# Paradise News

**December 2023** Newsletter

~ We are an equal opportunity employer and provider ~

#### **Paradise Community Club**

PO Box 42 Ashford, WA 98304

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**Water Dept. Cell Phone** (360) 523-4111

E-mail

PCC007@centurytel.net

Wahsita

www.paradisecc.org

Guardian Billing (800) 444-9283

#### **Next PCC Board Meeting**

January 14, 2024 1:00 PM – PCC Office 151 Nisqually Way

#### Next Community Watch / Emergency Management Meeting

February 24, 2024 10:00 AM – PCC Office

#### **PCC Board**

President Bill Balcom Secretary **Brett Anderson** Treasurer Chuck Mitchell Trustee Calvin Porter Trustee Steve Olson Joan Williams Trustee Trustee **Rose Gaines** Robert White Trustee Trustee Nick Neville

## Message from the President

I always take time at year's end to thank all the volunteers who have given their time and talents to make our area a nice community to belong to. This year I'd like to use this letter to highlight the life of Cecile Roy, who passed away a few months ago.

For those new to the community, Cecile was Paradise Estates office person for 15 years; we asked her to assume that role around 2005. Until she made the hard decision to step down to enjoy her remaining years, she was a stalwart employee for PCC who exhibited the finest attributes in organization, trustworthiness and professionalism. For those of us who knew her well, her passing has left a huge void, especially at board meetings and other community gatherings.

Cecile's talents at the office came from years of medical office management and working closely with her late husband Jean, at his cabinet business in California. Cecile made sure our financial reports were accurate, completed required State and Federal reports, handled water billing issues and used her calming voice to answer phone calls from members as necessary. You probably drove passed her as she would often walk along the roads within our community.

I and others that knew her could relate many more memories about Cecile and you can also, when we hold a memorial next spring at the Paradise Estates Office. The board is currently working with her son Martin with planning and food arrangements. Information and details about her memorial will be posted on the Paradise Estates website and Facebook page.

I'll leave you with a photo of Cecile with her husband Jean, both of whom are sorely missed. I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year – Bill



#### **⊥** Contact Info ⊥

Our system contains 393 member owned lots. Our properties have changed hands a great deal in recent years. <u>To make sure that we are current, especially in an emergency, we ask that, if you haven't already done so, you complete the section below with your current information, then cut it out and return it to PCC (address in upper left corner of this page).</u>

Lot #(s):		
Owner(s):		
Email:	Phone	
Emergency Contact Name/Phone:		
Owner <u>Mailing</u> Address:	Please attach any other important information or special requirements.	

### Deadline for 2024 Membership Dues 2/1/2024

- Still \$250 per Lot -

Avoid Potential Late Fees by Paying on Time. (Dues will be reflected on your December billing statement)

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# Turn off Water while Away!

Each year, especially during cold weather, one or more members suffer a significant water loss due to an unexpected break on their side of the water meter. This misfortune can lead to very high water use charges. When leaving your property for a significant period, please turn off your water meter to avoid unnecessary loss. If you don't know how or where to turn off your meter, please contact the PCC office.

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#### Please Note!

Effective 12/1/23, payments for water or dues will no longer be accepted by the PCC office. All such payments should be made to GWP, per the instructions on the invoice.

# PCC Office Hours:

1-3 pm

Mon, Wed & Fri

An **OPEN** sign is displayed during office hours

#### PCC/BR Study

The Feasibility Study and System Plans Water have finally been approved hv Washington State Department of Health (DOH). The Feasibility Study was in response to DOH's request to study the possibility of merging Bavarian Retreat's (BR) water system with Paradise Estate. James Taylor president of the Bavarian Retreat HOA was invited to the November board meeting to provide an update on Bavarian Retreats' progress towards the potential merger with community's water system. James reported to the board that his

community now meets

the requirements for full

time residents. He also

provided an action plan

with a suggested

timeline of items to be

the merger continue to

should

accomplished

move forward.

Bavarian Retreat has hired a water rights attorney and NW Water Systems to resolve their water rights matter with the Washington State Department of Ecology. The Paradise Estates board of directors remains steadfast that should а merger continue, full water rights need to be retained in order to provide an adequate water supply to both We communities. should hear more in the coming weeks.

PCC + BR x H2O = PCC

### **Billing Service**

PCC outsourced the billing function to Guardian Water & Power (GWP), effective with the August water billing cycle. While the transition has been successful, it was not without issues. Your PCC office team is working diligently to resolve the issues identified, largely due incorrect/incomplete mailina All identified issues addresses. were resolved in November but, should you identify an issue, please call GWP to resolve. If an issue cannot be resolved by GWP, please relay the details to the PCC office for investigation.

The new servicer can accept multiple methods of payment. As of Thanksgiving, 332 payments have been processed by GWP. Of those, the following payment types and quantities have been received:

- 118 Bank-originated Checks
- 65 Card Payments
- 149 Check Payments

If you want to learn more about a different method of payment, please call GWP at (800) 444-9283.

#### **H2O Pre-payment?**

For the past several years, our members have been able to prepay a year's worth of base water charges in exchange for a 5% discount. Each year, a few dozen members would save a few dollars by doing so. Our newly outsourced billing model will still allow pre-payment at any time of year, but unfortunately cannot credit the traditional discount to our members.

Avoid undue risk and injury.
Think "25 to stay alive!"

SPEED LIMIT 25

Each day we are born again. What we do today is what matters most.

Buddha

### **Gratitude!**

On October 10, 2023 the PCC Board reluctantly accepted the resignation of our Vice President, Bill Krause. served on the PCC Board for over 15 years where his focus was professionalism coupled with frugality. Bill used his extensive military and civilian experience to keep an eagle's eye on our finances and never wavered in terms of integrity. We would like to take a moment to show our sincere appreciation for his many years in helping with the maturation of our association.

Salute!

#### **Reminders**

#### Community Watch / Emergency Management Meetings

10am – Last Saturday of every even Month (except December)

Lewis County Sheriff Non-Emergency# 360.740.1105

Finance Committee Meetings 10am – 3rd Wednesday of every even month

(Financial Review - All are welcome!)

#### Replenish Your Supplies!

Reading Glasses

Medicines/Supplements

Fresh Water
First Aid Kit

✓ Batteries

✓ Flashlight

Family Photos

Phone Numbers
Critical Tools

✓ Important Papers

✓ Food/Pet Food

Think through being stranded for several days to get a feel for the things you could not do without. Community Watch / Emergency Management meetings are held at 10am on the last Saturday of every even month (except December).