

Ponderosa Press

Ponderosa Estates Homeowners Association Newsletter

December 2014 Holiday Edition

Bonney Lake Police: 10 Ways To Reduce Auto Break-Ins Tips for the holiday season.

[By City of Bonney Lake - Government](#)

As the holiday shopping season begins the Bonney Lake Police Department is concerned about Vehicle Break-Ins. We don't want you to be the next victim.

Are any of these items visible in your vehicle? Cell Phone or GPS Unit – Music CD's or Stereo Faceplate – Purse and/or Wallet – Shopping Bags, Clothes, Merchandise, Backpacks – Laptop or Other Electronic Equipment – Sporting Equipment or Tools – Checkbooks or Other Papers for Identity Theft

You can prevent vehicle break-ins. Vehicle break-ins only take a few minutes, especially when the car is left unlocked or when thieves smash windows to grab items they see inside.

Criminals often drive through parking lots looking for vehicles with open windows and/or unlocked doors or any valuables left out in the open.

If you must leave valuables in a vehicle, do conceal items BEFORE arriving at your parking space, if possible.

Be aware that vehicle break-ins commonly lead to other crimes such as fraud and identity theft – so limit the amount of personal information you keep in your vehicle. Protect yourself and don't become the next victim.

Read more: [BLPD - Ten Ways to Reduce Auto Thefts & Break Ins](#)

Bonney Lake Looking For Santa Volunteers Drivers and Santa's needed.

It's not too late to sign up for helping our Santa teams. We plan on being out on Dec 20,21,22,23 and 24th. Evenings each time. We need drivers and helpers (and a Santa or two). Right now we have about half of the spots filled so that'll mean only half of the visits. Santa@nwsanta.org for more info.

Holiday Concerts Welcome the Holidays with Music of the Season



This family friendly Concert Series features The Dickens Carolers who will be performing traditional Holiday songs at the Bonney Lake Library Saturday, Dec. 13, 11:30 a.m.

18501 90th St. E. WA 98391 • 253-548-3308
Celtic Singer Erin McNamee will perform Holiday favorites with a Celtic flair at the Sumner Library
1116 Fryar Ave. 98390 • 253-548-3306
Sunday, Dec. 7, 12-1 p.m. More info at
<http://www.piercecountylibrary.org/files/library/holiday-music-2014.pdf>

Ponderosa Press

Ponderosa Estates Homeowners Association Newsletter

December 2014 Holiday Edition



Annual Tree Lighting & Food Drive will be held on December 6, 2014, 6:00 p.m. at the Public Safety Building - 18421 Veterans Memorial Drive E.

The City of Bonney Lake and the [Kiwanis Club](#) are again sponsoring annual holiday Tree Lighting and Food Drive activities! Come join the fun!

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.



Shop with a Cop Program gears up for the season

The Bonney Lake Police Department "Shop with a Cop" program serves children in need and helps them purchase gifts for their families during the holidays. Donations of money or Target Gift Cards are accepted at the Bonney Lake Police Department, Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. or by mail to 18421 Veterans Memorial Dr E, Bonney Lake, WA 98391.

Holiday Toy & Food Drives Underway

[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.

Food Drive Events include:

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

At the 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 [Senior Center](#). Visit the Bonney Lake Food Bank website for more information on other ways to donate, host a food drive, or volunteer.

PEHOA News:

HAPPY HOLIDAYS from your Home owner's Association, PEHOA officers and Ponderosa Press staff.

Next HOA Meetings is Monday January 19th, for more information contact President Brad Doll at brad@ponderosaestates.org and plan on joining us at our next meeting!



Ponderosa Press

Ponderosa Estates Homeowners Association Newsletter

December 2014 Holiday Edition



Last Minute Gift Ideas for Anyone on Your List

All of the following are cute little sayings I have compiled that go with a particular gift item. Do just one item for a simple gift, OR consider putting together a basket of several items and attach their saying to each item.

1. **Any sweet treat:** "Wishing you a season filled with sweetness!" **Rice Krispie Treats:** "Snap, Crackle, Pop" We think You're really Tops! " **Toffee or Brittle:** "Any way you break it, We think you're the greatest!"
2. **A plate of cookies:** "Wishing you a wonderful Christmas, from your "sweet" neighbors. OR "Rolling out a batch of Christmas cheer, for someone we think is very dear!"
3. **6 pack or single bottle of Barq's Root Beer:** "Have a wonderful Christmas, it shows you're "barqing" up the right tree!"
4. **Hershey's Kisses in a Wire Wisk:** "We "whisk" you a merry "kiss" mas.
5. **Popcorn:** "We just "popped" in to wish you a Merry Christmas!" OR **homemade Salsa & Tortilla Chips:** "Have a hot and spicy Christmas!"
6. **Loaf of bread:** "For being there when you were "kneaded", for "rising" to the occasion, large or small. For never "loafing" on the job, for helping others "heel" with TLC. No matter how you "slice" it, you do a terrific job loving others."
7. **Jar of Jam:** "Hoping you have a Holiday "Jammed" packed with fun!!" "Have a "Berry" nice holiday season!!" Or "Hoping your Christmas is "Jam-packed" with Christmas Cheer!!"
8. **Filled Basket:** "Wishing you a basket full of Christmas blessings"
9. **Brownie Mix (or other mix):** "Whip up this mix for a wonderful holiday fix! Wishing you a "rich" Holiday Season!!" (Attach the recipe!)
10. **Plant:** "The kindness you show makes our friendship grow and grow! Hope you have a Happy Holiday!!"

For MORE ideas go to : [Budget101.com - - 121 Fun Sayings For Simple Gifts | Homemade Gag Gift Ideas http://www.budget101.com/gag-gifts/121-fun-sayings-simple-gifts-2238.html#ixzz1eSR04wCk](http://www.budget101.com/gag-gifts/121-fun-sayings-simple-gifts-2238.html#ixzz1eSR04wCk)

Under Creative Commons License: [Attribution](#)



Ponderosa Press

Ponderosa Estates Homeowners Association Newsletter

December 2014 Holiday Edition



Imaginative Gifts for Seniors

For almost everyone who gives gifts at Christmas, there's one or two people who are elderly. Many of them seem not to need or want more "stuff" in their lives. If your friend or relative is confined to a senior residence or home, finding the right gift is even tougher. In this situation, space for things is often an issue. So what's a gift giver to do? Here are 10 unusual and frugal ideas that will bring a smile to even the most over-stuffed senior.

1. Ergonomic kitchen tools - Years ago, a friend gave me a potato peeler with an ergonomic handle, and I haven't stopped using it since. I know she didn't pay more than \$6 for it, but it's one of the best Christmas gifts I ever got. Jar openers, spatulas, corn peelers, etc. can be found in most discount department stores or viewed and ordered online. Your friend with arthritis in her thumbs like me, will love you for it!

Recordable greeting card - These are so cool. Try a karaoke card and record your own voice singing old time favorites. Jokes? Even better. Drug stores, card shops, and supermarkets carry them and they cost between \$6 to \$10.

3. Stuffed calendars - Purchase a calendar with a motif your friend will love and then go through and mark important dates, such as birthdays of friends and family, upcoming events, and anniversaries. Pre-marking them for your gift recipient will show your thoughtfulness and maybe help remind you, too! Package a few stamped greeting cards along with the calendar if you want to make it extra special.

4. Trip back in time - Gather some old photos of your senior, perhaps from an event like a wedding or important birthday. Tape one to the cover of a pretty tin filled with old time candies, like Necco Wafers or Mary Janes. Place remaining photos in a Christmas card. Crank it up a notch with a subscription to [Good Old Days](#) or [Reminisce](#). I did this for my own Mom for years and she looked forward to every issue.

5. Deck of cards - Either poker or pinochle will do and get a new score pad and some sharpened pencils. Add a few coupons for card games with you!

6. Yourself - Almost nothing beats a visit from you, especially if your senior is homebound. Make a commitment to them in your heart and do it. Your thoughtfulness will shine through and you'll benefit as much or more than they will.

Schedule your gift delivery day and call ahead to make sure it's convenient. Put a bow in your hair or wear a red tie. Let your senior know you love them and care about how they celebrate the holidays. Jingle Bells at the top of your voice would not be inappropriate!



Making Sure Your Gift Goes Where you Want it to go... Avoiding Charity Scams

Without charities and other non-profit organizations, many vital services would not be available in the United States. The latest numbers from the "Giving USA " report are both encouraging and mind boggling. Americans gave \$335.17 in charitable donations, an increase of four percent from 2013. Giving by corporation declined almost 2 percent, which means there was a major upswing in individual donations. As these tax-exempt organizations continue to increase in number, competition for funds will become more competitive and mailboxes will fill up with even more fund-raising appeals. While most of these charities are legitimate, unfortunately, a small minority are not. If you are not careful, you may find yourself funding an organization's administrative costs or lining the pockets of scam artists instead of supporting a worthy cause. Before making a donation, consider the following tips: **1. Get Off the Telephone:** No reputable charity will ask you to donate over the telephone. If you receive such a call, simply request written literature and a copy of the charity's latest report. **2. Check the Numbers:** No more than forty percent of donations should be used to cover general administration and fund-raising costs. If the organization is new, this percentage may be slightly higher. Be wary of charities that use the label "public education" to hide large portions of their direct mail and telemarketing expenses. **3. Do Not Respond to Pressure:** You have a right to say no. Do not allow an aggressive caller to pressure you into sending a check and possibly exposing yourself to identity fraud. Hang up immediately if the caller persists. Also, keep in mind that you are not obligated to make a contribution to keep greeting cards, address stickers, calendars, key rings, and other "gifts" sent in the mail. It is against the law for a charity to demand payment for any unordered merchandise. **4. Double-Check the Name:** Some charities use names that closely resemble well-known, legitimate organizations. Con artists can easily impersonate a reputable charity, sending e-mails with a well-known logo with a link that directs donors to a different website. If the name sounds suspicious, check with your state charity registration office before making a contribution.