



Ponderosa Press

Ponderosa Estates Homeowners Association Newsletter

October 2012 Edition

Puyallup Man Takes House Prize at Tehaleh's Grand Opening in Bonney Lake



Puyallup resident and University of Washington graduate Jay Bradley is moving out of his parents' house and into a free \$280,000 home, thanks to Tehaleh's home-giveaway contest. The financial responsibilities associated with being a college student can be overwhelming, and Jay Bradley, 26, of Puyallup can attest to that.

The University of Washington graduate with a degree in economics has been saddled with enough student loans that he's moved back in with his parents, while putting all the money he makes from his current job toward repaying those loans. With interest.

The inability to put much into savings would be a bummer any other day, but Bradley was all smiles Saturday because, well, he won a house.

The prize was thanks to a Newland Communities' contest to promote the new Tehaleh development in Bonney Lake, [celebrated with an official grand opening Saturday](#). Congratulations Jay!!

How to Register to Vote in Bonney Lake and Sumner

The deadline for registering to vote is approaching fast...Here's the information you need on how and where to register to vote, including a link to Washington's new Facebook voter registration tool. Elections.

If you haven't yet registered to vote, get it off your to-do list now.

Thousands of local, state and national organizations have mobilized to make sure millions of people don't miss the chance to cast their vote in this year's elections.

Six million people didn't vote in the 2008 elections because they either did not know how to register or because they missed the voter registration deadline.

The voter registration deadline for Washington is **Oct. 6** for mail-in registration and updates** and **Oct. 8**, 2012 for online registration and updates.

****The U.S. Postal Service has confirmed that mail will not be processed or postmarked on Sunday, Oct. 7, or Monday, Oct. 8. Registrations mailed on these days will be postmarked Oct. 9. Registrations postmarked Oct. 9 do not meet the Oct. 8 deadline.**

Here's information on how you can register in time for the Nov. 6 elections:

[How to find out if you're registered to vote in Washington](#)

Fill out a voter registration form in person at your local Board of Elections office. The Pierce County Elections Center is at 2501 S 35th Street, Suite C in Tacoma.

Download a [voter registration form](#) and mail it to 2501 S 35th St., Ste C; Tacoma, WA 98409.

Register online, 24-hours a day by visiting the [Secretary of State's website](#).

Connect with [Washington Elections on Facebook](#) for the MyVote App, which allows you to register through your Facebook account.



Sales Tax Decreases in Bonney Lake, Sumner Give You Another Reason to Shop Local

Effective Oct. 1, shoppers in both Bonney Lake and Sumner will pay a lower sales tax, because both cities opted out of the Pierce Transit service district earlier this year. Both towns have the same reduction – from a sales tax of 9.4 percent to 8.8 percent. This change in sales tax rates is due to the revised Pierce County Public Transportation Benefit Area (PTBA) boundaries and the elimination of Pierce Transit services to both cities earlier this year.

PEHOA News:

Meeting Monday Oct 1

HOA meet this Monday, October 1st, 7:00 pm at Jeff and Aimee Wilkins house, 20310 108th ST E. Enter through the garage.

They talked about

1. Work party in the park on Saturday, October 6th from 9-12. They worked out a game plan and made a material list for bracing up the swings, mounting our new camera, and general clean up
2. Planned for a future date to install the neighborhood watch signs.

Work Party in the Park! Oct. 6th from 9am-12pm, plan to join in the fun and fix up our park.

Ponderosa Press

Ponderosa Estates Homeowners Association Newsletter

October 2012 Edition

Fort Nisqually Foundation's "Bonfires, Beaver Pelts & Bogeymen" Halloween Storytelling fundraiser



Fort Nisqually invites you to celebrate Halloween in the style of past centuries with ghost stories told around a roaring bonfire in the meadow outside the Fort's walls. Follow a trail of glowing jack o'lanterns to a blazing bonfire where storytellers from the past will send shivers down your spine as their words bring forth the spirits of the fur trade. The storytelling begins with "gentler" tales; and after a break for complimentary cider and cookies, the stories get increasingly scarier! 7 to 9 pm Oct. 26-27. Cost \$5 to \$7. Point Defiance Park Tacoma

Saturday, October 20, 2012

Growing Orchids

Orting 1:00 PM

Event audience: Family

Learn how to grow orchids, and receive a free orchid starter kit from the Tacoma Orchid Society. Third Saturday of the month.

* **This event requires registration.**

This event is sponsored by Friends of the Orting Library

Current Availability: 16



Saturday, October 13, 2012

The Zaniac Comedy Show

Buckley 11:00 AM

All ages.

Event audience: Family

Watch amazing feats of juggling! See why two-time Guinness World Record holder Alex Zerbe was voted Seattle's Funniest Prop Comic.

No registration required.

This event is sponsored by Friends of the Buckley Library.



Saturday, October 13, 2012

College Application Essay

Bonney Lake Pierce County Library
18501 90th St. E. 98391 • 253-548-3308

College Application Essay Saturday,
Oct. 13, 1 – 2:30 p.m. Students and parents will learn what college admissions officers want to see in an essay.

10 Question Challenge Saturday,
Nov. 10, 1 – 2:30 p.m.

Zoo Boo

Put on your best costume and join us for a fun, fall-themed weekend at Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium. Come watch our animals enjoy special pumpkin enrichments and see how creative our keepers are at designing their jack-o-lanterns!



Zoo Boo lasts from 10 am to 3 pm on Saturday and Sunday, **October 20 and 21** and is appropriate for all ages.

Festivities are free with zoo admission and everyone in costume will receive a \$2 discount off the general zoo admission rate. The popular event features indoor and outdoor activities, as well as treats, photos and more.

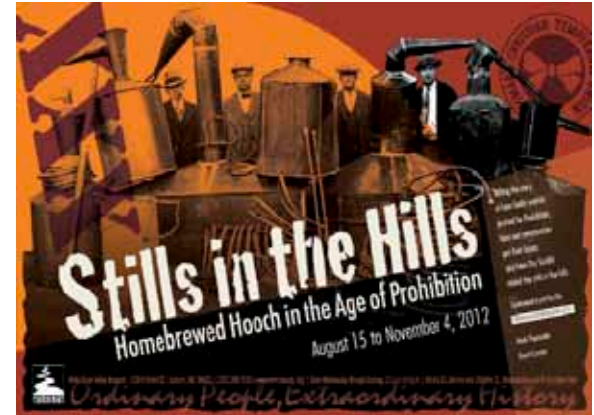


2nd Saturdays

Saturday Morning at the Movies

Saturday, October 13, 2012

11:00 AM at the Buckley Library FREE admission so bring the entire family and watch a family-friendly film! This event is sponsored by Friends of the Buckley Library



Stills in the Hills: Homebrewed Hooch in the Age of Prohibition Display At the White River Valley Museum in Auburn runs Now through November 4

An exhibit that explores the history of prohibition through a local and national lens via historic photographs and period artifacts.

Using actual confiscated stills, historic alcoholic beverage bottles, signage, newspapers and photographs, the exhibit Stills in the Hills: Homebrewed Hooch in the Age of Prohibition engages the visitor with the reasons why prohibition was enacted, how area residents lived with prohibition, and why the 18th Amendment was ultimately repealed. Stills in the Hills is open August 15 through November 4, 2012 and is sponsored in part by Heritage Distilling Company, Inc. of Gig Harbor, where Every Spirit Has A Story, www.heritagedistilling.com.

Ponderosa Press

Ponderosa Estates Homeowners Association Newsletter

October 2012 Edition

Smart Spending



MAKE YOUR OWN HALLOWEEN COSTUME



OK, BOOS AND GHOULS, HOW CAN YOU GO OUT AND HAVE A WITCHIN' TIME THIS HALLOWEEN EVEN IF YOUR WALLET HAS AS MANY COBWEBS AS A HAUNTED HOUSE? WELL, NO NEED TO BE FRIGHTENED BY THE PRICES OF THOSE SPIDERMAN OUTFITS AT THE LOCAL COSTUME SHOP. ANYONE CAN BUY A COSTUME OFF A SHELF (WELL, IF THEY HAVE THE MOOLAH), BUT MAKING YOUR OWN CAN BE MORE FUN.

THE FOLLOWING COSTUME IDEAS ARE FUN, ODD, IMAGINATIVE AND, BEST OF ALL, CHEAP. TAKE A LOOK AROUND YOUR HOUSE. MANY OF THE ITEMS NEEDED FOR THE FOLLOWING COSTUMES COULD BE SITTING IN THE BACK OF YOUR CLOSET OR IN THE GARAGE. USE YOUR IMAGINATION AND ADAPT WHAT YOU FIND.

Easy Halloween Costumes



CHIA PET: Get a bathing or shower cap and a plastic plant (with small leaves like a chia pet). Staple enough plant to cover cap (before you put the cap on your head, silly). Wear rusty brown clothes. Carry a watering can -- to put your treats in.

CLOCK: Paint your whole face with white grease paint. With black eyeliner, draw numbers around face and draw clock hands originating from your nose. Slick hair back. If you can find a large spring, attach it to your hair (as if the clock is broken).

BAG OF CANDY: Find a large clear garbage bag. Cut two holes in bottom of bag for your legs, and two armholes near opening of bag. For M&Ms, take multicolor round balloons and choose ones that match M&M colors. Blow them up to about 80 percent (less likely to break), and write "M" on each of them with black marker. Half fill bag -- then you have a chance of sitting down). For jellybeans, do the same with longer balloons. **MR. POTATO HEAD:** Cut leg holes in bottom of a large burlap bag (you might have to make it). Cut out armholes near top of bag. Cut out eyes, nose, ears and mouth from appropriately colored felt. Attach Velcro to the backs of these items. Attach Velcro backs to the bag. Use black sweat pants or leotard for legs. When you're in the bag, fill it with old shirts or rags. Let people change your "face" around all night. Wear a hat.

WALKING COFFEE: Display your love of java with a Starbucks cup costume that you can whip up on a dime. Either print out 2 large copies of the circular Starbucks logo or paint your own on cardboard, and use string to create a circular sandwich board. Wear all white, and use black electrical tape on your side to create the tick boxes on the side of the cup. You can fashion a lid hat by using elastic and an actual Starbucks lid, a white beret, or if you have some time on your hands, white cardboard.

SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS: Buy two yellow poster boards; poke two holes in the top of each board and using ribbon or yarn, tie them over your shoulders like sandwich boards. Wear a red tie, white shirt, knee-high athletic socks and black shoes. Practice your squeaky-voice before heading out: try saying, "Krabby patties!"
Happy haunting!

Read more: [Make your own Halloween costume | Bankrate.com http://www.bankrate.com/finance/personal-finance/make-your-own-halloween-costume.aspx#ixzz27AKCWhu3](http://www.bankrate.com/finance/personal-finance/make-your-own-halloween-costume.aspx#ixzz27AKCWhu3)





Ponderosa Press

Ponderosa Estates Homeowners Association Newsletter

October 2012 Edition

Places to find free firewood for your fireplace or woodstove

Winter has a way of sneaking up on us each year, as do the monthly heating bills. You may already have a fireplace or wood burning stove. Lucky you. If not, you may decide to purchase a woodstove, for under \$1000 plus the cost of professional installation, when you learn how simple it is to scavenge for **free firewood** near your home.

Crunch the numbers; you may find that supplementing your home heat with wood burning may pay for itself in only a few years. Follow the guidelines of your homeowner's insurance carrier when installing a woodstove. And for under \$60, you can purchase an easy-to-use electric chain saw that might become your best friend when you get serious about scavenging for wood.

Folks living in the country already know how plentiful firewood is, but whether you live in a large city or small town, **free firewood** for burning is all around. You just have to look for it. So where is all this **free firewood** where you live?

1. Look right in your own backyard

Most municipalities have public works or arbor departments and park districts that keep trees on city property trimmed to maintain their proper shape and from growing unwieldy. Learn where trimming will occur in your area. For trees on private property, arborists are hired by homeowners. Let it be known that you're in the market for free firewood. After a heavy windstorm, often large branches have fallen; people will happily give you the wood. Whether you walk, bike or drive the car, take different routes to scout out free wood.

As you become experienced at collecting firewood, you'll learn which woods are considered hardwoods and burn the hottest, such as oak, and which are soft woods, such as birch. Some people avoid burning pine, as they claim it leaves sap in the chimney, which turns into dangerous flammable creosote.

2. Help empty the landfill

Many communities have a landscape reclamation center where yard waste, including firewood, is dropped off. Find out if your landfill offers **free firewood**. Depending on the size of the wood chunks, you may not even need a truck, but can safely deliver it home in your small car trunk. Always keep work gloves in your car, and also a towel, blanket or old bed sheet to line the bottom of your trunk to prevent chips of wood from making your trunk dirty.

3. Become a lumberjack or lumber jill

Home remodeling projects often leave scrap wood; don't let that wood end up in the dumpster. Leftover untreated lumber from neighbors' decks, fences, porches, roofing and carpentry jobs makes perfect wood for your fire. Another place to get scrap wood to burn is from your high school woodshop class. Talk to the shop teacher; they'll gladly save the wood for you.

Avoid wood that contains glue or adhesives, such as plywood or pressed board. Dangerous fumes are emitted when these woods are burned. It's not worth pumping pollutants into the air to save money! And, always avoid burning anything with plastic.

Ashes from burned wood can be disposed of in the garden; this adds valuable nutrients to your soil. If you burn lumber that has hardware attached such as metal hinges, nails, and screws, be sure to sift those out before pouring dead ash onto the compost. Make sure you're current on your tetanus shot!

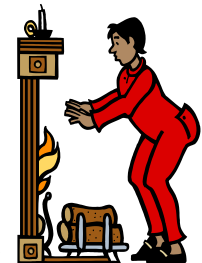
4. Scavenging for wood can be palatable

Pallets, also known as skids, are useful for storing wood on top of them in your yard to keep the wood from rotting. Additionally, they can be cut to fit into your fireplace or wood stove. Newspaper circulation centers, stores, malls, and factories often have broken pallets that are no longer useful to them; they want the public to remove them. All you need to do is ask.

5. Log in for logs

Use the Internet buy-sell sites and check out the "free" section; search for ads giving away firewood or scrap lumber. You'll be surprised how often you find wood. Sometimes the person is so eager to get rid of it that they'll deliver it to you.

Supplementing your furnace with wood burning may be a smart choice for your home. Be resourceful and your fireplace or woodstove can provide much family pleasure while saving you money. You'll feel like you stepped out of a Norman Rockwell painting as the teakettle whistles atop the woodstove while you're popping corn over the fire. And "Chestnuts Roasting on an Open Fire" can be more than just a holiday song; you can roast your own chestnuts as you gather in the cozy wood-heated family room. Family members of all ages can enjoy finding free firewood near your home.





Ponderosa Press

Ponderosa Estates Homeowners Association Newsletter

October 2012 Edition



7 Lessons from Grandma



My grandmother, Esther, who lived through the Great Depression, passed away recently. In the past few weeks, I have been thinking about the lessons of frugality that she taught me.

Lesson 1: Make Do with as Little as Possible

While it may not seem cool in this society to go without, my grandmother made do. She lived in the country with my grandfather and made almost all her meals from scratch, using food from their garden. My grandfather hunted and brought home wild turkey and deer. She reused scraps of paper to write lists and notes, and conserved water and electricity. She did not shop for fun or accumulate knick-knacks and frivolous items. She wore her clothes until they wore out.

Lesson 2: Learn to Cook, Sew, Decorate

My grandmother was an expert seamstress, which was how she paid for her college tuition in the 1940s. She made many clothes for her children and grandchildren, knitted blankets, pieced together patchwork quilts, decorated her home and cooked meals everyday for years. They rarely went out to eat or had pizza delivered. Someone else preparing meals was a luxury.

Lesson 3: Pick Up Frugal Hobbies and Entertainment

Some hobbies, like renting movies or shopping, can really cost a lot. Others, like stamp collecting, don't cost as much. My grandmother loved reading books and magazines she got from the library, taking walks outside, visiting family and friends, and listening to music. She rarely watched TV.

Lesson 4: Appreciate What You Have

It can be hard to want what you have, without wanting more. My grandmother never seemed to want more than she had. She was content with her home, her belongings, and her family. She had mastered the art of contentment.

Lesson 5: Never Get in Debt and Save Up for a Rainy Day

My grandmother's generation didn't believe in debt, and therefore, she never got in debt or even had her own credit card. For whatever she needed, she paid cash. She saved her change and dollar bills and only bought things when she had the money. She saved her money for what was important to her.

Lesson 6: Creatively Solve Problems

Whenever a problem came up, she always had the solution. She was very practical about how to solve problems, without resorting to spending money. For example, when I was moving into my first apartment, she helped me come up with a list of stuff I'd need and meals I could make that wouldn't cost a lot. She also gave me necessities for my new home.

Lesson 7: Focus on the Big Picture

One snowy night, not too long ago, my grandmother died peacefully in her sleep. The most important lesson she taught me was to focus on living a good life, loving your family and not focus on money or things.

With these lessons, she lived a wonderful life. I hope these lessons inspire you too.