

PIONEER VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

March, 2021



A Note from the Board

Hello Pioneer Villagers! With spring almost here, your PVHA Board is excited to share neighborhood updates in this edition of what is happening in our neighborhood. I think after a year of many challenges we all are hoping for better times and some of them are already happening right around us.

Fortunately, we have pitched in to maintain our homes and roads. We also are diversifying our forest by planting new trees, and adding native plants. Details on the next pages!

At the same time, we are preparing for dangers that we could face together. You will read about ways we are watching out for each other's security, and beginning the "mapping" of our neighborhood to be better prepared to help each other after a major disaster such as an earthquake or fire.

Last year, we were introduced to the "Map Your Neighborhood" program to prepare our community for disasters. We are now piloting this with about 18 of our member families on and near McLoughlin Drive. We are sharing tips on how we can better help our families and our neighbors. Studies of responses to past disasters show that the first "Golden hour" after the disaster hits is the most critical toward recovery and helping each other, often before the official first responders arrive. We will be organizing other groups of 10 to 15 families throughout the year and will need your participation to do this.

There is a lot coming up in the next few months for our Village as well! Including our **2021 Annual Member Meeting which will still be an evening mid-May**. As of now, that meeting will be via Zoom. Look for more information about the meeting and specific topics to be covered in the meeting soon.

John Deuel
PVHA Secretary/Fire & Safety Committee Director

DID YOU KNOW???

While we can often find ourselves wasting food unintentionally, there are a series of tips to help reduce the food and value that we must throw out when food goes bad. For info on how to waste less food and \$\$\$ pick up a flier at the mailboxes or visit SustainableCorvallis.org

Recently Approved ACC Applications

Thank you everyone for continuing to submit ACC applications for the improvement of your lots and tree removals! Here are the recent applications the ACC has approved and you may notice in the near future (if not already):

- Lot 9: Hazard/Dead Tree Removal
- Lot 55: Privacy Fence & Deck Addition

Please keep the applications coming as we enter the summer projects season and don't hesitate to email if you have questions about the ACC process or a project you want to complete.

Community Security

Over the last few months there has been several isolated security concerns come up around the neighborhood. PVHA is a member of the National Neighborhood Watch program and wanted to provide a few tips to continue to promote a safe community.

- 1) Be observant - keep an eye on traffic in your corner of the neighborhood
- 2) Know your neighbor - make sure you feel comfortable talking with your surrounding neighbors and discuss how much neighbor "surveillance" you each are comfortable with.
- 3) Realized that suspicious activity can be anything that makes you feel uncomfortable or seems out of place, regardless of time of day or situation.
- 4) Don't be afraid to call the sheriff if you notice suspicious activity or bring it to someone's attention.

We all have the ability to form a community security system through our observations and communication. Please don't hesitate to alert the Board when you notice suspicious activity or have concerns but realize that our local sheriffs are our key resource in dealing with these issues and their non-emergency number is (541) 766-6858.

Also please let the Board know if you would be interested in us hosting an informational Neighborhood Watch presentation/training.



What's been going on?



Here is what has happened since our last newsletter.

- **Road Work:** Road maintenance work was finally completed during a dry spell in January. We also are continuing to get some more reflectors out around the roads. Due to budget constraints, we will not be doing a formal pothole repair project but have provided a community gravel pile down at the bus shelter for each of us to use to fill the potholes that drive us all crazy on the community roads. Let us know if there are any questions.
- **Tree Day 2021:** This year we were able to distribute and plant 220 seedlings around the neighborhood. The seedlings were a mix of Douglas-fir and Western Red Cedar, which are both native to the area. The goal of these plantings is to keep a sustainable, diverse, and healthy forest growing up underneath our existing forest stand to keep PVHA green for many years to come!
- **Native Plant Project:** As we move into spring, you are invited to keep watch on the Native Plant Restoration area at the north end of the field to help catalogue the plants that emerge, grow, and flower. The seed mix that was applied includes 22 species of flowering plants and five species of grasses, all native to Willamette Valley prairies. Also included are lupins that are required by the endangered Fenders Blue Butterfly, which may hopefully recolonize our field once the plants grow. More info on this project with a link to plant species info is on the website.
- **Storm Cleanup:** Overall we fared pretty well this winter compared to some of our surrounding area. We still however had several waves of winter storms hit that brought serious rain, winds, snow and ice. Through all of these neighbors have worked to keep roads clear of down trees and limbs and ditches flowing where they need to. Thank you all for your hard work!!! The Board will continue to try and remove potential hazard trees and budget for replacing troublesome culverts but thank you all for your effort to keep our roads open and functional after and during these storm events.

Upcoming Events & Projects

- **Emergency Route Drive:** We are looking to coordinate a "fire drill" drive of our Emergency Evacuation Route off of Greasy Creek Drive one weekend in late April. We hope to have someone



from Starker Forests and the County to help talk about the evacuation route's history, maintenance, and accessibility to our community. More info will be posted a couple weeks prior to the event.

- **McLoughlin Drive Turnaround:** We have been working with a local engineer to develop a turnaround concept at the end of McLoughlin Drive. We recently met with Fire Captain Saalsaa and are proposing a customized turnaround which should minimize construction costs and the disturbance to neighboring properties and achieve fire department access needs. We plan to meet with the surrounding neighbors soon then propose the plan to the whole neighborhood at our Annual Meeting.
- **Barlow Road Repairs:** One thing that was mentioned in the Annual Meeting that didn't get completed this summer/fall was the repair work from the single vehicle accident on Barlow Road over the culvert by McLoughlin Drive. Due to contractor availability, insurance payments and when the rains hit, we weren't comfortable digging into the road this fall but will be looking to do a fairly significant repair to fortify and make that a safer crossing this upcoming summer.
- **ODF Chipping Event:** ODF will be sponsoring another chipping event to promote our community's wildfire safety. The pile is already huge down by the bus shelter so thank you for already removing these potential fuels! As more material is being added please try to keep limbs facing the same direction and avoid compressing the piles as much as possible. Also remember only drop off material 6" or less in diameter and that no construction materials can be processed.
- **Annual Meeting:** Our Annual Meeting will be held mid-May and is anticipated to be a virtual meeting via Zoom again. Per several requests, we will be providing meeting background information on the website a week prior to the meeting date for everyone's review so that hopefully we can just hit the key points, answer questions during the meeting and keep it shorter than last year.

Contact Information

We love to hear more from all of you!

WEBSITE: pvha.us

EMAIL: admin@pvha.us

MAIL: P.O. Box 311, Philomath

-OR- Community Mailbox

