

SWNI news due Sept 15, 2017

Clear skies afforded excellent eclipse viewing in Collins View. The shadows of the sun's visible arc were fascinating. The convex arc made concave shadows and vice versa. It was several degrees cooler during the near-totality, with *total* silence – no traffic, animal, bird, frog or insect sounds at all.

Several animal sightings during the month included twin fawns, chukars, and different owls in addition to the usual residents. A cougar's scream was heard from the ravine in back of 8<sup>th</sup>. (The cat was later spotted in the Arnold Creek neighborhood, but we heard him first!) Neighbors reporting and sharing photos of our fellow Collins View denizens keeps us reminded that we do share this land.

Our very hot and smoky month was calm compared to ongoing state and national disasters. We count ourselves fortunate. Images of empty store shelves, people scrambling for water and gas, shelters or evacuation routes competed with reports of spontaneous citizen Dunkirk-type rescue armadas and individuals' and companies' support for responders and survivors. We salute their can-do mindset and resiliency. There are lessons to be learned. Quickly. Now.

Heads up! The subduction zone earthquake (the “big-one”) is not the only incoming emergency. Almost every year we have a boil water alert. Every year we have forest fires; this year's has implications for our water supply. Every year we have storms and weather situations and power outages. Rushing to the store that morning to get in line for supplies is not “preparation.” What's not to like about having an extra pantry of water, food, and supplies tucked away? Reference websites for preparedness include RedCross.org/Prepare and Ready.gov/Make-a-plan in addition to Portland Bureau of Emergency Management's excellent website on “Preparedness Resources”:  
<https://www.portlandoregon.gov/pbem/46475?>

Jay Raskin, Chair of the Community Resilience Panel, will present “The Oregon Resilience Plan: Lessons for Southwest Portland,” for Collins View Residents on Wednesday, October 4<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM, Riverdale High School. Special emphasis will be on our challenges and how Southwest Portland fits in with resilience efforts. Educating ourselves is a big factor in our own empowering can-do mindset. Put this on your calendar.

Submitted by Maryellen Read



