



The Village News



April 2025

NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS STAY NEIGHBORS

IN THIS ISSUE

Clark County April Events

Below is a list of some April 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.

Food Waste Trivia-4/9 @ 6 p.m. @ Cascade Public Library. Learn how to prevent food waste by cooking with leftovers. Win prizes and take home supplies to make your kitchen more sustainable. For more details, go to: [Scrappy Cooking-Public Workshops](#)

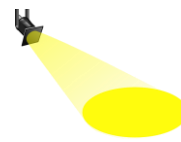
Lilac Days 4/19-5/11 10-4 p.m. @ Hulda Klager Gardens in Woodland. Celebrate the 50th anniversary by touring through a variety of lilac gardens. You can also visit the Hulda Klager house. For info and to see the daily bloom before you visit, go to: [Hulda Klager Lilac Gardens – A National Historic Site located in Woodland, WA](#)

Easter Afternoon Tea 4/19 2-4 p.m. Willful Wine @ Grant House. They will be featuring a selection of specialty teas, traditional crust-less tea sandwiches, English scone with jam & cream, and a selection of sweet treats. For more info, go to: [Willful Wine Co - VISIT - Events](#)

Earth Day - Protecting our Pollinators-4/22 12-1 p.m. Port of Camas-Washougal Join Master Gardeners for a presentation on how the changing climate affects pollinators and the plants upon which they and us depend. They'll offer ideas on steps you can take to help. You will be given a home mason bee boxes and bat houses. For more information, go to: [Events - The Port of Camas-Washougal](#)



Lists aren't just for groceries. Find out how you can use a list to help you as you "Garden on." [page 2.](#)



Learn more about our newest volunteer in our volunteer spotlight on [page 4.](#)



Do you like summer picnics? VCC needs some volunteers to help at our annual summer picnic. Find out more on [page 4](#)



CLIPPINGS FROM THE GARDEN April 2025

BY JANET HOUCK



Trying to figure out just what to do in the garden these days is hard. There is just so much. The best way for me to figure this out is to do a Walk About. With clipboard and pen in hand, hopefully not dodging rain or snow, I bundle up and go outside. Walking the yard, front, sides, and back, I look hard. I consider the eyes as an important tool. Just look at things, don't try to figure out anything, just look. After a few minutes then start the list. It doesn't matter how long or short the list is, just write it down. There might be ten things, there might be 40 things, it just doesn't matter.

Then, back inside, where it is warm and toasty and that cup of mint tea or even a lovely glass of Merlot awaits, you prioritize. It doesn't have to be perfect; this is the first draft. Write in pencil if that makes you feel better.

Looking at the first five items, pick one. Only one. Find your other tools, consider the weather, and get to it. Just focus on one thing. Maybe it will take 15 minutes, perhaps it is a 4-hour job that will be done over the course of a couple of days. The hard thing for me is to just stick to that one job and finish it.



Yesterday, my job was to prune the hydrangeas. It is a one hour or so job. Easy peasy. But as I walk out into the yard, I see (not even on my clipboard list) an Aphrodite Sweetshrub whose deciduous branches have grown out into the pathway. I have to talk to myself to make myself not work on that one. Hydrangeas, that is what you are doing today, Janet, Hydrangeas.
Focus.

Yeah, that is a tough one for me out in the garden. But I was a good girl and I did focus and I did finish the hydrangeas. But right after that I cut back that shrub that was trying to take over the pathway,

If I'm really being diligent, I will do this Walk About once a month or so. It really helps.

Here is the list of Tasks for April from the Washington State University Master Gardeners of Clark County:

April

- Remove and destroy tent caterpillar larvae and nests.
- Knock aphids off roses with a stream of water.
- 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.
- Plant dahlias, ranunculus, gladiolus, iris and cannas.
- Dispose of fallen camellia blossoms to control the spread of botrytis or petal blight.
- Control brown rot on nectarines, apricots, peaches and cherries.
- Control spittlebugs, aphids and slugs on strawberries.
- Protect dogwood trees from anthracnose.
- Use floating row covers to protect plants in the cabbage family from egg laying by cabbage root maggot flies.

* primroses are nearly a perennial here.

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 evites 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". Villagers, check your email for weekly updates.

Tuesdays at Ten-4/1, 4/8, 4/15, 4/22, 4/29. Coffee and breakfast at The KitchenTable in Salmon Creek. 1319 NE 134th St., Vancouver.

Thursdays at 9:30-4/3, 4/10, 4/17 and 4/24. Coffee and breakfast at Sunny's Diner. 1801 SE 164th Ave, Vancouver (same parking lot as Big Al's)

April 10th @ 1-3 p.m. Governing Council. Join us in person at First Presbyterian Church or on Zoom. Villagers are encouraged to attend. Contact Janet Houck via email at jhouck@villagesclarkcounty.org

April 10th @ 4 p.m. Happy Hour at Georgie's Garage & Grill, 606 Broadway, Vancouver (Russ Huntley, VCC volunteer on keyboard in the band)

April 14th and April 28th @ 10 a.m. InStitches handstitching group. Call the office 360-553-1520 for location of members' homes. Come and stitch, knit, crochet, mend, chat, drink coffee and tea, and gather.

April 16th @ 10 a.m.-Book Club. See details below.

April 16th @ 4 p.m. Happy Hour at Emanar Cellars, 1113 SE Rasmussen Blvd, Battle Ground

April 19th @ 12:30 p.m. V-101. See details below. (Public event)

April 23rd @ 1-3pm Volunteer Celebration! First Presbyterian Church, Fireside room.

VCC Book Club

Wednesday, April 16th at 10:00 A.M. in the First Presbyterian Church Library. We are reading: Individual choice. Bring what you are reading and share.



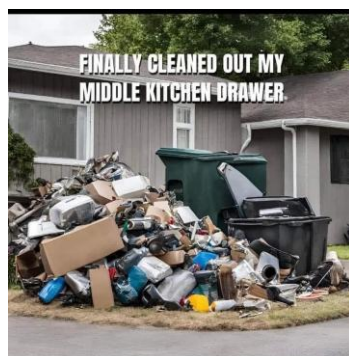
V-101

Come learn about how Villages Clark County can help you "age in place."

When: Saturday, April 19th at 12:30 – 1:30 p.m.

Where: Three Creeks Library. 800-C NE Tenney Road, Vancouver

Humor Corner



YOU KNOW WHEN YOU BUY A BAG OF SALAD & IT GETS ALL BROWN & SOGGY? COOKIES DON'T DO THAT



Volunteer Spotlight-Heather Abbott

I work as the Executive Assistant in the Chiefs Office at the Vancouver Police Department and have been there about 8 1/2 years. I've lived in the Clark County area around 15 years after relocating from Texas, but I am originally from the Bay Area.



When I'm not working, I enjoy hiking, baking, working on projects at home, or spending time with friends and family.

I'm very excited to become a part of VCC and am looking forward to filling the gap for people who need a little help. And hopefully making another friend or two!

***** VOLUNTEERS NEEDED *****

Villages Clark County's Activities Team is seeking volunteers to assist with organizing their annual summer picnic, scheduled for August 19th at Frenchman's Bar Regional Park in Vancouver. Volunteers are needed to help coordinate food, activities, and transportation. Additionally, assistance is welcome for other events such as the Quarterly Potluck, Happy Hours, and the Annual Meeting.

To volunteer, please call (360) 553-1520 or email info@villagesclarkcounty.org and let us know how you can help.

SAVE THE DATE: Envisioning my Future: Guarding Against Schemes, Scams and Fraud

Thursday, June 19, 10:00 am-2:30 pm

Moreland Presbyterian Church

1814 SE Bybee Blvd, Portland OR 97202

RSVP Now: <https://evite.me/2FAJz98shT>

When you RSVP, include your Village and dietary limitations in the notes.

Learn about common devastating schemes, scams, and fraud and how to protect yourself.

VCC Wishes a Happy April Birthday to:

Ruth M. Riffle (4/6)

Judy Zeider (4/13)

Richard Hammerstrom (4/15)

Chris Benton (4/28)

Other notable celebrities with April Birthdays are:

Marilyn Henner (4/6)

Butch Cassidy (4/13)

Emma Thompson (4/15)

Jay Leno (4/28)



Villages Clark County members in our In-Stitches group are working on their craft and visiting with Village friends:

