

Skyline Ridge Runner

January 2020

Skyline Ridge Neighbors

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A Nonprofit Neighborhood Association Serving Northwestern Multnomah County, Oregon

“But Wait, There’s More!” Car-mageddon Continues

By Miles Merwin

As you probably already know by now, not all of the Cornelius Pass Road safety improvement projects administered by Multnomah Co. were completed last summer. Two major construction projects on the road are due to resume next summer: re-alignment of the S-curves north of Skyline Blvd., and replacement of the culvert at NW 8th Avenue. This means that sections of the road will again be closed, and detours for cars and trucks will be put in place.

To give neighbors a preview of what to expect for 2020, the Ridge Runner asked Mike Pullen of the Multnomah Co. Communications Office to respond to questions related to Cornelius Pass and other public road concerns in our area. His responses appear below.

Ridge Runner: *Can you offer any further explanation as to why the two projects (S-curve realignment & culvert at NW 8th Ave.) were not completed in 2019?*

Mike Pullen: For the culvert, the contractor chose to have the culvert constructed offsite rather than onsite, as the design engineer had assumed. The contractor was entitled to change the construction method. But the contractor did not get the new culvert design approved in time to complete construction and installation during the summer “in-water” work period. Due to federal regulations designed to protect threatened fish species, work in the stream that goes through the culvert can only be done during summer months when threatened fish species are not present.

At the S-curves, the decision by the contractor to not use explosives in the realignment was made so late in the summer that there was not enough time to realign and repave the road before winter weather. Rules prohibit some paving work during winter months, to get the best paving product possible.

The contractor eventually chose to remove the rock

face above the curves with machines rather than explosives. The rock face was removed and protective netting was installed to prevent rocks from falling on the road below.

RR: *Was a penalty assessed to the contractor as a result?*

MP: The contractor is subject to financial penalties for not completing the project on schedule. The county has withheld payments from the contractor, to impose those penalties. The contractor has the right to appeal the penalties.

RR: *Will the same contractor perform the work next year?*

MP: The contractor and the county are discussing this currently. The work in 2020 could be performed by a new contractor or by the same one as in 2019. A decision will be made in early 2020.

RR: *Are the construction costs of the 2020 work covered under the original contract or will additional funds from the county be required (e.g. for*

flaggers, sign placement, etc.)?

MP: Extending construction into 2020 will increase some project costs, such as traffic sign installation. Many signs were removed after work ended this year and new signs will need to be installed in 2020, which was not planned originally. The county will need to cover some of the new costs that will be incurred in 2020.

RR: *Will the work schedule for CPR be coordinated with Washington County’s project at NW Germantown and Old Cornelius Pass?*

MP: Washington County plans to construct the signal in February - May 2020. Multnomah County’s work is planned to begin in June, several miles north of Washington County’s project. (See <https://www.co.washington.or.us/LUT/TransportationProjects/corneliuspassgermantown>.)



Crews worked last year to realign the curve on Cornelius Pass at NW 8th Ave. Work will resume there this year. (Photo: Mult. Co.)

Car-mageddon, p. 10 ►

Skyline Ridge Runner

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→ *Deadline for the next issue is March 15*

Skyline Ridge Neighbors Inc.

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

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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.

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

- ~ Linda Barnes & Robert Vanderwerf
- ~ Loretta Field & Floyd Nelson
- ~ Dexter & Kim Phan N Fairbank
- ~ Ralph & Megan Leftwich
- ~ H. Hugh & Patricia Brumley
- ~ Grant Rolette & Rachael Brake
- ~ Kelly Sue & Jim Munson

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scribe at www.srnpdx.org*

Former Holly Orchard Will Nourish a New Forest

By Laura O. Foster, McNamee Rd.

In a blue-sky week in early November, a Rayco track mulcher began chewing up mature holly trees in a 13-acre orchard on McNamee Road. With the last commercial harvest from the orchard almost 10 years prior, the property owner, Dr. Ivan Law, had decided to repurpose his land. "I had been thinking of clearing it out for a while," Law said.

He found a partner for the job in the West Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District (WMSWCD). Michael Ahr, Forest Conservationist at WMSWCD, explains how the process worked for Dr. Law, and how other landowners can work with the District on projects to improve their land's value and wildlife habitat, and to improve regional water quality.

14 Months in Planning

When Law contacted the District in September 2018, Ahr and his team jumped into action. Holly is an invasive species, and not the highest economic use for Oregon forestlands. The first step was to survey the property and create a management/conservation plan, based on the owner's priorities. In this case, the plan recommended holly removal (along with 4 acres of blackberry) and replanting with either timber or pollinator species, in accordance with Law's goals for his land.

Once a conservation plan is in place for a property, federal funds can be accessed. In this case, Law applied for a Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) grant. Ahr, who is certified to write NRCS conservation plans, helped with technical details.

Requests for proposals went out in late winter 2019. Ahr didn't specify in the RFP how the holly should be removed, but did require it either be hauled offsite or chipped. After reviewing six bids, Ahr awarded the contract to Hillsboro-based V & K Construction, owned by father-son team Vernon and Kerry Nussbaumer. They also did recent grading work at the Skyline Grange.

Instead of cutting and hauling, Kerry Nussbaumer chose a track mulcher, which chews up a tree from the top down and spits out material fine enough to replant in. The finer material leaves nutrients in place and decomposes faster, resulting in less debris that could fuel a forest fire. The mulcher also eliminates the carbon impact of scores of truckloads of debris being hauled offsite.

As the mulcher began chewing through the orchard, one happy surprise was revealed: many thriving alder, Douglas fir and cedar that had volunteered and grown hidden for decades. Nussbaumer deftly maneuvered the mulcher around the trees, saving them, and giving Law an unexpected head start on reforesting his land. "These guys are very professional," Law said, as the tree-clearing work proceeded into mid-November.

"Weed pressure" as Ahr calls it, is always a problem after invasive species are removed and before new plantings mature. Carefully targeted use of herbicides is often the most effective treatment for certain invasive species. In some cases one spraying is not enough. For Law's site, emerging weeds (and any holly that resprouts from stumps and the seed bank) will be sprayed only as needed over the next five years. Replanting in February 2021 will likely be in a Douglas fir mix, because fir grows fast and gets above the weeds, shading them out.



Track mulcher at work grinding old holly trees to reclaim the land on McNamee Rd. (Photo: L. Foster)

WMSWCD Funding

Dr. Law's land is some of the 14,000 acres held as nonindustrial private forests, or what Ahr calls family forests, in western Multnomah County. Of these, only 10 percent, or 1,400 acres, have a conservation or management plan in place. (Another 600 acres are currently in process of formulating a plan.) Along with giving landowners fascinating insights and details about their land from an experienced forester, the plans are the beginning point for accessing funds for forest, field or watershed improvement projects.

Skyline property owners have worked with WMSWCD to remove blackberry, holly, and ivy, and to plant pollinator and timber species. Other projects have been to repurpose Christmas tree farms. Projects are often multi-year, with stages for removal, spraying if required, replanting, and respraying as needed. The District provides expertise, buys plant material at costs below what a landowner would pay, hires contractors, and is a conduit for federal and state funds. Landowners contribute via their own labor on parts of the project, and sometimes with a cash outlay that represents a small part of the total financial costs. Most forest improvement projects, Ahr says, are in the \$5,000 to \$10,000 range.

Much of the acreage in Skyline family forests was

A New Forest, p. 4 ►

Skyline Ridge NET News

By Sen Speroff & Rachael Brake

At present, 36 area residents and at least 4 trainees have taken all or part of the training provided by Portland Bureau of Emergency Management and Portland Fire & Rescue to provide emergency disaster assistance within our community until government aid or public first responders can get to us. Our local team, Skyline Ridge NET, has 23 active members. Meetings are open to all and held the first Monday of every other month at the Skyline Grange #894. The next meeting is at 7pm on January 6th. We are part of a large network of NET teams in Multnomah County. NET stands for "Neighborhood Emergency Team." For more information, email SkylineRidgeNET@gmail.com or contact Rachael Brake, Team Leader, at 503.621.3423.

Use of Cell Phone in a Disaster

Text instead of call. During an emergency, text messages may go through more quickly than voice calls. Text requires fewer network resources. Expect network congestion. Keep

non-emergency calls to a minimum in number and length. Limit your calls to the most important ones, such as checking in with your out-of-area emergency contact. Use social media sparingly. Have a non-electrical power source to recharge your phone, such as an extra phone battery, solar or hand-crank power. For more information about cell phones during a disaster, log onto <https://www.fcc.gov/emergency> and <https://www.cnet.com/news/mobile-phones-as-lifelines-tips-for-staying-connected-during-a-disaster/>.

Seeking Local HAM Radio Operators

During an emergency, the ability to communicate is essential, but often difficult. Walkie talkies are limited by our rough terrain; cell phones lose their charge; and cell service may be overwhelmed. HAM radios will be essential in communicating within our community and to the outside during a disaster. Do you have a HAM radio and a license? If so, Skyline Ridge NET would like to know. Please contact us. During an emergency, a network of HAM radios will be essential. ☐

Save the Date for Soil School, April 11

Each year West Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District partners with Tualatin Soil & Water Conservation District to host Soil School, a day-long workshop for farmers, gardeners, and landscape professionals with multiple sessions on a wide variety of topics – all having to do with soil. This year's event will be held at PCC Rock

Creek Event Center on Saturday, April 11. Visit the project page to learn more: <https://wmswcd.org/projects/soil-school/>. Registration will open early in the new year. Contact Renee Magyar, renee@wmswcd.org or 503-238-4775 x101 with any questions. ☐

► A New Forest (continued from p. 3)

last commercially logged in the 1980s or 1990s, before timber companies sold the land to be developed. "Our wheelhouse is to work with landowners whose trees were planted in the 1990s," Ahr says. "You might have 200 to 300 quality trees per acre, but they're not thriving because of competition from shrubs and less desirable trees like bitter cherry or maple." Many of those acres need thinning. The District can help with costs and logistics to make a forest more productive, if harvest is the goal.


Most WMSWCD projects are much smaller than Dr. Law's orchard replanting. For example, Ahr says that for many properties, the transition zone between forest and residential areas is filled with non-native Himalayan blackberry. Removing it and replanting with pollinator species such as snowberry and currant is a small, easy-to-implement improvement that enhances property aesthetics and value, and creates good habitat for wildlife.

Don't Wait until Spring!

If you have a project for your land, and want to access WMSWCD's expertise and funding, don't wait until next spring. Developing a plan and applying for available funds takes time. Ahr says, "Now is a great time to contact us." ☐

Laura O. Foster is the author of eight Oregon guidebooks and has worked with WMSWCD on conservation projects on her own property.





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Local Rescue Dog Named ARPH Dog of the Year 2020

By Patty & Hugh Brumley, Pauly Road

Our rescue dog Betty was named the Australian Rescue & Placement Hotline (ARPH) Dog of the Year. She was also featured in the Australian Shepherd Club of America official publication. ARPH is the official foundation for rescue for the club. This is the story that ARPH printed in their annual calendar:

"Red, Ready, Rhett...she had many options for her name, and little to none for being adopted. She was a senior dog, a hospice situation with serious liver damage and a crap blood panel. Overweight. Food guarding issues. People-possessive issues. A "plain" dog out of Texas—a red tri with more red than tri markings.

We wanted her. My husband, Hugh, and I were ready. We're Aussie people, and our Rocky, a 9 year old male blue merle, had been a single dog two years now. We operate a small equine retirement and hospice farm, so we knew we had what it takes to cope with extended health needs. What could go wrong with trying to adopt the dog we were already calling Betty Brumley?

Nothing. Nothing went wrong. Somehow all the hoops and obstacles for releasing such a rescue—unspayed older ill female—cleared away. We went to meet her, Rocky in tow. On October 3rd, 2018, we drove home with a miracle.

Here's the thing about Betty. She came from a tough background. We heard she was afraid of the cattle on the ranch she came from. So she was beaten for not herding. She moved from Texas to Washington, where circumstances changed and she was left to live in a bedroom, with one of her grown pups (she'd had two litters in her life). The four walls were the dogs' entire lives. Pee pads for their business, kibble thrown on the floor for meals. Her Foster Mom told us that when she went to get her, she "smelled her before I saw her." Betty was seriously overweight, and her toe nails had grown and curled up over her paws.

But Betty loved everything. Within two days, she realized there was enough food, enough love. Abby had told me, "Much ado must be made about breakfast." Indeed, much ado was made about EVERYTHING! A car ride! A treat! The bed! A brushing! Walking to the barn! Doing chores! Dinner! Christmas! House guest! Betty lived with the ability to be 1000% in the moment and loved it all. She became known as "such a sweet dog," as everyone who met her - family, friends, veterinarians - commented on her loving nature.

Betty started coughing in January. An early February

visit to the vet revealed that she had pleural effusion in her chest, and the fluid was pressing on her lungs. Aspiration gave Betty much relief—she could run again! But her exuberance was short-lived. She needed another aspiration within two weeks.

Since the second aspiration removed about twice as much fluid as the first, x-rays of her chest and abdomen were possible. X-rays revealed Betty had several "masses" on her liver and her spleen. Masses being code for "cancer", we were crushed.

We made the decision that her last day would not be her worst day. After a steak breakfast and a slow walk in the sun, Loving Hands Home Euthanasia came to the house to help Betty get her Angel wings. Rocky at her side, Betty's passing was very peaceful. She went so quickly the vet said Betty was ready to go.

Betty Brumley's delight in the day, her ability to live completely in the moment and not let her past influence her NOW, were an important life lesson for me. Yes, Betty, there IS enough food, the IS enough love. You were such a sweet dog, and we are grateful to have had you in our family." □



Betty Brumley, ARPH Dog of the Year 2020
(Photo: B. Brumley)



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"Mother Lawrence" and the Pisgah Home

By Theresa Thorud

After raising several orphans and selling their farm in Iowa, the Lawrence's came to Oregon in 1909 with their pocketbook full of money. The couple soon integrated into the East Ankeny Baptist Church, where the Rev. Yoakum one night, in June of 1911, opened the basement to feed a few consecrated souls. Hattie Lawrence watched as the young men carved their spoons from wood for utensils to eat with. The endeavor grew and a year later the Rev. Yoakum transferred the program over to the capable hands of Mrs. Lawrence. Hattie had earned the title "Mother Lawrence."

The few consecrated souls soon increased in number as Mother Lawrence took charge of rescuing Portland's down and out. On the East Side, a two-story home was made for the outcasts, a painted sign was hung and the "Pisgah Home" was Christened. As the vagabonds found their way into Mother Lawrence's facility, some found salvation, others found hope, some struggled to find their way and drifted off. It was of no concern to Hattie, they all needed love and a guiding hand.

The outcasts of the city were not limited to men. Mother Lawrence purchased a lot not far from the Pisgah Home. With donated lumber and the labor from her "boys," as she affectionately referred to her charges, a home was built for the women.

The Lawrence's used the proceeds from the sale of their Iowa farm to support the endeavor. Hattie was the matron of the Pisgah Home and her husband, Albert, took charge as secretary and treasurer. Local cafeterias helped with supplying food, donations of money and clothing; other necessities would trickle in from time to time. The Corbett estate provided space to store donations to the Pisgah Home, and even the court system would send their contributions by supplying inmates after they sobered up in lieu of more jail time.

With the expansion of the Pisgah Home in size and scope, letters of support and gratitude came pouring in from Commissioners, Judges, the Mayor, and even Governor West, who recognized the work of Mother Lawrence and the influence the Pisgah Home had on uplifting the hopeless. From a few consecrated souls eating with carved out spoons in 1911, to over 6000 meals served in the first quarter of 1913, the influence this Iowa couple had on Portland was phenomenal.

Barely able to meet the needs of everyone who sought help, Mother Lawrence would turn no one seeking help away. In March of 1913, she pleaded to the public for assistance in any form possible. The Oregonian was kind enough to give the Pisgah Home a fair amount of space in the newspaper, listing the plight of the home and the need for donations. Contributions came in many forms, giving aid to Mother Lawrence and her charges. The home was supplied with a few horses and a cart to carry

supplies and offerings to the home. A donation of farm land in Lane County was also given with the understanding the donor's name would remain private.

The Chapman Logging Company offered Mrs. Lawrence the opportunity to purchase 640 acres of logged off hillside outside of Scappoose for \$16.25 an acre. The offer was nearly half of the market value. The Lawrence's were down to their last little bit of savings, as they spent a great deal of their own money taking care of those who sought help. It was by the grace of God they managed to come up with \$500.00 for the initial down payment. The purchase of the acreage was the beginning of a new chapter for the Pisgah Home.

Request for supplies for their new endeavor went out to the public. The list was long and included almost everything one might need to build a home on top of a hillside that had been logged off. A call for lumber, hardware, furniture, blankets, food for animals and humans, all the way to a donkey engine and a shotgun for Brother Casey. The long wish list was posted in the Oregonian for all to read.

It was late in December of 1914, when Mother Lawrence and her band of wayward souls made their way to the Union Train Station. Seven railroad cars were loaded with men, a handful of women, supplies, lumber, nearly everything they owned, in the dead of winter. They pulled out of the train station on the Portland-Astoria line headed for Scappoose.

The passengers would have seen the swollen Willamette running towards the Columbia as the tributaries full of rainwater fed the mighty river. A short stop at Claremont Tavern with her wide verandas, sweeping views and a string of power poles lining Linnton Road may have been on the agenda, to disembark the patrons of the infamous tavern. Onward the Pisgah Colony traveled, their destination: the remote hills above Scappoose far from the convenience and vices of the big city.

Pulling into Scappoose they were greeted with torrential rain and a few volunteers from the logging company. Loading the supplies, the trip up the remote muddy logging road was short of the experience Lewis and Clark had when they traveled to Astoria in 1805. Other than transportation and a mucked-up logging road, the band of weary travelers had no idea what to expect, nor did they have any idea where they were headed other than to follow their guides.

Mother Lawrence and her band of misfits had little idea what they were getting into, other than a handful of dreams and determination. Pressing to the outer edges of civilization in driving rain, the first line of business was to build shelter. A wagon laden with lumber was unloaded and make-shift shelters where hastily put up. Mother Lawrence sketched an outline of



Hattie "Mother" Lawrence and the Pisgah Home near Scappoose (Photo: Sunday Oregonian, Dec. 27, 1914)

"Mother Lawrence", p.7 ➤

► **"Mother Lawrence"** (continued from p. 6)

a 20 x 40 foot two story building with a lean-to kitchen to one side. The "boys" went to work; "Pathfinders Hall" was the first of many permanent buildings erected in what became known as the "Pisgah Home Colony."

The year following the move to the west hill above Scappoose the colony suffered a blow when a cafeteria closed in Portland, one of the main sources for the Colony's food supply. A call to the public went out, there was little food and certainly not enough to feed all in the colony, nor was there enough available work for those capable of working. Hattie's "boys" needed good paying jobs rather than toiling around the farm.

Spring turned into summer and the colony yet again was in need of more supplies, the gardens they planted were found by the local wildlife who turned it into a smorgasbord, leaving little for human consumption. In addition to the need for supplies to perform work on the gardens, the inmates were in dire need of shoes and clothing. By late October that year, 1915, the colony was facing winter with the prospect of caring for a greater number of people along with payments due on the debts that had been incurred.

The citizens of Portland, eager to help the Pisgah Home, set up camp in various locations throughout the city, including the Blue Room of the Portland Hotel. On the day given to the Pisgah Home for fund raising, March 2, 1916, women and young girls braved the Oregon rain soliciting donations. Due to the wet weather, the little band of discouraged solicitors ended the day with little to show for all their hard work. "Tag Day" as it became known, was extended another day because of the poor turnout. The young ladies sold Primroses as a token of appreciation for donations made, and thus earned the nickname, "The Primrose Girls."

Still pressing on in the spring of 1916, Mother Lawrence was ready to put the home Colony into the chicken raising business. She once again turned to the Oregonian for help with soliciting the public for assistance, looking for the use of an incubator. The farm was also in need of a harness and anvil.

The colony struggled, and yet seemed capable of overcoming the tremendous odds they faced each day in their endeavor to survive. Mother Lawrence was at the helm with her strength and commitment to her charges. Getting sick was not an option, but when one places so much of one's energy into such a project as running a home for those who are not able to help themselves, in the middle of wildness far removed from the convenience of town, eventually all that expenditure of time and energy will catch up. Because Hattie was plagued with pneumonia, she was unable to fully participate in the day to day administration of the home, and donations fell to the point where none came in to help support the colony. Ill and having destitute people depending upon her, Mother Lawrence turned to her most ardent supporter, the Oregonian.

Hattie contracted pneumonia about the same time the U.S. joined in the war that was raging on in Europe. Men and boys enlisted, leaving families behind. The Red Cross solicited Mother Lawrence to help care for the elderly mothers of the enlisted men who had no means of caring for themselves. The colony grew and buildings were added to the growing concern, isolated far from town. The need for supplies and help continued to expand.

Then came the storm of 1919, paralyzing the region with snow covering the ground not in inches but measured by the feet, causing electrical outages and delayed travel times, Mother Lawrence was confined to a limited area with no means

of gathering the needed donations and supplies. With the administration of the home falling on her shoulders, and no one else to help solicit donations for the colony, supplies quickly ran short. To add insult to injury the Red Cross demanded the installation of a heating plant to the Woodmere Old People's Home which was added to the growing list of Mother Lawrence's charges during the war. Again, she turned to the Oregonian, pleading for assistance from the public.

In February 1920 the pastors of Portland took heart by dedicating their services to the old folks taking refuge at the Pisgah Home Colony. Celebrations all over the city which included concerts, theater, shared memories of long ago, and other activities were planned for eight days of fund raising. The "Old Folks at Home Week" had the ambitious goal of raising \$35,000.

The celebrations throughout the city brought in a substantial amount of contributions toward the old people's home. For Hattie, the consequences of growing old hit home May 21, 1920. Albert Lawrence was on the corner of E 39th and Hawthorne when he suffered a fatal heart attack. Hattie lost her life partner and the Colony lost one of their most ardent supporters.

Hattie continued to advocate for the Pisgah Home and the Woodmere home for the aged. In December of 1920, Tag Day was drawing help from some of Portland's most prominent citizens, Mrs. R. E. Bondurant, president of Albertina Kerr Nursery and W. G. MacLaren, superintendent of the Pacific Coast Rescue and Protective Society, donated their time and energy to help Mother Lawrence's cause. It was a constant battle funding the many facets of Mother Lawrence's endeavors.

In 1921, Portland was experiencing an unemployment problem. With overflowing jails, the best way for the municipal authorities to deal with the vagrants was to send them to the Pisgah Home. Taxing the already stretched resources of the Pisgah colony, the city found a way to relieve itself of the burden of having to care for the young men. With Judge Rossman sending young men who could not find work to the Pisgah Colony, he was stretching the ability of Mother Lawrence to care for so many charges under her wing. She pleaded with the city council for help. Commissioner Barbur was firm in his belief that the city had no jurisdiction over a colony of vagrants in Columbia county. Supporting that belief was Commissioner Bigelow who was not in favor of monetary donation. Commissioner Mann was ready to put the young men to work on "the rock pile."

Hattie had her hands full as she stood up to the Commissioner's narrow view of the situation. She explained that the young men the city was sending her were upright citizens, far different than the charges she had collected in the past. With the high unemployment rate, these young men had little hope for productive industry. If no work was provided, they had a greater chance of turning to other means of support.

Mayor Baker, inclined to agree with Hattie, deferred any action until the commissioners had a chance to discuss the situation with Judge Rossman. The meeting was adjourned, with Mayor Baker inviting the Commissioners to meet with the Judge the following day. Hattie left with mixed emotions, unsure of the final outcome.

The Colony struggled to survive, but with the determination and grit that Mother Lawrence instilled in her charges, they eked out a living surviving the Great War and the Great Depression. What the Pisgah Home Colony did not survive was the death of its most ardent supporter, Mother Lawrence. Hattie was

"Mother Lawrence" , p. 9 ►

“Skyline Living” Lecture Series Continues at the Grange

By Sen Speroff

Our Grange’s Education Committee has planned a full line-up for our Skyline Living Series in 2020. We believe you will find these topics useful, engaging, and relevant to our urban/rural interface lifestyle. The format of these free presentations is intended to be interactive and taught by a range of knowledgeable authorities. Learning is fun! We encourage you to attend as many of them as possible. As events approach, more details will be posted on SRN’s Newslines and on our website at <http://www.srnpx.org/grange.html>. This is the lineup thus far for this winter/early spring.

“Communicating with Government: Making an Impact” 1/30

On Thursday, January 30 from 7-9 p.m., Senator Betsy Johnson will present how to effectively communicate with government representatives, how ideas become law, and how to make an impact. Senator Johnson represents us in Senate District 16 in the Oregon State Legislature.

“Natural Care of Orchard and Garden” 2/12

April Jamison of Garden Ecology will present on Wednesday, February 12, from 7-9 p.m. She will speak about working with nature to minimize the use of chemicals while enhancing the natural landscape and producing more abundant healthy fruits and vegetables.

“Fruit-Bearing Shrubs for our Neighborhood” 2/19

Dennis Brown, OSU Master Gardener, will present on Wednesday, February 19, from 7-9 p.m. He will speak about cane berries and blueberries. Also, he will include more recently introduced exotic fruit-bearing shrubs and vines, such as hardy kiwis (kiwi berries). He will review varieties best suited to our area, cultivation requirements, and basic pruning principles.

“Moles and Holes” 3/12

We are fortunate to have Chip Buhl, an experienced OSU Extension agricultural agent, speak on Thursday, March 12, from 7-9 p.m. He will talk about vertebrate landscape pests, including moles, gophers, voles, and ground squirrels, and will add rats as an added bonus! The talk will cover the biology of those species, potential damage, and control options for homeowners.

“Skyline Elk” 3/18

Are you curious about the elk roaming our area? Come listen to Geoff McMullen, assistant district wildlife biologist on Sauvie Island for Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. He will talk about our elk, their lifecycle,

habits, hoof disease, hunting regulations, and elk/deer-proof fencing. The talk will be on Wednesday, March 18, from 7 - 9 p.m.

The Education Committee is planning the following topics for late spring and in the fall: emergency evacuation planning; the future of water/healthier streams; food preservation (possibly fermentation, dehydration, salsa making), impact of our changing climate; and possibly a HAM radio workshop. Watch for greater details in the spring *Ridge Runner* and on the *Newslines*.

More Activities on Tap

Skyline Grange is gearing up for its traditional winter/spring activities. Be sure to mark your calendars.

Pancakes, Etc. Brunch 2/23

The 9th annual Pancake, Etc. Brunch will take place on Sunday, February 23. Food will be served from 9:30-11:00 a.m. The whole community is welcome! Pumpkin pancakes, blueberry pancakes, cranberry-buttermilk pancakes, French toast, biscuits & gravy, quiches, and breakfast breads will be made from scratch. Enjoy fresh fruits, fresh-brewed coffee, and hot chocolate. We cook; you enjoy.

Spring Garage Sale 3/6-7

Our 31st semi-annual garage sale will be held on Friday-Saturday, March 6-7, 2020. Start collecting items to donate. We sincerely request ALL donations be clean and in good working condition. We also ask that someone from the Grange be on hand when you drop off donations to make sure they are suitable. We do not accept car seats, cribs, helmets, most electronics, computers, VHS tapes, artificial flowers, or large exercise equipment. Donations will be accepted until Sunday, March 1 at 2 p.m. Donations are greatly appreciated, but please be aware that they are not tax-deductible. The proceeds will go towards further building improvements and activities that support the Skyline community.

Spring Tree & Native Plant Sale 4/3-4

Skyline Grange will hold its 14th annual “Tree & Native Plant Sale” on a Friday-Saturday, April 3-4, 2020. 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 request to skyline-grange894@msn.com.

Local Conservation Agencies Seek Your Input at Meeting Feb. 13

By Renee Magyar, West Multnomah SWCD

This free meeting will take place from 10 am to 12 pm on Thursday, February 13, 2020, at the Sauvie Island Grange, 14443 NW Charlton Rd, Portland, OR 97231.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) administers several federal programs that can provide financial assistance to private landowners for conservation work. Landowners can be farmers, woodland owners, habitat managers, ranchers, and anyone with a few acres of land and an interest in conservation.

In recent years, these federal funds have paid for con-

servation such as planting cover crops on farm land, improving irrigation efficiency, thinning forests for wildfire risk reduction, enhancing wildlife habitat in oak woodlands, and many other practices. The conservation staff at West Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District work with landowners to identify if their land is suitable for an NRCS project, then work with NRCS to complete project planning.

Staff from both organizations will be present. Both organizations are seeking feedback from landowners on the west side of Multnomah County. All are invited to attend to offer thoughts on current opportunities and make suggestions for future programs. □

► **Grange News** (continued from p. 9)

Other Grange News

You will find driving in and out of the Grange driveway much improved and safer. We have paved the entrance and exit. Yup, no more challenging precipice to negotiate. Also, we reclaimed a part of our worn parking area, so now there are a bit more parking spaces which we stripe to make parking more efficient and safer.

This winter, we are planning to design, paint and adorn our building with "barn quilts." We were inspired by the workshop many of us took this past summer. Look for the added brightness to our green building in the spring.

Join Skyline Grange

Despite paved roads, cell phones and the Internet, it still is easy to feel disconnected these days. Our Grange provides a meeting place and a variety of activities bringing people together. It has been serving the Skyline community for 79 years.

Do you wish to be more engaged in and connected to

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

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

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

► **"Mother Lawrence"** (continued from p. 7)

struck by an automobile while crossing the street in 1937. The fatal blow reverberated in so many ways impossible to imagine. With the building being abandoned after her death and vandalized over the years, what little remained gave way to a fire a little more than 20 years later.

The only remaining testament to Mother Lawrence

and her endeavors is a long, winding road shaded by overgrown trees. Should you travel the Pisgah Home Rd. with all its twists and turns to the Pisgah Home Cemetery, slow down long enough to take in the surroundings and give homage to a remarkable lady who offered herself so selflessly to orphans of society, young and old.

(Patrick Ahern contributed to this story)



Are you an Amazon Shopper?

Log onto <https://smile.amazon.com>, designate Skyline Ridge Neighbors as your charity, and Amazon will donate a portion of every purchase to SRN.

➤ **Car-mageddon** (continued from p. 1)
cfm)

RR: What is the anticipated month the work will start and the approximate duration?

MP: We expect work will begin around June 2020 and last three or four months. The in-water work (8th Ave. culvert) needs to be completed between July and September.

RR: Will the section of CPR from Skyline to Hwy 30 be closed completely or partially throughout construction?

MP: The current plan is to completely close Cornelius Pass Road near NW 8th Ave. where the culvert will be replaced. The culvert has already been fabricated offsite, which will simplify construction in 2020. Replacing the culvert will require digging out a deep section across the width of Cornelius Pass Road, requiring a full road closure.

RR: Will the same detour routes for cars & trucks as in 2019 be put in place again?

MP: No. Work was completed in 2019 on the section of Cornelius Pass Road between Skyline Blvd. and Germantown Road. That southern section of Cornelius Pass Road will remain open in 2020. Between Skyline Blvd. and Highway 30, Cornelius Pass Road will be completely closed at NW 8th Ave. As in 2019, the detour route around that closure from Highway 30 will be Newberry Road to Skyline Blvd. to Cornelius Pass Road. Trucks will not be permitted on any roads between Skyline Blvd. and Highway 30, unless they are making a delivery on that road.

RR: What measures will be taken to better enforce the detour for trucks?

MP: We plan to use the same measures: enforceable "No Trucks" signs at entrances to side roads (including larger signs), truck detour route signs, flaggers directing traffic at key intersections, public outreach, and enforcement by local and state law enforcement.

RR: What are the approximate dates for public meetings in our area, i.e. at Skyline School?

MP: Public meetings will be scheduled in spring 2020, when the construction schedule and contractor are confirmed.

RR: Will jurisdiction for CPR transfer to ODOT once the 2020 work is completed or before then?

MP: The section of Cornelius Pass Road between Highway 26 and Highway 30 will not transfer from Washington and Multnomah counties to ODOT until after construction is complete in 2020. The transfer date is not confirmed, but is expected in the next 1 - 2 years.

RR: Once ODOT takes charge, will they be solely

responsible for road maintenance, crash response, etc., or will Multnomah Co. be responsible for part of that?

MP: As the agency with jurisdiction for the road, ODOT will be responsible for maintenance. For questions about ODOT's plans for taking over the road, we recommend you contact ODOT staff.

RR: Concerns were raised at a public meeting earlier this year about the 55 mph speed limit past the 13 mile marker on NW Skyline. Has there been any action on conducting a speed study to determine if a slower speed would be safer?

MP: This request has been added to the county's list of public requests and will be reviewed. We do not have an update yet. We understand that ODOT plans to revise the rules to reduce the speed limit on a local road, which could help on NW Skyline Blvd.

RR: Do you anticipate that the county will have funds next year for pothole repair on NW Skyline?

MP: Yes, potholes will be repaired. Some areas of worn pavement require more extensive repairs that we do not have the budget to repair in 2020. ☐





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For Rent: Off-Grid Bus on Rock Creek Rd. Simple living. Avid gardener a plus. Work-trade possible. \$300/mo. Call John Rivera, 503.807.2393.

Bird Art Classes. Learn how to identify and paint local birds in watercolor with Ronna Fujisawa! Classes offered at the Skyline Grange for all ages (children and adults). Cost of 2.5 hour class is \$35 including all art materials and snacks. Please contact Ronna for updated schedule and registration: ronnafujisawa@me.com 503.488.9229.

Help wanted at local shiitake mushroom farm. Located on Sheltered Nook Road off Cornelius Pass. Mushroom picking is primary need at this time but currently expanding. Retirees welcome. Starting \$12.00 per hour. Contact: Mary, River City Shiitake: 503.522.7379 call or text.

Phoenix Farm Riding School. English horse riding lessons for the whole family. All ages and ability levels welcome! Day-off-school camps. Summer camps. Parties and special events. Located on the corner of Skyline Blvd. & Rock Creek Rd. Call/text 541.914.4254, email 13phoenixfarm13@gmail.com.

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. Visit <http://www.srnpdx.org/grange.html> and contact skylinegrange894@gmail.com.

org/grange.html and contact skylinegrange894@gmail.com.

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



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Community Calendar

Wednesday, Jan. 8, 7:30 PM: Skyline Grange monthly meeting. All are welcome.

Thursday, Jan. 30, 7-9 PM: “Communicating with Government: Making an Impact” at Skyline Grange. Speaker Senator Betsy Johnson, Oregon State Legislature. See story this issue for info.

Monday, Feb. 10, 7:30 PM: Skyline Grange monthly meeting. All are welcome.

Wednesday, Feb. 12, 7-9 PM: “Natural Care of Orchard & Garden” at Skyline Grange. Speaker April Jamison, Garden Ecology. See story this issue for info.

Thursday, Feb. 13, 10 AM – Noon: West Multnomah SWCD & USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service seek your input on priorities for conservation work on private land in our area. Meet at Sauvie Island Grange, 14443 NW Charlton Rd, Portland.

Wednesday, Feb. 19, 7-9 PM: “Fruit-Bearing Shrubs” at Skyline Grange. Speaker Dennis Brown, OSU Master Gardener. See story this issue for info.

Sunday, Feb. 23, serving 9:30-11 AM: “Pancakes, Etc.” Community Brunch at Skyline Grange, 11275 NW Skyline Boulevard.

Sunday, Feb. 23, 6 PM: The Prairie Blossoms. Contemporary & traditional Native American music featuring Mel Kubik from Quarterflash and accomplished vocalist Karen Kitchen. The Last Sunday Concerts at The Church. \$15 Admission. 503.629.9700. <https://www.facebook.com/brookshillchurch/>.

Friday-Saturday, Mar 6-7: Skyline Grange’s Spring Garage Sale, 11275 NW Skyline Boulevard. See story this

issue for info.

Wednesday, Mar. 11, 7:30 PM: Skyline Grange monthly meeting. All are welcome.

Thursday, Mar. 12, 7-9 PM: “Moles and Holes” at Skyline Grange. Speaker Chip Buhl, OSU Extension. See story this issue for info.

Wednesday, Mar. 18, 7-9 PM: “Skyline Elk” at Skyline Grange. Speaker Geoff McMullen, ODFW. See story this issue for info.

Sunday March 29th 6PM: Jack McMahan. Portland songwriting legend and exceptional guitarist Jack McMahan performing his original heartfelt, folk-rock and roots music. The Last Sunday Concerts at The Church. \$15 Admission. 503.629.9700. <https://www.facebook.com/brookshillchurch/>

Friday-Saturday, Apr. 3-4: Skyline Grange’s Tree & Native Plant Sale, 11275 NW Skyline Boulevard. See story this issue for info.

Wednesday, Apr 8, 7:30 PM: Skyline Grange monthly meeting. All are welcome.

Saturday, Apr. 11: WMSWCD presents Soil School at PCC Rock Creek Event Center, an all-day program of topics related to soil. Visit the project page to learn more: <https://wmswcd.org/projects/soil-school/>.

Sunday April 26th 6 PM: Ellen Whyte & Albert Reda. Oregon Hall of Fame & Grammy nominated vocalist Ellen Whyte & Cascade Blues Association Hall of Fame recipient Albert Reda. The Last Sunday Concerts at The Church. \$15 Admission. 503.629.9700. <https://www.facebook.com/brookshillchurch/>.