

## **Collins View Article for the June 2021 SW News**

Collins View Neighborhood Association Zoom meetings are scheduled for the first Wednesday of each month, except July and August. Our next meeting is Wednesday, June 2, 2021, at 7 p.m. Please contact outreach@collinsview.org for details and Zoom key.

### **On the Trail Again! 170+ year old SW Boones Ferry Road is open for travel again.**

“The City of Portland Bureau of Environmental Services is proud to announce the completion of a major habitat restoration and bridge-building project over Tryon Creek and the reopening of SW Boones Ferry Road at SW Arnold Street on Friday, April 16, 2021.” Construction started February 2020. City, aware of the problems with the culvert, has been talking about improvements since 2005.

The new Tryon Creek bridge allows the creek to flow freely. It replaced an aging culvert which restricted water flow, caused erosion and flood surges and blocked fish and wildlife. The new 125-foot span includes two travel lanes, wide sidewalks and a trail for people and wildlife underneath it. It creates and restores connections for fish, wildlife and people.

Collins View had gotten used to the reduced Boones Ferry traffic caused by Covid’s shutdown and construction’s detours. The closure was a “boon,” so to speak, for walkers and cyclists who were free to roam/ride the quiet stretches of BFR on either side of the construction. Traffic is back in full pre-Covid/Construction force.

Actually, the Boones Ferry Road route is much older than 170 years. Jesse Boone, great-grandson of Daniel Boone, laid a split log roadway from the family homestead near present-day Wilsonville north to Portland and south toward Salem. He cleared the road in 1847 by following an ancient indigenous trail. The Willamette Valley was the traditional homeland of the widespread Kalapuya people. Today, most Kalapuya descendants are enrolled in the federally recognized Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde. Some are members of the Confederated Tribes of the Siletz.

The Boones’ cable ferry was propelled by oarsmen from the nearby Tualatin band, one of the Kalapuya. The first iteration of the ferry was a couple of canoes joined together by a platform. The ferry crossed the Willamette River near present-day Wilsonville from 1847 to 1954. In pioneer times, Boones Ferry Road was part of a major land-based thoroughfare that linked Portland with the pre-territorial government at Champoeg, and later Salem. The Ferry was eventually made obsolete by the Boone Bridge on Interstate 5.

A Historical Marker, “In Memory of Jesse Boone, 1824 – 1872, Founder of the Boone’s Ferry in 1847” was dedicated Oct 24, 1937 by the Boone Family Association. It sits at the nexus of Boones Ferry Road and Taylors Ferry Road. Jesse is buried in the Butteville cemetery near the Boone homestead.

Boones Ferry Road is still “part of a major land-based thoroughfare.” Just ask the residents of Collins View about the traffic on it.

Visit our history page for more material: [collinsview.org/history/BoonesFerryRoad](http://collinsview.org/history/BoonesFerryRoad)

*Submitted by M. Read, C. Stowell, and J. Miller*