Ponderosa Estates Homeowners Association Newsletter

November 2014Edition

Pierce County Library's first ever FREE! DIY fest @ the Fruitland Grange 11102 86th Ave. E. Puyallup 98371 Saturday, Nov. 15 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

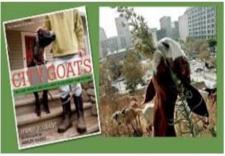
Pierce County Library DIY Fest will feature Local authors Hands-on activities; Kitchen demos; Food trucks; Your DIY Bookmobile

Local authors

10:30 a.m. Blair Stocker - Wise Craft



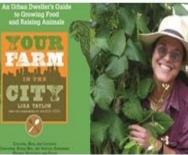
12:30 p.m. Jennie Grant - City Goats



11:30 a.m. Dee Williams - The Big Tiny



1:30 p.m. Lisa Taylor - Your Farm in the City



Ways to Honor Veterans Day with Your Kids Monday, November 10

Veterans' Appreciation Day. Active duty and retired military receive FREE admission today and Veterans Day. Active duty military or veteran identification, discharge papers or other proof of honorable military service is required. Immediate family will receive half-price admission. *10 a.m. to 3 p.m.* \$ to \$\$. Northwest Trek Wildlife Park, Eatonville. <u>nwtrek.org</u>

Veterans Day Program. At 10:30 a.m., listen to patriotic music played by the Boeing Employees Band. At 11:45 a.m., hear from keynote speaker Mike Washington of Team Rubicon, an organization which unites the skills and experiences of veterans with first responders in an emergency. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Included with admission. \$\$, free ages 4 and younger, U.S. veterans and current U.S. military personnel FREE today. The Museum of Flight, Seattle (Boeing Field). museumofflight.org

Free Military Admission Day. Active duty military with ID and up to five members of their family will receive FREE admission today. *10 a.m. to 5 p.m. LeMay America's Car Museum, Tacoma. lemaymuseum.org*

Veterans Day Parade. Mile-long parade includes marching bands, honor guards, drill teams, veterans' units and more. *11 a.m. FREE.* West *Main Street, Auburn. <u>auburnwa.gov</u>*

Happy Thanksgiving from your Ponderosa Estates Homeowners Association Officers

FREE Season's Passes available for 5th Grade Ski & Ride Free program powered by <u>Carter Subaru</u>

Falling in love with the mountains through skiing and snowboarding can be life-changing, and that's why Stevens Pass and Carter Subaru have teamed up to offer FREE season passes to Washington State's 5th Graders. We want to inspire more youth to get out on the slopes to promote family bonding, healthy recreational activities and an appreciation of our stunning landscape. To order a 5th Grader Season Pass, please call **206.812.4510, Ext. 4351.**



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Bonney Lake Holiday Events November - December 2014



Food Drives, Giving Tree, & Shop With A Cop

'Tis the season to give! Each year the City works with the School District, Food Bank, local businesses and others to organize a city-wide Food Drive and 'Giving Tree' Toy Drive, as well as the 'Shop with a Cop' program.

Annual Food Drive

A food item drop-off is available in the <u>Public Safety Building</u> lobby during normal office hours (Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.).

Food Drive Events

Tree Lighting Ceremony - December 6, 2014, 6:00 p.m.

DM Disposal Food Drive Pick-Up - December 11, 2014

DM Disposal employees will stop by each home in Bonney Lake to pick up donations of non-perishable food items. Keep an eye out for more information by mail & email from DM Disposal on the Food Drive.

All food items are given to the local Bonney Lake Food Bank and <u>Senior Center</u>. Visit the Bonney Lake Food Bank website for more information on other ways to donate, host a food drive, or volunteer.

Activities and music, refreshments, candy, pictures with Santa, and the annual tree lighting ceremony. Drop food donations off at the Food Bank, which is adjacent to the Public Safety Building and the community Christmas Tree.

Gingerbread House Contest

The Bonney Lake <u>Arts Commission</u> and <u>Kiwanis Club</u> are holding a first-annual Gingerbread House Contest!

Children, teens and adults can enter as individuals, teams, or businesses teams. It all culminates in an evening of holiday cheer at the Tree Lighting Event when entries will be judged for prizes! Gingerbread House Contest Entry Form Santa Parade @ 3:30pm, Dec.6th

Come...Spend Some Time in Sumner during the Annual Santa Parade. Start your holiday shopping by visiting local merchants in Sumner.

Why shop in the mall when you can find something unique in one of our quaint shops? You can also visit one of our local restaurants if you are looking for more than a snack. For more information visit their website @

http://www.sumnerdowntown.com/santa_parade.html

Zoo-lights 2013

Nov. 28 - Jan. 4, 2014 Closed Dec. 24 & Open Dec. 25 & Jan. 1



Zoo-lights Hours: 5 - 9 pm

Bundle up and stroll the Zoo as it comes aglow with more than a halfmillion lights.

Explore seas of dazzling lights and see breathtaking light displays of iceskating puffins, playful tiger cubs, the massive flame tree and a Giant Pacific Octopus. Warm up in the steamy <u>South Pacific Aquarium</u>. Ride a <u>camel</u> and take a spin on the antique <u>carousel</u>!

Scuba Diving Santa can be found swimming with the sharks during the first three weeks of Zoo-lights on Tuesday and Wednesday nights at **6pm**.

FREE with Zoo-lights admission.



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Autumn Snacks and Crafts

Banana Pumpkin Shake

2 tablespoons canned pumpkin

Ingredients: 1 cup milk

1 banana dash of cinnamon

Autumn brings to mind apples, cider, squash and the savory sweet taste of pumpkin pie and bread. It's also the time of year when the kids start spending a little more time indoors and need some activities and snacks to occupy their minds and hands.

Try out these fall themed recipes and projects.





Applesauce Cinnamon Salad Ingredients: 2 (3 ounce) packages raspberry gelatin 2 cups boiling water 1/2 cup cinnamon candies 4 cups applesauce Add gelatin to boiling water and candies. Stir in applesauce and chill until firm.

Creamy Orange Dip and Fruit

Ingredients:

1 package cream cheese; 1/2 cup brown sugar; 1 teaspoon finely shredded orange peel 1/3 cup crushed pecans; 1 tsp. vanilla

Mix together all ingredients until smooth.

Place in a nice bowl and surround on a tray or platter with strawberries, kiwis, grapes, apple slices, oranges, pear and peach slices. You may use all of these or some. If your kids are like mine and don't like nuts, you can leave those out if you wish.

Preserving Fall Leaves

You will need: Dried leaves floor wax a bowl newspaper

waxed paper

an old catalog or phone book

old or inexpensive paint brushes

Gather some pretty fall leaves once they have fallen. Lay newspapers down on a work surface. Pour some wax into the bowl. Have the kids carefully brush wax onto the leaves.

This will make them shiny. To dry, place them between two pieces of wax paper and place between the catalog or phone book pages. Use to make cards or decorate the windows and doors.







Blend in blender until smooth and foamy. Serve immediately.

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Getting your home ready for the winter months Fast Fall Fix-Ups

The trees are a burning cauldron of color, like a dying fire giving one last gasp. Winter reaches out with icy fingers to frost the branches with a hint of what is to come. Now is the perfect time for some fast fall fix-ups to ensure a cozy winter and pumpkin pies; brewing hot spiced apple cider (I can smell it simmering just thinking about it). Caulking is easier than ever. It comes in a clear, paint-able formula for exterior use, in the traditional caulking tubes, or in easy squeeze tubes for small areas. Just fixing tiny cracks near windows and doors can significantly reduce your heating bill during the cold months. Check exterior walls and the foundation for any gaps or spaces and fill those as well.

Check your gutters and make sure they are clear of leaves, branches, and dirt. A clogged gutter causes all kinds of problems, including ice dams, where the rainwater or melting snow has no where to go, so it backs up under the shingles. This leads to leaks, water damage, and maybe even the need for a whole new roof. Cleaning the gutters in the fall and again in the spring ensures the water and melting snow goes where it is supposed to go. Raking leaves can be a fun family activity. Gather plenty of rakes, large bags, some inexpensive or old gloves, and add some boisterous music with a boom box. The leaves will be bagged in no time, with the kids begging for more. Head over to your neighbors if you want to extend the fun.

Save a few leftover leaves. They make excellent mulch to cover vulnerable plants and the roots of shrubs. Damp newspaper helps keep the leaves in place. Leaves make beautiful decorations to brighten dreary days. Collect colorful examples and mount on construction paper. You can create collages or showcase a single brilliant leaf.

Another easy decoration is a fall wreath. Purchase an inexpensive foam wreath that can be found at craft stores and discount outlets. Use craft or hot glue to attach leaves. Finish with a gold or brown velvet bow. You can dress it up as much as you like with mini pumpkins, tiny scarecrows, baby corn, or other gourds. Mow the grass one more time before the snow flies. Long grass can mold and cause your lawn to die over the winter. This is an excellent time to fertilize the lawn as well. Check with your local garden center for specific needs for your area.

Another simple step is to cover your windows with plastic. You can do this from the inside or outside. Applying heat, like from a hair dryer, will shrink the plastic to form a tight seal. Most window kits costs less than five dollars per large window and can save hundreds of dollars over the winter. If you're organizing your garage or shed for the winter, don't forget to look up. Over 80% of space is wasted in garages. One easy way to double your storage is to add shelves to the open rafters. Another is to stack sturdy shelves all the way up to the ceiling. Remember to secure them to the wall for added safety. Put little used or summer items on the higher shelves. Hang shovels, rakes, and other tools on special hooks or large nails. The twelve-inch space between the posts is perfect for this. Hang kids' bikes and scooters to free up floor space and protect your vehicles from accidentally getting scratched if one falls over against it. (I speak from painful experience.)

Now is a perfect time to dig out snow shovels, ice scrapers, antifreeze, ice-melt, kids' ice skates, hockey gear, sleds, snowboards, and warm winter wear. You don't want to wait until there is a blizzard raging outside! Add your Christmas decorations to the list, and you'll be one step ahead of the game.

A lot of families hang their Christmas lights in the fall, so they don't have to contend with high winds and freezing temperatures. Still others leave them up year-round, which is either a sign of resourcefulness or of laziness. I bypass the issue entirely by hanging my Christmas lights on the inside of the windows. They still light up the night and provide a warm glow inside without all the hassle.

Finally, straighten up your yard. Turn in your recyclable cans for some quick cash. Tidy the storage shed so that it is easily accessible. Prepare your garden and flower beds for next spring's planting. Store the patio furniture and summer toys.

Fall is a season of winding down, but it can also be the perfect time to fine-tune your home and have fun with nature's fabulous show of colors. Take advantage of the last few days of warm weather and try some fast fall fix-ups today !