

BUTLER CREEK NEWS

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BUTLER CREEK BOARD

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LETTER FROM THE PREZ

Dear Neighbors,

Happy Holidays Everyone, I hope everyone had a happy and healthy start to the New Years. How about that “dusting” of snow the weather people predicted, just a dusting, ha!

Now that the holidays are behind us, we have to start looking for new candidates to join the 2018/2019 Board. The next six months will be my final months in office as president. I am proud of what this board has done in the last 2 1/2 years and now I have to make way for a couple of new members to keep our motto of *Keeping Butler Creek Great*. Nicole Krouse will also be dropping off the board in May/June as treasurer, so we will be looking for someone who knows how to work with QuickBooks and has some accounting background. Being on the board is not time consuming, we meet one day per month to talk about updating the common ground, any concerns with neighbors, voting for yard of the month, and basically running the community as a business.

I will be speaking to a couple of our neighbors about the available positions, but if anyone is interested please come by my home or call me, and I can give you more info. I want to make sure the next administration has a good transition just like when our present crew took over. I will stay on until they are happy if necessary.

Last but not least, I want to congratulate our Bob Winnie and the rest of the Men's B-6 tennis team for capturing the ALTA Fall City Championship! Also congratulations to Richard Krouse for starting a new ALTA C-level team, Carrie Jones for taking over the women's team, and Don White for running the mixed team, plenty of tennis going on at Butler Creek.

See you around the neighborhood,

The Prez

KEN'S CORNER

January is safety month in Butler Creek.

Fire prevention

Clean up debris from all areas of your house. Remove all cardboard paper and old clothes from your home. Consider donating to Goodwill. They will give you a receipt for your taxes.

Replace smoke alarms after 10 years. If you have any gas appliances – furnace, water heater, or gas range, you must have carbon monoxide detectors installed on every level of your home. These detectors have a built in expiration circuit that will alarm you to the fact that the detector has expired. My carbon monoxide detector recently went off -- we called the fire department and they had a sniffer that found that the source of carbon monoxide was the clogged drier.

Keep yard debris away from your foundation. It is recommended that shrubs and bushes be 18 inches from the foundation of your home. This will help keep the fire away from your home by keeping the fuel away from it.

The use of extension cords can cause fire hazards. The longer the cord is, the more resistance in that conductor. As that cord heats up it cause the copper to conduct less. This leads to higher current draw that leads to thermal runaway and the extension cord will heat up. Use a heavy duty extension cord. The extension cord is rated by the conductor size, 12-3 is a heavier cord than 14-3 or 16-3. This 12-3 rating is directly associated with the wire thickness. This extension cord will be more expensive than the 14-3 and 16-3 rated cables, but will also handle heat and current draw better than the thinner 14-3 or 16-3. If you are using an extension cord for anything in your home then you need to add outlets in that area. The use of extension cords should be avoided at all costs. If you have to use them, use a heavy duty cord rated at 12-3. Avoid using the small brown or white home extension cords. These are rated at 18-2 and are the worst ones to use. Throw them away.

Never use a space heater attached to an extension cord or power strip – heaters draw a lot of power and using them with extension cords or power strips is responsible for 16 percent of the house fires in the United States.

Theft prevention

Lock your doors. Keep a key with you when you head outdoors. Lock your door when your in the yard. The most important thing to remember is to light your yard with motion detector lights porch lights and spot lights. Criminals do not want to be seen and they will shy away from a property that is well lit. Keep shrubs and bushes trimmed to eliminate hiding spaces in your yard for criminals.

Appliance safety

Inspect your drier vent for lint build up. Clean out your drier as well as the the vent. Never plug a large appliance into an extension cord but it should be plugged into the wall receptacle. Check water supply lines for your washing machine. Replace older rubber hoses with the new heavy duty beaded hose. Replace after ten years.

NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES

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NEW RESIDENTS

If you have recently moved to Butler Creek, welcome to the neighborhood! We know that you will love Butler Creek as much as we all do, and to make sure that we all know who you are, please email your family information, address, emails, and phone numbers to our website administrator, Ken Watson, at furman87@gmail.com, and he will update the website with your information. The neighborhood website is <https://www.butlercreek.org>