



FREE

Cedar Mill News

Volume 17, Issue 12

December 2019



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Don't let porch pirates get your gifts!

by Doreen Rivera, Community Outreach Specialist, Washington County Sheriff's Office

Package theft is a crime of opportunity. Thieves may be waiting for a delivery vehicle to drop off, or



they may just be driving through a neighborhood looking for packages. Some thieves may not be looking for packages, but if they see one, the opportunity presents itself. Here are some tips to help keep those packages in your hands and not the hands of a porch pirate.

- Schedule deliveries to arrive when you are home, or have them delivered to your place of employment.
- Have a trusted neighbor or friend pick up your packages if you won't be around home.
- Deliver packages to a shipping store or an Amazon Locker

If you cannot do any of these,

have them delivered around to the side of your house or somewhere where they are not visible from the street or porch.

Install a security camera on your property. This will not prevent theft—it will just document it. Unless the suspect has a sign around his neck with his name, we may not be able to identify or catch him/her and you will still be out your package. Cameras should be in addition to these ideas.

Be aware of your neighbors packages. If you see them on their porch and they are home, text them or call to let them know they have packages.

Watch for cars that seem to be lingering in your neighborhood, following delivery trucks, or with someone just sitting in a car looking around. Are they scoping for package deliveries? Call the non-emergency phone number (503-629-0111) and describe what you are seeing to the dispatcher.

If you see people going onto porches and retrieving packages, this could be a crime in progress. Get a license plate number if possible and a description of the people and car, and then call 911 immediately. Our Deputies like nothing better than to catch these guys in the act.

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Brian Fredrick Simons, behind the headlines

On Saturday, November 2, 2019, just before 4 pm, Washington County Sheriff's Office deputies were dispatched to a report of a body found in Cedar Mill Creek. A man called 911 after discovering a body in the creek a few hundred feet downstream from Cedar Mill Falls, the small waterfall which is just south of the intersection of NW Cornell Rd. and NW 119th Av.

Deputies and paramedics were on scene quickly and determined the body belonged to a middle-aged man. The Medical Examiner's Office and detectives from the Violent Crimes Unit responded to the scene.

On Monday, November 4, the State Medical Examiners Office performed an autopsy on the body. The male was identified as 41-year-old Brian Fredrick Simons. The Medical Examiner says the manner of death is "accidental." It was explained later that this rules out suicide.

Neighbors in the Timberland housing development mentioned on NextDoor that they'd been aware of a homeless person living in the area. Shortly after I posted the notice on the CMN Facebook page, a woman posted this, "Baby the kids and I miss you so much, I still can't believe your're gone. Please keep my family in your prayers. I love you

baby, your loving wife."

I reached out to her and she gave me permission to share a little of their story.

Jennifer and Brian Simons and their six children moved from



Texas to this area around 2015, but Jennifer took the kids back to Texas in 2016.

She explained, "He suffered from mental illness and addiction. For my safety and my children's safety we couldn't be with him. We always talked and kept in touch. I just spoke with him before his passing. We loved each other very much but he couldn't stay clean. He drank heavy Thursday, he fell due to his drinking and did a number on his face.

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BSD News

Middle School boundary changes coming to Beaverton Schools

by Shawna Muckle, CMN student intern

The Beaverton School District began a comprehensive review of its middle school boundaries this fall in order to reduce overcrowding in certain middle schools and shift students to the district's newest middle school, colloquially known as "Timberland." A Middle School Board Advisory Committee, comprised of two parent/community representatives for each middle school who applied to sit on the committee, met for the first time on October 24. Meetings with the committee are open to the public

and allow for public testimony.

According to a BSD press release, the district is planning to adjust its middle school attendance boundaries because of the disproportionate overcrowding at Stoller Middle School, Cedar Park Middle School, and Conestoga Middle School. In particular, the press release emphasized that the district has not considered a boundary adjustment since 1999, before Stoller Middle School was established. Additionally, the construction of the "Timberland" middle school has created a need to reroute some 6-8 graders by the 2021-22 school

year, when the school district plans to open Timberland as a middle school.

While construction of Timberland finished in 2016, the district has been using it as a "swing school" for various elementary schools and charter schools while those schools undergo renovations. Vose, Hazeldale, and William Walker elementary schools have previously been located at Timberland. Currently, ACMA is using Timberland for the 2019-20 and 2020-21 school years as it awaits the construction of a new building.

By summer 2021, Timberland

will finally be ready to welcome new 6-8 graders as a full-fledged middle school. The Middle School Advisory Board Committee is now tasked with deliberating upon how to adjust boundaries for each of the current eight middle schools in order to effectively reduce overcrowding and begin filtering students into Timberland.

The committee plans to meet at least eight times between October 2019 and March 2020, at which point it will submit a recommendation to BSD Superintendent Grotting about how to shift attendance

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Cedar Mill Business Roundup

Do you have news or events or know of something that you would like to see covered in the Cedar Mill News? Please write to Virginia Bruce at info@cedarmillnews.com

Cornell Farm Cocktail Hour

Tuesday-Saturday, 3-6 pm, Cornell Farm Nursery, 8212 SW Barnes Rd

We're so excited to invite you to our new cocktail hour! We've put together a menu of botanical cocktails, small bites, and sharing plates to enjoy while watching the sun set in our garden paradise!



Great Notion Brewing popup pub continues

Saturdays, 1-4 pm, Great Notion Brewing, Timberland Center

Grab some food from one of our neighbors at Market of Choice, Kizuki Ramen, or Blu Olive to bring with you, and come have a beer on the dog-friendly patio with us!

We'll be doing these pop-ups every Saturday, so be sure to follow the Beaverton FB and IG page to stay up to date on everything!
@greatnotionbeaverton

Touchmark public events

The following events at Touchmark in the West Hills are open to the public. RSVP at 503-954-1640.

Culinary Passport: Peru
Friday, December 6, 11:30 am

This South American country

holds a deep, ancient history. Peru is the land of the Incan empire; home of Machu Picchu, a revered destination of travelers. The dense Peruvian jungles, Amazon rainforest and delicious food and beverages attract visitors from around the world who are awed by the colors, sights, and sounds. Come learn about this extraordinary country and sample some of its superb cuisine.

Lunch and Learn: Hearing for the Holidays Presentation
Wednesday, December 11, 1:30 am

The holidays are fast approaching! As family and friends gather for this joyous season, hearing loss and increased noise levels at family events can create challenges. If you or someone you know is struggling to understand clearly, this would be good time to learn more. Join us in the Patton Room of the Clubhouse Lodge for this interactive workshop and learn strategies for improving your communication ability and staying connected. In this workshop, we will review anatomy, common causes of hearing loss, impacts of hearing loss, prevalence of hearing loss in our society, and treatment options, including assistive listening devices and hearing aids. Bring your questions and curiosity for this fun and informative one-hour class with Darin Scheurer from Smart Step Hearing. To ensure there is enough food, RSVPs are especially helpful for this event.

Parkinson's Support Group
Wednesday, December 11, 5:30 pm

This support group meets the second Wednesday of each month and is open to those living with Parkinson's as well as family members or friends.

Village Gallery of Arts - Current Events

For more details and information on any of these events, please check our website or call the Gallery: villagegalleryarts.org, 503-644-8001.

Cash & Carry Art Sale!

Hundreds of Original Artworks! Last Day is December 24!

Works by talented local artists of all ages—students and professionals. We have beautiful wreaths and lovely small paintings—special gifts for the special people in your life!

Last Artists' Reception of the Year!
Sunday, December 8, 2-4 pm

It's a Holiday Party Potluck! Bring a dish to share and enjoy the spirit of the season while browsing the wonderful show! Or just bring yourself and a friend to enjoy the party!

Classes and Workshops

Read the [web version of Cedar Mill News](#) for a listing of new classes.

Ackerly Events

All events are open to the public, but do require an RSVP. Call 503-350-3400 to RSVP.

Senior Fitness Class

Wednesday, December 11, 25, January 8, 2-2:45 pm

Fitness class geared toward 55+ age group. Focus is stretch, strength and maintaining or increasing mobility and balance.

Concord Choral Christmas Performance
Saturday, December 7, 2 pm

Music History Presentation by Gordon Neal Herman
Monday, December 9, 1:30 pm

Part historian, part entertainer, Gordon's presentations are always a highlight on our monthly calendar!

Piano Performance by Monte Watters

Friday, December 13, 1 pm

Listen and sing along to classic songs performed by a true musical professional.

Guitar Performance by Steve West
Saturday, December 14, 11 am

Come enjoy Steve West play his guitar for our community. This is an acoustic performance with vocals.

Infinity Rehab Wellness Talk
Thursday, December 26, 1 pm

Tips for Staying Healthy This Winter

Winter is here and with it comes the cold and flu season. Plan to attend this month's Infinity Rehab Wellness talk to learn more about what can make us sick this time of the year and, more importantly, what steps we all can take to minimize the risk of catching a cold or getting the flu this year.

New Business News

Link Custom Jewelers

by Andrew Bitans

Moving in right next to Foot Traffic, Link Custom Jewelers may be new to the area but there are decades of experience behind the business. One of the partners in the business is Scott Nimori, owner of Ari Diamonds since 1993.

As the name implies, Link Custom Jewelers specialize in custom designs. They also offer all



the services you would expect from a jeweler including sizings, repairs/refurbishing, cleaning, hand engraving, appraisals, and gemological services. They are happy to work with you on the creation of rings, pendants, earrings, and bracelets using gold, platinum, silver, diamonds, colored stones, leather and more.

They also have many items on display in the showroom if you prefer to pick from something that is already made or if you are looking for ideas. Gold buying, CAD/CAM design, 3D printing, and wax milling services are also available.

Natalie Schaefer, one of the owners, grew up in this area and says she's excited for Link to be a part of this community. They are planning to host occasional community events at the location as their neighbors at Foot Traffic are also known to do.

Link Custom Jewelers are located at 13306 NW Cornell Rd and are open Monday-Friday 9:30 am-7 pm, Saturday 10 am-6 pm, and Sunday by appointment. Call them at 503-543-1723 or visit them online at linkjewelerspdx.com

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CPO 1 News

CPO 1 December meeting

Tuesday, December 10, 7-9 pm, Leedy Grange Hall, 835 NW Saltzman

After our regular Public Safety and Parks updates, we'll hear from the Lego Robotics team about their First/Last Mile project. The team of 5th-6th graders who came to the presentation on how to get people to and from transit has been developing some ideas and they will come and tell us about them.

Then we'll find out how can we help the homeless students in our area. Lisa Mentasana, Homeless Education/Foster Care Program Specialist, will visit to tell us about their programs.

They are asking for \$20 gift cards for Fred Meyer or Target so that the kids can get things they want for the holidays. Please bring one or more to the meeting if you can. If you'd like to donate a card or two but can't come to the meeting, Second Edition Resale, next to the library, has a collection box, just ask at the checkout counter. We'll present all the cards we collect at the meeting.

Finally, to help you celebrate the holidays and beyond in a more sustainable way, Lindsay Kemp, Community Outreach Specialist, Washington County Solid Waste & Recycling, will tell us how to prevent food waste.

The Eat Smart, Waste Less Challenge is an opportunity for families to save money and contribute to our communities just by reducing the amount of food they waste and keeping food fresher longer. I will talk about the issue of food waste, share some easy-to-do tips, invite attendees to take the challenge, and give away free tools to make it even easier.

Significant Natural Resources comment period extended

At our November meeting, we had a presentation about the county's draft report on how "Significant Natural Resources" (SNRs) were being protected, or not, primarily in the Urban Unincorporated areas of the county, including Cedar Mill. The report is extensive, and many comments have been received. The county decided to extend the deadline for public comments, so you still have time to [read the report](#) and leave your comments through December 31. All comments received will be incorpo-

rated into the final assessment, which is expected to be reviewed by the Washington County Board of Commissioners in early 2020.

A print copy of the report will be available at Cedar Mill Library. Ask at the Reference Desk.

We plan to send a letter from CPO 1 reflecting our common concerns. If you have comments to share with us, send them to us here. We wrote about the [SNR report in the November issue here](#).

Neighborhood Meetings

Neighborhood meetings are required as an early step in Washington County's land use process. Neighbors and others interested in these proposals are invited to attend to hear about plans and give input about conditions and concerns. Neighbors close to the proposed locations receive mailed notices, but meetings are open to everyone. Development plans presented are preliminary and subject to change before the formal application is submitted to the county.

Two-lot partition on Flotoma

Friday, December 13, 6:30 pm, Cedar Mill Library Lewis Room

Roadway Engineering is representing the owner of the property located at 10305 NW Flotoma Drive. They are considering a two-lot partition.

CPO 7 will hear about north Saltzman in January

Monday, January 13, 7 pm, Bethany Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall, 15505 NW Springville Rd.

CPO 7 will hear from WashCo LUT Project Manager Ben Lively about county plans to improve the [north end of Saltzman Road](#). The meeting is open to all, but only CPO 7 members can vote. We'll provide more information in the January issue.

Leaf drop

Saturday, December 7, 8 am-4 pm, Aloha High School, 18550 SW Kinnaman Rd, and Home Depot, 13700 NW Science Park Dr.

Help curb leaf-clogged storm drains! Falling leaves mixed with heavy rains can wreak havoc around your home and in your neighborhood. Instead of sending leaves, grass clippings, and pine needles into the street, bring them to a free drop off event. Find more great rain-ready tips for your home on the website: [cleanwaterservices.org](#).

Leedy Grange
HOLIDAY DANCE
Community Charity Ball
Saturday, December 14
7:00-10:00pm

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The Zipper Merge

by Auveen Hajar, CMN student intern

The roads can be a chaotic place that may be hard to understand. Filled with busy people who urgently need to go somewhere, and angry, road-raging drivers, the streets can also be an extremely dangerous place. Although the number of car-accident related deaths has started to decrease within the last decade, the number is still very high. According to data collected by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 36,500 vehicle-related deaths occurred in 2018 alone, averaging out to about 100 deaths per day.

lane is coming to an end, they will turn on their signal light to move into the new lane as soon as possible, thinking that getting out of a blocked lane as quickly as possible is the best way to merge into a new lane. Although many drivers think this is proper, it is not the safest way to move out of a diminishing lane. This strategy creates a sudden hold-up in moderate to heavy traffic, and sometimes leads to bad feelings between drivers.

Instead, the “Zipper Merge” is a more effective way for drivers to get out of closed lanes in the midst of heavy traffic volumes. The “Zipper Merge” is when a driver moves all the way forward in the lane that is ending, and waits until the lane

closure to merge out of their lane.

Often, this is regarded as “cutting the line to avoid traffic” and can sometimes be regarded as impolite;

but this is not the case! According to multiple studies, it has been proven that this is not only the safer strategy, but zipper merging can reduce congestion by as much as 40%, meaning that people can get to their destinations quicker! It also reduces

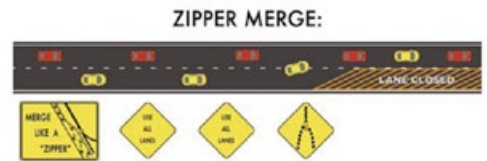


It is important to stay safe on the roads and do your part to protect your life and the lives of thousands of other people in our community.

One of the most difficult parts about driving is merging. Merging into a single lane can be difficult, but necessary when two lanes are reduced to one. We have several of these situations in Cedar Mill. Barnes Road just west of Cedar Hills Bl., and Saltzman just as you pass the Library are notable.

A quick and easy lane change in the midst of light traffic to simply blend in with other cars generally keeps traffic moving, but when in heavy traffic, lane changes become tougher as it is important to fit into a smaller space when given an opportunity.

Often when drivers see that a



“stacking,” when cars waiting to move clog an intersection.

Although parts of our driving are habitual and come naturally given the circumstances of a scenario, it is important that we do not merge out of a closing lane as soon as possible on the roads. Who knows... it could even end up saving you some time or even your life!



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Washington County Public Affairs Forum

tMondays, 11:30 am, Coyote's Bar and Grill, 5301 W Baseline Rd, free

Founded in 1956, the Forum provides a place for the interchange of ideas on civic matters. Each week the Forum brings together community leaders, members, and guests who care about what happens in Washington County, the Metro region, and our state.

Meetings are free and open to the public. You can order lunch from the menu.

The Future of Career Education
Monday, December 9

State Representative Janeen Sollman, Hillsboro Chamber of Commerce School to Career Director Heather Ferrin-Myers, and representatives from the Hillsboro School District will update the forum on efforts to develop a 21st century skilled workforce by continuing the expansion of career and technical education for middle and high school students.

We need a new Post Office!

by Virginia Bruce

Knowing that the Post Office (PO) in Bales Cedar Mill was about to close, I thought I'd get ahead of the situation and submit a forwarding order for my 97291 PO Box early. On September 6, I submitted the order online and received a confirmation email from United States Postal Service (USPS). I went to the Bales PO and turned in our keys. I was told that I'd have to go to the Beaverton PO to receive a refund on the unused portion of my deposit. I did that, and received a cash refund.

A few days later I received a confirmation in my home mailbox along with a huge wad of offers and coupons. (On the back was a "Store Locator" that mentioned the Ace Hardware that's been closed for many years!) Since then, I have also received lots of junk mail that tells me USPS sells my address to retailers, since I'm on the "do not mail" list.

The original forward was supposed to go into effect on September 10. On September 20, when I still hadn't received any forwarded mail, I went to the Evergreen Station in Hillsboro, where our mail is processed. They said they had not received the forwarding order. So I filled out a paper form there and turned it in. At that time, they suggested that I check with the Bales PO to see if they had any mail. It turned out that even though I had "closed" the box and turned in the key, they were still putting mail in

my box, so I retrieved a few items. Again I received both an email and a paper mail confirmation.

I used my PO Box for personal financial mail, for Cedar Mill News transactions, and for receiving the stacks of notices and documents for CPO 1. Not receiving mail—bills, checks, notices—certainly affected my ability to carry out my work and volunteer activities.

I finally began to receive some forwarded mail around the beginning of October. I noticed that most of those pieces had two labels, one that said, "Unable to forward / for review," and another on top of that with the forwarding address. I was receiving them about two weeks after they had been mailed.

Again I went to the Evergreen station. I went in person because most of the time they weren't answering their telephone. At that point, I was told that because the Bales PO was a business, the USPS was not set up to handle forwarding for them. My mail was going back and forth between Evergreen and the central station in Seattle twice.

When I sent out the invoices for September advertising, I emphasized to the advertisers to use my new address, but a few advertisers failed to notice that. When I didn't receive payment I contacted them and two of them had already sent the checks. I NEVER received the

checks, and eventually requested replacements.

When Washington County issued the draft report on Significant Natural Resources, they mailed my copy to the PO Box. When I didn't get it and requested another one, they accidentally sent that to the PO Box. Eventually a friend hand-delivered the copy I needed. I just learned yesterday that one of those

missing copies is sitting at Evergreen! I have no idea what other mail I haven't

received. I haven't gotten any forwarded mail for about three weeks. I have to hope that my mail is somewhere. The manager at Evergreen assures me that they don't throw it away, but I can't say I expect to see much of anything at this point. He went through the box of mail from 97291 that he had there, and that's when he found the SNR report.

At the suggestion of the manager at Evergreen, I contacted "ASK USPS" which is the central number for inquiries. Finally someone seemed to understand the situation. He spent a long time researching the situation. He noted that it's unusual for a contract PO such as Bales to have actual USPS boxes. He said he'd send out some inquiries.

A few days after that, I received a call from someone in customer service at the Portland PO. I told her about the poor service at Evergreen and the delays and mix-ups in getting my mail. She said she was

sending her colleague to Evergreen to investigate.

The Evergreen station is one of the largest mail-processing facilities in the west. It serves the huge [97229 zip code](#) along with several others. Many years ago, at the request of some people in Bethany, I asked one of our US Representatives to look into opening a new "real" post office north of 26. (Our closest "real" PO is in Beaverton, and there's one in North Plains and another in Aloha.) We were told that USPS wasn't opening new offices.

I'm in touch with Congresswoman Bonamici's office about this matter. I don't expect that they will be able to help me get my mail, but they need to know just what a disaster the system is. The person I spoke to at "ASK USPS" indicated that a situation like ours is unusual, and not how they want to do business.

The real solution is to open a new, standalone, official USPS Post Office in our area. I have requested this of Bonamici's office, but I have heard it takes years. We may need to gather signatures or find another way to support the request. I'll keep you "posted!"

In the meantime, Bales-Findley Property Management, who owns the old Thriftway building and the new center under construction, says they're committed to re-establishing a contract station in Cedar Mill. They completely understand how much we've all been affected by the failure of the Signature NW management to keep the store and PO open.

CMN News

Website upgrade under way!

After a successful fundraising campaign last spring, and a very busy summer and fall, we finally found the contractor we needed to help us modernize the Cedar Mill News website. Look for the renovated site early next year. New features will include constantly updated events (no more gap between the first of the month and our publication date); the ability to publish stories to the website more often and from more contributors; comments (moderated!) for some of the articles; and responsive design that will make the site look good on smaller screens.

After we get the initial revised site up and running, we may include more features, such as classified ads, a "blog" that can replace

the Facebook page for timely updates; and more. If you think of something you'd like to see on the site, let us know!

Calendar editor needed

Mindie Mosiman has been diligently updating the [Cedar Mill Community Calendar](#) for nearly ten years. She finds all the events listed in The News and enters the information into our Google Calendar. She and her family are getting ready to move out of the area, so she's ready to teach a new "calendar keeper" to take on the task. She said she does it, "to help me feel more connected with our community while providing a nice service for others."

Mindie says it usually takes her between 60-90 minutes each month, which includes the time to read through and create events


from both the News and from the library's emails. (Yes, we share the calendar with Cedar Mill Library!) All that's needed is a decent computer with internet access, and a Google account.

She says she can work through December and possibly January, but she'd love to start teaching someone to take it over as soon as possible since her move will involve downsizing and the sale of their home.

If you can volunteer to help your community keep track of the many events happening around the area, please email me at info@cedarmillnews.com.



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Schools, continued from page 1
boundaries. It's anticipated that Superintendent Grotting will release his final plan based on the advisory committee's insights by May 2020, at which point the district will have a year of transition planning for the purposes of staffing, bussing, and other organizational changes to accommodate the boundary adjustment.

According to the BSD School Board charter, the key considerations for this redistricting process are student body composition for each middle school, which elementary schools will act as feeder schools for each elementary school, the current availability of space at each middle school, and neighborhood proximity and accessibility.

So far, public comments at each meeting—many of them from concerned parents who will be affected by boundary adjustment—emphasize a desire to disrupt students' middle school experience as little as possible and avoid unnecessary attendance changes for 7th and 8th graders.

"Please allow students to obtain Legacy status so that the kids don't have to switch schools multiple times in just a few years," Cooper Mountain Elementary and Highland Park Middle School parent Jennifer Hoffman commented at the October 24 committee meeting. "For example... 5th grade at Cooper Mountain, 6th grade at Highland, 7th/8th Grade at Mountain View, 9th grade at Mountainside. That would be 4 schools in just a few years! That would just be awful for a pre-teen/young teen."

Other parent recommendations suggest zoning changes for various elementary schools to allow more children coming from the same elementary school to attend a common middle school. Many BSD elementary schools, such as Nancy Ryles Elementary, split fifth grade classes between two different middle schools due to spacing requirements at each middle school.

At the committee's latest two meetings on November 5 and November 21, the committee hosted visioning workshops for the public to brainstorm how the boundaries for Timberland middle school should look. Groups of 6-8 attendees were given a district map and tasked with designing Timberland's boundary, adjusting Stoller's boundary to reduce its overcrowding issues, and adjusting other middle school boundaries to accommodate these changes. The

advisory committee plans to draw from these public visioning sessions as it deliberates upon how to adjust middle school boundaries.

The committee next meets December 19 at Cedar Park Middle School beginning at 6:30 pm.

Visit the [BSD page for this process here](#).

Springville is eliminating grades 6-8

by Shawna Muckle, CMN student intern

The Beaverton School District is beginning a process to phase



Springville School is located in North Bethany at 6655 NW Joss Avenue

out Springville and Raleigh Hills' 6-8 programs, transitioning the schools to a K-5 model. The 2020-21 school year will be the last year that Springville and Raleigh Hills host 6th through 8th graders. Beginning next year, the option application for Springville and Raleigh Hills will only be offered to 7th and 8th graders for the 2021-22 school year. By 2023-24, Springville will transition to a K-5 model.

The district is eliminating Springville and Raleigh Hills as K-8 options in an effort to standardize the middle school experience for students across the district. 6-8 graders at Springville and Raleigh Hills currently study according to an elementary school-modeled curriculum, rather than according to the Middle Years Programme standards or common course options offered at other middle schools in the district.

Additionally, Springville has run out of classroom space, making it critical to alleviate overcrowding. Transitioning to a K-5 model allows the district to both reduce the size of Springville's student body and fulfill its broader goal of standardizing middle school course offerings.

Springville is considered an "option school" that students from other home middle schools can apply to for an alternative middle school experience. As a result, over 50% of students come from outside the Springville school boundary.

The middle schoolers diverted from Springville will now most likely attend their home middle school or apply for another of BSD's option schools. ISB, ACMA, and other option middle schools remain available for diverted Springville students.

Since Springville is an option school and such a large percentage of its student body matriculates from outside Springville's boundaries, it's not anticipated that the closure of its 6-8 program will affect the redistricting process occurring for the "Timberland" middle school, which aims to reduce overcrowding at Stoller Middle

School and redirect students to the newly constructed middle school by the 2021-22 school year. For students currently residing within Springville's boundary who attend or plan to attend Springville's 6-8 program as it phases out, their proximity to the Timberland middle school may result in them attending Timberland by 2021-22.

BSD representatives emphasize that the primary goal of eliminating the 6-8 programs at Raleigh Hills and Springville stems from the district's desire to provide a "common middle school experience". BSD Superintendent Grotting is expected to unveil what common middle school course offerings and grading standards across the district will look like sometime this month.

GroupMuse concert with Portlandia Brass Ensemble

Saturday, December 7, 6-8 pm,
RSVP for location

Portlandia Brass Ensemble returns for a neighborhood concert of your holiday favorites. Groupmuse's goal is to bring people together around great art through these classical music house parties. In other words: everyone comes over, we'll hang out, make friends, listen to an hour of mind-blowing music, and go home happy. RSVP here to for details.: l.grpm.us/m9j36g

PCC Music

Monday, December 9, 7 pm,
Portland Community College, Rock Creek, Forum Theater, Room 114, Building 3, 17705 NW Springville Rd., admission is a donation at the door, parking is \$2.

The Portland Community College Rock Creek Department of Music presents their Fall ensemble concert featuring the Classical Music Ensemble and Symphonic Band.

Garden Organically

Camellias offer winter color

by Margie Lachman

You would think the garden would be ready for sleep now that it is early December, but my fall Camellia sasanquas are just beginning to bloom and the hummingbirds are happily sipping from the flowers. From November into January they are the prima donnas in the garden.

In our back garden is the first to bloom, camellia 'Apple Blossom', an upright grower whose large single white blossoms with a bright pink picot edge on each petal and a central burst of bright yellow stamens are beacons. They are fragrant and

Gashira' which means 'Lion's head.' Hummers dance from blossom to blossom for at least three months; it is the longest bloomer.

Next to the driveway is 'Cleopatra' with semi-double bright pink blooms. This has more lax limbs, just right for an espalier. Many sasanquas are fragrant and though the flowers are smaller than the japonicas of late winter/ early spring, they bloom profusely.

Typically none of my sasanquas succumb to disease as the larger flowered japonicas can, which makes them easy stars of the winter garden with a plethora of blooms. Their leaves are smaller but of the same handsome glossy evergreen as other camellias. The sasanquas tolerate more sun than japonicas, making it easier to place them in the garden if their roots are shaded with mulch. They prefer slightly acidic soil rich in humus, but want good drainage.

This is a great time of year to visit nurseries to see the shrubs in bloom and choose one that appeals to you. They can be planted now as long as the ground is not frozen.

Questions? Email me at margierose2@gmail.com or call 503-645-2994



Shishi Gashira camellia

I can smell them from across the yard when I open the deck door on a sunny day.

In front of the house by the big picture window in the living room are two camellias with smaller but prolific bright rose red double flowers. It is called 'Shishi

Writers' Mill

Sunday, December 15, 1-3 pm, Cedar Mill Library

It's the end of another year for the Writers' Mill, and we'll celebrate with a gift exchange... of books! Plus, the unveiling of our very own latest anthology! Review your year of writing achievements with us, and help us make plans for the upcoming year. What would you like to learn from a writing group?

What speakers do you want to listen to? What friends will you make and what writing will you share? New members always welcome (with or without gift books for the exchange).

The 2019 Writers' Mill Journal (volume 7) has just been released in time to place orders for Christmas

giving! The collection of fiction, essays, and poetry by twelve authors is now available online for \$5.99 and wherever books are sold. The Kindle version is available for \$2.99.

Both Kindle and print versions of Beyond Yesterday include illustrations and photographs that appear in color in the Kindle version, black and white in the print edition. Royalties from book and Kindle sales go to the Cedar Mill Library, the group's helpful and gracious partner.

You can find out more from our website, portlandwritersmill.org or our (new) Amazon author page, amazon.com/author/portlandwritersmill. Or email admin@portlandwritersmill.org for more information.

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Chérie and Catherine are experienced senior living advisors assisting Cedar Mill families in finding the best housing options.
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Celebrate Locally! Shopping, Events, Connections...

Santa visits Sunset Credit Union on December 20th

Friday, December 20, 11 am-1 pm, Sunset Credit Union, 1100 NW Murray Blvd. #200

Want to meet Santa? Then, bring your kids and grandkids in to see him. The credit union will have treats for everyone, and all kids can get their picture taken with Santa. Everyone is welcome! Mark your calendars and be sure to stop by Sunset Credit Union on Monday, December 20th!

Sunset Credit Union is a full-service, not-for-profit financial institution serving anyone who lives, works or attends school in Washington County. Visit www.sspfcu.com or stop by their office at 1100 NW Murray Blvd. (across from the McDonalds) to learn more.

Give Art with a choice!

Village Gallery has Gift Certificates! For any amount \$5 and up! For anything we sell, including classes! No expiration date!

If you simply can't decide which beautiful work of art to give that special someone—give a Gift Certificate and let them choose! Each one comes in our signature red envelope with festive gold ribbon, perfect for the holidays. Drop by and pick up one or two, or one for everyone on your list!

Should a Gift Certificate be presented with a value higher than the cost of an item or items being purchased, the remainder will be given as a credit towards future purchase(s) at the Gallery, located next to Cedar Mill Library. Happy holidays!

Dance at the Grange to raise funds for HomePlate

Saturday, December 14, 7-10 pm Leedy Grange Hall, 835 NW Saltzman Road.

Leedy Grange is holding its annual holiday dance to collect donations for HomePlate Youth Services (www.homeplateyouth.org), supporting homeless students in the Beaverton School District. Dance to swing, ballroom, and Latin music while making the holidays a little brighter for homeless youth in Washington County.

HomePlate Youth Services is headquartered in Beaverton, but has drop-in locations for youth in several locations throughout Washington County. HomePlate offers hot meals, showers, clothing and a safe place to go. HomePlate values hospitality, open communication, respect and compassion for youth struggling to better themselves and their situations.

Please bring donations as your ticket to the dance. Dress up a bit if you'd like, to ring in the holiday season, but all styles and smiles are welcome! Gift cards of \$5 or \$10 from Fred Meyer, Target, Subway, coffee shops and movie theatres are much appreciated!

In addition to gift cards, Leedy Grange will accept beef or turkey jerky (individual packets), granola bars, bus tickets, backpacks, and new or gently used sleeping bags and tents. We will make sure these donations get to HomePlate for distribution to needy youth.

Spread Holiday Cheer for Children in Need

Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue is teaming up with the KGW Great Toy Drive for the 13th year to provide toys to our community's less-fortunate families in Oregon and Southwest Washington. The toys collected during the toy drive are distributed to needy kids in our area with the help of more than 130 local organizations and hundreds of dedicated volunteers.

TVF&R fire stations are once again accepting new, unwrapped toys for children of all ages now through Tuesday, December 24. Cedar Mill residents can drop off toy donations at their neighborhood TVF&R station:



Bethany Station 68, 13545 NW Evergreen St.; Butner Road Station 61, 13730 SW Butner Road; Cornell Road Station 60, 8585 NW Johnson St.; Somerset Station 64, 3355 NW 185th Ave.

Families in need of holiday assistance this year can call 211 or visit 211info.org.

Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue knows that we serve a generous, compassionate community. Thank you in advance for helping us contribute to brighter holidays for

children in need. For a complete list of TVF&R fire stations, visit tvfr.com.

Oregon Chorale presents Feliz Navidad

Saturday, December 7, 7:30 pm, St. Matthew Catholic Church, 475 SE 3rd Ave, Hillsboro

Sunday, December 8 at 3 pm, Cedar Hills United Church of Christ, 1695 SW Park Way, Cedar Hills

Tickets \$15 seniors & students; \$20 adults

Join us for a festive performance of Christmas music inspired by Spanish holiday traditions, featuring two exciting Oregon premieres: jazz legend Dave Brubeck's La Fiesta de la Posada, and Conrad Susa's Carols and Lullabies.

"Celebrating cultural diversity is a cornerstone of the Chorale's mission. Performing Spanish music not only showcases a different culture, it brings fun and joy and color to a dark time of year. With this vibrant music plus an actual piñata and audience sing-a-long, this will be a fun concert," says Chorale Artistic Director Jason Sabino.

The Chorale will be joined by singers from Century High School and assisted by special community partner Centro Cultural de Washington County.

Brubeck's La Fiesta de la Posada for choir, mariachi band and jazz rhythm section is based on a Mexican custom that depicts Joseph and Mary's search for lodging and safe refuge on the eve of Christmas. For Brubeck, honoring the spirit of cultural heritage and dignity was a deeply personal endeavor. Having grown up on a cattle ranch that had been a Mexican land grant, he absorbed Mexican folk music, which influences a great deal of his work.

If you simply can't decide which work of art to give that special someone...

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Each one comes in our signature red envelope with festive gold ribbon, perfect for the holidays. Drop by and pick up one or two, or one for everyone on your list!

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Susa's Carols and Lullabies for choir, drums, harp and guitar honors the folk music tradition of Hispanic America. The piece sets the birth of Jesus within the context of a piñata party in the American Southwest. It began as a Spanish version of Benjamin Britten's A Ceremony of Carols.

The Oregon Chorale is a 70-voice choir based in Washington County. For 35 years, the Chorale has celebrated the richness of Hillsboro's diverse musical and cultural communities. That includes honoring the many races, nationalities, classes, religions, ages and expressions that make Hillsboro a wonderful place to live and perform.

To learn more or order tickets, go to oregonchorale.org.

Hillsboro Winter Village open now

Celebrate the holidays at Winter Village at Jerry Willey Plaza at Orenco Station—the region's only open-air ice skating rink. Winter Village is open now through Sunday, January 5. Now in its fifth year, the ice rink you've come to know and love features fun additions this season.

The new Winter Market, brought

packages, continued from page 1

Since we can't have Deputies in every neighborhood, you are our eyes and ears. We need to hear from people if they see something that seems suspicious.

Thanks to one of our CMN interns, Cami Villanueva, for finding the links to the various delivery services' options for changing delivery times and places!

- [Amazon Locker](#)
- [Schedule Amazon Delivery](#)
- [Options for UPS Delivery](#)
- [Options for FedEx Delivery](#)
- [Options for US Postal Service Delivery](#)

to you by Hillsboro Farmers' Markets and the City of Hillsboro, offers visitors an outdoor shopping experience with handcrafted gifts and delectable holiday treats on Sundays 10 am-3 pm (December 8, 15, and 22). On December 11, meet Elsa from Frozen at Winter Village's "Let it Go" night on.

Check out the [Winter Village calendar](#) for a complete schedule of special events and plan your family holiday fun today!

Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue is Recruiting Volunteers

Tuesday, January 7, 6-9 pm, Station 50, 12617 SW Walnut St.

Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue is holding an open house for people interested in becoming a volunteer. TVF&R is grateful for its dedicated cadre of volunteers, who aid us in our mission to create safer communities.

We are in the process of seeking more men and women who are willing to donate their time and serve their community as TVF&R volunteers. This exciting opportunity gives individuals a chance to be part of their fire district.

TVF&R offers two ways you can choose to serve your community:

Incident Support Volunteer:

As an incident support volunteer, you would bring rehabilitation units to major incidents to provide TVF&R firefighters assistance with breathing apparatus, medical monitoring, and other support in a non-firefighting capacity. You would also participate in public education, attend parades, support community events and activities, and attend monthly drills.

Auxiliary Volunteer: As an

auxiliary volunteer, you would play an active role in TVF&R's public education program and attend community events. This is a non-emergency response role. You may work once or twice a week or even a few times each year, depending on your area of interest and commitment. You could also help restore and maintain TVF&R's fleet of antique apparatus.

All volunteers must be 18 or older, have a high school diploma or an equivalent certificate, pass a criminal background check, have a valid Oregon driver's license, and live within TVF&R's service area. All volunteers must obtain CPR and automated external defibrillator training within six months, and incident support volunteers must also obtain emergency medical responder certification within 12 months.

For more information about TVF&R's volunteer program or to apply to become a volunteer, visit tvfr.com/careers. Applications will be accepted through January 12, 2020.

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New Cultural Resources Manager at County Museum

Mariah Berlanga-Shevchuk joins the Washington County Museum this January to become caretaker of the museum's vast collection of historical objects and archival materials. These incredible resources hold the power to tell the stories of the region, and Berlanga-Shevchuk brings robust skills and deep experience that will enable those stories to thrive. Joining the museum from her current role as Associate Cura-



tor at La Plaza de Cultura y Artes, Los Angeles, Berlanga-Shevchuk also draws on her time with The Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles, the Petersen Automotive Museum, The Scenic Route, and others working across areas of curation, education, and programs.

"As a mixed-race child growing up between Arizona and Europe, I quickly learned the value and importance of understanding local communities and engaging in cross-cultural exchanges," says Berlanga-Shevchuk. "The Washington County Museum's dedication to sharing the rich diversity of the region resonates with me because of my own multicultural heritage and experiences working within culturally-specific organizations."

The Cultural Resources Manager role is new at the museum; a result of a restructuring designed to de-center the authoritative voice of the major exhibitions and present more culturally embedded narratives. The curatorial role of the museum will be filled through the museum's new Guest Curator program, allowing the Cultural Resources Manager to focus on the well-being of the historic objects and ensure that they are accessible to the community through the museum's exhibitions, community events, research

Development News

Dale development decision delayed

A hearing was held in October to [modify the Conditions of Approval](#) for a seven-lot development at the south end of NW Dale Avenue in Cedar Mill. The developer wished to remove the requirement to protect a portion of the wetland that's on the property so he could build another unit.

At the request of County Counsel and with support from the applicant, the Hearings Officer extended the open record period for this application. The original period ended November 7, but was extended to December 5, and the 120-day clock for the hearings officer decision now ends on January 9.

A group of neighbors hired their own consultants to measure and evaluate the wetland area. One neighbor, Gene Duncan, explained, "We were measuring the bioswale/flood plain altitudes, ground water and townhouse structures encroachments. This case now turns on CWS "discretion" to allow the townhouse structures to be built in the bioswale, as well as the riparian corridor and wildlife habitat."

desk and other outlets today and for generations to come.

County Commissioners hear from WCM

The co-directors of Washington County Museum presented an update to the Board of County Commissioners at their December 5 Work Session. They shared efforts underway to ensure its future growth and important role in preserving the history of Washington County and the Tualatin Valley, and raising the cultural profile of the area for the benefit of residents and visitors.

The county provides financial support to the museum, with \$200,000 for operations, and another \$25,000 for maintenance and repair of its building in fiscal year 2019-20.

Historic Union Cemetery
Plots available
Call 503-515-2255 for info
2005 NW 143rd

Cedar Grove construction underway

A groundbreaking ceremony was held on November 15 to kick off the construction for the 44-unit low-income housing development at the southeast corner of Cornell and Murray.



Elected officials and housing specialists helped turn the first shovels of dirt for the development

Milltown Center

Construction is moving forward at the new shopping center being built by Bales-Findley at the northeast corner of Cornell and Saltzman. Concrete footings for the buildings are being poured now. Completion for the center is anticipated for summer 2020. No news about tenants other than Sunset Athletic Center and CVS Pharmacy.

There was some uncertainty around the actual address for the center buildings. At one point, the county wanted to list the buildings' addresses as Dogwood Street, which will extend into the development.



The developers argued that it would be preferable, and easier to locate, to use Cornell for the shopping center and Saltzman for the library, and that was finally approved.

Still no word on a tenant for the old grocery, but an outside company is currently running a sale on store fixtures. Do you need some display cases? How about wine glasses that were used during the popular Food & Wine shows?

Viva Village

Viva Village is a group of seniors determined to have fun and help one another! You can join the group to get help with chores and more, or you can attend these open events to meet friends and get out! The following events are open to the public. RSVP when indicated to make sure there is space.

To learn more, go to [vivavillage.clubexpress.com](#); to see a complete list of December events click on Calendar.

Women's Coffee

Tuesday, December 3 and 17, 10 am, Jim and Patty's Coffee, 4130 SW 117th Ave.

Village Book Club

Tuesday, December 3, 6-8 pm. Private home in West Beaverton.

Selected Books: Cheaper by the Dozen by Frank Gilbreth, Jr. and All the Money in the World by Laura Vanderkam. RSVP: [vivavillageevents.org](#) or 503-746-5082.

Nature Walk

Saturday, December 7, 9:30 am. Trails at Dawson Creek Lakes, Meet behind the Hillsboro Brookwood

Library, 2850 NE Brookwood Pkwy.

Village 101 Presentation

Saturday, December 14, 10-11:30. Elsie Stuhr Center, Cedar Room, 5550 SW Hall Blvd.

Information for prospective members and volunteers. RSVP: [vivavillageevents.org](#) or 503-746-5082.

Urban Hikers

Thursday, December 19, 9:30 am, Lowami Hart Woods, 14895 SW Hart Rd.

Visit five parks while hiking for 2-3 miles at a moderate pace.

Thursday Night Social

Thursday, December 19, 6 pm. Ernesto's Italian Restaurant, 8544 SW Apple Way. RSVP: [vivavillageevents.org](#) or 503-746-5082.

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Milltown Center
12505 NW Cornell
503
643-3772

Simon, continued from page 1

“He has always battled with mental illness, and he had an extremely abusive childhood, mentally and physically. Mrs. Virginia, I’m in disbelief, shocked, it doesn’t feel real. I spoke with him on Thursday for four hours. He was very smart. He had high IQ, he went to college—psychology and computer science. He was a journeyman electrician, he did the wiring to a wing of Texas children’s hospital.

“Our son Eugene is 20 years old. I’m worried about him. He is there in Oregon, addiction is very strong in both of our genes and this is the same age Brian went down a very dark path and he is no longer with us.

“We were blessed with kind loving, respectful and understanding, super smart, beautiful children. Our oldest daughter Savannah, she’s 18 years old, she is graduating high school in May. Right after her is our daughter Leilani, she is 16 years old. And our other two daughters 14 and 11, they are in middle school and elementary.

Indivisible Cedar Mill

Monday, January 6, 6:30 for an hour of socializing, meeting 7:30-8:30. Email for location.

We are a progressive, grass-roots organization that opposes the Trump administration and believes in furthering progressive causes as well as acting locally to keep Oregon blue.

At our January meeting, we’ll meet Serin Bussell, who is running for Oregon House District 33 (Mitch Greenlick’s seat).

Please email Karyn (karyn@karynservin.com) or John (theportlandfoxes@gmail.com) for location.

Stand On Every Corner
Third Thursday monthly, 5-6 pm, corners of NW Cornell and Murray

We host a monthly protest to show our frustration with the Trump administration. All are welcome to join us. We gather and hold signs at the intersection in a peaceful protest. Feel free to bring your own signs, but we’ll have reflective signs to share for nighttime viewing.



A more recent photo, likely a selfie, of Brian Simon.

There’s a lot milestones in their lives he is going to miss, but I like to think he will be there in spirit.”

“Brian didn’t have to be homeless, that was by choice. He went to Oregon because I wanted to. I’m crazy for Ann Rule, and she would describe Oregon in such detail I could smell the trees and feel the sand in my toes. It was the best summer, my daughters still talk about that summer. I just wanted to give you back story on Brian. He’s not just some transient, homeless man found in Cedar Mill Creek. He lived there for almost three years, he loved Beaverton. You would have found him in the

library reading.

“Thank you so much for taking the time, please, I want to take this tragic heartbreak of mine and turn it in to a positive. Mental illness and addiction comes hand and hand.”

Jennifer sent along these photos, one likely taken recently. We are publishing this to clear up questions and to share a sad story about what can happen when mental illness and addiction go untreated. Doreen Rivera, Community Outreach specialist for Washington County Sheriff’s Office, agreed that I should share the story, because, “Lessons are always good for people. You never know who it might resonate with.”

Support the
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Bottle/Can Drive

Saturday, December 14
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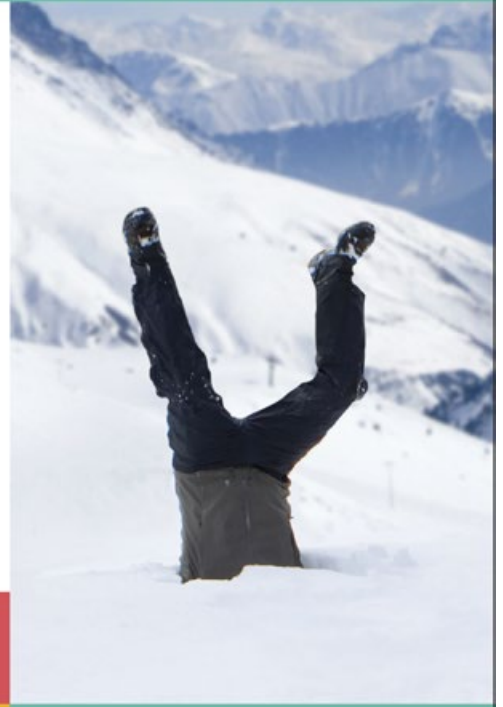
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