

# *Sunset Plaza News*

## January 2017

### **Board of Directors**

**Jean Homan**

[jhoman500@comcast.net](mailto:jhoman500@comcast.net)

President

**Jody Matthews**

[jodymatthews@gmail.com](mailto:jodymatthews@gmail.com)

Vice President

**Jim Jones**

[dilbert2001@gmail.com](mailto:dilbert2001@gmail.com)

Treasurer

**Linda Hoffert**

Member at Large

[mylucy48@yahoo.com](mailto:mylucy48@yahoo.com)

Mitch Mayon

[MNMMayon@hotmail.com](mailto:MNMMayon@hotmail.com)

Charles Joy

[1147suzi@gmail.com](mailto:1147suzi@gmail.com)

**Colleen Poole**

Community Association  
Manager

The Management Trust  
15 Oregon Avenue #308  
Tacoma, WA 98409  
(253) 472-0825 phone  
(253) 472-0628 fax

[Colleen.Poole@  
managementtrust.com](mailto:Colleen.Poole@managementtrust.com)

**After Hours Emergency**  
**253-472-0825**

<http://www.sunset-plaza.org/>

### **Subjects brought up during the January board meeting.**

#### **Action needed to keep the next dues increase lower.**

Several reports of garbage in recycle bins and recyclables in garbage bins were made in addition to glass not being separated in correct color bins. The heat has been left on high in both the meeting room and the exercise room. We all pay for this.

**The new compactor has been installed and is working well.** There is an increase in the garbage bill.

**The Health Inspector has raised concerns about the fence between the pool and the dog area not being high enough.** Solutions are being considered.

**Big projects this year include exterior painting, the stone wall and wood peckers.**

**Hot tub installed and ready for use.**

**Work Requests.** As there is no on site manager at this time, submit work requests directly to Colleen Poole at the Management Trust by email or phone. Contact information on Left column.

**Submit a classified ad** to [dshau1@aol.com](mailto:dshau1@aol.com) with **Sunset Plaza** in the subject line. Text only please. Units for rent must be on the approved rental list.

## Upcoming Community Projects

Roof Replacement to begin in 2017

New heater in sauna to be installed...

## Community Calendar

Board meeting the second Wednesday of the month at 6:30 in the rec room. All owners welcome.

Game night in the rec room at 6:30 PM to 8 PM Mon and Fri. Every one welcome.

## Recycling is not only good for the planet, it saves us money too.

### Plastics, Paper, Aluminum

Recyclables that go into the blue bin do not need to be separated. These items may also be dropped off at the [Tacoma Recovery & Transfer Center](#).

Please rinse out bottles, jugs, jars, tubs, and cans that might have food residue.

Cardboard recycling bin is just inside property entrance.

## Complaint Process

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If you want to make a complaint of a Rules violation, please submit your complaint in writing by using the Complaint Form available in the Rec Center or by using the form on the Resources page of the website located at <http://www.sunset-plaza.org/>. Then send to Colleen at TMT.

Other forms also available at the Resource page of web site.

# Sunset Plaza News

February 2017

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[jhoman500@comcast.net](mailto:jhoman500@comcast.net)

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## Annual Meeting March 8<sup>th</sup> 6:15 PM sign-in

Meeting starts at 6:30. Important issues to be discussed include the maintenance manager position and what the job description will be.

Owners will receive an annual meeting packet in the mail that will include a meeting proxy. If you are not attending the meeting it is important you give your proxy to a board member or an owner who will be going to the meeting.

### **Welcome to new board member Peter Schrempf:**

Linda Hoffert has left the board. Thank you for your work Linda. New board members will be needed this year.

### **Subjects during the February board meeting included:**

Comcast to be contacted for security system information for the cabana.

Ways to deal with the cabana doors being left open was talked about.

Purchase of programmable thermostat and locking cover.

**The use of signs to remind people to be responsible and clean up after them self when using the cabana, not leave dishes in sink, turn down heat, and turn off lights.**

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## Upcoming Community Projects

Roof Replacement to begin in 2017

Sauna to have new heater installed.

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# Sunset Plaza News

March 2017

<http://www.sunset-plaza.org/>

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Secretary

**Mitch Mayon**

[MNMayon@hotmail.com](mailto:MNMayon@hotmail.com)

Grounds

**Peter Schrempf**

[pfs1@cornell.edu](mailto:pfs1@cornell.edu)

Member at Large

**Teresa L'Amarca**

[noellelamarca@hotmail.com](mailto:noellelamarca@hotmail.com)

Member at Large

**Teresa Topping**

[Missflyer2007@yahoo.com](mailto:Missflyer2007@yahoo.com)

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## Results from March 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting

**Maintenance position:** Tim will continue in the maintenance position as a contractor.

### **Owner communication with Management Trust:**

Some owners voiced problems with past communications while others reported no problems with their past communications. Colleen from Management Trust mentioned some past messages did not leave a name or other contact information.

### **A suggestion to hire a part time office staff was made:**

### **Welcome to new board members:**

Teresa L'Amarca and Teresa Topping joined the board at the annual meeting on the 8<sup>th</sup>.

### **Chip from the company painting the buildings**

**gave a report:** Residents will be notified two days in advance before the start of painting of their building. At this time repairs are being made that do not require dry weather.

**Work Requests.** Submit work requests directly to Colleen Poole at the Management Trust by email or phone. Contact information on Left column. Forms are available on the Sunset Plaza web site.

**Submit a classified ad** to [dshau1@aol.com](mailto:dshau1@aol.com) with **Sunset Plaza** in the subject line. Text only please. Units for rent must be on the approved rental list.

**Cat sitter or cat sitting exchange.** I would like to find a cat person interested in exchanging cat sitting for cat sitting or for cash during my occasional trips. Please contact me at [alithcat@gmail.com](mailto:alithcat@gmail.com).

## Upcoming Community Projects

Roof Replacement to begin in 2017

Buildings B, C, D & M to be painted this year.

## Community Calendar

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# Sunset Plaza News

April 2017

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## Some of the topics from the April Board meeting:

**Car Break-ins:** There have been multiple car break-ins, a stolen vehicle and packages missing from door steps. We ask that all owners and tenants to be aware of what is going on within the Community and report any suspicious activity to the police immediately. Sunset Plaza is a gated community. However, the gate is not a guarantee of safety or security. At any point, someone can walk or drive in behind another vehicle or enter through an open pedestrian gate and gain entry into the community. It is also possible that these issues are being caused by persons visiting, or even living, within the community.

Maintaining a happy and healthy community is everyone's priority. In order to successfully achieve this goal, everyone needs to work together.

**Ideas for keeping the community secure included:** Hiring a security company, volunteers walking the grounds, better lighting and changing the security code.

### **City to pay for repair of damage entrance pillar.**

Damaged caused by city fire truck. Three bids need to be obtained and submitted to city.

### **Comcast is being consulted regarding a security system for the pool and cabana.**

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## Upcoming Community Projects

Bird Busters to start placing wood pecker deterrents on Buildings the end of April.

Brush and ivy in ravine by N building to be removed.

Roof Replacement to begin in 2017, Buildings B, C, and D to be painted this year.

## Community Calendar

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# Sunset Plaza News

## May 2017

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**TPD Officer Terhaar** came and addressed the community. Officer Terhaar is one of three community liaison officers (CLO) assigned to the 2 Sector (the sector we are in). CLOs are officer who deal with long term problems, the kinds of problems that cannot usually be addressed in a single short visit by a patrol officer.

**When there are issues in the community**, like persons who don't seem to belong or evidence of trespassers (or other similar issues), she recommends making a complaint. If it an emergency (crime in progress, persons or property at risk), call 911. If it's not an emergency, you can call the non emergency number (253-798-4721). This line is answered by the 911 call takers between 911 calls, so if the line is not answered after several rings, hang up and try a few minutes later. You can also call Officer Terhaar (253-594-7837), or send her an email ([jterhaar@cityoftacoma.org](mailto:jterhaar@cityoftacoma.org)).

**She also recommended** that people get involved with the West End Neighborhood Council- it's a good way to stay current on things that are happening in the community. The Neighborhood Council meets on the third Wednesday of every month, at 7 PM, in the community room at Fire Station 16.

**Allyson Griffith, with the Community Services Division of the City of Tacoma** - Allyson is going to come out and do a Crime Prevention through Environmental Design analysis of our property and give us recommendations on what we can do to improve safety on the property. Kristen Ely, Program Development Specialist, also came to the meeting is available as a resource to residents. Kristen can help direct people to resources and programs available, depending on the circumstances. Kristen's number is 253-591-5053; her email is [kely@cityoftacoma.org](mailto:kely@cityoftacoma.org).

**Herb Stout** has offered to be the coordinator for the community garden plots (we need a good nickname for Herb...Mr. Green Jeans? The Green Thumb? Sisko? ). People interested in the garden can call Herb at 253-677-4713.

**Work Requests.** Submit work requests directly to Colleen Poole at the Management Trust by email or phone. Contact information on Left column. Forms are available on the Sunset Plaza web site.

### **Lost Our 3 - Leg Cat Named JonJon**

Our cat disappeared/escaped from Unit M204 on Friday, April 28th while we were in the process of moving out. He has not been taken to the Humane Society nor reported as deceased or in someone's care. JonJon is a domestic shorthair brown tabby with his front right leg missing (tripod). He has no collar or tag but may be chipped by Kent Animal Shelter. He is quite friendly and vocal when hungry. Please contact Ginny Smethers at 253.495.2985 if found. Thank you!



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### **Complaint Process**

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June 2017

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## **Some the topics from the June Board meeting**

### **Concerns about the homeless and their encampments**

bordering SPC's property were discussed. There were reports of calling the city and not getting a satisfying response. To document calls, future calls and emails made to the city regarding the homeless and their encampments are to be reported to Colleen from the management company by email, if email is used, cc Colleen a copy. When calling the city mention the prosperity name, Sunset Plaza Condominiums. Colleen's information is on the left.

### **From May's meeting - When there are issues in the**

**community**, like persons who don't seem to belong or evidence of trespassers (or other similar issues), TPD Officer Terhaar recommends making a complaint. If it an emergency (crime in progress, persons or property at risk), call 911. If it's not an emergency, you can call the non emergency number (253-798-4721). This line is answered by the 911 call takers between 911 calls, so if the line is not answered after several rings, hang up and try a few minutes later. You can also call Officer Terhaar (253-594-7837), or send her an email ([jterhaar@cityoftacoma.org](mailto:jterhaar@cityoftacoma.org)).

**A question about no soliciting signs** was brought up. Jody Matthews will lead a committee to determine what signage is needed on the prosperity. If you are interested in joining the committee contact Jodie.

**Using goats to eat unwanted vegetation in the property ravine** in addition to fence repair and tree maintenance was brought up during the meeting.

## **Welcome new board member Ande Dunn.**

**Kristina Loper** has started a group page on Facebook. It's called Sunset Plaza Condominiums. Purpose of this page is to give folks a forum to discuss issues impacting our community. Search for the page on Facebook and then ask to join

**White balloons** on buildings are to be replaced with yellow balloons that are thought to be more effective in discouraging birds from pecking siding.

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**New Newsletter Editor:** The Board would like to thank Diane for her service in providing the community with the association newsletter. Over the past few years, Diane has volunteered her time and efforts on a job that is often taken for granted or overlooked. Diane, you ROCK!! Thank you from the entire community.

Diane has handed the torch over to Teresa Topping who has agreed to take over the responsibilities of publishing the newsletter going forward. Over the next few months, be on the lookout for some changes including new formatting, new content and new features.

### **Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design Survey (CPTED)**

The CPTED survey was completed on June 16<sup>th</sup> by Allyson Griffith (NCS) and Kristin Ely (NCS). After their walk around the property they submitted to the Board a 4 page document with their recommendations.

Some of the recommendations were:

- Work at regular community meetings to remind residents to be aware of who is on the property and to feel comfortable saying "hello" to give visitors the impression that they are being observed. Residents should also feel free to contact the non-emergency number (798-4721) to report suspicious persons
- Install a map of the property with building numbers and location of key points of interest such as the pool, community room and tennis courts near the entrance to the community
- Post signage at the front of the property indicating that the property or common areas are under video surveillance.
- Make sure that there are clear procedures for ensuring that the Rec Room and pool area in the Cabana remain locked after each use.
- Evaluate the vegetation on the property, specifically near parking areas and in front of windows and door ways. Have bushes thinned to allow for visibility between them and trimmed down so it is difficult to hide behind them without being seen.
- Introduce goats to the gulch to help with vegetation management and open the area up so that individuals on the floor of the gulch can be easily seen and observed from nearby units and the community garden area.
- Repair the fence in the gully as well as trim back the vegetation from the fence to open that area up to provide better visibility. This will also move encampment activity away from the fence line. Consider installation of lighting and cameras in the area to provide better security to garden users.
- Move building identification higher on the buildings so that it is easily seen from vehicle pathways and parking areas.

**Wanted:** Crime Prevention Committee Members. If you're interested in keeping our Sunset Plaza a safe, enjoyable community, please join us. We've got some great ideas and would like your input.

Contact: Emmy at 360-302-1116 or e-mail to [123ridemcowboy@gmail.com](mailto:123ridemcowboy@gmail.com)

**Submit a classified ad** to missflyer207@yahoo.com with **Sunset Plaza** in the subject line. Units for rent must be on the approved rental list.

### **Community Calendar**

Next Board Meeting will be August 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm in the recreation room at the cabana..

Game night in the rec room at 6:30 PM to 8 PM Mon and Fri. Every one welcome.

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# SUNSET PLAZA

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# NEWSLETTER

## The Board At Work

by Teresa Topping

If you have ever attended a board meeting you know that it takes a lot of time and energy to keep our community functioning.

How-ever, many may not realize that what goes on during a board meeting is a small slice of the actual work that the board does.

Each month the board conducts a lot of business via e-mail, discussing subjects from rules and regulations, community happenings and situations that need to be taken care of before the next board meeting.

Here are just a few things that the board has done over the past 4 weeks:

\* Jean, Jody, Peter, Mitch and Teresa T. conducted a gully walk-through to determine what needed to be cleaned up. The board members spent about an hour discussing their thoughts. The final list included bringing in goats to clear the ivy and blackberry bushes from the northwest end of bldg. N to the fence, replacing the fence with a higher, 6 to 8 foot fence and thinning the blackberry bushes around and under the bridge.

(continued on pg. 3)

P2: Tim Thaden In The Spotlight  
 P2: Safe Streets Campaign -  
 Coming To Our Neighborhood  
 P3: This Is Your Corner  
 P3: A Few Gentle Reminders  
 P4: Mark Your Calendars  
 P4: Just For Fun

## **Tim Thaden In The Spotlight**

by Teresa Topping



Tim was chosen for the Spotlight because he is a familiar face to many of us here at Sunset Plaza.

We often see him around the property fixing things, picking up litter, crushing down the recycle in

the bins and showing vendors around. He is our on-site handy man and jack of all trades.

Tim grew up here in the Northwest and in 2014 became a homeowner in bldg. D. He was familiar with the grounds and condos as he had been a renter many years before. Tim was attracted to our community because at the time he was looking to buy, the units here were a great deal for the cost. He loved the grounds and that the community was so near the freeway.

In April of 2016 Tim was elected to the Board of Directors and enjoyed the feeling that he would be make a difference. In June of that year, the board started discussing the need for someone that could do some of the mainten- ance work on the property and Tim jumped at the chance. He had to leave the board in June of 2016 to focus on the maintenance tasks.

Tim was well suited for the job. He had spent over 15 years working for a contractor that specialized in residential and commercial remodels. Along with many other skills, Tim learned tile setting, electrical and plumbing.

I asked Tim what he likes most about Sunset Plaza and he told me that he loved this place because of the grounds and because he felt it was quiet and tranquil.

The next time you see Tim around, give him a smile or a high 5 and let him know how much he is appreciated for all the things he does for our community.

## **Safe Streets Campaign - Coming To Our Neighborhood**

Many of us have heard about a national program called Neighborhood Watch. Tacoma has a similar program called The Safe Streets Campaign.

The Safe Streets Campaign's (SSC) primary mission is to assists communities in creating safe neighborhoods. One way in which they do this is by helping local leaders put together Neighborhood Block Groups. They provide mentoring, training and support for these leaders who, in turn, take what they have learned back to their community to help sustain safer neighborhoods.

A group of residents here at Sunset Plaza have been working to create a Crime Prevention Team. Over the past month they have been arranging a Social Meet and Greet to facilitate neighbors getting to know neighbors and to offer information about the their group.

In addition to the Meet and Greet, the group has arranged for the director of the Safe Streets Campaign to conduct a meeting on how to apply crime prevention strategies in our neighborhood. The presentation will take place on August 24th from 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm in the Community Room at the Sector 2 Police Substation at 5140 N 26th Stret, Tacoma, 98407 (by Kandle Park on N. 26th St. near Orchard St.). All residents of Tacoma are invited to attend.



## **The Board At Work**

(continued from Pg. 1)

\* Jody and Teresa T. inspected each of the buildings that had been painted this year, pointing out to Lower 48 any touch-ups that needed to be done

\* Peter walked the property with Cedcore, a company dedicated to conducting Reserve Studies. Several potential "grandfathered" building code items were observed that will need to be addressed in the coming years along with the more standard maintenance issues such as failing pavement along the drive by bldg. E going down to the garden.

\* Jody, with Peter's help, has been working to determine what needs to be done to the unit owned by the association to get it back on the rental market. This has included walking through the unit with four contractors.

\* Theresa L has been busy planning and organizing our first Social in a long time.

\* Teresa T. has been working with Tim and the other board members in cleaning up the shed and the office as well as putting this newsletter together.

More to come next month.

## **This Is Your Corner**

A newsletter would not be complete without a section dedicated to what our residents have to say. So here is your space.

Do you have a funny joke?

Do you have a funny story to tell? Do you have something to sell?

Maybe a suggestion for an article for the next newsletter?

A comment on one of the articles?

You may send any of the above and more to [missflyer2017@gmail.com](mailto:missflyer2017@gmail.com). All submissions will be reviewed and put in the next newsletter.



## **A Few Gentle Reminders**

\* If you use the recreation room in the Cabana, be kind and leave the room cleaner than you found it..

\* The walk-in gate at the community entrance must be kept closed at all times.

\* Keep in mind that back-in parking is not allowed in any parking space that abuts up to a building

\* All vehicles on the property must be licensed (current tabs) and be in working condition

\*For the dog owners in our mist, please pick up after your pet when out and about.

# Just For Fun

Have you ever heard of a Rebus Puzzle before? They are essentially little pictures, often made with letters and words, which cryptically represent a word, phrase, or saying. Can you figure out what these are trying to say? (Answers are below.)

FUNNY FUNNY  
WORDS WORDS  
WORDS WORDS

STA4NCE

HOROBOD

SHUT  
  
SIT

## Mark Your Calendar

August 24th

6:30 pm

Crime Prevention Presentation

August 27th

4:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Social Meet and Greet

September 7th

First day of School for Tacoma

September 13th

6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Next Board Meeting

September 20th

7:00 pm

West End Neighborhood Council Meeting

## Board of Directors

Jean Homan, President

[jhoman500@comcast.net](mailto:jhoman500@comcast.net)

Jody Matthews, Vice President

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After Hours Emergency Number:

253-472-0825

Answers: Too funny for words, For Instance, Robin Hood and Shut Up and Sit Down

# SUNSET PLAZA NEWSLETTER

## The Budget Time of the Year

Well, it is that time of the year again when the Board is starting to review the budget that was approved for 2017, what has actually happened so far in 2017, what we expect to do the rest of the year and putting together a budget for 2018. This was my first year of looking at all of this information and found it quit daunting with so many numbers, accounts and reports. Here are just a few things I have learned in the process:

What is a Reserve Study? Basically, a reserve study is an evaluation of the association's property assets such as buildings, roadways and common areas. The study will determine long-term expenses and estimate when these expenses will occur. Our Reserve Study was conducted by CEDCORE and includes 63 different line items.

Some of the line items include: Pool equipment, fencing, furniture, decking and heater; Roofing of buildings and carports; painting of buildings; repair and replacement of the gazebo; asphalt repairs, resurfacing, crack-fill, sealcoating and striping; the drainage system; property fencing; gate repair and others.

What is the Reserve Fund and how much do we have in that fund? The Reserve Fund is money set aside to cover the items that are evaluated in the Reserve Study. Each month a portion of our HOA dues (\$13,000 each month - \$156,000 for 2017)

(continued on pg. 3)



P2: Halloween - Traditions and Origins

P3: What Smells So Good - Ricotta Cheese Cookies

P4: Mark Your Calendars

P4: Just For Fun



# Halloween - Traditions / Origins



The holiday of Halloween has its roots dating back almost 2,000 year ago with the ancient Celts. The Celts, living in what are now Ireland, the UK and northern France, celebrated their New Year on November 1st. This date marked the end of the summer and the beginning of the cold dark winter. It was believed that the night before the New Year the ghosts of the dead would return to Earth. To celebrate and appease the Celtic deities, the people would light huge bon fires, dress up in costumes and burn crops and animals as sacrifices. The festival was called Samhain (pronounced sow-in).

As the Church's influence overtook the area, religious celebrations began to blend with the Celtic traditions. November 2nd was All Souls Day, a day dedicated to honor the dead and celebrated with similar traditions as Samhain. All Saints Day (All-Hallows or All-Hallowmas) was a day dedicated to honoring Christian martyrs and saints and was celebrated on November 1st. The evening prior to All Saints Day was called All-Hallows Eve, eventually becoming Halloween.

Once Halloween migrated over to the “new world” we began to make it our own with our own celebrations and traditions. To name just a few: Candy corn, pumpkin beer, trick-or-treat (other countries do trick-or-treat but it started in the US), pumpkin carving and decorating houses.

Some of the more weird traditions from around the world: in the UK – Staring at your own reflection until you see the person you are going to marry; Beet and turnip carving in the UK; In Austria, leaving a light on and bread and water out for the dead. At the end of the week, everyone goes out with the stale bread to feed the ducks.

Although Halloween is a much favored and anticipated day for children of all ages, it is also one of the most deadly nights due to the high number of drunk drivers on the road. On average, twice as many children are killed while walking on Halloween than any other night of the year.



Please drive safely, slowdown in residential areas, enter and exit driveways and alleys carefully and have a designated driver if you chose to drink.

For the little ghosts and goblins, have an adult with you if you are under the age of 12, stick to familiar areas that are well lit, decorate your costume with reflective tape and carry glow sticks / flashlights and always cross the street at corners using traffic signals and crosswalks.

# The Budget Time of the Year

(continued from Pg. 1)

are put into this fund. According to CEDCORE, a fully funded Reserve Fund would be somewhere around \$1,514,000. At this point our projected Reserve Funding at the end of this year will be around \$413,000. This means that our Reserve Fund is about 27% funded.

What are the things that we expect to spend the most on in 2017?

- \* Sewer (\$79,000)
- \* Insurance (\$72,500)
- \* Cable TV (\$52,000)
- \* Property Maintenance (\$42,000)
- \* Water (\$38,000)
- \* Landscaping (\$38,000)
- \* The Management Trust (\$36,600)
- \* Bldg. Maintenance / repair (\$29,000)
- \* Garbage (\$17,100)
- \* Electricity (\$12,500)
- \* Office Internet (\$1,100)

A word about increasing costs in 2018. From the information we have been provided, utilities will tentatively be going up significantly next year as will be insurance and real estate taxes.

- |                     |                       |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| * Insurance +5%     | * Real Estate Tax +5% |
| * Electricity +5.9% | * Garbage +4%         |
| * Water +4%         | * Sewer +4.5%         |
| * Cable TV +5%      | * Internet/Office +5% |

Got a headache yet? I do! Hope this gives you some insight on how your HOA dues are utilized to better the community for all of us.

# What Smells so Good?



Ricotta Cheese Cookies

- 2 cups sugar
- 1 cup margarine or butter, softened
- 1 container (15 ounce size) ricotta cheese
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 2 large eggs
- 4 cups all-purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 ½ cup confectioners' sugar
- 3 tablespoons milk

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. In large bowl, with mixer at low speed, beat sugar and margarine or butter until blended.
2. Increase speed to high and beat until light and fluffy - about 5 minutes. At medium speed, beat in ricotta, vanilla, and eggs until well combined.
3. Reduce speed to low. Add flour, baking powder, and salt; beat until dough forms
4. Drop dough by level tablespoons about 2 inches apart onto ungreased large cookie sheet. Bake about 15 minutes or until cookies are very lightly golden (cookies will be soft). With pancake turner, remove cookies to wire rack to cool.
5. When cookies are cool, prepare icing: In small bowl stir confectioners' sugar and milk until smooth. With small metal spatula or knife, spread icing on cookies. Set cookies aside to allow icing to dry completely - about 1 hour.

## Just For Fun

Have you ever heard of a Rebus Puzzle before? They are essentially little pictures, often made with letters and words, which cryptically represent a word, phrase, or saying. Can you figure out what these are trying to say? (Answers are below.)

ARREST  
-----  
YOUR

3814SAFETY56973

CHTOUNGUEEEK

• T	M
A	U
H	S
W	T

### Mark Your Calendar

October 31st  
Halloween

November 8th  
6:30pm - 8:30 pm  
Board Meeting

November 9th  
6:30 pm - Cabana  
Crime Prevention Committee Meeting

November 15th  
7 pm - Fire Station #16  
West End Neighborhood Council

November 26th  
Thanksgiving

December 13th  
6:30 - 8:30 pm  
Board Meeting

### Board of Directors

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jhoman500@comcast.net

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Teresa Topping, Secretary  
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After Hours Emergency Number:  
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# SUNSET PLAZA NEWSLETTER

## Work on The Rental Unit Begins

As most of you may be aware, the association owns one of the units in building K. This unit has been used as an apartment for an on-site manager as well as a rental, generating income for the association. Unfortunately, over the years it has been used and abused somewhat and needed work and repairs have been long overdue. Last September the last renters moved out and an assessment of the unit was conducted by the board.

A list of needed work was put out to local contractors and 3 bids were returned. After reviewing the 3 bids, the board narrowed it down to 2 contractors - In-time Renovation and Sharkey.

Peter sent more detailed specifications to both of these contractors and both returned refined bids.

On 9/27 the board held a meeting in the cabana to discuss which contractor to go with. It was a very productive meeting with each of the areas of the unit discussed in depth. In the end, the decision was made to go with Sharkey, with a bid of \$35,390.40.

Here are some of the highlights of what Sharkey will be doing in the unit in the coming weeks:

- All new flooring for the unit
- New kitchen cabinets, counters, sink and faucet
- Removing / replacing tile around fireplace

(continued on pg. 3)



P2: It's the Holiday Season  
P3: Dog Waste Stations Are Here  
P4: Mark Your Calendars  
P4: Just For Fun



## It's the Holiday Season

Nov 30 – Dec 1 – Mawlid el-Nabi: Mawlid el-Nabi is celebrated by those of the Islamic faith. It is a celebration of the birthday of the Prophet Muhammad, much like the Christian celebration of Jesus' birth on Christmas. Expressions on this date include decorating the local center with lights and holding large festive gatherings. Celebrations might include attending lectures, participating in marches and reading the Qur'an and devotional poetry.

Dec 8th – Bodhi Day: Bodhi Day is celebrated by those of the Buddhist faith. It is a day marking the day that Buddha attained enlightenment in 596BC while sitting under a Bodhi tree. Bodhi day is an opportunity to acknowledge dedication to the principles of wisdom, compassion and kindness. Bodhi Day is celebrated with colored lights strung on a ficus tree as a representation of the many paths that can lead to enlightenment. Some families bake cookies in the shape of the leaf of the ficus tree and still others perform good works and services for others.

Dec 12-20 – Hanukkah: Hanukkah is observed by those of the Jewish faith and is celebrated over 8 days. Over 2,000 years ago, practicing the Jewish faith had been made illegal by the Greeks that controlled the land. Most followers gave in and began worshiping as the Greeks did. But a small band of resisters did not and after a 3 year war, they recaptured Jerusalem. They were devastated to find that the Holy Temple had been defiled by the worship of the Greek gods. After cleaning and repairing the temple they began burning ritual oil to purify the temple. Although there was only enough oil for one day, it lasted for 8. Hanukkah is a celebration of this rededication of the Holy Temple in Jerusalem. Hanukkah is celebrated by spinning the dreidels, lighting candles on the menorah, eating fried foods and exchanging gifts.

Dec 26th – Boxing Day: Boxing Day is celebrated in The UK, Canada, Australia, and other countries with roots in the former English Empire. In the middle ages in the United Kingdom, servants were often required to work on Christmas for their employers and would take the following day off to celebrate.

As they would leave to visit family, their employers would bestow upon them gifts and food in a box to take with them.

Today, the holiday is celebrated by the beginning of bargains, much like our Black Friday after Thanksgiving, as well as sporting events such as horse racing.

Happy  
Holidays

Other Dates in Dec Celebrated:

Dec 6 - St. Nicholas Day

Dec 21 - Winter Solstice / Yule

Dec 25 - Christmas

Dec 1 – World Aids Day

Dec 3 – Int'l Day of Disabled Persons

Dec 10 – Int'l Human Rights Day

Dec 5 – Int'l Ninja Day

Dec 15 – Cat Herders Day

Dec 21 – Don't Make Your Bed Day

And my favorite Holiday of the year:

Dec 21 – Short Girl Appreciation Day



## Rental Unit Remodel

(continued from Pg. 1)



- Install new standard bath vanity cabinets in both bathrooms
- Install new sink bowls, faucets and sink plumbing in both bathrooms
- Replace light fixture in master bathroom
- Remove and replace interior doors
- Correct electrical wires sticking out of the wall in the guest bedroom and check to see that baseboard heater works properly
- Repair large section of ceiling in guest bedroom
- Remove and replace 3 dome light fixtures as well as dining light / fan

The work on the unit got underway just before Thanksgiving. As of this week, all demolition activities have been completed and repair / replacement of the sheetrock has been completed as well. Priming and painting of all surfaces and doors and the installation of the new cabinets are underway. Sharkey has been notified that the new flooring is currently "in production" but has not yet been given a delivery date. This item has become the determinant of the timing for project completion as it impacts the work that will be done on the hearth.

Once the work on the unit has been completed it will be ready for rental. Looking around at what is currently available, we are hoping to get between \$1,300 - \$1,500 for the unit. At this time, we have at least one party interested in the unit.

## Dog Waste Stations Are Here

We now have 3 Dog Waste Stations that have been installed over the past few weeks. One is located next to the south end of the bridge near the Rose Garden. One is located between the carports behind bldg. L. And one is located just outside the dog run entrance north of the pool.



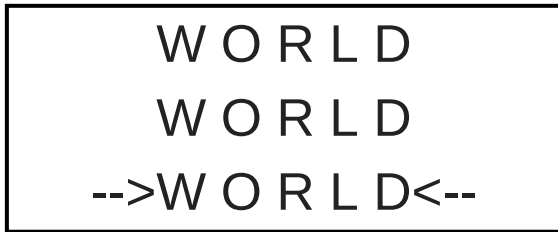
Here are some interesting facts about dog waste::

1. According to the EPA, dog poop is as toxic to the environment as chemical and oil spills
2. As dog poop begins to decompose, toxic bacteria seeps into the soil and eventually to the drainage system.
3. Our wastewater treatment system is NOT designed to filter out dog waste.
4. The water then makes its way to beaches, lakes, streams and drinking water
5. Our natural ecosystem can handle 2 dogs per square mile. Urban areas can have up to 125 dogs per square mile.
6. There are 72.8 million dogs in the US.
7. Dog waste is the #3 cause of water pollution.

Owners that do not pick up after their pet is a complaint that is often heard at board meetings. Please be considerate of your neighbors and fellow dog owners and use the new dog waste stations to help keep our community clean.

# Just For Fun

Have you ever heard of a Rebus Puzzle before? They are essentially little pictures, often made with letters and words, which cryptically represent a word, phrase, or saying. Can you figure out what these are trying to say? (Answers are below.)



## Mark Your Calendar

December 13th  
Board Meeting  
Approval of 218 Budget

No West End Neighborhood Council  
Meeting this month

December 12th - 20th  
Hanukkah

December 18th - January 1st  
Winter Break Tacoma School District

December 25th  
Christmas

December 31st  
New Years Eve  
January 1st  
The New Year Begins!!

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