

## Dobbins-Oregon House Improvement Foundation

Alcouffe Center Newsletter - Fall, 2019

Website: [www.alcouffecenter.org](http://www.alcouffecenter.org) Email: [alcouffecenter@gmail.com](mailto:alcouffecenter@gmail.com)



### **PG&E Public Safety Power Shutdown (PSPS)**

Almost everyone reading this newsletter will have been affected by the recent Public Safety Power Shutdowns (PSPS). Many of you may have taken advantage of the Community Support Center (CSC) established at the Alcouffe Center under the auspices of PG&E. The CSC at the Alcouffe Center provided work space, warmth, recharging stations



and fast internet connections for our residents who did not have electricity at home during the outages. Many people came to the center to telecommute, and there were several home schoolers who needed a connection as well.

The Alcouffe Center has a large, propane powered generator which runs everything at the center when the power is out.

There were three outages during which PG&E used the Center, one on Oct 28-30, and another two Oct 9-11, Sept 23-25. PG&E provided staff, security, bottled water, snacks and "swag". During the last and

longest outage, there were 250+ people the first two days and 500+ the last day.

We are pleased to have a community center which can be used for such support, and also as an official Office of Emergency Evacuation Center when needed. Your support makes this possible.

### **FLOOR RENOVATION**

The renovation of floor of the Alcouffe Center is complete! The old tiles have been removed, the concrete surfaces ground and a light color stain applied. We would like to thank Collins Lake and an anonymous donor for their generous contributions over the last two years which allowed us to finally go ahead with this needed renovation.



### **Funding and Support**

### **WE REALLY NEED YOUR SUPPORT AGAIN!!**

The Community Center is supported entirely by tax deductible gifts, fund raising events like Tractor Days, the Mexican Dinner and Harvest Festival and rentals. **DOHIF does not receive any public funds and we have no paid employees. We can't do this without you!**

What does it cost to operate the Alcouffe Center? About \$40,000 per year for utilities, insurance, maintenance, etc.

Donations and fundraisers have been and will continue to be relied on for the majority of funds needed for operations. So far this year we have had fairly successful fundraising events including our annual Crab Feed, our annual Vintage Tractor & Farm Days, and our Mexican Dinner and Auction. We also hosted our Community Fourth of July celebration open to the community with BBQ, fireworks, bounce houses and tractor train rides. **The generosity of the community in making donations and attending fundraisers is the life blood of the Center.** We, therefore, need your continued support in the way of donations, volunteer time and by attending fundraisers as well as your ideas and time for additional events

and activities that support the community.

## **How You Can Help** **Donations are Tax** **deductible!**

**Send us a Check:** Make out your check to the Dobbins-Oregon House Improvement Foundation and mail it to:  
P.O. Box 302  
Oregon House, CA 95962  
We will send you a thank you and receipt for your files.

### **Donate online!**

On our website you can make contributions directly at:

<http://www.alcouffecenter.org/Alcouffe/how-to-donate/>

**Attend our events:** Our events are an important source of revenue throughout the year. Come out and enjoy quality events that support your Community Center.



**Volunteer:** We wouldn't exist without volunteers and volunteer labor. Every hour of volunteer work is appreciated, and there is something useful to be done by everyone of any age. Choose something that you would enjoy supporting and reap the rewards of making a difference right here in your own community. Please send an email to Curtis Canfield at [weatweebee@aol.com](mailto:weatweebee@aol.com).

Come to the DOHIF Fundraising Committee Meetings on the first Tuesday of each month from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm. Everyone is welcome to attend, and this is a great way to explore all the opportunities to participate.

Consider joining our Board of Directors and directly participate in making decisions about our programs! You can download a Board application form at: <http://www.alcouffecenter.org/uploads/pdfs/DOHIFBdApp.pdf>

### **Planned Giving:**

(Endowments, Bequests) A generous gift of land in 1992 by the Alcouffe family made the building of your community center possible. Their gift is a model for a lasting contribution to our beloved foothill community. Wills and Trusts can be used as part of Charitable Estate Planning. This is an excellent way to give and to get some great tax advantages.

### **Other Opportunities:**

We are looking for other ways to partner with the community with the goal of long term sustainability for your Alcouffe Center & Douthit Park – contact any board member with your ideas. We are currently looking at ways to reduce the cost of running the center; which runs around \$40,000 a year. One idea we are looking into is installing solar panels.

We currently spend about \$8,000 for PG&E annually. Though the labor to install the panels may be done at no cost by community volunteers, the panels alone could cost \$32,000. With the floor repaired, this will be one of our main objectives in the next two years.

## **ONGOING ACTIVITIES AT THE ALCOUFFE COMMUNITY CENTER**

**Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, AA, Table Tennis, Exercise Classes, Fire Safe Council, Youth Theatre, Youth Ballet, Park and Ride, etc.**

**Family Movie Nights** are the 2nd Friday of every month at 7:00 pm and are FREE. Doors open at 6:30 pm. Food, snacks and beverages are available at a nominal cost. Children under 13 must be accompanied by an adult. All movies are G rated family movies. Call Robert at 692-9162 to find out what's showing.

A “**Little Free Library**” is located in the Alcouffe Center north entrance.

Take a book/leave a book.

**Workout Sessions** are held in our exercise room. ZUMBA Dancing and exercise equipment are offered 5:30-7:00 pm on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Each session costs \$2. Contact Arlyce Baker at 692-1060 for information.

**Table Tennis:** Alcouffe Center is the place to be for table tennis every Thursday from 6:30 to 9pm. Come join the fun and get a great workout! Equipment is provided as well as coaching to improve your game. \$3 per evening, but the first one is FREE.

**Park ‘n Ride** at the Alcouffe Center provides a convenient way to carpool. Our Alcouffe Center parking lot provides a safe convenient and free place to meet with others and carpool to work and events.

**DOHIF's mission is to build and support a place to meet, provide improved health & safety services, enhance education, assist with disaster relief, recreate, and enjoy life.**

**Our Vision is a vibrant and healthy community where needed services are provided and available to all residents.**