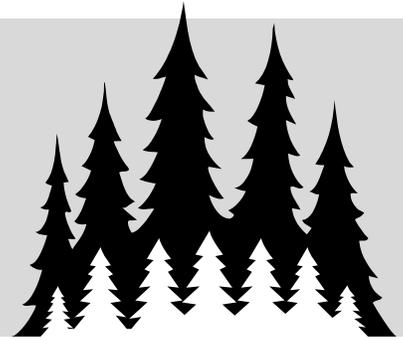


Mirrormont News

A beautiful community nestled in the trees of Tiger Mountain's southwestern foothills



January 2017

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The Joy of Mirrormont

By Griffin B. Cole

The Mirrormont neighborhood answered the call for giving during this holiday season. It was not a surprise though, as it is a common occurrence from residents all year round.

As a Volunteer Coordinator for Catholic Community Services (CCS), it was a pleasure to receive a call to pick up a bunch of Shoeboxes of Joy (SOJ) from my own neighborhood. CCS's Volunteer Services works with elders and adults with disabilities statewide without regard to race or religion, and collects SOJs from organizations for the holiday season. SOJs are given to seniors and sometimes it is the only holiday gift they receive.

Organized by Mary Nelson and Heidi Kayler, the boxes were stuffed and wrapped by a dozen teens, moms and elders after a call out to the community. Over 30 families contributed items like gloves, canned foods, books, and sundry



Photo by Sharon Farrar

Shoeboxes of Joy donated by the wonderful residents of Mirrormont fill Griffin Cole's car. The boxes go to seniors.

See Charitable, Page 11

Traffic: Woes and Complexities

By Linda Shepherd

When I moved to Mirrormont in 1988, it was a 10-minute drive to Issaquah. In the past three years, we've all noticed a dramatic increase in pass-through traffic along the Issaquah-Hobart Rd. Most cars come from the Growth Management Act's designated urban growth areas: Enumclaw, Black Diamond, Covington, and Maple Valley. As a result, the traffic situation has been going from an annoyance to a nuisance

to a problem to a crisis.

As part of our Speaker's Program, the MCA hosted a Traffic Talk meeting to dialogue with representatives from Issaquah City Council and King County Council. We also gained insights from Mirrormont resident Chad Magendanz, our House Representative at the time.

I learned a lot at the Nov. 22nd Regional Transportation Summit, where 11 mayors from Renton to North Bend reported

similar traffic woes.* While SR 900, SR 18, and SR 169 are supposed to carry growth-area traffic, they have choke points, so commuters have been using Issaquah-Hobart Rd, a King County road with a rural recreational corridor designation. Mayor Fred Butler named it the Poster Child for our regional traffic problem and called for collaboration among jurisdictions. Unlike the 12-year controversy over the Issaquah By-

See Traffic, Page 10

About Your MCA Board

MCA Board Candidates

President
 VP Architecture
 VP Membership
 VP Parks
 Treasurer
 Secretary

Linda Shepherd
 June Schuck
 Lisa Lux
 Maryfrances Lignana
 Mary Nelson
 Jennifer Schori*

president@mirrormont.org
 architecture@mirrormont.org
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 parks@mirrormont.org
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 Director—Webmaster
 Director—Safety
 Director—Blockwatch
 Director—Welcome

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 Chris Gunderson
 Lynnette Eastlake
 Open
 Linda Shepherd

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 webmaster@mirrormont.org
 safety@mirrormont.org
 blockwatch@mirrormont.org
 welcome@mirrormont.org

* New for 2017

Profiles and photos of incumbents are on our website

Please consider volunteering for one of the open positions—contact president@mirrormont.org

Meet the New MCA Candidate

Jennifer Schori



Dr. Schori is originally from Westminster, CA, but moved as a young child to Pennsylvania. Her experiences as a West Coast-East Coast transplant helped her understand the difficulties faced by children when moving to very different environments, as did the stories told by her Austrian-born father and her mother, whose grandparents hailed from Norway.

Jennifer realized at a very early age that she wanted to be a veterinarian but “didn’t think they’d let me” because she was a girl. With encouragement from family and teachers and a heavy dose of self-motivation, she achieved her dream and continues working to try to help others achieve theirs.

In 1993, Jennifer graduated from the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine. Five years later, she

found a way to merge her love for veterinary medicine, writing, and teaching by joining a veterinary publishing company. Leaders from that company formed their own new veterinary publishing company in 2002. Jennifer has worked for them from its inception and has since earned a Master of Science in Learning Technology from Drexel University. She believes education and learning are life-long endeavors and hopes to continue motivating and teaching as long as she possibly can.

East Meets West

By Jennifer Schori

What happens when you mix East Coast reticence with the West Coast vibe? Well, I’m still working on that one.

My husband and I moved here to Mirrormont this summer from semi-rural southern New Jersey, carting our two reluctant children (ages 11 and 13), a dog, two cats, and my beloved citrus trees. Ian, the husband, is English born and bred. I am originally from Southern California—before they started calling it SoCal—but lived most of my life in Philadelphia. Our children, on the other hand, have not known much else than the very tight-knit, tiny community we lived in.

The change has been dramatic, yet eye-opening,

for our children. From a one-traffic-light town to a town of, well, TRAFFIC, and a Pre-K through 8th grade of 400 students to a school where each *grade* has at least 400 students, we have had quite some adjustments to make. Yet, we all seem to be making those adjustments.

Determined to immerse myself in our new environment, perhaps out of fear of being too isolated, I hopped on board the MCA train and have had the incredible surprise and pleasure of seeing just how amazing Mirrormont is.

We are a diverse group of individuals and families here and the face of Mirrormont has been evolving since its inception in the

See East, Page 10

Does Your Fire Hydrant Need Attention?

By Linda Shepherd

Did you know that homeowners are responsible for maintaining access to fire hydrants?

After a house in Mirrormont burned last April, I heard that firefighters had trouble hooking up the hoses to the fire hydrant serving that location because it had gotten partially buried and overgrown. They wasted valuable time digging and clearing. If it had happened during the dry season, those minutes could have been critical. This is an issue that impacts all of us in this forested community.

To sort out who is responsible for what, I met with ER&R/Fire District 10's Capt. Ducey at Fire Station 78, who showed me the relevant Washington Administrative Codes (WAC). I learned that the water purveyor is responsible for testing, maintenance, and painting of fire hydrants.

So I corresponded with Scott Bailey, General Manager of Washington Water Service Company. He provided me with addresses for Mirrormont's hydrants and their maintenance schedule. Painting is on a five-year schedule, and will next occur in 2017. For maximum visibility, the body will be reflective yellow and the bonnet will be coded as follows:

BLUE: 1500 GPM or more
very good flows

GREEN: 1000-1499 GPM
good for residential areas

ORANGE: 500-999 GPM
marginally adequate

RED: below 500 GPM
inadequate

Their maintenance consists of flowing the hydrant, operating all valves, inspection to insure proper operation, documentation, and preventative maintenance. Mirrormont Services installed al-

most all of our hydrants in 1966-69.

Fire hydrant code states, "The owner/occupant of any area in which a hydrant is located shall be responsible for removing weed and tree growth from around the hydrant for a distance of no less than a 36-inch radius, also maintaining an eight-foot clear space at the edge of the road directly in front of the hydrant and area between the road and the hydrant. Continuous maintenance is required." The center of the lowest outlet must be no less than 18 inches above the ground for clearance of the hydrant wrench used to attach the hoses.

I recently liberated the hydrant on my property, which trailing blackberries had wrapped in bondage.

Please take responsibility for bringing your fire hydrant up to code—or help your neighbor to do so.

Our lives may depend on it.

Mirrormont Community Association

Annual Meeting

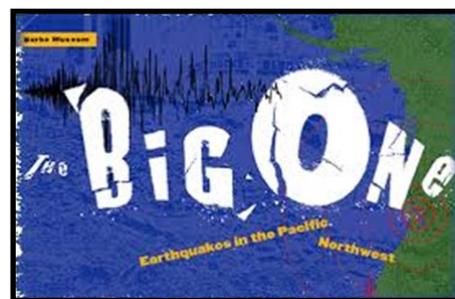
Tuesday, January 17, 2016 – 7 PM
At the Clubhouse, 25500 Mirrormont Drive

Come learn what your MCA Board has accomplished in 2016 to make Mirrormont an even better place to live—and what plans are in the works for 2017. Contribute your ideas and vote for your 2017 MCA Board. Arrive early to view displays about Mirrormont's history. Our annual meeting is a wonderful opportunity to connect with people who post on Nextdoor, meet new neighbors, and catch up with friends.

Geology & Earthquakes in Mirrormont

Geologist Andy Wade will talk about Mirrormont's geological history and what might be expected here during a big earthquake. How did Tiger Mountain form? How close are we to major fault lines? What makes up our underlying geological "foundation"? What is glacial till and how deep does it go?

There was quite a bit in the news over the past two years about earthquakes, including the July 2015 *New Yorker* article and Sandi Doughton's book *Full Rip 9.0: The Next Big Earthquake in the Pacific Northwest*. On Oct. 2, 2016, a 2.9 magnitude earthquake was centered near Mirrormont, plus a 2.7 on Nov 8th.



How can we prepare? How can we assess whether our foundations need stabilization? Andy grew up here and now works for Pile King, which underpins structures, so he can discuss how to avoid damage such as what occurred with the triple A-frame Channel 7 House during the 2001 Nisqually quake.

All Mirrormont residents are welcome and refreshments will be served!

Mirrormont Mail Issues and Possible Solutions

By Jerry Orr

Mail issues have been a primary concern among many of the residents in the Mirrormont neighborhood. These issues include mail theft and timely mail delivery. There are measures to take which you, as residents, can implement to avoid theft and assist in the timely delivery of our mail. However, as a whole, our rural area has improved dramatically regarding mail delivery issues; but can we completely avoid theft?

The answer to my last question is yes and no. Theft will likely never disappear entirely. Conversely, there are precautions to take to lessen your chances of falling victim to this annoying crime. One possible solution is a cluster box, which can be requested from the post office if accompanied by a letter of intent from all affect-

ed residents. Purchasing the box is up to the affected neighbors and can be found online. Cluster boxes are large bays of neighborhood mailboxes all centrally located in one area. These boxes are locked, which decreases the chance of theft, and they are also grounded by a cement foundation.

Another solution is security, such as cameras or mailbox alert sensors. Cameras, including trail cameras and wireless security cameras, can be installed to capture license plates and/or faces, which greatly improves the chance that thieves will be caught and prosecuted. Mailbox sensors are relatively new devices, which can be installed in boxes to wirelessly alert the resident when their box has been opened. These precautions are not perfect, but are a vast improvement from leaving your-

self blind to theft.

According to Postmaster Eric Stanley, theft is most common during the holidays and around graduation season. Statistically, reported singular incidents are down from 41 in 2015 to 30 in 2016 through October, the last date statistics were available.

As a resident of the Mirrormont area, I have personally experienced mail theft several times in my twelve years of residency. While the trend is decreasing, it is still a violation of our privacy among other things and still occurs often enough that everyone should be concerned.

Mail delivery, a less impactful problem, has improved since Postmaster Stanley took the position in 2015. He suggests visible house number signs as the best and most important improvement to

increase successful delivery rates. Since Postmaster Stanley signed on, Issaquah Post Office has improved in rank from worst in the state at 1,632, to 1,100.

Mail issues are improving, but are still a concern among Mirrormont residents. If you have questions, Postmaster Stanley welcomes you to e-mail him at:

Eric.J.Stanley@usps.gov.

Report mail theft to the King County Sheriff's Office at (206) 296-4155. Your local home improvement stores carry devices such as locking mailboxes and sensors, and local contractors can install locking mailbox bays. Even a sticker on your mailbox indicating a security system is in place could help deter theft. A couple precautionary measures could help you avoid a possibly long-term problem.

MCA Schedules New Programs for Upcoming Year

By Linda Shepherd

Devoted members of the MCA Board work diligently all year long. Mary Nelson, Lisa Lux and I even took on multiple roles. We thank the 287 families out of 600 households

who paid their \$50 annual dues for 2016, and are grateful for all volunteers who made the events listed on p. 11 happen!

In 2015, we introduced the Firewise Program and Chipper

Week. In 2016, we added the Talent Show, Tour of Historic Homes, Signpost Program, and Safety/Emergency Preparedness Program. And the Welcome Committee, Connie Harris and I, gave a record-setting

50 Welcome Bags to new homeowners.

To expand the services we offer to our community, I wrote three grant proposals, and we were awarded a total

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Mirrormont News Annual Issue

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Writer/Production:

Griffin Cole

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Mirrormont Specialist!

Mirrormont is one of the most unique neighborhoods on the entire Eastside. Where else can you find a beautiful community of distinct homes on large shy acre lots? Developed in 1962, Mirrormont properties allow for privacy in the trees or Northwest views. Community features such as the clubhouse, tennis courts and 11 acre park also add to the appeal! I love this area, and my enthusiasm translates into being the top realtor in the neighborhood. If you are thinking of selling, I'm happy to walk through your home to give you a comparable market analysis for free, and if needed, let you know of any suggested projects so you can get top price.

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YOUR TIME IS NOW.

Address Signposts Help Others Find Us

By Linda Shepherd

Thanks go to everyone who installed one of 164 street address signposts to help emergency personnel, friends, service providers, and others find your home! These reflective, 2-sided signs are helping Mirrormont be safer and less confusing for us all. Thanks also go to Eastside Fire & Rescue volunteers led by Russ Gawler for “planting” 33 signposts.

We used the entire \$1000 grant that was generously awarded to us by King County Community Service Areas Grant Program. If you missed this program and want to obtain a signpost, the manufacturer will only charge \$28 (plus tax and \$14.50 shipping), which gives you an \$8 discount because of our program. Just mention Mirrormont to get the discount when you call Jeanie at 360-398-7448 or 911safe@safetyhomeaddress.com. Their website is www.safetyhomeaddress.com.



Anita Sandall and Russ Gawler of Eastside Fire and Rescue work on one of the 33 posts they installed. From March through October, Mirrormont residents ordered 164 street address signs to help improve the ability to find a specific home.

Covenants Preserve the Character of Mirrormont

By June Schuck

On behalf of the MCA Board and the Architectural Review Committee, we want to welcome close to 50 new homeowners who moved to Mirrormont in 2016.

We hope you will thrive in your new home and our community. Over the coming months we look forward to meeting you, whether it be walking down the streets, at the park, or during a community activity.

It is important for new and not-so-new homeowners to be aware of the Covenants attached to our property titles when we purchased our homes. You may

already have some ideas about how you'd like to improve your property. Before beginning a project, please contact the MCA's Architectural Review Committee, which evaluates plans for new homes, additions, and fencing to ensure compliance with our Covenants: Architecture@mirrormont.org.

Mirrormont Covenants and Architectural Guidelines are posted on the MCA website, www.mirrormont.org, the official communication channel between the Board and the community.

We also include them in Welcome Bags given to new homeowners. Nextdoor (under Documents) lists common reasons

specific provisions regarding what can and cannot be done on your property. This provides, at the same time, advocating individual responsibility in the process of enforcing the covenants. Please take the time to consider your neighbors.

Over the years, RVs, boats, and trailers have become more common and their visibility is becoming a cause for concern. Please be sure that they are screened from the street and your neighbors. Temporary garages/tent structures are not permitted and you may be asked to remove these from your property.

We are grateful to Mitra Mohandessi for her dedicated years of service as co-VP Architecture, and are delighted that Kevin Price and Rachel Wright have stepped up to serve on the Architectural Committee, with me continuing as VP.

Part of being a good neighbor is adhering to these Covenants, which will help preserve our property values and the unique character of our community.

We know you'll find Mirrormont is a great place to live and we encourage your participation in our activities, functions and meetings.

Barbara Bergenty 609-257-8711

Organizing for the New Year,
Make an Appointment with me!

Whispering Elements
Subtle changes to simplify your life

to contact the Architectural Committee, as well as reasons you may be contacted by them.

The Architectural Committee's review process seeks to educate members on compliance with the established Covenants, which have



Have some on your hands? Stop by Snowy's Book Nook, a Little Free Library, started by Steve VanHuss and Heidi Kayler located at 26305 SE 156 Place.

Locals Take Initiative to Have Fun

By Linda Shepherd

I love it when people take the initiative to make Mirrormont an even better place to live. Here are some great examples!

Little Free Library

The Little Free Library that Steve VanHuss crafted for his wife, Heidi Kayler, for a Christmas gift last year was fantastic. She said she wanted one to match the house. She meant the colors. Steve took it to mean the architecture, which was challenging! So Mirrormont's Little Free Library is a chalet, which they named Snowy's Book Nook after their dog. Since it's right next to a cute bus stop shelter, there's also a cozy place to read just across the bridge.

Heidi stocked Snowy's Book Nook with books for all ages. Over 75 book lovers have signed the guest journal. Recent additions to the library include *Atlas of the Universe*, *Revenge of the Loser*, and Amy Poehler's *Yes Please*. On Nextdoor, Alissa Williams said, "If anyone feels like crying for 352 pages straight, I just returned *The Knitting Circle* to the Little Free Library."

Little Free Libraries are part of a movement to build community, spark creativity, and inspire readers. Check out Snowy's Book Nook at 26305 SE 156th Pl., take a book, leave a book, and then consider adding a Little Free Library to your part of Mirrormont—see www.littlefreelibrary.org.

Variety Show

Heidi and Steve also put on Mirrormont's First Annual Variety Show at the clubhouse where talented kids and adults entertained us with jokes, magic, funny poems, musical performances, and drums. Steve's dry wit as emcee brought groans and giggles, "I almost dated a psychic girl once, but she broke up with me before we met." The clubhouse rocked with rhythms, rhymes, and laughter.

Thanks go to Kristina Garrido for managing the sound system and the creative talents of Kristina, Heidi, Sofia VanHuss, Marnie Webb, Katelyn and Olivia Petite, Josh Villa, Nicoal Berryman, Sally Hansen, and Kiley VanBrero.

Start preparing your act for next year!

A Special Note From the MCA President

By Linda Shepherd

Since I moved to Mirrormont in 1988, I've loved living here. I cherish the trees, enjoy the diversity of architectural styles, and am grateful for so many kind people who contribute to our community.

I first got involved with the MCA through the Welcome Committee in 2008, when I had the pleasure of meeting Galen and Teresa Trail, among others. Now, I'm delighted to chat with them as they walk Latté or work alongside them at park work parties. It is a challenge for an introvert like me to meet new neighbors, and I confess I struggle to remember names and faces, so I ask your patience as I need repetition.

Over the years, I've taken on more responsibilities because I care deeply about Mirrormont and want to help build more community here. I appreciate everyone who steps up to volunteer and weave more threads of goodness throughout the forested fabric of Mirrormont.

June Schuck
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Spring Clean-up, a Mirrormont Phenomenon

By Linda Shepherd

Ever since the 1971 *Mirrormont News* reported, "Clean-up Day yielded several pickup loads of junque," this event has grown in popularity and tonnage.

In 2016, The Big Truck picked up 32 curbside piles, and a total of 117 households filled four 40-cubic-yard dumpsters, sending 11.2 tons of "junque" to the landfill. Plus, a recycler took five 16-ft truckloads of metals. The event cost the MCA \$2650, mainly for disposal fees.

Spring Clean-up feels like a three-ring circus of orchestrated chaos: cars lined up to dump; stuff crashing into dumpsters; folks donning vests to Adopt-a-Road; shoppers cruising for freebies; people buying plants at our Pea Patch Plant Sale. Thanks go to the 47 volunteers who made it happen!

NEW IN 2017: Electronics recycling and shredder ser-

vice—contingent upon receiving a grant.

We will emphasize: Reusing, Repurposing, Recycling. Sheldon Esteb and Michelle Naglee have volunteered to organize our 2017 Garage Sales, sched-

uled for May 12th and 13th, a week *before* the Spring Clean-up.

Please join me in thanking all the volunteers who worked so hard to make this a successful event in 2016! We hope you

and your neighbors will pitch in on **May 20, 2017**. And contact me at

president@mirrormont.org ASAP if you would be willing to be the Ringmaster of this three-ring circus.

Fun Awaits at the MCC

By Kathie Horsman

The Mirrormont Country Club or MCC is a private membership limited club, unrelated to the MCA.

Membership for your family includes unlimited use of the main pool and kiddie pool during open hours, swings and open space to run and play. You can lounge in the sun, or gather around patio tables.

We offer adult lap swim, water aerobics and swim lessons for the kids.

Our clubhouse has shower/bathrooms, a barbeque grill,

and a small commercial kitchen as well as a great room with a ping pong table. We provide tables and chairs inside, and a comfy couch. As a member you may rent exclusive use of our great room for your event.

Imagine a kid's birthday party with tables to set and decorate, and room to play inside and out?

We are a volunteer managed club, so you and your family have an opportunity to serve a few hours each year doing little things. You may choose to plant flowers, clean a few patio chairs, sort out the lost and found, polish tile around the pool, take out the trash, shop for paper supplies, or however

you choose to contribute.

If you wish to apply for membership, please send your request to mirrormontcc@gmail.com.

Our dues are \$700/year at this time. We require an initiation fee of \$1,000, refundable if you resign and a new member takes your place.

A \$25 application fee is not refunded.

Since membership is limited, we typically have a waiting list, which grows rapidly come spring.

We offer a great way for those of you with preschoolers and small kids to meet other families, or enjoy a family meal outdoors.

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A Look at the Firewise Program

By Linda Shepherd

Chipper Days 2016 was successful, but not as overwhelming as 2015's 117 piles that took 10 days to chip. It only took four days to chip 54 piles.

In order for Mirrormont to qualify as an official Firewise Community/USA eligible for grant funding, we must hold an annual Firewise event and devote at least \$2 per capita to Firewise actions, which include time we spend pruning, removing debris, and cleaning our roofs.

I met with Jarret Griesemer, Forestry Project Coordinator with King Conservation District (KCD), to consider possible Firewise projects for 2017. He was

impressed with the amount of fuel reduction we have done in many areas, and cited SE 146th St as the highest hazard area because it has many vacant lots on a steep slope facing Tiger Mt State Forest.

Jarret recommended a community project/block party to remove debris from these lots, since a fire on Tiger Mt State Forest could sweep up the hill and endanger us all. KCD has grant funds available for a Winter or Spring chipping project. In addition, KCD would like to provide individual home assessments in areas along the edge of the community near slopes, where the risk of wildfire spread is the greatest (146th,

255th, end of 266th, and sections of 154th, 156th and 158th extending toward Tiger Mt Rd).

Thanks go to everyone who helped make our wildland-urban interface safer.

New Programs Coming from MCA

From Page 4

of \$4400:

- \$1500 for Chipper Days from King County Forestry from the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, Forest Service, under the federal Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act, Title III.
- \$1500 for Chipper Days from Washington Firewise Community Small Fund Grant from Washington State Department of Natural Resources.
- \$1000 for reflective street address signposts from King County Community Service Areas (CSA) Grant Program.
- Vern Redecker coordinated with Four Creeks Unincorporated Area Council (UAC) to bring us another \$400 for CPR/First Aid classes organized by Lynnette Eastlake.

Our plans for 2017 include:

- Adding electronic recycling and a shredder truck to our Spring Clean-up (contingent upon receiving a CSA grant)
- Reviving our Tour of Gardens
- Initiating a Firewise project to remove debris on vacant lots
- Implementing CERT's MAP Your Neighborhood program

We appreciate your help in making these programs a success. Please contact me at president@mirrormont.org to volunteer to help organize these programs.

Map Your Neighborhood

By Linda Shepherd

After I took the 2008 Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training, I took their Map Your Neighborhood (MYN) workshop. Then, I gathered neighbors on my street to meet. We shared contact information, learned steps to follow in a disaster, and listed the resources we could contribute in case of emergency. For example, on my block, we discovered which neighbors are willing to assist with a chainsaw, have medical training, or may need assistance.

Since then, I read the *New Yorker* article "The Really Big One" and Sandi Doughton's *Full Rip 9.0: The Next Big Earthquake in the Pacific Northwest*. I learned that the 2001 Nisqually 6.8 quake lasted 45 seconds. A 9.0 could shake for five minutes. We may be unable to reach hospitals or stores, and lack running water, power, phone, natural gas, etc. for weeks or months.

MYN is an increasingly important program for three reasons. First, scientists say The Big One is a question of *when* not *if*. We will need resources to live on our own for weeks; even winter storms have caused us to lose power for over a week. Second, MYN is a way to meet our neighbors so that we recognize who belongs. Third, it builds community even if we don't have an emergency, so it's never a wasted effort.

So please contact Lynnette Eastlake at safety@mirrormont.org or me to say you will host a MYN meeting of 10–15 households. We will organize a meeting of "hosts" to explain the MYN program, and then lend you a DVD to provide a format for the meeting with your neighbors.

I also encourage you to take the 8-week, \$35 CERT training. It's a blast to use a fire extinguisher! To participate on our Emergency Preparedness Committee led by Lynnette Eastlake, contact her or me.

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Walk on the Wild Side

Native Plants of Mirrormont Park

This field guide features 40 native plants in King County's Mirrormont Park. Each plant profile features four or more color photos and descriptions of the flowers, leaves, fruits, and whole plant, along with fun facts, ethnobotany, value to wildlife and landscape value. Cost is \$15. Email president@mirrormont.org for pickup.

Tour of Homes Brings History to the Present

By Linda Shepherd

Imagine moving to Mirrormont in 1963 when there were gravel roads, smaller trees, and only 18 homes scattered over 600 acres. Several of these were chalets originally designed by the developer, Rod Loveless, for a Snoqualmie Pass project.

To celebrate our architectural heritage, the MCA sponsored a Tour Historic Homes on September 18th. Historical displays about Mirrormont’s developers and homes built in 1962-63 were set up in the clubhouse for “tourists” to view while they enjoyed coffee, tea and snacks.

Owners of six chalets graciously opened their homes to 32 tourists for a wonderful day of sharing and community. For security reasons, only Mirrormont residents were allowed on the tour.

One of Mirrormont’s unique features is the diversity of architectural styles: chalet, split-level, tri-level, ranch, Cape Cod, Colonial, English, Mediterranean, Spanish, modern, and Frank Lloyd Wright-inspired Praire style. Built from 1962 to 2016, each house has a story. Some have been carefully tended, others were neglected for a time and then lovingly remodeled.



Tourists enjoy the view and chat at Madalon and Rod Lalley’s charming chalet.

Each home was a joy to tour.

Steve and Christine Sample’s daughter Gabbie has my idea of a dream bedroom with her wall of butterflies. Tom and Dianne Cole had Dianne’s wonderful paintings hung throughout their cozy rooms.

Heidi Kayler and Steve VanHuss’ display of 1960s memorabilia encapsulated the style of those times when Lyndon Johnson was in the White House.

Madalon and Rod Lalley’s charming rooms culminated in Madalon’s enviable office nestled in the trees with its peaked roof and big windows.

I was excited that the most famous house in Mirrormont was included on our tour.

The House That TV 7 Built was advertised for six months on the *J.P. Patches Show* (Mr. Rogers for the 60s), toured by 3000 people one weekend. Streams of people continued to tour it until it was then auctioned off to the highest bidder in 1964 to pay for TV and radio ads and the house. It was the first chalet in Mirrormont built by developer Rod Loveless (although not the first chalet in Mirrormont).

Later, it was later owned by a Buddhist nun and used for services, with the gong ringing throughout the neighborhood. Now, Daryl Hawkins is doing an amazing job of single-handedly modernizing and repairing damage from the 2001 Nisqually earthquake.

The tour ended at the marvelously remodeled chalet of Kevin Price and Rachel Wright, who generously hosted a wine and beer social, while we expressed our gratitude for the way they gave new life to a distressed property, both inside and out. I loved their use of native plants!

If you have an unusual or historic home you’d like to share with Mirrormont neighbors on next year’s tour, please contact me at president@mirrormont.org.



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Wide Range of Topics a Highlight of 2016 Speaker Program

By Linda Shepherd

I created the Speaker Program in 2014 because I love to learn, wanted to foster more community here, and hoped to lure people to MCA Board meetings and ongoing participation. But since people rarely stayed for the Board meeting, we uncoupled the two in 2016 so the Board could get to bed earlier, and we could vary the night of the presentations.

This year, our ten offerings ranged from traffic to pruning, bears to vegetables, mail to recycling, hiking to first aid and emergency preparedness. Each speaker drew a different audience, bringing the people together to learn and solve problems that impact Mirrormont.

- ◆ BearSmart King County at annual meeting: How can we best live with bears? Don't feed them.
- ◆ Issaquah Postmaster on Feb. 25: How can we work together to reduce mail theft?
- ◆ Master Gardeners' Hints for vegetable gardening, on March 22: What can we grow in Mirrormont?
- ◆ Emergency Preparedness on June 15: How do we prepare for The Big One, windstorms, power outages or other

emergencies?

- ◆ Local Hiking Opportunities on June 27: What new trails can we discover close to home?
- ◆ Firewise Pruning workshop on July 12: What is the best way to prune without damaging the tree or shrub?
- ◆ Traffic Talk with Mary Lou Pauly and Stacy Goodman from Issaquah City Council, as well as Chad Magendanz and Reagan Dunn's staffer on Sept. 12: What are the complexities of solving traffic problems on the Issaquah-Hobart Rd?
- ◆ Q&A with EF&R on Oct. 4: What is the impact of the Fire Authority Measure?
- ◆ CPR & First Aid classes on Nov. 5 and 19: Learning how to save a life.
- ◆ Recycling Virtual Tour on Nov. 15: How does Waste Management separate all the stuff we throw in our recycling bin?

Please contact me at president@mirrormont.org if you have a presentation or a suggestion for a speaker that would interest your neighbors.

Traffic Snarls as Answers Prove Difficult

From Page 1

pass, there seems to be no opposition to widening SR 900, SR 18, and SR 169. The main issue is funding.

King County Road Services Division has had reduced funds due to annexations and declining gas tax revenues, with barely enough to address immediate safety issues and a modest amount of maintenance. Just to manage the *existing* infrastructure at its optimal life cycle would require almost four times the current revenue, which comes from the rural

populous in unincorporated King County. At the current funding level, our road system will continue to deteriorate.

Widening Issaquah-Hobart Road might seem to be an obvious answer, but the corridor would need to be reclassified. To be effective, we would also need an Issaquah Bypass. Both projects would need Environmental Impact Statements, a political process, consensus—and massive funding. Even then, how would traffic be handled during construction?

The only solution approved for funding

is widening SR 18 and improving the interchange at I-90—but design is not slated to start until 2023, with completion in 2028. Still, with enough political pressure, it could be accelerated. Federal funds could also be sought, since SR 18 carries national freight from the ports to I-90. This solution got the most number of votes at our Traffic Talk meeting. Let's work together to speed up this process by contacting our legislators.

*Watch at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WiFC4iduZS4>

East Meets West to Make Mirrormont Special

From Page 2

1960s. It's been fascinating to talk to recent transplants along with folks who have been living here for greater than 20 years. Just recently I spoke with a gentleman on his daily walk who shared his experiences of the many, many changes that have taken place since he moved here years ago. And, yes, the influx of people and the flow (or lack, thereof) of traffic are big points. Still, there are huge draws to this beautiful area and a new generation of residents continues to move in.

So, I went ahead and emailed Mirror-

mont's newest residents to see what drew them here and what strikes them most about living on Tiger Mountain.

Three things have stood out: the natural beauty, the quality of the school district, and—what surprised many—the people.

Moving in to Mirrormont, it appears most incoming residents are aware of how beautiful it is and have done their research on how well the school district rates.

New residents' first experiences once moved in, however, really stand out. "It delights me to stop and chat with people

here. Everyone seems grateful and happy to be living in this spectacular place. Our neighbor next door took us on a hike last weekend to a local waterfall," new resident, Dori Fagan, shared. "When we first moved in, all of our neighbors stopped by to introduce themselves. One of our neighbors actually baked us homemade bread!" exclaimed Jasmine Dailida. "We felt so welcomed as soon as we moved in," Kristin Kinder said.

And I feel the same way. So what happens when you mix East and West—and everything in between? You get a real Community.

Mirrormont Community Association

Household Annual Dues Notice \$50 — Due January, 2017

Please clip this notice and submit with payment to:
 Treasurer, MCA, P.O. Box 476, Issaquah, WA 98027 or
 PayPal to Treasurer@Mirrormont.org

New member: ____ Renewing: ____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Please volunteer to help keep Mirrormont a wonderful place to live! (Indicate below)

Socials

- Easter Egg Hunt
- Halloween Parties
- Adult Holiday Social
- Community Picnic and Swim
- Speaker Program
- Variety Show
- Tour of Gardens
- Welcome Committee
- Charitable Endeavors

Services

- Spring Clean-up
- Electronics Recycling
- Adopt-a-Road
- Park Committee
- Park Work Parties
- Website
- Safety/Emergency Prep
- Map Your Neighborhood
- Blockwatch
- Traffic Committee
- Garage Sales
- Forest Practices
- MCA Board Member at-Large
- Firewise Committee
- Fire hydrant project

Charitable Endeavors Popular in Mirrormont

items. The response was so strong that an amazing 60 Shoeboxes of Joy were created!

This is just one example of Mirrormont's charitable endeavors. For instance, 100 pairs of shoes were donated by Mirrormont residents for the Liberty High School Shoe Drive organized by Mary Nelson.

The Issaquah Food Bank is a recipient of much giving from Mirrormont folks. For example, Linda Shepherd collected and donated three dozen cookbooks from Mirrormont families.

Also, the great gardeners at our Pea Patch gave almost 750 pounds of fresh, organic vegetables.

Of course, this is all in addition to the

residents who give of their time, money, and items on their own without fanfare or thanks.

Just further proof that Mirrormont is the Neighborhood that Gives! If charitable work interests you, please contact president@mirrormont.org for more information. The rewards will be great and never forgotten.

How Special Are Your Trees?

A 2013 *Issaquah Press* article on Mirrormont raved about our "towering," "colossal" trees and interviewed many residents who moved here because of the trees. In 1995, a competition for the largest tree in Mirrormont awarded a \$50 gift certificate at Hayes Nursery to Ken and Susan Munsch for their Sitka Spruce, which measured 15' 9" circumference 2-feet up from base. The Webley family came in second with a Douglas Fir of 14' 7" circumference.

How much have these trees grown in

the past 20 years? Do you have a tree larger than these?

The homeowner with the largest tree, as measured by its circumference 2-feet up from the nearest ground, will receive a \$50 gift certificate to Squak Mountain Nursery. The contest winner will be announced at the MCA-MCC annual picnic in August.

Entries must be submitted to president@mirrormont.org by March 1 and are subject to verification. Trees must be alive (no stumps, please) to qualify.



MIRRORMONT NEWS
P.O. Box 476
Issaquah, WA 98027-0476
www.mirrormont.org



Label Here

Mirrormont Community Association 2017 Dues Notice Inside

2017 Mirrormont Community Association Events Calendar

<i>Annual Meeting</i>	<i>Tue, Jan 17</i>	<i>7 - 8:30 PM</i>
<i>Easter Egg Hunt</i>	<i>Sat, April 15.....</i>	<i>10 - 11 AM</i>
<i>Garage Sales</i>	<i>Fri, May 12.....</i>	<i>9 - 4 PM</i>
	<i>Sat, May 13.....</i>	<i>9 - 2 PM</i>
<i>Spring Clean-up/Adopt-A-Road</i>	<i>Sat, May 20</i>	<i>9 - 2 PM</i>
<i>Pea Patch Plant Sale</i>	<i>Sat, May 20.....</i>	<i>9 - 2 PM</i>
<i>MCA-MCC Picnic</i>	<i>Sat, Aug 26.....</i>	<i>12 - 4 PM</i>
<i>Halloween for 0-4th grade</i>	<i>Sat, Oct 28.....</i>	<i>10 - 12 AM</i>
<i>Halloween 5th grade & up</i>	<i>Sat, Oct 28.....</i>	<i>7 - 9 PM</i>
<i>Holiday Party/Adult Social</i>	<i>Fri, Dec 8.....</i>	<i>7 - 11 PM</i>

MCA Board meetings: First Tuesday of every month, 7:00 p.m. at the clubhouse
To volunteer to help with events, contact president@mirrormont.org