NET News

Northeast Tacoma Neighborhood Council

Volume 13, Issue 10

November-December 2015

www.netacoma.net

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- NETNC held a Candidates Forum
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- Community Calendar

Community Meeting November 19th
All Welcome!
7pm, Tacoma Police Substation
4731 Norpoint Way (corner of Northshore Parkway)
City and agency staff reports; program: Early results from the Pierce Transit Route 63 “Downtown Express” demonstration project, plans for the Browns Point Elementary School re-build

Update: PSE Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) Plant plus Fire Station 15 Re-Opening

The City’s Planning and Development Services Dept. has published the final EIS for building and operating the proposed LNG plant near E. 11th St. on the Blair-Hylebos peninsula. The FEIS contains the required mitigations for safe and environmentally acceptable conditions. It includes the re-opening of the Tacoma Fire station on the Blair-Hylebos peninsula on E. 11th St., firefighter training and equipment for dealing with the special issues around LNG, and re-building Taylor Way to true heavy-haul trucking standards to support the increased freight traffic on it. You can find the FEIS at www.cityoftacoma.org/planning and look for “PSE Proposed Tideflats LNG Facility”.

On November 10th, the City Council approved the fire station’s re-opening and the agreements with the Port and PSE for their funding contributions to infrastructure improvements.

From City of Tacoma and NETNC sources

Update: Proposed Natural Gas to Methanol Plant in the Tideflats

NETNC is partnering with Citizens for a Healthy Bay, an organization that looks out for the environmental quality of Commencement Bay and nearby tidewater to gather and make available factual information related to the proposed natural gas to methanol plant toward the mainland end of the Blair-Hylebos peninsula. See CHB’s website at: http://www.healthybay.org/. Estimated water use for both process input and cooling is listed on their coverage, comparing it to Tacoma residential use. Tacoma Water estimates that water use will be less than that of the WestRock kraft paper mill (former Simpson) among industrial water users, which is less than the residents use.

The environment review process mandated by the State Environmental Policy Act, SEPA, has not begun. The first step will be for the State Dept. of Ecology to decide whether it will be the lead agency, coordinating with other stakeholders, or defer to another agency with jurisdiction, such as the City of Tacoma (which has declared its interest in being the lead agency). SEPA has several steps, each offering interested parties (such as NE Tacoma residents and business owners) the opportunity to learn about and comment on the proposal. The first event is likely to be a public meeting to describe the project and to begin the process of scoping the extent of the formal Environmental Impact Statement.

Cont. p 3
**NE Tacoma Crime News**

Crimereports.com shows numerous crimes during August through September to date: burglaries/breaking and entering, car thefts, thefts from vehicle (break-in), an assault with a deadly weapon (likely domestic), and thefts and vandalism. The site is useful for seeing what kinds of things are going on, especially in your immediate neighborhood, but it tends to exaggerate some crime reports because of the simplicity of the description possibilities. For example, minor property theft often gets reported as a burglary, which we would usually associate with a house burglary with more major property theft.

CLO Brandon Showalter reviews crime trends and key events at the monthly (NETNC) Community Meetings – come to hear his take on crime in NE Tacoma. Residents are invited to send reports of incidents to netnews98422@hotmail.com for inclusion here.

If you have questions about any police issue, please direct them specifically to the TPD Community Liaison Officer for our area, CLO Brandon Showalter, at 253.594.7951 or brandon.showalter@cityoftacoma.org.

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**FISH Food Bank Is at BP United Methodist Church**

This is a reminder to let friends and neighbors who are in need of food assistance know that the weekly FISH Food Banks food bank Friday afternoons from 4:30pm to 6pm is now at the Browns Point United Methodist Church (5339 BP Blvd.). Recent experience shows a growth to 12-18 NE Tacoma families getting needed help from the service. Please help get the word out!

Donations of either non-perishable food, kitchen/baby supplies, or money are gratefully accepted. Money donations are very valuable: FISH can provide $7 worth of food for each $1 donated!

You can find out more about FISH Food Banks at: [www.fishfoodbanks.org](http://www.fishfoodbanks.org).

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**Points Northeast Historical Society Ends Lighthouse Cottage Tours for Hiatus**

Points Northeast Historical Society Lighthouse Cottage Tours at the Browns Point Lighthouse Park ended in October following an abundance of visitors from many areas of the USA. Our Docents and Lightkeepers created warm experiences for all who stopped by. We will continue tours next May-October on Saturdays from 1 to 4 pm. Tours included the Cottage, Boathouse, Bell House, and Heritage Gardens.

Group tours may be arranged during the hiatus by calling our message phone at 253 927 2536.

**Save the date for the Annual Lighthouse Cottage Old-Fashioned Tea Party:** Sunday, December 13th from 1 to 4 pm.

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**TV Tacoma November Highlights**

From TV Tacoma (www.tvtacoma.org)

Some November neighborhood-oriented programming highlights include:

- **artTown:** Tacoma Art Museum’s (TAM) new western art collection, Comic Book culture, a long-lost film, featured local artists
- **Business Matters:** Zodiac Supper Club, Jonz Catering
- **CityLine:** Lively weekly review of current city activities, events, and services in our City. The September 17th edition has the Pierce Transit Route 63 startup. You can stream this.
- **Inside Tacoma** presents elected officials: Derek Young, Pierce County Councilmember; Rep. Jake Fey, 27th Legislative District
- **Tacoma Report:** Happenings in the community, City services and programs
- **Urban Green:** Lifecyle Communities, Happy Belly Restaurant’s Ginger Hoisin Rice Bowl recipe, Center for Urban Waters’ Green Roof, and how to keep backyard chickens.
- Programming on “Northwest Indian News” and VA News, among other topics
- City Council: Council meetings live Tuesdays, 5pm; study sessions live Tuesdays noon, Civil Service Board, and Public Utilities Board meetings (some broadcast only, City Council can be watched on-line – works on your mobile, as well!).
- Special: Pt. Defiance 100th Anniversary.

TV Tacoma is available on Click! and Comcast on channel 12 (21 in Pierce County). If you can’t watch live, you can watch archived shows on your cable video-on-demand service or on the website (www.tvtacoma.org). Choose from Regular Programs, Special Presentations, and Meeting Coverage in the list on the left and above.
Methanol Plant cont. from p. 1

Residents will learn more about the proposal and register their initial concerns to help shape the EIS.

There has been some information posted about the proposed project, some distorted and potentially misleading. By partnering with CHB, NETNC hopes to be able to ensure that adequate, fact-based information is available to NE Tacomans to inform their views on the proposal. Since the October NET News discussed this project, NETNC and CHB personnel have participated in two events to gain better understanding of such projects: On October 13th, the Sightline Institute, a Seattle-based environment-oriented organization, that "researches the best practices in public policy for a sustainable North-west", held a public meeting at UWT that raised some concerns about the project. The presentation was mostly about oil trains, with some material on the methanol plant. [The editor didn’t find that material very helpful.]

Later, a knowledgeable chemist and environmental activist, Wilma Subra, held a conference call to outline learnings from other like plants and issues they raise. She provided much detail about concerns, but didn’t put the environmental issues in a practical context. Ms. Subra made a key point: even if the EIS process results in mitigations that should effectively deal with any potential pollutants, it will be very important that there be mandated ongoing monitoring of environmental issues to ensure that pollutants stay under control. Learn more about Wilma Subra at: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wilma_Subra.

From NETNC and CHB sources

Community Solar Project - Tacoma Power Wants You to Make a Small Investment!

Tacoma Power will build Pierce County’s first community solar project early next year. Electric customers who want to invest in solar energy can register now at: https://www.mytpu.org/tacomapower/page.aspx?uid=22&id=4061 to buy solar units when they go on sale in early 2016. Community solar, a more affordable way to invest in solar energy, does not require home ownership, a load-bearing roof, or the high cost of installing solar panels.

Tacoma Power will build the 75-kilowatt project, and customers will fully fund it. Customers who buy solar units for $100 each will receive an annual Washington state solar production incentive payment, as well as payment for the electricity produced from the project. The expected payback period is about four years.

The state’s solar energy incentive ends in 2020, so building the project now will help customers take advantage of the incentive.

The community solar project adds to Tacoma Power’s already-extensive list of renewable energy; all of the power the utility produces is renewable hydropower. Nearly all of the power purchased from the Bonneville Power Administration is renewable, as well.

The project will feature solar panels and inverters manufactured in Washington State.

From Tacoma Power

EnviroHouse Programs and Free Chinook Book App

Adding to the great reasons to visit the EnviroHouse at the Tacoma Recovery & Transfer Center (“the Landfill”), on S. Mullins St. just south of Center St. is the offer of a free Chinook Book app for your smartphone. Normally $15 for a year’s subscription, the free offer gets you access to all sorts of great deals at environmentally friendly businesses around Tacoma and elsewhere in the Puget Sound region. There are a limited number of them available for Tacoma residents, provided through the City’s Environmental Services water quality office, and they will be available only through the end of the year. The only catch: you have to pledge to take care of water quality in one of the following simple ways by the end of 2015 (bet you are already doing it): scoop dog waste at home at least weekly and always on walks, always wash car at a car wash or at home on lawn or gravel areas, use less (or better, no) pesticides in your yard or garden.

What a deal! See more about the local Chinook Book and its participating businesses and their offers at: http://chinookbook.com/whats-inside/seattle-puget-sound/. If you have never been to a program at the EnviroHouse, or toured its energy-saving, green product, and responsible yard-care displays, you should take some time to do it. The home page is at: http://www.cityoftacoma.org/cms/One.aspx?portalId=169&pageId=17140. You can sign up on the workshop page to be informed of upcoming opportunities for everything from pruning, to rain barrels, to electric vehicles, to ductless heat pumps, and on.

From EnviroHouse
The NE Tacoma Neighborhood Council (NETNC) is focused on NE Tacoma, and seeks to coordinate with community groups in adjacent areas. This newsletter is an independent publication of NETNC and does not reflect the views or opinions of the City of Tacoma.

NETNC Board Members 2015-16

Area 1—Northwood
Arill Berg 924.0701 arillberg@nventure.com
Open position

Area 2—Stonegate/Centennial
Dick Hayek 952.1210 richardhayek@aol.com
Patti Warwick 568.1333 pattiwarwick@gmail.com

Area 3—Northeast Tacoma
Carolyn Edmonds 952.0301 carolyn.edmonds@comcast.net
Yvonne McCarty yvonne.mccarty@comcast.net

Area 4—Crescent Heights
Sandy Leek 381.7313 sandy.leek@comcast.net
Jim Philp 952.0509 j.p.b@att.net

Area 5—Northshore
Lois Cooper 925.5802 loiscooper@harbornet.com
Bill Thompson 425.785.7578 thompar4@juno.com

Area 6—Harbor Ridge
Hayes Alexander 952.5142 hayes18@nventure.com
Jon Higley 569.0145 jondolar2@comcast.net

Area 7—Upper Browns Point
Don Halabisky 927.4968 dhalabisky@nventure.com
Karen Pischel 927.0656 jkpischel@msn.com

Area 8—Cedar Heights
Jim DeJung 927.0719 jfdjung@comcast.net
Marion Weed 927.1735

Members at Large
Sue Baldwin 927.2351 suzieb@harbornet.com
John Thurlow 924.0288 johnthurlow@harbornet.com
Faye Teel 924.0288 fteel@hotmail.com

NETNC Executive Committee
Co-Chairs: Carolyn Edmonds, John Thurlow
Vice-Chair: Jim Philp
Recording Secretary: Jon Higley
Corresponding Secretary: Faye Teel
Treasurer: Karen Pischel

NETNC Representatives to the Community Council of Tacoma
Hayes Alexander John Thurlow
Marion Weed alt.: Jim Philp

Neighborhood Council Coordination
Carol Wolfe 951.5384 cwolfe@cityoftacoma.org

City Manager’s Office Liaison to NETNC
Bradley Forbes bforbes@cityoftacoma.org 591.5166

Tacoma City Councilmember (District 2)
Robert Thoms robert.thoms@cityoftacoma.org (constituent services: Ann Chambers, 594-7848, achambers@cityoftacoma.org)

Tacoma Police / Fire / Medical
Emergency - crime or threat in progress, fire, medical: 911
Police Non-Emergency: report crimes and suspicious behavior (wait for pickup) 798.4721 or 2

Tacoma Police—Northeast
Sector Commander: Lieutenant LeRoy Standifer lstandifer@cityoftacoma.org 591.5431
Community Liaison Officer: Brandon Showalter 594.7951 brandon.showalter@cityoftacoma.org
Police Substation: 4731 Norpoint Way NE 594.7970
Daily hours are 9am-9pm weekdays, but there are some shifts not filled, so call before visiting. If no one answers, call 911 or the non-emergency number. We hope that full volunteer coverage is resolved soon – join the volunteer cadre: call Jerry Pischel at 594.7970 (leave a message).
**NETNC Held a Candidates Forum on October 15th**

NETNC hosted candidates for County, Port, City Council, Civil Service Commission, Parks, and Schools for the November 4th election at a Candidates Forum on October 15th at Meeker M.S.’s Commons. The League of Women Voters of Tacoma-Pierce County moderated to ensure fair and impartial conduct. At least 25 NE Tacoma voters heard the candidates in races below and asked them probing questions (submitted to the moderator on index cards). There were a like number of candidates and their staff present to answer questions before and after the forum.

- Five candidates for the three Council District 2 seats for the Pierce County Charter Review Commission
- Two incumbent candidates for Port Commission
- Two candidates for the Tacoma City Council vacated at-large seat
- The incumbent and a challenger for the Parks Commission
- Four candidates for two Tacoma Schools Board seats.

Volunteers from the League of Women Voters and NETNC helped with logistics and conducting the forum, and we thank Meeker M.S. leadership for making the forum possible (and easy) in their space.

NETNC will host a Candidates Forum for the General Election on October 20th, 2016, which will include U.S. Congress District 9 representative, Washington Legislature 27th District House and Senate candidates, and judge candidates.

Plan to watch TV Tacoma’s coverage and participate in NETNC’s forum next year to take advantage of the opportunity to hear the candidates directly and to ask them questions.

*From NETNC sources*

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**MOVING INTO LIFE’S NEXT PHASE?**

**I CAN HELP.**

Ready to downsize? Thinking about a retirement community? These life-style choices can be overwhelming. Please call for a free consultation.

**Carolyn Edmonds**

SENIOR TRANSITIONS SPECIALIST

(206) 300-9828

Windermere Real Estate/South Inc.
NETNC Board Elections
November 19th
Service Takes an Hour and a Half a Month!

Elections for the 2016-17 terms for Board members are planned for the November 19th, 2015 community meeting. NETNC’s board is broadly-based, with up to 16 elected members representing eight designated areas in NE Tacoma (map below), and three at-large members (who also represent the nearby Tideflats), totaling 19. Board members serve staggered two-year terms – there are 11 seats open for the 2016-2017 terms.

The Nominating Committee of the NE Tacoma Neighborhood Council has developed a slate of candidates for the Board election. Community members interested in serving on the Board can self-nominate up to the point of the election. Please let Jim Philp, Chair of the Nominating Committee, know of your interest: j.b.p@att.net. He would be happy to discuss the Board with you and encourage you to serve your neighbors in this organization.

A complete list of incumbents and candidates with associated terms is on the next page.

From NETNC sources

NETNC Board Elections
Areas and Available Seats

Area 1: Northwood - 2 seats open
Area 2: Stonegate-Centennial - 1 seat open
Area 3: NE Tacoma - 1 seat open
Area 4: Crescent Heights - 1 seat open
Area 5: Northshore - 1 seat open
Area 6: Harbor Ridge - 1 seat open
Area 7: Upper Browns Point - 1 seat open
Area 8: Cedar Heights - 1 seat open
At-Large: also covers adjacent Tideflats - 2 seats open
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Incumbents</th>
<th>Term remaining</th>
<th>Term available</th>
<th>Candidates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Area 1: Northwood</td>
<td>Arill Berg</td>
<td>open</td>
<td>2-year term</td>
<td>Arill Berg</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>open</td>
<td>open</td>
<td>1-year term</td>
<td>David Mueller</td>
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<tr>
<td>Area 2: Stonegate/Centennial</td>
<td>Dick Hayek</td>
<td>1 year</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Patti Warwick</td>
<td>open</td>
<td>2-year term</td>
<td>Patti Warwick</td>
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<tr>
<td>Area 3: Northeast Tacoma</td>
<td>Yvonne McCarty</td>
<td>1 year</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Carolyn Edmonds</td>
<td>open</td>
<td>2-year term</td>
<td>Carolyn Edmonds</td>
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<tr>
<td>Area 4: Crescent Heights</td>
<td>Jim Philp</td>
<td>1 year</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sandy Leek</td>
<td>open</td>
<td>2-year term</td>
<td>Sandy Leek</td>
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<tr>
<td>Area 5: Northshore</td>
<td>Bill Thompson</td>
<td>open</td>
<td></td>
<td>Bill Thompson</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Lois Cooper</td>
<td>1 year</td>
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<td>Area 6: Harbor Ridge</td>
<td>Hayes Alexander</td>
<td>1 year</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Jon Higley</td>
<td>open</td>
<td></td>
<td>Jon Higley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Area 7: Upper Browns Point</td>
<td>Don Halabisky</td>
<td>open</td>
<td>2-year term</td>
<td>Don Halabisky</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Karen Pischel</td>
<td>1 year</td>
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<tr>
<td>Area 8: Cedar Heights</td>
<td>Jim DeJung</td>
<td>1 year</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Marion Weed</td>
<td>open</td>
<td>2-year term</td>
<td>Marion Weed</td>
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<tr>
<td>At-large:</td>
<td>Susan Baldwin</td>
<td>1 year</td>
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<td></td>
<td>John Thurlow</td>
<td>open</td>
<td>2-year term</td>
<td>John Thurlow</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Faye Teel</td>
<td>open</td>
<td>2-year term</td>
<td>Faye Teel</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Successful Propeller Club Fundraiser for El Faro Families

Tacoma’s Propeller Club, described below, held a fundraiser for families of the 33 lost crew members on the container ship El Faro, which sank in the Atlantic Ocean on October 1st when Hurricane Joaquin overtook the ship. The El Faro was sailing for a sister company of TOTE Maritime between Florida and Puerto Rico. In the early 2000s, it had sailed for TOTE between Tacoma and Anchorage as the Northern Lights, and was slated to return to that run to substitute for one of the TOTE roll-on/roll-off ships that is to be modified to burn LNG as fuel (from the PSE LNG plant).

The fundraiser was held on November 7th at the recently enlarged and improved SandBar in the Browns Point Town Center, featuring music from the Beacon Blues Band and fundraising activities. With the help of numerous volunteers, the event raised almost $5000!

The Tacoma Propeller Club at the Port of Tacoma is the largest Propeller Club on the West Coast with over 200 members. Its membership is composed of a comprehensive representation of the marine industry core companies in the greater Puget Sound area – from marine supply and marine surveyors to naval architects and marine engineers; from shipping companies to port administrators; from towing companies to chemical and petroleum companies. Almost 200 separate companies are represented.

Education is an important component of its activities. The Tacoma Propeller Club is the charter partner of the Tacoma Sea Scout Ship 110, the Charles N. Curtis. Sea Scouts (http://charlesncurtis.com/) is a program of the Boy Scouts of America, and the Tacoma club has provided funding support to this unit for over 20 years. See more at: http://www.tacomapropellerclub.com/home.html.

From Tacoma Propeller Club

Your business card-sized ad or announcement for community products or services should be here!

Write to: netnews98422@hotmail.com

PART DAY PRESCHOOL AVAILABLE

NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR 2015-2016; HS & ECEAP PART DAY

**EARLY LEARNING PROGRAMS**

Programs Offer:
- 4 days a week
- 2.5 - 3.5 hour sessions
- School year calendar
- Nutritious Meals & snacks
- Family Support/Engagement
- Health Support
- Social/Emotional Support
- Family and Child Education
- Language and Literacy Support
- Leadership Opportunities
- Community Information

Who is Eligible?
- Children ages 3-5
- Must be age 3 by August 31, 2014
- Federal Income Eligible Guidelines

How do I qualify for part day?
- *Families with limited income
- Families experiencing homelessness
- Children in Foster care
- Children in Need of Services
- Children with a disability or IEP
- Children from families with limited income
- Children in Need of Services
- Children with a disability or IEP

Complete an application and a staff person will work with you to see if your family qualifies for the program.

For an application, PLEASE CALL 411-3156

SEE BACK FOR MORE INFORMATION

Head Start

Early Childhood Education & Assistance Program

Washington State Department of Early Learning and Care
Meeker Holiday Bazaar on November 21st, 10am-4pm

The annual benefit holiday bazaar benefitting the Meeker-New Zealand student exchange program is on November 21st, 10am-4pm, at Meeker Middle School. Come view an array of year-round gifts and holiday decorations created by many unique crafters and artisans – more than 70 of them! The sponsor, Meeker Citizens of the World Student Exchange Booster Club, is not affiliated with Meeker M.S. or Tacoma Schools, and has supported the program vigorously for years.

Your ad or announcement for community products or services should be here!

Write to:
netnews98422@hotmail.com

School’s Out

SCHOOL-AGE CHILDCARE PROGRAMS AT:
Browns Point Elementary School
Northeast Tacoma Elementary School
Crescent Heights Elementary School

Monday-Friday 6:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m. ~ before/after school day

Safe, Quality Program • Reasonable rates (part-time available)

To enroll call Rainey Dhillon at 253-678-9020 or e-mail rainey.schoolsout@gmail.com
NE Tacoma Community Calendar

To help remind everyone of the community and Board committee meetings this year, as well as key community events, we prepared a calendar that we’ll update as dates firm up.

**If you have an event planned that’s open to the broad NE Tacoma community, please let us know, and we’ll include it.**

**NETNC Community Meetings are on 3rd Thursdays at 7pm, TPD NE substation**

**Executive and Planning Committees meetings are on 1st Thursdays at 6:30pm at the substation**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>November</th>
<th>December</th>
<th>January 2016</th>
<th>February</th>
<th>March</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13-14</td>
<td>Resurrection Lutheran Holiday Bazaar, 2-7pm Friday, 10am-4pm Saturday; 4301 BP Blvd.</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Executive and Planning Committees Meeting – all welcome</td>
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<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Community Meeting – program: Pierce Transit Route 63 Early Results, BP Elementary School Re-Build Plans, Board elections</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Executive and Planning Committees Meeting – all welcome</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>17</td>
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<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Meeker Holiday Bazaar (benefitting the Meeker-New Zealand exchange program) 10am-4pm, Meeker M.S.</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Executive and Planning Committees Meeting – all welcome</td>
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<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>BPIC Members’ Turkey Dinner, 6pm, clubhouse</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>Community Meeting – program: Tideflats Emergency Response / Intelligent Transportation System update (tent.), Board officer elections</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>17</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Board Annual Planning Workshop (date tent.) - all welcome: Recap 2015 accomplishments, set 2016 goals, and approve 2016 budget</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>Community Meeting: program tbd</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Further NETNC and NE Tacoma and community events will be posted after the January 2016 Board planning workshop</td>
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</table>