

# Important to protect homes from wildfires



**Ed Grambusch**  
YOUR TURN

Every year the Silverton Fire District responds to numerous wildfires in fields or in heavy timber in our response area. Many of these fires threaten near-by homes and other structures. Home owners have a responsibility to ensure that they take measures to keep their home safe during a wildfire situation.

Some of the more prominent problems in this area are access issues, flammables being stored to close to the home, tree limbs overhanging the home, and not having a 30 foot or larger fire break around the home.

Having a 30 foot fire break around the home is extremely important. Fire breaks consist of low growing bushes kept away from the home, green grass that is kept short and well-watered, and keeping dry debris cleared from the area. Fire breaks give firefighters a much better chance at saving a home than those that do not have a fire break. It is also a very important element in keeping the home safe if firefighters are not available to defend the home. All flammables, including wood piles and other debris, should be in a sheltered area well away

**“Home owners have a responsibility to ensure that they take measures to keep their home safe during a wildfire situation.”**

from the home. It is preferred to have large trees away from homes. However, if homeowners choose to keep them in close proximity, limbs should not be allowed to hang over portions of the home.

Trees that catch fire can commonly “crown” which means that the limbs higher up become involved in fire. When this happens, there is a massive amount of fire, heat, and embers that are produced within seconds.

Home owners should also make sure that their driveway is well marked with their address and that tree limbs and

brush along the side of the driveway will not interfere with emergency vehicles having access to the home.

Home owners should keep in mind that emergency vehicles are larger and require more room when trying to get to a residence.

The following are some tips for protecting a home from wildfire:

1. Roofing is made of non-combustible materials.
2. Trees have been trimmed away from the roof.
3. Use landscaping plants that are low growing and less flammable.

4. Flammables are stored away from the home.

5. Yard is well trimmed and free of debris.

6. The roof and gutters should be cleaned of leaves, pine needles, and other debris.

7. A 30 foot non-combustible fire break surrounds the home.

8. An adequate water supply is available to fight fire.

9. Good access is provided for emergency vehicles.

10. Exterior walls are made of fire resistant materials.

Contact Silverton Fire District if you have any questions regarding fire safety.

*Ed Grambusch is a captain and training officer with Silverton Fire District. He can be contacted at the district 503-873-5328 or by visiting [www.silvertonfire.com](http://www.silvertonfire.com).*

## OBITUARIES

### Jean A. Moon

Sept. 21, 1925 — May 7, 2015  
Jean A. Moon, our beloved mother and grandmother, passed away peacefully surrounded by family on May 7, 2016.

Jean was born in Silverton on Sept. 21, 1925, to Henry and Ruth Oveross. She was preceded in death by her husband Robert (Bob) F. Moon in 2007.

Jean grew up and lived in Silverton. She and her husband and children moved to Canada in 1968. She always remained in touch with her family, friends and classmates from her Silverton High School class of 1943. Jean brought joy to family, friends and all who met her. She will always be remembered and held in our hearts.

Jean is survived by her three children: Curt (Carol) of Vancouver, British Columbia, Dale (Amparo) of Lake Oswego, and Monica of Naramata, British Columbia; and three grandchildren: Ryan (Teresa), Cameron (Aline) and Brandon; and extended family.

Memorial tributes can be made to SHS Alumni Association. Arrangements by Unger Funeral Chapel in Valley View Cemetery in Silverton.

### Beverly Ann Lorenzen

February 4, 1936 — May 17, 2016

Beverly Ann Lorenzen died Tuesday, May 17, 2016, at the Silver Gardens Care Home.

She was born on Feb. 4, 1936 in Silverton to Douglas and Elbra (Lindsay) Brady.

Beverly is survived by her husband of 25 years, James Lorenzen; brother, Douglas Brady; daughters, Kathy (Craig) Day, Federal Way, Washington; Susan (Robin) McGinnis, Portland; Debra (Gary) Huff, Salem; sons, Paul (Sandra) Rostad, Kake, Alaska; Dean Rostad, Salem; 10 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren. She is preceded in death by her son, Richard Rostad Jr.

Graveside service will be held Wednesday, June 8, 2016 at 1 p.m., Miller Cemetery. In lieu of flowers donations can be made to Union Gospel Mission, PO Box 431, Salem, OR 97308 or Silverton High School Alumni Fund. Arrangements by Unger Funeral Chapel.

### Carol Mae Peckenpaugh

July 15, 1938 — May 21, 2016

Carol was born in Omaha, Nebraska, in 1938 to Sam and Frances Jones. She moved to Silverton with her family when she was 5 years old, and gradu-



ated from SUHS in 1956. She worked for the phone company in Salem and California, beginning as a switchboard operator. She married William Peckenpaugh in 1966 and they lived in San Rafael, Riverside, Fremont and Gualala, California, before retiring and returning to Silverton in 1990.

Carol was a lifelong member of the Methodist church, and was part of a large extended family. She enjoyed her Marcoe family more than anything else. She loved all of the reunions, luncheons, weddings, children, showers, birthdays, holidays and camping trips, and loved to travel with her cousins and family.

She was preceded in death by her husband, William Peckenpaugh, on May 22, 2014, almost exactly 2 years prior. She is survived by her sons Sam (and Kim) Preece, Bill Peckenpaugh, and Daniel Peckenpaugh; sister Betty (and Marvin) Zander; and two grandchildren Ashley and Kylie Dickenson.

Memorial service was held May 28 at the Silverton Methodist Church. In lieu of flowers please consider a contribution to the Silverton Methodist Church. Arrangements by Unger Funeral Chapel in Silverton.



DIANA MAUL/SPECIAL TO THE STAYTON MAIL  
Jim Nokes and Carlos Hernandez prepare the Brown House ground-level floors for refurbishing.

## Go green at Brown House

ANNETTE UTZ  
FOR THE STAYTON MAIL

In an effort to continue restoration on Stayton's historic Brown House, the Santiam Heritage Foundation will be hosting its first plant sale from noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, June 12, at 425 N. First Ave., Stayton. The participating nurseries are independent, family-owned businesses and specialize in plants that thrive in the Pacific Northwest. Much of what will be on offer is normally kept for mail-order business only.

A portion of the proceeds will go toward revitalization of the house, which will be open for touring during the sale. The Charles & Martha Brown House was built in 1903 and served as Stayton's first hospital during the 1920s and 30s. While the Heritage Foundation has removed the hospital additions, much work has been done to restore and maintain the craftsmanship and architectural de-

tail of the original structure. The house was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in September 2002.

A recent volunteer work day held at the house provided a large step toward the renovation goal. Cabinets and rugs were packed up and moved and floors were prepped for final protection and preservation service, for which the Heritage Foundation has a matching grant sponsored by the Abigail Scott Duniway Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution.

“We got a lot done that day and we were a pretty happy-camper group,” Foundation member Diana Maul said. “It worked very well for us and the plant sale will help even more.”

“We’re really excited about it. It will be prime planting season and (the event) should be really nice.”

For further information on the plant sale or the Brown House, call 503-769-8860.

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