

January 2021



Community Newsletter

We'd like to wish all our Residents a wonderful New Year. 2020 was challenging for all of us.

May we look optimistically toward a much more positive 2021.

We also want to thank the many of you who shared encouraging notes regarding rent freezes as we start the new year.

We'll continue to work as hard this year to do the best job possible for the wonderful community we have all built here together.



The Gibson Family, Jenece and Dale are pleased to formally introduce Park Investments NW, LL Members Joel Erlitz, Tom and Kathie Griffin, to oversee PARKWOOD's Corporate Business Operations. They share a focus on service and between the three of them, have almost 100 years in MHC operating experience.

**Parkwood Neighborhood
Christmas Parade!**

"Thank you, Vicki and John. It was so much fun. "

"So proud to be part of it! Hope more people will join in and experience the joy it brings to unite this way next year!!"

"A big thanks to all who participated, paraders, those who waved us on and who came to the curb!"



"There were smiles everywhere."



"Fun parade.....Abby(dog) and I watched from our window. Festive and beautiful."



"The Parkwood Christmas parade was such a blast to be a part of. "

" I commend the people who organized it as it brought unexpected joy and spirit to our Christmas! I do hope we can continue it next year and add to the people in our little parade!"



Thanks for the great Christmas parade; small but mighty!!!

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

Hurrah, we have survived 2020! I know it has been difficult for everyone this year but we are on the upswing. Besides, we really have nowhere to go but up. We've had pestilence, murder hornets, economic recession/depression, weather catastrophes, but (unless it occurs this next week) no Category 9 earthquake. Which brings me to the first topic I want to address: Emergency Power Outages. It doesn't have to be a major event for our power to go down. A fallen tree, highway accident, too much rain-saturated ground giving way, and a possible snowstorm can all wreak havoc with our power supply. I recently experienced this in Oregon for 23 hours, which encompassed a partial night, full day and some more evening in the dark. A tree fell on another tree, which fell on another tree, which fell on some branches which fell on a transformer blocks from the initial event. I followed my own advice and came out of it with nothing but gratitude for the workers who labored through the dark to bring light, heat, and happiness back to us all. Thankfully, I had my procedure list taped to my electrical circuit box which guided me through the process. Take the time to print it out and tape it to your circuit box. You don't want to have to remember which file drawer you relegated it to when you are working by flashlight. It is difficult to remember the particular order of things you should do. Even I forgot.

POWER OUTAGE PROCEDURE

1 Turn off main switch OUTSIDE (on metal pedestal below meter – lift cover from the bottom and shut off main circuit breakers) You may have more than one circuit breaker (garage, streetlight).

2. Go back into house, switch off all smaller circuit breakers in your electrical panel for lights, heat, etc.

3. Turn ONE circuit breaker ON for lights so that you will know when power comes back on.

THE REASON FOR TURNING EVERYTHING OFF IS TO PREVENT A SURGE OF POWER WHEN POWER COMES BACK ON. You don't want to burn out your TV, computers, etc. RECOMMENDATION – UPDATE SURGE PROTECTION FOR YOUR ELCTRONICS.

4. NOW, GO BACK OUTSIDE and turn the main circuit breaker back on.

5. When POWER COMES BACK ON check water heater to make sure there is water before turning that circuit back on. Now turn the rest of the small circuit breakers back on in any order.

We had a delightful show and tell presentation in December by Parkwood and PERT's own Betty Marshall on the “two bucket” latrine system. This is one of the “must have” items if and when a disaster occurs. If you missed it, we can make sure you have a copy of the procedure.

Next topic is 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.

Our next meeting will be on January 8 at 1:00. David Goose will present information on the care and feeding and SAFETY of your generator, should you have one or have a neighbor lucky enough to share theirs. Important topic as we go into our coldest and dreariest months. But spring will come!

HAPPY NEW YEAR EVERYONE! HERE'S TO A GREAT 2021 !

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Christmas Bird Count Results

Ida Domazlicky and Jane Nicholas

In last month's newsletter, Ida Domazlicky talked about the upcoming Christmas Bird Count. Once again this year, Ida invited me to join her for a day of birds and fun. We were assigned our area by CBC's lead organizer Bob Boekelheide. We focused our search in Parkwood and the surrounding few blocks on either side of Hwy 101. Bob does a great job of organizing and compiling the data that comes in for a 17 mile radius in Clallam County. Last year we had a little party at the end of the day for the birders. This year, of course, we couldn't do that so we sent our data in by email instead. Not as much fun, but it is efficient.

We had good weather this year, cool and mostly clear. Ida got the ball rolling early at 7AM by listening for early birds. Ida has developed a wonderful skill of being able to identify many birds by ear. We later teamed up to continue counting. We walked and drove 10 miles in 7.5 hours. Doesn't sound like a lot, but we were going very slowly so as not to miss any birds. We had several curious people ask us what we were doing, including a very nice officer of the law who must have thought we were broken down on the side of the road and looking for a ride, through binoculars.

This year we saw 36 different species and 621 individual birds. That's fewer than last year's 787 birds. We both remarked that there seemed to be less than normal bird activity that day. Neither of us heard the night owls which we were hoping for. The very next day I saw 42 birds in my yard in just 30 minutes.

Variations day to day and year to year are to be expected. It's the long term data that is important to show trends in bird and habitat health. That's why the annual count is so vital as are the daily reports birders submit. It's very satisfying to be even a little part of that.

Our bird count included 160 Canada Geese, 4 different species of ducks in a nearby pond, 2 Bald Eagles, 4 Red-tailed Hawks, 12 noisy Stellar's Jays that even I could hear, 4 different species of sparrows, 48 finches and 39 hummingbirds. In the wider circle, Bob reported several birds that are unusual for our area, such as a Gyrfalcon, MacGillivray's Warbler, a Sandhill Crane, Willet, and Snow Bunting. I've never seen a Snow Bunting myself and would love to find that one! For more information on the Christmas Bird count see the Audubon Society's home page: www.audubon.org.

Our Park is home to a wide variety of beautiful birds and plants that support them. Such a bounty makes sticking close to home these past months a little easier. I am already looking forward to next year's Christmas Bird Count and hopefully to the after count party. Keep your eyes and ears open. You never know what you'll see or hear. Happy birding!

Dear Neighbors,

Please remember to keep your driving speed at or below the posted 15 MPH. There has been some criticism of speeding in Parkwood, especially near the cul-de-sac areas. There are several walkers and bikers here and everyone needs to feel safe. Thank you!