

# IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

WE WANT CITIZENS TO BE AWARE THAT OUR TOWN MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN, MIKE BROWN, WILL BE INSTALLING NEW EMERGENCY INFORMATION STICKERS ON ALL SEPTIC ALARM BOXES. YOUR SEPTIC SYSTEM IS OWNED AND MAINTAINED BY THE TOWN AND THESE STICKERS WILL CONTAIN IMPORTANT INFORMATION IN THE EVENT THE SEPTIC ALARM SOUNDS.



## WATER/SEWER/SEPTIC SYSTEM EMERGENCIES

The Town's sewer system has seen an increase in non-flushable items. Only toilet paper and waste from the human body should be **flushed** down the toilet. Even items that say *flushable*, like hygiene/disinfecting wipes, should **not** be flushed. Other unsafe items include:

- ❖ Disposable diapers (adult & baby)
- ❖ Sanitary napkins or tampons
- ❖ Paper towels or bandages
- ❖ Dental floss
- ❖ Condoms
- ❖ Hair
- ❖ Cigarette butts
- ❖ Coffee grounds
- ❖ Kitty litter

Please do your part to keep our system the best it can be. **It is also very important that you not park vehicles on top of water meters or block them in any way.** For water, sewer and septic emergencies, contact Tony Caldwell at (360) 947-4734.



January 2024 — Vol.1

### A Message From Our Mayor

Happy New Year!

There are some exciting things happening in town this year. We are going to be seeing road improvements happening – gravel road paving, crack sealing, and we are looking at traffic improvement solutions for the intersection of Hwy 162 and Emery. These are all being paid for with grant money that the town was awarded.

We are hoping to add some more community events, and some playground equipment at Veteran's Park to replace the old slide and the aging swing set. The plan is to have the new equipment still be accessible to our teenagers – it seems that they enjoy the current equipment, and we want that to continue.

There are ongoing repairs to the shop and well head area at 3<sup>rd</sup> street park. You should also be seeing some culvert and storm drain cleanouts happening as well.

We would love to see more residents at our monthly town council meetings – you have an opportunity to express your concerns at each meeting. Getting feedback from the town residents is helpful for the decisions that must be made to keep the town not only functioning but hopefully to help the town improve and thrive.

Looking forward to a wonderful 2024!

*Mayor Carolyn Norris*

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**JAN 9- COUNCIL MEETING 7PM**

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# Utility Billing Information

Now you can pay your bills online As a way to offer you more choices in how you pay your bills. we have partnered with Xpress Bill Pay, the premier provider of online & electronic payment systems.

All you need is an internet connection and an email address. Once you sign up for your account and start using this service, you'll wonder how you ever got along without it!

It's simple to use. Every month we'll send you a reminder email to let you know when your bill is online. Then, you just log into your account at [xpressbillpay.com](http://xpressbillpay.com) or use our mobile app to view your bill. We have uploaded 6 month bill history of your account online, so you can compare your current bill to a previous bill.

When you're ready to pay your bill, select a payment type. You can pay with credit card, debit card, or electronic funds transfer. Enter the information and you're done!

It's that easy, and only takes you a few minutes each month, Or you can set up your bill on Auto Pay and have it automatically paid for you each month! We offered this service at the request of our customers — **you asked and we delivered!**

To sign up, go to [www.xpressbillpay.com](http://www.xpressbillpay.com) and follow the instructions there.  
Scan below for the mobile app

Now available for both Android and iPhone.

Scan QR code to download the app to your device.

**xpress**  
BILL PAY

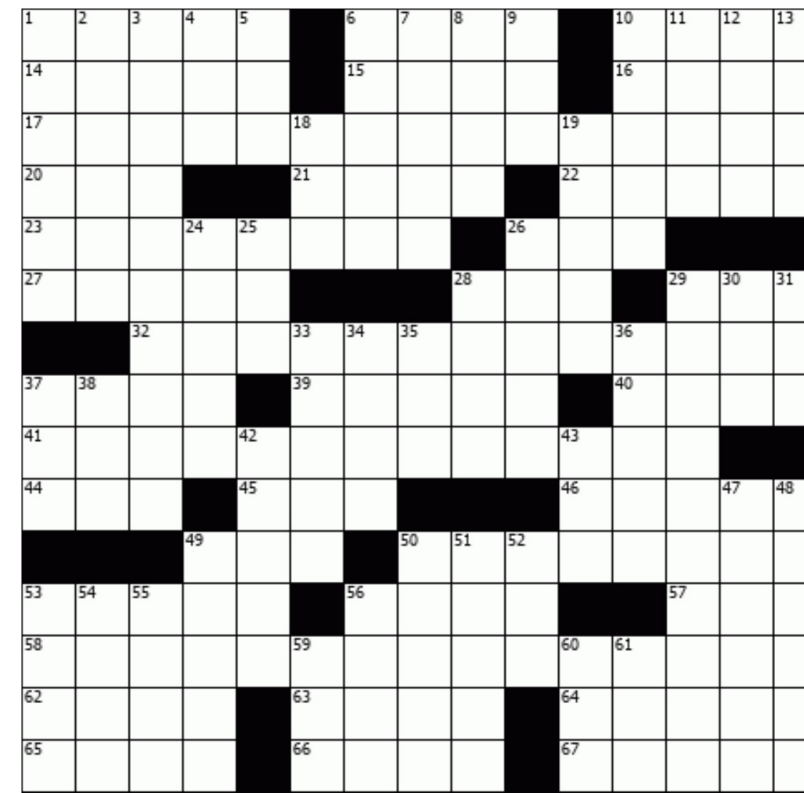


## IMPORTANT UTILITY BILLING INFORMATION

**\*\*If someone calls you and threatens to shut off your service without an immediate payment, hang up and call the number on your bill. This applies to all of your utility providers.\*\***

**BE SURE YOUR PAYMENT IS PROCESSED CORRECTLY:** Payment is always due by the 19<sup>th</sup> of the month. If not paid by 8 a.m. on the morning of the 20<sup>th</sup>, a \$25 late fee will be assessed and a late bill generated. If not paid by the 27<sup>th</sup>, the water will be shut off on the 28th, you will incur a \$50 shut off fee, and a \$50 turn on fee, which must be paid with the full balance before water service, will be restored. Keep in mind our mail service in Town is very slow and unpredictable. The best way to ensure your payment is received on time is to drop it in the drop by at Town Hall no later than the 19<sup>th</sup>.

**NEED ASSISTANCE:** Pierce County has several resources including the Community Action Program at 253-798-6266 and the Human Services division at 253-798-4500. Plateau Ministries is also an option at 360-825-8961. Washington 2-1-1 is your free connection to vital services including access to food, transportation, health care and much more. Just dial 211 to find help. Most churches also offer assistance.



### Across

1. Hands-on electronic game that kinda groans when you lose
6. Legendary Arthur
10. Its state insect is the honeybee
14. Student's busy times
15. "\_\_\_ and away!"
16. It was good for Caesar
17. Final step in becoming a doctor
20. Nigerian musician King Sunny \_\_\_
21. It's no lie
22. Like Lucky Charms
23. How some consent
26. Website visit
27. Rob of "Melrose Place"
28. Michael Jackson song about a rat
29. End of a British queue?
32. Procedures seen on extreme makeover shows
37. Org. opposed to some peer-to-peer file sharing
39. Under way
40. European automaker
41. Anti-Bush news site, with "The"
44. What some spray-ons replicate
45. Penny, in Macau
46. Christopher in 2004 memorials
49. Juan's what
50. Very strong
53. Word repeated before "hey"
56. "Are You Experienced?" name
57. Earned
58. Sports drink variety introduced in 2002
62. Funk
63. Humorist Lebowitz
64. Hired homework help
65. International treaty
66. Gumbo ingredient
67. Milk accompaniment

### Down

1. Play nice
2. Nitrous and zinc, for two
3. Teach a puppy to poop indoors
4. Rapscaillon
5. Restaurant general
6. Hearing-related
7. All over the mental map
8. Part of a character name from the "Star Wars" series
9. Prefix for phenomenon
10. German lurker
11. Perfectly
12. Alternative to blinds
13. Jessica in a 1980s scandal
18. Montreal Alouettes et al.
19. Frequent box contents in Mario games
24. Joy of "The View"
25. "\_\_\_ Lay Dying"
26. Skor alternative
28. Group of nations
29. Name used for the Monica Lewinsky business
30. Shoe size
31. Access letters
33. Not so worldly-wise
34. Nick Drake's "Time \_\_\_ Reply"
35. Juice cap in a 1990s fad
36. Surprise 1990s Oscar winner
37. Alphabet segment
38. "\_\_\_ Believer"
42. Mount Wai'ale'ale's island
43. NY system

47. Type of doll or economics
48. Gets from the wings to the stage
49. Orange video game hero
50. It may be made of bubble gum
51. Name on microwaves
52. Plant your butt
53. Goopy mess
54. Opera set in Egypt
55. Top guy at the U.
56. Steve Martin title role, with "The"
59. Accounts head, for short
60. Ear-related prefix
61. Czech play with robots

What comes once in a minute, twice in a moment, but never in a thousand years?

Answer: The letter m

## RECENT COMPLAINTS

There have been numerous complaints lately that are in direct violation of the South Prairie municipal code. Some of those violations should be reported to the sheriff or animal control in order to be addressed properly. They are detailed below:

**Parking on 3rd street SE**— There have been vehicles parking along 3rd street that are blocking the view to safely navigate the corner from A.P. Tubbs Road. When parking on the road, ensure that you are fully out of the roadway. Please Make sure you are not parked within 30 feet of stop signs, within 15 feet of fire hydrants or pedestrian right of ways, or within 5 feet of neighbors driveways.

**Public Disturbance Noises** - The afterhours (11:00pm - 7:00am) use of off highway vehicles (OHV's) violates SPMC noise code. OHV's include all-terrain vehicles (ATV's), four wheelers, three wheelers, dirt bikes, motorcycles, trail bikes, mini bikes and snow mobiles. SPMC 9.25.010 states "It is unlawful for any person knowingly to cause or make, or for any person in possession of property to knowingly allow or permit to originate from the property, a public disturbance noise which unreasonably disturbs another. This also applies to Town streets.

**We all love our Town so let's be good neighbors and allow everyone to safely enjoy our community and neighborhoods!**