VCC office for how to RSVP.

VCC Book Club

Wednesday, April 17th at 10:00 A.M. in the First Presbyterian Church Library. This month read, "Kitchen Confidential" by Anthony Bourdain. See page 5 for a complete list of books for the next 5 months.



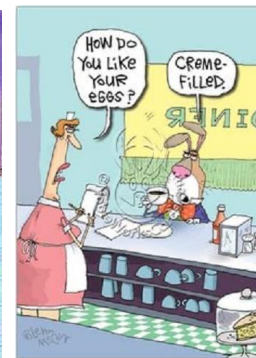
V101-Come learn about Villages Clark County and how you can "Age in Place."

When: April 24th 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Where: Camas United Methodist Church
706 NE 14th Ave.
Camas, WA. 98607

Humor Corner

When I look in the mirror and see gray hair, tiny wrinkles, and dimming eyes I think, "They sure don't make mirrors like they used to."





What is GiveBIG?

GiveBIG is a statewide fundraising campaign. There are two (2) important days for the campaign appeal:

May 7-8 (Annual kick off day) and December 3rd (Giving Tuesday). But the beauty of GiveBIG is that you can give to your favorite non-profit ANY DAY!

Using GiveBIG, Villages Clark County gives everyone in Clark County AND in the whole state the opportunity to show up for the volunteer work we do here in our community. We use the donated funds to provide membership assistance to help those in our community who would benefit from our work as a non-profit organization.

We also use the donated funds to augment our Outreach programming, whether that is printed materials or advertising, social media messaging or public presentations. WE look forward to 'showing up' for our current and potential members.

If you have a story about how Villages Clark County has made a difference in your life - we would LOVE to hear from you. We plan to tell our story to the whole state of Washington.

Contact us at info@villagesclarkcounty.org OR by calling 360-553-1520

VCC Wishes a Happy April Birthday to:

Ruth Riffle (4/6)

Terry McClellan (4/9)

Richard Hammerstrom (4/15)

Chris Benton (4/28)

Other notable celebrities with April Birthdays are:

Marilyn Henner (4/6)

Dennis Quaid (4/9)

Seth Rogan (4/15)

Jay Leno (4/28)



GiveBIG - Washington State COMING SOON!

There's a good feeling we get when we show up for others,

Whether it's a family member, a neighbor, or a local nonprofit like Villages Clark County.

We care about them all.

And it's not just about good-feels — volunteering or donating money to support nonprofit groups helps everyone in the community. From the Columbia River to the Cascades, Puget Sound to the Palouse, great things happen for everyone when you give what you can.

That's what GiveBIG (May 7-8) is all about.

Senior Scam Alert Series by Aura

This month we are looking at False Investment Scams.

Seniors often spend a lifetime saving to achieve financial security. But that puts them at risk of false investments designed to steal their hard-earned money.

In an investment scam, criminals pose as prudent financial advisors. They'll call unannounced with what appears to be a lucrative investment opportunity. However, this is an attempt to extract transaction fees or steal "investments" from their targets. There are several types of investment scams that specifically target seniors:

- Ponzi schemes: A Ponzi scheme uses the money from new investors to pay existing ones. Ponzi schemes target seniors by promising high returns with little to no risk.
- Illegitimate bonds and certificates of deposits (CD's): In these scams, fraudsters use low-risk investments to trick wary seniors into investing. But these investments either don't give the return that they promise or don't exist at all.
- Charitable gift annuities: Here, a donor gives a large sum of money as a gift in return for a fixed income stream. But often, these charities don't exist and you're putting money right into the scammer's pocket.
- Prime bank scam: In this scam, con artists claim to have access to "secret overseas markets." But the whole narrative is a scam and any money you send is stolen.

When it comes to avoiding senior investment scams, remember the golden rule of fraud: If it seems too good to be true, it probably is.

VCC Book Club Books coming up...

April - Kitchen Confidential, Anthony Bourdain

May - Being Mortal, Atul Garande

June - Lessons in Chemistry, Bonnie Gamus

July - Hamnet, Maggie O'Farrell

August - The Wife, by Meg Wolitzer

Repair Clark County

If you missed the March 23rd "Comeback Event," after a 9-month hiatus, the dedicated volunteers of Repair Clark County decided to shoulder the yoke and revive this dearly missed community service. Columbia Springs is still sponsoring their efforts and providing PR, but there are otherwise no paid staff to organize these events. Repair CC was developed to reduce waste by repairing items that would otherwise go to the landfill. What used to be "common sense" is now recognized as a way to improve our environment!

One of the improvements made was pre-registration for repair work, enabling the volunteers to pre-print work orders and speeding up check-in. Over 120 items were pre-registered, with more walk-ins adding up to what proved to be a busy morning for appliance & electronic repairers, sharpeners, sewists, jewelry and bicycle repair and the Vintage Radio Club.

Lack of paid staff required some changes in how you may have become accustomed to RCC's operation. For now, they cannot offer the drop-off/pick-up service at the regional libraries. This year they will offer quarterly events.

- June 29, 2024 will be held at Cascade Park Library
- September 28th, 2024 will be at Vancouver United Church of Christ
- December 14th, 2024 will return to Cascade Park Library

Contact Mike or Larry at repairclarkcounty@gmail.com to learn more about getting on the mailing list for pre-registering your repair items or volunteering to help. Even if you don't feel you have any repair "talent" there are always tasks for folks who aren't involved in repairing. Join us!



Clippings from the Garden By Janet



The following is a list from the Clark County Master Gardener WSU Extension service. The **bold** is WSU; the unbold is my comment.

April

- **Remove and destroy tent caterpillar larvae and nests.**

I don't see tent caterpillar nests around my neighborhood, but the Ridgefield National Refuge auto tour route has a bunch of them - during the season if you are interested.

- **Knock aphids off roses with a stream of water.**

Don't bother buying lady bugs to release in your garden. They will just run away because their house is on fire. I was sitting in my garden yesterday (3/19) and watched many, many wild bees working around a bee house on the fence. They are actively building their nests now.

- **Set out transplants of hardy annuals such as primroses, dusty miller and pansies. Direct sow snapdragons, sweet alyssum, cornflower, clarkia, calendula, larkspur, and Shirley poppy.**

I set out some primroses in the ground as an experiment last fall. They are up and blooming. I'll get more primroses for the pots and then when they stop blooming, I'll put them in the ground.

- **Plant dahlias, ranunculus, gladiolus, iris and cannas.**

I'm a big fan of cannas now.

Dispose of fallen camellia blossoms to control the spread of botrytis or petal blight.

Super important and the camellias get quite ugly after a bit.

- **Control brown rot on nectarines, apricots, peaches and cherries.**

I don't do fruit trees, but there is an awesome video on how to prune and spray fruit trees now on the Garden Answer YouTube 3/19.

- **Control spittlebugs, aphids and slugs on strawberries.**

Hosing off and handpicking are the first level of control.

- **Protect dogwood trees from anthracnose.**

- **Use floating row covers to protect plants in the cabbage family from egg laying by cabbage root maggot flies.**

I hope this is helpful. Please let me know if you have questions, suggestions, and/or comments for this column. Thank you. jhouck@villagesclarkcounty.org