



# Skyline Ridge Runner

January 2017

Skyline Ridge Neighbors

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A Nonprofit Neighborhood Association Serving Northwestern Multnomah County, Oregon

## Skyline Grange Lectures Detail How to Prepare for the "Big One"

By Miles Merwin

The Skyline Grange and SRN are co-sponsoring a series of lectures on how you and your family can plan and prepare for life after a major earthquake in our area.

The first two of four planned events were held last November and December. Following are brief summaries of the speakers' presentations, based on extensive notes recorded by Grange members Rachael Brake, Sharon Barthmaier and Peggy Lindquist. Full summaries of the talks are posted on the SRN website ([www.srnpx.org](http://www.srnpx.org)), under the tab Emergency Preparedness. The next earthquake preparedness event at the Grange is scheduled for January 25.



### Session One

At the first session on November 9, Scott Burns, Professor Emeritus from the PSU Geology Dept., gave a lively presentation on the threat of a major subduction zone earthquake, aka the "Big One."

The Cascadia subduction zone is 600 miles long, 50 miles wide, and runs along the west coast from California to British Columbia. It is the zone where the San Juan de Fuca and North American tectonic plates are slowly (4.5 cm/yr.) moving toward and under one another. When enough stress builds up between the plates, a Cascadia subduction zone earthquake will occur along 50-100 miles of the Pacific coast line. The coast could drop up to six feet, and the event could last 3-4 minutes.

Scott said our area will have major ground shaking but not necessarily ground amplification due to our underlying clay soils. Liquefaction will definitely be a major problem along all of our rivers. The major concern centers on the petroleum facilities in Linnton, where 90% of the fuel for this area is stored, and which has a very high liquefaction potential.

Old landslides in the Skyline area could reactivate in

seismic events, and new ones can occur. Scott said that the Oregon Dept. of Geology has compiled an online database of landslides identified on published maps, including many along our ridge. However, old slides that have not yet been located are not in the database. View the map at <http://www.oregongeology.org/sub/slido>.

The Oregon coast will see a devastating tsunami. Scott said it likely won't come as far inland as the Portland area, although islands in the Columbia could be submerged.

Scott said that research at OSU on past quakes predict that within the next 50 years, there is a 15% chance of a subduction earthquake occurring along the whole margin, but a 37% chance of a "mini-Big One" along the coast between southern Oregon and northern California. He said the state is working on a system that may provide Portland residents up to 5 minutes warning by telephone for an earthquake

occurring in that region.

We are also at risk of earthquakes in the "seismogenic crust," i.e. along fault lines. Skyline ridge is bounded by two fault lines: Oatfield on the south side and Portland Hills on the north. Scott said it is unknown if these faults are still active. Those will be of lesser magnitude than subduction zone quakes, but can occur more often.

Also speaking on Nov. 9 was Jeff Rubin, emergency manager at Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue. He discussed how his staff has participated in statewide planning and training exercises for public agencies to respond following a major earthquake and tsunami.

Jeff advised everyone to visit the TVF&R website where an extensive list of links for emergency preparedness is posted (<http://www.tvfr.com/index.aspx?NID=182>). He said that after a subduction zone earthquake, it will take hours to days for TVF&R to understand what has ha

**The "Big One", p. 9 ►**

# *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.

## **SRN Board of Directors (2016-2017)**

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## **Skyline Rural Watch Newsline**

Subscribe to SRN's weekly email newsletter of local events and news via the link at [www.srnpdx.org](http://www.srnpdx.org). Contact the Editor, Laurel Erhardt, at [newsline@srnpdx.org](mailto:newsline@srnpdx.org) or 503.621.3501 to submit items for publication

## **SRN Website**

Visit [www.srnpdx.org](http://www.srnpdx.org) for more news, photos and information about our community. If you have questions or comments, contact the Webmaster, Agnes Kwan, at [webmaster@srnpdx.org](mailto:webmaster@srnpdx.org).

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

## **SRN Seeking Volunteers to Help Mail the Ridge Runner**

*By Laurel Erhardt, SRN President*

As we announced in the last Ridge Runner, this will be the last mailing done by long-time volunteer Karen Garber. At the time I'm writing this article, we've yet to find a replacement for her. We are looking for one or more volunteers to pick up this duty for SRN. Duties include maintaining a mailing list, picking up the Ridge Runner from the printer, putting labels on, and delivering to the post office for bulk delivery. There are 4 mailings a year. If you think you'd like to help with any part of this mailing, please get in touch with me at [srn@srnpdx.org](mailto:srn@srnpdx.org). Thank you!

## **New Board Members**

Welcome to Grant Rolette and Rachelle Brake voted onto the SRN Board at our last board meeting. Grant and Rachelle were key volunteers at the Skyline Ridge Neighbors Summer Gathering this year where they did an outstanding job cashiering. They stepped forward to join the board, and have been diligently working with the Skyline Grange in the Emergency Preparedness meetings that were recently held. They have also been instrumental in getting the new Emergency Preparedness tab on the [srnpdx.org](http://srnpdx.org) website.

I always say we live in a really great neighborhood, and once again that is supported by exceptionally competent and dedicated neighbors stepping up to help keep us connected and informed. Thank you Rachelle and Grant. We look forward to working with you! ☐

## **Thanks for Your Donations!**

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

~ Barbara Demanincor

~ Juli Gunn

~ Loretta Field & Floyd Nelson

~ Lawrence Zivin

SRN relies on the financial support of the Skyline community to pursue its nonprofit, educational mission. We operate entirely on the volunteer 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.srnpdx.org/donate.html> to securely and easily make a donation using PayPal. Thank you

# Help Save the City of Roses from Japanese Beetle

By Jim Cathcart, WMSWCD District Manager

There is an old saying amongst Japanese beetles (*Popillia japonica*) – “Never be too busy that you don’t stop to eat the roses.” Yes, Portland’s iconic City of Roses faces a new threat from an old invasive fiend; the Oregon Department of Agriculture found 369 beetles in traps in the NW Thompson and NW 143rd Avenue area of the Tualatin Mountains. Other adult beetles were also caught on Swan Island (1 beetle), and around the Portland International Airport (3 beetles). These 2016 detections follow earlier detections – all of which were successfully controlled -- such as Tigard and Cave Junction in the late 1980’s and periodic Port of Portland detections since 2000. Unfortunately, the 2016 detections are unprecedented in the number of beetles caught, suggesting a breeding population has been established.

The adult Japanese beetle is a large (about a half to two-thirds of an inch), metallic brown beetle, with a metallic dark green head; its most distinctive marks are rows of five white spots along both edges of its abdomen as well as two larger white spots at the tip of the abdomen. Japanese beetle adults are active flyers, and frequently fly short distances between plants. Juvenile larvae, called grubs, live underground and easily hitchhike to new locations via shipments of plant material containing roots and soil. Adult beetles may find a ride in planes, trains, or automobiles. Adults breed and lay eggs in late summer. Eggs hatch into the caterpillar like grubs which overwinter and pupate into adult beetles, which emerge in May and June. Active throughout the summer, the adult beetles need moist, cool conditions to successfully breed; like those found in summer irrigated gardens and landscapes.

## Damages Caused by the Japanese Beetle

The Japanese beetle can cause serious damage to nurseries, seedbeds, orchards, field crops, landscape plants, and garden plants – over 200 plant species in all. The adults chew up leaves, flowers and foliage – leaving only skeletons – and devour fruits. Trees and shrubs with extensive feeding damage turn brown and ugly. Japanese beetle grubs primarily feed on roots of turf and ornamentals, but will also feed on roots of garden and crops such as corn, beans, tomatoes, and strawberries. Dense populations can kill large areas of turf grass, and the beetle is the single most devastating turfgrass pest in parks, golf courses, and cemeteries.

Japanese beetle – which indeed is a native species in Ja-

pan -- is a major invasive plant pest throughout the eastern half of the United States – first established a 100 years ago in Riverton, New Jersey. Oregon, along with other western states, is still rated as Category 1 state under the national plan for regulating Japanese beetle – meaning that the Japanese beetle is not known to be established in Oregon, but faces the risk of entry via artificial means. Maintaining Oregon’s Category 1 status is important to protecting Oregon’s important agricultural, plant, and nursery industries from quarantine regulations. But, Category 1 also means there are no established populations threatening roses, blueberries, gardens, and lawns found in neighborhood parks. Keeping the Japanese beetle out of Oregon also prevents increased pressure to use pesticides by homeowners, farmers, landscapers, and nurseries to control this significant pest.



Adult Japanese beetle (Photo: Wikipedia)

## Current Eradication Efforts

Fortunately, the Oregon Department of Agriculture has an early detection, rapid response program in place to eradicate new Japanese beetle entries such as the population along NW Thompson and NW 143rd Avenue. The Department routinely sets detection traps in a systematic grid that covers locations prime for new entries – such as the Port of Portland and surrounding metropolitan area. When the traps catch Japanese beetles, the Department’s team of entomologists consults with technical experts from around the U.S. to decide next steps – usually in the form of intensified monitoring or trapping to understand the extent of the new introduction or in the form of an eradication treatment plan to kill all the beetles; or some combination. For the NW Thompson and NW 143rd population of Japanese beetles, the Department is proposing to eradicate the population with a treatment involving the use of pesticides as well as introducing natural enemies of the beetle through what is called biocontrol. The proposal is for one ground application (in May 2017) of the granular pesticide Acelepryn®, which is a low-risk insecticide that targets the larval stage of the Japanese beetle. It is applied to lawns and irrigated landscapes using hand held seed/fertilizer spreaders. The granular pesticide is consumed by beetle larvae; so the goal is to ensure the pesticide is present in the soil and available for consumption so as to kill newly hatched larvae after eggs are laid in late summer, early fall 2017. As such, a reduction or elimination of adult beetles will not be seen until the summer of 2018, and adult beetle presence in 2017 does not indicate an ineffective treatment.

***Saving the Japanese Beetle, p. 5 ►***

## An Old Husky Insulted by a Young Duck

By Rich Edwards

When I graduated from high school in Vancouver, WA, I was surprised to learn, given my GPA (not too good) and SAT scores (not too bad), I qualified for almost any in-state public university that had low enrollment that year. Having high academic aspirations but few marketable skills, my personal goals were best summarized, as my Dad put it, “very much wanting to postpone entering the real world”. After tens of minutes of tireless research, I decided to pursue the only in-state school I knew of that had a winning football team that year, which was the University of Washington. My Dad, in the spirit of “not wanting to spend any more money than he absolutely had to,” suggested I attend Clark College, known locally as Hudson’s Bay north or UCLA {University of Clark, Local Area}.

I consulted with my older cousin Jim, the first person in my family to start, although not actually finish, college, and he advised against it. “I had the grades out of high school to go to UW,” he said. “But, after going to Clark, only Wazzu would accept me.” Wazzu, of course, being the colloquial name for Washington State University. Back then the University of Washington was somewhat conceited, and did not like accepting junior college transfers. Contrast that to today where UW is phenomenally conceited, but are forced by the state legislature to be more accepting of junior college transfers, in the spirit of “not wanting to spend any more money than they absolutely have to”.

Armed with my cousin Jim’s advice, I talked my Dad into sending me to UW, where in a short 4 and 2/3 years, I learned two important lessons that I still live by today: 1) Follow your dreams especially if doing so allows you to escape a Podunk town such as Vancouver, WA, and 2) Wazzu sucks.

Question: How many Washington State cougars does it take to change a light bulb? Answer: There’s no electricity in Pullman.

My daughter is having a much different academic career than I had, by which I mean she doesn’t suck. I was so proud of how well she did at Lincoln High School that I was prepared to send her to any university she wanted. After finding out the price tags attached to private and/or out-of-state schools I said, hoping it was true, “There are some excellent public universities right here in Oregon.” It turns out, through no fault of my own, that this is true.

The first time I visited the campus of the University of Oregon was the day I helped my daughter move in. Even though I am an unreformed Husky fan, I am having a difficult time holding on to my hatred of all things Duck. It turns out UO has a beautiful, if very flat, campus with a river running through it. The academics are very good and, if you can avoid fraternities, something I was unfortunately not able to do, a student can get an excellent education at the U of O.



*The Edwards family at the big game (Photo: R. Edwards)*

I used to root for the Ducks, if and only if, they were in a bowl game and therefore, were representing my conference (they usually lost). My wife, who attended the University of Utah, has been cheering for the Ducks ever since our daughter started attending the U of O, even during the regular season. In support of my daughter, I have been rooting for the Ducks much more, but it seems every time I do they lose. Hoping this is more than a coincidence, I plan to root for Oregon in a lot more often unless they play Utah in which case I plan to root for whichever team is ahead.

### That Fateful Game

This season, my lovely daughter unexpectedly secured tickets to the Ducks vs. Huskies football game at Autzen stadium, and my wife and I gladly drove to Eugene for the contest. It was a lovely day. My wife showed where her sympathies lie and, for this game at least, wore green. I had heard a lot about Duck fans at Autzen stadium, and prepared for the worst by wearing every article of purple I could find. I was disappointed when it turned out that Duck fans are very gracious and sportsmanlike, and the only people acting like jerks were Husky fans. Thankfully there weren’t too many, and the game progressed the way I like, with my team scoring early and often.

During the second half, my daughter was kind enough to sit next to us (all her friends having left at halftime). I cheered politely in a cocky if condescending manner at everything good that happened to the Huskies and, in the spirit of good sportsmanship and fairness, everything bad that happened to the Ducks. My daughter sat quietly staring straight ahead, not necessarily following the action on the field, enduring the groans of her fellow Ducks, and the cheers of her purple-clad, clearly-rooting-for-the-wrong-team Dad. During a break in the action when the officials

**Old Husky & Young Duck, p. 10 ►**

## Take Steps to Prevent Carbon Monoxide Poisoning in Your Home

By Christina Lent, TVF&R

Carbon monoxide is an invisible, odorless, and colorless gas that can cause sudden illness and death. It is created when fuels such as gasoline, wood, charcoal, and petroleum products burn incompletely.

Carbon monoxide alarms alert you and your family when there are dangerous levels of the gas in your home. Alarms can be purchased at any home improvement store.

You should install an alarm within 15 feet of each bedroom, so that it can be heard if you are sleeping. Some homes may need more than one alarm, depending on how many bedrooms there are, and where they are located.

Carbon monoxide poisoning occurs when you breathe too much carbon monoxide. What makes carbon monoxide so dangerous is that when you breathe it, it replaces the oxygen in your blood. Without oxygen, cells throughout the body die, and the organs stop working.

### Symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning:

- Slight headache or dizziness
- Nausea
- Drowsiness or euphoric feeling
- Confusion or irritability
- Unconsciousness

### Causes of carbon monoxide poisoning:

- Operating poorly maintained or unvented furnaces, boilers, and other fuel-burning equipment

- Using gas stoves or ovens to heat the home
- Clogged chimneys and heating exhaust vents
- Running cars, generators, or gas-powered tools in enclosed areas

In 2015, firefighters at Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue responded to 34 carbon monoxide incidents. According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, each year, more than 400 people in the United States die from unintentional carbon monoxide poisoning not linked to fires, more than 20,000 people visit the emergency room, and over 4,000 are hospitalized.

If your carbon monoxide alarm sounds, immediately evacuate your home, and call 911.

### Safeguarding Your Home:

Install and maintain carbon monoxide alarms inside your home to provide early warning of carbon monoxide.

- Carbon monoxide alarms should be installed in a central location outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home.
- Choose a carbon monoxide alarm that has the label of a recognized testing laboratory.
- Carbon monoxide alarms are not substitutes for smoke alarms.
- Know the difference between the sound of your smoke alarms and the sound of your carbon monoxide alarms. □

### ► Saving the Japanese Beetle (continued from p. 3)

The timetable and process for the Oregon Department of Agriculture's final treatment decision is to hold affected neighborhood and community briefings in January 2017 with a more general public outreach meeting in February. Technical workshops regarding the treatment plan will be held in March. The goal is to conduct the final treatment plan (April-May) well in advance of egg laying and larvae emergence later in the summer and early fall.

### How You can Help

Everyone with an interest can join the force battling the Japanese beetle. First and foremost, keep an eye out for adult beetles next summer and report sightings through the Oregon Invasives Hotline -- either on-line at <https://oregoninvasiveshotline.org/> -- or by calling 1.866.468.2337 (1.866.INVADER). Include an address and a detailed description of exactly where on the property the sighting was made. If reporting online (the preferred method), upload several good pictures -- one a close-up, one more to provide context (i.e., the plant or substrate the beetle is on), and even one containing a more broader view of the site. This will allow a follow-up specialist to confirm the siting,

and provide sufficient information for them to visit the site.

For more information about the Japanese beetle -- especially about upcoming meetings -- visit the Portland Japanese Beetle website at <http://www.japanesebeetlepd.org>. info. □



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## Local Co-op Seeks Forest Owners Wanting to Sell Firewood

By Neil Schroeder, President, OWC

If you own family forestland and need to thin out some trees to improve it, the Oregon Woodland Cooperative (OWC) can help you realize income by selling firewood you could produce from those trees. OWC is actively seeking landowners to join other Co-op members in its premium, bundled firewood program that sells to high-end grocery stores in the Portland metro area.

The OWC is a group of over 75 private, family forestland owners in Oregon. Since 1980, its members have helped other members improve their ability to sustainably manage their woodland, and to market their products. Income is generated through the sale of timber, firewood, holiday boughs, essential oils, and handmade crafts, all using wood and other materials sourced from member woodlands.

The firewood sales program started in 2009. Many members were then in the process of thinning young stands, so firewood was a natural product choice. With start-up funding from a USDA Value Added Producers grant, our marketing person homed in on the bundled firewood market. Soon we were actively selling to a Portland-based upscale grocery chain. That first year we sold about \$5,000 in gross receipts. We are now in our 7th year, and project sales of about \$160,000. Stores that sell our bundled firewood include New Seasons Market, Whole Foods, Food Front, and Green Zebra.

OWC works hard to maintain a high level of quality for the bundled firewood it sells. To ensure consistent quality, the Co-op provides participating members with detailed guidelines to follow. The firewood producers hold regular meetings at a local tree farm to share tips on following the firewood protocol, and to demonstrate splitting and bundling equipment.

The protocol specifies that wood be dry (18% moisture or less) and free of insects, mold or rot. Regular Co-op firewood is mostly Douglas-fir but we also sell premium firewood from native hardwoods (oak, maple, etc.). Logs need to be cut into rounds 16" long and then split. Bundles are wrapped with plastic and branded the OWC paper label. The story of the producing tree farm is printed on the back of the label so customers can learn where the wood comes from. After they receive instructions from the firewood sales coordinator, members deliver their bundles to the customer.

The goal is to sell high quality products and return the majority of the income to the producing members. For bundled firewood, only 8.5% of each sale goes to OWC to cover accounting, label printing, and marketing. Cur-

rently, the 1.5 cu. ft. bundles of regular firewood retail for about \$7, and the premium hardwood bundles sell for a dollar more.

OWC is all about members helping members to succeed in adding value to their forest properties. Our only paid individual is our accountant. All the rest of our work is done by volunteers, usually by members who benefit from the sale of their forest products

The diverse backgrounds of our members--nurses, engineers, salespeople, artists, foresters, teachers, loggers, etc.--add to the success of the organization. Because of our love for the land, we manage our forests to be healthy and sustainable for the next generations. We believe the forest should provide multiple benefits to the creatures living there, to the family landowners, and to our society.

Anyone owning forestland in Oregon or who is involved with a forestry enterprise here is eligible to join the Co-op. For more information about membership or the firewood program, please visit [www.oregonwoodland-cooperative.com](http://www.oregonwoodland-cooperative.com), or contact me on

[owc@owco-op.com](mailto:owc@owco-op.com). □



Woodland Co-op members learn how to make firewood bundles at a recent training session (Photo: N. Schroeder)



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### Is Your Soil Going For a Swim?

By Kammy Kern-Korot, WMSWCD Senior Conservationist

Looking out at an unusual snowy, wintery day, one's brain does not automatically go to thoughts of mud and erosion. But on a more typical rainy winter day in northwestern Oregon, and as the snow begins to melt, it can be hard to avoid. One common area of erosion is along the banks of streams and canals, but we also need to look upslope.

During and after a large storm event, you may see chocolate brown water full of suspended sediment rushing down a stream. This sediment is made up of fine particles of soil and it comes from eroded streambanks or stream flow that has overtopped its banks and picked up sediment from the floodplain. It can also come from rainwater or melting snow flowing through bare dirt on your land on its way to the stream. This type of overland flow is increased by the removal of trees and other plants and by the existence of impervious surfaces like paving and roofs that don't allow water to infiltrate the soil. Excessive upland and streambank erosion can jeopardize water quality and lead to loss of valuable soil resources and property.

Streambank erosion is a natural process, but it can be exacerbated by a lack of vegetation (and, in the case of canals, by banks that were engineered to be vertical). As with most erosion, a large part of the solution is to put in plants along the stream banks, which will trap sediment and reduce the erosive energy of a stream. Another way to slow the velocity of a stream is to create a winding curve or bend in direction.

Sometimes, there is vegetation along a stream or canal bank, but it is dominated by invasive blackberry or reed canary grass and doesn't provide the complexity of root structure that a diverse plant community does. Oregon ash trees, red osier dogwood shrubs, and native willows, such as Pacific and Scouler's willow make thickets with strong roots that help hold the soil. Red alder trees and cottonwoods are also common in riparian areas and are easy to establish and fast growing. You can also add native conifers, such as Western red cedar. All of these plants also provide excellent wildlife habitat, both above and in the stream's banks, and help keep the water clean and cool in summer.

If your streamside areas are lacking native vegetation, start by controlling your worst weeds like Armenian blackberry, formerly known as Himalayan blackberry, and English / Irish ivy, and then replace them with deeper-rooted native trees and shrubs. You can also sow bare areas with

a native grass seed mix in fall-to-winter or in the spring (depending on the mix and species) to avoid surface erosion and new weeds. You generally can't go wrong with a fall-to-winter seeding; assuming the soil is still bare and not covered in snow or leaf litter, the seed will germinate in spring. Be sure to cover bare areas with weed-free straw after seeding or as a temporary protection through the winter.



Photo: WMSWCD

Winter is a great time to plant young native shrubs and trees. They are both economical and easy to successfully transplant if purchased in bulk as bare-root, dormant seedlings from wholesale native nurseries. You can also collect willow and dogwood cuttings from existing plants on-site and plant them immediately.

Besides streambanks, the soil health principle of "Keep it Covered" also applies to pastures, garden beds, farms fields, lawns, and construction sites. Farm fields and vegetable beds can be protected and enriched with cover crops, and soil in garden beds can be protected with mulch or leaves. Farm fields on slopes (less than 10 percent) can also benefit from grass filter strips that run across the slope. Bare spots in pastures and other grassy areas caused by overgrazing, rodents, or other disturbance should be re-seeded as soon as possible before weeds become established, either with pasture or lawn seed mix. Native grass seed is best in habitat areas, as non-native grasses are generally aggressive and can out-compete native ground cover.

Vegetative buffers and plant cover of all types, whether woody or herbaceous, slow water speed, filter pollutants, and trap sediment. They protect streams, lakes, ponds, and ditches and keep your soil on your property - and they work! Studies show that a dense tree stand at the top of a stream bank can reduce meander erosion by half. Pastures with 70 percent or more plant cover have little erosion and produce more forage. Set aside a "sacrifice area," covered with geotextile fabric, gravel, and sand, where livestock are held when pastures are wet or recovering from grazing. For construction sites, use seeding and straw on bare soil, and down-slope silt-fencing as an immediate mitigation measure as plants establish. For any grass plantings, plan on 2 bales of straw per 1,000 square feet and keep off of the fragile new grass as it establishes, as much as possible. Shrub and tree plantings can be mulched with leaves, bark dust, or compost.

Soil takes hundreds of years to restore, but with proac-

**Stream Erosion, p. 9 ►**

# Skyline Grange Sustains Damages from Vehicle Crash

By Sen Speroff

Ouch! On December 18th, a driver drove down the driveway and crashed his car into the left front side of our building. The vehicle's front bumper went into the building, causing structural damage to both the front storage room and foyer, and possibly a crack in the basement below. The poor rhododendrons were flattened and will not be putting out their burst of pink flowers this April. The good news is no person was injured, and our Grange is fixable. The bad news is the guy who did the damage has a suspended driver's license and no insurance. This will be a test to see how good our insurance company is.

Grange members and community volunteers have spent many hours raising funds, and making building improvements. We didn't think we needed another excuse to come together for extra work parties, but Kris Kring seems to have had other thoughts.

We are still forging ahead with our Lighting Improvement Project in the lower level and the Acoustics Improvement Project in the spring with grants from Oregon State Grange and Skyline Ridge Neighbors. At this point, we do not know how fully our insurance company will pay out for the damages. We have hopes that our spring brunch, garage sale, and tree & native plant sale will be not only successful as community events, but will also bring in the needed funds to keep the plans for building improvement going forth while still maintaining an adequate emergency fund.

If you would like to donate to Skyline Grange's building improvement fund, you may do so by volunteering and/or attending our spring events, or donating monies to Skyline Grange, c/o 11227 NW Skyline Blvd., Portland, OR 97231, or join the Grange. We continue to work towards a welcoming, accessible building as a place where the Skyline community gathers. But ha! - we do have limits - no vehicles in the building!

## Pancake Brunch, Feb. 26

The 8th annual Pancake, Etc. Brunch will take place at the Skyline Grange on Sunday, February 26, serving from 9:30-11:30 a.m. The whole community is welcome! Pumpkin pancakes, blueberry pancakes, cranberry-butter milk pancakes, French toast, stratas, muffins, and breakfast breads will be made from scratch. Enjoy fresh fruits, fresh-

brewed coffee, and hot chocolate. Suggested donation is \$7/adult or \$15/family. We cook; you enjoy.

## Spring Garage Sale, Mar. 10-11

Start collecting items to donate to Grange's March Garage Sale. Donations should be clean and in good working condition. We do not accept car seats, televisions, computers, audio tapes, VHS tapes, artificial flowers, or large exercise equipment. Donations will be accepted until Sunday, March 5 at 2 p.m. So far, donation drop-off dates have been scheduled for Wednesday, January 25 (5-6 p.m.), Friday, February 24 (9-noon), Sunday, February 26 (12-1 p.m.), and Sunday, March 5 (10 a.m.-2 p.m.). Other drop-off dates will be published on SRN's Newsline in February. If you would like to donate sooner, email the Grange. The Sale will run on Friday, March 10 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. and on Saturday, March 11 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Are you a garage sale enthusiast or looking to an opportunity to support our community? If so, please consider volunteering to help set up or man the sale. Contact us if you are interested.

## Spring Tree & Native Plant Sale

Skyline Grange will hold its 13th annual "Tree & Native Plant Sale" on a Friday-Saturday probably in April. 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. We will announce the dates on SRN's Newsline as soon as they are confirmed.

## Keep Up-to-Date on Grange Activities

Visit [www.srnpx.org](http://www.srnpx.org), then click on Grange on the right. SRN has generously given us a section of its website for Grange news. This will provide detailed information about Skyline Grange and its activities. You can contact the Grange at [SkylineGrange894@msn.com](mailto:SkylineGrange894@msn.com). Monthly meetings are held on most second Mondays of each month at 7:30 p.m. ☐



*Our Grange hall sustained structural damage when an uninsured motorist lost control (Photo: S. Speroff)*

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► **The "Big One"** (continued from p. 1)

popened, before it will be ready to respond. Therefore, he said everyone should keep a surplus (to last 2-4 weeks) of necessary medications, food, water, clothes, and pet food.

**Session Two**

The first speaker at the Dec. 7 event was Tim Cook, owner of NW Seismic ([www.nwseismic.com](http://www.nwseismic.com)), a local company that specializes in retrofitting older homes in the Portland area to better withstand earthquakes.

He said that some sort of seismic anchoring has been required for new residential construction since 1978. Since a major Portland building code revision in 1995, these have generally taken the form of an anchor bolt set in the concrete foundation to secure the wood framing above. Unfortunately, neither contractors nor inspectors have taken appropriate care in installation of these anchors so many are not effective. Homeowners should be aware that neither a permit nor inspection guarantees safety.

Tim said that modern seismic retrofit anchors are installed on the inside face of the foundation and attach to the side framing mudsill. Any anchor provides protection in only one direction, so they need to be installed equally on all sides of a structure despite any dimensional differences.

He referred people to the Portland Bureau of Development Services, for helpful information on seismic retrofiting. See <http://www.portlandoregon.gov/bds/53562> and <http://www.portlandoregon.gov/bds/article/334429>.

The second speaker was Barry Newman, a leader of the Westside Heights Neighborhood Emergency Team (NET). Everyone should think about what they would do in the event of a natural disaster such as an earthquake, he advised, and proceeded to review in detail the basics of

personal and family preparedness.

Part of pre-disaster planning is to consider where you and your family members live, work, or attend school, and then how you might have to get everyone from there back home. Does your family have an alternative meeting place in case you are not able to reach your home right away?

He said that although Oregon officials recommend having supplies on hand to shelter in place for two weeks, realistically people in our neighborhood should be prepared for much longer. Current estimates to restore the following services in the Willamette Valley are 1-3 months for electricity, 2-4 months to rebuild police and fire stations, 6-12 months for priority roads, and 18 months for healthcare facilities.

Barry listed the basic requirements for survival: water (need 1 gallon/person/day minimum), food (non-perishable), heat, shelter, and medical supplies, including prescriptions. He said you should think about whether you will shelter in place, and for how long, vs. going to a shelter, vs. travelling in survival mode. Each of these options requires different planning. He reminded the audience that shelters usually do not accept pets.

"Bug Out Bags" are essential to have in the event you must evacuate at short notice, for example if threatened by wildfire. The contents are similar to preparing for a backpacking trip, and include clothing (seasonally appropriate), food and water for three days, cooking supplies, shelter, tools, first aid, personal hygiene, medications, etc.

During an earthquake, Barry said the best advice is to Drop, Cover and Hold On until the shaking stops. Do not attempt to run outside or move to another location inside your house until it is over. After the quake, you will need to assess the damage to your surroundings, make sure your family members are safe, and then implement your plans and preparations. □

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► **Stream Erosion** (continued from p. 7)

tive action and attention, you can preserve this valuable resource. After all, it is the foundation for all of our food and life as we know it!

For tips for streamside landowners, see the Healthy Streams Program page of the West Multnomah Soil and

Water Conservation District. For technical assistance on how to restore your rural riparian areas, contact Kammy Kern-Korot, Senior Conservationist, at [kammy@wmswcd.org](mailto:kammy@wmswcd.org). For general soil erosion questions, you can also email [info@wmswcd.org](mailto:info@wmswcd.org). □

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### ➤ **Old Husky & Young Duck** (continued from p. 4)

were reviewing a call, I said out loud to no one in particular "I wonder what they are reviewing?" I was hoping that it would be in the Huskies favor so that I could say something outwardly non-aggressive yet still understatedly superior such as "Well then", or possibly "There you have it". My daughter, wearing a green jacket with a large partisan letter 'O' on the back that I bought for her, said something that clearly let me know we were not rooting for the same team anymore. In a tone of voice which could have been interpreted as being "under her breath" but clearly loud enough to be heard by most of the fans remaining in our section she answered, "Whether or not you still suck."

I looked at her in disbelief as a father that had taught his one and only child from birth to be gracious in defeat (even when you know the other team just got lucky and the officiating was clearly biased) and, to be humble in victory, (even though you know the other team truly deserves the beat down they just received and should be glad we didn't tack on another 20 points even though we clearly could have.) Pretending she was merely citing an authoritative source, she shrugged her shoulders and stated, as if helping to clarify, "Ruling on the field is: you do."

Shocked, shocked I was. For 19 years my daughter and I had happily watched sporting events always rooting for the same team. In good times and bad, even when she would have rather been doing other things, I taught her to root for whatever team I happened to like that day, and she did. I tried to say something positive like "Your team isn't completely hopeless..", but was quickly interrupted. With

an assertive, upright posture she looked me square in the eye and in a clear, confident voice said "AND THE RULING IS CONFIRMED".

I did not know how to respond because:

1. I was on the receiving end of a very clever insult that I completely deserved.

2. I was trying so hard not to laugh that Junior Mints nearly came out of my nose.  
and lastly,

3. My daughter is becoming her own person and clearly no longer needs her Dad to tell her what team she should root for.

The Huskies won that day 70-21, breaking a 12-year run in which the Ducks beat the Huskies by an average score of 42 to 19. I don't know if saying this makes it any easier for Duck fans, and I say this in all honesty as a loyal fan of a longtime rival, you truly deserved it, and we easily could have scored 20 more points.

I am glad that my daughter is true to her school. I am very proud to see her grow into a beautiful, smart, well educated young woman with a terrific sense of humor. With the University of Utah joining the PAC-12, and my daughter attending the University of Oregon, there are now 3 PAC-12 teams represented under our roof, at least during school holidays. All three of us are getting better at agreeing when to disagree. And, even though she no longer relies solely on her parents to guide her in what is right, what is wrong, and what teams to root for, I take comfort knowing there is one rock solid belief that all of us, as a family, believe in, and will continue to believe in, no matter what the future may hold: Wazzu sucks. ☐



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**Rent the Skyline Grange.** Planning an event? The Grange may be the perfect spot. Contact Pat Barnard at

503.522.0904 or pbarnard2@aol.com. Visit [www.srnpdx.org](http://www.srnpdx.org) and click Skyline Grange.

**You can eliminate Scotch broom, holly, and other woody shrubs** and sapling trees easily with a weed wrench. SRN has a weed wrench loan program. We have three sizes (small, medium, and large) available at no charge. Contact Sen at 503.621.3331 for the large and medium weed wrenches located on Skyline near mile marker 15. Contact Laura at 503.407.7175 for the small weed wrench located on McNamee Rd.



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## Community Calendar

**Tuesday, Jan. 10, 6 p.m.** SRN Board of Directors regular meeting at the Skyline Grange (basement), 11275 NW Skyline Blvd. All are welcome to attend.

**Monday, Jan. 9, 7:30 p.m.** Skyline Grange monthly meetings, 11275 NW Skyline Blvd.

**Wednesday, Jan. 25, 7 p.m.** The "Big One," Part 3. "Getting Ready: Strength in Community: Preparing Together." Speakers will discuss community organization, neighborhood teams, communication with the outside world, Portland Public School protocols and local emergency services. Skyline Grange, 11275 NW Skyline Blvd.

**Monday, Feb. 13, 7:30 p.m.** Skyline Grange monthly meetings, 11275 NW Skyline Blvd.


**Monday, Mar. 13, 7:30 p.m.** Skyline Grange monthly meetings, 11275 NW Skyline Blvd.

**Sunday, Feb. 26, 9:30-11:30 a.m.** Pancakes, Etc. Community Brunch, Skyline Grange, 11275 NW Skyline Blvd.

**Friday, March 10, 9 a.m. -7 p.m. & Saturday, March 11, 9 a.m. -5 p.m.** Skyline Grange's Spring Garage Sale.

**Friday-Saturday, TBA in April.** Skyline Grange's Annual Tree & Native Plant Sale. Check the Newline and

SRN website calendar for details.

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