



**TOWN OF BEAUX ARTS VILLAGE
TOWN BULLETIN
MARCH 2013**

<u>WABA BOARD MTG.</u>	7:00pm	Wednesday	March 6 th	Dix
<u>TOWN COUNCIL MTG.</u>	7:00pm	Tuesday	March 12 th	Stowe
<u>PLANNING COMMISSION</u>	7:00pm	Thursday	March 21 st	Johnston
WABA Easter Egg Hunt	10:00am	Saturday	March 30 th	Swim Beach

Town WEBSITE: www.beauxarts-wa.gov SALES TAX NUMBER: #1703

E-MAIL ADDRESSES:

Town Hall: townhall@beauxarts-wa.gov Building Department: bldgdept@beauxarts-wa.gov
Mayor: mayor@beauxarts-wa.gov Town Council: council@beauxarts-wa.gov

MARSHAL REPORT: Enatai has had such an epidemic of burglaries and car prowls that the Bellevue Police held a public meeting last Fall at the church on 108th to educate residents how to protect their stuff. Statistically, these events occur with higher frequency when the weather is warmer and Spring is coming! **Bottom line:** All of our homes and cars are cased frequently, usually by teams of at least two people on foot. Our recent activity and concerns can be summed up as follows:

Burglary: As per the email sent out last week to residents, a village home was broken into on February 13, 2013, Wednesday, between 12-4pm, on SE 29th St., SE 105th and SE 106th.

- Broad daylight, broke in through front, visible from street and neighbors, good visibility with many windows throughout. Adjacent neighbor's home at the time did not notice anything.
- Rocks used to break windows, one in front, then reached in to unlock the **locked front door/deadbolt**.
- *Hidden* cash, jewelry, and credit cards were taken along with a pillow case. Did NOT take expensive electronics sitting in plain sight.

Similar incidents occurred in Enatai within the last two months on SE 28th/108th Ave. SE, and SE 16th/102nd Ave. SE. so it appears we have a serial, professional burglar working our neighborhoods.

Car Prowls: In the past 60 days, in addition to the burglary described above, in BAV only, we've had thefts from 2 unlocked cars. Both occurred during the week workday afternoon hours (upper 29th and upper 28th) late January/early February; this makes 5 thefts from cars in BAV over the past 12 months.

Vandalism: Three houses egged 3 weeks ago on 106th; some other misc. vandalism reported in December. **Stolen mail** from Bellevue was found near the 28th St. beach parking lot. **Alarms:** See Marshal Scott or Deputy Marshal Harpster if you would like references and costs for a basic alarm. In general, a security system is a 2 -3 yr commitment at about \$32-35/month but with a contract, most will install the gear for only about \$200- \$250 installation fee. This seems expensive until you consider the value of your personal property in your house. **Suspicious Car in the Area:** On Feb. 16 and 19, a BAV resident noticed a suspicious car parked on 113th near Holly Tree Lane; cream color Toyota, license # is 929YNC, came home and called 911 non emergency who said if anyone sees this car to call 911. 911 said DO NOT APPROACH the car or FOLLOW the car. We don't know if there is any connection to the break-ins in the area. **Canvassing Neighborhood:** With all the crime concerns, it's hard to know if when you see someone canvassing the neighborhood if they are legitimate or not, whether the information is worth sharing or if you're just feeling paranoid. Just a reminder, please always be on the alert, ask for ID, take a photo if you can, and do not open your door to a stranger. A legitimate person canvassing for business will have some sort of company ID. A suspicious story that doesn't make sense – could be just a ruse to see who is home, what you might have or how to get in. If you feel it's suspicious, call 911.

SAFETY CORRECTION RE: DEADBOLTS: In response to the recent break-in, there has been some discussion about having deadbolts installed that use a key from the inside. Using such a device would be a code violation under certain conditions. Section R311.2 of the International Residential Code (IRC) requires at least one egress door from each dwelling. The front door typically qualifies as the egress door since it is side-hinged, is an appropriate size, and does not lead through the garage. The IRC requires the egress door to be readily openable from inside the dwelling without the use of a key or special knowledge or effort. This lock provision is not applicable to other exterior doors; however, it is recommended that homeowners consider providing an extra level of safety and not install deadbolts that require a key from the inside in case the way to the required egress door is blocked in an emergency.

- Crystal Kolke, CBO, Building Official, Town of Beaux Arts Village

LOCKED MAILBOXES: *Mail theft remains a HUGE problem for our area.* Most residents have already replaced their old mailboxes with new locking ones. For those that have not yet done so, you are strongly urged to consider it. Security Safe & Lock offers a 10% discount for a bulk order of 6 to 19 boxes; orders of fewer than 6 qualify for a 5% discount. The current price on their website for boxes like the ones we ordered before is about \$160. *If you are interested in purchasing a locking mailbox,* please email Clerk Treasurer Spens at townhall@beauxarts-wa.gov or call her at 425.454.8580; she will collect names of residents wanting boxes to see if enough are interested to qualify for a bulk order. For more information about locking mailboxes, please see Security Safe and Lock's website at: <http://www.security-safe.com/> or view them in person at their storefront on Main Street in Bellevue near the FedEx Office.

Please also check the available space on your mail stand; locking boxes are slightly wider than the old-style boxes and may not fit in the space available. Federal law prohibits anyone but the owner from tampering with private mailboxes, meaning the residents who use the mail stand are responsible for maintaining their mailboxes and the mail stands on which they sit. If your locking mailbox won't fit on your mail stand, please work with your neighbors to enlarge it or to rearrange the existing boxes to squeeze yours in. If you have questions, please contact Clerk-Treasurer Spens.

COUNCIL BUSINESS: At the February 12, 2013 meeting, the Council:

- Heard a presentation by representatives of the Washington State Dept of Transportation (WSDOT) about the proposal to impose tolls on I-90 between Mercer Island and Seattle in an effort to generate revenue for construction of the SR-520 bridge replacement and to mitigate the increased traffic on I-90 caused by drivers switching away from the tolled SR-520 Bridge. At this time, the proposal is in the environmental assessment phase and does not include details, including where tolls would be collected (i.e. on the east or west side of Mercer Island), when tolling would begin, and when future opportunities for input will be available. Please visit <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/tolling/i90> for additional information. This website should be updated as new information becomes available, so residents wishing to stay current are advised to visit this site regularly. WSDOT also plans to develop a method for providing information to interested citizens by email.
- Briefly discussed the upcoming Strategic Planning Session. The Council plans to meet at the Mercer Island Community Center at 8236 SE 24th Street (in Luther Burbank Park) on Wednesday February 27th and Thursday February 28th from 6:30pm to 8:30pm. The Council will use these sessions to identify needed policies and projects and to develop a strategy for addressing these needs.
- Heard the concerns of a resident about the removal of trees from Town ROW without clear notice to neighbors, the storage of construction materials on ROWs, and the replacement of private improvements on ROWs.

- Learned that residents on 107th Ave SE want to replace a speed bump that will be removed for construction of a driveway. Councilmember Stowe is acting as liaison for the neighbors.
- Met King County Sheriff John Urquhart, who was recently elected to replace the retired Sue Rahr. Mr. Urquhart noted that one of his early "beats" included patrols through Beaux Arts.

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING: The next regular meeting of the Town Council will be held at **7:00pm on Tuesday, March 12, 2013** at Tom Stowe's house.

REMINDER: VILLAGE PHOTOS FOR TOWN WEBSITE: If you have photos of Beaux Arts or any of our community activities (e.g. Town Clean-up) that you would like to share on the Town's website, please email them to Clerk-Treasurer Sue Ann Spens at townhall@beauxarts-wa.gov. The photos currently posted have been up for a number of years; it would be nice to have some "fresh" photos to showcase our Village! Please remember that the website can be viewed by anyone with access to the internet, so please nothing personal.

BROWN STAINS IN YOUR DISHWASHER? Have you noticed brown stains on the racks in your dishwasher and even on your dishware? These stains are caused by some of the minerals in our well water, and while they do not pose a health concern, they can be unsightly and difficult to remove without using harsh or dangerous chemicals. But here's a simple and safe alternative: Put a cup of Tang drink mix (yes THAT Tang, of astronaut fame) in your dishwasher along with any stained dishes, glasses, ceramic or glass bake ware, etc. and run through one full cycle. Most, if not all, of the brown stains will be eliminated in a single washing.

PET-LICENSE AMNESTY PERIOD: King County has just announced another pet-license amnesty period during April. As you may know, all dog and cat owners living in King County are required to license their pets. Purchasing a license for your pet helps support King County Animal Services, which includes housing surrendered pets waiting for new homes. In addition, having a license greatly improves the chances that your pet will be returned to you if it is lost. Owners of unlicensed pets may be assessed fines of \$125 for altered pets and \$250 for unaltered ones. During the month of April, King County will offer amnesty for pet owners who have not yet licensed their pets. During this period, the county will not imposed any fines, late fees, or other charges associated with the failure to license the pet previously, though you will still need to pay the license fee. More details will be available from King County beginning March 15th in the media and at: <http://www.kingcounty.gov/safety/regionalAnimalServices.aspx>.

TOWN BUILDING NEWS: The following permits were issued by the Building Dept. in February:
10505 SE 29th St. Re-Roof

Reminder: Most work usually needs a permit. Please visit http://www.beauxarts-wa.gov/bldg_dept.htm for more details, or contact Deputy Clerk Kulp with questions. Thank you to those that double-check before beginning work.

WABA BOARD MEETING: WABA Board of Trustees Meeting – **Wednesday, March 6th**, starting at 7:00PM at the Dix Residence. Meetings are usually held on the first Thursday of the month, however due to scheduling conflicts it is being held on the first Wednesday in March.

WABA BOARD POSITIONS: The WABA Board would like to welcome new Board Member – Brian Moco - who will be serving as the Membership/Social Activities Chair. Paula Dix will continue as President; Steve Miller will serve as Vice-President; Elizabeth Westburg as Treasurer; Karen Deitrick as Secretary.

WELCOME: Please welcome Cathy Seelye and her family! They were welcomed as members of WABA at last month's meeting. Her sons Luke and Landon are looking forward to spending time down at the beach this summer. They are leasing Bob and Molly Pressey's house.

WABA ASSESSMENT LETTERS: Be on the lookout for your annual assessment letter to arrive in the mail on or around March 1st.

ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT: It's Time to Hunt for Easter Eggs! Celebrate Easter with the Annual Beaux Arts Egg Hunt at 10am on Saturday, March 30th at the swim beach – rain or shine. Look for details on where to deliver your pre-filled eggs on the flyers posted around the Village. Coffee, donuts and juice will be provided. If you'd like to help get things ready on the day of the event, please contact Brian Moco or the WABA Clerk at wabaclerk@gmail.com.

TEST YOUR WABA I.Q.

Winter Dinner, WABA IQ Quiz Answers. 1.c 2.d 3.c 4.a 5.b 6.d 7.b 8.a 9.c 10.b 11.b 12.a

1. **The area that became Beaux Arts Village was used by first peoples for:** c) Driving deer onto Mercer Island
2. **Medina millionaire Captain E.W. Johnston helped the Village founders secure the mortgage for WABA. How did Mr. Johnston make it rich?** d) Yukon gold rush
3. **Two of Beaux Arts' three founders were:** c) Cartoonists
4. **Which of the following was a Village establishment early on?** a) Post office
5. **Which of the following is/was NOT a Village school for artistic pursuits?** b) Coleman's carving institute
6. **Which of the following is NOT a part of traditional summer picnic day?** d) East channel swim
7. **For whom was the "Beautiful Legs" contest of 1985 named?** b) Betty Boop
8. **In 1987, how did the Village win \$10,000?** a) Record % attendance at a Mariner's game
9. **Atmospheric Science Pioneer and Villager Peter Hobbs made his first flying laboratory in 1969 from a Douglas B-23 originally owned by whom?** c) Howard Hughes
10. **Which early expression for Bellevue credited a Villager by name?** b) Ditty's City
11. **Who was NOT an entrant in the State Centennial Parade in Beaux Arts?** b) Lewis and Clark
12. **Which is NOT a type of watercraft WABA's shores have seen?** a) Flounder

BEACHMASTER REPORT: Save the date! Annual Spring WABA Beach and Woodlands Cleanup will be on Saturday, April 27th, followed by the ever-popular hot dog lunch. Focus this spring will be on cleaning up around the tennis courts, and the Woodlands path from the south beach parking lot. See Forrest Kulp for any questions, and if you can help with a specific project.

DOCKMASTER REPORT: Bernard van de Kamp, previous dock master, was thanked at the January Winter Dinner for all of his past service and guidance. The newly updated wait list for moorage has been posted on the WABA website (www.waba1908.com) by our new Dock Master, Jay Jacobsen. Annual moorage fees were due the end of February; see Jay for any questions.

THANK YOU: A very big thank you to Sheila Justus for all her years and hard work as the Woodlands Manager! She has decided to step down in order to enjoy more time with her family and grandchildren. Julia Morse has taken on the role as Woodlands Manager; please contact her from now on with any questions or concerns regarding any WABA trees or plantings.

WOODLANDS REPORT: I have resigned the position of Woodlands Manager for WABA. Julia Morse has agreed to take the reins of this important work. Julia was on the Woodlands Committee from the beginning and has a good idea of where the woodlands work started and where it should go. Please call her if you have some interest in working on the committee or if you have concerns regarding the WABA Woodlands. Thank you. -Sheila Justus

Villagers, if you are currently doing a building project, or planning one that will impact your landscaping, or redoing your landscaping, please see Bron Richards. On behalf of the WABA Woodlands Committee working with Julia Morse, Bron is interested in rescuing any ferns or shrubbery planned for removal from a property in hopes to affordably relocate these plants, especially ferns, to the sloping bank on each side of the trail that goes up from the south beach parking lot. Thank you!

WABA HISTORY COMMITTEE: Anyone interested in serving on the History Committee is encouraged to contact Julia Morse to help update files, scrapbooks, and computer records. Our amazing century of archives only exists because of caring neighbors willing to keep it going! This committee helps to preserve and maintain important historical information about our Village, news about our residents, and their activities.

NEED TO CONTACT TOWN STAFF?

Contact Clerk-Treasurer Sue Ann Spens if you have questions about issues before the Council, general Town business, or Water-Department concerns.

Email: townhall@beauxarts-wa.gov

Phone: (425) 454-8580

Mail: 10550 SE 27th Street, Beaux Arts, WA 98004.

Contact Deputy Clerk Angela Kulp if you have questions or submissions for this newsletter, building department, permits, variances, or issues before the Planning Commission or Hearing Examiner.

Email: bldgdept@beauxarts-wa.gov

Phone: (425) 269-6985

Mail: 10550 SE 27th Street, Beaux Arts, WA 98004.

To report Block Watch concerns, contact:

Town Marshal Walter Scott: (425) 454-2573

Deputy Marshal Scott Harpster: (425) 746-0757

NEED TO CONTACT WABA?

WABA Members may contact WABA Clerk Kristin Mange for any concerns or questions you have about the Western Academy of Beaux Arts, regarding the beach or its reservations, parking stickers, green book, WABA social events or issues before the Board of Trustees.

Email: wabaclerk@gmail.com

Phone: 425-502-7382

Mail: 10010 SE 28th Place, Beaux Arts, WA 98004