

BATTLECREEK COMMONS COMMUNICATOR



Issue 96 Page 1 April 2024

I. The Burial of the Dead

April is the cruelest month, breeding Lilacs out of the dead land, mixing Memory and desire, stirring Dull roots with spring rain. Winter kept us warm, covering Earth in forgetful snow, feeding A little life with dried tubers. Summer surprised us, coming over the Starnbergersee With a shower of rain; we stopped in the colonnade, And went on in sunlight, into the Hofgarten, And drank coffee, and talked for an hour.

from The Waste Land by T.S. Eliot 4

New Purchaser Fee Communique

We will be voting for the New Purchaser Fee Amendment in April! (Please see the March Newsletter for the language of the amendment and answers to some pertinent questions.)

Ballots will be distributed April 19th. Please be on the lookout for your ballot in your mail slot. You will have until May 10th, by 7 pm to return your ballot to the clubhouse.

If you still have questions about this initiative, PLEASE contact any committee member listed below. For example, if you are interested in having a lender talk to us about VA/FHA loans and this fee or other questions, let us know.



Please contact any one of our committee members listed below as needed:

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Betsy Hughes	503-932-6853	Chris Stewart	503-779-4844		
Mary Schroeder	503-990-6264	Sharon Grasseth	503-559-8414		
Jeanne Dalton	503-321-4174	Jim Nixon	410-703-4099		
Aline Autenrieth	503-991-5379	Bev Marquardt	503-585-2983		
Joan Bechtel	503-931-4798	Gayle Holland	503-588-9456		
Ruth Hewett	503-551-3214	BCC New Pu	ırchaser Fee Committee		

Notes from the Office and Maintenance

BCC wants everyone to know Katie Martin will be joining the office staff part-time. She began her training on March 20th.

A couple of reminders:

In the Spring we find projects needing to be addressed. Please remember to put in Work Orders to the Office if you want some work done around your home. You need to submit your request on a Work Order form and these forms are available in the clubhouse and also are available on the BCC website (and these are "fillable!"). Find them at www.battlecreekcommons.com

And this is also a great time to clean up your Mow Strip; clean out the leaves and debris left over from winter. This will help our campus continue to look so wonderfully great!! Also remember to pick up and remove your pet waste as you walk your animal around our lovely campus now that the weather is so delightful.

And Don is really pleased to have gotten board approval for the purchase of a machine that will help remove a lot of our moss buildup. It is a Toro 36" Walk-Behind Rotary Broom. So look for our great crew working on that project soon and for less moss around here!! 🏶



CALENDAR

April 2024 – June 2024

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 - Betty McKinney	Planning & Projects-Sue Harris, Co-Chair	Neighborhood Watch – Jim Nixon
April 23, 2024-6:00p - Zoom	Wed B4 BMtg April 17, 2024-4:00p-Clbhse		Meets as needed-contact Chair
May 28, 2024-6:00p - Zoom	May 22, 2024-4:00p-Clubhouse	TBD	Needs more members
June 25, 2024-6:00p - Zoom	June 19, 2024-4:00p-Clubhouse		TBD

Grounds - Megan Trow & Virginia Ferguson, Co-Chairs	Maintenance/Repair/Paving - J Nixon	Architecture - Bill Burnside	Emergency Prep - Nate Goldberg
April 9, 2024-6:30p-Clubhouse	Paving project begins!	Meets as needed-contact Chair	April 2, 2024-7:00p-Clubhouse
May 14, 2024-6:30p-Clubhouse	Meets as needed-contact Chair	TBD	We'll meet quarterly unless
June 11, 2024-6:30p - 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 – Has pretty much fallen by the wayside. If you want to revive it, contact your friends and neighbors. 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.



Another Tree Comes Down!!

On March 9th another BCC tree uprooted and toppled in a strong gust of wind on lower Huntington. It came down around 10:20 pm with a large bang!! Very fortunately, only the homeowner's fence was damaged. It did block the street overnight until Don (Thank you Don and also thank you Elmer!!) was able to get it removed the next morning. In the meantime the sign on the tree indicated the appropriate warning (enlarge picture to see)!!! HaHaHa!!







Garden Boxes and Grounds Notes

Summer will be here before we know it!! Now is the time to sign-up for a BCC Garden Box. Most are spoken for, although there are 2 or 3 available for your growing needs. If you would like to have a Garden Box this year, please get in touch with Megan Trow very soon at 503-881-8237 or megantrow1818@gmail.com.



Continental Hill is looking lovely now in its first Spring. A few of the little plantings are beginning to share a little color!

Spring Clean-up Tip: Cut off the dead fronds from your sword ferns so the new ones can grow for a fresh new look. Remember that all your yard clean-up materials should go in your green barrel – then put it out to be emptied every week!

The serious pond work is finished and lovely to look at. **Please stay off the saw-dusted areas** because that is where the new grass seed was planted. It will be a couple of months before the grass is ready to be walked on. Don't even think about wading in the pond! One foot of water covers about three feet of slimy muck. And the water is contaminated with duck and other animal waste!



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.

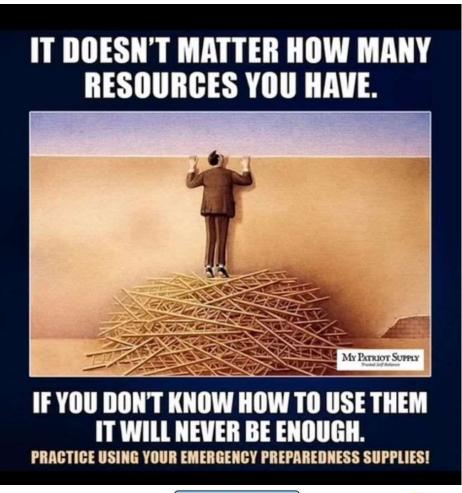
Practice With Your Emergency Supplies!! (as shared on the CERT Salem Facebook page)
Do you have supplies or situations you haven't tested out? Practice making a full meal without electricity or natural gas, go without any electronic devices for 24 hours (no cell phones, computers, etc.), wash hands without a sink, and-gulp-use the restroom on your property without using a toilet. Each test run will upright those metaphorical ladders \equiv and could make

all the difference when the time comes when you really need to know how to live in a new reality.

So it may be time to actually breakout that tent and the air mattress you have safely stored for that emergency and set it up in the backyard!!

!! Item of the Month!! A very easy idea for helping you have easy and quick fire starting aids is to save those empty toilet paper rolls and fill them with all that dryer lint you collect every time you pull your dry clothes out of the dryer.











PLEASE send in your Emergency Prep Information Form to Mary Schroeder.

(If you need another one contact Mary at felings@comeast.ngt!!!!)

Our next meeting will be held on **Tuesday, April 2nd at 7:00 PM in the clubhouse**. Emergency Preparedness meets the **1st Tuesday of each quarter (JULY 2) at 7:00 pm** in the Clubhouse **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!!



FINDERS KEEPERS

Looks like Spring may find us after all! To celebrate, Finders Keepers elves made sure the rocks for April are as colorful as the season! We hope you'll take a walk around our grounds to take in the fresh plantings and the improved pond area. While you're out, maybe you'll find a small rock treasure. Have Fun!!





Contributors to this month's Newsletter: Betsy Hughes, Deanna Bontrager, Don Hiebenthal, Virginia Ferguson, The Secret Rock Hider, and me!-Aline Autenrieth.

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!

Asparagus Quiche Ingredients



- 1/2 pound fresh asparagus, trimmed and cut into 1/2 inch pieces, steamed
- 3/4 cup fresh baby spinach, chopped a little
- 6 slices bacon (optional)
- 3 green onions, sautéed or 1/2 teaspoon onion powder
- 1 1/2 cups shredded Swiss cheese
- 1 (9-inch) unbaked pie shell
- 1 egg white, lightly beaten (brush your pie shell & then add to eggs)
- 4 -5 large eggs
- 1-1/2 cups half-and-half cream
- 1/2 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1/4 teaspoon ground dry mustard
- 1/2 teaspoon thyme
- 1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg
- salt and pepper to taste

Directions

- 1. Preheat the oven to 375 degrees F.
- 2. Steam asparagus in a steamer until tender but still firm, 2 to 6 minutes.
- 3. Cook bacon till crispy, about 10 minutes. Drain on paper towels. Crumble and set aside.
- 4. Brush pie shell with egg white. Sprinkle spinach, crumbled bacon, steamed asparagus into pie shell. Sprinkle on Swiss cheese.
- 5. Beat eggs, half-and-half, onion, garlic powder, ground dry mustard, thyme, nutmeg, salt, and pepper in a bowl until well combined. Pour egg mixture over top of cheese.
- 1. Bake uncovered in preheated oven until filling is set, 35 to 40 minutes. Let cool at least 10 minutes before serving.



"Being a functional adult everyday seems a bit excessive."

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 (autenrieth@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.**



BCC Office Hours

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

NOTE: The office will be closed for holidays on

May 27, July 4 Sep 2, Nov 28, Dec 25

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