

## PUGET NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

September 2011

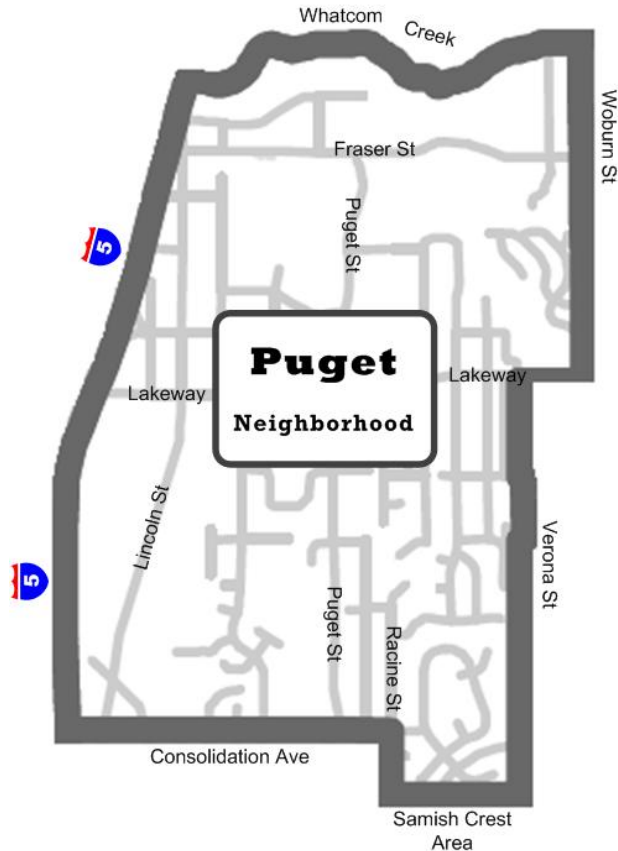
[www.pugetneighborhood.org](http://www.pugetneighborhood.org)

email:

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

### Contents

- General Meeting Agenda
- Meador Construction Open House
- Lake Whatcom Open House
- Volunteer Counters Needed
- Volunteer Signkeepers Needed
- Domestic Violence Response
- Litter & Vegetation Cleanup
- PNA Board
- Business Sponsors
- Membership Info
- Newsletter Info



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## *Puget Neighborhood Meeting*

*Tuesday, September 20 - 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

➤ **Guest Speakers: City Council Election – Councilman Barry Buchanan** and challenger, **Cathy Lehman**, candidates for City Council, Ward 3 will present their positions and answer questions.

➤ **Walking in Bellingham & Puget Neighborhood - Pedestrian Plan Next Steps**

Over 1100 locations of concern were identified through the community survey this spring. Now, how do we as a community prioritize the needs? Join us for a Puget neighborhood discussion.

To see the draft project criteria before the meeting, go to: [www.pugetneighborhood.org](http://www.pugetneighborhood.org). Look in the Document section.

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## **Meador Ped Bridge Installed!**

Construction work continues on the Meador extension of the Whatcom Creek Trail. See below to read how old toilets will be used in the project!



### [From the City website:](#)

This project will provide on-street pedestrian facilities between Meador Avenue and Ellis Street including a pedestrian bridge over Whatcom Creek on Meador Ave. This project will provide the final on-street connection for the long-planned Whatcom Creek Trail system between Lake Whatcom and Bellingham.

Several low impact development strategies will be used for stormwater facilities and pavement options. The City

worked in collaboration with the Whatcom Housing Authority to recycle 400 old toilets by grinding them into sidewalk concrete aggregate, coined "[Poticrete](#)". The City will document sustainability best practices used throughout the project and apply for [Greenroads](#) certification.



**Special Event!!** Join City staff and collaborators from Sustainable Connections to view the pilot installation of "Poticrete" on **Thursday, September 15** at the corner of Ellis and Kansas streets. Enjoy coffee and doughnuts, courtesy of Sustainable Connections, at **7:30 a.m.** while the **first sidewalk pour** begins. At 8 a.m. watch placement of a **ceremonial toilet seat** to mark the accomplishment, followed by tours of the project site.

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## **Lake Whatcom Open House**

**Saturday, September 17**

10:00-1:00

Bloedel Donovan Park Pavilion, 2214 Electric Avenue

Join the Lake Whatcom Management Team to learn about activities underway to protect the Lake. View posters and displays, tour new facilities and properties, hear from Team members, and share your perspectives. This Open House is part of Whatcom Water Week.

**Contact:** Emily Johnson, Environmental Educator, [eejohnson@cob.org](mailto:eejohnson@cob.org), 778-7970.

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## **Volunteers needed Sept. 27-29 to count walkers and cyclists**

Help with the annual count of people who bike or walk to their Bellingham destinations. The information helps track progress on local and state efforts to increase walking and bicycling.

Your help needed at morning counts from 7-9 a.m. or afternoon counts from 4-6 p.m. To find the location nearest you and volunteer – contact Kim Brown, Transportation Options Coordinator for the City of Bellingham, at 778-7950 or [kimbrown@cob.org](mailto:kimbrown@cob.org).

This is the 4<sup>th</sup> year Bellingham has been included as a “count city” in the Washington State Department of Transportation’s (WSDOT) initiative to quantify local and statewide walking and cycling numbers. WSDOT encourages communities to gather the information as part of a statewide effort to contribute to the National Documentation Project.

Previous reports are posted online along with follow-up trends. For more information, go to <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/bike/Count.htm>.

**Contact:** Kim Brown, Transportation Options Coordinator in the Public Works Department  
(360) 778-7950  
[kimbrown@cob.org](mailto:kimbrown@cob.org)

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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

## **Mayor’s Neighborhood Advisory Commission (MNAC)**

*Meeting Report from Puget Board Member & MNAC Representative, Diana McKinney*

## **Domestic Violence Response**

Susan Marks came to speak to us about domestic violence. She works with the Bellingham-Whatcom County Commission Against Domestic Violence, which is a countywide organization of publicly appointed members.

The commission seeks public input and involvement of survivors and victims of domestic violence and others, including the general public, in all its work. The Commission provides leadership in the following areas:

- Develop, implement and monitor a comprehensive domestic violence plan.
- Increase community awareness and understanding on domestic violence.
- Serve as an advisory body in respect to domestic violence issues.
- Develop community benchmarks to monitor change.
- Serve as a community forum on domestic violence and create a mechanism for identifying issues, concerns, needs, and resources.

In our community in 2009, there were 500 arrests and 800 more responses to police calls about domestic violence. 300 people filed for protection orders. There were 2,500 individual adult victims who dealt with the BWCCADV. The criminal definition for domestic violence includes a physical act. Locally, the definition is “someone using methods of power to control a person.”

**Contact:** Susan Marks, Director

[smarks@dvcommission.org](mailto:smarks@dvcommission.org), 312-5700 x202

Bellingham-Whatcom County Commission Against Domestic Violence (BWCCADV)

1407 Commercial Street

360.312.5700

[mail@dvcommission.org](mailto:mail@dvcommission.org)

Their website: <http://dvcommission.org/>

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**Graffiti** – If you see graffiti, call 911. The police keep records of all graffiti. The specific style of the graffiti can usually be identified and traced back to a particular “tagger”. If a tagger is arrested for graffiti, they can be charged with all the incidents of graffiti categorized by the police, and if there are enough of them, they can be charged with a felony. **Property owners are responsible for graffiti cleanup.**

What you should do if you see graffiti:

1. Call 911 (*yes, really – Preface your comments by saying “This is not an emergency.”*)
2. Notify the property owner
3. If cleanup does not happen in a reasonable time frame, notify the code enforcement officer

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**Litter Cleanup** – Chad Berrington and Darren Sandstrom spoke to us about services the city provides for litter cleanup. Neighborhoods can access supplies like littersticks, gloves, sanitizer, and vests for cleanup efforts. There are also 4 sites available for the annual WWU cleanup

effort. You can dump stuff there for 4 days. They also can bring dumpsters for neighborhood use. They will pick up trash that won't fit in your cans. They also will do junk vehicle pickup.

**Vegetation Impeding Public Byways** (e.g., sidewalks, intersection sightlines)

Phone 778-7700 Kent at the City to handle nuisance abatement for vegetation that is impeding access to public byways.

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**Reminder** – the City of Bellingham has a very extensive and well-maintained website. Go to: <http://www.cob.org/index.aspx>

Of particular interest might be <http://www.cob.org/services>

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**Puget General Membership Meetings**

**Moles Funeral Home – Community Room**

**At the corner of Lakeway & Yew/Woburn**

2465 Lakeway Drive

- Tuesday, November 15, 2011 at 7 p.m.
- 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*

- Tuesday, October 18, 2011 at 7:30 p.m.
- 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)

## **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).*