



BATTLECREEK COMMONS COMMUNICATOR

Issue 115 Page 1 November 2025



November is the pearl grey month,
the changeling between warm crimson October
and cold white December,
the month where the leaves fall in slow,
drifting whirls and the shapes of the tree's
are revealed, when the earth imperceptibly wakes
and stretches her bare limbs and displays
her stubborn unconquerable strength
before she settles uneasily into Winter.
November is secret and silent.



After the wind!

Alison Uttley 🍁 🌲

MARK YOUR CALENDARS – BCC ANNUAL MEETING



Battlecreek Commons will have our annual meeting for the election of officers on **Wednesday, November 5th at 6:00 PM.** This will be an **in-person** meeting in the clubhouse.

Ballots have gone out so please return them to the **clubhouse mail slot/office by 4:00 PM on November 4th** or you can bring your ballot with you if you attend the meeting.

For questions, contact Betsy Hughes at 503-932-6853 or hughesbjh@gmail.com

The social committee will provide sweets and beverage for the meeting. This will also be a great opportunity to see the clubhouse adorned in its new paint scheme!

Sharon Grasseth, President 🌲

News in Our Community

I'm sure most everyone knows there was a duplex fire on Huntington Circle on October 11th. With great fortune everyone in both units got out safely and with no injuries. Even kitty, Miss Lilly, got out. The Salem Fire Department fairly quickly extinguished the fire. Neighbors in the area reported the firefighters were very responsive and wonderful. The neighbors were also very helpful in making sure every living being was safe and cared for. They pulled together to support each other. Next steps of insurance claims and future restoration and rebuilding are underway. Claims have been filed, contracts signed for work to begin. All fires produce hazardous materials so please do not enter the premises without the approval of Summit Restoration who will be doing all of the work. Estimates are that it will take 9-12 months for clean-up, permits, engineer reports, and reconstruction. The homeowners are working through the incident and currently have accommodations. Everyone is just so grateful all are safe and unharmed.



Battlecreek's insurance policy is very good. Our policy will rebuild the damaged units to move-in quality. It covers cabinets, flooring, and includes all built-ins like the range and dishwasher. The owner's personal policy will cover washer, dryer, fridge, and their personal belongings. Summit Restoration has been contracted to do the restoration. They are a local company based in Stayton. At the emergency board meeting we learned that several homeowners have used them in the past and several others know others who have. The reviews were excellent.

Sharon and Aline 🌲



*"I just want to lay in a pile of warm laundry
and eat donuts."*

CALENDAR**November 2025 – January 2026****HOA Activities**

These meetings are all open to all members.

For the time being, follow the instructions provided in the emailed meeting notices about how meetings will meet or contact the Chair of the committee you wish to attend.

Board of Directors	Finance – Jean Dalton, Interim	Planning & Projects---	Neighborhood Watch – TBD
3rd Tues! Nov 18, 2025-5:30p - ZOOM	November 12, 2025-5:00p - Clbhse		
3rd Tues! Dec 16, 2025-5:30p - ZOOM	December 10, 2025-5:00p - Clbhse	TBD	
January 27, 2026-5:30p - ZOOM	January 21, 2026-5:00p - Clbhse		

Grounds – Megan Trow & Virginia Ferguson, Co-Chairs	Maintenance/Repair/Paving –	Architectural –	Emergency Prep – Aline Autenrieth
November 11, 2025-6:00p - Clubhouse	Paving project in progress!	Meets as needed-contact Chair	January 6, 2026-7:00p -Clbhse
December 9, 2025-6:00p - Clubhouse	Meets as needed-contact Chair	TBD	We'll meet quarterly unless
January 13, 2026-6:00p -Clubhouse	TBD		needed and called sooner

We hope you will join these meetings to share your concerns and views, and become more involved in our community. Please come join us! 🌲

Social Activities: Thirsty Thursday – Thirsty Thursdays are BACK!!! The clubhouse is reserved every Thursday 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm for this fun gathering. Bring your own drink and an appetizer to share. 🌲



Special Note: November and December Board & Finance Meetings are ONE WEEK EARLY so as not to interfere with holidays. 🌲



Reminder: Sunday, November 2nd Daylight Savings Time Ends! Fall Back!! You get to set your clocks back and sleep an extra hour. 🌲

Committee Service

PLEASE consider participating in a committee to help get to know more people in your community and learn how our community works. We need committee members in most committees but in particular the following only have about 2 members to make decisions and do the necessary work: finance committee, elections/nomination committee, and the architectural committee. Your input and ideas are needed and you don't need to be an expert; just a desire to have your community thrive.

Everyone is always wanting to make sure our monthly dues stay as low as possible. One way this can happen is by having volunteers take on some of the roles of helping govern our community. With more participation from community members ideas may develop to contain costs and minimize dues increases. Many in our community have already taken a turn at participating in the different committees over the years. If you have not yet taken a turn, this could be your opportunity! Please consider taking a turn. These committee meetings can be fun and this is a way to have your say!



Sharon Grasseth, Board President 🌲

AUTUMN SACK LUNCH SOCIAL

Keep an eye out for notice of the BCC Autumn Sack Lunch Social date. It has been postponed for the time being. It will be 11:30a – 1:30p at the newly painted Clubhouse. See you then!!

Bonnie Shaughnessy-Smith 🌲



A Note of Special Thanks!! ❤️ On Sunday, October 26th, Paul Andrews, who lives on Continental Circle, fell while he was walking in the community. One of our neighbors saw him from her window and went out to help him up. Another neighbor came along and also helped. Paul and his wife, Nancy, wish to send many thanks to these two friendly neighbors (they don't remember their names) for their caring help!

Nancy Humphry 🌲



*“Tired of boiling water every time you need to make pasta?
Just boil a few gallons at the beginning of the week and freeze it for later.”*

Are You Ready For The Unexpected?? (from Emergency Preparedness Committee)

Unexpected does not have to mean unprepared. It is only a Crisis if you are not Prepared! Remain Calm and Be Prepared!!!

An Emergency is The Absence of Choice....



Disclaimer: Please remember information shared here are ideas and suggestions presented for your consideration and are not recommendations by the BCC Board of Directors.

Do You Know Your Neighbors?!! Human connection is the opposite of loneliness..... This last month, as you probably know, there was a fire in one of our duplexes on Huntington. Several of the neighbors heard a boom and ran out to see what happened and see if there was anything they could do to help. Several neighbors knew the homeowners in one side of the duplex. The homeowner in the second side of the duplex was less known to neighbors. Nevertheless, a neighbor went to the door on knocked to see if they could get a response. Finally, the homeowner came to the door and was able to be walked out to a warm car. It was not known until later that this homeowner usually gets around with a wheelchair and has other significant health issues and uses medical devices. It would have been very helpful to know this much sooner. All of this is just to say, please be neighborly now and learn about some of these kinds of needs. Sometimes you are the very first responder and could be the reason for making a difference and not.

That Emergency Information Form!!! At one time some of our residents filled out that Emergency Information Form. After the fire emergency, we are reminded that knowing very important information about you and your needs is truly important. You may not have noticed that every month there is a little reminder to fill it out if you have not and to return it to Mary Schroeder. (Yup, it's down there at the bottom of this page!!) Well, this is yet **ANTOHER REQUEST** to have you fill it out and send it in. This is a great time to fill out a **NEW FORM** and return it. Perhaps your health has changed and you now have more needs to let us know about, your outside contact person has changed, or perhaps your pet is no longer with you - (important for us to know so we don't look for an animal who is no longer living with you) or you have a new pet we should know about. These beings are very important for us to know about also!! To make it easier, a new, updated form is attached to this newsletter for your convenience! If you need a new copy of the form, please contact Mary or Aline. **Please return the completed form ASAP to Mary Schroeder at: 6720 Continental, felines@comcast.net or Aline Autenrieth at 1877 Lexington, aautenrieth@juno.com or just drop it in the Clubhouse drop slot. Thank you!** 🌲



!! Item(s) of the Month !! Fire extinguishers: Please have fire extinguishers available in your home. They are reasonably priced and easily found at many stores including Costco, Home Depot, Lowe's, Amazon, and even Safeway, Fred Meyer, and others. These units begin around \$35 each and go up from there in price. A couple of things to remember about fire extinguishers - information obtained from Salem's Deputy Fire Chief: Once you pull the pin and use them, even just a little, they are finished. You cannot just hang them back up and think you can use them again even if you did not empty the container - when you stop the flow, the nozzle clogs and cannot be reopened. Soooo, what do you do now? Well, we asked about recharging fire extinguishers and the answer from the Deputy Fire Chief was **NO**. It's rare to find a place to get them recharged, and it's very expensive so you should just go get a new one. They are inexpensive enough and then you will be well prepared for your next possible need. Also check the date on your unit - if it's out of date, you also should replace it. While you're at it, get a couple!!

Fire Blanket: Another item you can have on hand in case of a fire is a "fire blanket." Keeping an Emergency Fire Blanket in your kitchen is one of the most important decisions you can make for you and your family. Hang it on the wall and all you need to do is just pull the straps to release the fire blanket, cover it over the fire, and it is instantly suffocated before getting out of control. It's so incredibly simple to use. Even children or seniors can handle it. No more heavy, messy and complicated fire extinguishers. These fire blankets can be found on Amazon for around \$10 to \$12 each - get more than one! It is recommended keeping one per person in the house. It's a one-time purchase that can save lives and thousands of \$ in damages. 🌲

PLEASE send in your Emergency Prep Information Form to Mary Schroeder.
(If you need another one contact Mary at felines@comcast.net!!!!)

Our next meeting will be held on **Tuesday, January 6 at 7:00 PM in the clubhouse.** Emergency Preparedness meets the **1st Tuesday of each quarter (January 6, April 7, July 7, October 6, 2026) at 7:00 pm** in the Clubhouse unless called sooner to which **ALL are welcome!** Please contact one of us if you wish to join the meeting, have questions, or something to contribute. Stay healthy, happy, and safe!! 🌲



*"Since light travels faster than sound,
people may appear bright until you hear them speak."*

Finders Keepers!

Our Rock Hider continues to hide these beautiful rocks with Crocheted coverings. So, go out there and find them!! They are placed around the beginning of the month!! We Love It, whoever you are and **thank you so very much** for this very fun activity!! So search on, everybody!! 🌲



BCC CONCERTS

Concerts are up in the air for the moment. Stay tuned for more information via your email. When it happens will be on a Sunday, 2:00 – 5:00 pm.



Bring a snack to share and a beverage of your choice and enjoy an afternoon of music with your friends and neighbors. Some cushions are available to make the folding chairs more comfortable. The recommended donation to the artist is \$15 per adult. Call/text Sharon Grasseh to reserve seats for you and your guests – 503-559-8414, sharose47@yahoo.com! 🌲

Contributors to this month's Newsletter: Steve Starkey, Sharon Grasseh, Betsy Hughes, Anna Flores, Bonnie Shaughnessy-Smith Crocheting Rock Hider, Morgan Grey, and me!, -Aline Autenrieth. 🌲



*On your own or missing Family for Thanksgiving?
Please join us for a BCC Friendsgiving Potluck
See flyer attached below for details. Morgan Grey & Sharon Grasseh 🌲*



*"Always remember, no matter what's going on in your life,
there's some form of potato that can make it better."*

Do you have something to share with the community? The Newsletter is a good place to get out the word. Write it up and send it to me (aautenrieth@juno.com). Please send the article rather than just the idea! Articles should be from 100 words to 600 words. We reserve the right to edit all submissions. Microsoft Word compatible is desired. PDF files are more difficult! **DEADLINE: 10th of the month, please!** 🌲



If you have a recipe or several you would like to share, please send them to me – always searching for good contributions!! Thanks!

Recipe Corner!

CORN PUDDING

INGREDIENTS

- 1 12-oz. can whole kernel corn, drained
- 2 17-oz. cans cream style corn
- 5 lightly beaten eggs
- ¼ cup sugar
- 4 Tablespoons cornstarch
- 1½ teaspoon seasoned salt
- ½ teaspoon dry mustard
- 1 teaspoon dried minced onion (more is OK-up to a Tablespoon)
- ½ cup milk (any works fine)
- ½ cup melted butter



INSTRUCTIONS

1. Preheat oven to 400°F.
2. **Spray or grease** a 3 qt casserole dish or 9x13 glass baking dish.
3. In a large bowl, combine the corn and eggs.
4. In a small bowl, combine the sugar, cornstarch, seasoned salt, dry mustard, and dried minced onion. Add this mixture to the corn mixture, and stir to combine.
5. Stir in the milk and melted butter.
6. Pour the mixture into the prepared dish.
7. Bake for 1 hour, **stirring once**, or until set and lightly browned, but still soft. 🌱

BCC Office Hours

**Monday thru Friday (except holidays):
10:00 am - 3:30 pm**

NOTE: The office will be closed for holidays on

Nov 27,
Dec 25

**Battlecreek Commons HOA
1823 Lexington Circle SE
Salem, Oregon 97306
Phone: 503-362-9284**

Battlecreekcommons@gmail.com
www.battlecreekcommons.com

Date: _____

Battlecreek Commons

Emergency Response Information

Each area of BCC will be assigned a team leader and they will need to know information about you in order to assist you in case of an emergency, so we encourage you to fill out and return this form.

Name: _____ Age: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Age: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Children or others living at this address:

Name: _____ Age: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Age: _____ Phone: _____

Pets: Type & Name: _____ Age: _____ Type & Name: _____ Age: _____

Pet medications, pet vet, & boarding facility preference: _____

Emergency Contact Information:

Name: _____ Phone: _____ Relationship: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____ Relationship: _____

Information we might need to know about you in order to be able to help you? (Medical Equipment: ie. Oxygen Tank, Walker, Wheelchair, Dialysis Equipment, CPAP, other) Medical issues: _____

Also: Medicine in the refrigerator/bathroom cabinet, etc. _____

Plus, do you spend lengthy (months) periods of time away from BCC? _____

Equipment You Have That Could Be Available in Case of Emergency: Check if applies:

Generator _____ Chain Saw _____ Ax _____ Crowbar _____ Shovels _____ Jacks _____ Stretcher _____

Tents/Portable Shelters _____ BBQ Grill _____ Golf Cart _____ Other Medical, Camping or Construction Equipment: _____

Your Special Abilities/Training: Check if applies -- ie. Doctor _____ Nurse _____ EMT _____

Mechanic _____ Electrician _____ Construction _____ HAM Radio _____

Other (describe) _____

Note: If you have special medical or other needs that require electricity in order to operate, we suggest you buy a generator and stock adequate fuel reserves – (or other personal power sources – solar, etc.) as our response team does not have that type of equipment available for use.

Note: This information will not be shared outside of our Battlecreek Emergency Response Team.

If you need a form, please contact Mary or Aline. Please return the completed form ASAP to Mary Schroeder at: 6720 Continental, felines@comcast.net or Aline Autenrieth at 1877 Lexington, aautenrieth@juno.com or just drop it in the Clubhouse drop slot. Thank you!

10/2025

You're Invited!
Please join us for a
Friendsgiving Potluck

With Storytelling and Games
Thursday, November 27 noon—4:00
BCC Clubhouse

Hosts Sharon Grasseth and Morgan Grey will provide
Turkey and Gravy, Dressing (Gluten Free), Jellied Cranberry Sauce
Plates, flatware, napkins, cups

Suggested dishes for potluck:
Mashed potatoes, salads, dinner rolls, veggie sides, desserts,
or your favorite holiday dish

RSVP to Morgan Grey, 971-719-9701 or
wilderhaven@gmail.com and say what you
plan to bring

Please bring your beverage of choice

