



# Cedar Mill News

Volume 3, Issue 4

April 2005

## Featured Business

### Apollo Pools and Billiards

By Virginia Bruce, Editor

Some people are surprised to think that there are any private swimming pools in our area, but there are enough around to keep Apollo Pools in business since 1967 in Cedar Mill.

But because of Washington County zoning and the way new houses are being built, they're getting scarcer. "People are building these big houses on smaller and smaller lots, so there's no room to put in a pool," says Terry Johnson, Vice President. "There are a lot of spas going in, and they're including big 'bonus' rooms, so the indoor home recreation business is doing very well."

Apollo Pools was started by Norman and Betty Shaw in 1967. The business was named for the Greek god, who was said to have had a swimming pool. The original location was on the west side of Murray Road where the Sunset Highway now runs. When an onramp was constructed on their site in 1990, they built at the



Pool toys and table games at Apollo Pools & Billiards current location at 13306 NW Cornell.

Norman and Betty's children, Scott Shaw and Dana Shaw Johnson began working in the store when they were young. Norman passed away in 2001, and Scott is now President and runs the parts and repair section of the company, located in a separate, adjacent building to the west. Terry joined the company in 1972. He used to work for the Forest Service, but when Dana became pregnant with their first child, "she didn't want to go out and live in the woods," Terry remembers.

*Continued on page 5*

**Join the Cedar Mill Business Association – see page 4**

*Next Meeting*

**Cedar Mill Business Association**

*Tuesday, April 19, 2005. 4 pm*  
*Place: Cedar Mill Community Library*

*Topic: Business Recycling – A New Approach*  
*Speakers: Paul Seitz & Robert Weeks,*  
*Washington County Cooperative Recycling Program*

*Join us for a sneak preview of the Program's new approach to business recycling and help them shape it with your feedback and ideas.*

*Meetings are free and open to anyone interested in the Cedar Mill Business Community*

### History in the News

#### St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church

by Nancy Olson, co-author, Cedar Mill History

If you look sharp you'll notice a small cemetery encircled by redwood trees north of the Village Baptist Church property on SW Murray, south of Highway 26. It is the St. Anthony Catholic cemetery and the site of the old St. Anthony of Padua Church and School. Although the site is not considered within the boundaries of Cedar Mill today, it certainly was back then – there was no freeway cutting things up.

St. Anthony of Padua was the second Catholic mission in the Tualatin Valley, founded in 1876 by Father Joseph Hermann. An earlier mission had been founded in Verboort but Father Hermann selected the Cedar Mill area because "this place was and is the most central location of the Catholic settlers in that section." Prior to that time, Mass was held for Cedar Mill folks at Union School on NW 143rd and in various private homes.

Several Cedar Mill parishioners donated land and Archbishop F.W. Blanchet bought about 1.4 acres for \$14.00 to complete a tract

large enough for a church and cemetery. In 1878, a modest 20' by 40' wood frame church was built on the west side of Murray Road. The exterior was given three coats of paint but the interior remained unfinished due to lack of funds and the thin and lightly constructed building creaked and groaned in heavy winds.

At this time, about 30 families attended Mass, some driving as far as 20 miles by horse and wagon to attend services. Because many



St Anthony of Padua confirmation class, May 19, 1900 (courtesy Mary Groch)

roads were impassable in winter and people rode on horseback, horse railings were installed along both sides of the church and a shed was constructed for shelter.

Later, the changing of the County Road and the selection of a suitable burial ground, made

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St. Anthony's, Continued from page 1

it necessary to move the church building to the east side of the tract. In 1888, the St. Anthony of Padua Parochial School was built and opened with 75 students, taught by the Dominican Sisters who lived next door to the school. Fire destroyed the structures in 1897 but they were later rebuilt, with the Sisters of Mercy teaching the children. The church building had survived.

During the church's existence, a total of 13 priests were attached to the parish. Many made friends in Cedar Mill. Father Levesque was a member of the Cedar Mill Debate Club and Father LeMiller resided here, traveling by horse and buggy to Tigard and Cooper Mountain to visit Catholic families there.

Fire struck the St. Anthony School and sisters' home again in 1906 but this time the buildings were not replaced. Due to road conditions and a shift in population, parish headquarters were moved to Beaverton. The church building,



Joe Murray's grave marker

however, remained to serve the community for a number of years. In 1912, Father James O'Flynn was appointed to St. Anthony. He lived in Beaverton and commuted by horseback to Cedar Mill to conduct Mass. The final service was offered in 1916 and in 1922 the old church was dismantled and the lumber was used to floor the basement of St. Cecelia in Beaverton.

Only the small cemetery and the redwood trees remain today. Joe Murray, who briefly attended the school, is buried there along with other family members. Stop and take a stroll into the past. (Access to the cemetery is through the Village Baptist parking lot.)

## PGE boosts our juice

Two corners of Washington County are receiving major upgrades in their electrical service from Portland General Electric (PGE). The utility is doubling the capacity of a Bethany area substation, adding two new high capacity "feeder" lines and replacing two others that serve homes from Oak Hills to the West Hills. PGE is also installing larger wire between Hillsboro and Cornelius to improve reliability.

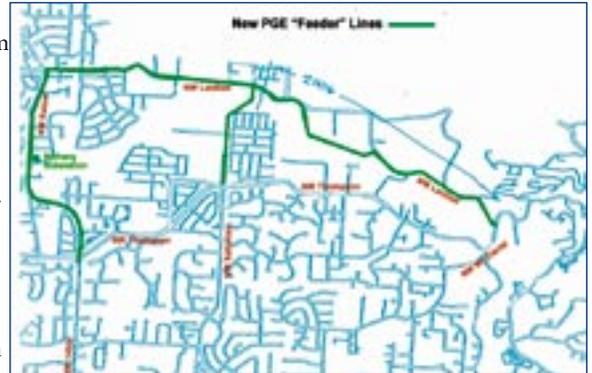
The feeder projects will increase service reliability for about 18,000 customers. Feeder lines are the "arterial roads" of the power grid, delivering electricity from substations to the neighborhoods. From there, they become smaller tap lines, the city streets of the system. Bethany Substation will increase its total number of feeders from three to five, while doubling the amount of power the station can send out.

PGE is also replacing two miles of feeder on Laidlaw and upper Saltzman roads by this summer with higher capacity line. Another mile on Laidlaw is scheduled for completion in 2006. Most of the lines head uphill into the growing Forest Heights and Thompson Road areas. Another line will increase service to the Oak Hills-Cedar Mill area.

"The project should reduce the most likely cause of outages in forested areas - shorts

created by tree limbs," said Ron Slattery, the project engineer. "We're adding 'tree wire' on one stretch of Laidlaw Road. That's a power line covered with a plastic coating so a windblown limb won't short circuit the power line." Reliability also will increase because the improved power supply and increased number of lines will make it easier to obtain back-up power should an outage occur.

Substations take power from the big transmission lines, which are the "freeways" of the power grid. The substations reduce the voltage



and then distribute the electricity into the feeders, like spokes on a wheel.

Construction in the Bethany Substation, a new transformer, began in October 2004 will be on-line this summer. Laying the related power line may cause some traffic delays on Laidlaw.

The Bethany and Cornelius projects represent a combined investment of \$3.1 million. Each year, PGE spends about \$180 million dollars in maintaining and improving its system, including upgrades in the distribution, transmission and power generation systems.

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## Verizon rolls out fiber-optic in Cedar Mill

Crews are already working in some of our neighborhoods installing “fiber-to-the-premises” or FTTP. This technology uses hair-thin strands of fiber and optical electronics to directly link homes and businesses to Verizon’s network. The new network replaces the traditional copper-wire connections and will “unleash a range of advanced communication services” according to Verizon. Eventual offerings will include HDTV movie downloads in minutes.

Verizon is one of the first major telecom



companies to begin using fiber optics to connect homes and businesses on a widespread scale. Our area is among Verizon’s first FTTP markets in the Northwest. By late summer the company expects to have all of Somerset West upgraded. This “exchange” encompasses everything from 185<sup>th</sup> east to the county line and north of the Sunset Highway.

The fiber cables are being installed with advanced drilling equipment that only requires minimal excavation and thus minimal disruption to roads. It

takes only a few days to install the cables into a neighborhood. Once the cables are installed in the street, additional cabling to homes will occur when a customer orders the service.

Three tiers of Verizon “FiOS” internet service will be available to customers in the newly wired areas, ranging in speed from 5 Mbps to 15 Mbps and in price from \$34.95 to \$179.95 as part of a calling package. Current DSL contract customers will be able to convert their contracts to FiOS at a pro-rated cost.

The FTTP network will “provide customers unmatched network reliability, incredible speed and limitless potential for voice, data and video connections,” said David Valdez, Verizon’s vice president of public affairs and policy in the Northwest. “We believe our FTTP project will stimulate economic development and help convince companies and people that Washington County is a great place to live and do business.”

## No Ivy Day in Cedar Mill Park

Saturday May 7, 9am – 1 pm  
10385 NW Cornell Rd. just west of Cedar Mill School.

Join your friends and neighbors to protect and enhance the natural environment in the west end of Cedar Mill Park by removing ivy and other invasive plants. Tualatin Hills Park and Recreation District will provide tools and expertise. All ages are welcome but children must be accompanied by parent or guardian.

Bring your own gloves and please wear long sleeves and pants. Bring your own loppers and hand clippers if you have them.

Refreshments provided. Sponsored by the Cedar Mill Business Association, THPRD, Rock Creek Watershed Partners and the No Ivy Coalition.

Sign up online now and get a free T-shirt! at [cedarmill.org/CMBA/noivy2005.htm](http://cedarmill.org/CMBA/noivy2005.htm).



## Cedar Mill Walmart?

At the March meeting of the Cedar Mill Business Association, representatives of Save Cedar Mill, a local group organized to oppose the Walmart store proposed for Cedar Hills Blvd. and Barnes asked the CMBA to take a position on the development. Walmart’s answers to members’ previously submitted questions was also given to those attending.

The association polled its members by mail about this issue. The results were evenly divided. Exactly half of the respondents voted to oppose the store and half voted not to take a position. Half of the responses favored contributing money to Save Cedar Mill and half did not.

As a result of this vote the CMBA will not take an official stand on the store and will not contribute to Save Cedar Mill. This action does not prevent individual members of the CMBA from getting involved with this issue.

There is a page of information about the Walmart issue with links to other information sources on the CMBA website at [cedarmill.org/CMBA/walmart.htm](http://cedarmill.org/CMBA/walmart.htm)

**Join the Cedar Mill Business Association – see page 4**

### Cedar Mill Community Calendar

April 5—CPO #1 Meeting, 7 pm, St. Vincent’s Hospital Souther Auditorium

April 7—Town Hall Meeting with Charlie Ringo, State Senator, 6:30-8:30 pm, Sunset High Auditorium, 13840 NW Cornell

April 13—Mitch Greenlick/Brad Avakian Town Hall, 7 PM Stoller Middle School, 14141 NW Laidlaw

April 19—Cedar Mill Business Association, 4 pm Cedar Mill Library

April 21—Cedar Mill History Project, 6:30 pm Cedar Mill Library

April 21—Mitch Greenlick/Brad Avakian Town Hall, 7 PM, Five Oaks Middle School, 1600 NW 173rd focusing on public education.

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## The Nature of Cedar Mill

# What Good is a Watershed?

By Gretchen Vadnais, Landscape Architect

A watershed is all the land that drains into a river or creek. It is separated from other watersheds by ridgetop boundaries. When it rains or snows in a watershed, all that water eventually enters the water body, either through surface water or groundwater.

In our area the watersheds of Cedar Mill, Willow, Beaverton, Bronson and Johnson Creeks contribute to the Rock Creek Watershed. The Rock Creek Watershed in turn is part of the larger Tualatin River Watershed which drains into the Willamette. The creeks of our watersheds have their headwaters in the steep slopes of the Tualatin Hills.

The creeks coming down from the steep hills are rocky and swift. As they reach the valley floor they enter a landscape that was filled with beaver and beaver dams before the valley was developed.

The water that comes to a creek from an undisturbed watershed is caught by vegetation, soil and wetlands, and is released slowly over the course of years. This is part of the function of a watershed; to store water, to filter it, and release it. The woods immediately surrounding a creek (the riparian woods), the mature forest beyond this, the soft duff of the forest floor, and the open grasslands of the early valleys, all helped to store and filter water.

When this absorbent surface is covered over with roofs and asphalt, water runs into streams much more directly, carrying whatever washes off these surfaces. Water running over hot asphalt drains into pipes which empty directly into the closest stream, in most cases. This warm, chemical-laden water encourages algae and damages the native inhabitants. There used to be fish in most of our local streams, as many local fishermen can attest.

The sudden increase in the amount of water running into the creek and the speed of the water has several damaging effects: scouring the debris and soil off of the bottom of the creek (home to many critters), causing downcutting, and eroding banks.

The various pollutants that each stream carries eventually must be treated before they reach the Tualatin River. Treatment is expensive, and the dirtier the water the more it costs. And the higher your sewer bill is.

## KidFest 2005 is Coming!

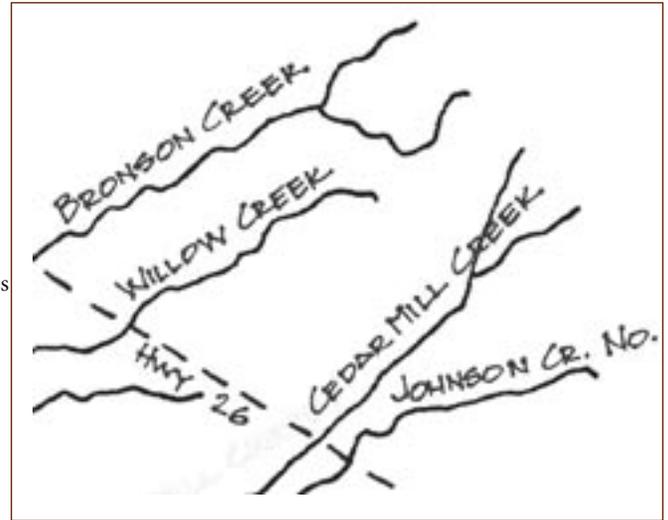
KidFest is from June 27 - July 1, 9 a.m. to noon at Cedar Mill Bible Church located at 12208 NW Cornell Road. Cost is \$20 for the week and it's open to all kids going into 1st through 5th grades. The kids will enjoy skits, singing, recreation and inflatables, all while learning about the love of Jesus. Registration starts April 10th and you can register by either calling the church office at 503-644-3156 or on line at [www.kidfest2005.com](http://www.kidfest2005.com)

This effect has been recognized – this is why you see so many collecting basins or swales. Every new development has one, of one sort or another, meant to settle and/or filter some of the pollutants out and to release the water more slowly.

Regulatory agencies have only recently begun to acknowledge the importance of healthy watersheds by mandating setbacks for wetlands and other “mitigating” restrictions or requirements.

We can all do our part to promote watershed health by limiting our use of garden chemicals, increasing the permeable surface on your prop-

erty, and using commercial car wash facilities which are required to filter their soapy water before it reaches a stream.



## Join or renew now!

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Apollo, Continued from page 1

They sell Doughboy above-ground pools, pumps, filters, heating accessories and parts, along with pool toys and games, and a complete range of chemicals. They work with an outside installer. They used to maintain a service staff but found it was hard to retain people they trained.

They added billiard and pool tables in 1982 as a winter business. It's now grown to be an equal split in terms of profit. They also carry a



broad assortment of gaming tables, darts and dart boards, and supplies and accessories for all types of indoor recreation. "Poker got very big last year, but it's tapering off a bit now," Terry mentions.

The second floor was remodeled in 2001 as a display area for pool and billiard tables, lighting and accessories. "We were the first store that

Brunswick selected for their Pavilion display," Terry mentions. There are still only 19 Pavilion stores around the country. The selection of pool cues stretches along one whole side of the large area, and the display includes traditional and high-tech tables which can be ordered in numerous variations of finishes and colors.

They used to sell a lot of hot tubs (spas) but only carry one high-end line now. "There's so much competition from the discounters and big-box stores that it's just not profitable,"

Terry says. "But when people have problems they come to us. We have the expertise and the products to solve mechanical or chemical problems for people, which the big stores can't provide. They don't really provide any support for their products." Apollo's customers come from all over the Portland metro area and Vancouver.

Pool and spa owners used to have to maintain a whole chemistry set of beakers, tubes, reagents and drop-pers, but now test strips are available that show chemical balances instantly and without special equipment. It's become a lot easier to maintain proper chemistry because of easier-to-use test strips. But customers still bring in jars of "prob-



lem" water from their pool or spa for diagnosis and there's a whole room devoted to the chemical "prescriptions" for solving these problems.

Because of the wide variety of spas on the market, helping customers solve mechanical problems can be challenging. "Figuring out what people have is the difficult part," Terry explains, because spa and pool manufacturers have come and gone over the years. The more information the customer can bring in about their product the better. We can probably help you fix it as long as we can figure out what you've got!"

One of their challenges is letting people know that their products are competitively priced. "People think that because we're a small independent company that our prices will be higher. Check us out - we may be more competitive than you think!" says Terry.

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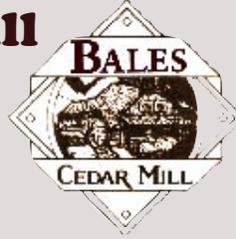
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