



Skyline Ridge Runner

April 2018

Skyline Ridge Neighbors

Vol. 30, No. 2

A Nonprofit Neighborhood Association Serving Northwestern Multnomah County, Oregon

Transportation Plans and Emergency Training Topics, April 18

By Rebecca Jenkins

The Skyline Ridge Neighbors are holding their General Meeting on Wednesday, April 18 at 6:30 pm at the Skyline Grange. There will be two presentations during the meeting. The first presentation will be Jessica Berry, Senior Transportation Planner with Multnomah County Department of Community Services who will provide an update to the capital improvement plan and program. The second presentation will be by Jeremy Van Keuren, City of Portland, Bureau of Emergency Management, who will discuss Portland's and our own local efforts and training opportunities within the Neighborhood Emergency Team

(NET) model of response. This presentation is an opportunity for Skyline neighbors interested in learning about this city-wide program and our own rural efforts to implement it in the Skyline community.

The General Meeting will begin with a brief business meeting to present the annual report, Treasurer's report, and elect the 2018-2019 SRN Board of Directors. Current Board members up for re-election are: John Eskew, Rebecca Jenkins, and Suzanne Perra. If you would like to learn more about SRN, how to become involved, or what sort of time commitment being a SRN Board member requires, please contact Laurel Erhardt (laurel.erhardt@gmail.com) or any board member listed in this Ridge Runner on page 2. □

SRN SOLVE Roadside Cleanup is Saturday, April 21. Get Involved!

By Rebecca Jenkins

Skyline Ridge Neighbors is hosting our community's SOLVE Roadside Clean Up on Saturday, April 21st. As many of you have noticed we have a very real increase in roadside litter and illegal dumping in our community. What makes our community so wonderful - its quiet wooded roads, beautiful views, and deep ravines - make us an easy target for people who dump garbage and litter from their cars. Our community has a long history with SOLVE's roadside clean up as a primary strategy for dealing with this problem. This one-day event is key to removing litter and cleaning up the illegal dumpsites. We need all our neighbors to come out, identify problem areas, and clean them up.

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 of our involvement we have collected tons of garbage, recycled metal, hauled illegally dumped tires to proper disposal, and reported potentially hazardous materials to authorities. It's sad to see our neighborhood abused like this. We all need to do our part in fix-

ing the problem. Every year, neighbors come together to clean up the roadsides and gullies of our neighborhood. This event is part of the great annual SOLVE volunteer cleanup that stretches across the State of Oregon.



Kelly Sue Munson and Emma Kather have worked together on our local SOLVE clean up for 12 years (Photo: Skyline Newsline)

How do you join in? On the morning of Saturday, April 21, come to the former church across from Skyline School, 11539 NW Skyline Blvd. Volunteers will help you choose a good stretch of road. You will pick up supplies, a treat, and be on your way.

It is helpful for our planning and data collection if you pre-register on <http://www.solveoregon.org/get-involved/events/skyline-ridge-neighborhood-cleanup>. If you'd like to help but aren't interested in walking there are many other ways to help. Send us an email (srn@srnpdx.org), or call Rebecca Jenkins at 503.621.3392 or text 503.915.7490 and we will discuss what you can do to help. Thank you for helping, and thank you for being a part of what makes our neighborhood such a special place to live! □

Skyline Ridge Runner

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

→ *Deadline for the next issue is June 15*

Skyline Ridge Neighbors Inc.

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

SRN Board of Directors (2017-2018)

Laurel Erhardt, President & Secretary / 503.621.3501
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Skyline Rural Watch Newslines

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

SRN Website

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

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

Treasurer's Report

By John Eskew

SRN Income & Expenses 2017

BEGINNING BALANCE 12/31/2016 \$25,421

INCOME

| | |
|------------------------|-------|
| Advertising | 1,200 |
| Donations | 1,546 |
| Summer Gathering (net) | 3,669 |
| Interest | 57 |

TOTAL INCOME 6,472

EXPENSES

| | |
|----------------|-------|
| Administration | 1,133 |
| Ridge Runner | 3,780 |
| Website | 266 |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | 5,179 |

NET INCOME/EXPENSE 1,293

ENDING BALANCE 12/31/17 \$26,714

Thanks for Your Donations!

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

~ Nick Veroske
~ Anthony Hart and Lauren Wiener
~ Barbara Demanincor

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 appreciated! Please make checks payable to SRN and send them to John Eskew, SRN Treasurer, 15604 NW Rock Creek Rd., Portland, OR 97231. You can also make a donation by credit card. Please visit the link <http://www.srnpdx.org/donate.html> to securely and easily make a donation using PayPal. Thank you.

There's more online at
www.srnpdx.org

Camping at Home After a Disaster: Workshops May 23 & 30

By Miles Merwin

If some unforeseen disaster, either natural or man-made, happened tomorrow that shut down our utilities and rural roads, how long could you stay at home with what you have on hand today?

Many of us have memories of being snowed-in for some days after a severe winter storm that knocked out power and iced our roads. An accident at the petroleum tank farm in Linnton that caused a plume of toxic gas to come our way could compel us to seek shelter at home. And there's always "The Big One," an epic earthquake that could cut our neighborhood off from the outside world and put us all into survival mode for an extended period. Don't expect your neighbors to feed you.

Following on the series of seminars last year on earthquakes and emergency preparedness, the Skyline Grange will sponsor two evening workshops this spring - May 23 and 30 - to explore what families in our neighborhood would need to camp out at home after a disaster.

The purpose of the workshops is to cover the practicalities of how to be self-reliant at home, to learn from neighbors sharing their relevant knowledge and experience, and to encourage action to prepare to meet your family's individual needs. Also, there may be future options to save money through bulk purchases of supplies, such as water storage containers or freeze-dried foods.

During the two evening sessions, the workshops will cover the following topics:

- Water: How much potable water you and your animals need and options for safely storing it

- Food: Suggestions for maintaining a pantry of easy-to-prepare foods - fresh, canned and freeze-dried
- Light & Energy: Generating and storing power from solar and other sources
- Sanitation & Personal Hygiene: Clean-up after an earthquake, washing yourself and your clothes, dealing with human waste
- Physical & Mental Well-Being: Coping with stress and how to stay healthy under difficult conditions
- Communications: Staying in touch with the outside world and your neighbors
- Storage Options: How to store emergency supplies so they'll be undamaged and readily accessible
- Tool Kit & Equipment: Basic tools for home clean-up and repair, plus fuel for saws and tractors

Local residents who have expertise and experience will lead the discussion on these individual topics. Local knowledge is more appropriate for addressing our needs as a rural community than speakers from government agencies who are oriented to urban populations.

If you have experience with wilderness camping, off-the-grid living, extended hunting expeditions, alternative energy sources, food storage, etc., please come and share with your neighbors. These workshops are intended to be brain-storming sessions. Although the information presented will not be the final word on how to prepare, these workshops will help motivate more folks to start pulling together the resources they would need to be self-reliant at home. Please come and participate. ☐

Save the Date! SRN Summer Gathering is August 19

By Rebecca Jenkins

Skyline Ridge Neighbors (SRN) Annual Summer Gathering is coming up August 19th at the Plumper Pumpkin Patch, 11435 NW Old Cornelius Pass Rd. This is SRN's primary fundraiser and the money raised goes to vital community resources such as our quarterly Ridge Runner publication and the SRN's email newsletter. As usual the event is held from Noon to 5 pm, but please note that

we've changed to a Sunday versus our usual Saturday. The amazing Cindy Lou Banks and band will play again. Hope to see you all this summer! Contact Rebecca Jenkins if you are interested in being involved, at 503.915.7490 or rebeccahtjenkins@gmail.com. Offers of donations and questions regarding the auction should be directed to Suzanne Perra, suzanne@perrafamily.com. ☐

George Zahn

George (Geo) Zahn passed on January 24th. Geo lived in the area since 1972 and raised 3 children on the Hill. There will be a memorial gathering to celebrate his life and share memories on Saturday, April 21st, 1-4 pm at the Skyline Grange. Finger food will be served. Feel free to bring some if you wish. If you plan on attending, please use this e-vite link : <http://bit.ly/memorial4geo>.

'Tis the Season to Pull Holly

By Laura Taylor

WMSWCD Conservationist & Education Coordinator

With its bright red berries and evergreen foliage, English holly is celebrated as a beautiful decoration during the year-end holiday season. Yet while this small tree is a vital part of its native forest habitat in Western Europe and the British Isles, it can be invasive and ecologically destructive here in Western Oregon and other parts of the Pacific Northwest. Holly spreads readily through our local forests thanks to the many birds who eat the berries and then disperse the seeds below their favorite perches -like that nice big fir tree in your yard. Holly thrives in shady moist forest understory, and can form dense thickets, which shade out other native plants like trilliums and ferns, and diminish wildlife habitat.

The winter is a great time to scout your land for holly seedlings and pull them before they grow up and take over. Their evergreen foliage stands out more against the bare winter landscape, and small seedlings are easy to pull when the soil is moist. Once holly stems get bigger than a quarter- to a half-inch in diameter, their tenacious taproot makes them difficult to completely pull. Remaining root fragments can regrow into whole new trees. Cutting down holly can make matters worse since it's able to re-sprout from the stump and the above-ground portions of cut stems can form new roots if they're touching the soil. Removing large holly trees requires years of persistent re-cutting or treating freshly cut stumps with an herbicide.



English Holly (Photo: WMSWCD)

The best way to avoid all this hard work is to nip them in the bud while they're small as you enjoy the fresh clear air on a fall or winter day. Make it a yearly tradition since new seedlings will come up every year.

We have a few native species in our area that look similar to English holly. It's important to know the difference so you don't pull a native plant by mistake, or overlook a young holly plant thinking it's a native plant. Both tall Oregon grape (*Mahonia aquifolium*) and Cascade Oregon grape (also called dull Oregon grape; *Mahonia nervosa*) are similar to holly in that they have evergreen leaves with spines along the margins. Holly leaves are usually a darker and glossier green with much stronger, sharper spines on young plants and the lower branches of mature trees.

Another distinguishing trait is that holly has single leaves along its smooth green branches while both Oregon grape species have many leaflets per leaf stalk and the leaf stalks come from a brown and sometimes shaggy stem. These two traits are most helpful for distinguishing the young plants that are easy to pull, but when plants are mature they can be further distinguished by holly becoming tree-sized (up to 40 ft. tall) with bright red berries in winter, while both Oregon grape species remain shrubs (2 to 10 ft. tall) with blueish fruits that ripen in early summer. If you have larger holly trees on your forest property or are unsure if what you have is holly, our Canopy Weeds program may be able to help you get started on controlling it. ☐



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Rock Creek Rd. Neighborhood Initiates Communications Network

By Rachael Brake

Rock Creek Road Map Your Neighborhood group met again in January at the Rich home to share ideas, good food and lively conversation. This was the third potluck meeting and attendance was encouraging. New members were introduced and progress on the mapping effort was shared. The database still needs work; more input is needed especially for the outer limits of our efforts like Elliot Road and the beginning section of Lower Rock Creek Road. Information gathered is limited to only the information neighbors are willing to share; ideally, that includes number in the household, any special needs, contact information for household members, and any potential resources neighbors are willing to share.

One milestone of the meeting was that the first two-way radios for the group were distributed. Peter Torelli and Joe Whitworth did a great job of research and procurement. The intent is to establish a communications network with these shortrange radios providing the first step. The group intends to start a test program to find out exactly what the reach of these radios is and how we could use them to get in touch with others in the neighborhood and outside of it if necessary. PBEM (Portland Bureau of Emergency Management) has assigned channel 3 to the neighborhood. Channels are assigned to minimize confusion with other neighborhoods in the event of high radio usage.

The next potluck and meeting is planned for late March or early April. Details will be emailed to neighbors on the

list. If you're not on the list and you want to be; contact Rachael Brake at 503-621-3423 or rcmbake@hotmail.com.

If any other neighbors want to start this activity for their road, we'd be happy to share our experiences and our expertise. Again, contact Rachael Brake at 503.621.3423 or rcmbake@hotmail.com.

Map Your Neighborhood (MYN) is a program developed for use in wide spread disasters such as earthquakes, wildfires, landslides, etc. It has been implemented in a number of states, cities and communities. It is a tool used to meet the needs of the community and can be adapted for specific areas and needs such as ours here in the Skyline Ridge Neighborhood. The process inventories the skills, resources and equipment in your neighborhood (who has what, who knows what, and who can do what), creates a neighborhood map with homes and other features, identifies those who may need help, and creates a phone/contact list. Neighborhoods that are prepared are better able to save lives and property.

Use of the information gathered will be limited to emergency situations and will not be shared with others outside of the neighborhood.

For more information about MYN, please use this link: http://www.preporegon.org/MYN_overview.

Our RCR MYN is working in conjunction with our local Skyline Ridge NET team. There will be local NET training in May; see the related article for details. □

NET Training Comes to Skyline Ridge in May

By Rachael Brake

Thanks to the newly established local Skyline Ridge NET (Neighborhood Emergency Team) folks and the City of Portland Bureau of Emergency Management (PBEM), you have the opportunity to sign up for local NET training. PBEM trainers will travel to the Skyline Grange in May to provide area residents with this valuable training. The training consists of three full days of classroom instruction followed by a half day field exercise. At the end of the training you will be certified to join a NET team. AND IT'S FREE!

The classroom instruction is scheduled for three consecutive Saturdays, May 5, May 12 and May 19, from 8:30a.m. to 5:30p.m. The field exercise will be scheduled with each trainee after completion of the classroom time. After online registration is submitted, applicants will receive an email confirmation along with a link to prerequisite videos. Viewing time for the videos is about 2 hours but you don't have to view them all at once. At the same time, PBEM will be conducting a criminal background check on each individual. After both of

those are completed, applicants receive another email with specific class information. Here is the sign-up link for this training session: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0d4cafa923a7fc1-basic10>. This link is specific to this training session.

NET stands for Neighborhood Emergency Team. NET (known elsewhere as CERT, Community Emergency Response Team) was created in 1985 after a major earthquake in Mexico City where it was observed that volunteers were able to save citizen lives but some volunteer lives were lost due to lack of training. CERT was started in Los Angeles, CA and picked up by FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency). Most of the people rescued in a disaster are rescued by their neighbors. We can empower ourselves and our community to help ourselves in a disaster. We're all familiar with local emergencies such as snow and ice, flooding, landslides and fires. Other types of emergencies we could see include toxic spills, gas explosions and earthquakes.

NET teams are residents trained by Portland Bureau

NET Training, p. 10►

Daring Deeds of Dastardly Desperados, Part Two

By Patrick Ahern and Theresa Thorud

Not much newsworthy happened in Linnton during the ensuing several decades. Built in 1852, a wagon road extended along the river from Portland to a spot across the channel from a Sauvie Island farm, encouraging connection between the two hamlets. Shiploads of grain from the Tualatin Valley continued to flow from Linnton and Springville, but much of Linnton's activity was centralized in the southern part of the village where a tent camp had been established to receive pioneers who had floated their Conestoga wagons down the Columbia River after leaving the Oregon Trail in the Dalles. A blacksmith shop did a thriving business there, along with merchants selling supplies to the new arrivals. It was here they rested as they contemplated where to finally establish their land claims and settle their families. Many chose the Tualatin Valley and its rich agricultural promise.



*The Claremont Tavern as it appeared in 1906.
(Photo: The Automobile, Vol. 14, Jan. 11, 1906,
accessed at <https://books.google.com>)*

A Few False Starts

In 1849 the camp thinned dramatically as many left for the gold fields of California. In 1872, the Springville warehouses burned down to the water's edge, sealing the fate of Linnton's main competitor, and clearing the riverbank of many of its business interests. That little town remained fallow until 1909 when the Whitwood Court subdivision was developed, which started to attract Portland residents once the United Railway established an electric line to Linnton. This ran for a few years, but when it tried to double its 5 cent fare to 10 cents, Multnomah County became so incensed it rescinded the permit and made United tear up all its track that ran along St. Helen's road, one more disappointment to the area residents.

Another false start to the industrialization of Linnton transpired in 1889, when the Portland Smelting and Refining company started to build a refinery there. It became operational in 1891 but was fraught with internal political warfare to the point where the Portland constable was called out to settle a dispute for squatters rights at the plant. Sadly, about the only thing it produced was rust.

One more short-lived Linnton enterprise was a meat canning factory that specialized in horsemeat. The coming of electric power to the streetcars and other transportation systems put a lot of horses out of work. Of course, they still needed to be sheltered and fed, making them a costly problem for their owners. Also, Eastern Oregon had an abundance of cayuses, which consumed much of the grassland the ranchers wanted for their range cattle.

Getting rid of that competition would be of great benefit to everyone, except, of course, to the Indians that owned them. Those unfortunate creatures (not the Indians, thank God) were rounded up and crammed into boxcars for the trip to their end in Linnton. A horse in those days was worth \$2.50 if it wasn't a specialized breed.

This establishment was not thought of highly by the citizens of Portland, and Linnton folks were given the moniker of "horse canners." Their baseball team even carried that name.

Although there was no demand for horsemeat in the US, several European companies made large purchases from the Linnton plant. One order for 5,000 barrels went to Paris. In its 1899 season, 4,000 nags "passed" through the system. It was a short-lived endeavor, however, as the physical plant was destroyed by fire in October of 1902, probably much to the relief of its Portland "neighsayers."

Linnton's Heyday

It was at the turn of the century when Linnton's glory days began. As we can all see, the Tualatin Mountains around us are chuck full of timber. Saw logs and their required machinery found their way into the welcoming town, and would continue to bolster the economy for many years.

First to come was the Linnton Manufacturing Co. in 1892. It constructed wooden boxes for shippers in the area, including the fruit orchards blossoming all over the Northwest.

Columbia Engineering Works nosed its way into the waterfront, building up to four tall-masted ships at one time. Their vessels were well appreciated, and in good demand. Using steam power for their mechanics, this company brought in skilled laborers from many different places and disciplines. At one time their workforce numbered 400 to 500 people.

Timber, however, ruled the town. There were 6 sawmills at one time, comprising the most valuable part of the harbor. Probably the largest and most well-known operator during the early 1900s was the Clark & Wilson lumber company. Wilson Warner Clark and his father purchased the property from Robert Suitor, who built the first mill in 1904 that would later become known as Linnton Plywood. When a major earthquake struck Japan, orders for construction materials poured into the company. In 1907, only two years after taking ownership, they purchased 10,000 acres of land near Gobel for \$800,000 (\$19,000,000 today). It contained 400 million board feet

► *Desperados (continued from p. 6)*

of fir and cedar, and was the biggest land transaction of Columbia River timberlands ever. Fire destroyed their mill in 1947, and Linnton Plywood rose from its ashes in 1950. The main sawmill of Clark and Wilson occupied the site of what recently was the Glacier NW sand reloading yard, where sand dredged from the Columbia river was marketed. Both Glacier and Linnton Plywood are now gone; only the creosoted pilings and the linked chain conveyor that dragged logs out of the river remain. More than three dozen Cormorants roost on those pilings today.

Prior to Linnton Plywood's arrival, three other plywood mills operated there, both lumber and plywood industries employing more than 1,000 men in 1921. In 1914, Linnton payroll equaled \$1,000,000 annually (\$24,500,000 in today's dollars). Population growth was significant, having tripled from 1900 to 1910, counting 2,000 in that year. It's about 1,400 now. Working men were drawn from Portland, Japan, Hawaii, Italy, and Greece. Instead of people working in Portland and living in the suburbs, Linnton was a suburb looking for workers in Portland. In 1913, Portland Gas and Coke spent \$1,000,000 in 1913 dollars to build a plant there, as did Standard Oil Co. Heady days indeed. As John Marinelli, town barber and a long-term resident reported: "there were 2 newspapers, 7 saloons, jail and police service, and our own curfew in 1908." In the quest to keep the peace, Linnton was also home to the "Linnton Rock Pile," where up to 900 men a year were kept in Spartan conditions and put to work busting rocks for various crimes, mostly drunk and disorderly...

In 1910, when Linnton incorporated herself in preparation for a bid to be absorbed by the city of Portland. It was heavily in debt from issuing bonds to supply itself

with Bull Run water, which made Portland skeptical of the idea. But, when Portland Fire Chief David Campbell was killed fighting an oil fire at the Union Oil storage tanks in Portland, and the city subsequently banned the storage of large quantities of gasoline within the city limits, Portland began to look at Linnton more favorably, as evidenced today. It eventually annexed the community in 1915, but made no infrastructure improvements there for many years.

But I digress. Our focus remains on the early part of that century, and the creation of one of those aforementioned drinking establishments, the Claremont Tavern. The Claremont was designed to be similar in nature to the Claremont Inn of New York City. Constructed in 1905 for owners Sol Blumauer and J. Eugene Hoch, at a cost of \$458,000 in today's dollars, it featured wide verandas with beautiful mountain and river views and large open fireplaces. The building was leased to Harvey Winsor, a well-known caterer in New York City and was to have "cuisines that equal that of the great Eastern hotels." The owners claimed it was the finest roadhouse east of the Missouri River.

The Portland Automobile club orchestrated a major road improvement from Portland to Linnton, the grading and oiling of the road for the benefit of their new machines. The Claremont became the "clubhouse" of that organization, and a destination point for many Portland businessmen. An impressive multi-storied edifice with private dining rooms and two decks facing the mountains, it became an interesting melting pot of working men, ruffians, and the Portland elite. Interesting, indeed... □

...to be continued.

Now's the time to plant a tree!

By Michael Ahr

Forest Conservationist, West Multnomah SWCD

The dormant seasons of fall and early spring (now!) are the best times to plant trees. The weather is cool and the soil will remain moist for a few months, giving the tree enough time to establish its root system.

Typically you're going to plant a bareroot seedling or a balled/burlapped or container tree you've bought at a local nursery. The planting process is a little different depending on which one you choose.

With the container or balled tree, you'll want to dig a shallow, broad planting hole (2-3 times wider than the root ball). Remove burlap or container and pick the tree up at the base and inset into the hole. After packing soil around the tree base, you'll need to add mulch, stake the tree in most cases, and provide good follow-up care, such as watering and minor pruning.

If you're going to plant a bareroot seedling, you'll want to use a long, skinny spade. After you've chosen a

good location for the tree to grow well, insert the spade a third of the way into the ground, rock it back and forth, and then repeat that process twice more until the spade is fully inserted into the ground. Then take your seedling and insert it into the hole behind the spade, making sure the roots are pointing downward. Then seal the hole by stepping down on the soil around the seedling.

There's more information on tree planting we'd like you to know, but we don't have the space to go into too much detail here. We'd like to recommend you visit the West Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District website and type in "tree planting" in the search bar. You'll find a variety of resources on planting both container and bareroot seedlings. We've produced a video showing how to plant a seedling and we recommend you watch that too – just go to Youtube and type in the search bar "Tree planting-West Multnomah SWCD." □

Funding Available for Weed Control & Woodland Improvement

By Michael Ahr, WMSWCD

For years we've been working with Forest Park Conservancy, Portland Parks & Recreation, and many other partners on an initiative to improve forest health and conserve habitat in the corridor that connects Forest Park to the woodlands north of the park and eventually to Oregon's Coast Range. Currently we have a grant available to help landowners treat invasive weeds, improve their forest by thinning dense or overgrown areas, reduce wildfire risk, and plant native trees and shrubs for habitat.

This grant ends in 2019, so we need landowners to contact us soon to get projects going while the funds are still available.

We're interested in working with landowners who have woodlands north of Forest Park around Newberry, McNamee, Cornelius Pass, and Logie Trail Roads, or south of the park in the Balch Creek Watershed. We're focused on properties located between Highway 30 and Skyline Blvd. within the



Two acres of scotch broom and blackberry were cut behind a home on McNamee Road and will be replaced with fire-resistant native plants (Photo: M. Ahr)

Greater Forest Park Conservation Initiative focus area.

For years, the Conservation District has offered a 50% cost share to landowners in these areas. With this grant, we're able to offer a 75% cost share, which can make a big difference on your project. We create conservation plans with landowners before beginning work on weed control or forest management, so making contact soon is important to allow time to complete all the steps.

Since July 2016, we've completed 13 conservation plans in this area covering 170 acres. We've also assisted landowners with restoration activities on about 180 acres, including more than 70 acres of forest thinning projects.

Contact Michael Ahr (michael@wmswcd.org or 503.238.4775 ext. 109) if you're interested in a site visit to explore the opportunities. Thanks to the Oregon Department of Forestry, Forest park Conservancy, and the

US Forest Service for making the grant possible. □

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Grange Hall Undergoing Renovations and More Renovations

By Sen Speroff

As you have passed by Skyline Grange recently, you might have noticed the exterior trim of the windows has been painted. That is only a part of the story. We have seven new windows in the main hall. They are double-paned, energy-efficient and bring inside a view of the outdoors.

Now for the best news for most of us who have complained for years of terrible acoustics at the Grange. At this writing, acoustical panels are being installed. They are beautiful to the ears and the eyes.

Finally, in mid-April new natural hardwood-looking flooring will be laid over our cracking 44-year old floor. The flooring is commercial grade, containing limestone (not vinyl), and it is waterproof.

All of these improvements were designed to make Skyline Grange more welcoming and more functional for the community. We are thankful to many for making these improvements possible. We thank SRN for its generous donation towards the purchase of the acoustical panels. We thank David of Linden Painting for his patience as we painfully hemmed and hawed over wall and ceiling color choices to match the acoustical panels. We thank Oregon State Grange for its matching grant for the windows. We thank local residents who donated items to our garage sales, who volunteered or were customers at our garage sales, plant sales, and community meals. And we thank eight anonymous donors; you know who you are.



A hard-working crew of volunteers installing acoustical panels on the ceiling and walls of the Skyline Grange (Photo: Sen Speroff)

On Wednesday, April 25 at 7 pm, Phil Forsline will discuss his expeditions in Asia and Europe to find, taste, and collect wild apples to preserve their genetic diversity. We all love apples. We all have heard the tales of Johnny Appleseed spreading apple trees across the U.S. But where did they come from originally? We are fortunate to have this Pomologist, Horticulturalist, and Retired Fruit

Crop Curator of Cornell's Plant Genetic Resource Unit as a speaker who has an infectious enthusiasm about apples. He has tasted every variety of apples.

Annual Tree & Native Plant Sale, April 6-7

Our annual Tree & Native Plant Sale will occur on Friday-Saturday, April 6-7, from 9 am to 5 pm. All stock comes from licensed nurseries. The Bareroot Section has fruit-bearing, shade and ornamental trees and shrubs. The Native Plant Section has over 90 different species of Pacific northwest natives. We'll also

have information on how to plant bareroots; resources on caring for fruit trees; noxious weeds; and lists of native plants best for sun, shade, beneficial insects/pollinators, wildlife, and erosion control. There will be information and samples of weeds-of-concern and insects-of-concern. SRN's Weed Wrench Lending Service will be there. See the SRN website Grange Events page <http://www.srnpx.org/events.html> for specific details on available native plants and to download a pre-order form for native plants.

Share Your Memories at Skyline Grange

Do you have photos? Stories? Memories? We would like to hear from you. If you can help connect us with our history, contact us at skylinegrange8894@msn.com.

Join Skyline Grange

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. If yes,

Native Plants and the Origin of Apples

As part of its ongoing Educational Series, Skyline Grange is offering two presentations to complement its plant sale.

- "Landscaping with Native Plants"

On Wednesday, March 28 at 7 pm, learn about the benefits of natives & choosing the right plant for the right place. Laura Taylor, Conservationist & Educational Coordinator for West Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District, will present.

- "Origin of Apples"

Grange News, p. 10►

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

consider joining Skyline Grange and becoming a part of what makes our Skyline community a great place to live.

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 place for gathering. Our impact, activities, and accomplishments

depend upon our members.

Learn more about Skyline Grange by attending an upcoming event or attend a monthly meeting on most second Mondays of each month at 7:30 pm. You can contact the Grange at SkylineGrange894@msn.com. Skyline Grange is located at 11275 NW Skyline Boulevard. □

► **NET Training** (continued from p. 5)

of Emergency Management and Portland Fire & Rescue to provide emergency disaster assistance within their own neighborhoods. NET members are trained to save lives and property until professional responders can arrive. These volunteers are specially trained to help others without putting themselves at unnecessary risk. NET members:

- Have their own households prepared to be self-sufficient for two weeks during any emergency.
- Are able to provide emergency assistance to their family and immediate neighbors.
- Are able to work within an emergency response team to save lives and property in their neighborhood.
- Are able to guide untrained volunteers who want to help others during a disaster.

For more info about the NET organization follow this

link: <https://www.portlandoregon.gov/pbem/31667>.

And to repeat the good news is, there is a local NET team; Skyline Ridge NET. This team consists of 10 friends and neighbors that completed the training within the last year and are now getting organized. The team meets approximately every other month at the Skyline Grange. They live on NW Brooks Rd., NW Germantown Rd., NW Morgan Rd., NW Rock Creek Rd., and NW Skyline Blvd. Rachael Brake has been elected Team Leader. Feel free to contact Rachael (rcmbrake@hotmail.com) with specific questions or if you have any trouble with the links.

Be a part of your neighborhood's preparedness efforts and sign up today! Seats will be limited to 100 trainees due to space constraints at the Grange. This training is open to all City of Portland residents, so sign up early to make sure you can take advantage of this opportunity for local training! Did we mention that it's free? □



Karina Ganz (503)720-4749 and Tanya Smith (503)789-6728 are your Oregon First Skyline Community Realtors, with over 25 years of combined experience.

A high level of personal service and area knowledge are our hallmarks. Our culturally diverse team is fluent in Portuguese and Spanish, as well as English. Proud supporters of Skyline Ridge Neighbors Association and Skyline School PTA! We love referrals!





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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.

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

Ornamental Fish for Sale. Do you have a backyard pond? Our fish have been breeding prolifically and we need to find new homes for little ones. We have a mix of Comets and Shubunkens, about 4-5 inches long, primarily in colors of orange and white. 3 fish for \$10. Call Megan or Ralph at 503.292.5329.

Deerpark Farm & Stables would like to welcome JDK EQUINE. Judy will be offering quality horse boarding, lessons, English or Western, Trail training, leadership training, camps, and clinics in the beautiful west hills. Please contact Judy at jdkurilo@gmail.com for further details.

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.

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, March 28, 7p.m.: "Landscaping with Native Plants" talk by Laura Taylor, WMSWCD Conservationist & Educational Coordinator. Skyline Grange, 11275 NW Skyline Blvd.

Friday-Saturday, April 6 & 7, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.: Skyline Grange's Tree & Native Plant Sale. Bareroot shade, fruit-bearing & ornamental trees & shrubs. Over 90 species of native plants.

Monday, April 9, 7:30 p.m.: Skyline Grange's monthly meeting. (Contact Grange to confirm: skylinegrange894@gmail.com)

April 16-19, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.: Skyline School Used Book Sale. Over 10,000 used books, games, movies & music for sale. All proceeds support Skyline School Library. Donations gladly accepted April 9-13 at school or for pick-up, contact Erin, ryananderinfast@gmail.com

Wednesday April 18, 6:30 p.m.: SRN Spring General Meeting, with two presentations on local transportation planning and neighborhood emergency training.

Wednesday, April 25, 7p.m.: "Origin of Apples" talk by Phil Forsline, pomologist, formerly with Cornell University. Skyline Grange, 11275 NW Skyline Blvd..

Saturday, April 21: SOLVE Roadside Clean Up. See story this issue for details.

Saturday, May 5, 12 & 19, 8:30a.m. - 5:30p.m.: Free Neighborhood Emergency Team (NET) training sessions at the Skyline Grange. See story this issue for more info.

Monday, May 14, 7:30 p.m.: Skyline Grange's monthly meeting. (Contact Grange to confirm: skylinegrange894@gmail.com)

Wednesday, May 23, 7-9 p.m.: Camping Out at Home Workshop #1, Skyline Grange, 11275 NW Skyline Blvd.

Wednesday, May 30, 7-9 p.m.: Camping Out at Home

Workshop #2 Skyline Grange, 11275 NW Skyline Blvd.

Monday, June 11, 7:30 p.m.: Skyline Grange's monthly meeting. (Contact Grange to confirm: skylinegrange894@gmail.com)

Sunday, August 19, Noon – 5 p.m.: SRN Summer Gathering at the Plumper Pumpkin Patch. Watch for complete details in the July Ridge Runner and the Skyline Newslines.



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