

Weekender

December 24, 2021

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Surfside Events

Peninsula Events

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Surfside
Homeowners
Association
360.665.4171
Surfsideonline.org

Foster Kids Christmas Program

Thanks to our Surfside members our Peninsula Foster children will have a bright Christmas! Thanks to Marriann Schweitzer for spearheading this year and to our elves, Fred deLeest and Paul Hoffman, for helping to deliver to DSHS.



2022 Dues & Assessments

The invoices for next year have been sent out this week. Members should be receiving them within a few days. In the mailing you will find your water meter reads for the year along with a payment plan form, if you wish to make payments.

The due date will say January 1st, but you will have until February 28th to pay in full without any service charge. Beginning March 1st there will be a 1% service charge added for each month there is a balance due.

If you have any questions regarding your statement please give the office a call. 360-665-4171

Surfside Business Office Winter Closures

The office will be closed Friday, December 24th and Monday, December 27th in observance of the Christmas Holiday.

The office will also be closed on Monday, January 3rd in observance of New Year's Holiday.



COMPACTOR HOLIDAY HOURS

The compactor will be closed on Saturday, December 25th, but will be open Friday, December 24th from 9-3 and Sunday, December 26th from 9-3.

Friday, December 31st the compactor will be open 11-5, Closed on New Year's Day, January 1st and re-open again on Sunday, January 2nd from 9-3.

(NEW)Community Security Committee

There will be a new committee forming, the Community Security Committee. They will be discussing how we can improve and enhance security in our community.

We are looking for volunteers to join the committee. Since the survey has been received we want to address the issues and concerns of the membership regarding security.

If you would be interested in joining the committee, please give us a call 360-665-4171



The Christmas Eve, Holiday Truce, 1914

On Christmas Eve, 1914, in the dank, muddy trenches on the Western Front of World War I, a remarkable thing happened. It came to be called the Christmas Truce. The event remains one of the most storied and strangest moments of the Great War or of any war in history. British machine gunner, Bruce Bairnsfather, later a prominent cartoonist wrote in his memoirs, like most of his fellow infantrymen, he was spending the holiday eve shivering in the muck, trying to keep warm. He had spent a good part of the past four months fighting the Germans. And now, in a part of Belgium called Bois de Ploegsteert he was crouched in a trench three-foot square as well as deep, his days and nights marked by endless sleeplessness and fear, stale biscuits, and cigarettes too wet to light. There did not seem the slightest chance of leaving, except in an ambulance.

Singing Breaks Out in the Trenches, at about 10:00 PM, Bairnsfather noticed a noise across the field, among the dark shadows beyond. He could hear the murmur of voices. He asked a fellow soldier, “do you hear the Germans kicking up a racket over there?” The Germans were singing carols, as it was Christmas Eve. In the darkness, some British soldiers began singing back. Suddenly they heard a confused shouting from the other side. All stopped to listen. A shout came again, an enemy soldier speaking in English with a strong German accent, “You come over here.” A British sergeant answered, “You come halfway, and we will come halfway.”

British and German Soldiers Meet in the “No Man’s Land” because what came next stunned the world and changed history. Enemy soldiers began to climb nervously out of their trenches to meet in the barbed wire filled “no Man’s Land.” Normally the only communication between the two were streaking bullets with only an occasional gentlemanly allowance to collect the dead unmolested. But now there were handshakes and words of kindness. The soldiers traded songs, tobacco, and wine, joining in a spontaneous holiday party in the wintry night. Bairnsfather could not believe his eyes. “Here they were, the actual practical soldiers of the Germany Army. And it was not limited to that one battlefield. Starting on Christmas Eve, small pockets of French, German, Belgian, and British troops held impromptu cease-fires across the Western Front, with reports of some on the Eastern Front as well. Some accounts suggest a few of these unofficial truces remained in effect for days.

Firsthand Accounts of the Christmas Truce appear in numerous diaries and letters. One British rifleman named J Reading wrote to his wife, “My company happened to be on the firing line Christmas Eve, and it was my turn to go into a ruined house and remain there until 6:30 AM. During the early part of the morning, the Germans started singing and shouting all in good English, are you the Rifle Brigade and if so, do you have a bottle? If so, you come halfway and we the other half.” “Later on in the day they came towards us,” Reading describes. “And our chaps went out to meet them. I shook hands with some of them. They gave us cigarettes and cigars. We did not fire that day, every thing seemed like a dream”

Soldiers Play a Game of Soccer described by one British fighter named Ernie Williams in an interview his recollection of some makeshift soccer play on what turned out to be an icy pitch. It was a makeshift goal; one fellow went in goal and then it was just a general kick-about. German Lieutenant Kurt Zehmisch, a schoolteacher who spoke both English and German, also described a pick-up soccer game in his diary discovered in 1999, “Eventually the English brought a soccer ball from their trenches, and pretty soon a lively game ensued. How marvelously wonderful, yet how strange it was. The English officers felt the same way about it. Thus Christmas, the celebration of love, managed to bring mortal enemies together as friends for a time.” One Irish soldier wrote in The Irish Times in 1915, “a large crowd of officers and men, English and German, grouped around the dead bodies”. The Germans, this soldier said, “were quite affable.”

In conclusion, there seems to be a lesson for all of us, 107 years later. Two literal mortal enemies were able to find common ground in the most deplorable conditions nearly unimaginable because they yearned for a holiday to be with family and friends. At our church and in our family gathering held last weekend, it was my yearning to stretch the spirit of Christmas from these short ten days to year-round harmony and understanding in Surfside. Perhaps it will happen this coming year! After all, we the members of Surfside Homeowners Association are neighbors, not enemies.

Merry Christmas from the Surfside Board of Trustees, Administrative Staff, and Surfside Water Dept.

Ric Minich, President

Surfside HOA

The Ad Hoc Environmental Committee

Nearly five months ago the Surfside Board of Trustees approved the ad hoc Environmental Committee. To many the greatest concern of Surfside's environment is tree heights, for those properties that have restrictions. However, Surfside Estates is a special environment that is affected by climate change. Recently we have experienced "King Tides," three power outages in the month of November, standing water on flood plain lots, failing runoffs from our canal and SeaBreeze Lake, extreme winds, an explosion, and fire danger. Tree heights are a hot button issue, but all the other afore mentioned items have changed since the original Surfside development began on or about 1965.

The charter of the ad hoc Environmental Committee was to seek compatible answers for all these issues facing Surfside Estates in the 21st Century. Tree height alone is a minor part of the community's total environmental issue. The purpose of the committee charter was to evaluate how each change affects the environment as a whole. If one problem is solved at a time, often it is found that the solution to that problem has an adverse effect on another part of the environment, basic physics, there is no action without a reaction! The benefit to everyone would be to solve as many of these 21st Century problems as a whole so that Surfside HOA was not addressing another issue created by a solution of another, year in and year out. Theoretically a sound concept that has been kidnapped.

To bring the disputing parties together Surfside was fortunate enough to find a professional volunteer Facilitator who specializes in finding common ground with which everyone can live, who does not live in Surfside. His program would let every side state their position on all issues, bring in experts such as arborist, hydrologist, our fire chief, etc. to educate the committee so that a rational, logical, economic solution can be found not just for the immediate problem but how the solution fits in the entire environment. The committee volunteers were numerous enough to be broken into groups to study separate areas such as trees, riparian management, fire safety, flood control and runoff, etc.

For the first few months, meeting at least twice a month, the committee addressed concerns in a method that included multiple white sheets on tripods, concerns written and openly discussed. In the last two meetings, committee members who have studied specific areas began making presentations in areas that they have studied. Two specific members attending have taken upon themselves to bully and intimidate the presenters. One even went as far as to break a Revised Code of Washington Cyber Stalking law by posting e-mail addresses of two on social media. Not only was this occurring in person, but social media was also used to continue to criticize, some would say threaten presenters with an opposing view. The result was fear, fear for safety, fear of embarrassment to express themselves. The result has wasted many hours of work by a vast number of people with nothing positive resulting.

Consequently, a meeting was held with the Facilitator, the two designated committee Trustees, and me on Tuesday afternoon. A unanimous decision was made to suspend the next two ad hoc committee scheduled meetings until a number of issues could be resolved: the safety of the members, confirmation of six attenders who believe they are members but have yet to be approved by the Board of Trustees, the badgering ceased, and relief of tensions. The Facilitator hopes for a greater input from key existing committees including but not limited to Fish & Waterways and Trees, Noxious Weeds & Vegetation to bring forth germane ideas and concepts. Have the chairperson of each inter-related committee meet at least monthly to make sure efforts are not being duplicated or issues overlooked.

From the initial two paragraphs of this article, every member of Surfside should be behind this committee, supporting and doing everything possible for this effort to succeed. To paraphrase JFK, "Ask not what Surfside can do for you, ask rather what can I do for Surfside." Success is a win, win, win situation; raised quality of living, increased property values, and supporting our fragile environment while living here. Do not allow a handful of people to destroy our beautiful community. Please contact me for more details if you are now concerned or wish to support.

Ric Minich, President
Surfside HOA



Will you help the South Pacific County Humane Society cats and dogs start the new year with a bang by filling their stockings for Christmas?

We hope so! Please help if you can:

FOOD:

Our favorite food is Kirkland (Costco) kibble for its high quality and low price (Purina Pro Plan & lams are also acceptable); Purina Kitten Chow; Kirkland canned food; Friskies pate.

SUPPLIES

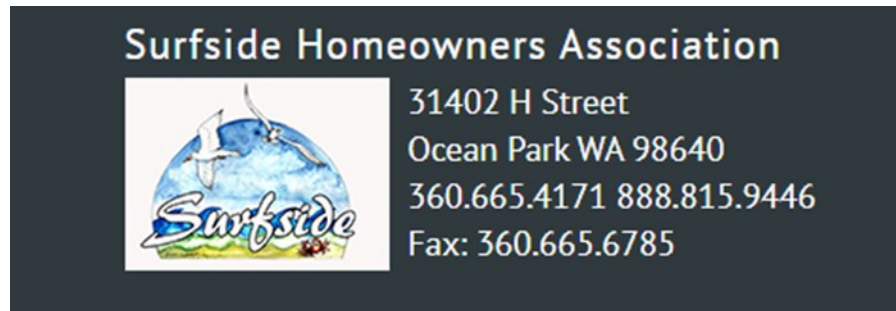
We appreciate gift cards for pet & office supplies. Our favorite all-purpose gift cards are for Dennis Company in Long Beach, Costco in Warrenton, and Amazon online.

WISH LISTS

You can send directly to the shelter from our [Amazon Wish List](#) and [Chewy.com Wish list](#).

TOP NEED

What the shelter animals want more than anything is a forever home! Meet our shelter animals beachpets.com or join the conversation at facebook.com/beachpets.



New SHOA Website

Surfside Homeowners Association website is up and running. Staff is working on it daily to make sure all the kinks are ironed out. The new SHOA logo is now on the header of the home page. If you click the SHOA logo, it will take you to the “Home” page (there is also a link at the bottom of the website). When you first log in you will notice a “red” banner. This will let you know if there are any important updates or emergencies in Surfside.

At the bottom of the “Home” page there is a place to sign up for the Weekender. You can also find “View Weekenders” at the bottom of the same page. Remember, when you move your cursor around if you see the “pointer finger” you can click on that item and see where it takes you!

Also, under “Other” you will find our new calendar layout. It allows you to view several months out and the different committees are color coded. They are also printable and downloadable to your Outlook or Google calendar.

There are “Member Only” pages, which means SHOA members must sign up for a login and password. Once you are approved you will be able to go to any page within the website.

A new feature on our website is our “Member Forum”. It can be found under “Services” at the bottom of the drop down. We encourage members to use this forum to ask questions, discuss ideas or problem solve. There are some rules associated with posting to the forum and it will be monitored daily.

- 1) No profanity
- 2) No disparaging remarks about SHOA staff, other members, etc.

If you have issues with staff, please call or email me, Tracy at tlofstrom@surfsideonline.org or 360-665-4171 x222.

- 3) No ranting. If you see a problem, please discuss it openly and remember, offer solutions rather than only complaining.

At some point, we will offer a “pay” button. It is located on the “Home” page and currently shows “Online Bill Payment Coming Soon”. We will be working with our current software company to get that set up. Please remember, the website is an ongoing project. We are always open to suggestions. You may email me directly at tlofstrom@surfsideonline.org or office@surfsideonline.org.

Cyndi (SHOA IT person) has done a tremendous amount of work on our new website, so a gracious thank you goes out to her.

Tracy Lofstrom, SHOA Business Manager

New Website Registration

Registering for our new website is a very easy process! Click on the “login” tab on the top menu, then click the [Click here to register](#) link as shown below. You will be asked to create a username, enter your first and last names as well as email, phone number and property street address. Once your request is approved, you will receive an email confirming your registration. We are manually checking and confirming registrations, so please check your spam mail folder if you don't see the confirmation email.

Login

Existing Users Log In

Username or Email

Password

☐ Remember Me

New User? [Click here to register](#)

Reset Forgotten Password

Username or Email

A NOTE FROM FISH & WATERWAYS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

FLOODING – January 11-13, 2021 we had two events: 1. multiple storm surges with King Tides that brought water east onto Oysterville Road, bringing some sea water to homes on the south side of Oysterville Road. (This event also swept sand and logs into our two outfalls at 327th and 350th, closing the gates for water to move from the Canal and Seabreeze Lake respectively into the ocean – causing the Canal and Lake water level to rapidly rise. The county had to clean out the outfalls three times, twice in 24 hours.) 2. Lots of rain rapidly, causing overflow of the stormwater catch basins and flooding on the north side of Oysterville Road – primarily between 343rd to 347th at F Pl, and G St, but also east to H Pl, I St, and I Pl. Some lots throughout Surfside had standing water on their properties and septic systems.

SANDBAGS – The HOA/Board purchased 500 Sandbags. They are stored in our Warehouse. If we get another storm event this winter and you have the need for a few sandbags, please contact the office. They are empty and would need to be filled by you, friends & neighbors. The Fish and Waterways Management committee is in the process of purchasing another 1,500 Sandbags.

SEPTIC SYSTEMS What is that chirping sound? what is that orange or red flashing light on the box on your house? It is probably your Septic System alarm, indicating that you need to have your full Septic tank cleaned out. This quite often occurs in the Wintertime with heavy rains, if your lot floods and fills the Septic tank, the effluent flows out – and possibly flows into a stormwater catch basin and then into a body of water – a lake or canal. This may include pollutants e-coli, but also nutrients for feeding Cyanobacteria – Blue Green Algae. Please be a responsible steward of your property and your community and clean out your septic tank regularly. Professional Septic companies recommend for a family of 2 in a 2-bedroom home, living here year around, you may need your tank cleaned out every 3 to 5 years.



THE COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE
INVITES YOU TO A
SELF DEFENSE CLASS

at

Pacific Integrated Martial Arts

2103 Pacific Ave. North

Long Beach WA 98631

Surfside members - Free

Guests of members - \$10

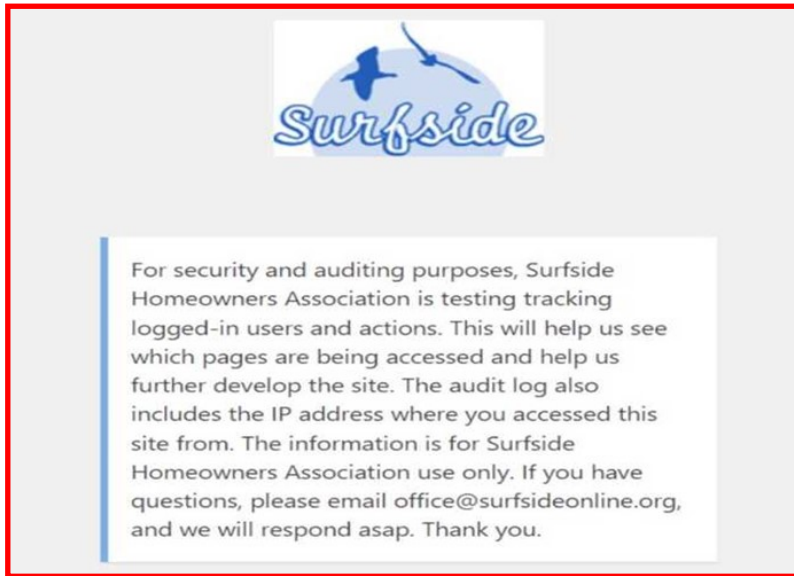
Saturday January 15, 2022 at 2 pm

Register early at Surfside office or call 360-665-4171

Surfside Snopes

Original post 12-21-21

Jan A. Surfside Open Discussion Surfside • 1 day ago



BEWARE.....



Rich Brookover

• [Surfside](#)

Is this on their Facebook website?

1 day ago

Share

Jan A.

• [Surfside](#)

Yes

21 min ago

Share

Wayne Allen

• [Surfside](#)

Beware of what? Every website you go to does this exact same thing.

1 day ago

Share

Mindy H.

• [Vancouver, WA](#)

Wayne is right, we are tracked everywhere we go. I applaud the HOA for being transparent and giving us this detailed info. Thank you SHOA!

Continued on page 10

Surfside Snopes

Sally Brown

• [Surfside](#)

Wayne Allen I'm sure no one from the SHOA office would ever even consider engaging in targeted harassment or retribution against a Surfside owner for any reason. Being able to see who is looking at what on the site couldn't possibly help and enable a vindictive employee to send a \$7.55 certified threatening demand letter to an owner. I'm sure no one would be immoral or devious enough to do anything like that with this information. That could never happen!

18 hr ago

Question? Why would SHOA track logged-in users?

Answer: This gives the site administrator (only assessable to site admin) information as to what is viewed most on the website and what isn't being viewed, a helpful way to make improvements. Those statistics are very valuable and gives actual data rather than relying on a few people saying they like (or don't like) something on the website. The tracking data does not use any personal identifiable information. Most websites do this type of tracking.

Question? Per Sally's remark, she indicates that threatening demand letters are being sent out. What kind of certified letters does the SHOA office send to members?

Answer: The SHOA office sends out Intent to Lien, Intent to Foreclose (both are for delinquent accounts), compliance letters (if you are out of compliance), letters of violation pertaining to the Code of Civility, all of which are mailed certified. All the lien and foreclosure letters and the Code of Civility violation letters are previewed by our attorney, so they aren't sent on a whim.

Question? Why is most of the website information "member only"?

Answer: Most HOA's have member only pages on their websites. This is for the privacy of the members. The ability to track IP addresses is for security purposes. I (personally) have deleted over 20 requests for access to our website from foreign countries. With cybercrime and cyber stalking at all-time highs this is very important to at least try to protect our website and users.

Question? What is Cyber Stalking?

Answer: RCW 9.61.260 was posted in the Weekender a few weeks ago. It seems that cyber stalking is rampant here in Surfside. There is recourse if you feel you are a victim of cyber stalking. Feel free to contact me, Tracy Lofstrom at tlofstrom@surfsideonline.org. Even anonymous postings on social media can be considered cyber stalking and not as difficult to track as you might think.



**IF YOU HAVE AN
EMERGENCY...
CAN WE FIND
YOU?**

**Order an address
post or sign today
from Pacific County
Fire District 1.
Reflective signs
make it easier for
emergency
personnel to locate
your home.**



Life Safety Project – Address Signs

Pacific County Fire District 1

ORDER FORM

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

Phone _____

Address Sign Options

(Description of signs and suggested donation in order to keep this program on-going.)

House Numbers - 18"x6" Aluminum Panel \$ 6.00

Need to indicate vertical or horizontal.

☐ Vertical

☐ Horizontal

Address Post – Height 54"

\$15.00

(All prices include tax and shipping)

Qty.	Type of Sign	Address Nos.					Cost
Total Cost							

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO:

Life Safety Project

Mail this order with payment to....

Pacific County Fire District No. 1

PO Box 890

Ocean Park, WA 98640

Or drop off at: 26110 Ridge Avenue, Ocean Park

CALL ME _____

When ready to be picked up.

INSTALL IT FOR ME _____

(I live in PCFD#1 area.)

AD-HOC Environmental Committee

Upcoming meeting dates for the Ad Hoc Committee.

To be held at the Sandcastle Building at the Methodist Bible Camp aka:
Ocean Park Retreat Center, Ocean Park.

Our next dates are:

Fri, December 17, 1-3pm— **CANCELLED**

Sat, Jan 8, 10-12— **CANCELLED**

Fri, Jan 21, 1-3pm

Sat, Feb 5, 10-12

Friday, Feb 18, 1-3pm



VOLUNTEERS WANTED! **BE A HOMETOWN GUARDIAN**



PACIFIC COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT #1 IS ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR VOLUNTEER MEMBERS TO JOIN OUR DYNAMIC PUBLIC SAFETY ORGANIZATION

- Help your community in their time of need
- Improve team-building skills
- Earn State & Internationally recognized fire certifications
- Learn & acquire life saving skills as an emergency medical technician

**TO FIND OUT MORE INFORMATION ABOUT JOINING OUR TEAM
AS A FIRST RESPONDER OR SUPPORT MEMBER**

- Visit us at 26110 Ridge Avenue in Ocean Park
- Visit our website at <https://pcfd1.org/volunteers-make-a-difference/>
- Contact us at 360-665-4451 or email Chief Brundage at brundage@pcfd1.org

FIRE ACADEMY Begins in JANUARY 2022!

A banner image showing a close-up of various architectural blueprints and documents spread out on a table. The text 'Architectural Review Committee' is overlaid in a large, dark blue serif font.

Architectural Review Committee

Just a reminder if you are planning on installing a fence, a shed, a garage or building a house; ALL building plans must be submitted to the Architectural Committee prior to any construction.

Pacific County will not approve permitting until the committee has signed off on all plans.

The committee meets weekly on Tuesdays at 9 a.m. The building packets are on our website at <http://www.surfsideonline.org/payment-form/> or you can pick one up from the business office. Applications must be received by end of day on Thursdays to make the agenda for the following Tuesday's meeting.

Due to COVID restrictions please advise if you want to attend the meeting in person.

Two (2) sets of plans must be submitted to the committee. Once approved, you will get a copy of the approved plan so you can take them to the county for their approval and Surfside will retain one set of approved plans to keep on file.

For more detailed information on the Architectural Committee duties and guidelines you can find them on our website www.surfsideonline.org, under the governance tab you'll see Surfside Restrictive Covenants link or call the business office 360-665-4171 with any questions.

December 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 Tree 1	4 AD-Hoc 10-12 Methodist camp
5	6	7 ARC 9 CRC 1	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21 ARC 9	22	23	24 Office Closed Compactor open 9-3	
26	27 Office Closed Compactor 7-1	28 ARC 9	29	30	31 Compactor open 11-5	Jan 1 Compactor Closed
Jan 2 Compactor 9-3	Jan 3 Office Closed Compactor 7-1	Jan 4	Jan 5	Jan 6	Jan 7	Jan 8

LEGEND -

*ARC=Architectural *EMC= Emergency Mgmt. *F & W= Fish & Waterway *L & B= Land & Buildings
WSP= Water System Planning *CRC=Community Relations

JANUARY 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						
2	3 Office Closed	4 ARC 9 CRC 1p	5	6 L & B 9 WSP 10	7 Tree 1p	8
9	10	11 ARC 9	12	13	14	15 Board Mtg 9 Self defense class 2p
16	17	18 ARC 9	19	20	21	22
23	24	25 ARC 9 EMC 1p	26 Bunco 6pm @ SHOA ofc	27	28	29
30	31					

LEGEND -

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