

Skyline Ridge Runner

April 2017

Skyline Ridge Neighbors

Vol. 29, No. 2

A Nonprofit Neighborhood Association Serving Northwestern Multnomah County, Oregon

Your Help Needed for SOLVE Annual Clean Up, April 22

By Laurel Erhardt

SRN invites you to show some pride in our beautiful neighborhood with a few hours of volunteer time. Once again, we will host a neighborhood clean up for SOLVE, the organization dedicated to keeping Oregon clean.

Each year, SOLVE mobilizes over 35,000 volunteers and organizes over 1,000 cleanup and restoration projects throughout the state, including Skyline ridge. Over the years, we have collected tons of garbage, recycled tons of metal, hauled hundreds of illegally dumped tires to proper disposal, reported potentially hazardous materials to authorities, and one year, found many sacks of videos that all had public library labels (which we also reported).

It's sad to see the wilderness abused like this, but it's so rewarding to get out the door, and help be a part of the solution. Every year, neighbors near and far come for a morning outing and workout catered to their comfort level, to pick up litter along our public roads.

Whether you feel like climbing the gullies of Logie

Trail, or just getting the stretch of road in front of your house picked up, come join us in this community effort - part of the great SOLVE volunteer cleanup that stretches across the State of Oregon.

How to join in? On the morning of Saturday April 22, come to the former church across from Skyline School, 11539 NW Skyline Blvd. There you will be assigned a route of your choosing, pick up a morning treat and a garbage sack, chat with your neighbors a bit, and be on your way.

It will be helpful if you pre-register at the SOLVE website: <http://www.solveoregon.org/get-involved/events/skyline-ridge-neighborhood-cleanup>. If you like to help, but you're not so much into walking the roads picking up litter?

There are many other ways to help. Send us an email (srn@srn-pdx.org), or call Laurel at 971-804-

1667, and we will discuss what you can do to help. Thank you for helping, and thank you for being a part of what makes our neighborhood such a special place to live! ☐



B.J. Richards and Diane Edwards are all smiles while helping the SOLVE cleanup last year (Photo: L. Erhardt)"

Learn How to Prepare by Mapping Your Neighborhood, April 26

By Rachael Brake

Skyline Ridge Neighbors will hold its annual Spring Meeting in conjunction with another emergency preparedness session on April 26, 2017, starting at 6 p.m. at the Skyline Grange. It will begin with a brief business meeting to present the annual report, Treasurer's report, and elect the 2017-2018 SRN Board of Directors. Current Board members up for re-election are: Laurel Erhardt, George Sowder, Brad Graff, and Sue Kenney. New Board members that the community will vote on are Rachael Brake and Grant Rolette.

If you would like to learn more about SRN, how to become involved, or what sort of time commitment being a SRN Board member requires, please contact Laurel Erhardt (laurel.erhardt@gmail.com) or any board member listed in this Ridge Runner on page 2.

The preparedness portion of the meeting will be a "kick-off" for a "Map Your Neighborhood" effort. The speaker will be Alice Busch from the Multnomah County Emergency Management Division. As the Division Chief of Operations, she is responsible for managing the office's training, exercise, duty officer, and community preparedness programs. She is also responsible for ensuring overall operational readiness, and the staffing and management of the Emergency Operations Center.

The "Map Your Neighborhood" (MYN) program was developed by Dr. LuAn Johnson, first in Sunnyvale, CA and later in Seattle, WA. This award-winning program has proven its effectiveness in the Loma Prieta, CA earthquake and the Nisqually (Seattle) Earthquake on February 28,

Neighborhood Mapping, p. 9 ►

Skyline Ridge Runner

Editor: Miles Merwin

Contributing Editor: Laura Foster

Page Composition & Graphics: Agnes Kwan

Printing & Mailing: Linda Pooley

Copy Editor: Libby Merwin

Contributors: Rachael Brake, Kim Johnson, Sen Speroff, Christina Lent, Jim Cathcart, Steve Bowers, Jen Gorski

Send comments, articles, opinions and advertising requests to the Ridge Runner, 14416 NW Skyline Blvd., Portland, OR 97231, ridgerunner@srnpdx.org, or fax to 503.621.3450. Deadlines for all submissions are the 15th day of March, June, September, and December unless otherwise announced. Letters to the Editor are welcome, but must include your name and phone number for verification. Letters may be edited for length.

→ *Deadline for the next issue is June 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)

Laurel Erhardt, President & Secretary / 503.621.3501
president@srnpdx.org
secretary@srnpdx.org

John Eskew, Treasurer / 503.349.7031
treasurer@srnpdx.org

George Sowder, Land Use / 503.621.3552

Rachel Brake / 503.624.3423

Grant Rolette / 503.624.3423

Brad Graff / 503.292.1614

Rebecca Jenkins / 503.621.3392

Sue Kenney / 503.621.3710

Suzanne Perra / 503.866.9289

Skyline Rural Watch Newsline

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

SRN Website

Visit 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.

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

Treasurer's Report

By John Eskew

SRN Income & Expenses 2016

BEGINNING BALANCE 12/31/2015 \$21,779

INCOME

Advertising	1,067
Donations	1,437
Summer Gathering (net)	5,073
Interest	56

TOTAL INCOME 7,633

EXPENSES

Administration	441
Ridge Runner	3,443
Website	107
TOTAL EXPENSES	3,991

NET INCOME/EXPENSE 3,642

ENDING BALANCE 12/31/16 \$25,421

Thanks for Your Donations!

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

~ Ralph Locke
~ Carol Chesarek

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.

There's more online at
www.srnpdx.org

In Disasters, Most People Are Rescued by Their Neighbors

By Rachael Brake

The third installment in the lecture series on earthquake preparedness, sponsored by the Skyline Grange and SRN, was held on January 25 and featured two speakers: Jeremy Van Keuren, NET Coordinator for the City of Portland, and Claudia Steiner-Fricker, Deputy Supervisor of Programs, for Beaverton CERT. The following is a summary of their presentations. Find the complete summary on the SRN website: <http://www.srnpx.org/big-one-3.html>.

Jeremy Van Keuren – NET Coordinator, City of Portland

About 92-98% of people rescued in a disaster are rescued by their neighbors. We can empower ourselves and our community to help ourselves in a disaster. The types of emergencies experienced in Portland include floods, fires, toxic spills, snow, ice, gas explosions and earthquakes.

The Neighborhood Emergency Teams (NET) program is administered by the City of Portland, Bureau of Emergency Management. Portland Fire and Rescue does the NET training. Volunteers learn the following skills: 1) How to conduct search and rescue, 2) How to perform medical triage, 3) How to shut off utilities, 4) Radio communication, and 5) Team organization.

Training is 30 hours; 25 hours of classroom instruction and 5 hours in the field for practical experience. Training is free of charge but individuals are required to purchase their own tools and supplies. Once training is completed, volunteers are expected to give back 12 hours/year to their NET team. Classes are conducted on three consecutive Saturdays. If you miss one of the three classes, you can make it up when the classes are offered again, but you cannot be certified until you have completed all of the classes and the field work. The field work is scheduled separately from the classroom work.

NET teams work together to create an operational plan (how they will communicate and work together) specific to their neighborhood/team. Once an individual has completed NET training, he/she is eligible to take the advanced classes offered by PBEM, such as standard first aid, wilderness first aid and drone operations for disasters and to participate in a simulated disaster in which volunteers play wounded victims and NET volunteers are sent in to do search and rescue exercises. Radio operators can be certified as such without the full 30 hours of training

if someone who cannot become a full NET member still wants to be involved. There are fees/charges for the all of these advanced classes.

NET teams are deployed using a “reverse 911” call system. The NET coordinator is able to identify NET teams/members by area and a robocall goes out to the

appropriate team members. NET teams augment the agency in charge of a given situation. Operational plans are a necessity for these deployments. Members do have the option to decline a deployment if necessary.

Online registration is via the website: <https://www.portlandoregon.gov/pbem/31667>. After online registration is submitted, applicants will receive an email confirmation along with a link to 17 prerequisite videos. Viewing time for the videos is about 2 hours.

At the same time, PBEM will be conducting a criminal background check on each individual. After both of those are completed, applicants receive another email with available class information. Right now, there is a backlog of about 1,300 applicants. The next scheduled classes start April 29 at Benson High School. PBEM intends to include about 500 applicants in that session. Those 500 will be divided up into much smaller classes for the training. Another session will be conducted in the fall.

The closest NET team to our neighborhood is Northwest Heights, but forming another team located in our neighborhood is possible given adequate interest and participation from community members. Although NET was created for residents that live or work in the City of Portland, the City will work with our community.

Claudia Steiner-Fricker: Deputy Supervisor of Programs, Beaverton CERT

The majority of people do survive a disaster. The challenge is what you do next. There is a difference between a disaster and an emergency. In an emergency, you can call someone for help. In a disaster, no one will be coming to your aid. That makes you and your neighbors “first responders”.

The Beaverton CERT program has 467 active and reserved CERT members, 53 members of CERT Radio who are not CERT members, 6 amateur radio operators, 16 community outreach volunteers and a school reunification



Jeremy Van Keuren spoke at the Skyline Grange Jan. 25 about training for Neighborhood Emergency Team volunteers (Photo: S. Speroff)

Forest Park Collaborative Conservation Meeting, May 16

From West Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District

The Greater Forest Park Conservation Initiative (GFPCI) will be the focus of a one-day conference on May 16, from 8:00 am to 3:30 pm, at the World Forestry Center in Portland. GFPCI is a 20-year, collaborative strategy to restore and protect over 15,000 acres of public and private land within the greater Forest Park ecosystem. Spearheaded by the Forest Park Conservancy in cooperation with the City of Portland Parks and Recreation and many other partners, the GFPCI addresses serious threats to the health of this ecosystem by bringing together public, private, and non-profit partners as well as community volunteers to restore Forest Park and the surrounding area, a regional landscape contributing to the health and well being of our community.

A collaboration of partners is dedicated to conserving important regional habitats in partnership with the greater Portland community. Through the GFPCI, partners will add value to the public's investment by ensuring that Forest Park's natural resources and surrounding connected habitats are protected and preserved for generations to come. This conference will highlight work by public, private and non-profit partners working to protect and restore our urban landscape right here in Portland. Speakers will share their work on four main topics, including streams and watershed health, wildlife and connectivity, forest health, and community engagement.

Titled "Collaborative Conservation in the Urban Landscape," the meeting is organized by Forest Park Conservancy, West Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District, Oregon Department of Forestry, and Metro, in cooperation with Portland Parks and Recreation and with financial support from the US Forest Service.

To register, please follow this link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/greater-forest-park-conservation-initiative-collaborative-conservation-in-the-urban-landscape-tickets-32637184698>. The fee for early registration before May 1st is \$50; after May 1 the cost is \$60. Student registration is \$25. Registration includes a buffet lunch (vegetarian options available). □



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Garlic Mustard Control - A Decade Old Effort Continues

By Sen Speroff

Hard to believe that for a decade local residents have dedicated many volunteer hours each spring in search of invasive garlic mustard growing along our roadsides and on properties. Now for the 11th spring, SRN and Skyline Grange encourage you to learn to identify this plant, monitor your property and roadsides, and join in the effort to pull all found garlic mustard plants and to properly dispose of them before they go to seed. You can bring plants securely placed in plastic bags to the collection site at Skyline Grange, 11275 NW Skyline Blvd. from March 25 to June 15. Please fill out the information form at the site so we can identify sites being monitored.

West Multnomah Soil and Water Conversation District (Michelle Delepine 503-238-4775) and City of Portland's Bureau of Environmental Services (Mitch Bixby, 503-823-2989) will be out with crews monitoring, pulling and spraying along the public right of way and on properties where the landowners have submitted a Permit of Entry for treatment to the agency. WMSWCD serves unincorporated Northwest Multnomah County and BES obviously serves lands within Portland city limits.

The goal is to pull ALL garlic mustard plants found before they go to seed, usually by mid-June. There is concern that during this winter of crazy snow and rains, garlic mustard seeds may have been spread to new locations by flowing water, snow plowing/shoveling, roadside ditch cleaning, etc.

Plants pull pretty easily, you just have to be diligent to pull the roots too, have a hawk-eye and patience to spot all the plants, and to take precautions not to spread seeds further as you work. If you would like to join a GM Pull Party to pull along Skyline (Newberry to Germantown), Old Sky-

line, Newberry, and Germantown (Skyline to Multnomah County line), plus a couple of properties along those roads, call Sen at 503-708-1414 or email skylinegrange894@msn.com for more information or to say you are coming. We'll teach you to identify the plants and what to do. Dress for the weather, wear gloves and sturdy shoes. Meet at Skyline Grange:

- Thursday, April 6 at 9 a.m. - noon
- Thursday, April 20 at 9 a.m. - noon
- Thursday, May 11 at 9 a.m. - noon
- Sunday, May 7 at 6-9 a.m. to pull along Germantown Road before the traffic starts

To learn more about our Skyline Resident-Based Garlic Mustard Control Effort, visit: <http://www.srnpdx.org/garlic-mustard-overview.html>; <http://www.srnpdx.org/garlic-mustard-control.html>; and <http://www.srnpdx.org/garlic-mustard-team-effort.html>.

Self-Guided Roadside Tour of Skyline Weeds

View, close up and personal, plants growing along our roadsides that are on Oregon's Noxious Weed List and/or are weeds of concern. This year's tour will be May 20-28. A guiding map can be obtained at Plainview Grocery and at the front entrance of Skyline Grange starting May 19. Weeds will be labeled along Skyline (Newberry to Elliott Rd.), Old Cornelius Pass Rd. (Skyline to Rock Creek Rd.), Rock Creek Rd (all), and Elliott Rd (all).

Interested in bad weeds? Want to help with this tour? Contact Sen at 503-708-1414. She needs assistance with locating weeds to be labeled and putting up signs. □

Logs to Lumber to Living: Build a Cabin in Your Woods

By Steve Bowers, OSU Extension

What's better than woodland ownership? How about living there? Or at least the opportunity for a secluded weekend. Whether it's a primary residence or second home, utilization of resources, or resale value, building on your woodlands consists of a number of things you need to consider.

Among those are: permits, material costs (portable mills versus big box stores), design features, amenities (water, septic, electricity), optional accessories (ponds, docks, decks, fire pits ...make it your own), and access/liability (roads, gates, fire, safety features).

To get you started, I prepared a slide show that highlights many of these topics and outlines all the things you'll need to plan for to build a cabin in your woods. View the PDF file here: [http://www.srnpdx.org/logs-to-lumber-to-](http://www.srnpdx.org/logs-to-lumber-to-living.html)

[living.html](http://www.srnpdx.org/logs-to-lumber-to-living.html).

We have also made available a program that assists you in determining how big of a log you'll need if/when you incorporate that open-beam ceiling: a cornerstone in any upscale cabin. You can download this spreadsheet that can help with design specs:

http://knowyourforest.org/sites/default/files/documents/WWPA_Beams-Joists.xls

If you have any questions, please write to me: steve.bowers@oregonstate.edu. □



Create It and They Will Come: Attracting Native Birds

By Jen Gorski, OSU Extension Forestry Education

Western bluebird, *Sialia mexicana*, is an Oregon native and classified at the state level as a vulnerable species that is likely to become endangered unless conditions are remedied. Their preferred habitat includes open forest stands, oak woodlands with meadows, forest edges, areas where most large trees have been removed from logging, fire or wind blowdown. Do you have the appropriate conditions in your woodland for these attractive birds?

Western bluebirds measure about seven inches in length with an average wingspan of 13.5" and they weigh about an ounce. They eat insects in the summer: beetles, ants, moth larvae, grasshoppers, and need perches (like tree limbs or fenceposts) so they can spot their prey. In the winter they eat native fruits and seeds, they do not migrate away from the Willamette Valley. Confirmed Oregon native plants they will eat include serviceberry, Oregon grape, native roses, blue elderberries, red osier dogwood, chokecherry, currants, thimbleberry, orange and hairy honeysuckle and cascara seeds.

They use vacant woodpecker holes and natural tree cavities for their nests, and will also use manmade homes if you wish to make your own, (Nestbox plans can be found at <http://www.nabluebirdsociety.org/nestboxes/east-westbox.htm>.) Situate nestboxes on poles with baffles to keep away cats and raccoons, some of their primary predators.

Their numbers have decreased primarily due to the introduction of the House Sparrow from Europe and the European starling which take over their nesting sites, destroy eggs, and kill chicks and adults. It is recommended that you monitor the nesting sites to keep out the predators (Monitoring information can be found at <http://www.nabluebirdsociety.org/PDF/FAQ/NABS%20factsheet%20-%20Monitoring%20-%2024May12%20DRAFT.pdf>.) Once you know that the first bluebird egg has been laid, it is advised that you install mylar strips to keep away the non-native birds from the nest. (More on information on Mylar can be found at: <http://www.sialis.org/sparrowspooker.htm>.)

Western bluebirds begin breeding in May, they can produce up to two broods/year of two-eight eggs. The female incubates the eggs for about two weeks and the male and female continue to feed the chicks after they leave the

nest while the female prepares a nest for the next brood.

Olive-Sided Flycatcher

Another bird that merits habitat enhancement is the olive-sided flycatcher (*Contopus cooperi*). This is a federal species of concern that is declining so is important to monitor, and is in need of conservation actions. They are also listed as a vulnerable species from the International Union of Conservation of Nature, so are facing threats to their population or habitat. It is believed that loss of habitat on wintering ground in Central and South America, as well as non-optimum conditions in the northern nesting areas are the reasons for their decline.

They prefer conifer forests with uneven canopies which provide lookout perches from which they can swoop down and catch flying insects in mid-air. Burned or logged forests with plenty of live trees and dead snags, mosaic of clearings in forested areas next to moist meadows, streams or ponds with plenty of flying insects are what is needed. It's best if the remaining trees are grouped together in many different groups rather than solitary trees where the flycatchers can become easy pickings for stalking predators: peregrine falcons, Douglas and northern flying squirrels, ravens, and jays.

They are about seven inches long and weigh about one ounce. Their favorite insects are bees but they also eat wasps, ants and other flying insects.

They overwinter in tropical areas then come up north to breed, males come first in late April-May and females follow. Nests are built on the outer lengths of branches way up in tall conifers which are formed into open cups interwoven with twigs, small roots, and lichens.

Olive-sided flycatchers are late nesters with egg laying in mid-June to mid-July, typically one brood/year with two-five eggs incubated by the female. The male feeds the female and both parents feed the young.

Habitat can be enhanced with prescribed burning and understory thinning to create patchy mosaics. Limit post-fire salvage by retaining large trees or snags in logged or burned areas or by creating snags. Minimize pesticide spraying near the nesting birds. This species is listed as a vulnerable species in Oregon whose habitat may be limited due to the need for insects found in large diameter live



Western bluebirds (Photo: OSU Extension)



Olive-sided flycatcher (Photo: OSU Extension)

Red Neck Internet

By Kim Johnson

I don't read my mail. It would be a full time job. Most of it I use to start fires. I'm not recommending my methods, simply pointing out what works for me. Every once in a blue moon I miss something. Like the notice from my internet company.

If you forget to pay a bill or accidentally incinerate it, the billing company is super nice and simply sends you a new one. Sometimes they even put big words on it like "overdue" or "final notice" as a helpful reminder. Here's where the confusing part comes in, at least for me. Sometimes billing companies send you information that has little or nothing to do with your bill. This can be multiple pages of paper that tell you things you don't really need to know or have time to read, like the company's privacy policy or lists of ways the company has decided they are great. I burn these things.

My internet provider sent me something. It wasn't a bill. I didn't read it. I was trying to burn a brush pile; I didn't have time to read. I added it to the fire. They sent me another one. I thought that was weird. I scanned it. They informed me I was using too much internet. I laughed. Out loud. Can you actually use too much internet? How does that even work? I was paying for internet service, I figured I could google stuff.

Toward the end of the summer things got real. I received another notice, this one was serious. You can tell when companies are serious because they use bold font and words like "terminating." The internet was serious and this time I didn't laugh, I inquired, not with the company, but with my children. When children are confronted with the suggestion that they might have done something wrong they use words like "huh?" and "wait, what?"

It turns out that while I was busy burning brush piles my children were downloading things. Lots of things. One of my children loves video games, he plays them on his computer and often buys and downloads them to his desktop computer. It turns out some of these games are really big in terms of gigabytes, and sometimes took a few days to download. My other child likes to binge watch Netflix. Twenty-two episodes of 30 Rock in a row. I noticed our internet was slower than usual during these times but didn't think much of it because I was busy burning brush piles. The internet company noticed though, it turns out they keep track of these things. So I called.

Calling a large company is not fun. Forget about navigating the automated menu, when you finally get a human on the phone it's never clear if they are giving you the correct information. In this case I talked to five different people and they all told me the same thing. We sent you a notice, you ignored it. We sent you another notice, you ignored it, so we sent you a notice to tell you your internet was being turned off. It was true, I came home from the store and found both of my children on the floor suffering

from acute internet withdrawal syndrome. This syndrome is recognizable by massive eye rolling, tears, and phrases like, "I literally can't even," and "FML"- what ever that means.

So I called, again. This time I was the one with the tears and using phrases like "I literally can't even...you know, google things. How can I live?" The call center was unsympathetic. I didn't blame them, not really. It was my fault for not reading the mail or paying attention to the tiny, fine print on the contract saying...nothing about how much internet you can use, just not too much. Whatever. Insert eye roll. I'm not one to give up. I found a solution called a business account. I simply pay more money for the same service. It's brilliant.

After six hours of no internet, a time our family refers to as the arduous march, I now keep track of who is using the internet and how much downloading is going on. We have cleverly combated the downloading problem with a laptop, capitalizing on the free internet provided by places like Starbucks, which if anyone on the hill is wondering, has seventy times faster internet download speeds than what we can get through DSL. This might not seem like a big deal for people with a high speed connection but as my children like to point out, even refugee camps have better internet than us.

Life in the country has many advantages, high speed internet isn't one of them. Country life, however, does provide things like big trucks and generators. When it became necessary to download video game updates to my son's desktop computer, which according to him would require a \$@#% ton of internet, I told him I had a workaround. I ran the idea by my husband, a computer engineer. He made it clear he thought I was nuts but he used the phrase "theoretically workable," and that was all I needed to hear. We loaded the desk top computer, monitor, keyboard, mouse, the whole shebang into the truck. We put the generator in the back. We grabbed an extension cord and drove to Starbucks. It only took six hours and five cups of coffee to download all of the updates, something that would have taken weeks at home. Unencrypted wireless and coffee. Two things that are so great, I literally can't even. □



► **Rescue in Disaster** (continued from p. 3)

team. Beaverton CERT's motto is "Big or Small, Prepare for Them All".

Map Your Neighborhood (MYN) is a tool used to meet the needs of the community. It was used effectively in the Loma Prieta, CA earthquake. The process inventories the skills, resources and equipment in your neighborhood (who has what, who knows what and who can do what), creates a neighborhood map with homes and other features, identifies those who may need help and creates a phone/contact list. Neighborhoods that are prepared are better able to save lives and property. Implementation of MYN is easy; get together with up to 20 of your neighbors, watch the MYN program DVD, learn the 9 steps to take immediately following a disaster and make a few important decisions together. Start creating your map.

Skills to inventory:

- First aid knowledge
- Search and rescue knowledge
- Plumbing knowledge
- Fire fighting knowledge
- Elder care skills
- Coordinating and organizing skills

Equipment to inventory:

- First aid supplies
- Tents/spare bedding
- Chain saws
- Generator
- Radios/walkie-talkies
- Camp stoves

Nine steps to follow after a quake:

1. Take care of yourself and your family
2. Protect your head, feet and hands. Store a hardhat, sturdy shoes, leather gloves and a flashlight under your bed for quick access.
3. Check natural gas or propane connections. Prevent fires by turning off gas or propane. Learn how to turn them off ahead of time (1/4 turn of rectangular knob to horizontal). Keep a wrench tied to the valve. Although this may not apply to many residents in this neighborhood, it's an essential step in many cases.
4. Shut off water at the house main to keep pollutants from entering your system. Wells will be vulnerable as well as the public water system. Use safe water sources such as stored water, hot water heater, toilet tank.
5. Put out either the "OK" or "HELP" sign from the MYN booklet where your neighbors can see it.
6. Put your fire extinguisher in a place accessible to your neighbors (sidewalk in an urban situation or your front yard in a rural situation). You should only use a home fire extinguisher for SMALL fires. Learn how to use one properly.
7. Go to the neighborhood gathering site that you

selected in your first neighborhood meeting.

8. Form teams at the gathering site; team functions would include monitoring communications, checking on neighbors, disabled and minors. Always operate in pairs!
9. Return to the neighborhood gathering site to report on what you found.

Preparedness is a matter of choice. What role do you want to play in the next emergency? Victim (a person who suffers from a destructive or injurious action), survivor (a person who continues to function or prosper in spite of opposition, hardship or setbacks), or partner (a person who shares or is associated with another in some action or endeavor)? To be a partner you need to get involved and get training. Learn First Aid/CPR, learn about home safety/fire safety, become an amateur radio operator, take Red Cross courses, get CERT or NET training.

For MYN supplies, you can contact Sharon Gray at Washington County, Sharon.gray@co.Washington.or.us or 503-846-7580. Tell Sharon you took the MYN training from Beaverton CERT. Or contact Claudia Steiner-Fricker at claudiasteinerfricker@gmail.com or 503-608-9735. Claudia oversees Beaverton's CERT medical team, training, outreach, radios and MYN.

Skyline Grange is in contact with both Sharon and Claudia and is arranging to get MYN supplies for the neighborhood. Everyone who signed in at this session is considered to be MYN trained. Please contact Rachael Brake at rcmbake@hotmail.com or 503.621.3423 if you attended but did not sign in. □

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► **Native Birds** (continued from p. 6)

trees or snags.

Pileated Woodpeckers

As many people know, Woody the Woodpecker was modeled after this unique bird with a large crested red head who creates a loud drumming sound when searching for their favorite insect, carpenter ants. They measure about 18" long with a wingspan up to 30" and a weight up to 12 ounces. They also consume beetles and larvae, termites, other insects, seeds, nuts, and fruit. Their predators are squirrels, hawks, and tree climbing snakes.

They are non-migratory, monogamous, live about nine years and can occupy territories of about 1,000 acres year round. In their courtship dance, one bird bows, scrapes and steps sideways in a circle around the other bird. After a mate is chosen, they make large rectangular cavities usually in dead trees 15-80 feet above the ground. Larger diameter trees are typically chosen to accommodate the large cavities. Nest construction can take three-six weeks with a cavity depth of one-two feet! Creating a cavity can be found at this You Tube link: <https://youtu.be/LPiCAPi-btr4>. They make multiple entry holes so they can escape from predators.

They breed in April and produce two-six eggs which are then incubated by both parents. Both parents feed the chicks by regurgitation. The parents and young birds live together for two-three months during which they are taught how to find food by their parents who probe in dead wood to search for insects. The young go off in search of their own territories in the fall after they are well equipped

with parental advice.

Pileated woodpeckers help up to 24 species in the forest who use the holes they create for their own nests and homes. This bird helps recycle forest nutrients by actively breaking up dead wood in search of insects. They decrease populations of insects. If they are present in your woodland, suet feeders can bring them closer to key spots for better viewing.

Steps we can take to provide good habitat when we know that these woodpeckers are present:

- Remove wood mechanically instead of burning to retain their food source-insects. Carpenter ants are eliminated by fire.
- Retain abundant supply of large logs and dead trees.
- They prefer older timber stands with large Douglas-fir (70-100 years old).
- They will also nest in nest boxes about 15 feet above the ground.

The following are some websites used for reference and for more detail:

Olive-sided flycatchers: http://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb5182039.pdf

Pileated woodpeckers: https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Pileated_Woodpecker/lifehistory
<http://www.fs.fed.us/pnw/science/scifi109.pdf>

Reprinted from Woodland Notes, OSU Extension Service, Clackamas & Marion Cos., July-Aug. 2016 □

► **Neighborhood Mapping** (continued from p. 1)

2001 when 92% of 460 organized neighborhoods effectively responded by utilizing the 9-Step Neighborhood Disaster Response Plan. (See pg. 8 for more about MYN.)

At the upcoming "kick-off" session, there will be MYN packets available, samples of maps and inventories and other hand-out information. After the formal presentation,

there will be time for questions and perhaps even working sessions towards developing your own maps. □



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It's Been A Wildly Busy Winter

By Sen Speroff

In December 2016, a car crashed into our building - not weather related and no driver's insurance.

In January, we essentially closed the building down while WA Hughes Construction repaired the \$11,000 damages from the car crash. We took the opportunity for Hughes to also repair three non-weight-bearing beams which were deteriorating from too many soggy winters. We had the lighting in the lower level completely updated and now we can see and have switches in convenient locations. This project was done in part through a matching grant from Oregon State Grange. We cleaned and reorganized many of the storage areas so they are more convenient for building users.

In February, about 100 people attended our 8th annual Community Brunch. The light snow flurries didn't deter attendees from consuming made-from-scratch pancakes, waffles, quiches, and baked goods, fresh fruit and 5 gallons of coffee.

In March, we supported Skyline School by providing the venue for its Pre-Auction Party. Thirty local households donated items to our spring garage sale. Thirty-two people were standing at the front door awaiting opening. We are very appreciative of the community support in donations and attendance. It is more than a garage sale, it is a community social event.

A Moth, A Beetle, and a Stinky Bug!

We are planning a presentation from Oregon Department of Agriculture on three invasive insects of concern. Two have been found nearby: Japanese Beetle in Cedar Mill/Bethany area and Asian Gypsy Moth that was treated last year in parts of Forest Park and in St. Johns. In addition, some of you may unwillingly be living with the Brown Marmorated Stink Bug (*Halyomorpha halys*). All three of these insects are a threat to your garden and landscaping and certainly to Oregon agricultural products. Come and learn to identify them, hear what ODA is doing to control their spread, learn about the traps ODA has hung around our area in order to monitor for bad insects, and learn what you can do to help ODA. As soon as the meeting date is confirmed, it will be announced on SRN's Newsline. You

may not think bugs could be an interesting topic, but our ODA speaker will prove that wrong. Come!

Tree & Native Plant Sale

Our annual plant sale will occur on Friday-Saturday, April 14-15. All stock comes from licensed nurseries. Bareroot Section has fruit-bearing, shade and ornamental trees and shrubs. The Native Plant Section has over 90 different species of PNW natives. We'll also have information on how to plant bareroots; resources on caring for fruit trees; noxious weeds; and lists of native plants best for sun, shade, beneficial insects/pollinators, wildlife, and erosion control. WM-SWCD will provide samples of weeds-of-concern. SRN's Weed Wrench Lending Service will be there.



*Fifteen inches of beautiful snow slowed down repairs to the Grange
(Photo: S. Speroff)*

Keep Up-to-Date on Grange Activities

You can keep up-to-date with happenings at the Grange by visiting www.srnpxd.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. Monthly meetings are held on most second Mondays of each month at 7:30 p.m. The Grange is located at 11275 NW Skyline Blvd.

Join Skyline Grange

If you are looking for a means to be connected and active in your community, consider joining Skyline Grange. We are an energetic group dedicated to supporting our community, and we believe that the Grange should be a place that brings community together. We have lots of projects and ideas limited only by manpower, and are open to new ideas that promote a vibrant Skyline community. Contact skylinegrange894@msn.com for more information. □

Help Wanted: Reliable honest person, ongoing work available. Packing boxes, moving stuff, cleaning, planting, etc. \$10-\$15/hour, more for skilled labor. I also have lots of hardwood/fir logs, & need firewood cut. Will trade for wood, tools, cash, extra Stihl chainsaw, collectables or ? CindyArtRoach@gmail.com Call/text Cindy 503.309.6379.

Scappoose Fire District is accepting applications for Volunteer Firefighters, EMS and Logistics personnel. If you live near our Holbrook Station on Morgan Road, we need you. To learn more, please visit our website: www.srfd.us/volunteer, or contact Jennifer Motherway, 503.396.1841. We provide the training, you provide the heart.

Land Available for Lease. Along Hwy. 30 N. of Cornelius Pass. 20+ acres, partially fenced for grazing, and open fields for crops. Contact Susan 503.621.9551 or Jim 503.720.2802.

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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.

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Rent the Skyline Grange. Planning an event? The Grange may be the perfect spot. Contact skyline-grange894@msn.com. Visit 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 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

Monday, Apr. 10, 7:30 p.m. Skyline Grange monthly meeting, 11275 NW Skyline Blvd.

Tuesday, Apr. 11, 6 p.m. SRN Board of Directors regular meeting. Call 971-804-1667 or email srn@srnpdx.org for location details. All are welcome to attend.

Friday, Apr. 14 – Saturday, Apr. 15, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Tree & Native Plant Sale at Skyline Grange. Wide variety of fruit-bearing, shade and ornamental trees and shrubs, and over 90 different species of PNW natives.

Saturday, Apr. 22, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. SOLVE Neighborhood Roadside Clean-up. Come to the former church across from Skyline School to register and get assignments.

Wednesday, Apr. 26, 6 p.m. Mapping Your Neighborhood for emergency preparation, with speaker from county Emergency Management Division. There will also be an SRN business meeting to elect new and renewing Board members.

Monday, May 8, 7:30 p.m. Skyline Grange monthly meeting, 11275 NW Skyline Blvd.

Tuesday, May 16, 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Collaborative Conservation in the Urban Landscape conference, World Forestry Center, Portland. See story this issue for details.

TBA in May. "A Moth, A Beetle, & A Stinky Bug: Threatening Insects," with speaker from ODA at Skyline Grange. Check Newsline or SRN website calendar for date.

Monday, June 12, 7:30 p.m. Skyline Grange monthly meeting, 11275 NW Skyline Blvd.

Save the Date! The 2017 Summer Gathering will be Saturday, Aug. 26, at the Plumper Pumpkin Patch.



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