

Skyline Ridge Runner

April 2023

Skyline Ridge Neighbors

Vol. 35, No. 2

Nonprofit Neighborhood Association Serving Northwestern Multnomah County, Oregon

Get to Know Your Neighborhood at SRN Spring Meeting, April 20

By Suzanne Perra, SRN President

Come to the Skyline Grange for "Get to Know Your Neighborhood" night. It is Thursday, April 20th at the Skyline Grange (11275 NW Skyline Blvd, Portland, OR. 97231), between 6:30pm to 8:30pm. Feel free to drop by anytime. There will be a quick business meeting where Suzanne Perra will share some business updates, including voting for board members, community updates and the annual treasurer's report. Other than that, you will have a chance to enjoy pizza while mingling with neighbors. Also, as part of the "Get to Know Your Neighborhood" theme, you will have a chance to learn more about our neighborhood.

It's a Pizza Party!

Meet your neighbors at the Skyline Grange for Pizza on April 20th. Children are welcome. Stop by anytime between 6:30-8:30pm. Assorted pizzas will be available. Please **RSVP** to Suzanne Perra at president@srnpdx.org with the number of people in your group. That will help us to order the right number of pizzas. However, please feel free to come regardless of whether you have RSVP'd. We'll have some extra pizza on hand. And bring your own beer or wine to enjoy with the pizza if you wish.

Bring Your Fire Extinguishers

Heather Carpenter, from TVF&R, will be there to

take a look at your fire extinguishers and let you know if she'd recommend a replacement or let you know if it can be refilled. This is not an official inspection since TVF&R doesn't have the liability insurance to cover that. Heather will have information on where to buy them, general costs, recommended locations, etc. She will have a quick demonstration about how to use a fire extinguisher, as well.

Also, Simon from United Fire will be there. Bring your old fire extinguishers to recycle for a fee of \$10 each or a fee of \$5 if you purchase a new extinguisher from United Fire. Simon will bring both 2.5LB (\$50) and 5LB (\$66) fire extinguishers for sale. He will bring a Bullex fire extinguisher simulator for people to learn how to use an extinguisher. There will also be a **raffle for a free fire extinguisher**. Thank you, United Fire!

Get Help with the FCC Internet Survey

Many people in the neighborhood have no or poor internet service. We all need to fill out the FCC Internet Study for our neighborhood to bring funding to our neighborhood for better internet service. Sara Ali, the Digital Access Coordinator for Multnomah County, will be available to answer any questions. SRN Board members Tracey Larvenz and Brad Graff will be there with computers to provide you with any technical help needed to complete these surveys. You will be providing the information and pressing the submit button at the end.

SRN Spring Meeting, p. 9►

Help Beautify Our Roadways on SOLVE Clean-up Day, April 22

By Brad Graff

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, and reported potentially hazardous materials to authorities. It's sad to see the countryside 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.

How to join In?

Register at the Skyline Grange (11275 NW Skyline Blvd.) between 8:30 -10 AM to get SOLVE bags and a route assignment of your choosing. Light refreshments will also be available at the registration table.

It is important to have your filled bags ready on the side of the road no later than noon, as pickup crews will come by at that time. Excess tires & hazardous materials will not be accepted this year.

Thank you for being a part of what makes our neighborhood such a special place to live! ▣

Skyline Ridge Runner

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Send comments, articles, opinions and advertising requests to the Ridge Runner, 17050 NW Skyline Blvd., Portland, OR 97231, or email to ridgerunner@srnpdx.org. 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.

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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. Contact the Editor, Laurel Erhardt, at newslines@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.

There's more online at
www.srnpdx.org

Treasurer's Report

By Rachael Brake, SRN Treasurer

SRN Income & Expenses 2022

BEGINNING BALANCE 12/31/2021 \$14,153

INCOME

Advertising - Newsline	103
Advertising - Ridge Runner	996
Donations	3,961
Summer Gathering	5,439

TOTAL INCOME 10,509

EXPENSES

Administration (Licenses & Fees,	
Bank Charges, Square Fees, etc.)	211
Community Outreach (Weed	
Control)	26
Community Outreach (SOLVE)	65
Ridge Runner (Software, Email Service,	
Printing, Mailing Costs, Postage)	7,198
Fundraising Expenses (SWAG, signs,	
stamps, etc.)	575
Website (Weebly/Hostgator)	102
Rock Creek Road Repair	134

TOTAL EXPENSES 8,311

NET PROFIT/(LOSS) 2,198

ENDING BALANCE 12/31/22 \$16,351

Thanks for Your Donations!

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

~ Charles Bauman

~ Catherine Dalziel

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 Rachael Brake, SRN Treasurer, 14109 NW Rock Creek Rd., Portland, OR 97231. Thank you.

Long-time Skyline Resident Dexter Bacon Passes

By Elinor Markgraf

Dexter Bacon, 83, a 50 year resident of Rock Creek Road, died in his sleep February 3.

If a man's wealth were to be judged by how greatly he is loved, then Dexter was the richest man I know, and certainly the most wealthy up here on our hill. Some would call him a character – which is the name we often give those of a certain age. But that isn't fair – or right. He was a man of many talents, but firstly, he was an artist.

His work has been described as 'ahead of its time' and 'pioneering'. One of his sculptures was part of an exhibit in the Portland Art Museum. He was an inspiration artistically to his students and to those who joined in to help with his countless projects. An artist, a teacher and an inveterate host to all, his knowledge was as formidable as it was varied. If you had a question, he could help you answer it, and a lot of people brought their questions to him.

The days I spent with him I marveled at the number of people walking down the hill to ask him for help, or a small loan, or advice on car repair. I never heard him refuse a request. By the same turn, in his last years, many were coming down the hill with firewood, or a warm casserole, or to help with housework.

Dexter was a man of many talents and great deeds. His early years were years of stunning hardship and true physical toil. Though he often spoke of those difficult years it was never with complaint.

Born in Minnesota in 1939 to James and Clara Bacon he had two younger brothers and one younger sister. When his father died Dexter was fourteen and he took on the responsibilities of their working farm. Between school and milking the cows he delivered papers – traveling miles on a bicycle in mild weather and on snowshoes in the icy winters.

Dexter attended Antioch College, where he met his wife Linny. He was drafted into the army and spent those years in Hawaii working with munitions and demolition, which is how he came to be such a great Fourth of July guest, where he taught my children how to make safe "bombs" from brown paper bags and a cup of flour. Big bangs and no shrapnel.

Dexter and Linny had two daughters, Shawn and Zoe.

After leaving the army Dexter and his family moved to the Northwest and bought their property on Rock Creek Road. Dexter taught jewelry and metalworking at what is now The College of Arts and Crafts. Above all else Dexter was a teacher. Generous with his time and attention he welcomed anyone who had questions as varied as repairing a radiator, how to carve marble or learn to weld.

Sundays were set aside for brunch and his guests were treated like dignitaries. He would brush away stacks of

books and papers making a place for coffee and, if it was Sunday, pancakes. The young people on the hill flocked to Dexter's and his house was crowded on brunch days.

His solstice parties were legendary. With the help of family and friends, the towering structures could take weeks to prepare, and then set alight. People came from miles away to enjoy the warmth of the enormous bon fire burning late into the night.

He was a man of astonishing vigor. Until his last illness he and his dog would walk the circumference of his hilly property. Anyone who joined him was left breathless trying to keep pace.

The hardest thing to touch upon is the death of his beloved daughter Zoe in 2020. There isn't a word for what you become after losing a child. Maybe because it's too hard

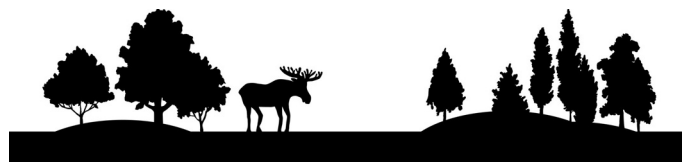
to even consider. But when Dexter lost Zoe it just took the stuffing right out of him. Never one to talk about his feelings, we didn't need to be told how broken he was by the loss.

The last thing I heard from Dexter: was there anything I needed that he could help me with. He died two days later.

We will have a memorial for Dexter on April 23 at 1 pm at the Skyline Grange, 11275 NW Skyline Blvd. Bring food and drink, if you like, but please come with your stories. Dexter was, to me, a national treasure, and treasures should be shared. Maybe there will be music. His daughter Shawn will bring photos and I hope you will too. □



Dexter Bacon was a generous friend to many neighbors on the Hill and will be sorely missed (Photo: S. Bacon)



The Fight is (Still) Real: Mountain Bicyclists vs. N. Tualatin Residents

By Lindsey Laughlin, McNamee Road

Metro's plan to build single-lane mountain bike trails at Burlington Creek is moving steadily forward. At a February 6th hearing hosted by Multnomah County Planning Commissioners, senior planner, Kevin Cook, recommended that the county approve Metro's plan. This came as a blow to many local residents who feel like their concerns about bike trail development have not adequately been addressed by Metro or Multnomah County.

Metro's nature park development plans have caused an acrimonious division between two groups of people: avid mountain bicyclists and environmentally concerned residents. Mountain bicyclists are aggressively vying for more unpaved bicycling trails within reach of Portland, while locals are desperately trying to convey how active use of Burlington Creek land by mountain bicyclists will threaten multiple species of wildlife and contribute to stream and soil erosion.

Reading through submitted public testimony on Multnomah County's Planning website is disheartening. Time and time again, local residents, including professional wildlife biologists, articulately explain (citing research) the myriad of ways mountain bikes will disrupt wildlife behavior and destroy precious habitat – the very habitat that Metro promised to protect when they purchased Burlington Creek with taxpayer money. Yet pages and pages of carefully crafted testimony addressing zoning laws, citing flaws with Metro's environmental impact reports, and pointing out discrepancies in Metro's publicly stated goals and actual goals remain largely unaddressed by both Metro and Multnomah County planners.

Mountain bicyclists blatantly accuse local residents of wanting to preserve privacy and prevent Portlanders from visiting "their secluded hillside community" in their submitted testimonies. They attack locals, drawing unfounded conclusions, such as, "The primary obstacle has simply been neighbors who don't want land near them to have more use. It is NIMBY [not in my backyard] pure and simple, largely by people with the luxury of living near or in the forest themselves."

Over and over these cyclists state that they need "more single-track bicycle tracks," but never once, in all of their breathless testimony, address the real concerns of local residents: where will endangered Red-legged frogs go when mountain bicyclists are barreling through their habitat? Where will the Roosevelt Elk herd go when this piece of land, a bridge between Forest Park and the Coast Range, is developed and no longer safe for wildlife to use?

When dozens of pages of public testimony are distilled into a primary theme, it is this: there is a clear perception in the mountain bicycling community that local residents are privileged because they own land. Because of this privilege, they have no right to speak up to protect surrounding land parcels or defend the protections that are already in place.

Yet, this could not be further from the truth.

Most local residents (on McNamee Rd, Newberry Rd, and Skyline Blvd) live in the Tualatin Hills because of their passion for outdoor activities (including mountain bicycling) and their love of nature. As outdoor enthusiasts, most residents would love more local trails to hike on with their families. As mountain bicyclists, many local residents would also love access to more local mountain bicycling trails. But because of their locality, these residents are in a unique position to see - on a daily basis - how wildlife uses Metro-owned land parcels. They know first-hand how disruptive bicycling trails would be to multiple species because they recognize that even walking within sight of wildlife, such as elk, causes them to stampede and flee the area.

Locals do not support mountain bike trail development for this primary reason – because it will be harmful to wildlife.

The ability of local residents to observe and track the presence of wildlife at Burlington Creek year-round far outweighs the one day of observations a Metro-employed wildlife biologist spent there studying Red-legged frog mortality in January of 2018, for example. It far outweighs the arguments of mountain bicyclists who live in the center of Portland, completely detached from the ecosystems of the Tualatin Hills.

It also outweighs the perspectives of county commissioners, who will be voting on Metro's proposed nature park plan this summer. County commissioners are not allowed to visit Burlington Creek themselves to see firsthand how wildlife uses the land, nor can they see how steep the hills are and how destructive mountain bicyclists will be to soil and streams. They are required to vote on this issue blind – with no other information than the testimony provided by the public and Metro's submitted documents.

The knowledge of local residents is invaluable, and residents want to share it. Residents want a solution – not an ongoing battle. And the solution seems to be this: go ahead and build hiking trails, Metro, because everyone (locals and tri-county residents alike) wants access to nature. But please stop pandering to a small group of mountain bicyclists who are demanding that taxpayer money provide them with elite recreational opportunities, despite the cost to the environment and local resident wildlife. □

All records pertaining to the North Tualatin Master Plan are available to the public on Multnomah County's Land Use Planning website.

Our Neighborhood Nursery, Lux Perennials, is Growing

By Alex Rose

How many times are we captivated by a glossy magazine cover showing an amazingly beautiful yard or garden, bursting with a dizzying display of vibrant flowers, and wonder, “Where can I see something like that; or how could I ever create such a beautiful setting?”

Your answer is right here on Skyline Boulevard – 13610 to be exact - the home of LUX PERENNIALS NURSERY – a new destination for gardeners, featuring an awesome variety of perennial plants – those that regrow year after year and bring colorful additions to your current garden or foundational plants to establish a new garden. Learn more at <https://www.luxperennials.com>.

Owner and founder of Lux, Lisa Graff, LOVES perennials; and she freely shares her passionate hobby turned business on spring, summer, and fall weekends with gardening aficionados and consumers. Open Fri-Sun, April 15th – October 15th, she and her knowledgeable gardening team are delighted to answer your questions and help you either choose plants for a new garden or choose accent plants to round out your ongoing gardening project. The nursery specializes in flowering plants of rich, vibrant colors and a very long bloom period – three, four, or even five months. As a bonus, Lisa encourages customers to stroll through the nursery’s scenic, one-acre garden and its over seven thousand flowering plants.

While being a newly arrived enterprise on the “Hill,” Lux Perennials has an extensive history behind its genesis. When Lisa moved from Arizona to Northern California in 1998, the wide variety of plant choices piqued her interest; and she filled to overflowing her small yard with copious annuals, perennials, trees, and shrubs. “I had a high pressure tech job that I loved, but the garden...that was my happy place.”

When she and her husband, Brad Graff, built their dream house on Skyline Boulevard, she was provided with an ample expanse of land and yard to landscape into an English styled garden – her favorite genre. Adding hardscapes, fountains, waterfalls, a large koi pond, dry-stack stone walls, and extensive, sweeping, curvilinear plant beds - all provided the backdrop for planting. She then spent more than ten years researching perennials – digging into finding the longest blooming plants as well as

discovering unique, rare, and highly colorful varieties to serve as foundational plants as well as splashy flowering combinations for her perennial borders.

Along the way, Lisa took classes, something she recommends to both experienced and inexperienced gardeners – there are classes offered at Portland Community College – both online and in person as well as free classes via the Master Gardener program and website: www.mastergardener.com.



Her Lux Perennials nursery is a bountiful showplace for Lisa's horticultural expertise (Photo: B. Graff)

With plenty of business acumen earned during her years of running businesses for Intel; and while founding a small business is distinctly different from a giant corporate structure, setting up her own enterprise hardly deterred Lisa. “I did a lot of research into specific varieties over the last two decades for my own garden as well as the varieties that are great for the Pacific Northwest and bloom a long time and have vibrant color. That’s what I grow in my garden, and that’s what I sell in the nursery.”

Visiting Lux Perennials is a total delight. Lisa and her team are warm and

welcoming, very laid back and full of helpful information. The greenhouse is an architectural gem and certainly unique in the Portland area. The plant inventory is abundant, and the garden, itself, is show-stopping. Be sure to leave some time to stroll through the densely-planted paths, admire the surprising variety of specimens, not to mention the riot of color, and admire and absorb some of the unique, rare cultivars.

A surprising achievement for Lux is Lisa’s success in propagation. “I love to propagate plants... LOVE it. I was propagating so many for myself, I couldn’t plant them all and decided other people might want to buy them” You have to be courageous to plunge into a new field without much prior experience in that area, but Lisa, undaunted, has made amazing headway, “And even things that are ‘hard’ to propagate, I’ve had success with. Lots of failures, too; but that’s all part of learning.”

“There is nothing more satisfying than the blend of art and science in growing plants and seeing those baby seedlings come up and thrive. I grow almost all the plants I sell from seed or from the “mother” plants in my garden.”

Lisa offers lots of helpful advice to newer gardeners: “I love to start by asking people, what do you love in

Lux Perennials, p. 9 ➤

Your Response Requested on Internet Access Surveys

By Alex Rose

Please fill out BOTH surveys below to help our neighborhood qualify for federal grant money to improve broadband access. The FCC is asking for additional information from our community and, Sari Ali, the Digital Access Coordinator for Multnomah County is supervising our endeavor.

PLEASE be as forthright as possible regarding your situation; the FCC understands that internet access has not been successfully mapped in our communities; and to that end, "The agency's new approach to display service availability data at the level of individual structures will create far more granular maps."

This "granular approach" requires all of us to pitch in by providing our information.

(Kindly note that the FCC has obtained all their data from the area's internet providers only, and it's possible those providers have submitted incorrect or inflated data about the level and success of their services. Also, note there is no provision for cost in this survey; so, if the price of service you've been quoted is not affordable for your family, this is very important information to include.)

Complete SRN Internet Access Survey via Online or Mail

Skyline Ridge Neighbors (SRN) is conducting a survey which will collect data on internet in our community. Our aim is to analyze this data and provide it to Sara Ali to push for equitable internet access for all. We respect your privacy: only anonymized, aggregate data will be shared.

This survey is available from both the Newsline and the April 2023 Ridge Runner, so you may have already received a message with a link to the survey. We ask that one person per household please take 2-3 minutes and fill out this simple survey here: <https://tinyurl.com/v69m9hew>.

*The other option is to complete a printed survey form with the same questions as the online version, which you will find in the April 2023 Ridge Runner. After filling it out, please fold, seal, stamp and mail it back to us. We would appreciate it very much if you would take the time to respond **before May 15, please**. And feel free to add any other thoughts you may have on the subject.

Provide FCC Broadband Map Feedback

Would you also kindly look at the FCC map, locate your address, and see if what is reported is accurate or not? Here is the link to the map: <https://broadbandmap.fcc.gov/home>.

We encourage each resident to submit the information that pertains to their residence, and below are the steps to take.

FCC Review Steps

Enter your street address.

1. Review the location information. If there are errors, proceed with "Location Challenge."
2. Review the internet service provider claims. If there are errors, proceed with "Availability Challenge."
3. If you receive internet service through a mobile/cellular provider, proceed with the "Mobile Broadband" tab. If there are errors in that information, click "Mobile Challenge."

Location Challenge

1. Click "Location Challenge."
2. Fill out contact information.
3. Select a "challenge type" from the drop down menu.
4. Add a description or upload additional documentation to explain your challenge.
5. Check the box to electronically sign the submission.
6. Review the privacy statement.
7. Click "Submit."

Availability Challenge

1. Click "Availability Challenge."
2. Select the provider with incorrect information.
3. Choose either "Send my challenge to the selected provider" or "I'm giving feedback about the information above but not submitting a challenge."
4. Submit your contact information in case follow-up is needed.
5. Select one "Reason for challenge." It must be one of the listed options, which vary depending on the type of internet service provider. Note, if "The actual speed of this service does not match its advertised speed" is selected, it will redirect you to a Consumer Complaint.
6. Add more information in the "Describe Your Experience" text box.
7. Optionally, upload examples of evidence, such as correspondence with the provider, screenshots of the provider's website, or images of the provider's marketing material.
8. Check the box to electronically sign the submission.
9. Review the privacy statement.
10. Click "Submit."

Mobile Challenge

1. Click "Mobile Challenge."
2. Follow the instructions to download the FCC

Our Skyline Neighborhood is a Recognized Firewise Community

By National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)



The Firewise Communities/USA program is designed to provide an effective management approach for preserving wildland living aesthetics. The program can be tailored for adoption by any community and/or neighborhood association that is committed to ensuring its citizens maximum protection from wildland fire.

May 6th is National Wildfire Preparedness Day. Research around home destruction vs. home survival in wildfires point to embers and small flames as the main way that the majority of homes ignite in wildfires. Embers are burning pieces of airborne wood and/or vegetation that can be carried more than a mile through the wind can cause spot fires and ignite homes, debris and other objects.

There are methods for homeowners to prepare their homes to withstand ember attacks and minimize the likelihood of flames or surface fire touching the home or any attachments. Experiments, models and post-fire studies have shown homes ignite due to the condition of the home and everything around it, up to 200' from the foundation. This is called the Home Ignition Zone (HIZ).

Activities you can do around your home to make it more resistant to wildfires include:

- Cleaning needles and leaves from your roof and gutters and paying attention to maintaining the home ignition zone (<https://www.nfpa.org/>)

Public-Education/By-topic/Wildfire/Preparing-homes-for-wildfire).

- Getting out your measuring tape and seeing how close wood piles are located to the home. If they are closer than 30 feet, relocate them to at least 30 feet away from structures.
- Sweeping porches and decks, clearing them of leaves and needles. Raking under decks, porches, sheds, and play structures.
- Mowing grasses to a height of 4 inches or less.
- Removing items stored under decks and porches and relocating them to a storage shed, garage, or basement. Gasoline cans and portable propane tanks should never be stored indoors and should be located away from the home.

Join wildfire experts and local community members to learn how you can prepare your home and family for wildfire at the Wildfire Preparedness Weekend scheduled for May 20 & 21 at the World Forestry Center – Discovery Museum. Enjoy wildfire art, gather important resources on wildfire preparedness, and take time to explore the museum's exhibits. Hours will be 11:00am – 4:00pm and admission is free all weekend. Sponsored by the Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal in partnership with Portland Fire and Rescue.

We currently have established Firewise Communities throughout the Skyline Ridge Neighborhood boundaries. To get a free assessment of your home: Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) Home Assessment (<https://www.portland.gov/fire/your-safety/wildland-urban-interface-wui-home-assessment>). □

► Internet Access Surveys (continued from p. 6)

speed test app and submit a speed test.

3. Once there are enough “failed” tests (those showing speeds below 5/1 Mbps for 4G, or 7/1 or 35/3 Mbps for 5G) within a certain area and at different times of day, a challenge will be created by the FCC, which will require a response from the provider.

Thank you for participating in this new survey! Fingers crossed the FCC will help fund our neighborhood internet access. □



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In an Emergency, Who Will Help You?

By Sen Speroff & Rachael Brake

Though our Skyline Ridge NET members are trained to provide emergency assistance and guide their neighbors in a crisis, we are small in number compared to our neighborhood population. Local people volunteering will be essential in an emergency, as advanced preparation and planning. The best way to do this is by small units of neighbors, connected and organized.

Build Connections

Get to know your neighbors, co-workers, parents at your kid's school, owners and staff of local businesses, people in your spiritual group, community centers, and everyone! You may not be at home when a disaster strikes.

Organize Your Neighbors

- Neighborhood groups of 10-20 neighbors are the best size. There are excellent Map Your Neighborhood YouTube videos, written literature, and internet sources to guide you in organizing. Here are the basic steps to organize:
- Identify logical boundaries for your "Neighborhood", such as cross streets, geographical barriers, homes within ideally a 15-minute walking radius.
- Invite those neighbors to gather and plan. Since trust and understanding are essential to building a neighborhood emergency network, consider a pre-business meeting social activity, such as a potluck. Get to know each other. Engage them in planning for emergencies. Start identifying resources and skills. Identify who will need the most help. Develop a contact list. Delegate tasks.
- Develop a Neighborhood Map Skills and Equipment Inventory for disaster preparedness.
- Develop trust, communication, and awareness.
- Get to know and work with Skyline Ridge NET.

Rock Creek Road Group

The residents of Rock Creek Road have been organizing for several years now with periodic potlucks (outside of pandemic times), developing a database of information including residents in each home, skills, resources and special needs of each household. They have gotten to better know and appreciate their neighbors, with the added assurance that in a local emergency situation, they all will

come together more organized and prepared to more effectively assist each other.

Become a NET team member!

Did you know that most of the people rescued in a disaster are rescued by their neighbors, NOT by professional first responders? The Portland NET program will train you on the basic skills you need to be a neighborhood hero after a disaster, and to do it safely. Your instructors are Portland Fire & Rescue firefighters and emergency response professionals. You will learn search and rescue, basic medical response to treat injuries, radio communications, disaster psychology, and much more.

NET volunteers are prepared to be self-sufficient for two weeks during any emergency, able to provide emergency assistance to their family and immediate neighbors, and able to work within an emergency response team to save lives and property in their neighborhood, able to guide untrained volunteers who want to help others in the aftermath of a disaster. Graduating from Basic NET Training also gives you access to advanced training opportunities, such as certifying for Wilderness First Aid, emergency animal sheltering, amateur radio communications, and more!

Affiliated Team Membership

If you're not interested or just don't have time to do the full NET training, we welcome you to join us as "Affiliated" team volunteers (ATVs). We would appreciate your aid, expertise and skills in a disaster. You are welcome to attend our monthly meetings usually on the first Tuesday of the month at the Grange at 7 p.m.

One position that doesn't require any physical work would be that of an Amateur Radio Operator for Skyline Ridge NET. AROs are vital in an emergency, especially with the limitations of two-way radios in our steep, vegetated terrain. For further details log into NET Amateur Radio Resources (<https://www.portland.gov/pbem/neighborhood-emergency-teams/crtradio>) or contact Rachael Brake.

Contact Us

NETS are here to support the community. Questions? Email Skyline Ridge NET at SkylineRidgeNET@gmail.com or contact Rachael Brake, Team Leader, at 503.621.3423.

□

SAVE THE DATE!

The SRN Summer Gathering returns to Plumper Pumpkin Patch

Saturday, July 22

Full details forthcoming in the Newsline & July Ridge Runner

TVF&R Invites Local Scouts to Register for Scout Day Event

By Christina Lent, TVF&R

Local Scouts won't want to miss an opportunity to learn about fire safety and emergency preparedness from professionals.

Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue is hosting a Scout Day on Saturday, April 22, from 10 a.m. to noon at the South Operating Center, 8445 S.W. Elligsen Road, in Wilsonville. Both Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts from across TVF&R's service area are invited to attend this free community event.

Scouts will have an opportunity to tour a fire station, learn about firefighting as a career, learn about fire safety and escape planning, explore first aid, and check out fire-

fighting gear and apparatus.

This event is tailored for Scouts in first through fourth grades. Participants will be divided into groups and rotate through several hands-on and interactive stations. Scout leaders and parents are encouraged to move through the activity stations with their Scouts.

We will start promptly at 10 a.m. and encourage groups to arrive 15 minutes early.

Those interested in attending the event can register online at www.tvfr.com. For more information about Scout Day, call 503.259.1502 or email Events@tvfr.com. □

► **Lux Perennials** (continued from p. 5)

gardens or types of plants, or even just colors." That's a great jumping off point and keeps a newer gardener from feeling overwhelmed. For the person whose gardening time is limited, Lisa advises, "There are plenty of plants that are more low maintenance and easy but still have gorgeous colors. Choose plants that don't require a lot of fuss, and you can also buy fewer, larger plants covering the same space with less plants and less work, too."

A limited budget does not necessarily translate into a lesser garden. "Start with the bones, the structure of what you want in your garden. Buy plants that have a long life and come back every year. Those are perennials. Annuals are lovely and have their place in the garden, for sure; but they die in the winter and have to be purchased again every year."

Starting out, Lisa had clear-cut goals in mind for Lux Perennials: The first was "...to put all those years of plant research to good use and sell "luxurious" perennials - meaning those that make a dramatic statement in a garden by being very long-blooming, having vibrant color or form, or by being rare cultivars." Her second objective was, "Providing varieties that could enable striking color combinations, such as "hot" colors - pink, coral, and orange - with cool colors- purple - and accent colors - burgundy or white. "My third objective was to maximize color with a selection of plants to generate nearly year-round flowers - like lilies in December - yes, please!"

When asked what she'd like visitors to take away from their experience in her garden, she responded, "Exactly what I take away...that it is just a happy place to wander, enjoy, and get ideas for their own gardens." □

► **SRN Spring Meeting** (continued from p. 1)

Pick Up Your SOLVE Bags Early

Sign up for a road segment and pick up your SOLVE bags at the spring meeting so you can have an early start on Saturday morning picking up trash. Please feel encouraged to engage your neighbors in an annual Block Party where you can walk together to beautify our neighborhood. This year our event is on July 22, which is Earth Day.

"Get to Know Your Neighborhood" News

Learn more about the many businesses and organizations in our neighborhood, including the following: LUX Perennial Garden, Plumper Pumpkin & Tree Farm, Local Horse Stables, Duckridge Garden Tour sign up, Skyline Ridge Vegetable Garden Club, thewholeliving.com, Rock Creek McMenamins, Pollard Ranch, Oregon Heartwood, Grange Artisans and more. □



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SAT, APRIL 29 ♦ 10-4 ♦ SKYLINE GRANGE

Learn About Local Native American History, April 27

By Sen Speroff

There has been a “flurry” of activities at Skyline Grange, all of them bringing community members back together. We had 42 people pre-order plants at our Mostly Tree Seedling Sale. We shared a meal and community at our annual Pancake Brunch. Our spring Garage Sale made a record profit because 35 local households donated quality items, volunteers devoted 227 hours transform those donations into a well-organized sale, and we have an enthusiastic following of customers. This is the 18th year of our April Tree & Native Plant Sale. We heard about your winter woes and your appreciation of being together again at our community brunch, garage sales, two plants sales, and several Skyline Living presentations.

Upcoming Activities

We are in the midst of planning our spring/summer events. Greater details will be announced on our website and on SRN’s Newslines as events approach. We hope to welcome you at the Grange and /or at the Summer Gathering where SRN has again asked the Grange to coordinate the potluck section.

“Native History of the Willamette Valley & Locally”

Join us on Thursday, April 27, 2023 at 7 p.m. David Lewis, PhD, Assistant Professor at OSU and authority on Native American history, will present a discussion about the rich Native history of the Willamette Valley and locally in the West Hills and Sauvie Island prior to its colonization by European settlers. The talk will include the different tribes and their relationships and connections to the land, their contact with the first white settlers, their government, and their forced relocation. Please join us for this rare opportunity to gain a deeper understanding and appreciation for this place we now call our home. West Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District has provided funding for this evening. This is part of Skyline Living Series of presentations organized by our Education Committee.

Japanese Cooking (being planned)

We may be fortunate to have master Chef Hiroji Obayashi teach a class or a series of classes weaving culture and technique as he prepares genuine Japanese dishes. Attendees would observe, then enjoy the food, and take recipes home. We aim for scheduling in the summer. Class size will be limited and at a reasonable price. If you might be interested, email us at skylinegrange894@msn.com.

Flea Market

A 1-day community Flea Market is planned for Sunday, June 11. If you would be interested in having a booth, contact us. Not only will you clean out that neglected stor-

age space, you will end up with some spare change for summer activities.

Yoga at the Grange

Join the M-W-F yoga classes at 9 a.m. As the weather warms, some classes will be held outside in the gentle breeze and greenery yards. For more yoga information, visit www.yogainalignment.com.

Capital Improvement Update

We plan to submit our application for permits to the City of Portland Planning & Development by the end of April. Due to escalated costs, we have reduced the scope of work in this phase of our overall capital improvement plan. Our request for permits will include the installation of an ADA restroom on the main level, the installation of a second emergency exit with access ramp, stabilization/strengthening of the front wall foundation, solutions to drainage issues, installation of an up to code front stairwell and front door, and upgrades to our electrical system. These projects will be financed through the generosity of many community donors, a CSFRF grant, and our fundraising events. This work needs to be done during the dry season. If permits are approved in time, we will start work in early fall, otherwise we will have to wait until early summer of 2024.

Donate

By donating to Skyline Grange’s Capital Improvement Fund, you are supporting your community and our need for a place to gather and connect. You can donate to our Capital Improvement Fund, by: 1) Sending a check to “Skyline Grange” earmarked for capital improvement, c/o 14109 NW Rock Creek Rd, Portland, OR 97231. 2) Contributing via Venmo or credit card by contacting treasurer Rachael Brake at 503.621.3423. 3) Bringing your jars of coins to an event at the Grange or 4) Making other arrangements.

Join Skyline Grange

Grange is a non-partisan, non-sectarian, non-profit, and totally volunteer-driven organization. We are a diverse group of people who believe 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 as a gathering place. Our impact, activities, and accomplishments depend upon our members and community volunteers.

You can learn more about the Grange and contact us as follows: www.SkylineGrange894.org; SkylineGrange894@msn.com; (Rentals: SkylineGrange894@gmail.com); Facebook: [Skyline-Grange-894-169559023662398/](https://www.facebook.com/Skyline-Grange-894-169559023662398/); Physical address: 11275 NW Skyline Blvd, Portland; Mailing Address: 14109 NW Rock Creek Rd., Portland, OR 97231. ☐

Trash Can Hauler. Tool used to easily tow your garbage bins to the street. Haul one or two bins at a time. Watch our YouTube video, see how easy it is to use. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zgfl6VO94-w> \$40. Free delivery to Skyline area available. Email trashcanhauler@yahoo.com

Phoenix Farm Riding School. English horse riding lessons for the whole family. All ages and ability levels are welcome! Day-off-school camps. Summer camps. Parties and special events. Located on the corner of Skyline Blvd. & Rock Creek Rd. Call/text 503.621.3823, email 13phoenixfarm13@gmail.com.

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

Rent the Skyline Grange. Reservations accepted for dates this year, Covid-19 permitting. Rental details at www.skylinegrange894.org.



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Community Calendar

Apr. 7-8: 18th annual Tree & Native Plant Sale at the Grange. All plants are from licensed local nurseries. Expect both quality and quantity at good prices.

Apr. 10, 7:30 pm: Skyline Grange monthly meeting. All are welcome to attend, regardless of Grange membership. For more info, email SkylineGrange894@msn.com.

Apr. 13, 6:30 pm: SRN Board online meeting via Zoom. All are welcome to attend. Contact Brad Graff (bradgraff@gmail.com) to get the link.

Apr. 15, 8 am-3 pm: Soil School presented by West Multnomah SWCD at PCC Rock Creek. For details & registration info, visit <https://wmswcd.org/projects/soil-school/>.

Apr. 20, 6:30-8:30 pm: "Get to Know Your Neighborhood," SRN Spring Meeting at the Skyline Grange. See details in this issue.

Apr. 22: Annual SOLVE Roadside Clean-up Day. See pg. 1 for more info.

Apr. 23, 1 pm: Celebration of life for Dexter Bacon at the Skyline Grange, 11275 NW Skyline Blvd.

Apr. 27, 7 pm: "Native History of the Willamette Valley & Locally" lecture by David Lewis of OSU at the Skyline Grange, 11275 NW Skyline Blvd.

May 8, 7 pm: Skyline Grange monthly meeting. All are welcome to attend, regardless of Grange membership. For

more info, email SkylineGrange894@msn.com.

May 11, 6:30 pm: SRN Board online meeting via Zoom. All are welcome to attend. Contact Brad Graff (bradgraff@gmail.com) to get the link.

June 8, 6:30 pm: SRN Board online meeting via Zoom. All are welcome to attend. Contact Brad Graff (bradgraff@gmail.com) to get the link.

June 12, 7 pm: Skyline Grange monthly meeting. All are welcome to attend, regardless of Grange membership. For more info, email SkylineGrange894@msn.com.

July 22: SRN Summer Gathering at Plumper Pumpkin Patch. Save the date!



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