

# DEADWOOD DITTO

JULY 2023



Swisshome/Deadwood Fire Dept Board mtg	July 13th, Thursday at 7 pm, Swisshome station (next to the Post Office)	Contact Mona Arbuckle @sd.rfpd.@gmail.com
Deadwood Playground Raising Lunch Provided	July 15, 10a-5p If Needed July 22, 10a-3p	Deadwood Community Center
Deadwood Playground Grand Opening and Ice Cream Sunday Bar	July 30th, 2-5pm	Deadwood Community Center
Deadwood Farmers Market	Sundays from June to October	Post Office parking lot 11:00am-2:00pm
Mapleton Food Share-contact 541-268-2715 or 541-268-2212	July 13th, Thursday and July 22nd, Saturday	10am-2pm
Triangle Lake Food Box-contact Cyndie Blake 541-225-2254	July 21st, Friday	10am-2pm (come at 1:30)
Alpha Farm Garden Cleanup	July 15th, Saturday	9am-12pm
Deadwood Ditto deadwoodditto@yahoo.com	Submissions due the 26th of the month, with distribution very close to the first of the next month	Editor Jan Kinney kinneyjan1@gmail.com
Alpha Friday Dinners	Every Friday in July	RSVP: alpha@peak.org

# Playground Month!

The playground is on its way and we need your support to install it!



Please join us on

**July 15th to install and July 30th to celebrate!**

Thank you to all of the incredibly generous donors who have contributed to the Deadwood Oral History and Archives Project. We have raised more than \$3,000 just from our local community and are hopeful to receive additional grant funding! More updates soon!



# The New Curmudgeon

"Past is prologue" W. Shakespeare

"The long unmeasured pulse of time moves everything. there is nothing hidden that it cannot bring to light." Sophocles

The supreme vital force of life is not competition but interdependence.

"When we try to pick out anything by itself, we find it hitched to everything else in the universe." John Muir. We live in a symbiotic world. Plants such as lichen have given up sex and freedom in favor of a symbiotic partnership and are composed of a mixture of bacteria fungi and algae, each of which has lost it's original identity. This is symbiogenesis. The study of the symbiogenetic process is a fascinating dive into the complexity of life form. The biology of symbiosis undermines our view of ourselves as distinct entities separate from other selves. This illusory separation vanishes in the biological reality of all living things. The illusion of the self accents that of separateness. Our senses, like our neighbors, hate what they do not understand. Our aversive reactions reveal not the things we find contrary, but simply the limits of our understanding. Life gives us the ability to inhabit our vaster nature beyond ephemeral circumstance. Nothing interesting begins with knowing as much as not knowing. Your history gives you your assumptions and biases. The functional part of your brain is feeding you the physical manifestation of your past interactions with the world. Your biases will dictate what you see and hear. Perception is coming from the inside out. Our constructions do not match the truth. We agree on what we think we "see" because we have the same user interface. Evolution has constructed us so that we cannot see the truth. We have a user interface that hides the truth. It is useful to not see the truth. You can control the reality if you don't know what it is. Everything your brain does is contextual and it's trying to make something useful out of the experience. Your eyes are always moving even when you're staring at something. It's a scanning process of sorts. In experiments where eye movement was arrested no image was registered= everything disappeared. image...image. History of past perception will rule your present perception. Remember umwelt? Each species will see their objective reality uniquely in a manner that will best enable them to survive...just as we do. There is an objective

reality but it will be experienced differently by each creature. 99% of all species that have lived on this planet are extinct because their particular niche that provided the elements for their survival was altered. That is what humans are experiencing now. Everything we perceive is shaped by evolution's role to keep us alive. We continually adapt our perceptions to a changing world in an attempt to survive. The dissolution of certainty is the gateway to real freedom. We rely on expectations instead of evidence and this has been applied to marketing... the factory makes cosmetics but that's not what's being purchased at the counter. Perception is a continuous cycle of error correction. A familiar stimulus evokes a faster response. An auditory stimulus has the fastest response. A natural stimulus has the fastest response because of the many priors to match against. Synesthesia is attaching an emotion to, say, a color or an audible frequency ..ie high notes are light and gay, whereas low frequencies denote a darker (there it is) emotion and often a foreboding. Little did Shakespeare know how uncannily accurate his line would be as neuroscientists unravel the mystery we call reality. Our sensorium is a simulation we ourselves are constantly running. The meeting point of stimulus and expectation is deeply rooted in what we experienced yesterday and all those before. Hidden webs of prediction rule what we experience. Alter those predictions and our experience, what we seem to see, hear or feel, alters as well. As Bruce Lee says= "you will never get any more out of life than you expect." Our brain is a prediction machine that evolved to render reality to us as a composite of sensory input and expectation, thus, nothing we experience is untouched by our expectations. There's no such thing as journalist- free news What we experience reflects not just what the world is telling us, but what we were expecting it to tell us. We perceive by finding predictions that best fit the sensory evidence. Ai's churning out of increasingly convincing simulacra of consciousness is completely severed from the pulsating totality that is life. No wonder sci-fi writer's creations are always predictions of what comes next. That stuff becomes part of our history and therefore affects the predictions we will make. We really do construct our own future and it's a pretty scary one right now. Spinoza says as embodied beings, our entire conscious experience is an interaction between mind and world. Consciousness is a dynamic flow of exchanges in which the whole organism participates and by this act

creates itself. It is a full body phenomenon. Through our life's experiences we teach our brains to be unique and learn to be individuals both neurologically and spiritually. The haunting inevitability of personal responsibility, enveloping ai and singularity, seems the eternal struggle to bear our own mortality. Eschatology involving an anthropocentric posture ignores our own inchoate position. The more we remove ourselves and our interests from the equation the more we end up with omnipotent systems that are rife with human bias and prejudice.



## Notice to Regular Board Meeting

The Swisshome Deadwood Rural Fire Protection District Board of Directors will hold the regular Board Meeting at **7:00 PM on July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023**, at the Swisshome fire station (12) - 13283 OR-36, Swisshome, OR 97480.

The Board meeting agenda will include:

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Policy Review 0.10 through the end of the introduction  
Banking (investment)

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Lake Creek Mountain Road Bridge/Access Guideline Waiver



This notice is provided in accordance with ORS 192.640(1)

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Regular meetings of the fire board are held at 7 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month at the Swisshome fire station unless otherwise posted. **Requests for accommodations can be addressed to [sd.rfpd@gmail.com](mailto:sd.rfpd@gmail.com).**

Notices of future meetings will be posted at the following locations: Swisshome Post Office, Deadwood Post Office, Sdrfpd.org, Deadwood Ditto

● ALPHA FARM @ ALPHA-BIT ●

# FRIDAY DINNERS



◆ 6PM  
**DINE-IN/  
TAKEOUT**

**\$10**  
PER PLATE

## JULY MENU

7/7 - beef/grain burgers, potato wedges, slaw

7/14 - bbq pork/jackfruit, mac & cheese,  
collard greens

7/21 - orange chicken/tofu, rice, broccoli salad

7/28 - beef/vegan lasagna, corn, green salad

RSVP ALPHA@PEAK.ORG

# Deadwood Co-op

For those of you who would like to drop your orders off at the Community Center you can, otherwise there is still the drop off at Kaki & Billy's if you are closer to their place 91538 Deadwood Creek Road. The red cooler in their carport is the spot to drop off your order before 5:00 pm on Sunday, July 2, 2023. If you live further up Deadwood Creek you can drop your order off in my mailbox 93519 Deadwood Creek Rd before 5:00 pm on Sunday, July 2, 2023. Make sure there is the original order and 1 copy of your order. You can download the Food Coop Order Form on the Deadwood Trading Post website or use the online order form.

Also the login for Hummingbird has been changed to [yvonpappy@gmail.com](mailto:yvonpappy@gmail.com) the password remains the same. We will not be doing a produce order this month, in order to support local growers.

Food distribution will still be at Denise and Chuck's house, since we don't know if the Azure order will be delivered the same day as the Eugene orders.

**Pick up is July 11th.**

I will be emailing your balances from the May order shortly.

If you have any questions, I can be reached at 541-964-5581 or 541-999-0729.

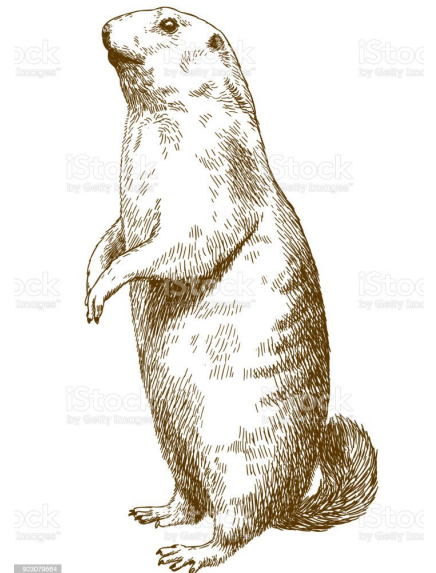
Please put the above dates on your calendars.

Take care and thanks "Ditto" crew! Yvonne P



*Eastern meadow larks  
With prairie dog peeps and squeaks  
Herald the black storm.*

*Kaki Burruss from the American Prairie, Mt.*



# ALPHA FARM

92819 DEADWOOD CREEK RD.



## Garden Volunteer Day

*Join us in the garden and greenhouse at Alpha Farm, an intentional living community surrounded by 280 acres in the Coastal Range of Oregon. All levels of experience are welcome.*

JULY 15, 2023

9 am to 12 pm



## DO OUR ANIMAL COMPANIONS ACTUALLY FEEL LOVE FOR US?

***The concept 'LOVE' has been used for an enormous range of feelings, situations, places, people, animals, and objects, from the most superficial to the most profound and from the animate to the inanimate as well as from the coarse to the sublime. I wish it would have been kept only for the deepest of expressions and affections. It is almost meaningless now in most contexts, and this saddens me. Its power has***



***been lost. When someone states “I love those shoes!” it is obviously altogether different than love of some alive being. The true nature of Love itself, and its expression, has been explored by the greatest poets, philosophers, and scientists. I won’t begin to attempt it here.***

***Of course, any actual context in which this word is used gives precision to the level and quality and depth of the feeling. The phenomenon of human love for the rest of the animal world, especially those who share our home, our time and devotion, and who give us such pleasure in return, is what I bring up here. In essence, how we express our affection and commitment to them depends as much on who we are, as our love for any living being. Our own capacity to resonate in fullness with such an experience has mostly to do with our genes and socialization/enculturation. But it certainly cannot be precisely measured.***

***There is a question which most often seems to arise, and it cannot be fully answered: do the animals who share our home really love us back in the way we love them?***

***One small aspect that has been measured is the amount of a certain hormone (Oxytocin) which contact with a beloved dog or cat elicits in the animal dependent on us, as well as in ourselves. This bonding hormone which is inherent, occurs when a child is born, especially between mother and baby, and it results from physical contact and nursing initially; a necessity for any mammalian species to bond and thrive. There are other behaviors in birth and infancy which also elicit oxytocin. For instance, as soon as a baby animal – including the human one - is able to see, eye contact enhances the release of oxytocin as well. We also know that this hormone can respond in a heightened manner during many kinds of affectionate human contacts between adults, as it does with our household animals. Any of the senses used for communication and demonstration of affection can elicit the hormone. In various scientific experiments it has been measured to see when it is present in a given animal, and how much there is. Both caretakers and animals can have a flooding feeling of connection and well-being simultaneously when the behaviors are conducive to bonding. And then there is a measurably high level of increase in the hormone both for human and their animal companion.***

***So, in this respect, we can know our dog or cat does bond with us. But is this indeed Love, coming from our dog or cat to us? Most people will tell you that it is definitely so. However, there are many shades and nuances as well as degrees, and a huge variety of expressions with***

**love. We seem to want to measure everything. “How much do you love me?” humans ask each other.**

**Probably the supreme, single expression of love on this planet is the act of potentially or purposefully sacrificing one’s life for another; this can also happen instinctively and reactively to a dangerous situation, as when strangers are involved. There are stories of humans giving their lives for their dogs or cats as well. And the reverse is true for dogs who rescue their human, for although we cannot know if that is through love as we define it, it is certainly a behavior born of protectiveness which usually accompanies loving. We don’t want to lose them. They don’t want to lose us. We protect what we “love” even if it is not alive. As do our dogs. Not so much protection from our cats it seems. House cats are not built for defense of us, in their evolution with humans. They did not evolve to work with and for us as did dogs.**

I see my cats as creatures of many dimensions. There are definite bonding behaviors coming from them. For these household companions, I would use the word “attachment’ e.g., a real pleasure in and need of our company from both dogs and cats. My dogs’ affections had another level of bonding from that of my cats, because they were able to communicate a wider variety of feelings – or more accurately, they were able to communicate a far greater range of obvious emotions than a cat.... whose stare only barely shifts insofar as we are able to see it for what it is.

**“ Cats simply don’t have the facial muscles to make the variety of expressions a dog [or human] can. So when we look at a cat staring at us impassively, it looks like a psychopath who cannot feel or show emotion. But that’s just its face. Cats communicate not with facial expressions but through the positions of their ears and tails and bodies.” <https://www.theatlantic.com/science/archive/2019/02/cat-psychopaths/583192/>**

**This physical reality is obviously less endearing to any needy human looking only for a reflection of her/im self. The reflection can more easily be found in a dog. It is clear that we usually experience a different relationship with our dogs than our cats. But cats are charming and loveable for who and what they are, without need of comparison. It is we who look through our human lenses and declare some being is more or less valuable. We have the capacity to do things to hurt others intentionally for a large variety of ‘reasons’; but when animals ‘hurt’ one another it is purely for reasons of physical survival, not with intent to make the other suffer. They are not**

*vindictive to others in their species, nor to their humans, despite our projection of emotions onto them, (which we identify in ourselves) when we dislike their behaviors.*

*We tend to love most what we can identify as similar to ourselves. That is the safest choice, which is natural. When a dog shows its attachment and is overjoyed to see us, this is a great reward for the human. It can be recognized as pure. Cats also greet us but in different and more subtle ways. This is clear to me when my cats feel close to me and express it physically but in different ways than my dogs. I had a cat who stood on its hind legs with front legs wide open when I returned from work. It had learned to imitate my own open-arm return greeting but it was still pleasurable. We love to be loved and we know this as a great gift. Whom we choose in our friends and romantic love life can create a conundrum. But animals have no 'conditions' about our being deserving.*

*What we expect of others is complex. Expectations of others are often unfulfilled by the humans in our lives. But our dogs never disappoint us. Nor do our cats, unless we have unrealistic expectations. Perhaps we don't choose to use the word 'love' for our 'pets' feelings towards us, but when we are disappointed in love, it is very rarely from a dog or cat. Therefore, I vote for using the term 'love' coming from these animals, since our heart tells us that we can feel secure with them. Our love for a domestic animal is never unrequited; theirs is unconditional for us. But how do we love each other as humans? Well, the literature is full of those woven webs of attachments. Take your pick.*

*Note:*

*Capacity of animal facial muscles: "In total, we found 14 AUs, 6 ADs and 7 EADs in the domestic cat, which although when compared to humans and other primates are considerably less numerous. Humans have 27 expressions; chimps have 13 and dogs have 16.*

*(The Link below explains the differences in eye sight, between /among some animals, but not in the muscles.)*

*<https://buenavet.com/better-vision-dogs-cats/>*

*Submitted by Yvonne de Miranda*

*6.16.23*

# DCS 6.13 Board Meeting Highlights:

Full minutes and updated bylaws available online at  
<https://www.deadwoodcreekservices.org/board-meeting-documents>

I. Cedarworks Playground has been approved and ordered! Expected delivery late June

A. Playground Raising Dates: Please help build our new playground, lunch provided!

1. Saturday, July 15th, 10a-5pm
- a) If needed, July 22nd, 10a-3pm

B. Playground Grand Opening and Ice cream Sundae Bar! More info next month.

1. Sunday July 30th, 2-5pm

II. Summer Programming for Kids - Looking for hosts for activities at the Community Center

and/or hosting a “Kid’s Day” at your Deadwood home - contact  
[deadwoodcreekservices@gmail.com](mailto:deadwoodcreekservices@gmail.com)

III. Board Meetings are regularly held on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 6pm at the Community Center.



Bull frogs and screech owls  
Call from the summer meadow  
Songs that I once knew.

by Billy Burruss



# News from Deadwood Pioneer Cemetery

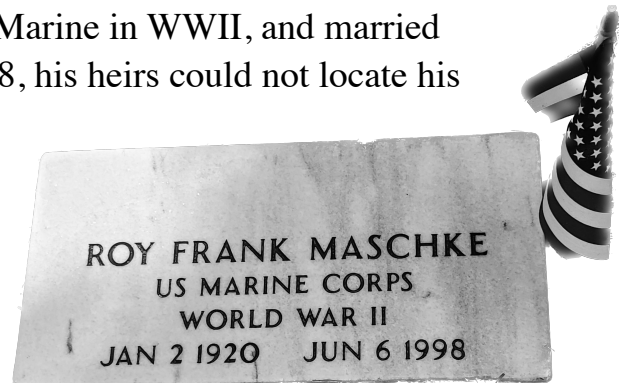
Thank you! We greatly appreciate everyone who helps keep DPC looking nice – either by helping at work parties, maintaining your own family members’ areas, mowing, picking up branches, supporting with donations, maintaining the water tank and lines, planting, pruning, watering, fertilizing, and more!

However, our old black wheelbarrow is missing (again) – if you borrowed it, please return it! If you have an extra, please consider donating it.

Volunteers needed – either short- or long-term: email to [deadwoodcem@gmail.com](mailto:deadwoodcem@gmail.com) or call Megan at 541-999-2209 if you’re interested

1. Publishing – We need to create a 3-fold brochure and update our website. If you have the time, skill and computer, we’d love to have some short-term help!
2. Watering – Could you help for about 1 hour per week through this summer?
3. Board Member – out of the area is OK! Board meetings are held online on the 2nd or 3rd Monday of most months. Anyone can sit in to share your thoughts & ask questions; just let us know if you’re interested and we’ll send you the link.

Veteran finally honored! Roy Maschke was a Marine in WWII, and married Velma Wills late in life. After his death in 1998, his heirs could not locate his military, and his grave at DPC was only marked with a temporary marker and an oak sapling. After retiring, Duane Wills (one of Velma’s sons) joined the DPC Board and became active in several projects, including installing the Veterans’ Honor Rock. He had vowed to find his father-in-law’s military records and get the free VA headstone ordered, but Duane died suddenly in 2020 without seeing the completion of either of those projects. Our Genealogist, Pat Rongey, took up the search for Roy’s records, but due to Covid 19 the VA locked down non-urgent research requests for 2 years. Pat reapplied in 2023, and finally got Roy’s headstone sent to us. We are pleased to have gotten it in place, 25 years later!



Next-of-kin can apply online for free documents, medallions and headstones at [VA.gov](http://VA.gov). We may be able to offer some help / tips if needed.

## Pioneer Cemetery Continued

Honor your Veterans! If you would like to honor a military veteran - living or passed, here or elsewhere, please consider placing a plaque on our Veterans Honor Rock in his / her honor for just \$45 each. Applications are available at the Rock, on our Facebook page ([facebook.com/deadwoodcem.org](https://facebook.com/deadwoodcem.org)), by calling 541-999-2209 or by email to [deadwoodcem@gmail.com](mailto:deadwoodcem@gmail.com).

Remembering Madonna Wilson – We are hoping to help get a headstone placed at Blachly Cemetery for Madonna Wilson but need to find her birth &/or death date, maiden name and/or other married names. Can you help?