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The Village News



July 2025

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.

Free Summer Concerts- Thursdays in July, starting 7/3 at the Waterfront Park in Vancouver 6:30-8:30 p.m. Friday 7/11 @ 5:30 at the O.O Howard House at Fort Vancouver. Also Sunday's 7/13-8/17 at Columbia Tech Center Park 6:00 p.m. For more info. go to: [Special Events in Vancouver -The City of Vancouver, WA](#) and [Events from June 2, 2019 – April 6, 2024 – The Historic Trust](#)

Scooped Ice Cream Festival: 7/19-7/20 @Esther Short Park. Join thousands of ice cream lovers for two unforgettable days of all-you-can-eat scoops (50+flavors), interactive fun, and music. For more info and tickets, go to: [Scooped!™ All-You-Can-Eat Ice Cream Festival at Esther Short Park - July 19th & 20th, 2025](#)

Camas Days: July 25th-26th in downtown Camas. There will be art, food, music, parades, bathtub races, and the ducky derby. For more info, go to: [Camas Days – Camas-Washougal Chamber of Commerce](#)

Vancouver Art and Music Festival-7/31-8/3, downtown Vancouver. 40+performers, 110+ artists, and 4 days of fun. For more info, go to:

[Home – Vancouver Arts & Music Fest](#)



VCC has a new group that is starting. Find out more on [page 2](#).



In case of emergency, learn how to create your financial Go Bag on



They are cute but are they eating your garden? Find out what plants they don't like on [page 5](#).

Circle of Pride by Greer Davidson

Pride month is about over for 2025. Did you take in any of the local Pride events this year? Does the rainbow Pride flag speak to you as it does to me? Perhaps you have loved ones who are members of the LGBTQIA+ community. Or maybe you are an ally or a member of the community yourself. You might want to support your gay or trans loved ones, but struggle with pronouns and accepting them as they

are. Whatever your connection to the LGBTQIA+ community, you do not have to be alone.

I am a volunteer and a member of Villages Clark County. I am also a member of the LGBTQIA+ community. The current political climate is difficult for anyone who is a part of this community,

as well as for those who love them and worry about them. One thing that I have found to be helpful is to join with others who are likewise concerned. That is why we are starting a new group within Villages Clark County. It is called the Circle of Pride.

The Circle of Pride is about mutual caring and support. A group of friends with whom we can relax and converse freely about who we are, who our loved ones are, and the issues and stresses that we deal with regularly.

The Circle of Pride is open to any Villager (member or volunteer) who is connected to the LGBTQIA+ community, either personally, as an ally, or as the parent, grandparent, etc. of someone who is gay, lesbian, bisexual, intersex, non-binary, or transgender.

If you are interested, please contact me via email at [gdavidson@villagesclarkcounty.org](mailto:g davidson@villagesclarkcounty.org), or call the office at 360-553-1520.



You're Invited!

The Villages Clark County Summer Picnic & Potluck.

Date: Saturday, August 16th



Fun, Food and Friendship



Location: Frenchman's Bar Regional Park, Langsdorf Picnic Shelter

Time: 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Join us for an afternoon of summer fun at beautiful Frenchman's Bar! Enjoy delicious picnic food and great company. Bring your appetite, your favorite dish, sun hats, and sunscreen!

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 community health guidelines and may become virtual or rescheduled if needed. VCC events are for Members and Volunteers (Villagers) unless noted as "Public".

Tuesdays at Ten-7/1, 7/8, 7/15, 7/22 and 7/29 Coffee and breakfast at The KitchenTable in Salmon Creek. 1319 NE 134th St. Vancouver.

Thursdays at 9:30-7/3, 7/10, 7/17, 7/24 and 7/31 Coffee and breakfast at Sunny's Diner 1801 SE 164th Ave (same parking lot as Big Al's)

July 10th @ 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

July 14th and July 28th @ 10 a.m. InStitches handstitching group. Location TBD. June 23rd-Janet Houck's house. Call the office 360-553-1520 for location of members' homes. Come and stitch, knit, crochet, mend, chat, drink coffee and tea, and gather.

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

July 16th @ 4 p.m. VCC Happy Hour. See details below.

July 30th @ 1-3pm All Volunteer Roundtable First Presbyterian Church, Rm 121.

VCC Book Club

Wednesday, July 16th at 10:00 A.M. in the First Presbyterian Church Library.

We are reading: Once A Midwife: WW II historical novel by Patricia Harman

One book in a series of novels about the midwife of Hope River. Ms Harman is also a midwife.

VCC Happy Hour

When: Wednesday, July 16th

Time: 4-6 p.m.

Where: Uptown Barrel Room
2011 Main St.
Vancouver, WA.



Humor Corner



FREE Smoke Alarm INSTALLATION

CALL 503-528-5783 to schedule an appointment.



The American Red Cross has launched a national campaign to reduce the number of fire deaths and injuries by 25 percent over the next five years.

- Fire-related deaths and injuries are **highest in homes without smoke alarms.**
- Last year the Red Cross responded to **nearly two home fires each day in our area.**
- More than **60 percent of fire deaths** occur in homes without a working smoke alarm.

Fire experts agree that people may have as little as **2 MINUTES** to escape a burning home before it's too late to get out.

Get your free smoke alarm(s), installed by trained Red Cross volunteers, by calling: **503-528-5783** or by sending an email to: preparedness@redcross.org or by completing an online form at: www.redcross.org/cascadeshfpc

Residents will receive an appointment window.

For more information about the Home Fire Preparedness Campaign or to volunteer for this important outreach effort, visit: www.redcross.org/cascadeshfpc

 American Red Cross Cascades Region

In Oregon, this campaign is in partnership with the Office of the State Fire Marshal.

VCC Wishes a Happy July Birthday to:

Patty Sullivan (7/1)

Beth Sale (7/1)

Lori Booth (7/9)

John Chapman (7/10)

Rajes Phillips (7/24)

Other notable celebrities with July Birthdays are:

Dan Akroyd (7/1)

Tom Hanks (7/9)

Arlo Guthrie (7/10)

Jennifer Lopez (7/24)



Your Financial Go Bag from AARP

If there is an emergency and you need to leave suddenly, these are the things you should have with you according to AARP.

- Personal documents- Take originals or copies of Social Security cards, passports, birth certificates, marriage licenses, divorce decrees and estate planning documents.
- Home Inventory- Shoot a video of your home, with your running commentary. "Video every room, every closet, your drawers," says Holly Donaldson, a financial planner in St. Petersburg, Florida. Download it onto a USB drive and save a copy online.
- Cash- Having cash can get you through a few days of tapped-out ATMs or power outages.
- Insurance Policies- The paperwork you receive when your homeowners or renters policy renews has information you'll need: how much you're covered for, your policy number, whom to contact for a claim and how much you can spend on lodging.
- Account Information- Recent bank, brokerage, credit card and retirement statements will make it easier to track down your assets and get replacement cards if needed. Utility bills will have account and contact information.
- Phone numbers- Bring printed contact information for local services, friends and relatives, and any other important contacts.

Special Thanks:

Did you know that the Office Depot on Hazel Dell prints our newsletter for free, for those members who are internet/email challenged? This generous donation is a great example of community non-profit partnering. Please support them when you need supplies or office equipment.

**Hazel Dell Office Depot,
8812 NE 5th Ave, Vancouver WA
(360) 573-9275**

*CLIPPINGS FROM THE GARDEN**JULY 2025*

BY JANET HOUCK



An Old Adventure: The biggest news in the garden is a continuing event: bunnies. They are growing up and still visiting even though I am trying to discourage them. I am using black wire baskets over some already planted lovely impatiens. I am trying to plant nothing directly into the ground that they might like. This morning, I planted three new Jacob's ladders and three new Alstromeria. Those are plants that are already in the garden and are surviving. Apparently, they do not taste good! Thanks for that.

The Next Adventure will be to plant herbs directly into the ground. Oregano, thyme, sage, and rosemary are on my list. I have all of those in the raised herb bed, but the gurus of gardening say that bunnies will not eat them. Stay tuned.

A New Adventure for this season: Visiting other private gardens. On Saturday, June 21, Village at the Falls held a private garden tour as a fundraising event. Despite the rain, I went. The area is Oregon City. I know very little about this area. The gardens were beautifully groomed and to their perfection. One small garden inspired me with one plant: Creeping Jenny used as a ground cover. This is a plant that I had when I lived in Lincoln City. It went crazy in that coastal garden, growing like it owned the place. We got along quite well because I just pulled it out when it trespassed where I did not want it. But the Creeping Jenny in that Oregon City garden was very well behaved. It spread its lovely little variegated self and covered the bare earth with joy and with its protective self. I just might give it a try here.

The rain actually made each garden just beautiful. Drops of water cleaned the leaves, kept the dust down, and relieved the garden owner of some watering. There was a good group of people and joy permeated the day. I have been to many garden tours. I have gardened for a very long time. But I learn continually when I visit other gardens, be they small private sanctuaries or large public display showcases.

So, I urge you to visit gardens when you can. There are many public gardens in Vancouver: Fort Vancouver, the Pacific Gardens out on SE 18th street, and Naturescaping in Brush Prairie are but a few. They are especially lovely in either the morning or the evening hours, but any hour works. The added benefit of getting out of the house and strolling is the frosting on the cake.

Security Tips and Hints *from KnowBe4*

Steer Clear of Fake Login Pages

For cybercriminals, stealing your login information can be just as valuable as stealing your bank account information. If they gain access to your email and password, they may find clues in your account that they can use to create highly targeted phishing attacks against you, your organization, or your family. Once the hackers have your login information, the hackers can even sell it for payment.

How Does It Work?

A popular method used to steal your credentials is to use fake login pages to capture your login details. These types of attacks usually start with a phishing email that directs you to use a link in the email to "log in to your account". The emails are usually authentic-looking and present a seemingly normal request. If you click this link, you're brought to a login page that looks almost identical to the one you're used to but is actually a fake page. Once you've entered your email and password on the fake page, you may be redirected to the real website—leaving you unaware that your login credentials were stolen.

How Do I Spot a Fake Page?

As the first line of defense, always navigate to your account's login page by typing the web address in your browser, or using a bookmark that you've saved—rather than clicking through links in an email. Also, be aware of the following tips to help you identify fake web pages:

- Pay attention to the address bar. To be on the safe side, make sure the website starts with https:// before entering any personal information.
- Check the domain name. Make sure that the website that you are on is correctly spelled and not mimicking a well-known brand or company.
- Watch for poor grammar and spelling. An excess of spelling, punctuation, capitalization, and grammar mistakes can indicate that the website was put together fairly quickly with no regard for professionalism.
- Look for reliable contact information. If you can find another way to contact the brand or company, reach out to them to confirm the email is real.

Walk away from deals that are too good to be true. Some retailers will discount older merchandise but if the latest item is also heavily discounted, walk away. It's probably too good to be true!



The VCC Newsletter is always looking for new content. Do you have a recipe to share? Information about something you think others would enjoy knowing more about. Or a hobby you would like to write an article about? If so, please share!

You can email any ideas or articles to bhoge@villagesclarkcounty.org by the 20th of each month.