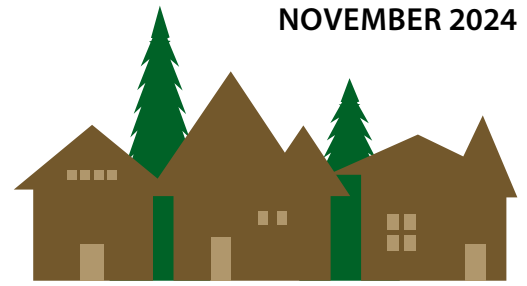


THE YORKER

NOVEMBER 2024



FROM THE YORK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION—BRINGING THE YORK COMMUNITY TOGETHER

18th Annual Christmas Caroling Party & Horse-Drawn Wagon Rides!

Come join your neighbors and friends at Nelson's Market for a holiday wagon ride and caroling party! All are welcome!

Saturday, December 14, 5–8 pm at Nelson's Market—514 Potter Street

Wagon rides are FREE! First departure at 5:00 pm*

Bring your good cheer, a flashlight, warm clothes (don't forget a hat and gloves), and/or a treat to share if you can. Holiday attire and costumes are encouraged!

Come enjoy local live music, shared seasonal goodies, and hot bevies. We will be caroling in the neighborhood and will try to get mostly families with younger children onto the first couple rides. There's room for close to 30 per wagon ride.*

We will again collect donations for the **Bellingham Food Bank** too, whether as funds or a nonperishable food item (or more). You can also donate digitally via the QR code which will be posted at the event.



And Happy Holidays from the York Neighborhood Association Board of Directors! Come join us!

* This event is weather-permitting; if it's too icy and unsafe for the horses, we will walk instead.



BENEFITING



We hope to see you there!



IN THIS ISSUE

Holiday party and bridges update	1
President's Corner	2
Help grow Bellingham's trees	3
Home maintenance for winter	4
Kids' activity: spot 12 York sights	4
Thanks to delivery volunteers	5
A SeeClickFix success story	6
Local business spotlight	7
Calendar of events	8

Meador/James bridges status

In case you were wondering about that unattractive bridge over James Street, no, that is NOT our new bridge! It's just a temporary structure, installed so that creek crossings can continue while the City focuses on replacing the Meador Avenue bridge first. Once that's done, hopefully in December, that ungainly thing will be removed and the *real* bridge built.



Prefer to read the Yorker in digital format?

Get it here:
yorkneighborhood.org/newsletters



YORK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

PO Box 2662, Bellingham WA 98227-2662

www.yorkneighborhood.org • President@yorkneighborhood.org • [#YorkNeighborhood](https://twitter.com/YorkNeighborhood)



President's Corner

By Colin Beazley, YNA President

In Bellingham's York Neighborhood our tree canopy, parks, and community involvement create a unique sense of place and well-being. A thriving tree canopy not only shades our historic homes and sidewalks but also improves air quality, provides habitat for wildlife, and supports Bellingham's commitment to sustainability.

Earlier this year, the York neighborhood secured a **Small & Simple Grant** with the City of Bellingham to bring new trees to your properties and we are partnering with **Plantas Nativa**. If you are interested, you can have your name added to our York Neighborhood email listserv to learn more details. Email president@yorkneighborhood.org to be added.

Similarly, our neighborhood playgrounds—places where kids can play, stay active, and connect—are essential in fostering a safe, welcoming community. The first concepts for **Rock Hill Park** have just been posted on the **Engage Bellingham website** (engagebellingham.org), and the **survey for feedback** there is open until November 25. You can also provide your playground input by emailing rockhillrefresh@gmail.com.

These spaces are enriched through active engagement from York residents. On December 14, the YNA will host the **18th Annual Holiday Party** on Potter Street, in partnership with Nelson's Market and **Cramer Classics Horse Carriages**. From 5–8 pm, bring your family and friends to celebrate another



year enjoying your neighbors' company and holiday spirit.

Engaging with neighbors not only strengthens our community bonds but also empowers us to navigate political changes more effectively. In times of shifting policies or city planning decisions that impact Bellingham and our York Neighborhood, the YNA believes being connected with neighbors allows us to share information, voice concerns, and support each other. By working together, we can better advocate for the needs of our neighborhood, from preserving green spaces to enhancing public resources. Let's continue working together to nurture our community and enhance the places we love.



Binyon Vision Center
Thorough Eye Care. Fantastic Eye Wear.

Thankful to be a York neighbor since 1993!

411 E. Magnolia
360-647-2020 www.binyonvision.com



STILL GOT ELECTION YARD SIGNS?

Hang onto them a little while longer, because we can repurpose them for use in the 2025 York Yard Crawl next summer! We'll let you know in an upcoming issue of the *Yorker* where to drop them off or request that they be picked up.

York Neighborhood Association Board of Directors

2023–24 Officers

President: **Colin Beazley** • Vice President: **Chris Donaldson**
Treasurer: **Opie Knechtel** • Secretary: **Mark Ellis Walker**

Members-at-Large

Élan Engel • Jeremy Ferrera • John DeOrio
Kevin Cussen • Mars Lindgren • Megan Doyle
Paul D'Agnolo • Todd Kleinbrook • Tom Scott

★ *College students: please consider joining us as a student rep!* ★

Newsletter Production: Mark Ellis Walker

Planting more trees in the York neighborhood

by Stefanie Cilinceon, Communications and Outreach Coordinator, City of Bellingham Public Works Department

The City of Bellingham plants thousands of trees on public property each year and is a proud **Tree City USA** community. Why trees? They provide a wealth of benefits for our community, including shade, cleaner air, wildlife habitat, and more. In 2024, the City began investing in efforts to encourage more tree planting on private property to help grow Bellingham's tree canopy cover citywide, especially in neighborhoods with fewer trees. While the average canopy cover in Bellingham is 40%, York Neighborhood is much lower than that at 17.7% (learn more about this in the **State of the Urban Forest Report**, available on the City's website at cob.org/wp-content/uploads/220428_Bellingham-State-of-the-Urban-Forest-Report_v2.pdf).



To help increase this number, the York Neighborhood Association applied for and received a **Small & Simple Grant** from the City to fund a tree giveaway. York property owners can sign up to receive a tree, free, from our local native plant nursery, **Plantas Nativa**, by emailing treasurer@yorkneighborhood.org. Trees will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis. You will have a list of eligible species to choose from and can pick up your trees in March or April 2025.

Want a tree sooner? The City will be giving away free shore pine and paper birch trees at the **Bellingham Farmers Market** on **Saturday, November 30**. Look for their blue tent next to the goat statue. Once you receive a tree, visit the City's website for planting tips!

Don't have your own property to plant a tree?

No problem! Join a volunteer work party to plant trees in local trails and parks, including **Rock Hill Park** in January.

To protect Bellingham's largest and most significant trees, the City also recently passed an emergency **Landmark Tree Ordinance** that prevents these trees from being removed or damaged without City approval. You can help grow the Landmark Tree Inventory by nominating a tree online at cob.org/landmark-tree-nomination, but first see if it's already on the map at cob.org/services/environment/trees/tree-protection.

Edward Jones > edwardjones.com | Member SIPC

Is your financial advisor an 800 number?
Come talk to a person.

Jeremy Ferrera
Financial Advisor
1801 Roeder Ave Suite 156
Bellingham, WA 98225
360-671-0850

MKT-58940-A-A1 AECSPAD 23706101

**EVERYBODY DESERVES
EXPERT CARE**

**Long-Acting, Reversible
Contraception**

1.800.230.PLAN | mbpp.org
Bellingham • Mount Vernon • Friday Harbor

© 2024 Planned Parenthood

Stay warm this winter!

by Megan Doyle, YNA Board Member

Stock Up On Salt & Shovels: We may only get one or two major storms a season here in Whatcom County, but nobody wants to be left out in the cold when it comes to snow. Make sure you have a decent shovel and a bag of pet-safe, environmentally friendly ice melt in the garage ahead of time. To lighten your shoveling load, bundle up and get out there early on snow days...and if you're a landlord, be ready with it for your tenants. Your neighbors and your back will thank you!

Furnace Fury: Ensure your heating system is fully functional and running smoothly well ahead of the first frost. Change filters on forced-air systems, and inspect gas and electric heaters, cleaning out any dust or debris, to ensure cozy temperatures inside all winter long. While you're at it, check fire extinguishers for expiration dates and ensure proper clearance around heating vents, especially for soft/flammable materials.

Trim Trees: Inspect any large trees around your yard for loose or dead branches, and consult a professional arborist if necessary. Harsh winds and heavy snow can cause catastrophic breakage, posing a hazard to property and community safety.

Faucet Frenzy: Cover exterior spigots with styrofoam or plastic insulating covers, and make a plan to safeguard plumbing in cooler weather. Plan to drip faucets and open cabinets to encourage heat transfer and prevent frozen pipes when the temperature drops below freezing.

Inside Scoop: Winter is the perfect time to tackle those inside projects that got put off after a long summer spent outdoors. The cooler months offer ample opportunity to touch up paint, spruce up flooring, or organize the dreaded hall closet.

Bonus tip: if you're cleaning out, many local charities would love your gently used coats, clothing, and more. Consider donating what you no longer need, and get a super-early start on spring cleaning.

HEY, KIDS! HAVE YOU SEEN THEM?

Locate the things pictured, and put a number on the map. The things are right near our borders.



www.CRAZY SOCKS.com

1323 CORNWALL, BELLINGHAM
1% of sales support mental health.

The Dahlia DAY SPA
ART GALLERY

NEW DAY SPA

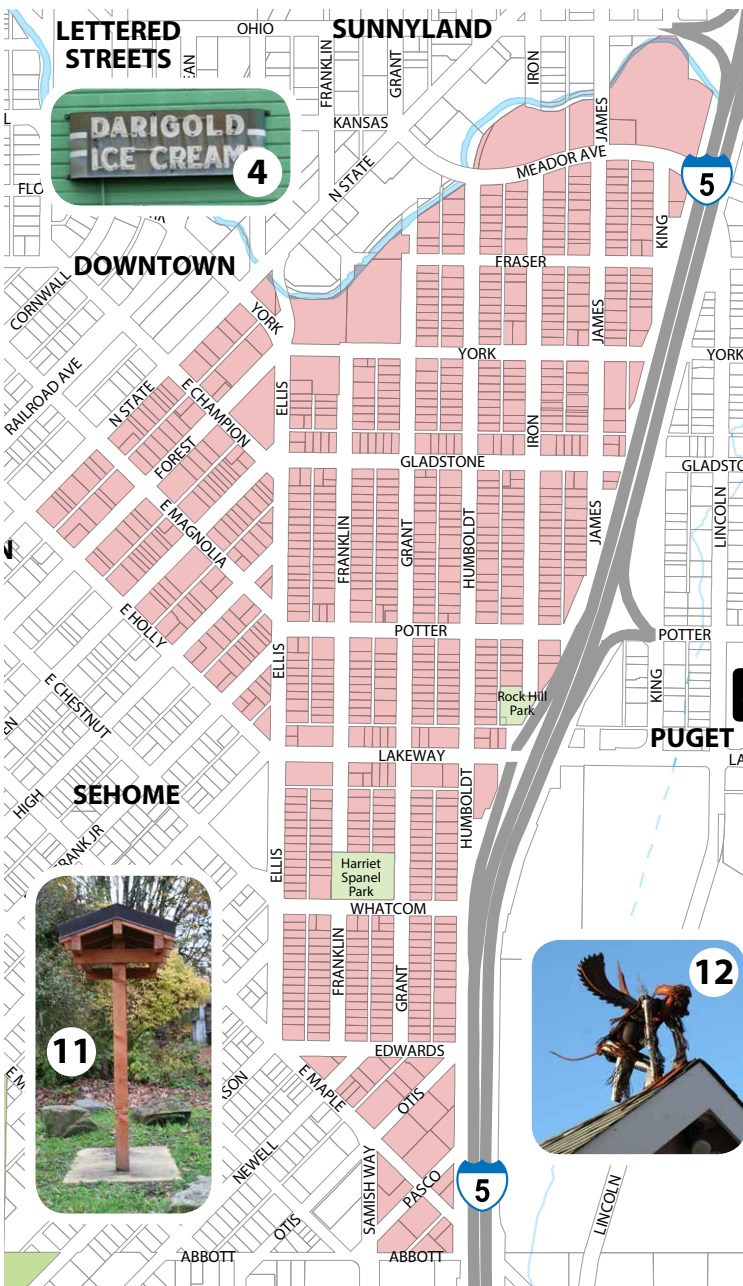
The Ellis Station
1151 Ellis Street

- Facials
- Waxing
- Lash & Brow Tinting
- Lash Lifting
- Lash Extensions
- Organic/vegan skincare
- Massage Therapy

www.thedahlia.com

SE AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD?

Map where they are. *Hint: they're all in York, but some*



Thank you, Yorker delivery volunteers!

by Mark Ellis Walker, Yorker Production Guy and YNA Board Member

With Thanksgiving just ahead, I want to take the opportunity to profoundly thank my York neighbors who comprise the network of volunteers who deliver these newsletters to all the 1,100-plus residences and businesses in our neighborhood. I could fill an entire eight-page issue if I listed everyone who had been a delivery volunteer in the newsletter's history, so I'll have to settle for thanking those who have delivered since I inherited the responsibility for its distribution six years ago.

- Andrew Molitor • Anne Mackie • Barbara Davenport
- Brian & Katy Murphy • Brian Kennedy • Carolyn Mulder & Eric Baumgarten
- Chris Donaldson • Chris Robinson • Colin Beazley • Dale Kreider
- David & Vilma Camp • Élan Engel • Emma Toth • Isabel Lay
- Jason Finkbonner • Jeremy Ferrera • Jessica Bandstra • John DeOrio
- John Wiley & Carolyn Milling • Keshava & Ingrid Marvin
- Kevin Covey • Kevin Cussen • Kim & Jim Owen • Leigh Mcdiarmid
- Lisa & Cory Anderson • Marielle Face • Mark Ellis Walker
- Mark Schofield & Michelle Burkhart • Mary Newman • Megan Doyle
- Melissa Eyre • Michael Neville & Don Hilty-Jones
- Michele McFarland Waltz • Miranda Lock • Opie Knechtel
- Rebecca Hobbs • Ron Barnett • Sandi Bjarnson • Sarah Kindl
- Sarah Pudell • Suzie Clark • Ted Ardans • Ticker Ba-Aye
- Todd & Stephanie Kleinbrook • Tom Scott



The **NEIGHBORHOOD** is **WAITING** for **YOU** at

Nelson's Market

BREAKFAST LUNCH DINNER BEER, WINE & CIDER
8 A.M.-10 P.M. DAILY 514 POTTER ST. (360) 734-2448

A.A. Anderson Co., Inc.
Heating • A.C. • Electrical • Sheet Metal
360-734-7710

1409 N. FOREST STREET
BELLINGHAM, WA 98225

Family Owned and
Operated since 1948

See it? Click and fix it!

by Megan Doyle, YNA Board Member

During the long, hazy days of summer in York Neighborhood, mowing the lawn is a personal favorite pastime of mine. Being out in the sunshine and waving to neighbors brings me indescribable joy as I commune with my inner Midwestern Dad.

Except, of course, for that one spot.

The spot in question, in the corner of my yard on Grant Street, was soggy. Really soggy. I chalked it up to a damp spring, figuring it would dry out in time. But as May turned to June, and weeks passed without a drop of rain, the spot remained stubbornly sodden. When my mower wheels got stuck in the mud one too many times, I'd had enough. I opened up my phone camera, snapped a pic, and turned to SeeClickFix.

Since 2021, the City of Bellingham has offered SeeClickFix as an efficient way to manage public works requests of all kinds, from water leaks to litter, graffiti, noise complaints, and more. The service can be accessed easily through the city website (cob.org), or by downloading the SeeClickFix app.

Simply take a photo, tag the location, and write a brief description of the issue; once submitted, it will automatically be directed to the appropriate city department. The entire process takes only a few minutes. Reports may be submitted anonymously, or citizens can register a free account to receive updates on their reported issue.

I have personally used SeeClickFix to report illegal dumping, damaged utilities, and more for years. *Every report I've filed has been dealt with swiftly and effectively.* Utilizing this service isn't just convenient; it's an easy, active way to assist our local public works department, increasing their efficiency and improving our communities...and they encourage and welcome its use!

Three days after I submitted my SeeClickFix report, a city crew showed up and got to work.

The culprit of the soggy spot turned out to be a badly damaged public stormwater runoff pipe. Gone unreported, the leak could have wreaked havoc on surrounding properties and infrastructure, but because it was reported on SeeClickFix the pipe was replaced within the week. I've been able to mow happily without getting stuck in the mud ever since!

Next time you see something amiss around the block, don't do nothing. See it, click it, and fix it! It's a simple, easy, and effective way to help hardworking city employees while keeping our neighborhood beautiful, functional, and safe.

To learn more or submit a report, please visit cob.org/fix.



Robert Sarazin Blake's
A Very Subdued Christmas
 at the New Prospect Theatre

December 22nd & 23rd
 207 Prospect S. Bellingham, WA
 Tickets at robertsarazinblake.com

SOUNDSIDE INSPECTIONS

A THOROUGH INSPECTION FOR A SOUND INVESTMENT

Servicing Whatcom, Skagit & Island Counties
 for all of your home inspection needs



Alex Trendelman
 Residential & Commercial Inspection
 Bellingham, WA

Washington State License # 23024009
soundsideinspections@gmail.com
 (718) 809-5059
www.soundsideinspections.com

A small shop with a world inside

Christmas is fast approaching...and if you're looking for a place to buy local as well as international gifts (or if you work downtown and want a cute place to shop on your lunch break) check out **SWAG** (Sealed With A Gift), located at 511 East Magnolia Street.



The Yorker stopped by recently to chat with owner **Danielle Starr**, a local who went to Western and who has previously owned a few other businesses throughout the county. She's a knowledgeable and passionate woman with a flair for, well, everything. Danielle's experience in business ownership, retail, fashion, and merchandising all come together in a lovely gift shop that could be described as a blend of Urban Outfitters and Anthropologie.

The mindfulness Danielle applies to the space and the products she stocks ensure there is something for everyone...and at an affordable price. There is only one item in the store priced over \$100, and she strives to stock USA-made products, including by local Bellingham artists. She also carries international products... and this writer fell in love with the Marimekko napkin collection and bought two different patterns. When asked about her favorite product in the store, Danielle named two: one practical (no-pull hair ties from France) and one elegant (colorful, lead-free crystal stemware). Oh, and the greeting cards are hilarious.

The store is filled with several different rooms, and it was a delight wandering through them all on my very first visit. There's even a Man-Cave. And this is more than just a store for public shopping. She will host small groups (book club, Bunko team) after the store is closed, and attendees can mingle and snack while they try on clothing and shop.



Groups can receive 10% off, and if you stop in and mention you're a York resident you'll also enjoy a 10% discount. In addition, if you're a local artist and would like to have a pop-up event, she'd love to discuss hosting that.

With all of her experience, she'd be a great business coach

and has the following advice for students who are interested in opening a business. **"Speak to the Business Development Center at Western. Learn how to be an influencer, and do your homework."**

Shop hours are Tuesday through Saturday 10-6, and you can check out her instagram [@swag_giftbham](#).



SWAG
511 E Magnolia St
360-389-1203



Skyline
PHYSICAL THERAPY

Jane Richardson PT, ScD, OCS, COMT

360-738-4300 1408 N. Garden Street
FAX: 360-738-8010 Bellingham, WA 98225

www.skyline-physicaltherapy.com

**Seen this new York-celebrating mural yet?
Details in the next issue!**



(And there's a mural in the planning stages for the Lakeway underpass, too.)

