



## BIGELOW HIGHLANDS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

# Friendly Neighbor

SUMMER 2020

Neighborhood Boundaries: Fir Street to Puget Street, Yew Avenue to 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue.  
If you received this newsletter, you are a member of the BHNA!

**THIS EDITION IS ONLINE ONLY. PLEASE PASS IT TO THOSE WITHOUT INTERNET ACCESS**

### 2020 Block Party Update

The Board has made the difficult decision not to hold the annual block party on National Night Out this year. Instead, we will hold the event on Cider Day, our new annual event, in the fall. Stay tuned!

### We are in this together

As neighbors we recognize we are in a unique time in our country with the challenges (and opportunities) that a global pandemic and increased awareness of institutional racism present. And we also recognize that we are in this together.

As neighbors we can foster a sense of concern, caring and belonging among people in the neighborhood by just saying hello, waving or checking in on our neighbors. We want to work together to keep our community healthy, safe, and welcoming for our residents.

We reached out to Olympia's Mayor Selby regarding the current situation with COVID-19. She stated:

*I want to thank our community for showing grit and resiliency as we grapple with one of the most significant public health threats in a century. Our collective economic and personal sacrifices have been intense, and the stress of social distancing can be overwhelming.*

*As we begin phase three of the Governor's Safe Start WA, we must continue staying home to stay healthy, practice safe social distancing & wear face coverings in public.*

*Olympia Council Members and Administrative Staff are working hard to ensure we keep our essential services running while also planning for our economic sustainability.*

*We are all in this together. Be human and be kind to each other.*

The city has put together a list of [COVID-19 resources that may be helpful as you navigate these challenging times on the city's website](#). During these challenging times, please reach out to a neighbor for help if you need something and please check in on your neighbors (socially distanced and with a mask) to make sure they are doing okay.

### BHNA BOARD

**Pres:** Melissa Allen  
[bhna.506.pres@gmail.com](mailto:bhna.506.pres@gmail.com)

**V-Pres:** Cindy Gaddis  
[bhna.506.vpres@gmail.com](mailto:bhna.506.vpres@gmail.com)

**Secretary:** VACANT  
[bhna.506.sec@gmail.com](mailto:bhna.506.sec@gmail.com)

**Treasurer:** Angie Warner-Rein  
[bhna.506.treas@gmail.com](mailto:bhna.506.treas@gmail.com)

**Newsletter Distribution**  
Debbie Ingram  
[bhna.506.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:bhna.506.newsletter@gmail.com)

**Members at Large**  
Bob Peller  
Jason Walker  
[bhna.506.communication@gmail.com](mailto:bhna.506.communication@gmail.com)  
J. Hukee  
Simone Boe

**WEBSITE:** [www.bhna.info](http://www.bhna.info)

**Find us on Facebook.com  
and Nextdoor.com  
by searching for  
Bigelow Highlands Neighborhood!**

### 2020 HAPPENINGS

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**  
Have 30 minutes once a quarter and want some exercise? Contact Debbie Ingram at [bhna.506.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:bhna.506.newsletter@gmail.com) to help deliver BHNA newsletters.

**BE IN THE KNOW**  
Join BHNA's Google Group - we forward news releases from the city about events and projects, and communicate with BHNA residents about items of interest between quarterly newsletters. To join, email [bhna.506.pres@gmail.com](mailto:bhna.506.pres@gmail.com).

## **#COVIDKindness**

Meet BHNA neighbor, Eowyn Elleveve. When asked why she was donating masks to neighbors she said, “As a fashion designer and seamstress, it was a no-brainer to pivot my business to mask-making during the COVID crisis. I started out donating to Providence healthcare workers, along with selling them to individuals, and as PPE became more available to the healthcare industry, I transitioned my donations to local shelters. I set up my “Neighbor Masks” box during the unofficial Eastside Artswalk and it was popular enough I decided to continue. I fully believe that the more masks there are in the community, the safer it is for all of us!” You can check out Eowyn’s masks at [www.elleveve.com](http://www.elleveve.com).

## **City of Olympia Awards Matching Grant**

Each year, the City of Olympia offers grant money to support neighborhood activities that draw members of our community together. For 2020, the City has awarded BHNA a total of \$1046.76 to support these projects:

- Construction and installation of a Little Free Library
- Purchase of a fruit crusher and fruit press for hosting this year’s fall fruit pressing event and loaning out to individual neighbors
- The annual block party, where we can demonstrate and celebrate these new additions to our neighborhood

The annual block party is cancelled due to COVID-19; however, we can still debut the new items at the fall fruit pressing aka “Cider Day.” Expect Cider Day to be more like the block party than just fruit pressing. We’re looking at a date in late September or early October.

This is a matching grant, so our award of \$1046.76 must be matched with 33 volunteer hours. Make your hours count by setting up or cleaning up at Cider Day and helping your neighbors press their fruit. Last year, apples, grapes, and quince all went in the press to make delicious juice. Email, call or text BHNA Vice President Cindy Gaddis to volunteer: [bhna.506.vpres@gmail.com](mailto:bhna.506.vpres@gmail.com) or 503-866-7545.

## **ONNA Neighborhoods Walking Map**

Tom Boucher creates fun walking maps of Olympia neighborhoods. His latest map, of northeast Olympia, is a collaboration with the Olympia Northeast Neighborhoods Alliance (ONNA), a group of five neighborhood associations (BHNA included) that approached him last June about helping in their effort to encourage more walking and biking in the neighborhoods. We will soon have funding from a City grant to reproduce color copies of Tom’s map. Stay tuned!!

<https://www.theolympian.com/outdoors/article243755842.html>

Melissa Allen, BHNA Board President.

## **Adopt-A-Tree**

Several years ago, BHNA received a matching grant to plant about twenty fruit (cherry, apple, pear, plum) and walnut trees on the border of the Community Garden next to the dog park (Yew Ave between Fir and McCormick). Local horticulturist Pat Rasmussen & her interns from Evergreen planted the trees and have maintained them since. The trees provide fruit and nuts to all who want to pick them. Pat no longer has interns and needs our help! Ideas: 1) Individuals/families adopt a tree; 2) Volunteers work in teams of two, on a rotating schedule. This second option will need a coordinator. Would you like to adopt a tree or join a neighborhood team that will water, weed at base, & fertilize the trees once a week during the summer? Contact Melissa Allen at 360-357-7055 (cell) or [bhna.506.pres@gmail.com](mailto:bhna.506.pres@gmail.com)