

## More stories from January's issue of **THE BEE!**

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Dressed for the season – and, here, operating Oaks Park's Holiday-themed Herschell-Spillman 'Noah's Ark' Carousel – it's Amusement Park Rides Manager Celeste Walker.  
(Photo by David F. Ashton)

### 'Winter Glean' lights up Oaks Park for the Holiday Season

By DAVID F. ASHTON  
For *THE BEE*

For the first time since it opened in 1905, nonprofit Oaks Amusement Park is presenting a Holiday Fantasy World lit by dynamic light displays, immersive light tunnels, and twinkling pathways. It's called "*Winter Glean*".

While most of the amusement rides are lit up for this, they're not operating, except for the historic Herschell-Spillman 'Noah's Ark' Carousel – and the famous, now Christmas-themed, historic miniature Oaks Park Train, rides which are included at this ticketed attraction.

"Although our production company is best known for our signature Hallowe'en-themed event, 'Scaregrounds PDX', we work with others to put on different production events throughout the year," pointed out the lady behind the Holiday lights, Estelle Fulmor of Vendetta Productions LLC. "With *Winter Glean* being our first Holiday-themed event, one might say we've officially shifted from 'spooky', to 'jolly' – and all within the span of just a few weeks.

"We've been toying with the idea of producing a Christmas event for the last five years – and that's how long it took to execute the planning, and build out this project," Fulmor told *THE BEE*. "Throughout the park, we've created brilliant light tunnels, animated lights on Christmas Trees – and, yes, there's even Santa Claus!"

Available for purchase are several hot food and beverage selections, as well as ciders and beers for the grown-ups. "Yeti" Mini-Golf, carnival games, and roller skating are also offered, but are sold separately.

An ambulance lingered at the scene; a PPB officer confirmed that a woman involved in the smashup would be taken by ambulance to a local hospital for observation and treatment.

Men from the three vehicles were cordially exchanging information on the corner; one of them admitted fault in the crash. However, looking at the mangled vehicles, it wasn't possible for us to pinpoint which truck was actually his.

Some good advice: Drive carefully, especially with darkness coming early this time of year.



At this “Fall Free Workshop”, Brentwood-Darlington NET member Jim Quinn showed an emergency tool that all households with natural gas service should have – a “shut-off valve wrench” – one of which he gave to anyone present who needed one. (Photo by David F. Ashton)

## Brentwood-Darlington relies on Neighborhood Emergency Team for help

By DAVID F. ASHTON  
For *THE BEE*

In September through early November, the Brentwood-Darlington Neighborhood Association (BDNA) was hosting “Fall Free Workshops” at the Brentwood Darlington Community Center on Monday evenings. These workshops included educational sessions on topics such as computer security, personal finance, taxes and investments, cooking on a budget – and the final one of the series, which *THE BEE* attended on November 4, was on “Emergency Preparations”.

Stephanie Torgerson, Co-Chair for BDNA, and was the organizer of this series of special programs, and she thanked the sponsors of the workshops, which included Portland Parks & Recreation. She then introduced the evening’s speaker, Jim Quinn.

“In addition to being part of the Brentwood-Darlington Neighborhood Emergency Team (NET), I also work as a *Solid Waste Resilience Planner* at Metro,” Quinn said. As a neighbor who “lives a couple blocks from the Community Center”, Quinn got involved with NET in 2016.

Most Southeast neighborhoods are served by their own, or a neighboring location’s, NET team. These are composed of neighbors who step forward for training by the Portland Fire Bureau in rescue techniques, and who are standing by to be of essential aid in the event of a major emergency.

### “All about building resilience”

“NET is all volunteer; I think it’s important for people to be as prepared as possible, to be as resilient as possible. This will help them better ‘weather the disasters’ that can happen to us here,” Quinn observed.

Being prepared for disaster boils down to three main things, he said:

1. Knowing what the risks are, and what could happen
2. Making a plan with your family
3. Getting supplies together to be on hand when needed

After taking and passing the *free* training program, NET members are expected to be able to:

- Be self-sufficient for at least two weeks during an emergency

- Provide emergency assistance to their neighbors and family
- Work with an emergency response team to save lives and property
- Guide other volunteers who want to help during a disaster

Away from the meeting, Quinn told *THE BEE*, “In a disaster, the actual majority of rescues and *immediate help* doesn’t come from bureaus or authorities – it comes from your neighbors. The more prepared neighborhoods are, the more they can help each other out.”

Find out how you can become one of these essential volunteers in your community by visiting Portland NET online – <http://www.portland.gov/pbem/neighborhood-emergency-teams>



In Inner Southeast Portland, the Christmas decorations at the Apostolic Faith Church Campground are a delight to see, all through the entire Holiday Season. (Photo by David F. Ashton)

## Apostolic Faith Church’s campground decorated for Christmas

By DAVID F. ASHTON  
For *THE BEE*

On December evenings, anyone who drives or rides along S.E. 52nd Avenue near Duke Street, in the Brentwood-Darlington neighborhood, has certainly seen the colorful decorations at the Apostolic Faith Church Campground. Being curious, *THE BEE* asked what it’s all about.

“Our church has owned this campground property for over 100 years, and its primary purpose has always been to host our international convention in the summertime,” explained their “*Christmas on the Campground*” Committee Chair Matt Hanson. “We have performed Sunday School Christmas programs at our church for decades - but, in 2009, we decided to attempt a program that would use our campground to tell the true Christmas story, and also share our celebration with the community.

“That first year was simple but fun, so we decided to continue the new approach,” Hanson continued. “Over the years, we’ve added more lights and more activities, and it has quickly become one of our favorite traditions!

“These days, *Christmas on the Campground* is the culmination of thousands of hours of work by hundreds of people - with about 100 volunteers helping on each day of our big two-day, mid-December, open-campground celebration for the public,” Hanson pointed out. But the colorful lights are on all season.