



FREE

Cedar Mill News

Volume 18, Issue 3

March 2020



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Sewage spill response leads to better notices

by Virginia Bruce

A broken sewer line discharged raw sewage into North Johnson Creek last month. I was out of town,



The sewer broke near NW 114th and spilled into N. Johnson Creek

but had a voicemail from Andrea Watson, [Tualatin Valley Water District](#) (TVWD) Public Affairs, asking if I knew anything. When I got back to town, I posted a question on NextDoor and the [Cedar Mill News](#) Facebook page.

Neighbors said that [KPTV](#) had aired a news item on Friday morning, February 21 that implied that drinking water was affected, so neighbors were concerned. As it turned out, the sewer break had no effect on drinking water, and KPTV corrected their post.

I checked on the [Clean Water Services](#) (CWS) and the TVWD websites and couldn't find any information. CWS is responsible for sewers, and TVWD provides drinking water.

Mark Jockers, Public Affairs Director for Clean Water Services, responded with an email on Sunday, February 23: "CWS received an odor complaint call from a neighbor near 315 114th Ave. on Saturday, February 15. Staff was dispatched to the location, but did not locate the source of the odor. On Monday, February 17, a full crew and TV inspection van returned to the site. Using that equipment, crews were able to locate a broken 10" sewer line

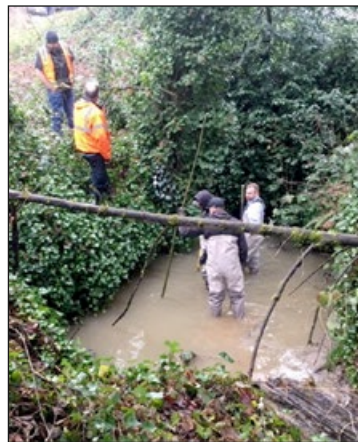
discharging sewage into a tributary of N. Johnson Creek (see map).

"On Monday, crews made a temporary repair to the line; placed warning signs in the area, took water samples upstream and downstream of the overflow, and began cleanup. Crews were on site through much of the week coordinating cleanup and taking regular water samples.

"Staff coordinated on site with nearby neighbors and reached out to THPRD and The Wetlands Conservancy which own downstream property (the large Cedar Mill wetland). The cause of the break appears to be a streambank failure that uprooted a tree, which subsequently dislodged and broke the concrete sewer line.

"A reminder—the public should immediately call Clean Water Services' 24-hour response line at 503-681-3600, or their local City, if they suspect a sewage overflow in their neighborhood."

Jockers later said that the permanent fix to the sewer line would be done this summer when water levels are lower.



After the incident, both CWS and TVWD followed up with me to ask how they could have better provided public information. I recommended posting an alert message on the home page of their respective websites that linked to more complete information, in addition to posting on social media. Both agencies are implementing these recommendations.

History in the News

What's New on the History Front?

By Catherine Quoyeser, Board Member, CMHS

The Cedar Mill Historical Society (CMHS) and the John Quincy Adams Young House last figured in the news in September, when the 2019 Cider Festival was announced. With that major undertaking successfully completed for the 13th year, our fearless editor and community activist, Virginia Bruce, could be forgiven for taking

adding two new members for a total of five, with Virginia serving as Executive Director. We have been building our capacity by attending workshops in non-profit governance, historic preservation, and fundraising, as well as holding monthly meetings. In the next issue we'll introduce you to the Board. Meanwhile, we invite you to reach out if you're interested in joining our ranks (503-705-5725/catherinequoyeser@kw.com).

We've reached a major milestone in our partnership with the Tualatin Hills Parks & Recreation Department, which owns the JQA Young House and the lot it sits on. The parties have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) governing the first phase of work in restoring the house. With technical support from THPRD, CMHS will carry out two tasks:



a breather from CMHS. But in fact, she and the organization have been hard at work over the past months.

We've ramped up our Board,

The Nature of Cedar Mill

Amphibians among us

by Genevieve Coblentz, CMN intern

This time of year, residents of Cedar Mill start to hear the beautiful symphony of frogs in the evening and you might even be lucky enough to see a frog hopping around your backyard. Frogs belong to a group of animals called amphibians, which also consists of salamanders, toads, and newts. There are 21 species, including one non-native species, of amphibians in the Cedar Mill area. Some of the most common species that you may come across include the pacific tree frog, the rough-skinned newt, the cascade torrent salamander, and the Western toad.

Amphibians are mainly found in wetlands, ponds, streams, and other moist environments. They are rarely found in dry, hot environments because they have extremely thin skin. Their thin skin allows oxygen

to enter their bodies and contribute to cellular respiration, but it also allows a lot of water to evaporate out of their bodies and can cause dehydration. Living in moist envi-



Pacific tree frog, photo from [Wikimedia by The High Fin Sperm Whale](#)

ronments, such as ours, prevents amphibians from losing too much water and becoming dehydrated.

The thin skin of amphibians also plays an important role in scientists being able to examine the health of an ecosystem. Amphibians are

Continued on page 1

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

St. Patrick's weekend tasting event

March 14, 11 am-2 pm, Marion Acres and Helvetia Farm Market, 23137 NW West Union Rd,

Come celebrate St. Patrick's Day at Helvetia Farm Market and taste several Irish-themed samples, including cider and brats. The event is open to the public and free to attend and taste.

Share with a friend and come enjoy a fun afternoon event. Rain or shine, it's going to be cozy and buzzing inside, so come grab an Irish coffee in our espresso bar and enjoy the samples while you take in the view of the rolling emerald green hills out our scenic windows. It's almost like you've traveled to Ireland for the day.

Helvetia Farm Market also sells fresh old world bread, fresh organic and seasonal produce, dairy and meats, locally-made gifts and pantry staples, as well as several coolers and shelves full of delicious artisan made foods.

Cedar Mill Business Association

Tuesday, March 10. 11:30-1:30, The Ackerly at Timberland, 11795 NW Cedar Falls Drive

Join us for lunch to hear Susan Reingold, owner of [The Reingold Gallery](#). She is a businesswoman who has lived and worked internationally most of her life, and is currently based in Portland. She will talk on Japanese contemporary art, why Japanese prints are loved and collected worldwide, the process of printmaking, and tips for purchasing art for home or for business.

First meeting is free to non-

members. More information, and a full listing of our Members and our Shop Local Directory can be found at our website cedarmillbiz.com.

Fieldstone Cornell Landing celebrates

Fieldstone Cornell Landing is celebrating our One-Year Anniversary! We invite you to join us in celebrating this milestone event. Come for lunch and a tour during the month of March and you will be entered into a drawing for an Oregon Coast Getaway! Whether you enjoy hiking the dunes, exploring lighthouses, visiting art galleries, whale watching or roasting s'mores on the beach, you can do it all to the sound of ocean waves and the glow of magnificent sunsets.

Call 503-292-9222 to schedule your visit today. Fieldstone Cornell Landing is an Assisted Living and Memory Care community nestled in the beautiful west hills of Portland. Come see how we are redefining senior living with all the comforts of home and a touch of urban feel.

Village Gallery of Arts

The Gallery is located just east of the Cedar Mill Library at 12050 NW Cornell. For more details and information on any of these events, please check our website or call the Gallery: villagegalleryarts.org, 503-644-8001.

Second Sunday Artist Reception Sunday, March 8, 2-4 pm

Come meet the artists and enjoy refreshments while browsing the new show! Featured 2-D Artist: Vanaja Mulagada—watercolor and acrylic artist. Featured 3-D Artist: Virginia Sumner—book arts including handbound journals, bookbinding kits, altered books, and books written and illustrated by Virginia.

Media Focus Wall: For the month of March this wall highlights photography and digital art. Classes and Workshops

For more details and a full class list, please see our website, village-galleryarts.org or call the Gallery: 503-644-8001.

Youth Classes

Children's Creative Reuse Art Class

Thursdays: February 6, 13, 20, 27,

3:45 pm-4:45 pm, Ages 7 - 11 years

Children explore their creative potential in a fun, playful and safe environment to learn various art techniques and create fun craft projects. The class will focus on the process rather than the product. This allows students of varying skill levels the opportunity to explore their creativity in a low-pressure environment. Call or visit website for class supply list and more information.

Adult Classes and Workshops

Mary Burgess -- Close Encounters with Juicy Fruit (Watercolor)

Wednesdays: March 11, 18, 25 and April 1, 8, 15, 9:30 am-12:30 pm or 6-9 pm



Juicy Fruit: cherries, by Mary Burgess

Some watercolor experience is helpful.

This six-week class will focus on fruiting elements of the landscape. Whether it is juicy berries, pinecones, rose hips or the like, we will zoom in to discover the possibilities of the plant kingdom in watercolor. Each class begins with a critique and hands-on lesson that applies to the day's concept or technique. Check website for supply list and more details.

Virginia Sumner -- Introduction to Abstract Acrylic Workshop Saturday, March 21, 10 am-3 pm

Beginner to Intermediate Level. Please bring your lunch to maximize workshop classroom time.

The focus here is on getting paint down and tapping into your authentic, expressive, inner self. No worries. We will be keeping things lighthearted and all about fun in this fast-paced workshop. Learn the basics of creating and critiquing abstract art. Throw perfectionism

out the door and step away from expectations of photorealism. Check the Gallery's website for supply list and more details.

Debbie Teeter -- Experimental Watercolor Workshop Wednesday, April 15, 1-4 pm

Bring more play and imagination into your watercolors! This workshop is appropriate for beginners on up. Debbie has been painting since high school, explored watercolors in college and is always up for a new twist. The techniques explored can be used in both representational and non-representational work, and will utilize an eclectic array of "toys." Students will not be creating a painting in class but developing a bank of possibilities which they can then apply to their studio practice. Plan to be loose and have fun! Check website for supply list and more details.

Cedar Mill Farmers Market News

Vendor opportunities

Cedar Mill Farmers Market is currently accepting applications for vendors. The market has some availability in all areas, especially in the following - Hot Food, Wine, Kombucha, Jam/Jelly, bakery and other

tasty items as well as plant starts. Vendors can apply at managemymarket.com.

New market partnerships

So many exciting things are happening at the market this season, including partnering with Sunset Athletic Club and Tualatin Soil & Water District—more news to follow next month. There are plenty of opportunities for businesses in our area to partner with the Farmers Market. If interested, please email ourcmfm@gmail.com.

Internship opportunities

The market is offering internship opportunities – please email ourcmfm@gmail.com if interested in the fields of teaching children or business management. The Farmers Market would love to give interns some insight and hours in their potential fields.

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CPO 1 News**Meet candidates for our State Rep; learn about Library Levy**

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

Most of Cedar Mill is in [Oregon House District 33](#). Mitch Greenlick has represented the district since 2002 but announced last year that he was retiring. Several candidates are running in the May 19 primary to represent us. Three of the candidates are visiting us for this meeting: [Andy Saultz](#), [Maxine Dexter](#), and [Christina Stephenson](#). [Serin Bussell](#) was unable to attend. If none of the candidates wins a majority of the votes, the top two will run in the November election.

The filing deadline is March 10, so if there are any last-minute candidates, we'll try to add them. Each candidate will begin with a brief statement. Our Steering Committee will prepare a few questions for each of them to answer, and then there will be time for questions from members.

Washington County Cooperative Library Services provides funding and services for libraries throughout the county. Measure 34-297 asks voters to renew the existing levy. Peter Leonard, Director of the Cedar Mill Library, will explain the measure and answer questions.

Join us for the March meeting to learn more on these topics. If you can't attend in person, we live-stream the program on the [CPO 1 Facebook page](#).

Catlin Gabel Neighborhood Meeting

Catlin Gabel School held a Neighborhood Meeting on March 2 to discuss their plans for the former campus of the Oregon College of Art & Craft on Barnes Rd., which they purchased last fall.

Head of School Tim Bazemore wrote, "We are planning to repurpose most of the buildings and site features into use as our middle school. On our current campus, we also plan to create a paved, service/delivery driveway accessing Leahy Road from the NE portion of our property.

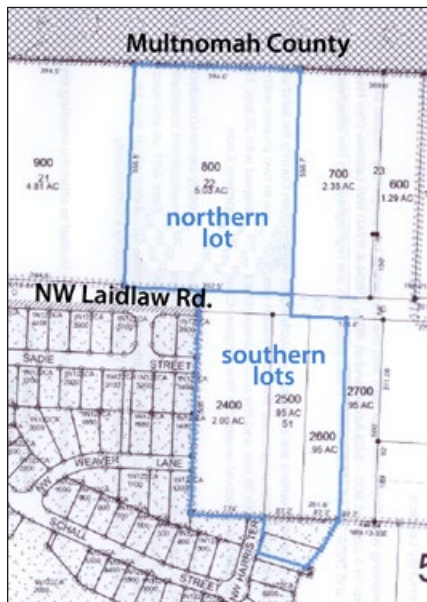
"A future athletics and wellness center will be sited near the existing track, and associated visitor and bus parking will be served by this

internal driveway.

"Prior to applying to the Washington County Department of Land Use & Transportation, we would like to take the opportunity to discuss the proposals in more detail with you."

Laidlaw Road Subdivision Neighborhood Meeting

Tuesday, March 24, 6 pm, TVFR Station 60, 8585 NW Johnson St.



Westlake Consultants is working with Noyes Development and the owners of properties located at 11835 NW Laidlaw (5.03 acres) and 11830 NW Laidlaw (5.2 acres) who are considering applying to Washington County to develop a subdivision on the combined properties. The subdivision would be done in two phases, with the property north of Laidlaw being developed with 18 lots, and the properties south of Laidlaw being developed with 23 lots.

Neighborhood meetings provide a forum for applicant and surrounding property owners to review the proposal and identify issues that may be considered before a land development application is submitted. Plans presented are preliminary and subject to change.

Land Use actions**Laidlaw home proposal**

Developer Brian Nelson received "Approval with Conditions" to build a single-family home on a 1.38 acre lot at 10670 NW Laidlaw Rd. on February 4, but an appeal was filed and there will be a hearing on March 19, 9 am at the County Services Building, 155 N. First St., Hillsboro.

Approximately half of the lot is wetland and thus subtracted from

Continued on page 4

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CPO News, continued from page 3
the total for density purposes. The lot is in the R-6 zone, which calls for five dwellings on the buildable portion. The developer has shown on his plans how an additional four dwellings can fit on the lot. He is required to dedicate a 40' wide public right-of-way between Laidlaw and the lot for future access.

Columbia Sportswear Office

Public Comments will be accepted until March 11 on Columbia's plans for a [new office building](#) on Science Park Drive. To comment, go to the [county website](#) and fill out the form, selecting the correct casefile listed above the form.

Life Time Fitness update

The Life Time company sought a "Director's Interpretation" to determine whether the [Peterkort Planned Unit Development](#) is vested following the commencement of construction for the [parking lot adjacent to Sunset Transit Center](#). On February 5, Cheryl Twete, Beaverton Community Development Director, confirmed that the PUD is vested.

On February 24, "Beaverton Business Owners, LLC" filed an [appeal of that decision](#). A hearing before Beaverton City Council is

scheduled for Tuesday, March 24, 6:30 pm in Council Chambers.

There is still a pending appeal before the Oregon Land Use Board of Appeals, but development may continue while that works its way through LUBA.

Dale development draws LUBA appeal

Following the Washington County Hearings Officer decision to uphold the approval for the [development proposed for the south end of Dale](#) Avenue on January 27, a group of neighbors has filed a notice of intent to appeal to LUBA.

Amphibians, continued from page 4
considered indicator species, which means that their health is an indication of the environment's health. The thin skin allows toxins and pollutants to easily enter their bodies, so they are usually one of the first species to show signs of stress and sickness when something is wrong in the environment. Because of their indicator species status, they are also considered keystone species—species in a habitat or environment that other species are dependent upon. The loss of amphibians in an environment would lead to a drastic change.

Amphibians are predators; Adults eat a variety of insects, snails, slugs, and worms, and tadpoles keep waterways clear by eating algae. Amphibians are also prey; they are eaten by snakes, birds, fish, and many mammals such as raccoons and even coyotes.

The 20 native species of amphibians that live in the Cedar Mill area face many threats. Many wetlands, forested areas, and open fields are being developed, destroying their habitat. Pollution and toxins from agricultural pesticides are infiltrating the ecosystem and killing frogs. To help save amphibians from extinction, you can buy local, organic produce; use natural pesticides in home gardens; avoid polluting streams by not washing cars on streets and driveways; and create habitats in your own backyard, such as ponds.

Amphibians are extremely important to the health of the ecosystem in Cedar Mill.. and have I mentioned they eat mosquitos?!

If you want to learn more about how you can help amphibians, [visit this article from the National Wildlife Federation](#).

History, continued from page 1

1) Update the restoration cost estimate prepared back in 20122) Oversee a feasibility study of whether and where to move the house on the lot

Deciding the best location for the house must take into account drainage problems at the current site, required or desired setbacks from Cedar Mill Creek and Cornell Rd, and the requirement that changes to properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places not compromise historic features.

Though the MOU governs the first phase of work, it sets out a vision for the future in which CMHS will manage the restored property as both a public museum and its own headquarters. Of course, it's a long road to realizing that vision, but we know our next steps.

Once the cost estimate and feasibility study are completed, our goal is to partner with THPRD under a new MOU governing the next phase of work—raising public, private, and non-profit funds to meet the needs identified in Phase 1. Community involvement and support will be vital!



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CM News News

Correction on Brian Simons article

We heard from the sister of [Brian Simons](#), the man who died in Cedar Mill Creek in November 2019. She told us that Simons only had three children with Jennifer and that they had never married. Amanda Simons is currently taking care of the children. She also wanted us to know that his son Eugene, who lives in the area, is not struggling with drugs, is employed, and doing well. We are sorry for the misinformation. We have edited the original article.

New editors!

We received a great response to last month's plea for more volunteers to help edit The News. Some have been working on special projects.

Our Managing Editor Genevieve Coblenz has been working with some of the new folks for this issue. She'll be heading to OSU in the fall, so we will need to find someone with great organizational skills and a good eye for detail to take her place. One of the new volunteers may turn out to be a good fit, but if that's something that interests you, let us know!

PGE bill clarification

Last month, I wrote about [my whopping PGE bill](#). I pointed out that while the Oregon Public Utilities Commission (PUC) had issued a waiver to allow PGE to remedy its previous errors in Equal Pay billing, it hadn't addressed the Oregon statute about incorrect billing.

We eventually received information from PGE and the PUC that the Oregon law only applies to incorrect billing. From PGE, "PGE issued accurate bills for equal pay customer's usage throughout the time period when the true-up function was not working as intended. The amount owed in its entirety (not just the equal pay installment) was available on the monthly bill. The total amount owed was available on the bill. PGE did not under-bill or incorrectly bill customers. For this reason, ORS 757.077, which speaks to a customer being billed an inaccurate amount, does not apply."

We encourage PGE to work to make their bills easier to read and more transparent! And we couldn't argue with the PUC spokesperson who advised us to check our bills carefully!

County committees seek membersCommittees, commissions,

councils, and boards advise the Washington County Board of Commissioners (BCC) on matters of interest to people who live and work in Washington County. The committees do not pass ordinances to establish policy; they study issues and make recommendations. Members are volunteers appointed by the BCC. Serving on an appointed committee is a great way for Washington County residents to participate in decisions that affect them and to learn more about how local government works.

To learn more or to apply, [follow this link to the county website](#).

Here are the titles of opportunities of interest to Cedar Mill residents. The full list will be in [the web version of this issue](#).

Aging and Veteran Services Advisory Council • Audit Committee • Board of Property Tax Appeals • Civil Service Commission • Cultural Coalition of Washington County • Enhanced Sheriff Patrol District/Urban Road Maintenance District Budget Committee • Fair Board • Fairgrounds Advisory Committee • Homeless Plan Advisory Committee • Housing Authority Board of

Directors • North Bethany County Service District for Roads Budget Committee • Park and Recreation Advisory Board • Planning Commission • Public Health Advisory Council • Public Safety Coordinating Council • Washington County and SDL Number One Budget Committee

West Haven Nature Trail Planning Community Meeting

Thursday, March 12, 6:30-7:30 pm, Cedar Mill Library upstairs meeting room

Join Neighbors for Smart Growth (NMSG) and trail planning consultants to help plan a nature trail along North Johnson Creek between SW 90th and 95th Avenues.

The project, located behind Providence St. Vincent Medical Center Campus, is funded by a grant from Metro's Nature in Neighborhoods program. After a brief update, we encourage public feedback on trail route alternatives.

For more information, please contact Jake Mintz with NMSG at mintzpd@gmail.com.

Read The News online:
cedarmillnews.com

Find your pot o' gold at our St. Patrick's Day Party!

Tuesday, March 17th • 2:00 pm

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drinks and appetizers.
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Raising Mason Bees

Saturday, March 7, 10 am-noon PCC Rock Creek Bldg. 4, Room 103

This is the second of three sessions on Mason bees. It focuses on the environmental needs of the mason bees, nesting behaviors of mason bees, nesting and housing devices attractive to mason bees.

Vegetable Gardening Basics

Saturday March 14, 10 am WCMGA Learning Garden at Jenkins Estate

Covers soil preparation, what to plant when, where and how, how often to water and tips to make your garden thrive!

Developing Pollinator Habitat in the Home Garden w/Native and Non-Native plants

Saturday, March 21, 10 am- noon, PCC Rock Creek Bldg. 4, Room 103 & WCMGA Education Garden at PCC Rock Creek

Learn about ways to attract

and provide habitat for a range of pollinators using both native and non-native plants.

For events at the WCMGA Education Garden at PCC Rock Creek, 17705 NW Springville Rd.: No registration needed, free parking: For weekday WCMGA educational events, use the Events Parking Lot behind Building 9. On Saturdays all campus parking areas are free

Soil School 2020!

Saturday, April 11, 8 am-4 pm, Portland Community College, Rock Creek Event Center, 17705 NW Springville Rd, \$35 registration, free parking on Saturday, Light breakfast and full lunch buffets are included.

Soil School is a day-long workshop that includes multiple sessions on a wide variety of topics – all having to do with soil and soil health. Students will have the option again this year to participate in hands-on learning in the Washington County Master Gardener Association Education Garden. Soil School is tailored toward gardeners, landscape professionals, and small scale farmers. [See the agenda and register here.](#)

Small Woodlands Association Native Plant and Tree Sale

Saturday, March 14, Cloverleaf Building at the County Fair Complex

Come check out all the beautiful plants at our annual [Native Plant Sale!](#) Located indoors at the Cloverleaf Building at the Hillsboro Fair Complex, it's a perfect place to get some advice about native plants and buy plants that are sometimes difficult to find at regular nurseries.

Most plants are potted, as noted in the Plant List 2020. We provide native plant experts to help with selection, boxes for handling and transporting the plants, and general volunteers to help collect and carry the plants to your vehicle. Credit cards, cash, and checks are welcome payment. Come early for the best selection. All profits fund high school natural resources education.

Naturescaping Basics

Saturday, March 28, 9:30 am-noon, Tualatin Hills Nature Center, 15655 SW Millikan Way, free, registration required

Join us to learn about naturescaping your yard! This workshop will introduce naturescaping

concepts and basic site planning principles, including: Using native plants to provide layering and



year-round features; Attracting native birds, butterflies, and other pollinators; Creating low maintenance landscapes to conserve water and energy; Preventing pollution through reduction or elimination of chemical use.

[Learn more here and register.](#)

How to Win Friends and Survive a Disaster: 9 Steps to Neighborhood Preparedness

Map Your Neighborhood Training

Monday, March 16, 7 pm, Cedar Hills United Church of Christ, 11695 SW Park Way, free and open to the public.



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- Kate H. 2019



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Imagine the possibility of feeling connected and cared for by your neighbors. We're all in this together! If your power goes out, mine probably does too. If an earthquake hits, we want to be able to help each other as neighbors because emergency services will be overwhelmed in a natural disaster; they won't be able to help us for weeks, if not months. says FEMA and our local government. Your best chance of survival is to be surrounded by people who are knowledgeable and prepared—people who have your back and know what to do. Let's get prepared together and have some fun, before a disaster strikes.

Learn the [magic nine steps](#) for surviving a disaster and how to organize your neighborhood. Statistics show that 70 percent of all survivors of disasters are rescued by other survivors. Your neighbors are your first responders.

For more information, please contact Karen at info.cedarhillsready@gmail.com or visit us at www.cedarhillsready.org. Let's get prepared together.

Allocating increased school funding locally

by Cami Villanueva, CMN intern

Last year, Oregon legislators passed the Student Success Act (SSA), promising to provide one billion dollars annually to Oregon schools. The money will be divided up into three accounts: early learning, statewide education initiatives, and student investment.

\$200 million (20%) will be invested in early learning, helping 15,000 children under the age of five and their parents cultivate education at a young age.

\$300 million (30%) will be used to create new programs and support pre-existing ones that focus primarily on students. Some examples of programs that will benefit from this new investment are summer programs, transportation, child nutrition, and ethnic-specific support programs.

At least \$500 million (50%) will be given to the Student Investment Account (SIA). Beaverton School District (BSD) is currently drafting a plan for the allocation of that fund. The SIA allows Oregon school districts to invest the allotted money in reducing class size, providing a well-rounded education, increasing instructional time, and strengthen-

ing the health and safety of students.

Currently, BSD has placed its focus on two goals: the health and safety of the students, and class size. In the draft plan, the goal for the health and safety of students puts a particular emphasis on addressing behavioral health. All schools in BSD, including option schools, will see an increase in social workers and counselors.

"I'm hopeful that the SSA will help support ongoing mental health efforts at our school, both proactively reaching our students on issues of anxiety, stress, and more, and responding in ways that help students who are in crisis," said Mr. Bjorn Paige, the principle of Arts and Communications Magnet Academy (ACMA).

As for the class sizes, BSD will hire more teaching staff for core classes in grades K-12 depending on the number of students who identify as navigating through poverty.

Middle schoolers will see an expansion of their electives. As exciting as it is to see the student to teacher ratio be lowered in core classes, some say that is not enough.


"Experience tells us that elec-

tives are always the first to be cut when cuts are necessary, but are not, then, the first to be recovered...Electives courses have been lost completely...every semester, students are turned away from electives because there is just not room for them," a BSD instructor said in a post on Next Door.

Feedback like this is what helps BSD improve. As wonderful as the new Student Success Act is, BSD needs help from community members, like you, to decide how to use the new money in order to give students the best educational experience possible. [On the Beaverton School District webpage](#), there is a place community members can learn more about the Student Success Act and provide feedback on the current draft plan.

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BSD Middle School decision due soon

Since fall 2019, a committee of parents, staff, and administrators have been working to create a plan to change the boundaries of Beaverton School District (BSD) Middle Schools in anticipation of the "Timberland" MS which will open in fall 2021. (Before it opens, the new middle school will receive an official name, chosen by the BSD Board.)

Rapid growth in housing in the northern and southern areas of the district has resulted in the need to build new schools. Resulting boundary changes are never going to please everyone. Those of us who grew up in established neighborhoods with unchanging school boundaries find it very difficult to understand. It's hard for kids and families to form life-long friendships. The value of a school in creating a community of parents and kids gets lost in the effort, and it's frustrating. The past decisions of BSD make the situation worse, siting schools in less than optimal places, for example.

The decision about when and where to build new schools is driven by the Long Range facility plan (last updated in 2010), the money available through approved bond measures (the 2014 Capitol Bond), and the available land supply.

In 2003, the Beaverton School District (BSD) condemned and then purchased a [14-acre parcel in the middle of the former Teufel Nursery](#) property for a future school site. (This led to the Teufel family deciding to sell the entire property for development.) Following condemnation, according to Oregon Law, the land must be used "for a public purpose" within ten years of the action.

[Planning for a middle school](#) began in 2010, but funds were still needed. By July 2013 BSD announced plans for a new Capital Bond to finance construction. To avoid forfeiting the site, [BSD partnered with THPRD](#) to build a playing field on the site in 2014.

Bond measures have to identify specific projects that will be built with the money. The identified projects for the 2014 Bond included both the high school that was built in the south end of the district and the new Timberland Middle School. After voters approved the measure in May 2014, the [district issued plans](#) for the middle school. It would function as a "swing school" to house students from a series of

projects to rebuild or greatly remodel older schools. The 2014 Bond also financed those projects.

A Bethany parent (LC) sent us a question about the Middle School Boundary process, and it led to a dialog between that parent and CPO 7 veteran Mary Manseau, who has been following BSD planning for many years. Here's some of that dialog.

LC: *I am a parent in the Springville neighborhood and I am following Cedar Mill News' coverage of the BSD process with great interest. In previous articles in 2016 and 2017, CMN correctly pointed out that BSD is overcrowded in North Bethany and will face issues. Now BSD is pushing to bus Springville students to Five Oaks instead of constructing a new middle school in North Bethany.*

MM: Change is never easy and I understand your frustration with the process. But please understand this is not the first time and will not be the last time that boundaries will change. Boundaries in a rapidly growing school district are in constant flux. I have two children and have lived in my neighborhood (next door to Stoller) for almost 40 years.

In the time I've lived here, there have been three comprehensive high schools, two middle schools, and too many new elementary schools to keep track of constructed. Prior to the opening of Stoller, all middle school children had to be transported to schools south of 26. My son attended Terra Linda, Cedar Park and Sunset. My daughter attended Terra Linda, Findley, Stoller and Sunset. Neighborhood children slightly older than mine, attended Terra Linda, Meadow Park and Sunset. Before I moved into my current home, neighborhood children attended McKinley, Five Oaks and Aloha.

BSD does not have a middle school site or a high school site in North Bethany. During the planning for North Bethany, community members pushed BSD administrators to purchase land in North Bethany for one or both of these schools without success.

Because the school district is required to negotiate with property owners for school sites, they are in direct competition with developers for land purchases. If the school sites are not purchased well in advance of development, the school district can be forced to locate schools in less than desirable locations. When purchased well in advance, the school district is gambling on where the school sites will

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be needed. Stoller was built too far east. The problem was compounded when the decision was made to build on Timberland, placing another middle school on the eastern side of the district.

The school district does have an option for another middle school north of 26 when additional funding is available. Rock Creek Elementary is constructed on a site that is large enough to be converted into a middle school. At one point, the plan was to use the elementary school site east of Westview High School to construct an elementary school to replace Rock Creek Elementary and then convert/rebuild Rock Creek into a middle school. It is unclear whether this is still considered a BSD option for the future.

LC: Do you have updated long range plan info from BSD?

MM: The last update to the long-range plan was in 2010. Additional work was done (to include information from the 2010 census) prior to the decisions on the 2014 Bond Measure, but it was not incorporated into the facility plan. I heard rumblings last year that BSD was going to begin an update to the long-range plan, but haven't heard anything more since. I'm guessing the boundary work has prevented staff from working on the update. I'm hoping they will wait for updated numbers from the 2020 census before moving forward with the update. Here's a link for the [2010 facility plan](#).

LC: Do you know why BSD seems to favor Findley and Jacob Wismer (JW) Elementary kids over Springville? (e.g. these 2 schools could have SUMMA and JW stay at Stoller while Springville is bused away.)

MM: None of the options are good for everyone. Priority seems to be given to "walkers." JW boundaries surround Stoller and almost all the students can walk. Many of Findley's children are also walkers. Because SUMMA is an "option" school, I'm not sure why SUMMA would be given priority over other children in area.

LC: As someone who has had experience dealing with BSD, what would you recommend Springville neighborhood do to make sure its students are not bused all the way to Five Oaks? The Springville community has tried various advocacy campaigns, even going on television

to tell their story.

I believe it makes logical and geographical sense to move Findley students + SUMMA to Timberland. That would leave enough room in Stoller for Springville + Sato + Jacob Wismer.

LC: What else can be done to make BSD reconsider their strategy?

MM: Unfortunately, there is little you can do to convince BSD that the wants of Springville parents/students outweigh the needs of the school district. If this were just a question of whether to move Findley or Springville, the conversation would be a whole lot different. There are other factors coming into play

Park and the under-enrollment at Cedar Park

LC: One concern is that this map doesn't address 2025 overcrowding at Stoller.

MM: From the 2010 Long Range facility plan, 1100 students is the "Typical Target Enrollment" for middle schools. If you choose to go after the enrollment numbers, this is a number you might find useful. The county also charges a Transportation Development Tax (TDT) that is based upon the number of students enrolled. It is intended to address growth-related traffic volumes. Rightly or wrongly, this charge is not levied on portables (because they are considered temporary)—so this student number might also be used to justify limiting enrollment.

LC: Do you know if the BSD projections for population growth are correct, or could it over- or under-forecast growth? I did have correspondence with Ken Rencher at Washington County Long Range Planning, and he indicated one model of growth for North Bethany shows residential growth from 1700 housing units today to about 2300 units in 2030.

MM: Projections are guesses. To a certain extent, BSD can rely on internal projections for middle school students—for example, last year's fifth graders will be this year's sixth graders. BSD also tracks status of approved housing developments and can estimate numbers of children based upon past history. At times BSD has had difficulty even projecting growth one year out—five years out can get really murky.

I believe all area jurisdictions, including Metro, City of Beaverton, BSD and Washington County, use Portland State's Population Research Center for longer term population forecasting. The most recent copy of BSD forecast I have in my files is from April 2012 (would have been based on the 2010 census data) and I believe it was prepared for the 2014 Bond Measure. I'm not sure if BSD's current long-term projections are based upon internal numbers or on updated PSU numbers.

My recommendation for you and your friends

Take a step back to look at the problem. What can be done to prevent the next boundary change from being so painful? Although the location of the school is a hot

button issue for some, the lack of a clean feeder system seems to be an issue district wide. If all elementary schools fed to a middle school without being split and if all middle school fed to a high school without being split, would much of the angst of the boundary process be resolved? If so, should parent comments be focused on encouraging BSD to take steps with the next bond measure to create a clean feeder system? Be sure you understand the plans for a future bond measure before supporting it. Make sure the bond measure will actually solve a problem—instead of creating a bigger problem for you. Even though I was aware of the overcrowding issues in the district, I did not vote for the 2014 bond measure because I felt it was building schools in the wrong places.

Stay engaged when the long-range facility plan is updated. This document helps to determine when and where new schools are built and school sites are acquired.

Five Oaks Museum presents Forest Grove Indian School talk

Saturday, March 7, 11 am, Chemawa Indian School, 3700 Chemawa Rd NE, Salem. Admission is free for Five Oaks members, and \$12 for general admission. Purchase tickets online at [Brown Paper Tickets](#) using keywords "Five Oaks Museum."

Until a few decades ago, it was the U.S. federal policy to take children away from Native American families and place them in boarding school. These schools punished students for any expression of their Native cultures or languages.

One of the earliest such boarding schools opened in Forest Grove in 1880 and operated there until 1885. Its descendant, Chemawa Indian School, is still open today in Salem. The school has had profound and lasting effects on the tribes of the Pacific Northwest.

This talk will include images and maps of the school, and will speak of the forces that drove its founding. It will also describe the daily life of students and how we can confront the boarding school systems legacy of trauma.

Ticket proceeds will support the creation of an after-school art program for students at Chemawa Indian School.

Five Oaks Museum is open to the public Wednesdays through Fridays from 12-4 pm and Saturdays 10 am to 4 pm.

Next Middle School Boundary Advisory Committee Meeting

Thursday, March 12, 6:30-8:30 pm, Mountain View Middle School, 17500 SW Farmington Road, Meeting Objective: Finalize boundary recommendation

Due to the volume of comments and the availability of staff, there may be a delay in posting comments to the website. We will continue to review and post comments as quickly as possible.

including, but not limited to, balancing enrollment at the other middle schools in the district, trying to limit middle school splits into no more than two high schools, and trying to provide equal economic diversity between the schools.

Distance seems to matter only when walking is an option. When Stoller opened, Terra Linda and Oak Hills were both closer to Stoller than Rock Creek and both schools lobbied hard to be able to attend Stoller. Ultimately, Rock Creek, Findley and a portion of Bethany were selected to attend Stoller (JW, Springville and Sato did not exist yet). A portion of Bethany was included in Stoller's boundaries because the children living in this area were walkers.

LC: What do you think of the newest map posted by BSD on the middle school boundary website?

MM: It still seems to need some refinement. Problems that still could be addressed:

The feeder patterns for Stoller, with students feeding to Stoller being only a portion of JW

The feeder pattern from Meadow Park with students being split between three high schools, with the bulk being fed to Westview, a small portion of Barnes and Oak Hills feeding to Sunset, and a small portion of Barnes being sent to Beaverton

The over-enrollment at Meadow



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Business News, continued from page 2

Local talent wanted for new Market season

The Farmers Market looks forward to seeing friends & community members at the market. Market season Saturdays are so much fun! It has been a long winter and spring/summer is sounding so good. We can't wait to see the beautiful produce from our amazing farmers and eating fresh locally grown foods! We are looking to showcase some local talent; email ourcmfm@gmail.com if you might be interested!

Touchmark events

Touchmark in the West Hills invites the public to participate in the following complimentary events. Touchmark is located adjacent to Southwest Barnes and Leahy roads at 840 SW Touchmark Way. To attend, RSVP to 503-954-1640.

Lunch and learn: staging & prepping your home to sell

Monday, March 10, 11 am

Real estate agent Kristin Del Balzo will share a broad overview of the issues and terms you may encounter when selling your home and provide guidance on getting your home ready to sell, now or in the future. A complimentary lunch will be served.

Parkinson's support group
Wednesday, March 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.

St. Patrick's Day pub crawl
Tuesday, March 17, 10 am-2 pm

Hop on the party bus for a festive celebration of all things Irish! Wear green and join the fun to visit several of Portland's best beer spots. The first stop is Kells Irish Brewery. Next up is Paddy's for lunch and entertainment with a visit to Jake's for Irish coffee drinks to cap off the day. Cost, which includes transportation, commemorative shirt, and cover charges: \$30. Call 503-946-5412 to RSVP by March 8.

Meet the artist event
Thursday, March 19, 4 pm

Originally from Poughkeepsie, New York, Julie Perini has lived in Portland since 2007. An Associate Professor in the School of Art and Design at Portland State University, she makes experimental and documentary videos/films, installations, two-dimensional works, and events.

She holds a Master of Fine Art from the Department of Media Study at the University at Buffalo and a Bachelor of Science from Cornell University.

Caregiver Dementia support group
Wednesday, March 25, 5:30 pm

This supportive group of individuals meets the fourth Wednesday of each month to share the challenges of living with and caring for someone who has dementia.

Ackerly public events

All events are at The Ackerly at Timberland, 11795 NW Cedar Falls Drive, and are free, but RSVP is required by calling 503-350-3400.

Weekly open house
Tuesdays, 1-3 pm

\$2 espressos in Miller's Pub. Come visit the community, have a coffee, beer, or glass of wine in our Pub. This is a low-key alternative to a formal tour of the property.

Senior fitness class
Wednesdays, March 4 & 18, April 1, 2-2:45 pm

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

Infinity rehab wellness talk

Thursday, March 26, 1 pm

Good posture is important to our overall health. Decreased flexibility, back, neck, and shoulder pain, problems with balance, and even breathing difficulties can all be the result of poor posture. Come to the Infinity Rehab Wellness Talk and learn what you can do to improve your posture!

The Main Differences Between Traditional and Roth IRAs

An Individual Retirement Account, or IRA, is a plan for retirement provided by financial institutions with either a tax-deferred basis or tax-free growth. With an IRA you are essentially investing money and letting it grow until retirement. This year, the IRS increased the amount you can contribute to your retirement accounts up to \$6,000 for IRAs.

There are two main types of IRAs: Traditional and Roth. One key difference between Roth and Traditional plans is how contributions are taxed. Here's how they compare:

Traditional plans are sometimes also referred to as "regular" plans. You can invest pre-tax income

in traditional accounts. So one advantage of traditional accounts is that when you contribute money, you can generally write off the contribution as a tax deduction, thereby lowering your tax bill. One disadvantage of traditional plans is that you generally can't withdraw money without penalty until age 59-1/2, and you pay taxes on the money as you withdraw.

Unlike a traditional IRA, contributions to a Roth IRA are made using money that's already been taxed. Contributions to a Roth IRA are never tax-deductible. While there's no tax benefit up-front, your earnings within the account grow tax-free, and withdrawals made during retirement are also tax-free.

The money you contribute to a Roth IRA can be removed at any time for any reason but a 10% early distribution penalty tax will apply to the taxable amount unless you meet one of the IRS's early distribution penalty tax exceptions. You can keep adding to your Roth IRA well into retirement, no matter your age.

If you have questions about which IRA is best for you, or would like more information, contact Debbie at Sunset Credit Union at 503-643-1335, or visit the CU at 1100 NW Murray Blvd.

New Business spotlight

Great Notion Brewing & Barrel House

Sunday-Thursday, 11 am-10pm,
Friday-Saturday, 11 am-11 pm, 230
NW Lost Springs Terrace in the
Timberland Center

Cedar Mill is the latest location for the popular beer maker, best known for its hazy, fruit-forward IPAs and "culinary-inspired" sours and stouts. Great Notion's Taproom features 20 taps, house-smoked BBQ food, and beer to-go. Be sure to check out the nearly-collectible labels on the cans, featuring a cast of fantastic forest creatures.

The BBQ menu includes oak-smoked pulled pork, smoked shredded chicken thighs, Juice Jr. Hot Links, smoked Ota tofu, wagon wheel mac and cheese, Double Stack baked beans, cauliflower coleslaw, pimento cheese pasta salad, three-bean salad and more. GNB offers homemade sauces, including Juice Jr. Hot Sauce, Radio Silence Piedmont Sauce, Carolina Gold Mustard Sauce, and Eastern Carolina Vinegar Sauce.

The location, formerly Ava's Roasteria, is 2000 square feet of indoor space, with roll up garage

doors leading to a beautiful elevated stone beer garden. Remodeling construction was provided by Centrex Construction who also built GNB's NW 28th location. Plans were provided by Thesis Studio. A multi-shade green forest mural was hand painted by Brian Devine, and large scale GNB-character artwork illustrated by Chad Eaton. Dogs are allowed on the patio.

For more information, follow @greatnotionbeaverton and/or @greatnotion (main brand) on Instagram, and find [more information here](#).

All Ears Elephant Foundation Trunk 'n Groove Concert

Sunday, April 5, 3 pm, Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 14175 NW Cornell Rd., \$10

by Shawna Muckle

Support the All Ears Elephant Foundation, a charity and educational nonprofit founded by Rachel Carson School eighth grader Katelyn Haslebach, at a benefit concert dedicated to protecting endangered elephants. Trunk 'n Groove features a performance by award-winning local concert rock violinist and former Pink Martini member Aaron Meyer, as well as a performance by Katelyn herself. There will be a raffle for great prizes, along with All Ears merchandise for sale. All proceeds benefit the All Ears Elephant Foundation.

Katelyn founded the All Ears Elephant Foundation after visiting Thailand last summer and learning about the plight that tourism, poaching, and other harmful human practices have wrought upon wild elephants in Thailand and other south Asian countries.

"Before we went [to Thailand], I researched a ton about elephants. I researched their body language to be completely ready," Katelyn said. "While we were there I learned even more at the sanctuaries we visited. I decided to start the foundation."

Katelyn's goals for the foundation are to raise money for existing sanctuaries that are dedicated to providing security for former working elephants abroad; and to educate the public on the current dangers imperiling elephants, including tourism and the EEHV virus. All Asian elephants carry the EEHV virus, but only some are physically affected by it. If affected at a young age, an elephant may die within a few hours or days, making finding a vaccine critical for protecting wild and zoo elephants.

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