



Weekender

November 13, 2009

Meet Jerry, Janet and Ila Smith

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Drive up to the cheery building that houses the Surfside Mini Mart and you are struck by the colorful flowers in pots and hanging baskets and the large vegetable garden and nursery to the north. Upon entering the store you will usually meet Janet Smith, busy tending the store with 10 year old daughter Ila at a side table working on an art project or studying. In fact, it is Ila's colorful art work that you will find on the walls throughout the market. Jerry Smith is usually in the garden or working on a project. This is the family that has owned, resided in and operated the Mini Mart for the last 8 years.

To the Smith's and to many in our community, this is not a convenience store but is a "community" store.

They strive to stock the store with basic items to meet the needs of both local residents and visitors to the area plus have added some specialty items from Jerry's garden. In the summer you will find fantastic strawberries, blueberries, raspberries and sugar peas. Jerry's garden seems to be a work in progress. When something works, he grows more. If it fails, he moves on to try something else. In addition to the grocery items, they have a fast food section and also stock soil, fertilizer, ice and propane. The Smith's hope to expand the grocery selection of the store in the future.

When the Smith's purchased this entire complex, Surfside Hair Care and the Mini Mart were already in business. Anchor Real Estate has now been added to

the complex and Jerry would also consider adding another business if he were approached by the right one that would blend in with the existing businesses. To the Mini Mart, the Smith's have expanded the video section, added the 60 by 180 feet garden section to the North, and converted the back of the building to living quarters for themselves. They strive to keep the complex well maintained and landscaped and are a real asset to Surfside. The Smith's have been one of our generous businesses owners to donate a "welcome gift" to the new member gift bags. The Smith's donate a certificate for a free movie rental



LENDING LIBRARY CORRECTION TO ARTICLE

The Surfside Community Room houses a very nice little lending library. Come in and check out a book to read on these winter afternoons.

We also accept good used paperback books to add to our shelves.

When returning or donating books, please leave them in the box provided.

Janet Kokesh does a wonderful job of maintaining the books for your reading pleasure. She has all of the shelves organized by genre.

The Community Room also has a computer connected to the internet for your use. Please stop by and take advantage of these services provided to you by your association.

The room is open for your pleasure Monday through Friday from 9-5 and Saturdays 9-1.

The only exceptions would be when the room is being used for a committee meeting or the third Saturday of the month, when the board meets.

Check out the calendar on the last page of the weekender for scheduled meetings.

I apologize to Janet Kokesh for printing the wrong last name in this article last week!

BATTLING THE NEIGHBORHOOD BANDITS: RACCOONS

Who was that masked critter that just darted under the street lamp as you walked the dog, sending Fido into fits?

It was the elusive neighborhood raccoon. And he likely has plenty of friends: Raccoon populations may be near an all-time high across the nation right now.

There are just a few problems with them living so close: Raccoons often trash attics, crawl spaces and gardens in their search for easy food and nesting sites. They can spread disease. They can get aggressive if they don't get the food they expect, or if they run into Fido. Avoid run-ins by keeping them away from your home.

First meet the neighbors

Raccoons are about three feet long, including their bush, ringed tail. They're often 10 to 30 pounds, but have been seen as large as 60 pounds. They are also very intelligent—they come out higher than domestic house cats in some testing, says Sam Zeveloff, chairman of the Department of Zoology at Weber State University in Ogden, Utah, and author of "Raccoons: A Nat-

ural History". That intelligence and five dexterous toes on each front foot make them formidable opponents.

The night loving creatures aren't dangerous so long as they're kept out of homes, not fed and not cornered, experts say.

The trouble is, raccoons have adapted well to the word, we've created. They are omnivorous. And they really like our homes, potentially nesting in them, having offspring in hidden places such as attics, tearing up insulation and defecating there. Raccoons also can carry a form of rabies that is particularly dangerous to humans (mostly in the East and Midwest), as well as distemper (in the same regions). Raccoon feces may also contain the eggs of roundworm, which can be harmful and even fatal, especially to children.

Keeping the critters out Don't feed'em some folks think it's cute to have raccoons around and will feed them says the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife. But the animals very quickly become used to getting food from humans and will

lose their fear of them and possibly become aggressive if they're not fed. So don't start. Also make sure you're not feeding them by accident. Do not feed pets outside, if you do, do not leave full food bowls on the porch or patio for an extended period of time. They will be very bold and aggressive in coming right up to the back door if you don't have the food out for you pet that you usually leave out.

Seal the entire house. Raccoons don't mind living with us. They will nest anywhere—under patios, in attics, and while nesting is particularly high in breeding season (early March to May), it is not limited to those periods. In short raccoons are always looking for a convenient nook.

If you find that you do have a houseguest call a pro to have them removed. Call the Fish and Wildlife Department for the names of local trappers.

Surfside Homeowners Association

Is located on the Long Beach Peninsula.

We are a homeowners association with 2001 members. The association is served by a Board of nine trustees.

Surfside Homeowners working together for a better community through common interest and communication .

BUDGET HEARING AND REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Remember that Saturday, November 21, 2009 at 9:00 am is the Budget Hearing meeting, followed by the regular monthly board meeting.

Have your proxy returned to the office by November 20th at 4:00 pm or attend the meeting to cast your vote.

The budget in it's entirety is available on the web site the following are links to the budget

http://www.surfsideonline.org/FINAL_BOARD_ACCEPTED_2010_BDGT-LINE_ITEM__SUMMARY_10-17-09_.pdf

http://www.surfsideonline.org/2010_BOARD_ACCEPTED_BDGT-LINE_SUMMARY_SHEET_10-19-09__2_.pdf

Or you can go to Surfside's Home page and click on governance to see them.

NOVEMBER 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
8	9	10 <i>Architectural Comm. 9:00 am Bunco 6:30 pm</i>	11 <i>Veteran's Day</i> 	12 <i>Lands and Building Committee 1:00 pm</i>	13	14 <i>Clamming low tide 4:34 pm</i>
15 <i>Clamming low tide 5:21 pm</i>	16 <i>Clamming low tide 6:05 pm</i>	17 <i>Architectural Comm. 9:00 am</i>	18 <i>RV Committee 9:00am</i>	19 <i>Proxy Deadline 4:00 PM</i>	20	21 <i>Board Meeting 9:00 am Budget Hearing</i>
22	23	24 <i>Architectural Comm. 9:00 am</i>	25	26 	27 <i>Office Closed Thursday and Friday for Thanksgiving!</i>	28
29	30 <i>Community Relations Decorating the Office for the Holidays</i>					