



Skyline Ridge Runner

January 2019

Skyline Ridge Neighbors

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A Nonprofit Neighborhood Association Serving Northwestern Multnomah County, Oregon

“Car-mageddon” is Coming. County Road Work Brings Disruptions

By George Sowder

For those of you who may not know (and I imagine many of you do know): major construction is imminently scheduled for Newberry Road to repair the slide/roadbed failure that has closed the road since last winter, and after its completion, Cornelius Pass Road is scheduled for safety improvements this summer and early fall.

The current schedule indicates that the Newberry Road project is supposed to be completed by the end of March, 2019. According to Mike Pullen with Multnomah Co., the design is complete, and the right of way (property) for construction has been acquired. The contractor has been selected, and site work will begin in January and be completed in spring, 2019.

Once Newberry Road is re-opened, safety improvements on Cornelius Pass Road will occur in two stages. The first stage will occur between Kaiser Road and the Skyline Blvd. intersection at Plainview Grocery. This first stage of the Cornelius Pass project will encompass shoulder-widening approaching Kaiser Road from the south, and will include better signage and sight-line improvements. I assume this is to make it easier and safer for vehicles traveling north to turn east onto Kaiser Road, and also to provide improved conditions (maybe) for Kaiser Road vehicles turning south or north onto Cornelius Pass Road. There may also be improvement to the left-hand curve at the end of the uphill going north on Cornelius Pass Road.

The contractor for Cornelius Pass Road will begin setting up construction signage in May. Exactly when Cornelius Pass Road will be closed in the Kaiser Road section is uncertain at this time. While these changes

are being completed, traffic will be diverted onto Old Cornelius Pass Road. Traffic going north on Cornelius Pass Road will be diverted to Old Cornelius Pass Road at the intersection with Germantown Road. Trucks will not be allowed on Old Cornelius Pass Road as it is very difficult, if not impossible, for them to negotiate the hairpin turn over the creek.



Work to repair the Newberry Rd. slide is due to begin this month and continue into spring (Photo: M. Merwin, 12-15-18)

After this phase of the Cornelius Pass Safety Improvements is completed, work on the northerly section of Cornelius Pass Road from Skyline to Hwy. 30 will commence. These changes are much more significant and will require more construction time (I believe). This segment north of Skyline is currently scheduled to begin in mid-May, 2019, and continue to the end of September.

The Skyline Blvd. to Hwy. 30 projects encompass reconstruction of the downhill (if you are traveling north) S-curve past Plainview Market such that it improves the camber linking the two curves. This hopefully will result in less tractor-trailer mishaps as they overturn. The S-curve curve that you encounter at the intersection of 8th avenue and Cornelius

Pass Road is to be reconstructed to be less severe. This will include the replacement of a culvert for a stream under the road which can only be accomplished at certain times of the year (mid-July through the end of September). Other improvements will also be constructed, such as vehicle pull-outs (presumably on the section of Cornelius Pass Road north of Skyline Blvd), improved barriers and guardrails, and shoulder-widening.

During construction of the northern section, Cornelius Pass Road will be closed at the intersection with Skyline

“Car-mageddon”, p. 6 ➤

Skyline Ridge Runner

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→ *Deadline for the next issue is March 15*

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.

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Subscribe to SRN's weekly email newsletter of local events and news via the link at www.srnpx.org. Contact the Editor, Laurel Erhardt, at newsline@srnpx.org or 503.621.3501 to submit items for publication

SRN Website

Visit www.srnpx.org for more news, photos and information about our community. If you have questions or comments, contact the Webmaster, Agnes Kwan, at webmaster@srnpx.org.

The views and opinions presented herein are those of the authors and are not necessarily endorsed by SRN or Skyline neighborhood residents.

Thanks for Your Donations!

Many thanks to the following neighbors and friends who recently made cash donations to SRN:

- ~ Karina Ganz & Tanya Smith
- ~ Sara Bowersox
- ~ Carol & Roger Wilkerson
- ~ Loretta Field & Floyd Nelson
- ~ Peter Torelli
- ~ Dustin Sauer
- ~ Bob Foote
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SRN relies on the financial support of the Skyline community to pursue its nonprofit, educational mission. We operate entirely on the volunteers efforts of neighbors like you. Donations are tax-deductible and always appreciated! Please make checks payable to SRN and send them to John Eskew, SRN Treasurer, 15604 NW Rock Creek Rd., Portland, OR 97231. You can also make a donation by credit card. Please visit the link <http://www.srnpx.org/donate.html> to securely and easily make a donation using PayPal. Thank you.

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I'm Just the Bass Player

By David Reisch, Skyline Blvd.

On October 13, 2018, The Freak Mountain Ramblers were inducted into the Oregon Music Hall of Fame. Quite an honor. That, and \$2.50, will get you on the Max train. We donated the trophy to the Laurelthirst Public House, in NE Portland, where we played every Sunday evening for 19 years. We called it “Church”.

The road to the Freaks was a long one, it seems. I'll try to keep it brief. I got my ticket out of New York City, where I grew up, by joining a band, The Holy Modal Rounders (Google that one) in the spring of '71. We hit the road. In the counter-culture community of far northern Vermont we ran into the Hog Farm commune. Wavy Gravy, et al. We became their “house band” and joined their caravan of buses. From Helsinki to Hollywood. In '72 we traveled up and down the east coast, to Europe for the U.N. Environmental Conference in Stockholm. We played June at the protester's camp at Skarpnack, then July in the outlaw community of Christianity in Copenhagen, then a month in Amsterdam.

Returning to the States, the band fired up the old '52 Greyhound bus and landed in Portland. The “real” old Portland. The Holy Modal Rounders, fronted by Steve Weber, and our co-band, The Clamtones, fronted by Jeffrey Frederick. Jeffrey had left Vermont, fleeing warrants. The kicker for him was being in a New Hampshire jail, stamping license plates that proclaimed “Live Free or Die.” Despite his outlaw ways, Jeffrey was an amazing musician who wrote beautiful, twisted, sad, and some funny songs.

We continued to travel from coast to coast, north to south, for 7 or 8 years. To the Comstock Lode in Nevada, the Cherokee “capitol” of Tahlequah in the Oklahoma Ozarks, etc. etc. But our home base was Portland, where we played places like the White Eagle and Euphoria (where we became friends with Mike and Brian McMenamain), in S.E., the Earth Tavern in N.W. and at Rock Creek Tavern. By the '80s the Clams were playing regularly at Rock Creek. Matt and Katy ran the tavern with Lynn Conover running the kitchen. There were legendary, weekend-long, parking lot parties. I'd park my bus in the lot for weeks at a time. Max Bullen was the morning bartender. The community on the Hill, with the cabins, trailers, horses, goats, wood spirits and aliens, seemed natural and became home.

The name Freak Mountain came from, I think, Bill Mahoney's brother, Tim, who came to visit from Alaska, around 1980, give or take a couple years. Bill ran the Mechanic's Garage just down from Plainview store. After a week up here Tim declared it a G'dam freak mountain. The boundaries were loosely defined from Plainview, up Skyline to Lampa Land (Near Dixie Mt.) and down Rock Creek Road, to Rock Creek Tavern. Skyline was a narrow 2 laned, unimproved, and not very well maintained road, let alone the side roads. The only traffic congestion was farm and/or logging machinery or folks stopped in the middle of the road, chatting. After an ice storm, the power could be out for a week or more. It wasn't a priority.



Local musicians of The Freak Mountain Ramblers: (L-R) Roger North, Jimmy Boyer, Lex Browning and David Reisch (Photo: Kathy Rankin)

Lynn Mae introduced me to Jimmy Boyer, shortly after his arrival to Portland around 1987. He fled Cleveland and landed on the Hill by way of Flagstaff AZ. He had a '62 International Travelall and so did I. He was fixing it up and asked my advice on how to fix the

power window in the tailgate. I told him you'll never find another motor, so just stick a piece of 2X4 under the window when you want it shut, pull it out when ya wanna open it. Good thing. Jimmy put \$600 bucks into that rig to get it all road worthy. About a week after it was legal, he drove it off Skyline. Coming up the Hill from Plainview, late at night, he failed to negotiate the turn and took out the Mile 13 marker. Rolled over the edge and down the Hill. Over and over. He wrote a song about it. I admired that. I still do. “The floor is the ceiling, the ceiling is the floor, the floor is the ceiling, the ceiling is the floor...”

We all became neighbors. He had a cabin we called “The Cosmic Playhouse.” There was always music, of all kinds, at all hours, playing there, a rotating cast of characters. Weber and Jeffrey would come hide out up here—for various reasons. They taught Jim a few things about the music biz and how to present himself; to dress up and not be ashamed to sing pretty. He learned a few guitar licks, but mostly what NOT to do. Don't show up loaded to a gig. If you do (it happens) never apologize over the mike, trust your bandmates and make it part of the show! Jimmy had his own voice— wrote amazing songs, had a stage presence that one cannot teach, or learn.

Bass Player, p. 5 ➤

Wildlife Cameras: A Snapshot of What You Need to Know

By Lauren Grand, OSU Forestry & Natural Resources Extension, Lane County

Wildlife cameras, often called trail or game cameras, are cameras that are strategically placed on your property to take pictures and video of wildlife while you aren't around. The cameras are typically triggered by heat and/or motion and store the pictures internally for you to view later. Originally, wildlife cameras were used in wildlife management research, but as camera technology improved they became affordable and available to the public.

There are many benefits to placing a wildlife camera on your property. Not only will it be fun and educational, but it also provides useful information to supplement the wildlife section of your property's management plan. With the help of these cameras, you can develop a cumulative list of the diversity of wildlife species found on your property. Wildlife cameras can also document animal activity of rarely seen wildlife, monitor animals without disturbing them, and scout the presence and movement of game animals. Additionally, these cameras can be an added security measure if you are concerned about the potential of illegal trespass on your property.

If you have a large property, you do not necessarily need to purchase a lot of cameras. For a species inventory, get a few cameras and systematically move them around a few times a year to capture multiple habitats. Alternatively, if you are able to identify areas of high priority or habitat value, such as a pond or bird's nest, it may be more efficient to monitor wildlife in these specified areas. It is always helpful to know where animals congregate on your property to help you make an informed decision as to where to put them.

Once you have the general location determined, placement of the cameras will depend on the animals you'd like to see. To maximize your viewing potential, put the cameras up higher and angle them slightly downwards. This will increase your visibility in thicker brush while increasing the chances of seeing both the large and small

animals. Using a mount may secure the camera better than a strap in this case. Interested in seeing some amphibians, snakes, or small carnivores? Consider putting some cameras closer to the ground. Try placing cameras slightly off the trail at a curve, so animals need to walk toward it.

You will have better success getting pictures of the animals looking directly at the camera. This is also a

benefit if your camera has a slow trigger speed. Clearing branches, large shrubs, and leaves when setting up the camera will minimize setting off the motion trigger excessively on a windy day. If you are using the camera to scout for game animals, minimize your scent by wearing gloves. Check and double check the camera's placement and test it before you leave. There is nothing more disappointing than returning to a camera that you forgot to turn on.

If you are worried about the camera being seen, protect it by getting a security box or label it with your name and phone number. Recording the serial number may help authorities if the camera gets stolen; though the risk of this should be low on private property.

With the growing popularity of wildlife cameras, there are lots of choices out there. You'll want to choose one that has the features you need, and not waste money on those that you don't need. A rundown of different camera features and their uses are in the full version of this article. Wildlife cameras can be a great addition to your property and useful tool for augmenting your management plans. If you keep your objectives in mind and choose wisely on the features, there is no reason you can't get a good quality camera that does what you need for around \$200. Now go out and set your cameras to show off the wildlife on your property, adding excitement for both you and your friends.

This is a condensed version of Lauren's article. For the full article, with many details about camera features, go to:

http://extension.oregonstate.edu/lane/sites/default/files/wildlife_trail_cameras.pdf.

Reprinted by permission from Tall Timber Topics, OSU Extension, Spring 2018, <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/sites/default/files/documents/8341/spring-2018-tall-timber-topics.pdf>. □



A wildlife camera is a great way to discover the diversity of animal life on your land (Photo: Alibaba.com)

WMSWCD Offers New Video on Benefits of Forest Thinning

By Renee Magyar, West Multnomah SWCD

West Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District just released a new video, *Forest Thinning Benefits & Tips*. See it on YouTube (<https://youtu.be/ndZTYCq0jHc>) or on the videos page on our website (<https://wmswcd.org/resource-types/videos/>).

In the video, Michael Ahr, Forest Conservationist with West Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District, shows viewers two different forest types in the Portland area, and points out why forest owners might want to cut some trees and how to do it correctly. He walks us through the benefits of forest thinning and provides tips on selecting trees to cut to improve the health and productivity of a forest.

Michael is available to help small forest owners come up with a plan to help manage their forest, whether for wildlife habitat or marketable logs, or both. If forest owners don't yet know what they want from their forest, Michael can also help identify goals that are best suited for their property.

Contact Michael with questions at Michael@wmswcd.org or 503.238.4775 x 109. □



Forest Conservationist Michael Ahr discusses the benefits of selective thinning in a new video from West Multnomah SWCD (Photo: WMSWCD)

► **Bass Player (continued from p. 3)**

I don't usually play guitar, but Jimmy and I ended up with a regular Thursday Happy Hour gig at The Laurelthirst in the early '90s. Just trading songs. Jimmy wrote a buncha tunes, I knew a lot of songs from all the bands I had played in. Bingo, (Kevin Richey) was tending bar at the time. He decided that he was on the wrong side of the bar, because we could drink and play and he couldn't. Soon he found a banjo and began playing with us. I switched back to bass. Eventually, Roger North, the drummer from the Rounders and Clams joined in and we became a band.

In 1999 we were recording our first record but we didn't have a name. Billy Kennedy, who lived on Beck Road, let us use Freak Mountain Ramblers, he was saving it for some future project, but gave it to us. The McMenamain Brothers took us on as a house band, playing their venues from Seattle to the Coast to Bend, etc., putting up with our indiscretions. We all played in various band arrangements: Golden Delicious; Jim Boyer Band; Lynn Conover Band; Bingo Band; the Freaks. We had a lot of fun, made a little money, made a lotta folks happy.

When Bingo moved to SoCal, we hired Turtle Vandemarr to play guitar. Lex Browning, the guitar and fiddle player from the Clams, showed up from Nashville and joined the Freaks. We were mostly a Portland band, but our heart was on the Hill where Jimmy and I lived. The Freak Mountain Ramblers came to an end when Jimmy died in January of 2016. He played his last gig at Skyline Tavern with Lynn.

Skyline Ridge Runner

Jim Boyer was inducted into Oregon Music Hall of Fame in 2017. He recorded six CD's with the Ramblers and two of his own; *Time Spent*: 2003, and *Trestle*: 2011. (Editor's note: Read a remembrance of Jimmy in the April 2016 Ridge Runner, <http://www.srnpx.org/remembers-jimmy-boyer.html>).

The Freak Mountain Ramblers produced 6 records:

Freak Mountain Ramblers: 1999; *Looks Perfectly Legal to Me*: 2001; *FMR III*: 2002; *Church*: 2003; *Calling All Freaks*: 2006; and *Flxible*: 2008.

YouTube has lots of Jimmy Boyer and Freak Mountain Rambler songs. Local record stores may have CDs, too. Here is a link to some FMR tunes: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bfu_mb8GYR4.

Things will never be the same. It was fun.

To be continued... □



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Tips to Carry You Safely into 2019

By Christina Lent, TVF&R

With the New Year and resolutions on everyone's mind, now is the time to think about some personal and home safety steps that can help carry you and your family safely into and through 2019, as well as save you time and money by avoiding winter-related damage to your home or business.

Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue firefighters always see an increase in outdoor-related injuries around the first of the year. Keep these things in mind to minimize your risk of personal injury:

- Increased slip and fall injuries are of particular concern this time of year.
- Be extra careful on icy surfaces around your home - use kitty litter or sand to increase traction.
- Make sure to dress appropriately for outdoor activity; dress in layers with hats, gloves, and waterproof boots.
- Be aware of the windchill factor, which can often lower the temperature by several degrees.
- Avoid traveling when the weather service has issued storm advisories.
- If you must travel, make sure someone knows where you are going, what time you expect to arrive, and the route you plan to take.
- Pack extra water, food, blankets, and clothing in case of an unexpected emergency or delay.

There are also steps you can take to improve the safety of your home this winter.

- Have your home heating system serviced professionally to make sure that it is clean, working properly, and ventilated to the outside.

- If you are heating with wood, inspect and clean fireplaces and chimneys.
- **Always** discard ashes in a metal container away from combustible materials.
- Check your smoke alarms to ensure they are working properly.
- Prevent carbon monoxide (CO) emergencies by installing a CO alarm in your home.

In addition to fires, TVF&R firefighters respond to other types of emergencies that can cause severe damage to homes and businesses. We recommend you take a few moments to familiarize yourself with the water shut off for your home/business if you haven't done so already.

For the past several winters, TVF&R firefighters responded to hundreds of calls for frozen water pipes that burst and began flowing water. Businesses and homeowners suffered thousands of dollars in damage because they didn't know how to stop the water from flowing.

During region-wide weather events, first responders must prioritize their response to life-safety incidents.

Knowing how to shut off your water and calling a professional can prevent significant damage to your home. Also, insulate exposed water pipes in the garage and cover outdoor water spigots.

Visit www.tvfr.com for more winter safety tips. □



► "Car-mageddon" (continued from p. 1)

Blvd. Vehicles heading east (if they are planning on going south on Hwy. 30) will be diverted to Newberry Road. There will be a temporary signal installed at the intersection of Hwy. 30 and Newberry Road for the duration of the project. Drivers intending to travel north on Hwy. 30 will be able to turn west onto Skyline Blvd. This traffic will, I presume, have a choice of using either Logie Trail or Rocky Point Road to reach Hwy. 30. Of course, you can take Newberry Road to Hwy. 30, and turn north as well.

Cornelius Pass Road will be closed to large trucks during construction. Details provided by the county indicate that trucks longer than 40 feet will not be permitted on the side road detours, such as Old Cornelius Pass Road or Newberry Road. Trucks longer than 40 feet are also banned on other side roads across the West Hills, such as Logie Trail Road. Long trucks will be detoured to Hwy. 26 via Hwy. 30 and I-405, or vice versa. Trucks with hazardous loads will detour to I-405 to I-5 to Hwy. 217 to

Hwy. 26.

In 2016 (most recent data available), Multnomah Co. estimated that on average, more than 13,000 vehicles per day crossed Cornelius Pass Road between Skyline and Sheltered Nook. Approximately 13% of those were trucks.

During both construction phases, local access will be assured at all times for residents and necessary services. However, make no mistake, it will be interesting!

ODOT and Multnomah Co. have posted more information about the Cornelius Pass Rd. project on the following websites:

- https://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/MCT/Mobility%20Document%20Retention/11-20-18/KN18147_Mobility_Presentation_112018.pdf
- <https://multco.us/roads/webform/cornelius-pass-road-safety-improvements>

There is also supposed to be a "pre-construction" public meeting in spring 2019. Pay attention! □



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Skyline Grange Plans a Full Calendar of Winter & Spring Events

By Sen Speroff

Skyline Grange is gearing up for its traditional winter / spring activities. Be sure to mark your calendars for these upcoming Grange events, and check the SRN calendar or Skyline Newslines to confirm the dates of future events.

Pancakes, Etc. Brunch, Feb. 24

The 8th annual Pancake, Etc. Brunch will take place on Sunday, February 24. Food will be served from 9:30-11:00 AM. The whole community is welcome! Pumpkin pancakes, blueberry pancakes, cranberry-buttermilk pancakes, French toast, biscuits & gravy, quiches, and breakfast breads will be made from scratch. Enjoy fresh fruits, fresh-brewed coffee, and hot chocolate. Suggested donation is \$7/adult or \$18/family. We cook; you enjoy.

Spring Garage Sale, March 8-9

Our 30th semi-annual garage sale will be held on Friday-Saturday, March 8-9, 2019. Start collecting items to donate. We sincerely request ALL donations be clean and in good working condition. We also ask that someone from the Grange be on hand when you drop off donations to make sure they are suitable. We do not accept car seats, cribs, helmets, most electronics, computers, VHS tapes, artificial flowers, or large exercise equipment. Donations will be accepted until Sunday, March 3 at 2 PM. Donations are greatly appreciated, but please be aware that they are not tax-deductible. The proceeds will go towards further building improvements and activities that support the Skyline community.

Spring Tree & Native Plant Sale, April 5-6

Skyline Grange will hold its 14th annual "Tree & Native Plant Sale" on a Friday-Saturday, April 5-6, 2019. It is not too early to start researching which plants and trees are best suited for your landscape. We will have a large variety of native wildflowers, shrubs and trees and a large variety of bareroot fruit-bearing trees, shade and ornamental trees, and shrubs. If you would like to receive a Native Plant Pre-Order Form when available, email the Grange at skylinegrange894@msn.com.

Skyline Living Series

Our Grange's Education Committee has planned a full line-up for our Skyline Living Series in 2019. We believe you will find these topics useful, engaging, and relevant to our urban/rural interface lifestyle. The format of these free presentations is intended to be interactive and taught

by a range of knowledgeable authorities. Learning is fun! We encourage you to attend as many of them as possible. As events approach, more details will be posted on SRN's Newslines and on our website at <http://www.srnpx.org/grange.html>. This is the lineup thus far:

"Pruning, Training & Maintenance of Fruit Trees," Jan. 30

On Wednesday, January 30 from 7-9 PM, John Saltveit will discuss fruit trees, pruning guidelines, and basic maintenance to ensure healthy fruit trees. Saltveit has been cultivating a food forest for 20 years and teaches classes on fruit growing with the Home Orchard Society for over a decade.

"Soil Science and Composting" in February

Multnomah County Master Gardeners will present. Your soil is the foundation of everything that happens in your garden and landscaping. The better you care for your soil, the better your garden will grow. Come learn about the principles of soil health and ways to improve your soils through composting and other methods.

"Vegetable Gardening: Bountiful Vegetables & Weed Control" in March

In March, Multnomah County Master Gardeners will present. We fight weeds in our vegetable gardens: purslane, chickweed, clover, grasses, nightshade, etc. Sometimes our hard work only spreads them more. Come learn how to increase your success in the vegetable garden along with more effective weed control strategies.

"How to Plant Bareroot Trees Successfully," April 5-6

Ongoing during our April 5-6 Tree & Native Plant Sale, there will be both a display and a video demonstrating how to plant bareroot trees. Correct planting technique is a major factor toward getting your trees off to a healthy start.

"Leaving a Land Legacy" in April

Come learn about forest/farm deferrals, conservation easements, and grants that might be available to local landowners. Also learn about assistance available to develop a forest or farm management plan for your property. We are working with Forest Park Conservancy & West Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District in developing this presentation.

"Advance Preparation for the Upcoming Fire Season" in May

The recent California fires should be a wake-up call ►

for us. The new normal is longer fire seasons, fast-moving and aggressive fires, and more acreage and property devoured. Come to this presentation to learn what you can do to best prepare your property, how to develop an evacuation plan, and what to do if you need to immediately evacuate.

Basic Home Canning Series

Would you like to preserve food, but the idea of canning intimidates you? Afraid you will kill a loved one with botulism? No fear, canning is easy and fun once you learn the basics. Come to these two basic canning workshops that are hands-on. Learn about safety, equipment, and techniques by OSU Extension Master Preservers. Pre-registration will be required once dates are determined. There may be a small fee required.

#1: Berry Jams – in June

#2: Pickling Vegetables – in August

Basic First Aid & CPR – in the Fall

Back by popular demand, Skyline Grange will sponsor another full day of basic first aid and CPR. Details to come. There will be a fee and a registration requirement.

More Grange News

What's next on our building improvement agenda? After a rest from the flurry of improvement projects in 2018 and the need to build up our coffers, we soon will begin planning for a restroom on the main floor, a solution to drainage around the building, lighting in the parking lot, purchasing an AED (automatic defibrillator) and a PA system for our Grange.

Join Skyline Grange

Despite paved roads, cell phones and the Internet, it still is easy to feel disconnected these days. Our Grange provides a meeting place and a variety of activities bringing people together. It has been serving the Skyline community for 78 years.

Do you wish to be more engaged in and connected to your Skyline community? Would you like opportunities to work with neighbors on projects? Do you have ideas for the community? Then consider joining the Grange. This is why local residents are Grange members and why many more neighbors volunteer during our events. Join Skyline Grange and become a part of what makes our Skyline community a great place to live.

Grange is a non-partisan, non-sectarian, non-profit, and a totally volunteer-driven organization. We are a diverse group of people with the common belief that we are fortunate to live in the Skyline area and want to support its well-being. We take seriously the fact that our building is a community asset and a gathering place. Our

impact, activities, and accomplishments depend upon our members and community volunteers.

Learn more about Skyline Grange by attending an upcoming event or attend a monthly meeting, usually on the second Monday of each month at 7:30 PM. You can contact the Grange at SkylineGrange894@msn.com and for rental inquiries at skylinegrange894@gmail.com. Skyline Grange is located at 11275 NW Skyline Boulevard. □

Ideas Wanted for Humorous Rhyming Traffic Signs

Already dreading your somewhat quiet secondary road turning into a busy freeway while Cornelius Pass is totally closed for improvements this coming May-September and autos are diverted to your road? Worried about the challenge of crossing the road to retrieve mail?? Wonder how many elk-vehicle or bicycle-vehicle crashes will result? Scared about the risk of wildland fire from more cigarette butts tossed from an increased number of cars?

To encourage motorists to be more mindful that they are traveling in our curvy, wonderful neighborhood, Skyline Grange has a plan. Think Burma Shave.

From 1926-1963, the Burma Shave Company advertised its brushless shaving cream by putting up groups of 4-6 small signs along roadsides. These signs were humorous rhyming poems spaced for sequential reading by passing motorists. Some of the signs featured safety messages about speeding instead of advertisements. Some examples of these are:

- "Hardly a driver / Is now alive / Who passed / On hills / At 75 / Burma-Shave"
- "If you dislike / Big traffic fines / Slow down / Till you / Can read these signs / Burma-Shave"
- "Don't lose your head/ To gain a minute/ You need your head/ Your brains are in it/ Burma Shave"

So why don't we do something similar and have fun doing so. Submit your ideas to skylinegrange894@msn.com. Poems should be 4-5 short lines, humorous, and will have a message (ideally a punchline) to motorists. If you have road frontage where a series of signs could be placed, also contact the Grange with name, address and email info. We would like to target Newberry, McNamee, Kaiser, Old Cornelius, Brooks, Logie Trail, and Skyline in particular. A red & white sign-making party will be held this spring before the Pass is closed. Let's promote road safety while producing some chuckles. □



About that New Quilt at the Skyline Grange...

By Tracy Waters

In 2014, I was a decent seamstress but NOT a quilter. I had resisted for years. I learned pattern drafting and tailoring as part of a college minor but quilting? OH NO! I could never sit still long enough to complete a project with that many steps.

Then our "Grand Mustard" at Skyline Grange #894, Sen Speroff, sent me the link to the National Grange Quilt Block Contest. You must know the folks who design this contest are BOSSY! That first year they wanted "flower basket" patch in "spring-like pastels." Yuck. I'm a bright-colors designer. That's a traditional pattern that lies on its side. I made half a dozen and sent none. I couldn't like any of them.

In 2015, they were just as BOSSY. Red white & blue, a "summery Northumberland Star" patch. I made a dozen of those squares before I read the fine print! I was only allowed to contribute one patch to that year's contest! We're asked to send unfinished, raw patches to the Oregon Conference in June. They're sent on to the National Conference and judged again in November. Win or lose, ribbons or not, we never see them again. Somehow, somewhere the "Grange Ladies" complete the sashing, bordering, binding & labelling so the finished quilts can be sold at subsequent National Grange Conferences for profit.

We will never see those patches again.

Enter "The Grange Sewing Group." In 2016, National was just as BOSSY! But there is some virtue in being restrained by the rules too. We elected to make duplicates of

the squares we sent away. This time they wanted, a "Garden Path" patch in "green, brown & cream". Yuck! Really? "Drab, dull, boring, phooooooy!", we all thought to ourselves.

But then I went shopping.

I made fabric choices thinking about the things I'd find along a "Garden Path" in our beloved 'hood, whilst living within the strict color rules. Cows, pigs, vegetables, deer, the cash crop all have a place up here. There was an image that popped out that looked just like our building, too. Eventually Florence Shields and I made enough patches to build a wall-sized quilt. Florence, our neighbor who is an experienced long-arm quilter, put over 18,000 stitches into it. Her skill and contributions were essential to its completion. We decided it was only decent to present it to Sen, our "Grand Mustard," who has provided such inspiring leadership to our Grange and our community. Our Hall has been transformed since Sen became our leader.

For the first time in modern memory Grange members met in early December

for a social gathering. It was at that sparkly holiday party that the "Enjoy the Moment Along the Garden Path" quilt was bestowed. It looks great on our new, sagey-green Hall walls. We were delighted and Sen was surprised and seemed to be pleased.

Will you come to our next event to see it too? ☐



Tracy Waters shows off the new quilt that she and Florence Shields made for the Grange hall (Photo: M. Merwin)

Send Your Play List for Day of Dance and Meditation

Coming soon: A Day of Dance Movement and Meditation at the Skyline Grange, February 16, 2019. You are invited to send a list of your favorite music to add it to the day's events. We are a group of friends, neighbors and community participants that are planning a day of music, meditation and dance. This a human kindness event. All ages invited to participate. Interested in finding out more or how you can help out otherwise? Send email to: claireleonore@gmail.com.

Yard clean-up & maintenance service including pruning, blackberry & ivy removal, weeding, and mowing. I can do handyman type repairs on gates, fences, coops, etc. and install paths, fences and new plantings. 10 years experience with local firms. Neighborhood references available. Call Mario at 503.800.1824. \$22/hr, 4 hour minimum.

Calling local woodworkers. Skyline business can help you market your woodturning, furniture, or other wooden objects you create. Low commission rates, non-exclusive, sell one or many. Contact Oregon Heartwood LLC for more info: heartwood@oregonheartwood.com, 971.285.6960.

Phoenix Farm Riding School. English horse riding lessons for the whole family. All ages and ability levels welcome! Day-off-school camps. Summer camps. Parties and special events. Located on the corner of Skyline Blvd. & Rock Creek Rd. Call/text 541.914.4254, email 13phoenix-farm13@gmail.com.

Landscape construction team has over 20 years of experience that you can rely on for your patio, waterfall, path, driveway and retaining wall. Beautiful sturdy retaining walls, done right, with an excellent eye for detail and design. Contact Mario at 503.800.1824 for estimates. Neighborhood references available.

Indonesian Martial Arts Training. Poekoelan is a "soft" art, with emphasis on personal self-defense in real life situations. Terrific exercise for the entire family regardless of current fitness level. All ages are welcome. Tuesdays & Thursdays at Skyline Grange, 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm. Suggested donation \$5/person/lesson. For more info, contact Bantoe Christina Traunweiser, 503.307.1913.

Hydraulic Woodsplitting. Haul behind splitter rolls to your site. Chainsaw work, cut up downed trees, brush & sapling removal. Blackberry Removal. Stihl FS-250 gets in tight spaces: fence lines, foundations, through narrow gates, on hillsides where brush hogs can't go. Joel 503.553.9429.

Owen West Electric. Our specialty is service and panel changes, kitchen and bath remodels, security, and yard lighting. 30 years of experience. CCB #29492. 503.297.6375 Office, 503.880.9512 Cell

Rent the Skyline Grange. Planning an event? The Grange may be the perfect spot. Visit <http://www.srnpdx.org/grange.html> and contact skylinegrange894@gmail.com.

Borrow tool to eliminate Scotch broom, holly & other woody shrubs and sapling trees easily. SRN will lend 3 sizes of Weed Wrench. Contact Sen 503.621.3331 for large & medium size (Skyline near mile marker 15). Contact Laura 503.407.7175 for small size (McNamee Rd.).



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Community Calendar

Wednesday, Jan. 30, 7-9 PM: "Pruning, Training & Maintenance of Fruit Trees." John Saltveit will discuss fruit trees, pruning guidelines, and basic maintenance to ensure healthy fruit trees. He has cultivated a food forest for 20 years and teaches classes on fruit growing with the Home Orchard Society for over a decade.

Saturday, Feb. 16: A Day of Dance Movement and Meditation at the Skyline Grange. You are invited to send a list of your favorite music to add to the day's events. We are a group of friends, neighbors and community participants who are planning a day of music, meditation and dance. This a human kindness event. All ages invited to participate. Interested in finding out more or how you can help out otherwise? Send email to: claireleonore@gmail.com.

Sunday, Feb. 24, 9:30-11 AM: Pancakes, Etc. Brunch at the Skyline Grange. Enjoy a variety of breakfast treats made from scratch. Enjoy fresh fruits, fresh-brewed coffee, and hot chocolate. Suggested donation is \$7/adult or \$18/family. The whole community is welcome!

Friday-Saturday, Mar. 8-9: Spring Garage Sale at Skyline Grange. Please come to our 30th semi-annual garage sale. Donations will be accepted until Sunday, March 3 at 2 p.m. Proceeds will go towards further building improvements and activities that support the Skyline community.

Saturday, Mar. 16, 5:45 PM: Skyline School Auction at NW Event Rentals, 2900 NW 229th Ave, Hillsboro. The Skyline community is invited and encouraged to attend! We are also in need of donations and business sponsors. Please visit our website for more information: skyline-auction.com.

Friday-Saturday, April 5-6: Tree & Native Plant Sale. Skyline Grange will hold its 14th annual plant sale this spring. If you would like to receive a Native Plant Pre-Order Form when available, email the Grange at skyline-grange894@msn.com.



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