



NEWSLETTER

December 2011



Merry Christmas!

RECERTIFICATION

Management would like to remind you that recertification due date is drawing near... All residents must be recertified by December 15, 2011. Please contact Ms. Polk immediately to schedule your recertification interview at 202-618-8092

BULK TRASH PICK-UP. Call the rental office to schedule bulk trash pickup before disposing of large articles in the front of the building.

...and many good wishes for a new year of happiness and prosperity!

- from the staff of Dahlgreen Courts

The office will be closed on **Monday, December 26, 2011** in observance of the Christmas Holiday.

Birthdays

Bobby Covington	5
Judy Smith	13
Cynthia Stevens	19
Ezekiel McFadden	25

If we missed your birthday, we apologize and we will give notice in January.



Staying Safe While Shopping

- Always lock your car and close the windows, even if you're only gone a few moments. When possible, lock all merchandise or packages in the trunk of your car. Load your packages before departing, not at the next destination.
- Shop with at least one partner. Have your car or house key in your hand as you approach the door. If attacked use those keys as weapons!
- Stay alert to your surroundings and the people around you. Look inside your car and around it as you approach.
- Be extra careful with purses and wallets. Carry a purse under your arm. Keep wallets in an inside pocket.
- Avoid carrying large amounts of cash.
- Park in well-lighted areas that will be well-lighted when you return.



Holiday Open House

Come by the office the afternoon of December 23 for Christmas cookies and drinks. We invite you to stop by and share in the spirit of the holiday season!

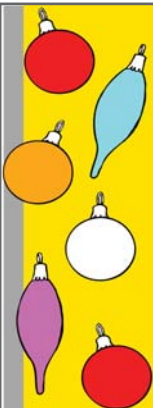
Construction Updates

Progress continues at 2520 10th Street. Demolition of the interior units is generally complete. New utilities are currently being brought into the building, including upgraded electrical service. The elevator shaft for the elevator is being constructed as well. The contractors are still anticipating the building will be complete in February.

IN THE COMMUNITY...

ZooLights at the National Zoo.

FREE for the first time this year! The National Zoo presents a seasonal display of thousands of sparkling animated lights, winter-themed crafts, ice sculpting demonstrations, choral groups, and storytellers. Friday and Saturday nights from November 25 - December 11, and daily from December 16, 2011 - January 1, 2012, 5-9pm (not open December 24, 25 and 31).



A Season for Sharing in Fire Safety

Each year fires occurring during the holiday season that claim the lives of over 400 people, injure 1,650 more, and cause over \$990 million in damage. According to the United States Fire Administration (USFA), there are simple life-saving steps you can take to ensure a safe and happy holiday. By following some of the outlined precautionary tips, individuals can greatly reduce their chances of becoming a holiday fire casualty.



Maintain Your Holiday Lights - Inspect holiday lights each year for frayed wires, bare spots, gaps in the insulation, broken or cracked sockets, and excessive kinking or wear before putting them up. Use only lighting listed by an approved testing laboratory.

Do Not Overload Electrical Outlets - Do not link more than three light strands, unless the directions indicate it is safe. Connect strings of lights to an extension cord before plugging the cord into the outlet. Make sure to periodically check the wires - they should not be warm to the touch.

Do Not Leave Holiday Lights on Unattended

Use Only Nonflammable Decorations - All decorations should be nonflammable or flame-retardant and placed away from heat vents. If you are using a metallic or artificial tree, make sure it is flame retardant.

Avoid Using Lit Candles - If you do use them, make sure they are in stable holders and place them where they cannot be easily knocked down. Never leave the house with candles burning. Do not go near a Christmas tree with an open flame - candles, lighters or matches (Never put lit candles on a tree!)

More tips to help you stay safe during the holidays:

- ▶ Avoid displaying gifts where they can be seen from a window or doorway.
- ▶ Arrange to have packages delivered to a neighbor if you're not home to receive them. Packages left in the front of the building or in front of your door are "easy picking" for thieves. It also draws unwanted attention to your home.
- ▶ Always lock your unit doors and windows, even if you're only gone for a few minutes.
- ▶ Compact or dispose of packaging discreetly. Often criminals will spot something you've discarded and can target you for their next burglary or theft.
- ▶ When leaving town, have a trusted friend or neighbor take care of your home. Never cancel general deliveries such as mail, newspapers, and other services when leaving town or going on vacation.
- ▶ Notify Management if you're planning an extended absence.

Gingerbread Cookies Recipe

Ingredients

3/4 cup butter, softened
1 cup packed brown sugar
1 egg
3/4 cup molasses
4 cups all-purpose flour
2 teaspoons ground ginger
1-1/2 teaspoons baking soda
1-1/2 teaspoons ground cinnamon
3/4 teaspoon ground cloves.
1/4 teaspoon salt
Vanilla frosting of your choice
Red and green paste food coloring

Yield: 5 dozen



Directions:

In a large bowl, cream butter and brown sugar until light and fluffy. Add egg and molasses. Combine the flour, ginger, baking soda, cinnamon, cloves and salt; gradually add to creamed mixture and mix well. Cover and refrigerate for 4 hours or overnight or until easy to handle. On a lightly floured surface, roll dough to 1/8-in. thickness. Cut with floured 2-1/2-in. cookie cutters. Place 1 in. apart on ungreased baking sheets.

Bake at 350° for 8-10 minutes or until edges are firm. Remove to wire racks to cool. Tint some of the frosting red and some green. Decorate cookies.