

## PUGET NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

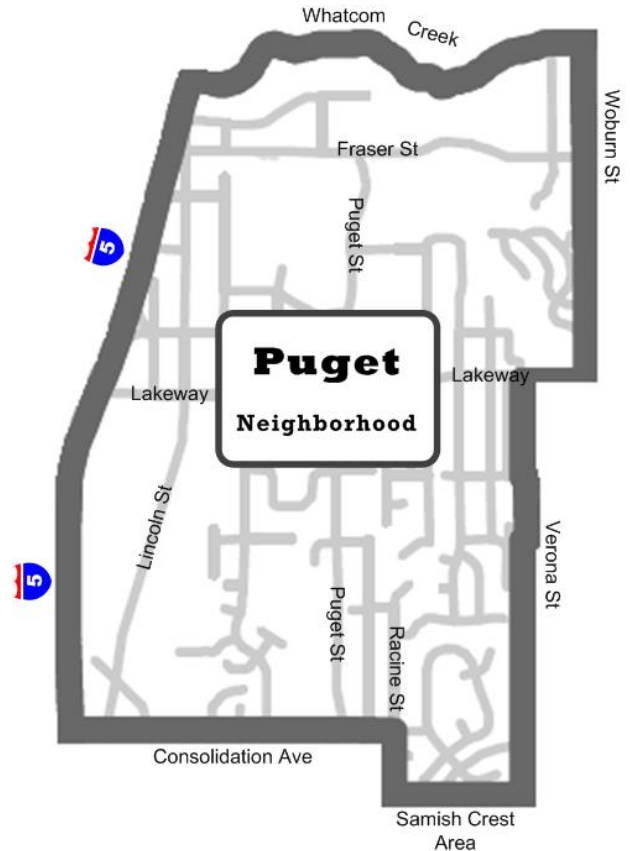
October-November, 2011

[www.pugetneighborhood.org](http://www.pugetneighborhood.org)

email: [info@pugetneighborhood.org](mailto:info@pugetneighborhood.org)

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## *Puget Neighborhood Meeting*

- ***Tuesday, November 15 - 7:00 pm***

**Moles Funeral Home Social Room - 2465 Lakeway Dr.**

***“Meet Your Neighbors”*** Join us for a Come-Early Social with pizza @ 6:30 pm

➤ **Safety & Home Security** – Officer Katrin Dearborn with the Crime Prevention Unit of the Bellingham Police

A recent article in the Herald noted a rise in the number of burglaries. Officer Dearborn will provide tips for improving home security – including information on programs like Neighborhood Watch and Vacation House Check.

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**Thank You Ivie Construction!** The Puget Neighborhood Association received a very generous \$200 business membership check from Ivie Construction.

**Membership Reminder** ➤ *The Puget Neighborhood Association is a non-profit organization providing an open forum with government and business to address Neighborhood concerns.* ➤ *Association Membership is open to all persons living, or owning property, or business in the Puget Neighborhood.*

**Please become a member today or renew your annual membership.** Use the form at the end of this newsletter and send along with a check to:

- Puget Neighborhood Association, P.O. Box 28418, Bellingham WA 98228-0418

**Membership:** • Household – \$15 • Renter/Low Income – \$5 • Sponsorship – \$35

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*Two days left for your online input*

- **What do you love about downtown?**
- **What do you wish for downtown?**

**City's Online Survey – Open Until 5pm Tuesday, November 1<sup>st</sup>**

These questions are key to an ambitious downtown planning effort designed to identify actions our community can take to support a vibrant, thriving downtown.

A community outreach effort dubbed “myDowntown” was launched, inviting people from Bellingham to share their experiences of and ideas for downtown Bellingham.

An [online survey](#), activities and prizes at the Bellingham Farmers Market and [social media conversations](#) are just a few of the ways people are invited to weigh in on the City's [Downtown Plan](#), a two-year planning effort led by the City of Bellingham and supported by various community partners.

Outreach is the first phase – Information gathered this fall about what is and is not working well downtown will feed into the next phase of the [Downtown Plan](#) process, when Bellingham residents, business owners and others will be invited in early 2012 to come together in a variety of ways to absorb feedback offered by the community, share more ideas and create solutions.

By mid-2012, City officials expect to be formulating a draft Downtown Plan for review by community members, stakeholder groups and City advisory committees. A final plan is expected to be presented to the Bellingham Planning Commission and Bellingham City Council for consideration during the first half of 2013.

Why downtown planning matters – The [Downtown Plan](#), when completed in 2013, will be a blueprint for success to support business investment, building renovations, and new commercial and residential development. The plan will create an ambitious framework for future investments, amenities and improvements to be made by the City and others.

For more information about the Downtown Plan, visit [www.cob.org/mydowntown](http://www.cob.org/mydowntown).

## **“See and Be Seen” Campaign Promotes Safe Night Bicycling**

*From City of Bellingham*

Local agencies, businesses, and bicycle safety advocates are running a community education campaign to increase the use of bike lights and promote safe night riding. The “See and Be Seen” campaign combines **education, enforcement and access to lights to encourage cyclists to use bike lights** and be more visible when riding at night.

“Working in the Emergency Room I see bicyclists coming in with injuries that could be prevented. I encourage all cyclists to be more visible by riding with working front and back lights, wearing bright clothing, and obeying the rules of the road. When you are visible to motorists and ride responsibly, you are much less likely to end up being a statistic,” said Todd Guiton, Northwest Emergency Physicians, physician assistant.

Along with community education, increasing access to bike lights is a key component of the campaign. Local bike shops are generously offering a **10% discount coupon on bike lights through November 30th**. Fairhaven Bike and Ski, Jack's Bicycle Center, Kulshan Cycles, Fantatik Bike Company, The HUB Community Bike Shop, the Drop 'N' Zone, and Earl's Bicycle Shop all support the campaign.

Throughout the campaign, Bellingham and WWU Police will increase their enforcement of bike light violations, giving warnings and/or tickets to cyclists riding after dark without lights.

Washington State law requires that during the hours of darkness cyclists must use a **white front light attached to the bike visible for 500 feet, along with a red reflector attached to the back of the bike**. Lights attached to helmets, clothing or backpacks are only legal when used in addition to lights mounted on the bicycle.

Community partners for the “See & Be Seen” campaign include Bellingham Police and Public Works Departments, everybodyBIKE, WWU Sustainable Transportation, WWU Police Department, Kona USA, Mt. Baker Bicycle Club, Whatcom Traffic Safety Task Force, and Cascade Radio Group.

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## **Are you ready for emergencies?**

*From Puget Sound Energy*

Recommendations begin with a kit – Minimum 3-day supply of:

- Food
- Water
- Pet supplies
- Flashlights
- Battery powered radio
- First aid kit

To find out more, go to [PSE.com/Prepare](http://PSE.com/Prepare) or [Ready.gov](http://Ready.gov), [redcross.org](http://redcross.org), [3days3ways.org](http://3days3ways.org) and [TakeWinterByStorm.org](http://TakeWinterByStorm.org)

## **Mayor presents 2012 Preliminary Budget**

*From City of Bellingham*

Bellingham Mayor Dan Pike presented his Preliminary 2012 Budget to the City Council and the community Oct. 3, 2011, emphasizing the emerging recovery of our local economy and the City's work to retain its financial health.

The 2012 Preliminary Budget is posted on the City website at: <http://www.cob.org/government/budget/2012.aspx>

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## **Invasive Asian clams found in Lake Whatcom**

*From City of Bellingham*

Local and state officials recently confirmed the presence of invasive Asian clams in Lake Whatcom, and are working to determine the extent of the infestation and how best to respond. Area residents are asked to assist by being aware of the infestation and reporting any clams they see in the lake.

This species, first reported by a Lake Whatcom resident, can impact water quality, compromise the use of recreational areas, and impede flows through water intake pipes.

City staff were to provide an update to the Bellingham City Council during its regular meeting Monday, Oct. 10, 2011; check the [Council agenda](#) for details.

The Asian clam, first discovered in the Columbia River in 1938, is now present in 38 states. The clams are capable of reaching densities in the thousands per square meter, competing with native mussels for food and space.

More information:

- [Aquatic Invasive Species](#)
  - <http://www.cob.org/services/environment/lake-whatcom/aquatic-invasives.aspx>
  - 
  - [Lake Whatcom Management Program](#)  
<http://www.cob.org/services/environment/lake-whatcom/lwmp.aspx>
-

## **Samish Crest Trail Update**

*Project: upgrade from informal footpath to trail*  
*From Jonathan Schilk, Parks & Recreation Department:*

- In 90% design phase
- Start trail at existing footpath/Racine Street intersection (south of Consolidation), run path south along existing footpath for approximately 2900 feet. Maximum trail grade will be 10% (most of the trail will be less than 8.3%)
- Trail width 4' with 1' shoulders, crushed limestone surfacing.
- I am currently working on permit documents and hope to submit permit documents in November.
- Put project out to bid in January or February 2012. Based on my site observations I think construction will begin when soil becomes workable (I estimate this to be no earlier than June or July).
- Eventually we will extend the trail farther south into properties that have been recently purchased by Parks and Recreation.

Jonathan Schilk, RLA  
City of Bellingham  
Parks and Recreation Department  
360-778-7000

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## **Puget Signkeepers Needed – Big Help, Small Commitment**

We need several of you who are willing to put out a Puget Neighborhood Sign to advertise our General Meetings. So far we have 4 volunteers for the project 4 times/year.

All you need to do is place 1 of 8 sandwich board signs and/or several of 10 plastic signs into the ground.

If you would be willing to do this small job, please email [maryjchaney@comcast.net](mailto:maryjchaney@comcast.net) or call 733-0209.  
Thanks! – Mary Chaney, President PNA

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## **Puget General Membership Meetings**

**Moles Funeral Home – Community Room**  
**At the corner of Lakeway & Yew/Woburn**  
2465 Lakeway Drive

- Tuesday, February 21, 2012 at 7 p.m.
- (Watch your email for possible location or date changes.)***

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## **PNA Board Meetings**

*Board Meetings are always open for Puget Neighbors to attend. If you are interested, please phone President Mary Chaney for location information. 733-0209*

- Wednesday, January 19, 2012 at 7:30 p.m.

## **2011 Puget Neighborhood Board Members**

- David Boyd
- Mary Chaney
- Marcia Ford
- Therese Kelliher
- Diana McKinney
- Greg McKinney
- Bill Radock

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## **PLEASE THANK OUR BUSINESS SPONSORS**

A hearty thank you to our business sponsors. Many, many thanks for your thoughtfulness and generosity for the neighborhood.

- **Ivie Construction** (generous donation!)
- **Moles Funeral Home** (no charge for meeting room)
- **Copy Source** (discount on PNA copying)

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## **MEMBERSHIP**

The Puget Neighborhood Association provides to its members the following opportunities and advantages:

- General membership meetings and social events to meet neighbors and build community.
- Notice via newsletters, e-mail, website and mailings of events, concerns or celebrations which affect the Puget Neighborhood.
- A voice through the Mayor's Neighborhood Advisory Committee (MNAC), which articulates and promotes the wishes and concerns of the neighborhood to the ruling bodies of Bellingham and Whatcom County.

**Please become a member today or renew your annual membership.** Use the form below (or send the requested information) along with a check to:

Puget Neighborhood Association  
P.O. Box 28418  
Bellingham WA 98228-0418

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### **Puget Neighborhood Association Annual Membership Form**

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ \$15 – Household \_\_\_\_\_ \$35 – Sponsorship \_\_\_\_\_

\$5 – Renter/Low Income \_\_\_\_\_ \$20 - \$100 – Business \_\_\_\_\_

➤ ***The Puget Neighborhood Association is a non-profit organization providing an open forum with government and business to address Neighborhood concerns.*** ➤ ***Association Membership is open to all persons living, or owning property, or business in the Puget Neighborhood. All Puget Neighbors are welcome regardless of Association Membership.***

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**For More Information**, go to the **PNA website**:  
**<http://www.pugetneighborhood.org>**.

- **Do you have news to share?**
- **Do you want to know about something in the neighborhood?**
- **Send your message now!**

Email: Therese Kelliher, Newsletter Editor: [info@pugetneighborhood.org](mailto:info@pugetneighborhood.org).  
Puget News will be sent approximately 6 times during the year—with the PNA General Meetings.

*If you would prefer to be removed from this mailing list, please let us know:*  
*[info@pugetneighborhood.org](mailto:info@pugetneighborhood.org)*.

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