



# The Village News



July 2024

## NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS STAY NEIGHBORS

IN THIS ISSUE

### Clark County July Events

Below is a list of some July 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.

**Summer Concert Series** Every Sunday starting July 7<sup>th</sup> and every Thursday starting July 11<sup>th</sup> at Columbia Tech Center Park (Sunday's) and the Vancouver Waterfront (Thursday's). For info on the bands playing, go to: [Special Events in Vancouver - The City of Vancouver, WA](#)

**Wander Clark County**-June 29<sup>th</sup> (Old City Cemetery), July 13<sup>th</sup> (Ridgfield), July 27<sup>th</sup> (Battleground), and through August and Sept. You will learn the stories of people who have lived, worked and carved out their place in Clark County. The tours offer a glimpse through the windows of time, offering a mix of memories, research, and architectural details. For more information about these, go to: [Wander Clark County: Historic Walking Tours - Clark County Historical Museum \(cchmuseum.org\)](#)

**Farm to Table Tour and Cooking Class:** 7/17, 8/21 and 9/18 at Juxtaposition in Camas. Join Chef Earl from the Culinary Institute at Clark College on a tour of the farmer's market and a farm-fresh cooking class. Cost is \$20. For more info, go to: [Farm to Table Tour & Cooking Class Tickets, Multiple Dates | Eventbrite](#)



Learn about one Villager's experience with vision loss and the resources that are available in our area on [page 2](#).

Do you have a plan for a variety of potential emergencies? Get some ideas on what to think about on [page 4](#).

Need some color in the shady spots of your lawn? Learn about impatiens on [page 5](#).

## A POSSIBILITY FOR FRIENDS EXPERIENCING DIMINISHED VISION

### *An Open Letter to My Fellow Villagers*

Hello, my name is Richard Hammerstrom and I have been a Village Member for close to two years. And, before I go any further, I want to say that Villages of Clark County is a truly wonderful organization and has a dedicated and caring cadre of Volunteers. Jan and I would likely not be able to live in our present home if it were not for this. Thank you all, much.

As background, I am a retired broadcast television director and editor as well as a teacher. About ten years ago, I was found to be developing Macular Degeneration and, despite good medical interventions, this has progressed to the point that I could no longer see well enough to drive nor to read without difficulty. Two years ago, I “crossed over the line,” and was deemed to be “legally blind.” While I do have vision, it is limited. This was truly life-changing, to say the least.

This is not a journey that I would have signed up for and at the outset was both vexing and sometimes downright scary. But, I am learning ways to proceed along this path. I have had, of course, helpers along the way. There is one resource I would like to share with fellow members who also might be on this journey.

There is an informal group in Vancouver that regularly meets in the home of Les and Betty Fitzpatrick. It is made up of folks who run the course from being totally blind to those, like me, who can see, but not terribly well. We meet informally twice a month, on the first and third Thursdays of, from 11 am until 12:30 pm.

Les is a remarkable person, who has been totally blind since birth and is not only a wealth of information but an inspiration, as well, as he navigates through the world. Both he and Betty also help us get connected with those agencies and other advocacy groups who help with the visually impaired community. Les and Betty offer us a chance to meet and share our experiences with each other as well as a time for just some good, old-fashioned hand- (and maybe head-) holding. You can contact Les Fitzpatrick at: [lfitz50@gmail.com](mailto:lfitz50@gmail.com), or telephone at: 360-521-5380

In short, Les and Betty’s Group is well worth your time, if you or someone you know is interested.



Happy Fourth of July!

### July 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”.

July 6<sup>th</sup> @ 9-2 p.m. VCC Table at Ridgefield First Saturday (Davis Park). Join us to tell others the VCC story. Contact Janet @ 541-992-1141 for details. Check the calendar and MailChimp notices for other events.

July 8<sup>th</sup> and July 22<sup>nd</sup> @ 10-12 p.m. InStitches handstitching group. Call 360-553-1520 for location and addresses.

July 8<sup>th</sup> @ 10-11 a.m.-Volunteer Affinity Group (Zoom). Discuss volunteer ideas with other villages. Call the office for the Zoom link.

July 11<sup>th</sup> @ 1-3 p.m. Governing Council. Join us in person at First Presbyterian Church, Library Room and on Zoom. Villagers are encouraged to attend. Contact Janet Houck via email at [jhouck@villagesclarkcounty.org](mailto:jhouck@villagesclarkcounty.org)

July 18<sup>th</sup> @ 10 a.m.-Book Club. See details below.

July 22<sup>nd</sup> @ 10-11 a.m.-Membership Affinity Group (Zoom). Discuss membership ideas with other villages. Call the office for the Zoom link.

July 24<sup>th</sup> @ 1-3 p.m.-All Volunteer Roundtable. Subject: Emergency Preparedness and Next “Drive By; Say Hi” (watch for MailChimp with more details).

#### VCC Book Club

Wednesday, July 18th at 10:00 A.M. in the First Presbyterian Church Library.

This month read, is Hamnet” by Maggie O’Farrell

August’s book is “The Wife” by Meg Wolitzer



Save the Date: 8/11, 1-4pm

Annual VCC Picnic at Aggie Blackmer’s place in Camas. Watch for MailChimp and August newsletter updates for details

#### Humor Corner

**I got myself a seniors' GPS. Not only does it tell me how to get to my destination, it tells me why I wanted to go there.**



## WHAT IF?

This is the second in a series of articles on emergency preparedness. The information is based upon the recommendations of the Clark County Commission on Aging.

**Do you have a plan? What will you do?** “A journey starts with one step.”

**Question:** What are the most likely emergency scenarios that you might encounter?

### Answer:

Start with your own home or apartment. What ‘could’ happen that you would consider an emergency? For example:

- a power outage, or
- water supply compromised,
- too hot or too cold weather and your home is not comfortable,
  - Due to a prolonged heatwave or cold snap.
- air quality is poor either inside or outside your home
  - due to wildfire smoke or temperature inversion.

**Answer continued:** There is not ‘one size fits all’ plan. **Personalize your plan**

- Do you have medical conditions that require specialized equipment or medication(s)?
- Do you have physical limitations or strength or endurance that you need to consider in your plan?

Only you can answer these questions.

- Take a deep breath, sit quietly for a minute.
- Make a cup of tea or coffee.
- Take 15 minutes to write down your thoughts and feelings about these questions.
- If other worries come to mind - write them down TOO!

Next Month - Who is your Team? Who are the Helpers?

To learn more contact CRESA911 @ 360-737-1911 or go to <https://www.cresa911.org>

## VCC Wishes a Happy July Birthday to:

**Beth Sale (7/1)**

**Deborah Thomas (7/5)**

**Lori Booth (7/9)**

**John Chapman (7/10)**

**Lorry Prescott (7/30)**

**Other notable celebrities with July Birthdays are:**

**Estee Lauder (7/1)**

**P.T Barnum (7/5)**

**Tom Hanks (7/9)**

**Arlo Guthrie (7/10)**

**Laurence Fishburn (7/30)**



## Clippings from the Garden

### June 2024

#### Impatiens

In my shade dominated garden I am always on the lookout for colorful annuals to provide a peek of color in the borders of green. Impatiens fill that bill quite nicely. So, this year I am focusing on this pretty little plant to see just where they grow the best. The day care in the church where our Villages Clark County has office and meeting space had a fundraising plant sale this year. I bought one flat (36 plants) of impatiens from them. I am still planting them out but so far, they are doing really well. The flowers are 1-2" across and grow 6 - 24 inches wide and tall.



The following information is taken from The Spruce website:

- ***Impatiens walleriana* 'Imara XDR'**: Is a new disease-resistant line of standard impatiens from the Syngenta company, which became available in 2019. There are seven colors as well as color mixes in this series, which promises to restore standard impatiens to their former popularity.
- ***Impatiens walleriana* 'Beacon'**<sup>®</sup>: This is another series of standard impatiens that is "highly resistant" to mildew, introduced in 2020. Beacon is derived from the Super Elfin line, with many colors available.
- ***Impatiens hawkeri* 'Celebration' series**: This is one of the best of the New Guinea impatiens. Available in a wide range of vibrant colors, these plants grow up to 16 inches tall. These plants were likely hybridized with other species of impatiens.
- ***Impatiens* x 'Bounce'**<sup>™</sup> **series**: Developed by Ball Horticultural Company, this hybrid series of impatiens is a cross between New Guinea and standard impatiens. According to the company, they are resistant to downy mildew and thrive in sun and shade. It bounces back nicely after wilting in hot weather.
- ***Impatiens* x 'SunPatiens'**<sup>®</sup> **series**: This variety thrives in full sun and has unusually large flowers (up to three inches across) that are available in unique shades (such as salmon and lilac). Growing up to three to four feet tall, the [Sunpatiens](#) series is a cross between New Guinea impatiens and standard impatiens species.

In my quest for new plants, I am trying three 'SunPatiens' this year. The plants are beautiful and so far, one has bloomed a bright white. I'll plant them in pots in the lone sunny area in the front yard.

Take care and Garden On!

Janet

### Senior Scam Alert Series by Aura

This month we are looking at sweepstakes and elder lottery scams. Fraudsters reach out to an elderly victim and claim that they've won a contest, [lottery](#), or [sweepstakes](#) that they never entered. But to receive winnings, they'll need to pay upfront fees and taxes and supply their banking information for the transfer.

Scammers will often string along their victims for months or years, claiming that they need additional payment. But any money that's sent goes straight to the scammer.

Warning signs of sweepstakes and lottery fraud:

- You or a loved one receives a notification that you have won a large sum of money from a contest you never entered.
- The person you speak with asks for upfront payment through non-traceable methods (gift cards, wire transfers, etc.)
- They ask for your banking information to complete the deposit

### Shared Village Event:

#### Take Me Out to the Hops Game

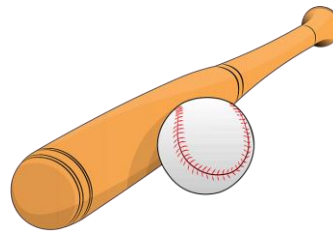
#### Hillsboro Hops vs Everett AquaSox

Thursday, August 8th, 7:00 pm

Ron Tonkin Field

4460 NE Century Blvd, Hillsboro

Hosted by Villages NW



**Order Your Tickets Now. \$18 each. Register at the River West Village web site: [HERE](#). (Note: you do not have to log in as an RWV member)**

What says summer better than an evening of baseball in the shade with family, friends and fellow villagers? Join us for this year's event at Ron Tonkin Field - just off Highway 26 in Hillsboro – where the Hops will be playing the Everett AquaSox.

We have reserved a block of tickets in Section 3, which will be in the shade about the time the game begins at 7:00. Order your tickets now. Friends and family welcome!