



March 2008

Skyline Ridge Neighbors, Inc.

VOLUME 20 ISSUE 1

A Neighborhood Association Serving Unincorporated Multnomah County Northwest of Portland.

SRN General Meeting 3/18/2008 Global Warming—the Local Angle

Skyline Ridge Neighbors (SRN) and Forest Park Neighborhood Association (FPNA) are hosting a neighborhood meeting on the topic of global warming, Tuesday March 18, from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. at the Skyline Grange, 11275 NW Skyline Boulevard.

For many global warming issues, there are no definitive answer yet, but trends may be evident in such topics as rainfall distribution through the year, effects on wells, plant species, hydro-energy generation, etc. Tamara Olcott, a presenter trained by the Al Gore climate change team, will give a presentation based on the material in the film and book *An Inconvenient Truth* with updates from findings in the past year and information specific to us in the lowland Pacific Northwest. Please bring your questions and any new information you have to share. A question and answer time will follow the presentation.

We and our children will have to live with global warming. Let's turn out and learn all we can about what is happening, and hear some suggestions for action. For more information contact Jim Emerson, FPNA President at (503) 283-4096, or Karen Garber, SRN President, at (503) 289-7169.

SRN Members to Vote on Proposed Bylaws Amendment 3/18/2008

On March 18, 2008, Skyline Ridge Neighbors (SRN) members will vote on proposed amendments to the neighborhood association bylaws that will change the way that officers and directors of SRN are elected and serve. Everyone will have a chance to review a complete copy of the amendment prior to voting.

Under current SRN bylaws, members vote to elect four officers: President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. The chairs of standing committees, e.g. Land Use, Outreach, etc., are appointed by the Board and along with the four officers constitute the SRN Board of Directors. Therefore, members don't elect the entire Board, just the principal officers.

Under the proposed system, SRN members would elect enough candidates to fill the entire Board of Directors. This would

be between 7 and 15 people, depending on the number of committee chair and officer positions. Once elected, the new Board would then fill the officer and committee chairs from among their number.

Everyone elected to the Board would serve a two year term, although the Board would have the discretion to appoint another Board member to take over the term of an officer or committee chair if the person became unable to serve the entire term in that role. The two year terms would be staggered so that each year SRN members would elect roughly half of the Board.

The current Board believes this proposed change will benefit SRN. It will make representation more democratic since all members of the Board will be elected rather than just the principal officers. It will give Board members the flexibility and opportunity to serve in more than one role during their two year terms. Finally, we hope that it will make Board service more accessible and attractive for potential new candidates. This model for electing the Board and allowing it to appoint officers and committee chairs has been adopted and used successfully by the Forest Park Neighborhood Association.

In addition to these changes, other amendments to the bylaws will be voted on by SRN members at the March 18 meeting. These are largely "housekeeping" changes to the current bylaws, proposed to consolidate and reorder sections and to correct inconsistent language and conflicts with state statutes. The Board approved a motion at its February meeting referring the proposed amendments to a member vote.

Prior to the vote, SRN residents will have the opportunity to review the proposed amendments to the Bylaws. A copy will be posted on the SRN website (www.skylineridgeneighbors.org)

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Skyline Ridge Runner Celebrates 20 Years With This Edition

SRN News & Events

by March 1. You can also request a printed copy of the proposals by calling Karen Garber (503 289-7169) or Miles Merwin (503 621-9867).

Following discussion, the vote on the proposed amendments will be held at the next regular meeting of members to be held at the Skyline Grange on March 18, 2008. This will start at about 8:30 p.m. or immediately following the general meeting presentation. Everyone who has already signed up to be a voting member can participate. Anyone else who lives within the SRN boundaries can become a member prior to or at the meeting.

The Board encourages all residents to attend this important meeting and participate in the decision-making process for our neighborhood association.

By the SRN Board of Directors

Farewell Neighbors!

Dear Neighbors,

In May, I complete my third and final term as vice president of the Skyline Ridge Neighborhood Association. I have benefited from my experience in so many ways—many of which I will apply professionally. I served these past years with a diverse group of neighbors who comprised a knowledgeable, professional and competent board of directors for our community. I cannot thank them enough for sharing their impressive range of skills and collaborative spirit.

At first I was reluctant to serve—having no previous experience of this kind. Now I leave the SRN Board with skills that would have been difficult to gain so close to home—AND with a glass of wine in hand! During my term I witnessed SRN become a 501 C3 nonprofit organization. Our annual fundraiser, the SRN Summer Gathering, yearly raises an impressive \$5,000 to support activities that benefit our community. Through our general meetings, I have learned from influential professionals outside of our area, and am more informed about the pressures on and decisions made concerning our neighborhood (i.e. airport noise, traffic growth, land use issues, etc.).

Along with the board members with whom I served, I would like to thank YOU—all the members of our community. Together we have developed an impressive organization that connects us—and demonstrates we are a unified neighborhood.

I encourage you, as a member of our community, to serve as SRN vice president or any available SRN board position. You will work and develop friendships with a broader range of residents and in the process learn more about the area you live in. This experience will impact you as a neighbor, as a professional, and as a citizen.

By Catherine Dalziel, Skyline Ridge Neighbor Vice President

The Search Is On: SRN Board Members Needed

Spring is here, which means it's time for our annual schmoozing and cajoling of potential SRN Board members. That means you! This May two of our longest serving board members, Vice President Catherine Dalziel and Secretary Miles Merwin will be stepping down. Although we'll sorely miss their many talents and the wisdom, grace, and humor they've brought to every discussion and event, it's also an exciting time for SRN. All organizations work best when they're able to balance experience and tradition with a fresh flow of new voices and ideas.

To help make board service more accommodating of our busy

lives, the current Board has proposed bylaws changes (see article on page 1) that will allow Board members more flexibility to share and rotate responsibilities.

You'll also find that both the current Board and the SRN community as a whole understand that we've all got a lot of competition for our time, and that they'll be warmly appreciative of whatever you can offer. The Board, in particular, is careful to consider the energy and availability of Board members and other volunteers before committing to projects and timelines. We make it a priority to make Board service fun and rewarding.

So...take the first step and contact a current Board member to talk about what Board service is like and learn how easy it is to contribute. Even better, join us for a Board meeting and see just how much fun we have. The food and wine are always good, the laughter frequent, and the spirit of community inspirational.

The Details

- Board members are elected for two-year terms.
- If the proposed bylaws changes are approved, we'd like to have a Board of nine people to cover the duties of four officer positions and five committee chairs. With two members departing we'll have four open positions this spring.
- The Board meets monthly to plan and organize SRN activities and to discuss and address the concerns of our residents.
- No special skills are required--just an interest in our community, an open mind, and a commitment to keeping our residents informed and connected.

Save the Date!

SOLV IT Neighborhood Cleanup 4/19

This year's SOLV IT Neighborhood Cleanup will be held Saturday, April 19 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. All of our local groups plan to participate again: Skyline Ridge Neighbors, Forest Park Neighborhood Association, the Newberry Road crew, and the Greater Helvetia group. If you're interested in participating please send your name, phone number and email address to Karen Garber at president@skylineridgeneighbors.org or call 503-289-7169. We'll contact you with the details as we know them. We'll also post the information in the Skyline Rural Watch Newslines and on the SRN website.

For those who aren't familiar with this event, SOLV IT is one of the largest Earth Day projects in the nation. Thousands of people from all over the Portland metro area volunteer for a morning to help remove litter from roadsides, clean up illegal dumps, beautify and improve neighborhoods, and restore watersheds and natural areas. The SRN project focuses on roadside clean-up, and every year, 40 to 50 volunteers find enough garbage to fill a 40-yard dumpster. It's incredibly satisfying to see all that trash hauled away, it's a great way to meet neighbors, and it's surprisingly fun. Please join us!

New Skyline Directory Coming Soon

The next SRN Business and Community Resource Directory will be hitting your mailboxes soon. Production went on hiatus last summer, but we're back at work on it again now. We're grateful to all who participated and apologize for any inconvenience the delay may have caused.

SRN Logo Changes Ahead - What Do You Think?

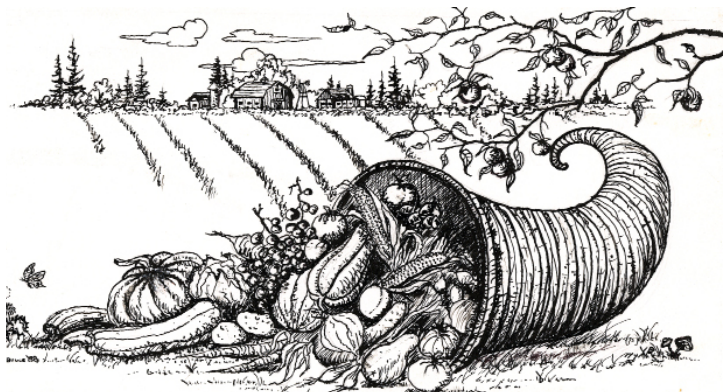
We LOVE our warm, friendly SRN logo, but the time has come for an update. As we look at more streamlined ways to produce news and information for the neighborhood, the SRN board has been tasked with the job of evolving our logo into something easier to translate into different formats and to use electronically.

Tell us what you would like to see. What do you love about our neighborhood? What important aspects of the neighborhood do you think the logo should reflect? What elements (agriculture, animals, sunshine, colors) do you think it should include? What do you love about the current logo? We are wide open about what direction to take.

You don't have to be an artist to submit ideas. If you can draw, that's great, but you can also just tell us in writing what you think and we will take those ideas and have them drawn up by an artist.

Our goal is to present the new logo ideas at the Summer Gathering so we can all discuss them and everyone can weigh in. Thanks for participating! Send your ideas to cindybanks@gmail.com

By Cindy Banks



One of the many drawings Bruce Riches did for the Ridge Runner in the 1980's, including the current logo and back graphic.

Skyline Ridge Runner's 20 Year History

The *Skyline Ridge Runner's* first edition was printed in 1987. Editors over the years have been Karin Hunt, Leslie Tose, Nora Riches, Jennifer Olivier, Donald Jenkins, Sen Speroff and Laura Foster.

The *Ridge Runner's* logo and familiar graphic on the back was done by local resident Bruce Riches in 1989. Over the years we would paste in additional drawings he gave us such as a cornucopia and treasure pot. Bruce died many years ago but his sister Nora Riches Jacobson still lives on lower Rock Creek Rd.

The writing, editing, layout and production has always been a volunteer effort. Originally all articles had to be typed into a computer from original submissions. Barbara Delackner entered articles for years until she became ill and passed on. Her children still own their mom's house on Skyline. As email and Internet use have become commonplace, articles are received through emails saving hours of typing.

I have done the layout from the beginning and have enjoyed meeting with many editors. It became a tradition to meet early in the morning while we laughed, drank Bailey's and coffee and worked on the newsletter. Each editor has had to "crack the whip" to get all the articles submitted in time.

SRN Quarterly Treasurer's Report

It is a quieter time of year in this treasurer's books as all the dust settles from our 2007 fundraising efforts. Our expenses were routine and donations much appreciated. Thank you to those who took a minute out of their day to send us a donation check: Cheryl Neal, Corinne Van Radin, Dexter and Kim Fairbank, Babette Heefle, Todd and Sheryl Weybrew, David and Martha Gardner, Tom and Jan Campbell, Dan and Holly Danks and Pat Brady

10/1/2007 through 1/25/2008

Income

Ridge Runner Advertising	305
Donations	490
TOTAL Income	\$795

Expenses

Newsletter Postage and Printing	1039
Hall Rental & Admin Expenses	46
Total Expenses	\$1085

Net Cash Flow - \$290

As usual, I welcome all comments and suggestions and your fiscally conservative board will continue to use your donations wisely. So, don't hesitate to send \$30 to demonstrate your continued support of the 501(c)3 Skyline Ridge Neighborhood Association. Donations can be sent to SRN c/o Laurel Erhardt, 14416 NW Skyline Blvd., Portland, OR 97231.

By Laurel Erhardt, Treasurer, SRN

A group of neighbors gets together to prepare the newsletter for mailing. We are fortunate that the City of Portland's printing office does the printing, folding and taping which has saved us money and time. We currently send the newsletter out to around 1500 households.

What do you love about the *Skyline Ridge Runner*? For me, it is the historical stories that help our community appreciate our history while learning about current events.

By Karin Hunt

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SRN Annual Report and Proposed 2008 Budget

Below is Skyline Ridge Neighbors 2007 actual budget and 2008 budget for your review and comment. This budget will also be presented at the next general meeting, March 18, 2008, for comment and suggestions.

	Actual 2007	Budget 2008
BEGINNING BALANCE JAN 1	\$14,202	\$17,105
INCOME		
Resource Directory Advertising	60	1000
Ridge Runner Advertising	805	500
Auction	5913	5400
Donations	1735	800
Interest	3	6
TOTAL INCOME	8516	7706
EXPENSES		
Administration		
Website	186	186
Project Management Webtool	0	150
Hall Rental	73	100
Licenses & Fees	220	45
Misc.	0	250
Education/Weed & Native Plant		
Tour	261	100
Noxious Weed Eradication	0	200
Resource Directory	0	1235
Ridge Runner	4370	4140
SOLV Neighborhood Clean-Up	20	100
Summer Gathering		
Entertainment	225	300
Facility Rental	0	500
Food	0	100
Materials	259	300
TOTAL EXPENSES	5614	7706
NET INCOME/(EXPENSE)	2903	0
ENDING BALANCE DEC 31	\$17,105	\$17,105

Our SRN neighbors have always been generous with their time and donations but we are always conservative in our budget and do not assume what was given last year can be depended upon. Some 2008 expense items we have budgeted for may have previously had minimal or no expenses due to our generous friends. The same holds true for our income through the annual auction and donations.

The quarterly *Skyline Ridge Runner* and the email *Skyline Rural Watch Newslines* are the cornerstone of fulfilling the purpose of SRN. They have always been highest priority in our expenses. The *Skyline Ridge Neighbors Community Business & Resource Directory* is very well received by the community, is largely self supporting through ad revenue and an item we have budgeted to continue. Income for this directory, which just went to print, will be reflected in 2008.

The SRN Board has always supported holding a "rainy day fund" reserve. Should the annual Summer Gathering and Auction fail to materialize, this money would be used to maintain the publications, newslines and administrative costs until the next Summer Gathering.

We believe there are many worthy projects that SRN could support and continuously seek suggestions from you, our neighbors, for appropriate community projects. The SOLV neighborhood cleanup and the noxious weed eradication program in this year's budget are examples of projects in keeping with the purpose of SRN. We encourage you to attend the general meeting on March 18 or contact me or any board member with your recommendations.

Final budget vote by the board is scheduled for the next regular board meeting after the general meeting, which should be the second Sunday in April.

Laurel Erhardt – SRN Treasurer - 14416 NW Skyline Blvd, Portland, OR 97231 – 503-621-3501 Phone and Fax. - Treasurer@skylineridgeneighbors.org

How To Contact Your Legislators

U.S. Congress

Sen. Ron Wyden (D) United States Senate

230 Dirksen Senate Office Bldg, Washington, DC 20510-0001
Phone: (202) 224-5244 Fax: (202) 228-2717
Email: <http://wyden.senate.gov/contact>

Sen. Gordon H. Smith (R) United States Senate

404 Russell Senate Office Bldg, Washington, DC 20510-0001
Phone: (202) 224-3753 Fax: (202) 228-3997
Email: <http://gsmith.senate.gov/webform.htm>

Rep. Earl Blumenauer District: 003

United States House of Representatives

2267 Rayburn House Office Bldg, Washington DC, 20515-0001
Phone: (202) 225-4811 Fax: (202) 225-8941
Email: <http://blumenauer.house.gov/about/contact.shtml>

Oregon Legislature

Sen. Brad Avakian (D), District: 017

900 Court St NE, Suite H-472, Salem, OR, 97301-4060
Phone: (503) 986-1434 Fax: (503) 986-1561
Email: rep.bradavakian@state.or.us

Rep. Mitch Greenlick (D) District: 033

900 Court Street NE, Suite H-493, Salem, OR, 97301-4059
Phone: (503) 986-1433 Fax: (503) 986-1130
Email: rep.mitchgreenlick@state.or.us



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School, Agency, & Nonprofit News

Skyline School

Community Bulletin Board

Coming Spring 2008 is a way to share community info: who offers babysitting, who teaches piano, who has a bike to sell. Come see what your neighbors can do for you. Located in the school, next to the office. Don't forget to check in with Susan Hall, Skyline's secretary, when you enter the building.

Divide and Conquer Plant Exchange

Dig up your iris, your Japanese anemones and whatever else you have too much of, and share them with someone who will be delighted with your bounty. Take home new plants to love. Time and date TBA.

Auction, Saturday March 8, 5:30 to 9:30 p.m.

We would love to see folks from our community come out and have fun while showing your support for our local school. Proceeds go to Skyline PTA and Foundation; funds raised at the annual auction allow us to have a program that doesn't exist in many other Portland public schools today. We are able to offer P.E., Art, Music, Library, Computer Lab, and Spanish to all the children at Skyline. The Foundation's funds provide two additional full-time teachers--meaning Skyline has an average of 22 children per class, rather than the 30-35 at other district schools. We feel so proud to be able to provide kids in our community the quality education they deserve. Hope to see you there. Childcare is available. Please contact Susan Hall (Skyline Secretary) to sign up for childcare.

Lead Paint at Skyline

Some door and window frames contain unacceptable levels of lead, according to a recent survey of the school. While an entire repainting of the school's trim is unlikely any time soon due to budget issues, the school will concentrate on abatement of areas where kids have regular contact: doorways (where the lead paint gets tracked in on feet, ground up and inhaled) and the area near the covered play area. If you have interest in helping financially or with abatement measures, contact Ben Keefer, the principal.

Sprucing up the School

Skyline has a team of energetic parents who are working on short term plans (eradicating the ivy on the bank in front of the school and planting natives, for example) and long term goals such as turning the now-unused bus barn into a community resource. Watch for more news.

Pigs Eat School Meals Too

Each day, Skyline kids do what kids do: throw out part of their lunches. Happily, it's not going into the landfill anymore. Weekly, 150 pounds of food waste from school is gobbled up by local pigs and chickens. It's one small element in the Skyline Green Team's efforts to make kids more aware of reducing our carbon footprint on the earth.

Reader Board is Here!

A 54 x 96 inch sign has been erected outside the school to inform the community of school events. The ultimate hope is to encase the sign's base in red brick to match the school. If you are a community-minded mason, contact Ben Keefer, the school's principal, at (503) 916-5212.

MIKE Program Spring Fundraiser and Community Gathering

MIKE Program announces its second annual "A Community Gathering to Build Community Assets in Recognition of National Kidney Month" featuring "Empowering Women: Eating Well Today Protects the Health of Future Generations" by keynote speaker Dr. Susan P. Bagby, OHSU Division of Nephrology and Hypertension.

Babies born small are at higher risk of developing high blood pressure, kidney disease, diabetes, and obesity. Lower birth weight often indicates poor fetal growth in the womb. How well babies grow in the womb is affected not only by their mother's diet, but also by how well the mother eats as a young girl and by the nutritional state of her body when she conceives and when the embryo implants in the uterine wall. Dr. Bagby will use the kidney as an example of a fetal organ especially affected by the mother's nutrition and show how it's response to poor nutrition can lead to greater risk of kidney disease and high blood pressure later in the life of the child. Girls and young women are in a powerful position to affect the wellbeing of future generations by making healthy food and lifestyle choices now.

The event is Wednesday, March 5, 2008 at Portland State University's Native American Student and Community Center. The evening begins at 5:30 p.m. with a Benefit VIP Reception. This catered fundraiser will honor our youth participants, OHSU medical student volunteers, and our Board of Directors. The presentation begins at 7:00 p.m. For information, contact Dr. Cheryl Neal at www.mikeprogram.org or (503) 296-7705.

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School, Agency, & Nonprofit News

West Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District

Garlic Mustard Help is Here!

Kate McQuillan, Invasive Species Control Coordinator for WMSWCD, is requesting help from community members to locate patches of Garlic Mustard. If you know where Garlic Mustard is growing, or need help identifying or treating it, contact Kate at (503) 863-6472 or kate@westmultconserv.org.



Free Native Trees and Shrubs

The WMSWCD has a conservation gift for you, your rural streamside land, and the watershed. If your site is right, WMSWCD and its partner agencies will give you free native trees and shrubs, complete with free planting, site preparation and maintenance, in conjunction with a stream restoration plan. We are looking for at least two good projects for 2008-2009 to be part of the program, called ECREP.

Two landowners enrolled in fall 2006, and another in fall 2007. As of February 2008, we will have planted 25,000 native trees and shrubs on 14 acres along Upper Rock and Abbey creeks. Activities at the two sites have included removing invasive weeds, and planting more than 30 different native species. We even added a bit of wetland restoration and native grass seeding, and fencing to keep horses out of the mud and creek. Alternative livestock watering can also be funded, if needed.

So what are the requirements? For west Multnomah County residents, you need rural, streamside land on the west slope of the Tualatin hills that is in need of ecological improvement and is not forestland. (Another program, VEGBACC, is for forest owners). You need enough land to create a riparian buffer at least 35 feet wide along the stream (20 feet with the forestland program). The Conservation District will do an initial site visit to determine if your land qualifies and to discuss your objectives and details of the program.

In addition, you will be paid for each acre of riparian area you plant in trees (approximately \$175 per acre annually, for noncropland) and enroll in a 15-year conservation contract, and receive a signing bonus of \$100 per acre. You can even have costs of a conservation easement covered and may qualify for tax benefits! All this, plus the knowledge that your riparian restoration project contributes to improved water quality in your local stream, water temperature in the Tualatin River (which is often too high for salmon), and wildlife habitat. It will help you control erosion, comply with environmental laws, improve aesthetics and property value, and reduce time battling invasive weeds and maintaining your land.

Don't have a stream, but want help with resource management on your land? We are particularly interested in working with horse and other livestock owners. Call, email, or check out our website for more information on how we can help you meet your land management objectives. We offer workshops, technical assistance and conservation planning for rural lands to address most natural resource concerns. Call the WMSWCD at (503) 238-4775 x 101 (Jim) or x108 (Kammy). Or email jim.robison@or.nacdnet.net or kammy.kern-korot@or.nacdnet.net or check out our website at www.westmultconserv.org.

Skyline Grange 11275 NW Skyline Boulevard

Outdoor Work Party: March 8

It is spring! The Grange asks you to help beautify its landscape. Join us on Saturday, March 8 from 9 a.m. to noon. The front bank and front entrance will be top priorities: pruning trees, digging up blackberries, and weeding. If you have a chain saw, weed trimmer, rake, or clippers, bring them. There will be physically easy work and some challenging tasks--something for everyone. Of course the Grange cannot have an event without food! At noon volunteers are invited to stay for lunch (hearty homemade casseroles). For questions or to volunteer contact Sen at 503-621-3331.

Spring Garage Sale: March 14 and 15

Whether you are looking for something functional or crazy, the Skyline Grange Garage Sale has it! This semi-annual event occurs on Friday-Saturday, March 14-15 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Furniture, household items for every part of the home, kids' items, garden items, and a large selection of books have been donated by many Skyline residents. Proceeds will go to the Grange building maintenance and improvement fund. To donate items or volunteer, contact Sen at (503) 621-3331 or sensperoff@hotmail.com. Start cleaning out your attic, barn and drawers. Items should be clean and working. Large exercise equipment, computers and televisions are not accepted.

Tree & Native Plant Sale: April 25 and 26

Get that shovel out! Friday and Saturday, April 25 and 26, Skyline Grange invites you to its annual Tree and Native Plant Sale at the Grange Hall from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The sale will include a variety of native plants for shady, sunny and wetland environments from Bosky-Dell Natives in West Linn, as well as a wide variety of healthy bare root ornamental trees and shrubs and fruit-bearing trees.

If you are interested in volunteering to help with the sale or in obtaining specific native plants, contact Sen at 503-621-3331 or sensperoff@hotmail.com. If you are interested in obtaining specific ornamental or fruit bearing trees or shrubs, contact Mary Young at (503) 286-7613 or marylourdesyoung@comcast.com.

Skyline Ridge Runner

Published by Skyline Ridge Neighbors, Inc.

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Send comments, articles and opinions to the editor: 14355 NW Mc-Namee Road, Portland, 97231 or ridgerunner@skylineridgeneighbors.org or fax to (503) 621-3450.

School, Agency, & Nonprofit News

Forest Park Conservancy

Day of Stewardship,

Saturday, March 15, 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

The Forest Park Conservancy (formerly Friends of Forest Park) is launching a new Portland tradition: Forest Park Day of Stewardship. This semi-annual event will celebrate Forest Park by gathering friends, community members and business partners to engage in a day of volunteer stewardship. There will be three work sites, with one being along NW Germantown Road. Efforts will focus on removal of invasive species and planting of native trees and shrubs. To RSVP, or for more information, send an e-mail to stewardship@forestparkconservancy.org or call us at 503-223-5449.

Name Change

The new Forest Park Conservancy is not an organization separate from Friends of Forest Park, but a change in name to reflect a growing focus: the Forest Park Conservancy will be a medium for growing support and membership. The mission of Friends of Forest Park, even as its name changes, remains the same: dedication to the protection and enhancement of Forest Park as an irreplaceable natural resource

benefiting Portland-area residents and visitors. For more information or to make an electronic contribution, visit www.friendsofforestpark.org or watch for the new www.foreestparkconservancy.org.

Other News

- A Mountain Bike Trail Committee has been formed and is exploring the possibility of a single-track mountain bike trail.
- Offices have moved to 1505 A NW 23rd Avenue.



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— Colossians 1:28

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Land Use & Public Services News

Wildlife Habitat Conserved!

Two landowners in or near the Skyline Ridge neighborhood recently took the giant step of placing a conservation easement on their land. A conservation easement is an agreement between a landowner and a holder, which gets recorded with the deed and stipulates what can and cannot be done on a property. In general, the landowner continues to enjoy their property as they have always done, but future development and/or logging is prohibited.

Sen and Leon Speroff own a diverse and healthy forest, meadow and creek that drains to Rock Creek in the Skyline neighborhood. Their dream was to see their beautiful land preserved forever and so they decided to place a conservation easement over as much of it as they could. Theirs was a particularly complex project because of the presence of an old subdivision plat that covered much of their property. After surmounting a number of hurdles, including getting the County to approve 14 acres of road vacation, December 2007 saw the fruition of a multi-year effort to conserve over 80 acres of wildlife habitat.

Maryellen Hockensmith also donated a conservation easement over a portion of her property that includes a mature second growth forest and a tributary to Abbey Creek off Old Germantown Road. Preserving this natural habitat will ensure a home for the many species of wildlife that use this area as well as maintain the water quality of the creek.

Three Rivers Land Conservancy holds these easements and is responsible for monitoring and enforcing the terms of the easements in partnership with the landowners. For more information about conservation easements and working with a land trust, please check out www.trlc.org; or call Virginia Bowers at Three Rivers Land Conservancy: 503 699-9825. For a landowner's perspective, contact Sen Speroff at (503) 621-3331.

By Virginia Bowers, Conservation Director, Three Rivers Land Conservancy

Urban and Rural Reserves

Chuck Beasley, senior planner for Multnomah County Land Use Planning Department, contacted SRN recently seeking a resident to represent the neighborhood on a Multnomah County committee that will consider Urban and Rural Reserves. George Sowder, who covers land use issues for Skyline Ridge Neighbors, has agreed to represent the neighborhood on this committee. The Urban and Rural Reserves effort is intended to decide where the urban area will and will not grow over the next 40 to 50 years. As such, work of the group will have long-term implications for how we manage farm and forest land, natural features and the urban form. Any decisions made will be based on a collaborative process involving Multnomah, Clackamas and Washington counties and Metro. This is a continuation of a project called Shape of the Region. Additional information including a farm land study, a natural features report, and a summary of what is needed to create great communities is at <http://www.metro-region.org/index.cfm/go/by.web/id=231>. If you are interested in learning more or participating in this land use overview group, contact George Sowder, at landuse@skylineridgeneighbors.org or (503) 621-3552.

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Forest Park, Wildfires, and Homes

Goals for the Park and How You Can Reduce Your Own Risk

Forest Park (and the forest land it borders) burns, it is estimated, in cycles ranging from 75 years to 400 years, according to Fred Nilsen of Portland Parks and Recreation. Fires, when they do come, are catastrophic, “stand replacing” fires such as the Tillamook Burn (three separate fires). As Portland Parks’ North Side Natural Resources Manager, Nilsen has worked in Forest Park for 29 years. In November 2007, he spoke to Skyline Ridge Neighbors about the City’s plans to help reduce the risk of wildfires in and adjacent to Forest Park.

A few years ago, FEMA told the City to plan for hazards: wind, fire, floods, earthquakes, etc. Portland Parks, the Bureau of Environmental Services, the Fire Bureau and Portland’s Office of Emergency Management applied jointly for a \$900,000 grant to reduce fire risk in three areas: Powell Butte, the East Bluffs (Waud’s Bluff near the University of Portland and the bluffs above Oaks Bottom) and Forest Park. So far, they have done a prescribed burn for grasses on Powell Butte and Oaks Bottom.

In Forest Park, the project is called the Forest Park Wildfire Risk Reduction Project. George Sowder, SRN’s Land Use Chair, is on the project’s Citizens Advisory Committee. The goals of the project are three, presented in order of priority:

1. Reduce wildfire risk to homes and businesses.
2. Remove flammable, non-native vegetation such as blackberry and Scot’s broom.
3. Improve wildlife habitat.

Summer and fall of 2008 are when projects will be implemented. As of late February, specific project details were not available.

History of Fires in Forest Park

Fires came to what is now Forest Park in 1889. A fire fed by east winds started near the bottom of Balch Creek Canyon (adjacent to today’s Willamette Heights neighborhood). It raced uphill, topped the ridge at Cornell and Barnes and ran downhill into Cedar Mill. A very big fire.

In August 1940, 1000 acres burned south of Saltzman and east of Skyline. The winds were out of the northwest. In August 1951, after a dry spring and summer came another fire, this one 2000 acres. It burned between Leif Erikson Drive and the crest of the ridge, running down into what is now Forest Heights.

Nilsen said that most of Forest Park’s slopes are steeper than 40 degrees, a slope very conducive to spreading wildfires; other fire friendly features of the topography are chutes, saddles and chimneys. The south facing slopes, being drier, are at increased risk.

Another risk in a woodland fire here is the proximity of Highway 30 with its petroleum storage, rail lines and industry. Both BPA and PGE have two sets each of power lines. Under the power lines is flammable vegetation that Nilsen termed “fine [small] fuels that easily catch and burn.” Other challenges are fires started by transients camping in the woods, housing jutting into the park boundaries, low water pressure to fight fires, and more and older conifers as natural succession takes place, succeeding the less fire prone maple.

One good firebreak is Leif Erikson Drive, because it traverses the slope. Firelanes, which provide access, are not fire breaks, as they generally run from the bottom of the slope to the top along ridges. Vertical roads do not act as firebreaks. Nilsen noted that the present

fuel buildup in the park itself is low; that 70% of the park is hardwood and mixed stands, which are not too flammable and that fir stands are flammable only when the fire is of sufficient size to reach the canopy.

When a House Burns

Nilsen said are three ways buildings in and adjacent to wooded areas burn in wildfires, with percentages of occurrence:

1. 60% burn when dry vegetation is in close proximity to a building.
2. 30% catch fire via radiant heat from an intense crown fire.
3. 10% ignite due to windborne embers landing on a roof.

Therefore, the ways to reduce risk in Forest Park (keeping in mind the primary goal is to save homes and businesses) is to reduce risk at and near homes, not to reduce fire hazard deep within the park. This is where homeowners can mitigate their own risk. Landscaping is key. Nilsen used the term “a parklike landscape” to describe the best scenario around a home or outbuildings: limbed up conifers with native understory or groundcovers. He recommends irrigating areas adjacent to the home; and building, when possible, of fire-resistant material.

The Planning Bureau is trying to work with Portland Parks to make it easier for homeowners in environmental overlay zones to cut trees that are too close to the home. Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue will come to your property and assess it for fire vulnerability, and provide a checklist on how to make it more defensible.

With fire management, Portland Parks’ desired 50-year outcome for Forest Park is:

1. A maturing forest
2. Oak woodlands restored in dry areas along east slopes. Native Oregon White Oaks (*quercus garryana*) grow in the park in small patches along Highway 30; they grow up to the 200 feet elevation mark on north-facing slopes and up to the 300 foot mark on dryer, south facing slopes. Nilsen notes that the oaks are losing ground. Because they leaf out late, Douglas fir are sprouting around them.
3. Power line corridors managed for native plants
4. Conifer forest in coolest areas (north aspects and ravines)
5. Maple-fir forests in intermediate areas
6. Strategic fire breaks

By Laura Foster

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Dangers of Skyline Area Roads

Following the recent death on Cornelius Pass Road of Taija Lyn Belwood, a 17-year-old Columbia County resident, her family is advocating that the County install more guard rails. (See taija-belwood.com for the latest news.) The road has tight, double hairpin turns. Multnomah County Sheriff's Deputy Paul McRedmond told KATU News, "It's too narrow, too windy, poorly lit, poorly signed."

High traffic loads exacerbate the road's challenges to drivers. With hazardous tankers forbidden to use the Vista Ridge Tunnels on Highway 26, they substitute Cornelius Pass Road to gain access to city or valley destinations; according to local resident Jay Kravitz, few additional safety provisions were made to upgrade the road to accommodate such traffic. Kravitz notes that after a collision fatality at the Skyline and Cornelius Pass Road intersection some years ago, this interchange was redesigned. That was the last noticeable major safety improvement. Reflectors on Cornelius Pass Road were eventually installed but are not serviced, cleansed or replaced.

Also problematic is that Cornelius Pass Road as well as Germantown Road have become commuter roads, with drivers intent on getting from point A to point B as quickly as possible, sometimes seemingly oblivious that their commuter road is another person's local street. According to recent news reports, 11,000 vehicles use Cornelius Pass Road each day, an increase of 100 percent in the last seven years.

Cornelius Pass and Germantown are just two of our local roads that have safety issues. Kravitz, a ridge resident since 1979, notes that he has dealt with motor vehicle accidents at his driveway on Skyline Boulevard on a regular basis, about one to two each month. In a November 2007 email to a representative of the Multnomah County Sheriff's office, Kravitz wrote,

"There was another motor vehicle 'event' on Skyline last night at my driveway, where a major unanticipated curve has been the scene of many incidents over the years. I call them 'events' rather than accidents because most are caused by excessive speed. In the past 2 months there have been 4: two cars and two motorcycles. In the past year easily 15-20 events have occurred. I call this 'dead-man's curve,' well-known to local residents. For more than 20 years I have repeatedly asked the county sheriff's office, the Roads Department, and several county commissioners to intervene in some fashion. Chevrons and white reflectors were placed at that time. The chevrons are routinely knocked down (estimated 4 times per year) and white reflectors have not been replaced, when damaged. Regardless

of what the 'basic rule' may be, the stretch of road from my driveway to the Speroffs's is the site of many events. Additional speed signs warning of 'dangerous curve' or 'hidden drive' or a speed limitation seem prudent and necessary! The accident last night was a roll-over. Eventually, someone is going to die in this curve. I don't believe that a response to improve traffic safety on Skyline should occur after that fatality happens. I would be pleased to show interested parties the problem."

Kravitz notes that no response was received. His neighbor, Laurel Erhardt, a thirty-plus-year resident of the ridge, writes in an email on the subject, "We can relate many, many stories of helping out, lending a phone, pulling someone out of a ditch 99% of those we have helped were either driving too fast or drinking too much."

Mitch Satter, Multnomah County Deputy Sheriff, said that with regards to Skyline, between Cornelius Pass and Rocky Point Road, it is a 55 mph zone (with one exception: a 0.75 mile long 35 mph zone just north of Cornelius Pass) with the Basic Rule in place. The Oregon.gov website explains: "the Basic Rule states that a motorist must drive at a speed that is reasonable and prudent at all times by considering other traffic, road, and weather conditions, dangers at intersections and any other conditions that affect safety and speed. The Basic Rule does not allow motorists to drive faster than the posted speed, nor does it set absolute speeds designated for all conditions. The Rule expects drivers to be responsible for their own actions." (Editor's note: It is surprising to some of us that Skyline is considered a 55 mph zone; although this rate is not posted, it seems to be an excessive speed to negotiate the road's curves.)

In exact counterpoint to the Basic Rule is the practice of "drifting," a type of reckless driving. According to one website, "For the uninitiated, drifting consists of turning at speeds in excess of the vehicle's ability to adhere to the roadway. For the layman, it can be defined as 'Driving sideways without hitting things.' This results in an intentional spin, which is to be controlled, countered, reversed, and repeated for best results. Several issues arise from this habit. Obviously, when reckless driving becomes your standard mechanism for transit, driving bears some resemblance to a video game. Other drivers and pedestrians become merely obstacles to avoid."

According to Laurel Erhardt, some websites direct drivers to the best places to drift in Oregon. Those places include Skyline Boulevard, Rocky Point Road, and McNamee Road.

By Laura Foster, compiled from emails from area residents and local officials

People of Skyline

Local Artists Take The Chill Out Of Winter

Dorothy Moran

While ridge residents huddle inside homes that are cloaked in fog or hammered by howling wind and driving rain, Dorothy Moran's hobby fills her home with warmth as she spends the chilly winter days in her home studio creating glass art. Each work begins simply enough. After carefully cutting glass and piecing it together, Dorothy puts her creation in a kiln that roars to life with a blazing hot temperature of more than 1400 degrees! After several visits to the kiln to achieve the perfect shape, Dorothy's one-of-a-kind creations are born: colorful plates, bowls, and candle holders. She also makes jewelry: stunning pendants and earrings. Dorothy calls her work "functional art."

Dorothy enjoyed arts and crafts as a child, but her career

path steered her in a more technical direction and she became an operations manager at Intel. After retiring, she discovered the joys of glass art. It started with glass-blowing classes and before long, Dorothy had a kiln and entire studio tucked away in the trees along Skyline Boulevard. She has been creating fused glass art pieces for nearly six years. For the past two years, her focus has been custom commissions for people's homes. She specializes in groupings, multiple pieces of the same color and style.

See Dorothy's work at the Hillsboro ARTwalk, starting the first week of March. She'll also be at Newburg's First Friday on March 7. If you'd like to visit her studio, call or email Dorothy at (503) 621-3704 or tannahillmoran@aol.com

Local Artists Continued . . .

Jane Aukshunas

With the steady stroke of her paint brush, Jane Aukshunas, a member of the local Full Moon Circle, can fill a room with warmth and sunshine, even in the dead of winter. Jane transforms blank pieces of canvas into stunning scenes from the countryside, ranging from the Willamette Valley, the Northwest Coast, or the picture-perfect hillsides of Italy's Tuscany region.

Jane's oil pastels are drenched in rich colors. She says her inspiration first came from the Northwest's diverse terrain. The titles of her works say it all: "Into the Hills with Pear Tree," "Lavender and Sea," and "Vineyard with Autumn Light." Jane says a trip to Italy added depth to her work. "I discovered how the culture of Italy encourages one to pay attention to the small and dear pleasures of life. I attempt to incorporate those feelings into my imagery." A lifelong artist, Jane says she likes to make art that is soothing and regenerative, a peaceful break from our hectic world.

Jane paints her pastels in a studio at her home on SW Davis Road in Hillsboro. View her art at www.janeaukshumas.com. Jane can be reached at (503) 356-5858 or jane@janeaukshumas.com.

By Lisa Helderop

Surprise Sheep

Our goose laid an egg this morning which was strange because I was under the impression that he was a boy. This wasn't the first time I made mistakes with livestock and gender identification.

Nine months ago my husband and I packed up the children and drove to Battleground with an empty dog crate. I found a boy sheep on craigslist. We had girl sheep. I excitedly explained to my husband that boy sheep plus girl sheep equaled baby sheep. He told me he was familiar with the math and pointed out that we didn't need any more sheep. We arrived in Battleground and picked out a lovely Long Border Cheviot ram and lead him to the car with a bag of Wonder Bread. My husband stuffed him in the dog crate and remarked that

he didn't seem very big or very old. The nice lady in Battleground assured us that he would "cover" our ewes despite his age and size. I thanked her and made a mental note to Google that term when I got home.

Our boy sheep was very handsome, everyone said so. He had long beautiful eyelashes and big amber eyes. Cheviots have a collar of wool around their necks giving them a regal appearance. While boy sheep was both regal and handsome, he was also uninterested in girl sheep.

I gave boy sheep some time to settle in before observing his behavior. He was a nervous animal. I didn't really blame him; our dog tracked his every move. How he would ever "cover" anything under these circumstances I did not know. One day I saw boy sheep sniffing the behind of a girl sheep, I thought this encouraging until I realized my son had dumped oats over the fence and some had lodged in the wool of the girl sheep. Boy sheep was simply foraging for food.

Months went by and boy sheep still seemed uninterested in the ewes. My neighbor suggested that the ewes skipped their heat cycle due to a selenium deficiency in the soil. Not to blame everything on the females, he also suggested that I flip boy sheep on his back and carefully examine both of his testicles. I decided to Google my problem instead. It turns out that eight percent of sheep are gay. They are simply oriented to the wrong gender. I disappointedly told my husband that we bought the only gay sheep in three counties. He pointed out that it was statistically improbable our sheep was gay, his issues were more likely due to performance anxiety. Between the constant observation and the family hound, boy sheep was a wreck. No one could perform under those circumstances.

Several months went by and boy sheep remained regal, handsome and aloof. I posted him on craigslist. A man from Vancouver arrived one afternoon and took boy sheep away. He told me he was going to use him to "cover" his ewes. I wished him luck and said goodbye.

Yesterday a baby appeared in our pasture. I excitedly told the kids that the pregnant goat I got for Christmas had her baby. The kids asked pertinent questions like "Why is the sheep licking the goat's baby?" and "Why does the goat's baby look like a sheep?" The answer was a simple one. Boy sheep liked the ladies after all.

By Kim Johnson

Classifieds

Wedding Planner: Don't spend hours trying to find the right vendor. Relax and allow a professional to handle the details. Contact Zitan Weddings, (503) 702-7110 or www.zitanweddings.com. Member, Association of Bridal Consultants.

2 Bedroom Cottage For Rent: West Hills cottage with yard. Tile Floors and counters, carpeted bedrooms, small workshop. A unique living space which is under renovation. Two people maximum. Go to www.ssfarm.com or call 503 799-7082 for more information.

Nanny/Housekeeper: Skyline area mother with excellent local references. Experienced caregiver for infants through elderly. CPR/First Aid Certified. Non-smoking. New Car/ clean record. Energetic and friendly. Will clean and prepare healthy meals. Call Cody for more information at (503) 621-6947.

Senior pictures or family portraits: on location by local photographers Shelley Ireton and Dina Lang. Visit www.portlandcandidcameras.com or call (503) 629-8542.

Be an active citizen: Hear what your State Representative is working on? Get the "Mitch Message," email updates from Representative Mitch Greenlick. E-mail mitchgreenlick@msn.com to get on his list.

Free Aged Compost: We will load your truck or trailer. Only a small amount of aged material left. Call Karin soon at (503) 621-6932.

Weed wrenches: Eliminate Scot's broom, holly, and other woody shrubs and sapling trees easily with a weed wrench. Borrow one free from Skyline Ridge Neighbors. Contact Sen at (503) 621-3331.

Rent the Skyline Grange: Planning an event? The Grange may be the perfect spot. Contact Pat Barnard at (503) 286-2857 or pbarnard2Aold.com. See www.skkylinegrange.org for info.

Brooks Hill Historic Church: Open for weddings, music events. Beautifully remodeled. Ask about rental discounts for Skyline neighbors. 11539 NW Skyline Boulevard. Call Cindy at (503) 629-9700 or visit www.brookshill.com.

Yoga at Wing Rock Sanctuary, Newberry Road: Formerly at the Skyline Grange. Now in an intimate space warmed by wood and candlelight. Monday 6:15-7:30 p.m. Beginning flow / Tuesday 6:15-7:30 p.m. Intermediate flow / Wednesday 6:15-7:30 p.m. Beginning flow. \$10 drop-in, \$108 for 12 classes. Held at Wing Rock Sanctuary on Newberry Road. Call (503) 679.7979 or email jay@wingrockjourneys.com or visit www.wingrockjourneys.com.

Letters of Opinion

Who Do You Blame?

Recently we had a tragic fatality on Cornelius Pass Road. Additionally, a long time resident is missing, which could be road related as well. Several neighbors have complained to SRN about roads in Multnomah County, speeding being one of their main concerns.

I would like to address our road conditions in Multnomah County. I have property in Columbia County and drive frequently in Washington County and I feel the road conditions in Multnomah County are far safer and better maintained than neighboring counties. The road I travel in Columbia County looks like it belongs in Baja, Mexico after the monsoons, with potholes as large as 6 inches deep and 2 feet wide.

For those that had snow every other day this winter, I would hope that you were impressed with how promptly Multnomah County plowed and sanded our roads.

I understand that city flatlanders love to bring motorcycles and sport cars up here to race around our windy roads. Bicyclists and Sunday drivers enjoy our beautiful landscape. All of these can impact our road conditions.

The main problem we face stems from our neighbors and ourselves. How often are you guilty of speeding on our rural roads; inadvertently driving over the center line while navigating corners, ignoring icy or snowy roads, not slowing down by Skyline School? I know I have been guilty of hurrying to a meeting or spacing out while I sipped my coffee. It is not the road department's fault for our disrespect of the neighborhood. If all of us would just slow down and pay attention, neighbors would not be so angry at local road conditions. Next time you see a car speed by your house, think about whether you are guilty as well.

Many of you didn't live here 10 or 15 years ago when Cornelius Pass Road was an object of much discussion in our neighborhood. Clark and Washington County wanted a Westside By-pass freeway with Cornelius Pass Road being one of the main conceptual ideas as to where to place it. Many neighbors did not want Cornelius Pass to become a freeway and campaigned hard against the idea. I think Metro's long term transportation plan still contains the idea of a freeway on the Westside. It was during this time that Multnomah County recognized our area with Goal 5 Wildlife overlay in the zoning code.

This idea was pushed further when people started talking about wildlife having to cross a freeway to get to Forest Park.

When the county redid the intersection at Cornelius Pass and Skyline, it was due to the large number of accidents occurring at that intersection. When they straightened the road people just drove faster. I would be curious to know if fewer accidents have occurred.
By Karin Hunt

Traveling The Pass

You
tailing me
honking, hi-beams merging
with the whites of your eyes
blinding in my rear view mirror,
the crash of your unheard curses
fueling your speeding fury to somewhere
no one there
wants you to be.

and I
driven to signal my warning
shift instead,
slowing,
to write this down.

Catherine Dalziel

Local History

Home Histories Revealed

Margaret Pauly Tate, a lifelong resident of McNamee Road, shared some articles she wrote in 1985 as a result of a study on "Old Houses Built Before 1900 and Still Standing" within five miles of her house. They help to give a perspective on how our area has changed in the last 90 years.



The 1891 Pauly house is located on Pauly Rd. and was built by a ship carpenter, Pete Lars (Larfe)

Pauly House -1891

One of the original homes in this area is the Pauly House located on Pauly Road just off of McNamee Road, built for the Paulys in 1891. For the first seven years a log cabin was home to the couple and their two boys. In 1891 a carpenter named Pete Lars (Larfe) was hired to construct the permanent home. A ship's carpenter, he did his job well. The original house contained three bedrooms, a living room and a kitchen. Some time later, a larger kitchen, a bathroom, a laundry room and several porches were added to the main house. Still later a basement was added and a well dug in 1981. Initially, water had been carried from a spring to the original cabin. After the house was built, they piped water from the spring on Reid's place above the farm to the building.

The land itself was hilly and covered with first-growth fir, cedar and deciduous trees. As cleared land was needed for fields and pastures the trees were cut down. Some of the logs were skidded to Kaiel's Mill in the McCarty Creek area on skid-roads by teams of horses. Here timber was sawed into lumber and then used to build the house. Nearly all the forty acres were finally cleared and used for growing crops, a pasture and a large orchard. (Only about twenty of the several hundred fruit trees are still standing) There were also areas for many kinds of berries, grapes, and early and late gardens. The Paulys worked to make the farm self-supporting. The family lived there for 80 years. The house, which has been restored, is now the Lilla lavender farm.

Fred & Rhoda (McNamee) Pearson House -1899

The Pearson house, located on McNamee Road (no longer standing) was built on a part of section 29 (an area platted in 1840) owned by Moses McNamee, Rhoda Pearson's father. Moses' name was given to the road because he was the first property owner in the area. Moses, who died in 1905, had owned a logging operation on the road.

Moses McNamee's parents came to Oregon in 1845. They lived



The 1889 Pearson house belonged to Moses McNamee who was the first land owner on McNamee Rd.

in Columbia County around Scappoose and moved to higher ground for health reasons in 1885. McNamee Road was an Indian trail at that time.

Fred Pearson, Moses McNamee's son-in-law, bought about 100 acres from a Mr. Folkenburgh (whose property was on Cornelius Pass Road) when he came to the area from Sweden in the 1890's. He and his brother, Jack, a contractor in Portland, built the "Pearson House" in 1899 on property facing McNamee Rd. Fred and Rhoda were married in the same year. When Moses died, Rhoda inherited an additional twenty acres of land from Section 29 from her father.

Interviewees: Elizabeth Pearson Upton

Charles Reimer House (Lemacher House) -1886

This house on Old Cornelius Pass Road was built by Charlie Reimer as a place in which to retire from the sea. He built it using large timbers and square nails. The exact date of building is unknown. However while it was being remodeled, German newspapers were found in the walls dating to 1886.

In January 1924 the house and twenty acres of land were bought by the Lemacher family. Since then, the house has been known as the Lemacher house. This Swiss family made aged Swiss cheese. The number of acres Reimer owned is unknown. Like all the rest of the land in the area, it was sloping, wooded and covered with forest. When the Lemachers bought the land all the old growth had been cleared but the land was still wooded with second growth.

The United Electric Railway had a small station nearby called Rockton Station for transportation to Portland.

Interviewees: Administrator-Director Washington County Museum-Dick Mathews

Secretary -June Huserik Owner: Carol Allen Bob Benson, Emma Brooks, Laura Ackley, Keith Kreps, Mrs. L (Lemacher) Noonan



The Folkenburgh house is was built by Mr. Folkenburgh when he came to area from Sweden in the 1890's

Krueger Farm House -1898

Ferdinand and Caroline Krueger's home was located on Old Cornelius Pass Road about one quarter mile from Skyline Boulevard.



The 1886 Charles Reimer house was built with large timbers and square nails.

It is now the Kessinger's Plumper Pumpkin farm. Originally this property was set aside by the State of Oregon as "school land". When it was not needed for this purpose the state sold it to James Murray, a single man. The price was \$100 in 1871. It came into the hands of Louisa Krueger on March 28, 1883 when her father bought it for her for \$900. They had come from Germany and just had settled on a farm on Kaiser Road. But it was the father's wishes that each of his children -Louisa, Emil, Ferd and Carlie-should have land of their own. When Louisa married and moved to Spokane, the land was sold to Ferdinand for \$1.

At this time (1889) the property consisted of 80 acres, one acre of which had been cleared for an orchard. In the orchard was a small house in which Mr. Murray may have lived. The rest of the property was wooded like the area around it. The first building to be put up was the barn which still stands today. Ferd built it with the help of a sometime farmer and carpenter named Pete Larfe who lived in



The 1898 Krueger farm house is located at Kessinger's Plumper Pumpkin Farm

Bethany. But in order to have money to build a house, Ferd moved to Spokane where he worked two years as a blacksmith for the railroad company while Pete built the house.

By 1898 the house was ready: Ferd and his bride, Caroline, moved in on September 22. The house has two stories, was built with a large kitchen and good sized parlor and two bedrooms downstairs. Upstairs were three bedrooms. Although there was much timber on the property, the lumber came from elsewhere. While the barn is much the same as it was when it was built, the house has been remodeled several times.

The Krueger family occupied the house for one hundred and two years.

Interviewees: Mrs. Emma Brooks, Mrs. Jean Brooks Nixon

John Miller House -1912

The John Miller house is located at the bottom of Newberry Road. The main part of this house was built in 1912 although the first kitchen area may have been part of the original cabin built around the 1850s. Much of the house had been built of cedar coming from local mills. A method called balloon construction was originally used. [According

to Wikipedia, balloon framing "... utilizes long continuous framing members (studs) that run from sill to eave line with intermediate floor structures nailed to them. Once popular when long lumber was plentiful, balloon framing has been largely replaced by platform framing."]

One of the stories surrounding this property is that Dr. Miller worked for the army during the Indian Wars. For this service he was awarded a service grant of 640 acres in 1850 by the US government. The grant was signed by President U.S. Grant. While he was stationed at Coos Bay, he was working and making friends with the Indians. When the government gave him the grant, the Indians brought him to Astoria by river in war canoes to Sauvie Island where he chose this spot to build his home.

Part of the property was given by Dr. Miller to the United Electric Railway for their tracks which were laid just below the house. The train went from Banks to Portland and cost fifteen cents to ride. Near the house was a station that was called Miller's Station. The railroad workers called this train "The Gallopin" Goose.

Interviewees: A. and Pat Wagner, Willard Miller, Laura Ackley and Sally Lessing



The 1912 John Miller house is located at the bottom of Newberry Road.

About Skyline Ridge Neighbors, Inc.

Skyline Ridge Neighbors is a nonprofit organization serving rural northwestern Multnomah County through educational, environmental and social programs that inform residents on relevant issues and events. SRN endeavors to better our community, encourage volunteer efforts, and openly communicate with residents and outside organizations

How to Contact SRN Board Members:

President:	Karen Garber	(503) 289-7169	president@skylineridgeneighbors.org
Vice President:	Catherine Dalziel	(503) 621-0225	vicepresident@skylineridgeneighbors.org
Secretary:	Miles Merwin	(503) 621-9867	secretary@skylineridgeneighbors.org
Treasurer:	Laurel Erhardt	(503) 621-3501	treasurer@skylineridgeneighbors.org
Community Outreach:	Vacant		outreach@skylineridgeneighbors.org
Fundraising:	Cindy Banks	(503) 629-9700	fundraising@skylineridgeneighbors.org
Land Use:	George Sowder	(503) 621-3552	landuse@skylineridgeneighbors.org
Natural Resources:	Rich Edwards	(503) 621-3326	naturalresources@skylineridgeneighbors.org
Public Services:	Vacant		publicservices@skylineridgeneighbors.org

Skyline Weekly Rural Watch Newslines:

Submit information about local crimes, events, and news by calling 503 289-7169, or emailing skylineruralwatchnewsline@hotmail.com. Contact skylineruralwatchnewsline@hotmail.com to receive an Email version of the Newslines, or pick up a copy at Plainview Grocery.

SRN Website: <http://www.skylineridgeneighbors.org> Contact Webmaster at webmaster@skylineridgeneighbors.org

Calendar

March 8, Saturday, **Grange Outdoor Work Party**, Skyline Grange, See p.6.

March 8, Saturday, 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. **Skyline School Auction**, See p. 5.

March 14 and 15, Friday and Saturday, **Grange Garage Sale**, Skyline Grange. See p.6.

March 15, Saturday, 8 a.m. to noon. **Forest Park Day of Stewardship**. See p. 7.

March 18, 7 to 8:30 p.m., **SRN General Meeting, Global Warming**, Skyline Grange. See p. 1.

April 25 and 26, **Skyline Grange Tree and Plant Sale**, at the Grange. See p. 6.

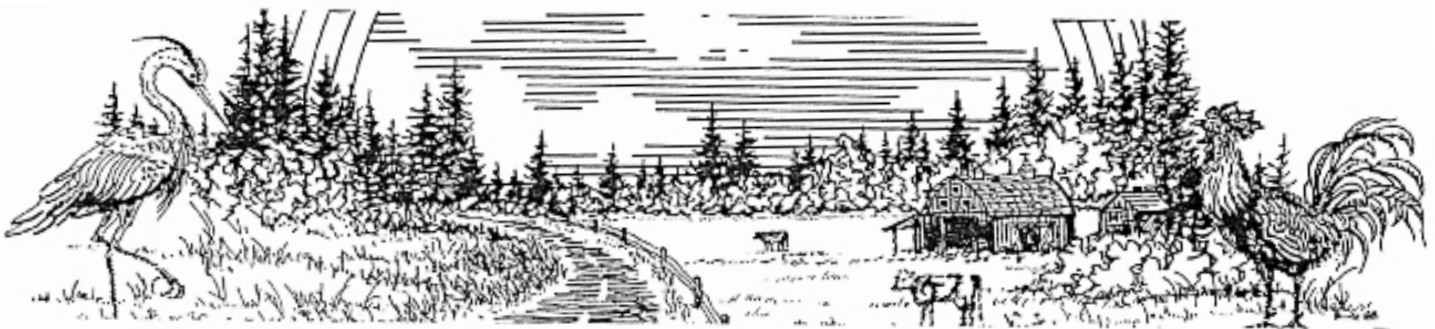
Monday evenings **TVF&R Skyline Volunteer Firefighters** meet at Station 368, 11646 NW Skyline Blvd. for regular drills, equipment maintenance, & business meetings. For information about volunteering, contact Captain Jeremy Davis at jeremy.davis@tvfr.com or call the Volunteer Information Line (503) 259-1207. For other information, contact the North Division offices at (503) 356-4700 Mon.-Fri., 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

2nd Thursday of the month, **Scappoose Rural Fire District**: Board of Directors monthly meeting at 7 p.m. at SRFD, 52751 Columbia River Hwy. All welcome.

Local resident still missing

On December 17, 2007, Logie Trail resident Sterling Blades left his home, visited a friend in Warren, and did not return. Mr. Blades is 77 years old and was driving a navy blue 1993 Dodge D-20 pickup truck with Oregon license plate TBF 558. The retired truck driver had complained to his wife Beula that morning of a headache and also when he was visiting his friend. Mrs. Blades told The Spotlight, a newspaper in Scappoose, "He wasn't in the greatest health either, and his memory wasn't that great. Sometimes he would get lost."

If you have information, please call the Multnomah County Sheriffs Office at (503) 261-2847.



Skyline Ridge Runner

Skyline Ridge Neighbors, Inc.
14355 N.W. McNamee Rd.
Portland, Oregon 97231

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