## **Community Newsletter**



The staff and owners working together have agreed, given everything that has gone on in 2020, to forego rent increases for one full year, beginning June 1, 2020 through May 31, 2021.

Those Residents who have been paying increases during this time (June thru October) will be refunded in the form of a check.

This will ensure all Residents equally enjoy a locked rate for 12 months.

If you have previously adjusted any automatic payments, please be sure your remittance reflects your pre-increase amount.

As always, give us a call if you need clarification.



Today we are already past mid-October, in fact we are now at the beginning of mid-fall.

Here is one technique for potting and overwintering plants such as fuchsias, geranium, lantana, passion vine, foliage plants and other frost-sensitive plants.

When we are overwintering a plant, our intent is to have this plant survive until next year. We are not interested, nor do we care about, flowers, buds or nice, lush, thick foliage. We care about producing the healthy robust plant for next year.

Flowers take a lot of energy and redirect the way a plant is growing, so we begin the process with removing all flowers and flower buds.

That process is usually very simple because each and every shoot or stem we cut back to a few inches of several nodes in length.

Yes, even if that fuchsia stem is 32-inches long, and yes, even when those gorgeous geraniums are 28-inches high, both these plants get pruned down to 3- to 5-inches high.

Next, after your own personal shock from this drastic cutback subsides, cut or strip away 75 percent of the largest leaves. Remove all dead limbs, stems and branches along with any yellow or blemished leaves.

Now, you have a very nice, low branch bunch of stubble with a few tiny yellowish leaves.

At this juncture, a healthy dose of fertilizer, particularly bone meal and blood meal, is extremely beneficial and wise.

A bright, warm, and sunny location is mandatory for producing a robust plant.

If you have less than a very bright light location to overwinter these plants, they will stretch, becoming spindly, weak, leggy plants and produce yellowish leaves.

These plants also need constant weekly care in order to grow a superior product.

Each week turn the plants slightly and again remove any and all flower buds as soon as they appear (the sooner the better).

When the leaves get to their mature size, throughout the winter, cut them away too. And finally, as new shoots and stems develop and grow upward, make sure to continually pinch them back.

As a super bonus round, you can pinch back these new lush stems and use them as new little cuttings. By dipping the ends in a rooting hormone, such as root tone, and propagating these new cuttings, even more plants can be produced.

The goal is to keep the plant short, flower-free and constantly leaf-stripped so it is a nice, plump, big plant until March.

Then in March, let these plants go!

All your pinching, pruning, dis-budding and leaf-stripping has pent-up a lot of energy and has produced many new branches. With a new dose of fertilizer given at this time, the plant will explode with flowers and leaves.

Slowly condition to plant in outside conditions and make sure you wait to plant it until all chances of frost have passed.

Overwintering is a great way to not only keep expensive and desirable plants from year-to-year, but it is also an excellent method to enhance their size and value.

Source: Andrew May – Peninsula Daily News





## **Parkwood Emergency Response Team**

Hello Neighbor,

As we enter into black-out season, PERT wishes to remind you that November is inspection and update month. Test those flashlight and fire alarm batteries, check expiration dates on water and emergency food and update your medical emergency bottle in the refrigerator to reflect any changes in your medications list. Buy new candles if necessary and check mantle conditions on your camp lanterns. If you have any questions regarding inspections, contact your PERT captain listed on the face page of your emergency pamphlet.

We would like to thank our medical emergency nurse, Barb Kent Alford, for giving a wonderful demonstration of the contents of her Go Bag in our October general zoom meeting. It was well informed and others added ideas from their own Go Bag.

Barb also conducted a season inspection in PERTs emergency shed for the year and it was elected to use some funds to purchase a dehumidifier for the building. Three animal kennels were recently donated and a tarp to cover them while in storage. Thank you Julie Prafke and Barb Folks.

November general zoom meeting: Harry Alford will demonstrate how to use a water purification kit. Also, there will be a demonstration on how to test household batteries without a multimeter.

Hope to see your face on the next zoom meeting. Easy to zoom in from the email Julie Prafke will send you providing we have your email address.

Recipe Corner: 3-Ingredient Peanut Butter Cookies

**Ingredients:** 

1 C Peanut Butter

Got one to share?

1 C White Sugar

1 Egg

Preheat over to 350°

Mix all ingredients together with an electric mixer until smooth and creamy.

Roll mixture into small balls and arrance on a baking sheet.

Flatten each slightly with a fork, making a criss-cross pattern.

Bake for 8-10 minutes or until golden on the bottom.

Cool cookies on sheet for 2 minutes before moving to a plate.

Can you solve these visual word puzzles? Let your mind explore and you are sure to find the answers. Good luck!

board	BABY	WBOEOADRS	PDOIVOEL
Words Funny Words Funny Words Words	HEAD	GRASS	H I L
JOB	PROMISES	E E E G G G G G G G G G G G G G G G G G	league
SPLOASTCE	KNOCK TIMBER	PLAYING B	Please

Answers next month

## Winter Is On Its Way!

Since homes here are pit-set, it is important that any moisture from the roof is correctly directed away from your house. Before the rain starts, you should check on your homes' gutters and downspouts. Neither can function well if they are clogged! You might want to hire someone, since gutter cleaning requires a ladder and some sort of instrument to muck out the accumulation of debris in the gutters. Also, if the downspouts are clogged, this will impair the free flow of water off of your roof and might cause damage to your home. Check out the very bottom of your downspouts and free the debris, which is a sure sign that the gutters need cleaning.

Another critical step in home maintenance, is that you make sure that the water is directed AWAY from your house: At least 6 feet away. You can get extensions for your downspouts from any hardware store or online. This should get you set for the winter ahead and keep your house dry.