February 2021 PARKWOOD Community Newsletter



As you may have noticed new lighting is being installed throughout the park!

As the crew works to install and make necessary adjustments, your patience is much appreciated. We would also like to reiterate that you do not attempt to modify these new lights in any way without prior permission. Parkwood will not be responsible for any damages resulting from Resident modifications to these new fixtures.



"My mom, Marie, and I want to thank you for the new lights in Parkwood!!! We think they're really going to enhance our already beautiful neighborhood. We've told you before and we'll say it again: we love living here in Parkwood and we greatly appreciate how well it's cared for. "



Song Sparrows Are Singing-in the Spring!

By Ida Domazlicky and Jane Nicholas

Photo by Chris LeBoutillier

Listen out your window this week, and you may hear the first signs of spring. In my corner of Parkwood, two Song Sparrows are already in full song mode. Especially on sunny days, the two sing off and on from first

light until dusk—heralding the arrival of longer days for us all. But who are these determined little songsters, and what are they doing when not forecasting better days ahead?

Song Sparrows are found across the U.S. and Canada. Elsewhere, they are pale with clear streaks, but PNW Song Sparrows are dark. (Aleutian Islands Song Sparrows are nearly black and are twice the weight of their Lower 48 cousins.) These differences are probably related to the very thing that distinguishes the PNW—rain. In a rain forest climate, the birds evolved more melanin to protect feathers from feather mites and dampness.

PNW Song Sparrows aren't difficult to find and identify this time of year through summer. The song typically begins with two or three clear notes on one pitch, then turns into a merry jumble. Follow the song, and you'll find a 6-inch bird perched at about eye level. Blackish on head and back, its head and belly are heavily streaked, and the streaks usually come together in a center spot. Look more closely, and you may notice a faint grayish eyebrow, a light beak, and tan legs. Once you've found the bird, perhaps you'll want to watch for nest signs—yes, even in February. Song Sparrows are tough little critters that begin nesting in late winter and typically fledge at least two sets of young. Their nests are low, such as near the base of a shrub. Watching the eggs hatch and fledglings emerge is a joy, but remember: jays and other predators are watching you. Never approach a nest for close looks or photos, or the babies may become lunch for a predator.

Most Song Sparrows migrate to avoid the winters, and they create their own songs from their fathers' songs. But PNW Song Sparrows fledglings disperse to find new territories—and then stay there year-round. Once a first-year male has staked out a spot in late summer, he begins listening and learning the songs of his neighbors. He needs to be able to match the songs he hears on all sides. In the PNW, "each little neighborhood of song sparrows has its own songs, its own microdialects...." (Kroodsma, The Singing Life of Birds) Those Song Sparrows who learn new songs in this way live longer and hold their territories longer. Hmmm. Maybe learning new music really does make birds (and people) smarter! In any case, each of our local Song Sparrow males is probably singing at least 4 different song variations right now, and possibly as many as 13. But luckily for us, each song will begin with those 2 or 3 clear notes that say "I'm a Song Sparrow!" Is there one in your neighborhood?



Please do not blow debris from your drive/property into the roads *after* they have just been cleaned. Not only is this is disrespectful to the grounds crew but also makes the park look unkempt until they have a chance to come by again.

As mentioned in the January newsletter our family asked Park Investments NW, LLC, through Joel Erlitz, to assume the role our firm previously held with PARKWOOD to provide support on site management as they continue to capably manage the Community. Joel has actually been my mentor over the years to help us positively address your interests and concerns as our valued Residents. Joel has an excellent reputation throughout Washington as both an owner and capable manager of Manufactured Housing Communities. Joel and I share a similar business philosophy about doing the right things for the right reason. He is a man of total integrity. I believe you will enjoy getting acquainted with him.

We foresee no significant changes in the operation of the Community. We continue to have total confidence in Dale and Jenece and appreciate their dedicated service. As is the case for any truly successful business, the best interests of you as our valued Residents will continue to be a top priority.

The change was made with the full concurrence of my brother Gary, my son Marcus and the three generations of the Gibson Family. I am grateful to Joel, Tom, and Kathie in that their service allows me to devote more of my time and energies to the organizations you see listed on the "Giving Back" section of the PARKWOOD website. Our major emphasis continues to be helping traditional families be healthy and helping children, who through no fault of their own, struggle because of broken families.

We have no plans to sell PARKWOOD. We do look forward with optimism to the time, hopefully in the near future, when we can again sponsor Community gatherings. We will be visiting PARKWOOD during those events to greet you and see your smiling faces free of fear and masks.

Jon Gibson ~

INGREDIENTS

Recipe Corner: Cocoa-Gingerbread Brownies

13/4 c. all-purpose flour

3/4 c. sugar

3/4 c. dark brown sugar

1/4 c. cocoa powder

2 tsp. ground ginger

1 1/2 tsp. cinnamon

1 tsp. salt

1/4 tsp. ground clove

12 tbsp. unsalted butter

1/2 c. molasses

1/4 c. whole milk

1 large Egg

large egg yolk

1 1/2 tsp. baking soda

8 oz. semisweet chocolate

Preheat oven to 325 degrees.

Butter and flour a 9- by 13-inch baking dish and set aside.

Sift together all the dry ingredients into a large bowl.

Combine the butter, molasses, milk, egg, and yolk in a medium bowl.

Add the butter mixture to the flour mixture and stir to combine.

In a small bowl, combine 1/4 cup boiling water with the baking soda. Add the water to the batter and stir to combine. Stir in the chocolate chunks.

Pour the batter into the prepared pan and bake until a toothpick inserted into the center comes out clean -- about 40 minutes.

Transfer brownies to a rack to cool. Serve warm or at room tem-

P.E.R.T. Parkwood Emergency Response Team

Hello friends and neighbors,

By the time you read this, over 3,000 people will have received their Covid19 vaccination through the Jamestown Clinic. The tribe generously provided access to non-tribal members and was issued at the Carrie Blake Park through the remarkable efforts of the tribe, fire district 3, Sequim City Council, Sequim Police and CERT.

Though some people were lining up as early as 3:AM, this process will hopefully get easier as more doses become available. All that want a vaccination will get one, but it is impossible to vaccinate all at the same time. The project will not move forward until all in the 70+ have had their dose. Please be patient. As part of the CERT team, I worked at the vaccination cite and was impressed with how smoothly and efficiently things went, and even though the wait time was extensive, all were in good spirits.

Your second shot will go even smoother as your issued vaccination card will determine your return date unencumbered by large crowds, thereby shorter wait lines.

Some Parkwood residents have asked if they can come vaccinate here but the current operation cannot do that because the vaccine is issued through the tribe. If in the future it is issued without the tribe, it will be through the state of Washington.

Your continued cooperation and patience is very valuable to a successful, healthy community.

A map of the vaccination site is available at the clubhouse.

Our next PERT general zoom meeting will be February the 12th at 1:PM. An email will be sent out in advance with link to the meeting.

Any questions, call me at 360.301.1188 or email me at dgoose748@gmail.com.

Thank you very much

Goose, PERT Commander/CERT PAPA team leader

Your PERT contacts:

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Dear Parkwood ~ We feel the need to again remind all Residents that bird feeders are not allowed in the park.

They attract rats and other unwanted vermin. If you have one anywhere on your property, please remove it

Immediately, as it effects the entire community. ~ Thank you