

PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE

ARNADA NEIGHBORHOOD

ARNADA NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



Newsletter April 2026

Meeting is April 9th 7PM 2500 Main Street VHA

Join Zoom Meeting Meeting ID: 898 9278 0400 Passcode: 000165

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89892780400?pwd=5e5Xympkyn36YniakcbgsRvIZ9BgkD.1>

Agenda: City & Port Updates

Speaker is Officer Lee Gelsing of the Vancouver Police Department

with recent history and a look forward

Vote to reject or approve \$350 purchase of shirts for Kickball Spectators and Players

Volunteers sought for May 9th cleanup at McLoughlin and Reserve St.

City Grant ideas sought

**Save the Date! June Party is Saturday 13th 4:00pm
Vancouver Community Jazz Band in Arnada Park**

NOTES FOR ARNADA April, 2026

Hi there and welcome from your new NA Chairman. This monthly column will highlight different aspects of Arnada and Vancouver you might not be aware of, things that matter to our neighborhood and community. I hope you'll participate as you can.

Ever heard of a "local multiplier?" It's a simple concept. If you were, for example, to order something from an online retailer your money would go out of the area and maybe provide a small amount for the delivery person who gives you your parcel. If you were to buy that item locally you would be supporting a local business. That business would use your purchasing money to pay employees, buy local materials, pay local taxes, and to create jobs. The employees who get paid would also spend their money in local stores and services. Every dollar spent locally would go through the same process. Over 92% of Vancouver's business community is made up of independently owned small businesses. It is the lifeblood of our community. Think that big box stores can do better than a Mom and Pop store? You haven't seen the wide array of computers and repair services available in Arnada. Why drive across the bridge when a convenient local expert can repair your computer with a smile and a 100% satisfaction guarantee?

Do you like great meals and a really nice glass of wine? The restaurants in Arnada serve meals that will satisfy the pickiest gourmand and they have large wine cellars and tap lists to complement their menu. And like the old radio commercials would say, "But wait! There's more!" Our very local restaurants will let you show off your generosity without breaking your budget. You can enjoy their beverages with your meal or take out a gift of good wines and impress without going broke doing it.

Local businesses at times may cost a bit more to use but the money stays local and helps us all. That is also very important now during the ICE age. In the International District on 4th Plain there are customers who are afraid to visit businesses for fear of being targeted. Employees are not showing up for work out of fear. And businesses are suffering.

So help out. Go exploring. You might discover that the cuisines of Mexico, Central America and Asia on Fourth Plain Blvd will feed you well and on a budget.

There are a lot of businesses in the International District that need your patronage and odds are you are going to find a new favorite spot. So go, discover, and enjoy. Until next month. . . Doc Reiss

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Association Meeting Minutes March 12, 2026

Attendees: Charlene Abrams, Jill Bachmann, Ali Boris, Amy Carlson, Sandi Christensen, Tim Gruscinski, Kathie Loveall, Alex Luna (Kindred), Erin Masterson (Port of Vancouver), Anne McEnerny-Ogle (City of Vancouver), Sharon Morse, Doc Reiss, Brent Waddle (City of Vancouver), Ken Visser

Approval of Previous Minutes: The January meeting minutes, published in the February newsletter, were reviewed and Approved.

Treasurer's Report: The association currently has \$7,354 in combined savings and checking accounts. Approximately \$500 has been spent since the beginning of the year, primarily for the holiday party.

Board Updates: Doc Reiss was nominated for Chairperson and Tim Gruscinski for Secretary. There being no other candidates, the members present voted for Doc Reiss as Chair and Tim Gruscinski as Secretary.

City Updates

Mayor Anne McEnerny-Ogle provided updates on several city topics. The Interstate Bridge replacement project is awaiting a federal Record of Decision expected on May 20, with construction preparations anticipated to begin in 2026. The project is estimated at approximately \$20 billion and may take 10–15 years to complete. The current bridge design calls for a fixed bridge with approximately 116 feet of clearance.

The city also reported that air quality monitors have been installed at the Vancouver Fire Department station on Main Street. Fourth Plain Boulevard will remain a major truck route, and residents are encouraged to support small businesses along the Fourth Plain International District. Vancouver has also been recognized for its 36th year as a Tree City USA community, planting approximately 2,000 trees annually.

Chair Updates

Doc Reiss discussed plans to expand distribution of the neighborhood newsletter to local merchants and condominium

Website

<https://arnadaneighborhood.org/>

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Code Compliance 360 487-7810

Traffic Compliance Hotline 360 487-7402

NPO Lee Gelsing Cell (360) 831-2661
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Elected ANA Board:

Chairman Doc Reiss
docreiss362@gmail.com

Vice Chairperson Position Vacant

Secretary Tim Gruscinski
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Treasurer Kathie Loveall
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Members at Large

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The City of Vancouver supports the Neighborhood Associations in their effort to share vital information with residents to create a more informed public. However, the information provided and the opinions and views expressed in the Neighborhood Association newsletter or other documents do not necessarily represent the position of the City of Vancouver, nor does the City determine whether the information published is accurate or appropriate. Printed by the Vancouver Office of Neighborhoods.

residents. Flyers with QR codes may be distributed to local businesses, and a graphic designer is being sought to assist with promotional materials. Let Doc know if you can help.

Residents were encouraged to provide feedback to the city through the Be Heard Vancouver platform (www.beheardvancouver.org).

Sidewalk maintenance was also discussed. Although sidewalks are city property, adjacent property owners are responsible for maintaining them due to easement agreements. The association discussed the possibility of establishing a fund to assist homeowners with sidewalk repairs and the potential for reducing costs through neighborhood-wide repair efforts.

Kindred Update

Alex Luna from Kindred shared updates on several community initiatives. Kindred hosts the Vancouver Free Fridge community pantry and organizes monthly neighborhood cleanups on the second Saturday of each month. Kindred also coordinates community aid efforts distributing items such as diapers, menstrual products, first aid supplies, and other essentials through partnerships with local mutual aid groups.

Community Cleanup Announcement

A neighborhood cleanup for Reserve Street and McLoughlin is being planned for May 9 to coincide with a city-supported cleanup, with Kindred serving as the hub for trash collection.

Port of Vancouver Update

Erin Masterson shared information about the Port of Vancouver lecture series beginning March 18 at the Kiggins Theatre. Upcoming presentations will focus on regional maritime commerce, barge transportation on the Columbia–Snake River system, and collaboration between the Ports of Seattle and Tacoma. More information is available at www.portvanusa.com.

Easter Egg Hunt: An Easter egg hunt will be held at Arnada Park, with estimated costs of approximately \$150. Motion: Approve up to \$200 for the Easter egg hunt event. Motion passed.

Arnada Armada Kickball League T-Shirts: The neighborhood kickball league traditionally purchases T-shirts every two years. Approximately 35 shirts are expected to be ordered for the 2026 season. We will vote at the April meeting on a proposal to spend up to \$350 for Arnada Armada T-shirts.

Arnada Armada Kickball Team Requests Funding

The Arnada Armada kickball team, is requesting \$350 from the Arnada Neighborhood Association (ANA) neighborhood fund to cover the cost of new team t-shirts for the 2026 season.

About the Team

The SW neighborhood kickball league and the Arnada Armada was born back in 2013, and since then it has brought players together every summer to have fun and compete against surrounding neighborhoods. Many of the games happen right at Arnada Park. Players have ranged in age from 12 to 70, and the team regularly draws spectators from the neighborhood who come out to cheer the team.

The Request

The Arnada Armada kickball team is asking for support again this year from the ANA neighborhood funds. **The requested \$350 would fund shirts for both team members and loyal fans.**

How to Weigh In

Per ANA bylaws, expenditures at this \$350 level must be approved by a vote of attendees at a neighborhood association meeting. The vote will take place at the April ANA meeting. All neighbors are encouraged to attend and vote.

Editor's note: Some residents believe that Neighborhood funds would be better spent on neighborhood improvement projects or gatherings and on our few philanthropic gifts like supporting our local schools. The ANA has in the past when better funded by our ad sheets purchased player shirts. This is the first request for shirts for spectators.

cEditor Needed for June Edition

We need a substitute editor for the June newsletter to be assembled by May 22nd. All content will be supplied by association board members and residents. It will be a crucial issue to announce the June meeting which will be a Jazz concert in Arnada Park. We have templates to build the document that gets sent to the City for printing and also uploaded to our Facebook Group and sent to our mailing list via Mail Chimp. Contact Russ Pascoe at becruss@hotmail.com if you can help.

Building Community. Sharing Food. One Green Bag at a Time

Please share generously this spring!

The Clark Neighbors Food Project collects non-perishable food and toiletries six times per year. We collect from your front porch and items from Arnada are delivered to FISH of Vancouver.

Most needed items at FISH right now: canned vegetables and canned meals (chili, etc.). Rarely donated but welcome items include jelly, syrup, and pancake mix.

You can find out more at clarkfoodproject.org Sign up online or contact Neighborhood Coordinator Sandi Christensen at sandichristensen16@gmail.com or 360-772-4026.

If you are a business, contact me if you are interested in coordinating as a drop-off site.



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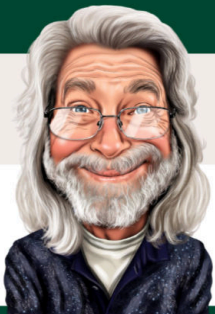
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