

Don't Forget!

Mark Your Calendar.

The Annual 2008 Open Meeting of the Victoria Park Homeowners Association.

Where Talbot Hill School | **When** Monday Jan. 28, 2008 | **Time** 7:00 pm

Do you have any comments or suggestions for the VPHA newsletter?
Would you like to submit an article or would you like to consider advertising in the VPHA newsletter?

Contact the Newsletter Editor, Lief Zimmerman.

Victoria Park Homeowners Association
P.O Box 1104
Renton, WA 98057

Newsletter - Summer 2007

Officers and Board Members

Board Member	Office	Committee Assignments	Phone Number
Matt Devine	President	Green Belt / Website	425-226-6933
Dale Hoover	Vice President	Maintenance Oversight	425.228-5448
Bob Hofford	Secretary	Architectural	425.271-4941
Alan Zullig	Treasurer	Website	425.228-1570
Sandra Meyer	Board	Events / Entrance Properties	425.255-8005
Michelle Hammers	Board	Events / Entrance Properties	425.430-4225
Glyn Gardener	Board	Green Belt	425.430-4225
Ulf Goranson	Board	Entrance Properties	425.255-8614
Robert Rantucci	Board	Architectural / Children's Park	425.235-6122
Lief Zimmerman	Board	Newsletter / Children's Park	425.254-8686

Victoria Park Homeowners Association

Newsletter for the third quarter of 2007



Don't Forget!
The VPHA Annual 2008 Meeting
See page 4 for details

Be Prepared for Winter 2008

With the winter months approaching, it is time again to evaluate our emergency preparedness for events like power outages, snow and ice storms, wind storms, or the next major earthquake.

There are resources on the internet for disaster planning (some listed here) but none seem to answer two important questions:

How will I stay warm?
How can I cook or heat food?

Staying Warm

Trying to keep warm seems to cause the greatest number of accidents. You have likely heard of people using a barbeque inside their house or running generators in the garage creating unsafe levels of poisonous carbon monoxide. Since our furnaces require electricity, our main source of heat goes out 'like a light', so here are some options:

1. Warm clothing..Down coats, snow suits, gloves, hats. Dress like you are going outside to play in the snow.
2. Sleeping bag rated at below freezing, one for each member of your family.
3. Wood burning fireplace insert and a 1/2 cord of dry wood. (Remember, most of the heat from a normal fireplace goes up the chimney so using an insert works best and pellet stoves and inserts require electricity to run the feed mechanism and fan.)
4. Portable generator with an electric heater. You also need to have enough gas to power the generator for several days. A backup plan can be to siphon gas from your cars but cars may have anti-siphon devices.
5. Have a electrician install a generator distribution panel to your electrical service panel.

Heating food

If you have stored 7 days of food and you know that your hot water tank has plenty of fresh water here are some ideas for how to heat meals:

1. A propane camping stove with an adaptor for connecting to a large barbeque propane tank. Remember to have spare, filled propane tanks and DO NOT operate them in enclosed spaces!
2. A small microwave that can be run of a generator.

Links to disaster planning sites include:

Emergency Resource Guide: http://www.doh.wa.gov/phepr/handbook/hbk_pdf/Emer_Res_Guide07.pdf

City of Renton Shelter Info: <http://rentonwa.gov/emergencies/default.aspx?id=2080>

City of Renton Emergency Preparedness: <http://rentonwa.gov/emergencies/default.aspx?id=2024>

Start now and be prepared for Winter 2008!

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Bike Parade: Then And Now



September 12, 1976 - Thanks to Anita Warren, and Gary and Joan Summers for the photos and date of this picture.



August 2, 2007 - Thanks to Jaimie Caruthers for re-starting & organizing this years bike parade.

Wanted! Small Native Plants.

If you have any small evergreen trees (up to a few feet high) or native plants that you could do without then Greenbelt Committee member **Glyn Gardener** would like to hear from you. He would like to transplant them into one of Victoria Parks greenbelts. Point the way and he will do the digging.

Call Glyn at 206-226-1729.

Report on the 2007 Neighborhood Picnic!

Thanks to all who attended, it was a successful event!

Special thanks to volunteers and city staff responsible for making this happen.

Sandra Meyer (Victoria Park), Teri Katzer (Talbot Hill), and Richard Morris (Victoria Hills)

City staff: Dave Leibman and Bonnie Rerecich

Police Chief Kevin Milosevich and the Renton Police Department

The Renton Fire Department

Volunteer chefs: Ray Sled, George Stahl, and Kevin McQuiller

Deborah Needham, Aaron Oesting, and Norma McQuiller.

Booths included:

Renton Historical Society
Renton Library
Renton Fire Department Emergency Preparedness

Visiting Dignitaries included:

Mayor Kathy Keolker
Council members Denis Law, Don Persson, Marcie Palmer and Dan Clawson.
Council candidates included Terry Persson and Greg Taylor.

Attendance Statistics

151 (171 including city staff.)
42 Talbot Hill Residents Attended
64 Victoria Park Residents Attended
27 Victoria Hills Residents Attended

Sponsored by the Victoria Park, Talbot Hill, and Victoria Hill neighborhoods, and City of Renton Neighborhood Program

Boeing may expand at the Renton airport

"Boeing is considering expanding operations at the Renton Municipal Airport, a move that could ground a controversial proposal to create an executive jet center there."

The Seattle Times

To find out what that may mean for Victoria Park residents you can visit the Seattle Times website at the following

URL: http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/eastsideneews/2003923975_airport04e.html

For a simpler URL you may also use the following Tiny URL (tinyurl.com) and be redirected to the URL noted

above: <http://tinyurl.com/23jl2z>

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If you have any questions you can send an email to newsletter@vpha.net or call Lief Zimmerman at 425-254-8686

Children's Park Update

Over the summer **Robert Rantucci** solicited an expert opinion from Northwest Playgrounds on the status of the Children's Park toys and at the 3rd Quarter VPHA meeting the board passed a motion to decommission the Merry-Go-Round for a number of good reasons.

As a result of the consultation with Northwest Playgrounds and due in large part to the matching grant (Spring 2007 Newsletter) the board is considering several options for replacement toys at the Children's Park.

The last work party was on **Saturday, August 18 at 9AM.** Several homeowners contributed to the following activities:

- Replaced/paint picnic bench seat.
- Weather sealant on the Big Toy.
- Invasive roots and weeds were removed from around the swing set.
- A new toddler swing seat was added.
- The infant swing seat height was raised.

If you have any ideas or comments on the Children's Park please feel free to contact a board member (See page 4) or Children's Park Co-Chairs **Robert Rantucci** and **Lief Zimmerman** directly.

Would you like to help improve Victoria Park?

There are several initiatives with which Victoria Park homeowners can help.

From controlling English Ivy to installing a new sign at the south entrance, from maintenance on Victoria Park property to planning the next event there is almost always room for more help.

Work parties and other events usually only consume a couple of hours and are nearly *always* a good way to meet more neighbors. So, join in by contacting any board member!