



Community Newsletter

Dear PARKWOOD Residents:

The Gibson family, Dale, and Jenece all want to wish each of you a

Merry Christmas and a wonderful 2021.

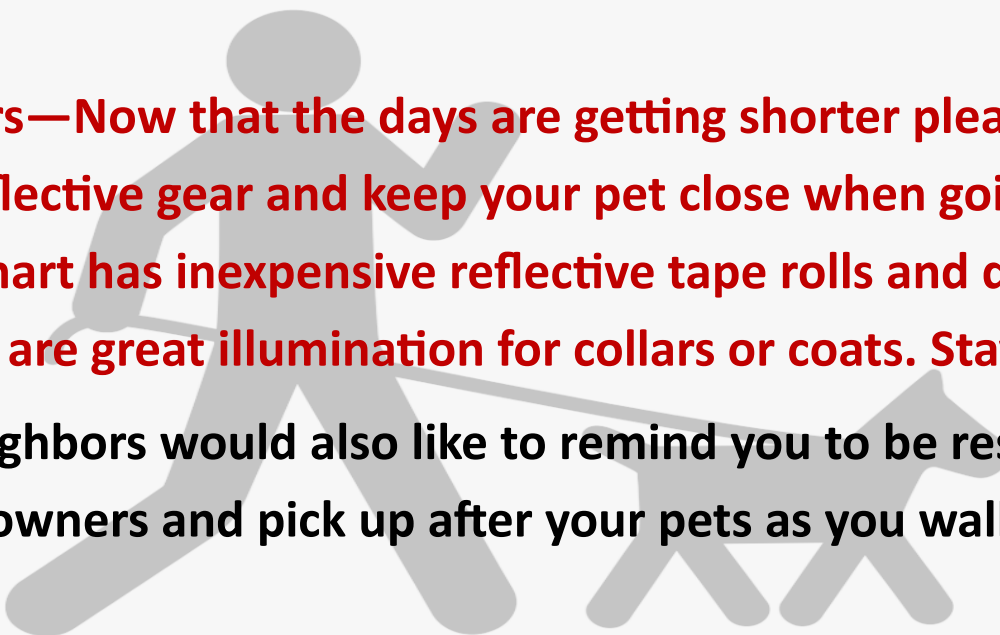
This has been an unusual and stressful year for everyone. We all pray and hope for things to get much better soon.

We just want to take this opportunity as we come to the end of the year to say *Thank You* to every Resident for your loyalty to PARKWOOD, and especially *Thank You* for how so many of you are such good neighbors to help each other. We appreciate the chance to know you and wish you well.



Dog walkers—Now that the days are getting shorter please be sure to wear reflective gear and keep your pet close when going out at dark. Walmart has inexpensive reflective tape rolls and dollar store glow sticks are great illumination for collars or coats. Stay safe!

Your neighbors would also like to remind you to be responsible owners and pick up after your pets as you walk.



P.E.R.T.

Parkwood Emergency Response Team

Hello Neighbors:

1. Your neighborhood PERT team is continuing to be active and have been conducting meetings via Zoom during this time of isolation. All Parkwood residents are invited to join in the session, and will be sent an invitation and Zoom link via email prior to the meeting. Mark your calendar: **Next meeting is Friday, December 11th at 1:00pm**. Contact Julie Prafke to be added to email if you are not on Parkwood's email list: juliep2104@gmail.com; (509) 220-1769. If you don't have access to email perhaps you can join a neighbor who has the capability, using safe, masked and socially distanced protocols. Also this is a good way to actually see who some of your neighbors are.

2. Please try to join us. The meetings are informative and typically less than one hour. If you have internet access, it's easy to join: just click on the link and follow the easy to understand steps.

3. We have been generating some additional interest in our Zoom sessions, and getting a few more participants zooming in on the meetings, partly because of the change in time for the meeting and also because of the celebrity demonstrations and information sessions that have proven to be helpful. Last month, the neighbors were treated to a demonstration by Harry Alford, PERT Ops area 2 leader, of the Lifestraw, a useful tool for anyone's preparedness kit, by showing how safe and easy it is to use by drinking some very visually unattractive stagnated swamp water from his very own, unattended for months, backyard birdbath.* www.Lifestraw.com

4. This month (December) be sure to join the meeting to see a delightful "show and tell" of the emergency "two bucket" latrine system by Parkwood PERT's own Betty Marshall. This is one of the "must have" items if and when a disaster occurs. At this writing, it is uncertain whether she will actually demonstrate the proper and correct use of the system, but we can hope, can't we.

5. If any of you are interested in learning more about PERT or how you can become a part of this fun group, please let one of us know via email or phone or flag one of us down when our pets take us for walks around the neighborhood. There are opportunities within PERT that are waiting for you to share your expertise. Please contact one of us and we'll talk with you about it. Contact information is below.

6. ZOOM: We will continue to have monthly PERT gatherings to share information via Zoom on the 2nd Friday of each month at 1:00 pm. At some future time, we will once again convene at the Clubhouse when it becomes available.

Meetings chaired by our Commander, David Goose, conforming to Robert's Rules as much as possible. [December Meeting-Friday December 11th, 1:00pm]. Not only is he a good guy, he knows how to chair a good meeting.

*Good News: Harry was not injured, contract any disease or rendered unfit for service due to sucking swamp water. So, evidently the Lifestraw works and is readily available from Amazon or local retail outlets for \$12.95-\$17.95. Harry got his on sale from Amazon for \$10.00 + free shipping.

Your PERT Contacts:

David Goose, Commander, (360) 301-1188; dgoose748@gmail.com
Barb Kent Alford, Asst. Commander and Medical (360) 683-2594; luvantiques@yahoo.com
Harry Alford, Ops Area 2 Leader; (360) 683-2594; harryalford@yahoo.com
Julie Prafke, Ops Area 3 Leader; (509) 220-1769; juliep2104@gmail.com
Betty Marshall, Secretary, (360) 670-1137; betzmarshall@gmail.com
Barbara Foulks, Treasurer, (360) 808-1610; barbfoulks@gmail.com
Shannon Goose, New Resident PERT packets; (360) 850-3363; sgoose55@gmail.com

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|--|-------------------------|---|------------------|
| <u>man</u> board | BABY | WBOEOADRS | PDOIVOEL |
| Man Overboard | BIG BABY | Bear in the Woods | Dive in the Pool |
| Words Funny Words Funny Words Words | HEAD | GRASS | H I L L |
| Too Funny for Words | BIG HEAD | Green Grass | Down Hill |
| JOB | PROMISES | L E G G G G G G G | league |
| Inside Job | Broken Promises | Long Legs | Little League |
| SPLOASTCE | KNOCK TIMBER | PLAYING SIDE | Please |
| Lost in Space | Knock on Wood | Playing Outside | Pretty Please |

Last month's puzzle answers

Have you heard about Murphy's Law?

Yes.

Anything that can go wrong will go wrong.

How about Cole's Law?

No.

It's julienned cabbage in a creamy dressing.



Recipe Corner: Sheet Pan Ratatouille

Onion

Fresh garlic

Yellow squash

Zucchini

Eggplant

Cherry or grape tomatoes

Olive oil

Herbs! Fresh basil, fresh thyme.

Your favorite sausage. This can really be any sausage that you love!

Got one to share?

Slice onion, squash, zucchini & eggplant. Halve tomatoes & mince garlic. Toss all of the vegetables with olive oil, salt, basil, and thyme on a rimmed sheet pan.

Nestle the sausages into the vegetables.

Bake for 40 minutes, until the vegetables are meltingly tender, and the sausages are cooked.

Serve over creamy polenta, or on its own with a big salad and some crusty bread.

Parkwood's Christmas Bird Count
by Ida Domazlicky and Jane Nicholas



California Quail family at 40 Brett Circle

This December, Parkwood will once again be part of a tradition that is over 100 years old—and you can be part of it. Holiday traditions are generally fun for all, but back in the 1800's, hunters across the U.S. and Canada were practicing one that was not so endearing. Called the "Christmas Side Hunt," the game involved two competing sides of hunters trying to bag the most dead birds.

Early conservationists had begun to notice declining bird populations, so on Christmas Day 1900, the newly-formed Audubon Society organized 27 counts of wild birds—live ones. Called the Christmas Bird Count, this fun tradition has been a part of Sequim since 1976, when birdwatchers started counting here as part of the 15-mile radius circle used in Clallam County.

For several years, Bob Innis of Parkwood covered this area. Jane and Ida took up the tradition in 2019. The result is 44 years of continuous data about local bird populations, available free online through the National Audubon Society.

In 2019, Parkwood area's count included Sharp-shinned, Cooper's and Red-tailed Hawks; Red-breasted Sapsucker; Peregrine Falcon; Song, Golden-crowned and Fox Sparrows; Varied Thrush; CA Quail; and one of the highest counts of Anna's Hummingbirds in the region—38 species of birds in all.

This year, the count will occur on Monday, December 14. Please keep an eye out for the birders—all Parkwood residents—who will be counting our birds. If you know birds and would like to help, contact Bob Boekelheide at bboek@olympus.net or call 360-808-0196. Bob will provide you with information about the count, along with tally sheets to record the birds and time/distance sheets.

And a big THANK YOU to all Parkwood homeowners and management from both the birds and the birdwatchers! Parkwood's trails are lined with native plants, and our yards provide ample shelter, natural food, water, and hummingbird feeders. These make Parkwood a welcoming home for birds. And birds respond to our kindness by blessing our lives with daily glimpses of some of these amazing wonders of creation.