

BATTLECREEK COMMONS COMMUNICATOR



Issue 104 Page 1 December 2024

If we laugh and sing a little as we fight the good fight of freedom, it makes it all go easier. I will not allow my life's light to be determined by the darkness around me.

~Sojourner Truth 🌯



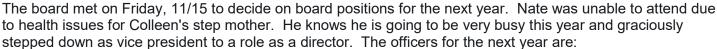
ANNUAL BCC ELECTION RESULTS

The results of the election:

All three candidates were elected to the Board: Sue Harris, Dee Doyle, and Virginia Ferguson.

We had a few ballots that were blank & 2 write-ins for John Morgan.

There was one ballot with no address or signature, which we didn't open. They apparently used their own envelope.



President- Sharon Grasseth Back Up Treasurer - Jeanne Dalton Vice President - Virginia Ferguson Director - Kathie Forstrom Director - Nate Goldberg Secretary - Sue Harris

The BCC Board of Directors 4 Treasurer - Dee Doyle



BCC CONCERTS

On Sunday, November 10th BERNIE SIMS again brought us his wonderful repertoire of original and cover songs. https://berniesims.com

NEXT OF KIN from Silverton will be here again SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15th, 2:00 <u>- 5:00 pm</u> in the clubhouse to play Country and Classics.



Upcoming concert schedule:

January 12th - Steve Hale 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 Grasseth to reserve seats for you and your guests – 503-559-8414, sharrose47@yahoo.com





"One goose to another: If you get lost during migration just follow the cars that have gray-haired humans inside."

CALENDAR

December 2024 – February 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	<u> Finance – </u>	Planning & Projects-Sue Harris, Co-Chair	Neighborhood Watch – TBD
1 wk early-Dec 17, 2024-5:30p - ZOOM	Wed B4 BMtg December 11, 2024-4:00p-Clbhse		2nd Thurs Dec 12, 2024-6:00p -Clbhse
January 28, 2025-5:30p - ZOOM	January 22, 2025-4:00p-Clbhse	TBD	January 9, 2025-6:00p –Clbhse
February 25, 2025-5:30p - ZOOM	February 19, 2025-4:00p - Clbhse		February 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
December 10, 2024-6:00p - Clubhouse	Paving project begins!	Meets as needed-contact Chair	January 7, 2025-7:00p -Clubhouse
January 14, 2025-6:00p - Clubhouse	Meets as needed-contact Chair	TBD	We'll meet quarterly unless
February 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 – Thirsty Thursdays are BACK!!! The clubhouse is reserved every Thursday 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm for this fun gathering. Bring your own drink and an appetizer to share.



Special Note: November and December Board & Finance Meetings are ONE WEEK EARLY so as not to interfere with holidays.



BCC ANNUAL HOLIDAY SOCIAL/BANQUET

Saturday, <u>December 14th</u>. The Buffet will be at 5:30 pm at the clubhouse catered by Willaby's. Cost is \$22/person due by <u>December 6th</u>. – info with details coming very soon to your mailbox.



Damage to Communal Plantings

Damage to another plant on communal grounds has been reported. No one has the right to touch plants planted by the Grounds Committee without permission as they are assets of BCC. Vandalism by taking clippings, removing plants or in any way purposely causing damage to plantings should be reported to the Grounds Committee, preferably to Virginia Ferguson at writerguson@harbornet.com or Megan Trow at megantrow1818@gmail.com (co-chairs). Any identifying information of such a perpetrator would be appreciated – *if you see something, say something!* If you have concerns about a particular plant or tree, address your concern to the committee so members can identify any issue and find an appropriate resolution. No individual should take it upon themselves to act without authorization.

Gayle Holland



And this is just really sad! This is malicious vandalism!! Someone took it upon themselves to throw a huge rock on a very small evergreen seedling. The rock has since been removed. It's not yet known if the seedling has survived. We truly don't need to be this hostile in our little community. For your information, there is now a rule regarding this behavior!

H.15. Homeowners/renters/guests, other than Grounds Committee members or Grounds Crew, are NOT to pick flowers or cut branches off any trees or shrubs on the Common grounds of BCC!! They are for everyone's enjoyment to look at and inappropriate cutting destroys the symmetry of the trees/shrubs and damages

the growth process. Additionally, vandalism of any building, security equipment, or common property will result in a \$50 fine for each violation and charged to the homeowner, along with the cost of repair/replacement. (Authority: Bylaws 4.10, 4.15) (Added November 2024)



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.

Preparing for power outages in this possibly windy, icy winter season. There are actually many reasons we might lose power to our homes. This is especially concerning during the winter months when heat is so much more critical. There are some basic ways to prepare for such an outage. Here's a good link to Portland General Electric

https://portlandgeneral.com/outages-safety/be-prepared/prepare-your-home?utm_source=home-connection&utm_medium=print-newsletter&utm_campaign=home-connection&utm_content=2022-july-outage-with-preparation-comes-peace-of-mind

Make a plan

Plan for household needs and gather what you'll need to stay warm, fed and comfortable for several days. The outage kit checklist has a planning checklist, but you can start here for the basics:

- Know where you'll go: Plan ahead to relocate with a friend, family member or to a shelter, especially if you have a medical condition that requires electricity or you'll need to work or learn from home
- Plan for feeding and watering pets or livestock, if well pumps don't have power
- Consider buying a backup generator and follow manufacturers' guidelines for its safe operation
- Get more information from the <u>Red Cross</u> and <u>Ready.gov</u>

Create an outage kit

Gather what you'll need and make sure everyone in the house knows where to find it. Here are a few basic items, and you'll find a more robust checklist here.

- Flashlights or headlamps
- Battery-powered or hand-crank radio and clock or watch
- Extra batteries
- Car chargers for cell phones, laptops and/or tablets
- Bottled water for people and animals (if you rely on electricity to pump water)
- Emergency phone numbers, including PGE Customer Service: 503-228-6322. Our customer service advisors can assist you in 200+ languages.

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

.. Classes: Training Room @ Fire Station #6, located at 2740 25th Street SE

Location 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.

!! Item of the Month !! Your "Go-Bag." We demonstrated some ideas for a "Go-Bag" at the October Great ShakeOut



evening. That flyer had a great list of possible contents for the "Go-Bag." If you would prefer to pick up an already prepared bag, there are a number of online places to order one or you can also find one at Home Depot. This could be a great gift for yourself or a great gift to give for a Holiday gift!! These emergency kits range in price from around \$30 on up depending on how many days you wish to

prepare for and for how many people. It's good to know you can find these "Go-Bags" nearby.

PLEASE send in your Emergency Prep Information Form to Mary Schroeder. (If you need another one contact Mary at feliage-beneast.ngt!!!!)

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 (October 1, 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!!





Possible Homes Tour - Canceled

House viewing off: I have only had one owner besides me offer to open their remodeled homes for viewing. I do not think this is enough to go ahead with the event I had in mind. I welcome others to contact me if they wish to see my home redo.

Sharon Grasseth at sharose47@yahoo.com



Cybercrime Information

One of our BCC homeowners recently attended a cybersecurity webinar. This webinar recommended people report cybercrimes on the FBI cybercrime website:

https://www.ic3.gov/

This website is called their Internet Crime Complaint Center. It provides informative information and also lists a number of recent alerts.



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!

Thanksgiving Cider Sparkler

Ingredients:

4 cups apple cider (for a fresh, fall flavor)

2 cups cranberry juice (adds tartness and a festive red color) 1 cup sparkling water or ginger ale (for bubbles and a hint of spice)

1/2 cup fresh orange juice (for added sweetness and citrus notes) 1/4 cup bourbon or apple brandy (optional, for a warm adult twist) Apple slices, orange slices, and fresh cranberries (for garnish) Cinnamon sticks (for garnish and a cozy aroma)

Instructions:

Mix the Base: In a large pitcher or punch bowl, combine the apple cider, cranberry juice, and orange juice. Stir well to blend the flavors.

Add Bubbles: Just before serving, pour in the sparkling water or ginger ale to add a bubbly, refreshing touch. Stir gently. **Optional Alcohol:** For a boozy version, add the bourbon or apple brandy and mix lightly.

Garnish: For a beautiful presentation, add apple slices, orange slices, fresh cranberries, and cinnamon sticks to the punch bowl. **Serve:** Pour into glasses over ice, and garnish each with an additional cinnamon stick or a slice of fruit for a festive feel.

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

Contributors to this month's Newsletter: Sharon Grasseth, Gayle Holland, Megan Trow, Mary Schroeder, and me!,-Aline Autenrieth.



"According to my chocolate advent calendar, there are only 3 days until Christmas."

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 (autenrieth@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: 10**th 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

Dec 25 Jan 1

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