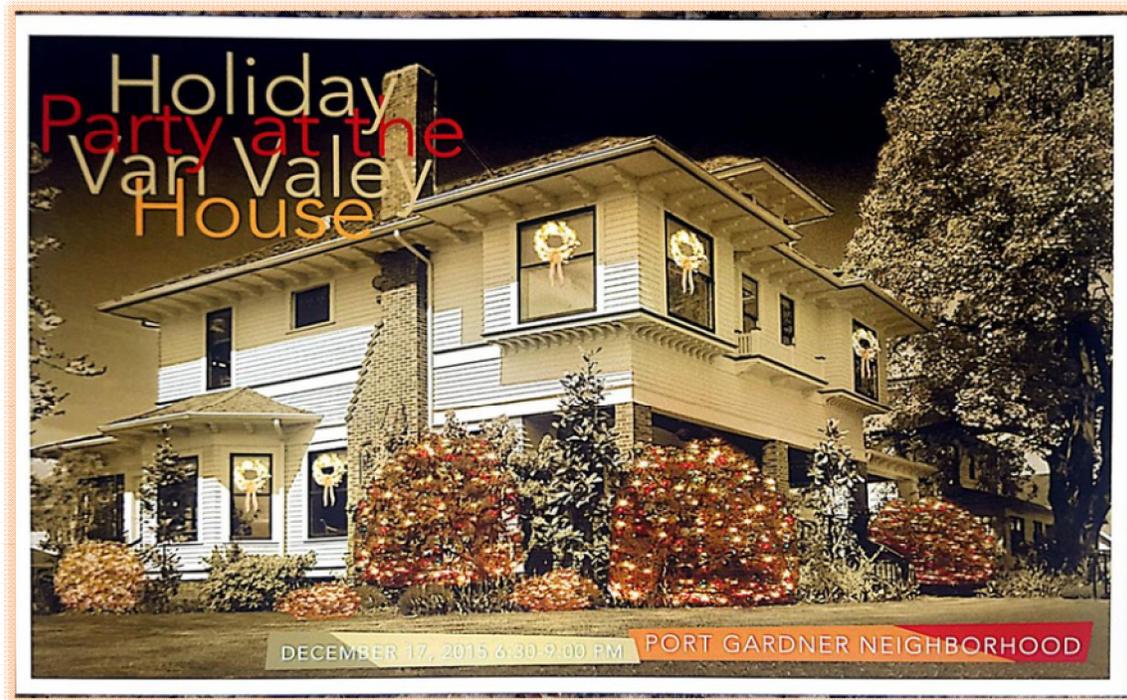




## Port Gardner Neighborhood Association News December, 2016



No meeting in December. Come to the party/auction December 8, 6:30 to 9 PM  
Let a board member know if you need a ride.



### **Holiday Party and Dessert Auction, Thursday, December 8**

The Port Gardner Neighborhood Association cordially invites you to our annual holiday pot luck and dessert benefit auction at the beautiful **Van Valey House, 2130 Colby Ave. on Thursday, December 8, from 6:30–9:00 PM.** Those of you who attended last year's celebration know what a fun evening this will be.

For the pot luck supper bring a main dish, a side dish, or an appetizer, and enjoy an evening with neighbors and friends as we ring in the holiday season with music and good cheer. Bring a dessert to be auctioned, bid on a dessert at the auction, or, better yet, do both. The proceeds of the auction this year are going to programs at Jackson School and Sequoia School that provide extra food to students in need. Please contact Andrea Tucker by December 5th if you know what you are bringing for the auction or if you would like to donate baked goods for the auction, but are unable to attend – 425 870-6699  
[everettareahomes@gmail.com](mailto:everettareahomes@gmail.com)

## November Meeting Re-cap

Leann Christensen, Senior Director for Hunger Prevention Services at Volunteers for America Western Washington spoke to us about the food banks that VOAWW runs in Snohomish County. She began with some pretty startling statistics; one in seven adults, and one in five school children go hungry at night. VOA food banks are trying to reduce these numbers. Besides the one we are familiar with at 1230 Broadway, there are four more in the county. One concept they are trying is a “pop up” food bank which drives to a partnering location. Current ones are at Bible Baptist Church on W. Casino Rd. and Advent Lutheran Church on 132<sup>nd</sup> St. in Mill Creek. Next year we welcome one of these to our neighborhood at First Baptist church on Pacific and Wetmore.

VOAWW also acts as the distribution center for many other food programs around the county through the Snohomish County Food Bank Coalition. This allows them to purchase food in bulk at lower prices. They are able to collect about half of their food from grocery stores in a grocery rescue program. Outdated food, which is still perfectly good to eat past the sell date, is donated from participating stores. Fifty-two thousand individuals in western Washington, including 2100 local households, a month are helped by the work of VOAWW. No one is humiliated by having to show proof that they are in need.

If you are interested, there are many ways in which you can help by donating food or money or volunteering your time. Visit their website at [voaww.org](http://voaww.org) and e-mail them at [food@voaww.org](mailto:food@voaww.org). At the meeting PGNA neighbors donated 57 pounds of food and \$210.

Keith Alewine, Assistant Construction Manager at the Public Works Department answered the question, “What’s going on at Pacific west of Rucker?” This is the first phase of the Freight Mobility Project designed to improve the route big trucks take to get between the Port and Interstate 5 via W. Marine View Dr., Rucker Ave., and 41<sup>st</sup> St. The current intersections are too narrow to allow trucks (which can pull loads up to 200 feet long!) to turn comfortably. That means they often drive up onto the sidewalk as they move through the corners. Not good.

The solution is to widen Pacific Ave. and increase the turning radii at the corners. Most of the underground utilities have already been moved further south. So has the large Union 76 gas station sign on Rucker. Eventually, the sidewalk on the south side of Pacific will be moved closer to the houses. Money for the project is coming from the Port of Everett, federal government grants, and the City of Everett. Work is expected to be completed in the spring.

Phase two of this project will provide a traffic calming effect on Rucker Ave. north of Pacific. The result will incorporate that portion of Rucker more into downtown like Hoyt and Colby are, and discourage its use as a through route to travel north. Design work is already underway.

Park Rangers JP Carey and Lance Spear, who are trying to raise park ranger visibility in the community, answered questions concerning their role in assuring that our parks are safe and welcoming. Park Rangers are spread thinly, with only four of them covering 51 parks. Shifts go well into the evening. They do have detain and arrest authority and carry handcuffs, but not firearms. For serious infractions and emergencies, call 911, but, if a Park Ranger is more appropriate, they can be reached at 425 257-8300.

## Holiday Shop

Hello Neighbors,

The holiday season is upon us and that means it's almost time for the Jackson Elementary school Holiday Shop! Some of you may be familiar with the Holiday Shop but, if not, this is the event where the Jackson PTA fills the gymnasium with new and gently used gifts. Each and every student at Jackson has the opportunity to "shop" for up to 4 gifts each for a flat donation of \$1.00 (although no child will be turned away if they don't have donation money!!). For many of the students at Jackson, this is the only opportunity they'll have to shop for their moms, dads, grandparents, siblings, etc. The Holiday Shop will be held this year on **Thursday, December 15th** and each class will be given the opportunity to shop during the school day.

As a member of the Jackson PTA and mom of a second grader at Jackson, I'm reaching out to you, our neighbors, for help in making this event a big success for all the kids at our neighborhood school. If you are so inclined, we would be grateful for any and all donations you are able to make!

To help make this event a success, the Jackson PTA is in need of new or gently used gift items. Below are a few ideas but please feel free to be creative:

- gifts for Dads
- gifts for older siblings (teens)
- picture frames
- holiday decor
- houseware items
- jewelry
- sports items
- toys (no stuffed animals, please)
- coffee mugs

I'm willing to accept donations at my home or am happy to come to you to pick up a donation. Please contact me directly if you have any questions or would like to contribute!

Thank you in advance for any contributions you are able to make!

Happy holidays,  
Heather Blakely  
601 35th St

## 2017 Mini-grant Reminder

The end of the year is fast approaching. Mini-grant projects for 2016 are all wrapped up. Now we need your mini-grant applications for 2017. The City of Everett annually makes \$2,000 available to each neighborhood organization to spend on projects that benefit the community. If you have an idea for a project that needs some funding, please fill out a 2017 mini-grant application and send it to our executive board treasurer, Sheryl Becker, and/or bring it with you to the January meeting. That is when the decisions on mini-grant spending will be made. Application forms and instructions are attached to this newsletter.

## Council Of Neighborhoods Report

The top five items to report from the Council of Neighborhoods

1. Give Responsibly Campaign – explain how donations made directly to non-profits make more sense and reduce harmful impacts. There's a video on the City website about the Give Responsibly Campaign. Taking donated food to the streets has increased the presence of rats and at times led to violence among recipients.
2. Planned Sewer Water rates being reconsidered by Mayor and Council
3. New Information and Education Officer for Public Works is Kathleen Baxter - [kbaxter@everettwa.gov](mailto:kbaxter@everettwa.gov)
4. New Building rules being prepared to allow for DADU Detached Accessory Dwelling Units. Ostensibly, this ordinance will apply city-wide. However, it is directly aimed at North Everett as there are few alleys in south Everett where DADU would be allowed. The current proposal limits one DADU per lot, not per block.
5. Jaimee Hudson is the go to person for Monte Cristo and mini-grant planning Make an appointment to meet with Jaimee and Wendy

Victor C Harris

## Forgotten Creek Thank You

For the fifteenth year volunteers made their presence felt at Forgotten Creek. This year's work culminated, as it always does, in a planting party. On November 12<sup>th</sup>, a dozen enthusiastic people planted 150 native trees, shrubs, and ferns in parts of the watershed that were stripped of invasive ivy earlier in the year. Thank you Jurgmin, Ben, Arika, Joan, Bob, Daniel, Nicole, John, Oh, Kim, Sara, and Lee.

## PGNA Executive Board and Contacts

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<b>Our regular Facebook page</b>	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/1440228289617317/">https://www.facebook.com/groups/1440228289617317/</a>	
<b>Our Facebook emergency planning</b>	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/1683907258561630">https://www.facebook.com/groups/1683907258561630</a>	