



Cedar Mill News

Volume 8, Issue 7

July 2010

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Featured Business

Norman White, Home-Sellers/ White Realty

by Virginia Bruce

Realtor Norman White has been buying and selling property in Cedar Mill since the mid-50s and has seen the area grow and change. He was one of the founding members of the Cedar Mill Business Association and still attends most of the monthly meetings, except during his regular three-month stay in Hawaii during the winter.

As a young man, he worked for the Wabash and later the Norfolk & Western Railroad companies, a job that involved a lot of traveling. His wife Olivia worked full time as a realtor, and when their



Norman and Olivia White in front of their office on Cornell near Murray

first daughter was born, she had heart and other health problems. So Norman decided to cut back on the railroad so he could stay home to help care for the baby. He got his real estate license in 1955. He's the third-longest-licensed agent in the Portland metro area.

In 1963, he and Olivia started White Realty. Their office was on Cornell, just east of what is now the Shell gas station. Odus Bales had just opened his grocery store in what is now the Walgreen's building in 1961, and the 7-11 store was new. Olivia was the broker, and Norman, who was still working with

the railroad part-time, did the "sign work," installing the for-sale signs and other tasks.

They weren't able to buy that building, and eventually it was incorporated into the parking lot for the newer Thriftway store. They owned a couple of properties that were being used for day-care businesses, one at Cornell and 107th, and one on Cornell just east of Murray (what's now Pacific NW Tax & Cedar Mill Home Theater). The day-care provider decided to consolidate the centers to the NW 107th location, so White Realty moved into the Cornell/Murray location.

After Olivia passed away in 2001, Norman joined with broker Clif Kemp to form Home-Sellers White Realty, and the business moved to Lake Oswego. Now 84, Norman remains active, recently completing an 18-year project of consolidating 60,000 sq. ft. of properties in the downtown Portland area for a condominium project, and was involved in several large warehouse sales, including one at Terminal 6.

He thinks that the real estate market will pick up again by 2011. He knows that there are a lot of people who would like to upgrade to newer or larger homes but they aren't able to sell in this market. He says that home prices in Oregon are still a bargain for those moving from out-of-state.

Continued on page 10

Next Meeting

Cedar Mill Business Association

Tuesday, July 13, 11:45

Place: Leedy Grange Hall, 835 NW Saltzman

Business Recycling, Efua Osam, Washington County Solid Waste & Recycling; Washington County Sheriff Business Watch Program, Darlene Schnoor,

FREE pizza, bring your own beverage

The Cedar Mill Business Association's meetings are free and open to anyone interested in business in Cedar Mill

History in the News

The West Hills Dairy

In February, we wrote about the Kieni ranch, near the intersection of NW 93rd and Cornell. We pick up the story just after the death of John Kieni in 1916.

After John Kieni died (of a heart attack while writing Christmas cards) in 1916, George Kieni built a two-story addition on the front of the house and moved into that, renting out the rear to Ernest and Frieda Wuthrich, and Ernest's brother Harry. At first the Wuthrich family grew potatoes on their rented acreage. Around 1920, they established the West Hills Dairy.

Ernest had emigrated from Berne, Switzerland to Wisconsin, and came to Oregon in 1912; Harry and another brother, Carl, came the next year. They settled in the Garden Home area for a few years until Ernest and Harry moved to Cedar

into the Kieni house.

The dairy began with a small herd of cows and was gradually enlarged. The brothers built a large dairy barn and an adjacent milk house and ice plant. The ranch also included a blacksmith shop, Harry's woodworking shop above the potato shed, and a cistern under the house. George Kieni used the collected rainwater to

make vinegar.

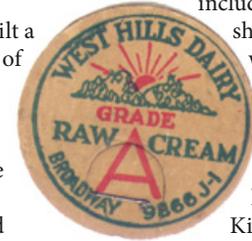
Phyllis Thorne, the niece of Frieda and Ernest, still lives in the area and recalls her fascination with the dairy operation as a child. "I loved to watch the cows come in from the fields. There was a stall in the big barn for every cow, and they

all knew their places. They would come in and get the oats in their trough, and a hired man would fork down some hay from the upper level. Then the hired hands would wash

their bags and do the milking."

The milk would then be taken into milk house, but Thorne says,

Continued on page 9



Ernest Wuthrich and one of his milk delivery trucks

Mill. In 1915, Ernest married Frieda Katterman, who had grown up in the Katterman family home across Cornell, and the young couple lived with her father until they moved

Cedar Mill Business Association Member News

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 vrb@teamweb.com

CMBC Car Show

The 3rd annual Cedar Mill Car Show is coming up! On Saturday, August 21st the Cedar Mill Bible Church is the place to be for live music, BBQ, and cool cars.

Come to the church, located at 12208 NW Cornell Rd, between 11 am and 3 pm. Please bring donations for the CMBC Food Pantry in lieu of admission. Burgers and dogs can be had for very reasonable prices.

Take the "Lug" Out of Luggage

The UPS Store[®] located at 10940 SW Barnes Rd., Peterkort Towne Square can ease air travelers' burdens this summer with three luggage shipping alternatives, including a new luggage box that takes the place of a suitcase, to help reduce hassles of long lines, security searches and increasing baggage fees.

"Not having to carry a suitcase while traveling is a great convenience. Even better is luggage awaiting your arrival at a destination or hotel," said Tim Kimble, The UPS Store owner. "You can ship your luggage as is; place it in a box for shipment, or purchase a luggage box, eliminating the need for a suitcase altogether."

When shipped UPS Ground service, the luggage box is competitively priced with the airlines' baggage

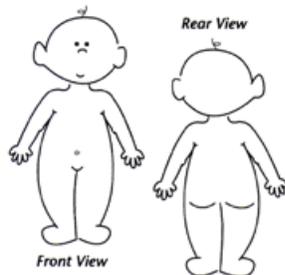


fees, especially when compared to the major airlines. Additionally, members of the Automobile Association of America (AAA) can receive a 15% discount off the full retail price on eligible products and services and 5% off domestic UPS shipping costs.

The luggage box comes in two sizes, large and small; has a sturdy handle for easy carrying, and is made of recyclable corrugate. Because it weighs less than an empty suitcase, packing directly into the box can help lower shipping costs. Travelers also can include packaging tape and a return UPS shipping label for use when returning home.

Kid safety

Colleen Humphreys, our local American Family Insurance agent, has free kits for child safety. The "Deluxe I.D. and Records Kit"



includes instructions and materials for fingerprinting and a place to save everything needed to identify a child, as well as emergen-

cy contact and health info. Ideal for teachers, coaches, babysitters, and anyone who cares for children.

Just stop by the office at 12923 NW Cornell, or call her at 503-312-4752 to pick up your kit.

Giles joins board

Beth Giles of NW Organizing Solutions has been appointed to the board of the National Association of Professional Organizers Oregon (NAPO), a group that supports and trains organizing professionals. Beth works with clients who are seeking to organize their homes or offices and bring peace of mind

back into their lives.

She publishes two different monthly newsletters containing helpful organizing tips and advice on downsizing your space. You can read or sign up for these articles on her website at www.nworganizing-solutions.com

Village Gallery News

July's show will feature Dawn Corey Kelly's figurative watercolor paintings. Dawn's goal is to capture and portray the character behind the face and she is most pleased when her painting portrays a mood or suggests a story which is left to the imagination of the viewer.

The show opens on July 6th and runs through August 7th.

Summer is a great time to take an art class; here is a sampling of what is available: Watercolor Classes with Emma Achleithner, Monday or Thursday mornings from 9:30- 12:30 pm; Color Wheel with Carol Barnett July 23rd and 24th from 10:30- 3:30 pm; Portrait Drawing with Sofia Chimaras, Tuesdays in July from 10:30- 1:30 pm; and Still Life Drawing with Sofia Chimaras, Tuesdays in August from 10:30-1:30 pm.

The gallery is open Tuesday through Saturday 10 am to 4 pm and Sundays from noon until 4 pm.

To sign up for classes please call (503) 644-1089 or visit us at www.villagegalleryarts.org. We are located next to the Cedar Mill Library at 12505 NW Cornell Rd.

Virtue of the Month: Justice

"Practicing Justice is being fair in everything you do. It is seeing with your own eyes and not judging something or someone by what other people tell you." Linda

Kavelin Popov.

The Practice of Justice: I avoid gossiping and backbiting. I refuse to prejudice; I see people as individuals. I make amends instead of excuses. I share fairly with others. I stand up for the right of others and myself. "Justice helps me think for myself."

For more information about the

Virtues Project see www.virtuesconnectionportland.com. Stop by the Farmers Market (CMBA Booth) on Saturdays for your free list of 52 or 100 Virtues.

Kid care

Pediatric Urgent Care is please to announce the addition of Dr David Bell, a long time respected pediatrician in the community. Pediatric Urgent Care is open Monday thru Friday 7-10 pm, and weekends and Holidays 1-9

pm. 11790 SW Barnes Rd Suite 140. When your child's health can't wait for office hours!

Integrative Pediatrics is offering nutrition classes based on the Dr Sears program L.E.A.N. classes. July 8th, 15th, and 22nd from 2-4 pm. Cost for all three sessions is \$50 (includes Parent's Guide book and snacks) and \$10 for a second parent. Classes are small (6-10 people) to promote group discussion. Call 503-643-2100 or visit <http://www.drpaul.md/seminars.html> for more information. Space is limited.

BBQ at Farmers' Market

Burnt Ends BBQ will be at the Cedar Mill Farmer's Market Saturdays July 17th, 24th, and 31st and August 7th Every week they will feature one or more of their award winning BBQ treats. If you want to throw a great summer BBQ without being chained to the grill, pre-order your favorite Burnt Ends meats in quantity and pick it up at the Farmers Market. For more information contact John Roberts at burntendsbbq@msn.com



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Cedar Mill Farmers' Market welcomes Adelante Agricultura

The Market is bursting at the seams, with more vendors than ever bringing their crops, crafts, and cuisine to Cedar Mill on Saturdays. A notable newcomer this month is Adelante Agricultura, the sustainable farming project of the Adelante Mujeres Micro-Enterprise program. They'll join the market beginning on Saturday, July 17th, and continue through October.

Market Manager Dina Gross thought that Adelante Agricultura farmers might like a Saturday outlet for their produce, so she offered them space at the CMFM. The market's sponsor, Tualatin Hill Park & Recreation District, and New Seasons Market helped to make their participation possible.

Gross says that some of the produce has been grown with the involvement of entire Latino families. "What a great way to get young people interested in agriculture – they can help their parents with the family's small, sustainable plot, and perhaps become farmers, agronomists, or agricultural engineers themselves someday. Family farmers are responsible stewards of the land, yet we live in an age when only about one quarter of remaining farms are family operations. I think Cedar Mill appreciates their local family farmers and one way they show it is by shopping at farmers' markets."

For Latinos interested in acquiring the skills necessary to grow vegetables, and working towards becoming proficient English speakers, the Adelante Mujeres programs can be extremely valuable. For more information please contact Alejandro Tecum, Coordinator of the Micro Enterprise Program at 503-992-2041 or atecum@adelantemujeres.org.

If you want to support the new farmers of the Adelante Agricultura program as well as many other local family farmers, visit the CMFM on Saturdays through October, just west of Murray on NW Cornell, from 8 am-1 pm. Fun and affordable family lunch food is available this season from Dunnelly's and, for four weeks June 17 – August 7, Burnt Ends, Cedar Mill's own award-winning BBQ team will provide their incomparable pulled pork and more. They all hope to see you.

Cedar Mill Park Concert August 5

Bring your family, a lawn chair or blanket, and meet your neighbors and friends for a summer evening of fun and music. This year,



Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District has selected Seattle funk band GrünVbox to provide the rhythm. Food and beverages are available for purchase, or bring your own picnic.

The Cedar Mill Business Association is once again sponsoring the Passport Contest. Pick up a Passport card, and visit each of the Community Partner booths to get it stamped. Put your completed Passport into the box in the CMBA booth, and at the end of the concert, two lucky adults and one child will win a huge

GrünVbox: their repertoire includes the funky grooves of the Bar Kays and Kool and The Gang; the kitschy show tunes of Donna Summer; classic Motown favorites like Marvin Gaye; '80s dance hits by Madonna and much more.

gift basket stuffed with goodies. Get acquainted with some of the Community Partners who provide services in our area including

the Cedar Mill Library, CPO 1, The Cedar Mill Farmer's Market, the Washington County Sheriff's, and more. THPRD's Rec Mobile and the Nature Mobile will be on site to engage kids with face painting, games and activities.

The concert begins at 6 pm and ends at 8. Lots of free parking is available at the Cedar Mill Bible Church, 12208 NW Cornell Rd with a free shuttle to the concert. Limited and handicapped parking at the Cedar Mill School lot, enter at 10385 Cornell Rd.

Sunset TC gets TriMet's first Bike & Ride

How can you get 74 commuters on the train or bus where only eight were able to park before?

TriMet Bike & Rides are secure, enclosed bike parking facilities with keycard access. The Sunset TC Bike & Ride will provide space for 74 bikes to meet the demand for secure bike parking, giving riders a better



This bike shelter at Portland State is similar to the one going into the Sunset Transit Center

option than bringing a bike on a crowded train. The Bike & Ride takes the place of eight of the 630 parking spaces in the garage. A second Bike & Ride will open this fall at Beaverton Transit Center, where riders can connect to WES commuter rail and 11 bus lines.

A \$1.1 million American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (stimulus) grant funded several bike parking improvements throughout the region including three Bike & Rides and the replacement or refurbishment of 166 bike lockers.

Although riding a bike to Sunset TC may sound difficult, it's actually an easy, pleasant ride. Barnes Road has bike lanes, and from Cedar Hills, just use Park Way and follow the signs to cross Highway 26 on the pedestrian bridge.

To use the Bike & Ride, you will need to purchase a BikeLink

keycard for \$20 (see trimet.org/bikes for details). This is a smart card that deducts the value of the time you use, just like at a parking meter. Bike

parking only costs three cents per hour on weekdays and one cent per hour at other times.

Visit trimet.org/bikes to find out more and to enter a contest to win a BikeLink card!

TriMet's first Bike & Ride opens at Sunset transit center on July 29th. The community is invited to a ribbon-cutting ceremony at noon.

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The UPS Store

JQA Young House: it only looks like nothing is happening!

by Virginia Bruce

People passing by the old house on Cornell often wonder why there's no visible progress on renovating the house and opening it to the public. They offer to help with painting or interior decorating. Lynda Myers, Executive Director of the Tualatin Hills Park Founda-

the house, several issues need to be dealt with. Tons of mixed fill dirt were dumped to the east of the house by the previous owner. This means that the house is in a hole, resulting in serious drainage problems. In addition, the existing foundation is a mess. It was apparently composed of two parts,



The Cedar Mill Garden Club planted wildflowers in front of the house last fall.

one probably being the basement of the cabin that originally stood on the site, and a second section that was dug out when the present house was built. Some of the foundation consists of large chunks of broken concrete, and there is a variety of other materials. So

tion, says, "This is the challenging part, keeping people interested in the project even though they can't come out and work on the house at this time." There are ways to be involved, though, see sidebar for info.

The John Quincy Adams Young house, on Cornell near 119th, was built in the early 1860s by the second owner of the sawmill. It was acquired by Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District (THPRD) in 2005. The district initially appropriated \$100,000 to fund a study of the restoration work that would need to be done to turn the long-abandoned building into a public facility.

Due to the amount of work that will need to be done to the house and grounds, it is estimated that nearly \$750,000 in additional funds will need to be raised. Changes in district management, problems in the park foundation (the fundraising organization for district projects) and many other factors have contributed to little visible progress in the intervening years.

Some of the funds that were originally appropriated were used to commission a Master Plan that was completed in October 2007 by McKay and Sposito Inc. The district applied for and the house was accepted onto the National Register of Historic Places in December 2008.

Before any kind of renovation can begin on the interior of

the first thing that has to be done is to raise the house and build a new foundation.

Another issue that could impact the reconstruction is that the county has long-range plans to widen Cornell Road and it's unclear whether that would necessitate

moving the house. And once the house is in place on a new foundation, it will have to be basically re-built from the walls in—electrical, plumbing, insulation, heating, windows and walls will all need to be replaced. We're hoping

that local builders will want to get involved at that point.

As part of its 2010-2011 budget, the Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District (THPRD) Board of Directors approved an additional

\$10,000. Although the district has not yet determined how the money will be used, it could fund engineering studies to determine the extent and types of work necessary.

Chris Nestlerode, an architect who has been volunteering his time

to work with the district, says, "The money that is earmarked could get us into the design review process. I think that it will be just enough to get a final land-use decision with a master plan to show the

location of the house. Once we have that, we can start on the process of construction drawings. Once we have plans, we can go for a heritage grant that could pay for a majority of the construction costs."

Some have suggested that the district should develop the half-acre property that goes with the house into a park while the engineering studies and subsequent fundraising are done. THPRD is understandably reluctant to invest money into landscaping and development that may then need to be demolished. District spokesman Bob Wayt

by subsequent work on the house, which will include trenching for new utility lines and replacement of the foundation."

Let the fundraising begin

The Friends of the JQA Young House committee was formed in 2009 to do fundraising for the

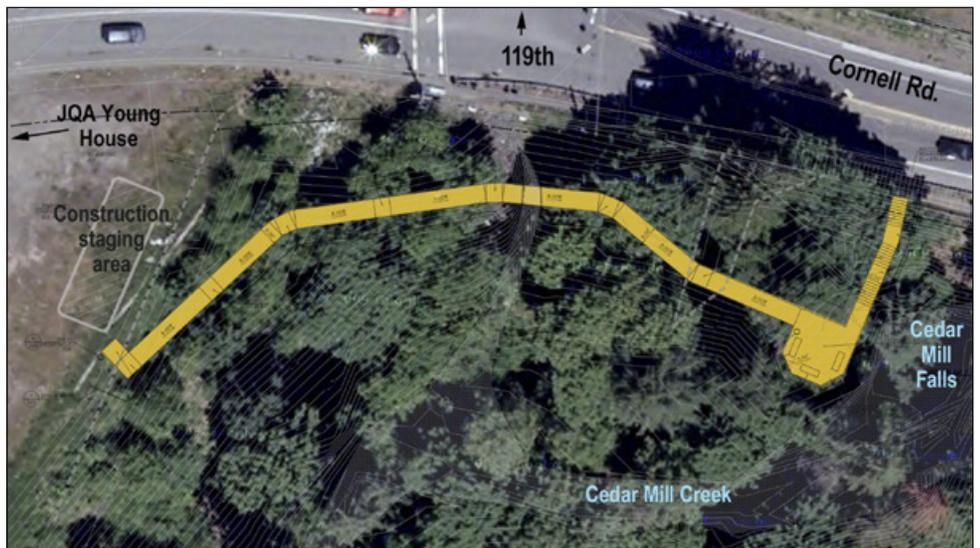
How you can help

Consider including the JQA Young House restoration fund in your will, or just donate to the fund to restore the JQA Young House. To help with the fundraising effort, join the Friends of the JQA Young House. Contact Lynda Myers, 503.629.6355 or lmyers@thprd.org, for more information. Visit our website for background on the house and more: cedarmill.org/JQAY/

project. A small amount of money has already been raised, and is being held for the project, but the serious fundraising can begin once the engineering studies are completed.

The Tualatin Hills Park

Foundation (THPF), the fundraising organization for THPRD projects, is run by a Board of Trustees which, working with THPRD management, has recently restructured the organization, appointing Lynda Myers as the Executive Director and hiring Bob Schultz as Director of Development. Schulz has extensive experience with corporate and foundation giving. It is hoped that he will use his expertise to work with the Friends group to develop a fundraising plan and look for grants and donations.



Cedar Mill Falls, which was probably the source of water power for the mill, will finally be accessible when the Memorial Boardwalk is completed this fall.

says, "We remain committed to our master plan. We believe it makes more sense for the house to be upgraded first. Our concern is that if the grounds were improved first, they could in turn be damaged

Sue Conger Memorial Boardwalk

When Polygon Northwest began the Timberland residential development on the former Teufel Nursery property just east of the house, they worked out an agreement with

THPRD to make some improvements to the area of the Cedar Mill Falls and Creek that was included in the land purchase, in lieu of System Development Charges that they would have owed. Among other improvements, they will build a boardwalk and overlook near the falls that will also connect to the JQA Young property. Once all improvements have been completed and approved by THPRD, the area surrounding the falls and several other parcels will be transferred to the district for parks.



Years of landfill have put the house into a hole

Timberland was annexed into Beaverton when the land was purchased from the Teufels. Because part of the boardwalk will extend onto the JQAY lot, which was in Washington County, Hal Bergsma, THPRD Director of Planning, asked that the house and grounds be annexed into Beaverton. Nesterode feels that this is beneficial, because the expected city zoning code calls for less-rigorous setbacks than the current county code. The Beaverton City Council approved the annexation in June, and MGH

Associates has submitted plans for the boardwalk to the city.

The boardwalk was named in honor of Sue Conger, who worked tirelessly to make sure the house

was preserved. It will extend south from the existing boardwalk along Cornell Road, with a platform offering a view of the Falls. It will then continue to the west, ending up on east edge of the JQAY property. Much of the path will consist of ramps and landings so that most of it will be accessible.

MGH Associates provided site layout and overall design services, Western Wood Structures of Tualatin did the final boardwalk design. Construction staging will be on the east side of the JQAY lot. Projected completion is late summer or early fall, and we're hoping that it will be done in time for the annual Cedar Mill Cider Festival on Sunday, October 17. Plan to join us once again for our fall celebration of music, barbecue and cider at Cedar Mill's historic property.

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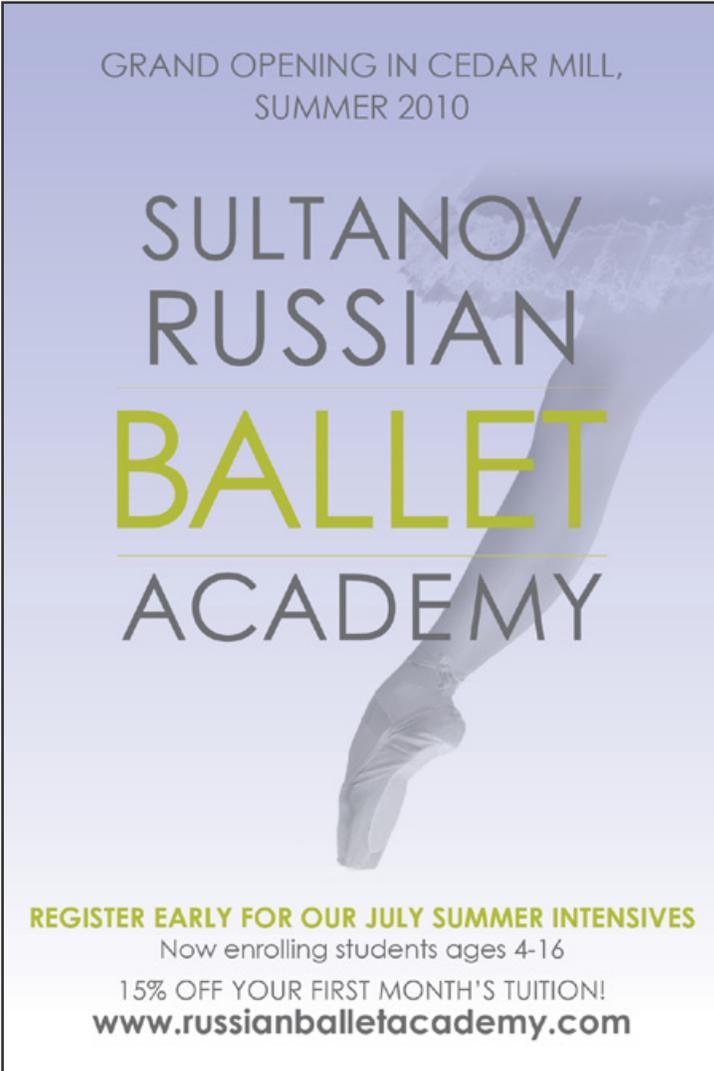
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Why do those birds nest on the ground?

by Lauretta Young

As I was taking a tour group around in the spring, a new bird watcher wanted to know why any bird would risk their precious young to being stomped by coyotes, dogs, deer or humans by nesting on the ground. In this area we have several ground nesters. If we are lucky we may see one of them in our own back yards. One year as I was cleaning up the spent foliage from my daffodils, I found a nest full of lovely Junco eggs while the parent was attracting my attention wildly from a neighboring bush. (Given the nest location I decided to leave the ragged daffodil foliage to camouflage that nest!).

Other ground-nesters include the California Quail, Killdeers and Pheasants, and the White-crowned sparrows and Towhees. Generally speaking, diversity of type of food and nesting areas allows a larger number of birds per area than if they all wanted to stay in holes drilled by woodpeckers.

We have plenty of such "cavity" nest birds in Cedar Mill, from the ubiquitous House sparrow to the Tree swallows, Violet-green swallows, Chickadees, and Red breasted nuthatches. One of our most unusual cavity nest birds is the Wood duck, which of course is much larger than the others mentioned but does in nature nest in large dead tree cavities.

We have been fortunate to have a pair of Chickadees nest in our birdhouse (a kind of cavity nest) for years. It is vital to have the entry be small enough to keep out birds that love to eat other birds' young, such as Jays, Starlings and Cooper's hawks. Plans for birdhouses are available on-line, and the Audubon Society store also carries a good variety (audubonportland.org).

One of our most common Cedar Mill cavity-nesting species is the Black-capped chickadee. Their songs and calls are part of our background "noise" in this area since



they are numerous. Sometimes they use abandoned woodpecker holes in snags but most of us, unlike the

birds, are not too enamored of dead trees, so gardeners tend to cut down old snags in our yards. So these birds will use birdhouses that we find more decorative and they find acceptable. It is a treat to see them learn to fly and learn to pick the aphids off my roses (which I don't spray for that very reason—free bird food!)

Last year I bought a ball of woolen material from a local pet store that was sold as "nesting material." Indeed the Goldfinches and Chickadees and other birds picked off bits and took the material to line the nests. This year I could not find such an item so being a good recycler I improvised and used CAT HAIR from brushing my indoor cats (who love to watch the birds out the window at the feeders, so this seemed like a good mutual sharing). Well lo and behold the birds enthusiastically embraced the recycling idea as you can see from the picture my husband captured of a chickadee collecting cat hair attached to the suet feeder!

The baby Chickadee who emerged was nurtured with cat hair as his baby mattress. He or she was so adorable minutes after emerging from the bird house and we got so close before the parents came up and shooed the little one into the shrubbery away from prying cameras (and of course lurking Cooper's hawks and outdoor cats).

Reportedly at one time the Tualatin Valley had Bluebirds, another cavity nesting species, whose habitat was taken over by Starlings and House sparrows. There are still Bluebirds at locations further south such as Tualatin National Wildlife Refuge.

Degradation of habitat is a problem for many ground nesters such as the Western meadowlark which is our state bird—this bird's habitat has been



reduced for years and their number has declined. Many "beach" birds such as the Plovers also nest on the ground and the intrusion of people, dogs and cars have impacted their ability to produce young who survive.

So the next time you see a Killdeer or Quail family, celebrate the hedgerows, the marshes and the places where we don't tromp on the young of these wonderful birds!! The amazing number of

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foods that birds eat, places they nest and songs they sing points to the many ways we can all take advantage of the bounty of nature if we are flexible.

Lauretta Young is a retired physician who now teaches community health at PSU and management for healthcare at OHSU and leads private customized bird tours in Cedar Mill and the metro area—check out her web site for more pictures and blogs at www.portlandbirdwatching.com

Photos by Jeff Young

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Soil Basics 101

by Donna Prock, *permadonna.com*

During the 20th century, farmers and gardeners tried out chemical growing—using pesticides and herbicides to combat bugs and weeds and artificial fertilizers to increase yields. Immediate results seemed good, but over the long term, bugs and weeds acquired resistance, and now we are finding out that plants simply aren't as healthy, and the food isn't as nutritious, when chemicals are used.

Soil tending is the key to healthy plants in any garden, and to delicious nutritious food in your home plot or grocery basket. Avoid the cascade of unintended consequences with chemical gardening by understanding your soil and building its fertility naturally.

What is soil made of?

Soil is formed slowly as rain, wind and friction erode rock (the parent material) into tiny pieces near the Earth's surface. Organic matter decays and mixes with inorganic material (rock particles, minerals and water) to form soil.

Soil is made up of distinct layers called horizons. They range from rich, organic upper layers (humus and topsoil) to underlying rocky layers (subsoil, regolith and bedrock).

About 95 percent of soil consists of minerals. Most of this mineral material has been weathered into very small particles, classified by decreasing size as sand, silt, or clay. Soils contain a mix of particle sizes, the relative proportions of each determine texture (whether a soil is silt loam, sandy clay loam, silty clay, etc.).

Organic Matter and Humus

Only three to five percent of soil's total weight is organic matter, formerly living creatures (primarily plants) in various stages of decomposition. You should never underestimate the importance of this once-living material. It must be renewed constantly if the soil is to stay in good condition. It is an important source of phosphorus, nitrogen, and sulfur (major nutrients that plants require), plus the main source of food for microorganisms.

Humus is a term that gardeners use all the time, but that few really understand. It is the product of decomposition of plant and animal residues through the action of mi-

croorganisms, a constantly changing chaos teeming with millions of organisms per spoonful. Organic materials are the raw commodities from which humus can be made. It is composed of various decaying plant materials—leaves, dead roots, stems, straw, compost, manure, along with the bodies of microbes, bacteria, and algae living in the soil. True humus is well aged, fine and dark, and decomposed to the point where the original material is no longer recognizable. Yet it's much more resistant to breaking down than is organic matter in earlier stages of decay; some humus lasts many years in the soil. It can restore and maintain the vigor of soil. Its sponginess allows good aeration through the entire profile, and improves the structure. This increases the soil's capacity for holding moisture and avoiding erosion with leaching-out of nutrients.

Air and Water

When we are standing on the ground it feels pretty solid, but only half of soil is solid particles. The other half is a combination of space (air) and water. When everything is just right, there is plenty of room for air to occupy the space between soil particles. These spaces are known as *soil pores*. They allow gases such as oxygen and carbon dioxide to move in and out of soil, so that plant roots won't asphyxiate.

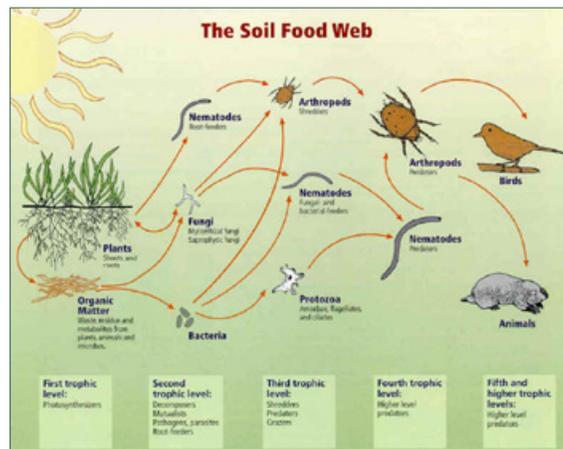
When too much water saturates soil, it fills all available air spaces and plant roots can't get any oxygen. Ideally, about half of the "empty" space in soil is filled with water. If present in the right amount, water should encase each soil particle in a thin film of moisture. Chemicals, including plant nutrients, are dissolved in this soil water, often called the *soil solution*. The only way these vital minerals can move through soil and be absorbed by plants is when they are dissolved in water.

Most plants need an astonishing amount of moisture to keep their cells full and turgid, and plant roots will grow remarkably deep in search of water and nutrients

Soil Structure

If you were to have a choice of soil, which most of us don't, sandy loam is just about ideal. It is light, crumbly, and rich in humus. But no matter what your soil make-up consists of, it can be improved in fairly short order by working in generous helpings of leaves, manure, grass clippings, compost, or other organic matter.

Good structure is far more important than good texture. This is a good thing because texture is something you learn to live with, but structure can be changed. Good structure is something you can cre-



ate, and it will compensate for any less than ideal texture.

Soil maps are a good tool for identifying the structure of the native soil in your area and can be found at the Web Soil Surveys website: <http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/WebSoilSurvey.aspx> This gives you a base idea of what you may be working with.

According to the map, we have Cascade Silt Loam, blown up from the valley over the millennia; and Cascade Urban Land Complex soils in Bonny Slope, for example. Many people call it clay, but there are very few pockets of true clay in our area.

Since there are always variants from site to site, depending on previous gardening practices, and fill dirt from development, you can also perform a simple yet very accurate physical analysis at home to find out the percentages of sand, silt, and clay in the particular soil on your property. Instructions for this test can be found at: <http://www.the-compost-gardener.com/soil-texture.html>

Loam is composed of an ideal balance of silt, sand, and clay (about 40-40-20% concentration respectively). Loam soils generally contain more nutrients and humus than

sandy soils, have better infiltration and drainage than silty soils, and are easier to work than clay soils. Loams are gritty, moist, and retain water easily.

Loam is considered ideal for gardening and agricultural uses because it retains nutrients well and retains water while still allowing the water to flow freely. Loam soil has good *tilth* and is easy to work over a wide range of moisture conditions.

Soil Biology

Soil health is defined by its ability to perform essential ecosystem functions such as nutrient cycling, water filtration, and providing habitat for plants and animals. Fertile soil is dark and crumbly and has a rich earthy smell. It holds water like a sponge, breathes air like a lung, and is teeming with life. A gram of healthy soil is home to about 500 million living organisms that make up the *soil food web*, from the simplest of single-cell organisms such as bacteria, actinomycetes, yeasts, protozoa, and algae, to more familiar

multicellular animals such as fungi, nematodes, arthropods, insects, worms, and mammals.

These soil organisms create and maintain a complex warehouse and distribution system capable of storing and moving an abundant yet balanced supply of essential nutrients. When the health of this biology is disturbed by sudden changes to the ecosystem, such as over-tilling or application of any fungicide, herbicide or pesticide chemical, soil health is drastically affected. The biological approach to soil reestablishes soil biology to rebuild the desired properties that bring soil back to good, natural health. The gardener's most important job is to protect and help these creatures by composting; planting cover crops; adding organic soil amendments; paying attention to soil, air, and water contents; and learning other beneficial practices.

For more in-depth information on Soil Biology see <http://oregon-foodweb.com/soil-biology/in-depth.html>

Next month will feature part two of this article and will focus on soil fertility and sustainable soil management.

Note: longer version online!

Dairy, continued from page 1

“none of us children were permitted in there because it had to be kept clean. We never saw the bottling procedures either.”

After the milk was strained, and some cream was separated off, it was chilled and bottled. The raw milk and cream was loaded onto a truck that Ernest drove into West Portland along a standard delivery route. Thorne recalls, “They went up Cornell and delivered milk to the rich folks in the big houses at the top of the hill, and then continued onto Lovejoy and up Westover.”

Nobody in Cedar Mill got their milk from the dairy, because almost everyone here had their own cow. Thorne says, “We had a cow, and chickens, and we grew most of our own vegetables on a couple of acres. We weren’t farmers, it was just what everyone did.”

Thorne also recalls that Frieda Wuthrich was a skilled cook. She had studied cooking at a special high school in east Portland. There was an internal door between the two residences in the house, and Frieda delivered all his meals to George that way. Frieda also did all the bookkeeping for the dairy. She carefully watched all the dairy operations and made sure that accounts were paid.

The Wuthriches grew hay for the dairy herd on the land behind the house, all the way into what is now Forest Heights. “It was exciting to watch the haying crews

and wagons working the fields,” remembers Thorne.

The Wuthrich family was enlarged with the addition of two daughters, Helen and Betty. Carl Wuthrich eventually located near his brothers in the area, and married a Swiss immigrant, Lydia Walter. Bachelor Harry continued to live with Ernest’s family while he worked as a handyman for the dairy. He also constructed and maintained a small prune dryer on the property, where he processed the fruit that was grown around the area.

George and John’s sister Mary Hirscher had stayed in Wisconsin and had two daughters and a



The Kieni house today.

wanted, according to Thorne. In his will, dated February 1941, he left \$1500 to the Evangelical Reform church in Portland, \$1000 to his grandniece Susanna Hirscher, and \$5000 for the care

of niece Rose Hirscher, who was confined to an insane asylum in Wisconsin. The remainder (amount unknown, but it included the house and land) was left to “beloved niece Anna Hirscher, who has lived with and cared for me during these past few years.”

He left his blacksmithing tools to Ernest Wuthrich, along with \$500, “which I direct be paid to him by cancelling the last five months’ rent due under the terms of the lease existing between him and myself,” a five-year lease that ended on January 1, 1945.

Also in the will, he left instructions for his burial. He told people, “I’ll have the biggest marker in the (Union) cemetery.” And it still is, a large marble marker in the pioneer cemetery on 153rd north of Cornell.

The Wuthriches finally closed down the dairy in late 1944. Ernest retired and they bought land across Cornell and built a home. Ernest died in 1978. Frieda remained very bitter about being “cast out” of the Kieni property. She died in 1979. Harry continued to live nearby and worked as a cabinet-maker, and also died in 1978.

Anna Hirscher sold the 80-acre property to Claude & Florence Cover in 1947, for \$13,000. It passed

to Doc and Reta Maddocks in 1952. At some point, the land was used for raising turkeys. In 1953, 17 lots were sold for the Harvest Hill subdivision, most of which is still standing on NW 93rd. In 1961, the house and remaining grounds were sold to Winfield and Barbara Arn, who built

a swimming pool. In 1970, Gary and Sue Peterson bought the house, barn and 1 acre of land. Sue Peterson Conger sold it in 2005 to Geoffrey and Claudine Mellet-Wilson, who remodeled and added new siding.

Every family who has lived there over the years has done a wonderful job of preserving the historical documents and artifacts that were passed along, and we’re indebted to all of them for letting us have this window into our community’s history.

Material for this story came from the Cedar Mill History book, and from a notebook filled with documents, notes and photos that was compiled by Gary Peterson and Sue Peterson Conger which was passed on to the current owner of the house, Claudia Mellet-Wilson, and from interviews with Peterson and Phyllis Wilson.

Bethany Boulevard group to meet

The 3not5 Group is having a community meeting on July 15 at 7 pm at the Oak Hills Church, 2815 NW Forest Avenue, Beaverton. The 3not5 Group is a volunteer group of interested homeowners from the nine neighborhoods that border Bethany Boulevard and others in the immediate area that are opposed to making Bethany five lanes wide for the one-mile stretch from Bronson Road to West Union. There are no plans to widen the Bethany overpass on Highway 26.

Come to the meeting to hear what is going on with the project and what you can do to convince the Washington County Board of Commissioners to re-evaluate the county’s plan. For more information go to the website www.3not5.org



The house as it looked after the addition was built in 1917. George Kieni lived in the front section, and the Wuthrich family occupied the rear.

son. In 1935, George’s niece Anna Hirscher, came to live with him. By some accounts she hated it, but she stayed with him until his death in 1941.

Apparently George Kieni let Ernest Wuthrich believe that he could run the dairy as long as he



Caption from back of this photo written by George Kieni: barns, Milk house and Ice Plant that makes 1.200 lbs ice in 24 hours. There was a addition built to the milk house after the ice plant was installed

—George Kieni, Rt 2 Box 174, Portland, Ore

White Realty, continued from page 1

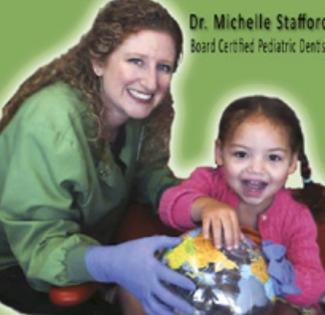
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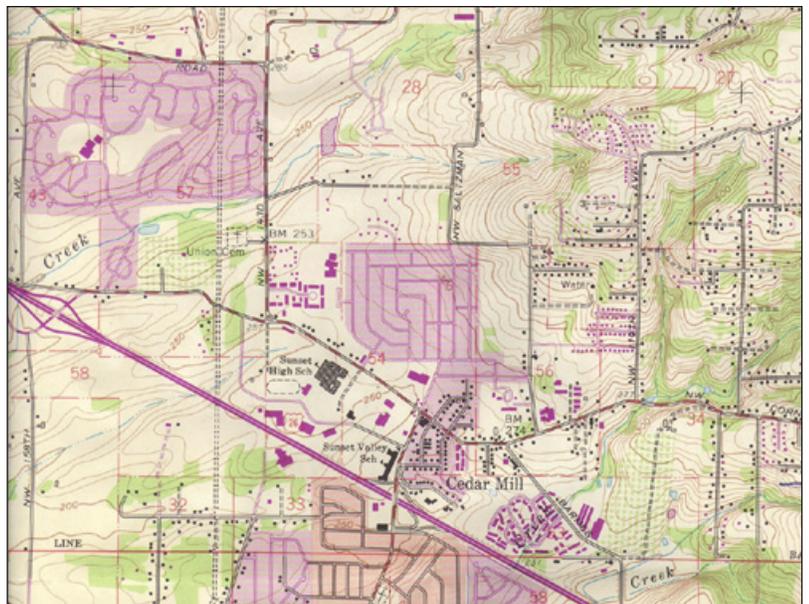


A 1983 aerial shot of downtown Cedar Mill. No Bauer developments, not much in the triangle...

He feels that Oregon's Land Use laws create scarcity and high prices, and result in row houses without enough room for children to play.

Norman and Olivia had three children and two of them were involved in real estate at some point. His oldest daughter succumbed to her health problems in 2005. Rebecca is a real estate agent in San Francisco, and his son Paul worked with Norman for over 15 years, and then went on to start CompView Medical, a firm that makes imaging equipment for surgery.

In 1973, they built a home on Sunningdale (off 119th) based on plans from the Scholz Design firm in Toledo. "There isn't another house like it in the area," he says. Later they moved to a house



This 1961 map shows that Saltzman didn't connect to Barnes, and most of the development north of Cornell occurred after this. Terra Linda, Oak Hills, Marlene Village and West Haven were the only subdivisions.

on Marshall, which he sold in 2002 when he remarried and moved into his wife's home in King City.

He'd like to see some of the "old guys" come back to the Cedar Mill Business Association meetings, and is planning on contacting them to try to get them involved.

If you're buying or selling any kind of property and you'd like the benefit of Norman White's experience, contact him at the office at 503-624-1819 or on his mobile phone at 503-789-4051. The website is home-sellers.com.

Dean H. Shade
Attorney at Law
503-644-5539
13765 NW Cornell
dshadelaw@earthlink.net

What to do when skies are blue

by Erin Koval, Sunset High School

Welcome aboard, your tour guide will take you around Portland pointing out activities for the family to enjoy over the summer.

First stop is the Oregon Zoo. Feast your eyes upon animals from Asian elephants to Arctic polar bears. However, the animals aren't the only reason to visit the zoo. Summer concerts are a great way to get the family together and the music is "as diverse as the animals." oregonzoo.org/Concerts/index.htm

Next stop on the tour is the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry (OMSI). Take a plunge into the Willamette on the U.S Navy's last non-nuclear submarine, or hitch a wet and wild ride on a tour by Willamette Jet boat Tours. omsi.org

Last on the tour is Pioneer Square, in the heart of downtown Portland. "Flicks on the Bricks," are outdoor movies for the whole family that start at dusk, but bring something to sit on unless you like sitting on bricks. July 23rd features "Ferris Bueller's Day Off," which is a good laugh for all ages. pioneercourthousequare.org/calendar.shtm

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