

# Skyline Ridge Runner

July 2018

Skyline Ridge Neighbors

Vol. 30, No. 3

A Nonprofit Neighborhood Association Serving Northwestern Multnomah County, Oregon

## Enjoy a Family Fun Day at SRN Summer Gathering, Aug. 19

By SRN Board

The 27th Annual Skyline Ridge Neighbors' Summer Gathering will be held Sunday, August 19th from noon to 5 pm. This popular annual gathering of neighbors promises another fun-filled afternoon for the whole family. This year is ramping up to be better than ever! Thanks to our hosts the Kessinger family, we will gather again at the beautiful venue of The Plumper Pumpkin Patch and Tree Farm, 11435 NW Old Cornelius Pass Road.

### Kiddos!!

This year, the team is making a **SPECIAL EFFORT** to have a lot more kid and family focused activities. Children and families are a huge part of life here on the Hill, and we want to do even more to make sure everyone has a great time. Along with the usual activities, we have a local artisan who will be doing ceramics with the children, neighbors who will help run games and activities, and we will have a kid-friendly raffle!

At writing time, what we still need is a "coordinator" to own this part of the day. We have a lot of infrastructure already in place, and decades of previous picnics worth of experience. This is a relatively small commitment of time, and you get the joy and satisfaction of "owning" the family/children part of the picnic! Email [srn@srnpdx.org](mailto:srn@srnpdx.org) or call Brad @ 253.219.3420 to chat.

### Live Music!

There'll be live music from Brooks Hill – back by popular demand. Their award-winning Americana, Folk Rock, County genre is perfect for our venue. Featuring Cindy Banks, singer-songwriter, on vocals and guitar.

### It's a potluck!

This down-home neighborhood gathering depends on

you to bring a generous portion of your favorite potluck dish for all to share. What's considered generous? – 6 to 9 servings. Bringing your own table setting is helpful for our kitchen crew but not essential.

### Community Education

SRN wants you to know and understand your neighborhood. There will be information specific to our neighborhood, including information tables, the Neighborhood Emergency Team (NET), and government representatives to chat with.



*Lots more kid's activities are in store for the 2018 Gathering (Photo: M. Merwin)*

### It's a Fundraiser!

Donations big and small are already coming in. Our neighbors and supporting businesses never disappoint with a unique variety of fun, fancy and practical items to fit all budgets for bid.

How you can help: Come and participate. This is SRN's only organized fundraising event of the year. We need you to contribute in order to make this event a success. SRN

spends approximately \$5000 a year to produce and mail this newsletter, maintain the [SRNPDX.org](http://SRNPDX.org) website, and support other neighborhood activities that keep us connected and informed about community and government events and activities within SRN as well as surrounding communities.

### Donate

SRN is a nonprofit, charitable organization, so your donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. There will be a silent and oral auction of donated items. Consider putting together a themed gift basket, hand-crafted items, host a dinner party or service for auction. Businesses that donate will be listed in the October Ridge Runner.

**Summer Gathering, p. 7 ►**

# *Skyline Ridge Runner*

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→ *Deadline for the next issue is September 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](http://www.srnpdx.org). Contact the Editor, Laurel Erhardt, at [newslines@srnpdx.org](mailto:newslines@srnpdx.org) or 503.621.3501 to submit items for publication

## **SRN Website**

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

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

## **Thanks for Your Donations!**

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

~ Marilyn & Michael Oliver

~ Perry Stark

~ Susan Gorgas & Chris Van Raden

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.



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## Unsafe Conditions on Skyline Area Roads Need Special Attention

By Jay Kravitz, Skyline Blvd.

*I'm sharing this edited version of a letter I sent to Multnomah County in April regarding, "The Road Ahead, 2040," in the hope that it might stimulate others to convey their concerns.*

As a 40 year resident of NW Skyline Blvd, I am concerned that roads issues in west Multnomah County have been neglected. Cornelius Pass Road has, understandably, been the main focus with the tremendous increase in commuter and commercial traffic. But, I have inferred for years that our local roads and those who live in this area have not been a priority...

About 30 years ago, the Skyline Blvd. - Cornelius Pass Rd. intersection was greatly improved after a fatal crash. That engineering project has probably saved lives. Two more recent landslides on Newberry Rd. required construction of retaining walls. Designating Newberry Rd., once the current landslide repair is completed, as an alternative commuting route when Cornelius Pass Rd. repairs begin, is ill-conceived. Neither Newberry Rd. nor Logie Trail is a suitable diversion route.

About 3 years ago the curve just north of Milepost 14 on Skyline Blvd. was modestly widened with the addition of multiple chevron signs. (Honestly, I began lobbying the roads department and a County Commissioner in the mid-1980s to improve the safety of this curve!) This intervention reduced both car and motorcycle crash incidents, but these events continue! Ambulances and Life Flight have responded. Since November 2017, at least 3 car crashes have occurred, the result of excessive speed. The posted 35 MPH speed limit is ineffectual because it is based on a flawed application of the "80% rule." It's significantly biased because many vehicles travel too fast in this curve. 30 MPH or perhaps 25 MPH should be the posted speed limit!


I view road improvement planning in three general categories:


1. Infrastructure ideas to consider:
  - a. It is seemingly impossible for Skyline Blvd. traffic to enter or cross Cornelius Pass Rd. during rush hour. One solution would be an on-demand traffic light signal between the 6-8AM and 4-6PM commuting hours. At other times blinking lights would be adequate.
  - b. Years ago, I suggested to then County Commissioner Mitch Greenlick that a Cornelius Pass tunnel would divert traffic away from the Skyline Blvd. intersection. A railroad tunnel already exists. Why not a road tunnel between Washington County and Highway 30, towards Scappoose and Linnton in a 'Y'?
  - c. Skyline Blvd. overpass above Cornelius Pass Road, so that locals can avoid the unending stream of traffic

on Cornelius Pass Rd.


- d. Vibration strip in the center line of the Milepost 14 curve
2. Traffic safety: Improved hazard signage and road side reflectors
3. Traffic enforcement: Despite multiple discussions with sheriff deputies and the Sheriff's Office Community Resource Officer, interest in traffic safety enforcement on Skyline Blvd. is lacking. Skyline Blvd. is a playground for non-residents with disregard for the safety of local residents. Drifting is one problem. But speeding vehicles are a serious danger. The greatest hazard is motorcycles travelling at VERY high speeds. One motorcyclist boasted to me at a crash site that he and his companions enjoyed going through the Milepost 14 curve at 80 MPH. On a dry, weekend day, as many as 40-60 motorcycles PER HOUR use Skyline Blvd. as a **race course**. I know the number because I have counted them. Many are also illegally muffled!

P.S. Mike Pullen, Communications Coordinator of Multnomah County, was quite gracious in his response to me...I don't claim to know how to solve our traffic problems, but if I have stimulated others to chime into our "call to action," then this commentary was worth the effort. □





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### Daring Deeds of Dastardly Desperados, Part 3

By Patrick Ahern and Theresa Thorud

I would have been a patron of the Claremont...

It's easy to imagine myself sitting on one of the large verandas, with mountains and a river in my view, nursing a cold mug of Henry's. It's also easy to imagine a row of sawmill workers standing along the bar washing the sawdust out of their throats and delaying, as long as possible, their eventual return home. I can also envision a couple of men at the end of the bar, lacking the evidence of an honest day's work, watching motorcars, one after the other, disgorging rich and privileged scions of the Portland elite into the private dining rooms of the Tavern.

Situated at the end of the improved Linnton road, the Claremont Tavern became the haunt of the Portland Automobile club, receiving the belching beasts one after another to the consternation of those arriving by horse drawn carriage. Many of the "horseless carriages" made it safely along the twisty road; several veered off and tumbled down the steep grade that paralleled the Willamette river. The 17 daily trains to Linnton stopped there, and customers also arrived by boat and the St. Johns Ferry. Its landing was a stone's throw from the Claremont, between what is now Transloader International and Advanced American Construction (the ramp is still visible), and the ferry itself was referred to as the St. John's/Claremont Ferry. It must have been quite a lively place.

But, as I mentioned to my wife upon completion of our new home, "This is the best it will ever look." Time is relentless, and as the years ensued, the Claremont was destined for harder times. Some previous issues with serving alcohol to underage ladies and offering libations on Sundays (forbidden) had been resolved with a wink or two, but the large scale drinking allowed at several of Portland's roadhouses culminated in July of 1912 into a confrontation with governor Oswald West accompanied by a detachment of militia of the national guard. He held an order of martial law against the Tavern (and other roadhouses) that he threatened to post on the door unless the proprietors, Frank Leith and Charles Anderson, would sign a written agreement to operate the business in a lawful manner. Of course they quickly agreed, but continued to ignore the restrictions imposed.

Then came the biggest obstacle. Women's suffrage had

been resisted for years in Oregon, as many men, especially in the entertainment business, held a suspicion that once women had the vote, the next thing would be Temperance and a war against alcohol. Women achieved suffrage in Oregon on November 1912; in 1914 Oregon outlawed alcohol (National prohibition didn't arrive until 1919). You would think the Temperance Movement might have been an insurmountable obstacle for a tavern, but all prohibition

did was enable a bigger, more prosperous underworld. A retired Portland vice cop, Floyd Marsh, wrote about those times in Portland. Marsh remembered at least 100 speakeasies, 40 gambling dens, and a *monthly* bribe total of \$100,000 (about \$1.4 million today) earmarked for the county and city authorities. The purported Oregon alcohol-free morality was just a sham.

Business did suffer some, however, as the more law abiding citizens stayed at home, and two competing taverns in the area, "The Hut" and the "Lakeview Tavern" drew away part of the illegal moonshine trade. In order

to re-create some of their lost income, the Claremont, for a brief time, was converted into a home for shipbuilders from Columbia Engineering Works in 1918. The ending of the war soon after returned the Tavern to its original use, and business became resurgent as Linnton reached its peak employment heyday.

That was good news for the Claremont Tavern, until a horrific event occurred there in November of 1919 that so incensed the entire state that a major change to the constitution evolved as a result: the reinstatement of the death penalty that had been repealed only 6 years prior. It also marked the beginning of the end of the Claremont.

*Authors Note: My research partner, Theresa, warns me that the newspapers of the time were under the influence of the Hearst publications and were subject to a little hyperbole around the facts. She suggests taking their accounts with a grain or two of salt, but hey, where's the fun in that? Also, When I mention dollar amounts, I include the 2018 adjustments for inflation in parenthesis.*

#### Desperados

November 21st, 1919 was a dark and stormy night (of course it was, it was November). A large black sedan pulled into the Jones Lumber Company of St. Johns,



*Carriages both with and without horse brought patrons to the Claremont Tavern (Photo: Oregon Historical Society)"*

### ► *Desperadoes* (continued from p. 4)

killing its engine as it arrived. An argument ensued between the occupants; shortly after, three men dressed in suits left the vehicle. A fourth man remained behind, one **Blackie Williford**. We'll get back to him later. The other men included one **Walter Banaster**, alias "Little Dutch Herman," 23 years old and an unemployed cook; **James Ogle**, a horse thief, ex convict, and recent resident of the Deer Lodge, Montana penitentiary; and **David Smith**, a machinist, also 23 years old. They made their way to the east side of the St. John's Ferry, catching the last sailing of the evening at 10:30, making their way west across the Willamette river quickly in the blackness of the sky and water. They arrived on the opposite bank of the river in the shadow of the Claremont Tavern, the well-known playground of the Portland moneyed elite. They weren't there to play, however.

### The Doomed and The Damsels

Meanwhile, back in Portland, the annual Shriner's convention and the International Livestock Exposition had both finished their daily activities, and the gentlemen attendees were looking for a little nighttime distraction, as many convention participants do. A Pendleton businessman, **E.P. Marshall**, recently widowed, connected with a young female desk clerk at the Benson hotel, Lora Hastings, whom he had known previously when she was still living in their hometown. A night at the theatre was to be capped off with an "automobile party" and an evening drive along the Linnton Road to the Claremont Tavern. On the spur of the moment, he invited his friends **Jasper N. Burgess** and **George E. Peringer** to join them, along with Lora's two roommates from the Baron apartments, Miss Elsie Babcock and Miss Jane Shelton. Burgess, 46 years old and a native of the Dalles, was the owner of vast holdings of wheat and grazing land and large flocks of sheep. He was prominent in public life, and had been mentioned as a future gubernatorial candidate. In 1910 he was elected state senator. Obviously a very important man in the elite of Eastern Oregon. His wife did not attend the convention as she was visiting her mother in California. George E. Peringer was reputed to be the largest land owner in Umatilla county. He was a great horse fancier, and took an active interest in stock shows and the Pendleton Round Up when it was organized. His wife had remained in Pendleton. The group rounded up an automobile and headed out of town on what was to be a grand adventure. At first.

### Dastardly Deeds

The three prowlers, after leaving the Ferry, scoured the riverbank and absconded with a rowboat belonging to one J. Redding who lived near the west ferry terminal, caching it to use in their planned escape back across the river. At about 11:00 pm, Mr. B.J. McCauley, a former co-manager of the Claremont, was sitting in the reception

area when he noted the entrance of three men dressed in blue serge suits dappled with globs of mud and wearing white handkerchiefs tied over their faces to disguise themselves. Somewhat amused at their appearance, he did not consider them seriously when they told him to "throw up your hands". It didn't take too much to convince him they meant business, and following their instructions, he was escorted to the ballroom with the other patrons. He was wearing an expensive ring worth \$1650 (\$22,345) and carrying \$500 (\$6700) in cash...but not for long. One of the robbers stayed with the patrons in the ballroom, relieving them of their valuables, while the other two split up to comb the premises for other opportunities. A killer headed for the private dining rooms.

Our three conventioners had been seated in one of those rooms, surely an exciting adventure for the young women, being entertained by some of the Pendleton elite. They had just been served an appetizer of carrots and celery when they were served an entree they were certainly not expecting. A short, brutish looking young man dressed in a blue suit with a white kerchief wrapped around his lower face burst through the door waving two pistols and demanding everyone vacate the room and follow him to the ballroom, or he would shoot them. Mr. Burgess demanded to know what the man's intentions were, and when the gunman replied with an additional threat, Burgess, thinking it was a joke being played upon him by his fellow Shriners for being out to dinner with a bevy of young women when his wife was out of town, decided to bluff the desperado, telling him to just go ahead and shoot!

So, he did.

Once in the face, once in the heart, and a few more times for good measure.

George Perringer then leaped into action, attempting to slam the door of the dining room in the face of the killer. His bravery was answered with a shot through the door jamb into the heart. Staggering out into the hallway, Mr. Perringer collapsed in full view of the holdup victims, his lifeless body effectively preventing any further resistance.

Mr. Marshall twisted away from a bullet sent in his direction, and immediately became compliant with any additional demands of the robbers, having seen his two friends lying in pools of blood and Miss Hastings unconscious, fainting during the gunfire. She was attended to by the other women, and the depleted party was then marched into the ballroom to be lined up along with the other 25 people in the establishment. As the robbers removed their money and jewelry, it became clear that this holdup was carefully planned. People of means during that era, perhaps because of a lack of trust of the banks, carried large amounts of cash. Two diners were each carrying \$6000 in today's currency.

The gang was calm and businesslike. Banaster, also disguised, went downstairs in search of the Tavern manager and the combination to the establishment's safe.

***Desperados, p. 10 ►***

## Camping at Home: Follow-up to Disaster Preparedness Workshops

By Miles Merwin

Our Skyline Grange sponsored two workshops on "Camping at Home" on May 23 and 30 which covered some of the basic necessities for families to stay at home without power or road access following a natural or man-made disaster. Local neighbors presented detailed talks on a variety of topics, including food and water storage, alternative energy sources, personal hygiene, and tools. Copies of their presentations along with web links for further info are now posted on the "Be Prepared" tab of the SRN website: <http://www.srnpx.org/be-prepared.html>.

### Next Steps

To continue helping neighbors prepare for an emergency situation, future lectures and activities will be held at the Grange. Some of the potential activities include:

- Lectures and workshops on new and expanded topics related to disaster preparedness
- Freeze dried food tasting party. Freeze dried food has the advantage of long-term shelf life as an emergency food source, but it's relatively expensive. If you're considering adding some to your emergency supplies, you might want to try some first to see what you like. We could organize a tasting party with a variety of freeze dried foods; there would be a suggested donation to cover the purchase costs.
- Food pantry & meal planning. Your every-day food pantry of canned and staple foods will be your first source of food in an emergency. An

expanded workshop on stocking your food pantry with nutritious and easy-to-prepared foods could be offered.

- Bulk purchases. Skyline area residents interested in purchasing some supplies like freeze-dried foods, storage containers, batteries, etc. could join together to take advantage of quantity discounts by ordering them in bulk.
- Radio communications. A group of Rock Creek Road neighbors have all purchased inexpensive two-way radios for use in an emergency and have tested a local relay system for passing messages. Other neighborhoods could benefit from their experience through a training session at the Grange

### Online Survey

To help plan these next steps, Skyline Grange seeks your input on all of the above activities and more. To gauge neighbors' interest, a brief survey has been posted online at this address: <https://goo.gl/forms/yV0zQh7PK3O1U1FD2>. There is also a link to the survey on the SRN website (<http://www.srnpx.org/be-prepared.html>), if you don't want to type that long address.

Please give us your ideas and suggestions by responding to the survey. The survey will also be available on paper at the Summer Gathering in August. Or, you can send your comments by email to [prepared@srnpx.org](mailto:prepared@srnpx.org). Your responses are confidential unless you choose to provide contact details. Thank you for helping the Skyline Grange expand its preparedness programs. □

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## Garlic Mustard Discovered in New Area of Skyline!

By Ari DeMarco, West Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District

Earlier this month, Forest Conservationist Michael Ahr found a large population of garlic mustard at a property that never had the weed before. Located northwest of Cornelius Pass Road, in the 12000 block of NW Skyline Boulevard, this was an important discovery for WMSWCD, since it is the only infestation of garlic mustard that we have found north of the Cornelius Pass Rd/Skyline Blvd intersection, and the only population that we know of in the McCarthy Creek watershed. The bulk of garlic mustard population in our District is in the Skyline/Cornell area, southeast of this new site.

Spread by animals, water, vehicles, and people, garlic mustard could quickly spread throughout the McCarthy Creek watershed if not controlled. Garlic mustard can produce prolific amounts of seed, and exudes a chemical which can impede the growth of desirable native species, helping it to form dense, solid stands even in otherwise undisturbed forest understories.



Garlic mustard in flower, ready to spread. (Photo: King Co. gov.)

To help prevent this, we conduct a widespread garlic mustard control effort every spring, and attempt to eradicate all flowering plants before they set seed in mid-June.

We've already treated this new site and are in the process of surveying nearby properties for any satellite populations. If you live up there, please keep your eye out and

let us know if you see it growing on your property or along the road. It can survive equally well in forests or backyards, along roadsides or stream-banks.

Please don't just pull it yourself. We need to keep track of where it is so that we can monitor its spread and try to predict where we need to be most vigilant about monitoring for it in the future!

### Information Resources

- <https://www.king-county.gov/services/environment/animals-and-plants/noxious-weeds/weed-identification/garlic-mustard.aspx>
- <http://www.srnpx.org/garlic-mustard-overview.html> □

### ► Summer Gathering (continued from p. 1)

#### Volunteer

Like all other SRN activities, the Gathering is run entirely by volunteers. We can really use your help before, during and after with a variety of tasks. You can volunteer for just an hour or the whole day - it's up to you. And, it's

an excellent community service opportunity for the young adults in your household. See flyer for contact details for donating or volunteering.

But most of all, come. Come connect with your neighbors and enjoy the afternoon at our annual neighborhood get-together. We look forward to seeing you there! □



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## Enhance Your Property with Meadowscaping & Pollinator Gardens

By Laura Taylor, Conservationist and Education Coordinator,  
WMSWCD

Meadowscaping and naturescaping incorporate native plants, wildlife habitat, and natural ecological systems into beautiful home and urban garden spaces. This guide is intended to give you a quick introduction to the process and point you toward more information and resources to help your project succeed from start to finish.

### Benefits of Meadowscaping

Meadowscaping and other naturescaping practices help conserve and increase biodiversity, including native plants and pollinators. They reduce our ecological footprint and increase awareness of our natural and cultural heritage. And they create a beautiful vibrant natural landscape where you can relax, restore, and explore.

### Basic Steps

1. Map your site – include existing features, light, moisture, and soil.
2. Plan and Design
  - a. Choose your planting type(s) (meadowscape, hedgerow, naturescape, etc.).
  - b. Pick plant species that will thrive in your design and conditions.
  - c. Map plant and feature locations choosing the right plant for the right place.
3. Prepare the site - be patient and give this step the time it deserves! It will save you much time and labor in the future.
  - a. Clear weeds & sod (see our Sheet Mulching 101 article for more info: <https://wmswcd.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/Garden-Bed-Preparation-Techniques.pdf>)
  - b. Amend the soil if needed.
  - c. Place hardscape features and mulch.
4. Plant! - Timing is important
  - a. Plant container plants in fall or early spring (Oct – April).
  - b. For native seeding, fall (mid Sept – mid Nov) is usually the best time to sow to get successful germination in the spring.
5. Water – necessary the first year or two to help young plants get established. If you chose the right plant for the right place, they should not need this after a few years.



*Meadowscaping with native plants attracts an abundance of insect pollinators to your garden. (Photo: WMSWCD)"*

6. Maintain – weed regularly and thin out plant communities that get too dense.

### More Information

**Meadowscaping Handbook** <https://wmswcd.org/projects/the-meadowscaping-handbook/>  
**Pollinator bloom-time chart** [https://wmswcd.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/WMSWCD\\_PollBloomChart\\_interactive\\_4.2018.pdf](https://wmswcd.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/WMSWCD_PollBloomChart_interactive_4.2018.pdf)

**Portland Plant List (General native plant info for the Portland area)** <https://www.portlandoregon.gov/bps/69700>

**Oregon Flora Project (Plant photos, range maps, origin status)** <http://oregonflora.org/>

### Sources of Native Plants

Willamette Valley native seed is available in residential yard-scale quantities from:

**Jonny Native Seed** <http://www.jonnynativeseed.com/Welcome.html>,  
**Pro Time Lawn Seed** <https://ptlawnseed.com/collections/native-seeds>,  
**Silver Falls Seed Company** <https://silverfallsseed.com/>  
**Willamette Wildlings** <https://willamettewildlings.com>

Willamette Valley native containerized plants are sold in retail quantities at the following locations:

**Comprehensive online list:** [http://www.plantnative.org/nd\\_or.htm](http://www.plantnative.org/nd_or.htm) □



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Plainview, OR 97231 CCB# 100658



## If Wildfire Strikes, Could Your Home Be Saved?

By Miles Merwin

The 2017 wildfire season in Oregon was one of the worst on record: 1,903 fires, 1,060 square miles burned, \$340 million spent on fire-fighting. Forests in our rural neighborhood are not immune to fire, ignited by human or natural causes. And one consequence of our warming climate is that the frequency and severity of wildfire is likely to increase.

As a first step to protecting their homes in or near the forest, landowners should create and maintain “defensible space” which creates a buffer of managed vegetation around the home and out-buildings. When wildfire breaks out, TVF&R gives higher priority to properties that have created defensible space because there is a better chance that firefighters will be able to save structures. Defensible space also presents less safety risk to firefighters on the scene compared to inadequately prepared properties.

To help landowners tackle the problem, OSU has published a new guide to creating and maintaining defensible space. “Keeping Your Home and Property Safe from Wildfire” (EM 9184) is an extensively illustrated guide for homeowners and landowners. View and download the publication here: <https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/em9184>.

The publication details the process of managing vegetation around your home and out-buildings to create de-

fensible space. Management is more intensive in Zone 1 within 30 feet around structures compared to Zones 2 and 3 which extend out to 100 feet and beyond. Beyond the initial creation of defensible space by reducing and/or removing flammable vegetation, the publication emphasizes the importance of regular maintenance to reduce the build-up of fuels from growing trees and shrubs. It recommends that vegetation closest to the home be maintained annually. Areas from 30-100 feet can be divided into sections which are maintained sequentially over several years. Tools and techniques are described for seasonal tasks during winter, spring and summer.

Some native and non-native plants that are flammable and common in our area are given special attention. Some of the worst offenders are scotch broom, blackberry, juniper, cypress, ceanothus, and non-native grasses. Best management practices are provided on how to control these plants around your home.

Once the more fire-prone species are removed, another OSU publication has an extensive list of perennials, trees and shrubs that are both fire-resistant and attractive. “Fire-Resistant Plants for Home Landscapes” (PNW 590) can be viewed and downloaded here: <https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/pnw590>. □

## Got Fireworks? Keep it Legal, Keep it Safe!

By Christina Lent, TVF&R

Oregon law bans fireworks that fly, explode, or travel on the ground more than six feet — this includes bottle rockets, roman candles, firecrackers, and M80s.

To be legal, purchase all fireworks at a licensed Oregon fireworks stand. Fireworks purchased by mail order or in the state of Washington or at Native American reservations may be illegal in our state.

Under Oregon law, officials can seize illegal fireworks, and you can be fined up to \$500 per violation and/or arrested. You can be held civilly liable for damages resulting from improper use of any fireworks — legal or illegal. Oregon law also makes parents liable for damage caused by their children and allows fire departments to charge for the cost of suppressing fires caused by fireworks. Additionally, the use of illegal fireworks constitutes criminal activity, and your insurance policy may not cover you if you engage in a criminal act that results in damage.

Even legal fireworks are dangerous and have caused injuries and burns to users, especially unsupervised children. Also, during dry summer conditions, an errant firework can ignite vegetation, vehicles and even your roof.

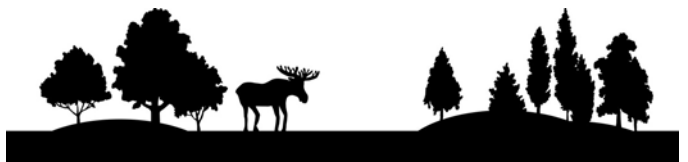
Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue advises you to celebrate

safely this year by following the following safety tips:

- Only adults should light or handle fireworks.
- Supervise children at all times when fireworks are being used.
- Store fireworks, matches, and lighters out of the reach of children.
- Use fireworks outdoors on a paved surface — away from buildings, vehicles, and vegetation.
- Never point or throw fireworks at people, pets, or buildings.
- Never alter fireworks or make your own. Home-made explosives can be deadly!
- Have a hose or bucket of water nearby to douse misfired and spent fireworks and to extinguish potential fires.

The best and safest plan is to attend a professional fireworks display and eliminate the risk altogether.

For more safety tips, visit Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue’s website at [www.tvfr.com](http://www.tvfr.com). □



## Renovations Improve Skyline Grange Hall for Community Events

By Sen Speroff

Traditionally, Skyline Grange activities slow down for the summer months, giving members a well-deserved break to tend their own gardens, vacation, and to tackle overdue home improvements. The past nine months have been extremely busy and productive at Skyline Grange. We are pleased as punch with the new renovations and the quality of events we have offered to our Skyline community.

Not all is quiet during the summer. The building will be the venue for a couple of weddings, a memorial service, Poekoelan classes, Grange's Sewing Circle, and Skyline Ridge NET meetings. Members will complete the final touches to the recent renovations, have periodic landscape maintenance "parties," and will be there supporting SRN at its Summer Gathering.



Grange hall in bloom (Photo: T. Waters)

the usual garage sale (October 5-6) and Community Soup Supper (October 27), our Education Committee will be planning more presentations in its ongoing lecture series.

We hope to have a talk on insect pests of concern, and more in the series on community disaster preparedness.

Details will be published on SRN's Newslane as the scheduled events gets closer.

We hope you will take advantage of these offerings.

### Contact Us

You can contact the Grange at [skylinegrange894@msn.com](mailto:skylinegrange894@msn.com) regarding general information, joining, and donating items for its garage sale.

For rental inquiries, first read <http://www.srnpxd.org/rental-information.html>, then contact the Rental Committee at [skylinegrange894@gmail.com](mailto:skylinegrange894@gmail.com).

Our monthly meetings are on the second Monday of each month. Visit our website at <http://www.srnpxd.org/grange.html>. □

### Fall Events in Planning

Summer means planning fall/winter events. Besides

#### ► **Desperados** (continued from p. 5)

Once in the basement, he received a surprise equal to the surprise he gave to a uniformed motorcycle cop who had stopped in on his rounds, having seen the three men enter, and dropped into the kitchen to investigate. Relieving the officer of his gun and club, he gathered him along with the cook Charles Jackson, and the waiter John Moyer, who had just dropped a tray of food in panic, and sent them upstairs to the ballroom to join the others.

He confronted the manager of the Claremont in the basement, Miles Coakley, who thought he was being played about opening up the safe until the barrel of a gun was jammed into his ribs. The "box" yielded about \$400 (\$5400), a pretty good haul so far, adding in Coakley's personal jewelry.

The boys didn't seem to be in much of a hurry, despite the gunshots and gendarme in the basement, taking their time as they relieved the patrons of their valuables. They even went outside and strong-armed Portland Taxicab driver Olaf Olson into the ballroom. He had been looking in the windows, attracted by the gunshots, and smartly

had hidden his money in the cab. Half an hour later, the robbers made their escape toward the stolen rowboat and the Willamette, probably congratulating themselves for a successful caper. Little did they know that all hell was going to break loose, and the seeds of their capture had already been sowed. □

.....to be continued.



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**Calling local woodworkers.** Skyline business can help you market your woodturning, furniture, or other wooden objects you create. Low commission rates, non-exclusive, sell one or many. Contact Oregon Heartwood LLC for more info: heartwood@oregonheartwood.com, 971.285.6960.

**Scappoose Library Book sales:** July 14, Aug. 11, Sept. 8, Oct. 13, Nov. 10 & Dec. 8. At Library basement, 52469 SE 2nd St., from 10 am-2pm. All books \$1.00-2.00. For more info check out Friends of the Scappoose Public Library (FOSPL) on Facebook.

**Yard clean-up & maintenance service** including pruning, blackberry & ivy removal, weeding, and mowing. I can do handyman type repairs on gates, fences, coops, etc. and install paths, fences and new plantings. 10 years experience with local firms. Neighborhood references available. Call Mario at 503.800.1824. \$22/hr, 4 hour minimum.

**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.

**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.

**Hydraulic Woodsplitting.** Haul behind splitter rolls to your site. Chainsaw work, cut up downed trees, brush & sapling removal. Blackberry Removal. Stihl FS-250 gets in tight spaces: fence lines, foundations, through narrow gates, on hillsides where brush hogs can't go. Joel 503.553.9429.

**Owen West Electric.** Our specialty is service and panel changes, kitchen and bath remodels, security, and yard lighting. 30 years of experience. CCB #29492. 503.297.6375 Office, 503.880.9512 Cell

**Rent the Skyline Grange.** Planning an event? The Grange may be the perfect spot. Visit <http://www.srnpx.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

**Aug. 9, 11, 12 & 14:** Drop off your donations for the SRN Summer Gathering at 13610 NW Skyline. See story on pg. 1 for drop-off times. Thanks!

**Sunday, Aug. 19, Noon – 5 p.m.:** SRN Summer Gathering, at the Plumper Pumpkin Patch, 11435 NW Old Cornelius Pass Rd. Food, Music, Family Fun, Auction items. Don't miss it!

**Friday-Saturday, Oct. 5-6:** Skyline Grange Garage Sale. Watch the Newsline for announcement of drop-off times. To volunteer or ask questions, contact skylinegrange894@gmail.com.



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9am to 5:30pm

Christmas Trees: Fri, Sat, & Sun  
Starting Friday after Thanksgiving

