

You don't always need a logical reason for doing everything in your life. Do it because you want to; because it's fun; because it makes you happy.

Enjoy Life

~Unknown 🍷

Reminders about the New Management Company (AMS-NW)

1. As stated in a message in October, "The established Battlecreek 'rules and regulations' will be the same for all. You all have a copy in your red binder, are provided information about changes as they occur, and have access to the rules on our web site. I have been told that some people believe they have permission to use visitor parking on a regular basis. You do not have such permission and the parking rule, as written, will be enforced. Each residence has parking for about 5 vehicles, 2 in the garage and 3 across the front of your residence."

We are still seeing residents using visitor parking on a regular basis. After 1/1/25 the management company will enforce this rule. Fines and towing will be options used. Please make sure you follow the rules regarding parking as written in the Rules and Regulation II D, page 9 in the online rules.

2. **Work orders are handled the same way we always have and should not be sent to AMS.** I know occasionally their instructions say to send work orders to them, which is standard practice for them with the other HOAs they work with. We are unique in that we have on-site staff and do not use outside contractors for most work around Battlecreek. If a project is beyond the scope of our staff it will be up to the staff through the board to request additional service through AMS as funding will need to be approved.

Sharon Grasseth, President 🍷



🎉 A Huge Thank You!!!

A special, huge thank you to all residents who were able to contribute this year to a gift for our BCC staff. You all truly outdid yourselves, again! The gift collection "committee" found the process to be fun, festive, and very, very gratifying.

You are all SO AWESOME! 🍷



Beautiful Holiday Lights at BCC!!!

Beginning right after Thanksgiving it has been so lovely, cheery, and fun to drive around the community seeing so many really lovely light displays here at BCC!!! Thank you to all our wonderful residents for their great displays! 🍷



"Did you know on the Canary Islands? There is not one canary? And on the Virgin Isles? Same thing, not one canary there either!"

CALENDAR

January 2025 – March 2025

HOA Activities

These meetings are all open to all members.

For the time being follow the instructions provided in the emailed meeting notices about how meetings will meet or contact the Chair of the committee you wish to attend.

Board of Directors	Finance –	Planning & Projects-Sue Harris, Co-Chair	Neighborhood Watch – TBD
January 28, 2025-5:30p - ZOOM	Wed B4 Bmtg January 22, 2025-4:00p-Clbhs		January 9, 2025-6:00p –Clbhse
February 25, 2025-5:30p - ZOOM	February 19, 2025-4:00p - Clbhse	TBD	February 13, 2025-6:00p - Clbhse
March 25, 2025-5:30p - ZOOM	March 19, 2025-4:00p - Clbhse		March 13, 2025-6:00p - Clbhse

Grounds – Megan Trow & Virginia Ferguson, Co-Chairs	Maintenance/Repair/Paving – C&R Staats	Architecture – Bill Burnside	Emergency Prep – Nate Goldberg
January 14, 2025-6:00p - Clubhouse	Paving project begins!	Meets as needed-contact Chair	January 7, 2025-7:00p -Clubhouse
February 11, 2025-6:00p - Clubhouse	Meets as needed-contact Chair	TBD	We'll meet quarterly unless
March 11, 2025-6:00p - Clubhouse	TBD		needed and called sooner

We hope you will join these meetings to share your concerns and views, and become more involved in our community. Please come join us! 🍷

Social Activities: Thirsty Thursday –The clubhouse is reserved every Thursday 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm. Bring your own drink and an appetizer to share. >!!!Due to the Holidays, TT is on hiatus and will return January 9th!!! 🍷




What to Do if You See a Coyote in Your Yard

Most negative interactions with coyotes can be avoided, if you follow these tips from Kohl and Owen, certified wildlife specialists:

- **Be aware that coyotes are part of our landscape, even in cities.** As coyotes expand their territories, you may encounter these animals in your yard or garden. “Have an awareness that they can be out there, even in a neighborhood setting,” says Owen.
- **Keep your dog on leash when walking them, especially at dawn and dusk.** Coyotes will attack small dogs, though attacks on medium and large dogs are uncommon, says Kohl.
- **Watch pets when outdoors, even in a fenced area.** Coyotes are good climbers and can scale a 6-foot fence, says Owen.
- **Don’t allow cats to roam.** Research has found that both domestic and feral cats are food sources for coyotes, says Kohl.
- **Don’t leave pet food outside.** Like other types of wildlife, such as [raccoons](#), [opossums](#), and [skunks](#), coyotes love an easy meal and will quickly learn where to find one, says Owen.
- **Keep garbage cans and compost bins covered** so they don’t become food sources, says Owen.
- **Ensure pets are up-to-date on medications.** That includes preventive treatments for [fleas](#) and [ticks](#) and heartworm and vaccinations for parvo, distemper and rabies, says Kohl.
- **Make sure chicken coops and livestock are protected.** If using fencing, an [electric wire](#) at the top and bottom of fencing can discourage coyotes but won’t harm them, says Owen.
- **Use hazing techniques to chase a coyote out of your yard.** If you see a coyote passing through, bang pots and pans, yell, or use an air horn to scare it off. They typically are skittish and will flee. A startling device, such as a motion-activated water sprinkler, also may work. “The goal is to keep them afraid of us,” says Kohl.
- **Forget about repellants or essential oils.** These have questionable or no effectiveness, says Owen. In fact, the coyote may just pee on any scent repellants you use.
- **Contact your state’s local wildlife agency if you have concerns about a frequent visitor.** If you have livestock or chickens that are disappearing, if you see a coyote frequently on your property, or if you encounter a coyote that seems to have lost its fear of humans, you may need to have it removed. “If you’re yelling at it and the coyote is still standing there looking at you, that’s a situation we don’t want occurring,” says Kohl.

“The biggest risk coyotes pose to our lives is the potential disease transmission to our pets,” says Kohl. To protect your animals, make sure that all of their vaccines are up-to-date and that you regularly use preventives to protect your pets against heartworm, fleas and ticks. 🍷



Reminder: It is deer rutting season now through December/January so PLEASE be more observant and very careful as you travel. 🍷 



“At my age, rolling out of bed in the morning is the easy part. Getting up off the floor is a whole other story.”

Are You Ready For The Unexpected?? (from Emergency Preparedness Committee)

Unexpected does not have to mean unprepared. It is only a Crisis if you are not Prepared! Remain Calm and Be Prepared!!!

An Emergency is The Absence of Choice....

Disclaimer: Please remember information shared here are ideas and suggestions presented for your consideration and are not recommendations by the BCC Board of Directors.



A few Emergency Prep reminders and tips:

!! Items of the Month !!

1. Very Important and valuable!!! **DO NOT OPEN YOUR FREEZER while the power is out.** One homeowner here at BCC left their freezer **COMLETELY CLOSED** for the 5 to 7 days they were without power during our bad ice storm in 2021 and they lost almost nothing!! Good advice also for refrigerators, although more difficult as you need stuff from it to survive!!
2. Fire extinguishers: Please have fire extinguishers available in your home. They are reasonably priced and easily found at many stores including Costco, Home Depot, Lowe's, Amazon, and even Safeway, Fred Meyer, and others. These units begin around \$35 each and go up from there in price. A couple of things to remember about fire extinguishers - information obtained from Salem's Deputy Fire Chief: Once you pull the pin and use them, even just a little, they are finished. You cannot just hang them back up and think you can use them again even if you did not empty the container - when you stop the flow, the nozzle clogs and cannot be reopened. Soooo, what do you do now? Well, we asked about recharging fire extinguishers and the answer from the Deputy Fire Chief was NO. It's rare to find a place to get them recharged, and it's very expensive so you should just go get a new one. They are inexpensive enough and then you will be well prepared for your next possible need. Also check the date on your unit - if it's out of date, you also should replace it. While you're at it, get a couple!!
3. Charge up your emergency jump start unit!! If you have one of those emergency car jump start units, you should check it to make sure it is charged. You should do this every 6 months or so. That way when you windup needing a jump start you are all ready and not caught "flat footed!!" 🚗



The next FREE CERT Training Course:

Preregistration is required! Contact Lola Hackett (lolahackett@yahoo.com) for more information. - See below first!

Dates	Classes: January 9,16,23,30, February 6, and 13, 2025 Final exercise (mock disaster drill): Saturday, February 15, 2025
Times	Classes: 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm Final exercise (mock disaster drill): 8:30 am - 12:00 pm
Location	Classes: Training Room @ Fire Station #6, located at 2740 25th Street SE Mock Disaster Drill: also @ Fire Station #6, located at 2740 25th Street SE



If you would like to enroll for this series of classes, **three (3) enrollment forms need to be filled out.** Please let me (Aline Autenrieth 301-588-5399 or aautenrieth@juno.com) know if you are interested and I can get the forms to you and provide further instructions. If you have any questions about the forms, the classes, or the CERT program, please feel welcome to contact me. If you are interested in joining the other 12 of your CERT trained neighbors, please let me know!! Aline Autenrieth at aautenrieth@juno.com or 301-588-5399. 🏠

PLEASE send in your Emergency Prep Information Form to Mary Schrodger.
(If you need another one contact Mary at felines@comcast.net!!!!)

Our next meeting will be held on **Tuesday, January 7 at 7:00 PM in the clubhouse.** Emergency Preparedness meets the **1st Tuesday of each quarter (January 7) at 7:00 pm** in the Clubhouse unless called sooner to which **ALL are welcome!** Please contact one of us if you wish to join the meeting, have questions, or something to contribute. Stay healthy, happy, and safe!! 🏠



*"It's OK to talk to yourself...and OK to answer yourself.
But sad when you have to repeat what you said because you weren't listening!!"*

Finders Keepers!

Well, the NEW Rock Hider continues to hide these beautiful rocks with crocheted coverings. So, go out there and find them!! They are placed around the beginning of the month!! We Love It, whoever you are and **thank you very much** for this very fun activity!! So search on, everybody!! 🍪



If you have a recipe or several you would like to share, please send them to me – always searching for good contributions!! Thanks!

Recipe Corner!

Creamed Onions



Ingredients

- 2 tablespoons butter
- 2 pounds onions, peeled, cut in half, & thickly sliced (use Pearl onions, if you can find them)
- ½ teaspoon dried thyme
- ½ teaspoon dried sage, or more to taste
- ¼ teaspoon freshly grated nutmeg
- 1 ½ cups heavy cream
- kosher salt
- white pepper
- 2 tablespoons fresh thyme, or fresh parsley, chopped

Instructions

1. Melt butter in a large cast iron skillet.
2. Add onions & cook over medium-low, stir occasionally, till soft, about 20 minutes.
3. Add dried thyme & cook, stirring, 2 minutes.
4. Add the cream & bring just to a boil. Turn the heat to low.
5. Simmer over low heat, stir occasionally, till thick, 5 minutes.
6. Add salt & white pepper to taste.
7. Remove thyme leaves from stems. Chop if leaves are large.
8. Sprinkle with fresh thyme or parsley & serve hot.


Tips

- Always cook onions on low heat to prevent caramelizing.
- Avoid using onions with soft or dark spots. This is an indicator they're about to go bad.
- Cut onion into thicker slices for a more enjoyable bite. They'll cook down in the butter, & if the slices are too thin, they'll get mushy.
- The creamy sauce will thicken the longer it simmers. However, it'll also thicken more as it cools, so don't be too worried if it's a little loose.
- Easily separate thyme by pushing the stem end into a mesh strainer. Pull it through from the other side, & you'll be left with thyme leaves! 🍪

BCC CONCERTS

On Sunday, January 12th 2:00 – 5:00 pm STEVE HALE returns for his 4th visit to us! A singer/songwriter with a soul edge, Steve delivers his brand of blue-eyed-soul-Americana-pop in the tradition of Bruno Mars, Daryl Hall, Sam Cooke, and Bill Withers. His love for melody is woven deeply into the chordal fabric of his songs, making his music rich, sultry, glowing, and delicious.

Upcoming concert schedule:

February 2th - Gayle Gage Jazz 
 March 23 - Next of Kin (again)

Bring a snack to share and a beverage of your choice and enjoy an afternoon of music with your friends and neighbors. Some cushions are available to make the folding chairs more comfortable. The recommended donation to the artist is \$15 per adult. Call/text Sharon Grassetth to reserve seats for you and your guests – 503-559-8414, sharrose47@yahoo.com 🍪

Contributors to this month's Newsletter: Sharon Grassetth, Mary Schroeder, Steve Starkey, Crocheting Rock Hider, Bill Dalton, and me!,-Aline Autenrieth. 🍪



“I act like I’m okay but deep down I want to be eating Beignets in New Orleans.”

Do you have something to share with the community? The Newsletter is a good place to get out the word. Write it up and send it to me (aautenrieth@juno.com). Please send the article rather than just the idea! Articles should be from 100 words to 600 words. We reserve the right to edit all submissions. Microsoft Word compatible is desired. PDF files are more difficult! **DEADLINE: 10th of the month, please!** 🍪



BCC Office Hours
Monday thru Friday (except holidays):
10:00 am - 3:30 pm
 NOTE: The office will be closed for holidays on
 Jan 1,
 May 26, July 4, Sep 1
 Nov 27, Dec 25

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