



Sept 2020 Issue

Chapter 9—Chapter Nine—Chapter 9—Chapter Nine

TRAILER TRACKS

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MONTHLY MEETING

ALL ESCAPEES ARE WELCOME

2nd Wednesday of the month at 9 AM,
Abbys Pizza, 1011 W Central, Sutherlin.
Please sign up at TV clubhouse by the Tuesday before.

FOR MORE INFO ON RALLIES, ETC

VISIT

www.timbervalleyskp.com

President Betty's Update

Summer has pretty much flown by and Covid-19 is keeping us from our regular activities but we have no choice if we want to stay well.

I was very happy to see the great turn out for the August picnic. I think we are all anxious to socialize.

Abbys monthly breakfasts are cancelled for the near future but we will have a September 16th get together at Snoopy's Meadow—details will follow. Please plan to pay your annual dues and make sure to wear your masks.

I look forward to seeing you all there.

An introduction to our new editor—Suzi Rupert

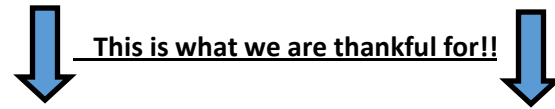
Hello all.....First of all, I would like to thank Becky Holm for her past service as editor of Trailer Tracks. Due to her busy schedule she has stepped down and handed the reins over to me. I will do my very best to continue Becky's fine publications over the past few years.

A little about me. I am married to Greg and have been a leaseholder of lot 68 since 2009. In 2018 Greg and I began our Full Time RV experience. We both worked in the RV industry at Monaco and Country Coach, so we are very familiar with motorhomes. Greg has 3 Daughters and 2 Granddaughters and I have 1 Daughter and 1 Granddaughter. Lots of girls for sure. Looking for that boy someday. Both our families live in the Eugene/Springfield area. I was born and raised in Roseburg and Greg in Portland, so we are native to the state.

The continuing saga of:
Leisure Valley or Timber Valley

By Jackie Deal

There were dreamers that coveted the valley that is now Timber Valley SKP Park. Carl Keck, former manager of SKP Park lived in Sutherlin at the time in the early 1980s when Fred Harrington was a local developer and “wheeler-dealer”. Mr. Harrington conceived an elaborate and expensive development for the “super wealthy” to escape the dangers of the everyday world. Sutherlin’s city council first heard of the proposal on March 26, 1981 when “Jerry Garner, representing Fred Harrington, showed plans for 300 condominium units, a 160 bed nursing home, 9 hole golf course, par 3 golf course, 4 lakes, and a commercial center”. (from the Sun Tribune, the newspaper in Douglas County, Sutherlin, 1980s ; copies available in the public library) The newspaper went on to say, “The \$28 million development would be advertised in urban areas of New York and Florida with special emphasis on the security features of the project. Leisure Valley (as they were calling it) would be entirely fenced and would employ a security force to provide a secure retirement area for people in high crime areas. With housing units in the \$150,000 range, the project would aim to attract retirees with income of \$4,000 a month or more”. (in purchasing power”, \$4,000 In 1981 is comparable to over \$11,282 in 2020.) In 1981 can’t you imagine the city council frothing at the mouth to get this influx of money?



This is what we are thankful for!!



Bruce Daily, Sun Tribune editor in an editorial on March 26, 1981 writes: “the project...will offer safety to seniors who have built up an estate that they have to protect with bars on the windows and multiple locks on the doors. That 460 people can be found who are willing to trade the fear of living in New York with Puerto Ricans, Miami with Cubans, or Los Angeles with Chicanos for the serenity of a secure community in peaceful Sutherlin as almost a sure bet.” (The blatant racism is in print in the Sun Tribune of March 26, 2981.)

May 28, 1981, the newspaper reported that the Sutherlin City Council gave “conceptual approval to Fred Harrington’s “Leisure Valley Development.” Of course the project was outrageously expensive and Bill Moss, an SKP on the search committee, remembers that Fred Harrington borrowed from the Land Bank in Seattle. He says when Fred died he still owed money to the Land Bank (and probably others) and so the little valley slept peacefully until 1988 when the SKPs discovered its potential.

