



Photo by Gabe Frayne

Portland's Struggle with Affordable Housing

By Gabe Frayne

Jeanne Favini looks back with a mixture of bitterness and embarrassment at the moment she realized she faced an imminent choice between homelessness or moving into her adult daughter's guest room for an extended visit.

"The landlords specifically said that they felt they were leaving money on the table because these were modest apartments at modest rents," she explains, "so they started to raise the rents several times a year. None of us had leases. They didn't do leases."

Favini was referring to the Chestnut Court apartments on SE Stark, which she had called home for several years.

"They decided they wanted a *better class of tenants*," she recalls, and there ensued a brief attempt to form a tenants union.

"They just went ballistic, brought in a battery of lawyers and went for us big-time."

Within months, most of the tenants, including Favini, had effectively been

evicted. That was in 2017, well before Oregon's (largely feckless) rent control law and Portland's relocation assistance ordinance went into effect.

According to data compiled by Rentjungle.com, in the six years between 2011 and 2017, the average rent for a two-bedroom apartment increased by 70 percent city-wide (though rents have since seen a modest decline).

Scenarios such as Favini's prompted voters in Portland to approve a \$258 million affordable housing bond in 2016, followed by a \$652 million bond in the tri-county Metro area two years later.

Last September, Mayor Ted Wheeler declared that the Portland housing bond was succeeding beyond expectations. With a dozen projects in various states of completion, the bond has provided 1,424 units of affordable housing as of the beginning of this year. That's more than the 1,300 originally projected for all the funding available.

"This slate of projects not only gets us to our numeric goals, but it reaffirms our commitment as a city to better serving communities of color, to mitigating displacement and to committing our investments in our east Portland neighborhoods," Wheeler told *The Oregonian*.

The bond's projects include both acquisition and upgrades of existing housing, as well as construction of new housing.

Among the former are the Ellington Apartments at 1610 NE 66th Ave. and the East Burnside Apartments, which was a brand new building at the time it was acquired. The Ellington in particular would appear to target one of the main problems that the bond seeks to address.

A link to the Portland Housing Bureau (PHB) site notes that "Before the acquisition, [the Ellington's] 263 garden-style apartments and town homes were being marketed to higher-income clientele, threatening to displace residents.

"Now, plans are underway to transform all of the units into affordable homes, welcoming at least 80 extremely low-income families and stabilizing hundreds who were previously at risk of losing their housing."

continued on page 2

Fixing Our Streets

By Don MacGillivray

The congestion and poor condition of Portland streets is a frequent public complaint. The first effort at "Fixing Our Streets" was a 10 cents per gallon gas tax narrowly approved in 2016.

This is an excellent beginning to address a chronic problem, but the work is far from complete. Therefore, the renewal of this fee will again be on the ballot this May.

Some thought the 10 cent gas tax would not be renewed after the first four years, but, even with its success, problems are far from being resolved.

Portland has 4,834 lane-miles of paved roads. 40 percent of Portland's busiest streets were deficient and 47 percent of residential roads were in poor condition as judged by a 2013 City of Portland audit. Two years later, these statistics were 49 percent and 56 percent, respectively.

In 2015 Portland identified a \$1 billion street maintenance backlog estimated to take 10 years to fix. The City Council was tentative about referring a tax on gasoline to the Portland voters.

The first Fixing Our Streets ballot measure in 2016 was for \$76 million and there was another \$8 million gleaned from a tax on heavy vehicles, but at \$21 million per year, it would take 50 years to bring Portland's streets back into first class condition.

Now the Portland City Council is criticized for trying to renew this regressive tax.

During the first four years of the Fixing Our Streets program its \$84 million improved 40 lane miles of road, constructed 300 new sidewalk ramps, made 58 intersections safer and built 49 projects for Safe Routes to Schools.

In addition, money has been used for the improvements to SE Foster Rd., NE Halsey St., NE Weidler St. and to sections of SW Capitol Hwy.

These programs are audited annually and the Fixing Our Streets Oversight Committee reviews the progress continuously. They have advised the formulation of this ballot measure and will continue their work into the future.

40 percent of the work of Fixing Our Streets has been contracted with minority-owned and emerging small businesses, twice the goal set for the program. Over the last four years, the Portland Department of Transportation has increased their work efficiencies, established stronger management systems and enhanced businesses relationships.

The 2021-2024 program is divided into three primary focus areas: smoother streets, safer streets and community transportation services.

\$25 million includes paving and pre-

continued on page 11



Photo by Teresa Raiford

Teresa Raiford - Candidate for Mayor

By Jack Rubinger

Teresa Raiford doesn't pause for a breath. She has a lot to say, she's passionate, has a sense of humor and a deep knowledge of Portland history.

She's running for Mayor because she's frustrated with the acquiescence shown by Portland leaders not showing up for community at times that civic participation is most needed.

Raiford lives across from a church in NW Portland. The steps are frequented by houseless individuals on rainy nights.

"We've got to resolve our housing issues," she said. "You can't do anything without a place to live."

The Multnomah County Health Department's annual review of homeless deaths found that during the 2018 calendar year, 92 people died in Multnomah County without an address or a home of their own.

All too familiar with this data, part of Raiford's community advocacy as a non-profit leader is protecting, feeding and clothing houseless communities while advocating for legal referral services.

She has seen too many broken promises from entities like Portland Housing Bureau, which she believes is more committed to rapid development than to the people.

"I believe in restoration and rehabilitation while providing affordable housing

continued on page 17

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Richmond Considers Parking Permits

By MIDGE PIERCE

Few issues rile up Portlanders quite so much as parking. On the eastside, it is dividing those who seek it from those who seek to reduce it.

As the Richmond neighborhood grapples with a squeeze caused by developments on SE Division St., the Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT) held an open house to announce exploration of a parking permit proposal for the area.

PBOT will appoint an advisory group of businesses, renters and homeowners to work on design and boundaries. The focus will likely be several blocks north and south of Division between 39th Ave and 29th Ave.

PBOT representatives acknowledged that implementing parking permits may impact adjacent areas that would continue to have free, non-permit parking.

Richmond Neighborhood Association's Allen Field emphasized that any parking permit plan has to be voted in by those affected. After ballots are mailed, perhaps next winter, at least 50 percent must be returned and 60 percent of those must approve it before a plan is adopted.

After adoption, if it does not work, it can be voted away, according to Field.

Attendee comments ranged from cost concerns and outrage that tax-paying residents are burdened with a problem caused by developers, to testimonials about hardships parents of small children and seniors face when unable to park and unload near their homes.

Longtime bike activist Doug Klotz was on hand with a timely reminder to drivers to stop blocking visibility by adhering to state parking requirements to leave a 20-foot gap between cars and corners.

The Richmond parking squeeze typically occurs in the evenings and on weekends when popular restaurants and shops along Division are busiest.

Those demands are quite different from the crunch and congestion caused by daytime commuters in Buckman where parking programs have been around for several years and expanded to more streets as more apartments are built.

By contrast, Hawthorne Blvd. stakeholders, also experiencing new growth, nixed a program proposal last year for fear it could hurt local businesses.

Next year, PBOT's 2021 Hawthorne Pave and Paint project, considered an opportunity to make the street safer, may impact parking in as yet undetermined

ways.

Tony Jordan of the Parking Reform Network indicated that close-in commuter programs like Buckman's can complement hours residents are away to work. As growth challenges make parking scarcer, he suggested selling special day-use permits to commuters that could raise funds for transit subsidies and safety programs.

He added that congestion may necessitate overnight permits as proposed by a Centers and Corridors toolkit. For Richmond, he advocated an equitable balance between "residents, workers, visitors and patrons of all incomes and abilities" as well as awareness of both costs and impacts of "building more and building less" parking.

When it comes to permits, only one thing is certain: you can't please everyone.

Buckman Board member Sam Noble summed it up, "I hear plenty of complaints about things that don't work well (including the dubious pair that permits are both too expensive and too inexpensive) and very few comments from happy residents."

PBOT is accepting applications to serve on the Richmond advisory council. See portland-oregon.gov/transportation/article/752134.

Portland's Affordable Housing Struggles

from page 1

Of the 10 new construction sites that include bond funding, only one is slated for inner SE. The as-yet un-named project will be constructed on a presently vast empty lot formerly occupied by the Safari Club at 3000 SE Powell.

A spokesperson for PHB says it will eventually "provide 180 affordable units, with a focus on serving families."

As for the Metro bond, Portland has yet to finalize an Inter-governmental Agreement (IGA) with Metro on the expenditure of funds allotted to Portland.

However, at a February 5 meeting of the Metro bond oversight committee, Molly Rogers, deputy director of the Portland Housing Bureau and point person for both the Portland and Metro housing bonds, stated that Portland's priority for Metro bond

money at this time is to get "existing projects over the finish line."

While voter-approved bond funding for affordable housing has been a crucial source of funding for new and acquired housing, not all new city-sponsored housing has been drawn from the bonds.

The Louisa Flowers apartments on NE Grand Ave. between Hassalo and Holladay is now offering 240 studio, one-bedroom and two-bedroom apartments to prospective residents with a median family income of 60 percent and lower. The building drew funding from a mix of public and private funding, with about 30 percent provided by Home Forward (formerly the Housing Authority of Portland).

This project, named for an early African-American resident of Portland, brings together many of the values that the city hopes to

incorporate in its new affordable housing. It is adjacent to both a Max line and bus line, within a half mile walk of the Lloyd Center mall and the Broadway Safeway, and the ground floor is set aside for retail.

Jeanne Favini finally solved her housing crisis by drawing on social capital: her daughter and son-in-law gave her a loan for a down payment on a small house in the Montavilla neighborhood; obviously, not an option available to most low and moderate-income renters who have been priced out of the rental market.


Going forward, many questions remain as to how the city (and Metro) will provide affordable housing to the thousands of new and long-time lower income residents who have become increasingly vulnerable to the rising tide of gentrification and displacement.

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Mayor Ted Wheeler’s Re-Election Campaign

BY DAVID KROGH

Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler has announced his bid for re-election to a second term. If successful, he will be the first Portland Mayor to serve more than one term since Vera Katz served three terms: January 1993-January 2005.

Prior to his election as Mayor, Wheeler served 2010-2016 as State Treasurer and 2007-2010 as Multnomah County Commission Chair.

During his tenure as Mayor, Wheeler’s primary focus has been to address several pressing issues including homelessness and affordable housing.

Neither Wheeler nor his campaign responded directly to specific questions from *The Southeast Examiner*. However, both his office and campaign websites do provide information as to his record and issues.

In addition, his campaign website includes a *Message from Ted* which lists many accomplishments and activities still underway with a focus on Portland’s problems and priorities.

His list of accomplishments includes:

- Doubling Portland’s shelter capacity
- Assisting over 6,000 people into transitional housing
- Construction of over 800 units of affordable housing
- Initiating One Point of Contact platform for public reporting of problem campsites and garbage issues
- Promoting renewable energy for Portland
- Limiting single use plastics
- Partnering with businesses and nonprofits to address city cleanliness issues
- Addressing equity in City government by hiring capable women managers (e.g., Chief of Police and Bureau of Planning and Sustainability Director).
- Addressing internal police issues including de-escalation and bias training
- Creating a public safety specialist program for non-emergency calls

Mayor Wheeler: “One of my proudest moments as Mayor is the unity we have shown as a city in the face of hatred.

“To hear the voices of Portland’s faith community, civil rights leaders, businesses and unions, our Timbers and Blazers all join together with a clear message of inclusion and support for targets of white supremacy is so gratifying and so important. This is the kind of strength we can show when we join together and stand up for our values.”

His posted information does not address issues of concern to many in SE Portland, including traffic congestion, parking, street maintenance and the upcoming city charter review.

Wheeler did acknowledge in a separate interview with *The Southeast Examiner* last March that he was open to consider changing the commission form of governance depending on public input.

He has been a proponent and supporter of the Joint Of-



Photo by Mayor Wheeler’s Office

fice of Homeless Services (see “Homelessness in Portland Part II” in the January 2019 issue).

This is a jointly funded Portland/Multnomah County office staffed by the County that administers grant money (local, state and federal) to agencies and private or nonprofit groups which provide homeless-related services.

Their website at multco.us/joint-office-homeless-services, lists a substantial number of supported programs and projects.

During this campaign, Mayor Wheeler’s office is sponsoring several community conversations to discuss issues of homelessness and livability.

By the time of publication there will have been two such meetings held already. Two more are scheduled for March:

- North Portland – Tuesday, March 3, 6:30-8:30 pm at the University of Portland, Bauccio Commons
- SW Portland – Saturday, March 7, 9 am-12 pm at the Multnomah Arts Center Gymnasium

For additional information on these events, go to portland-oregon.gov/wheeler/80228.

Mayor Wheeler has not been without his detractors. He has been criticized for his lack of action with police and protesters, especially during downtown protests in June 2019.

He was recently the subject of a campaign finance complaint regarding the receipt of larger contributions than authorized (see “Campaign Fund Complaints Hit Council Candidates” in the February 2020 issue).

However, according to the City Auditor’s Office, portions of the City’s campaign finance provisions have been determined to be unconstitutional by the Multnomah County Circuit Court.

The Wheeler campaign and his primary challenger’s, Sarah Iannarone, have had Twitter squabbles and the exchange is likely to heat up further before the May 19 primary.

Mayor Wheeler expresses his dedication in continuing to address the issues facing Portland

at this time.

“The work is not yet done, and I’m asking for your help in continuing to get us there. We’re strongest when we work together as one vibrant, powerful, engaged community. So I’m here, and I’m ready to keep going for these next four years.”

For additional information see tedwheeler.com.

RIP Marches Forward

BY MIDGE PIERCE

The Residential Infill Project (RIP) was presented to Council at a February work session as part of a broader Housing Opportunities Initiative. It now moves toward adoption and the public has another chance this month to weigh in on the pros and cons of Planning Bureau amendments.

Initially scheduled to review Bureau of Planning and Sustainability technicalities, several public proposals are under consideration that could significantly impact the level of densification allowed in formerly single family residential neighborhoods.

A Deep Affordability concept that emerged at the last public hearing stands out for advocating that allowable units expand from four to six, or potentially more.

The proposal includes additional height and mass for dwellings when at least half of the units

are affordable to those earning no more than 60 percent median family income. A visibility requirement would also be applied to two units.

To satisfy those concerned about demolition, the Historic Resource Disincentive Amendment was introduced to encourage adaptive re-use and rehabbing buildings for multi-unit uses. It would prohibit more than two units on sites formerly occupied by an historic resource.

While advocates say more housing will lead to more affordable housing, critics point to the lack of affordability guarantees, the recent spike in vacancies, the environmental damage of new construction and downward projections in the number of Portland newcomers.

Community members can testify to Council on the amendments Thursday, March 12, 2 pm. For more information on the City perspective, see portland.gov/rip.

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LE Letter to the Editor

To the Editor:

I commend you for your balanced and informative February 2020 issue.

Nancy Tannler’s piece on the Portland Water Bureau’s planned filtration plant construction was very helpful in understanding what the Bureau’s goals are and why, especially with a history of fiscal abuses.

Midge Pierce’s continued reporting on the corrupted RIP-off proposal is excellent, the grousing of one letter-writer notwithstanding. This developer-giveaway has been flawed from its bureaucratic birth and Pierce’s reporting has been courageous and valuable in seeing through the smokescreen.

Finally, David Krogh’s interview with City Council candidate Mingus Mapps was very informative.

As a modest contributor to Mapps’ campaign, it is clear to me that quality candidates like him do not show up frequently on Portland ballots.

To opportunists like Sam Adams, who has thrown his hat and ego in the ring for Eudaly’s seat, I say, “You had your chance, Sam. Please move on as it is time for new people to serve.”

It’s also time for people like Mapps who will ultimately change Portland’s terrible form of government.

Frank DiMarco

Sarah Iannarone’s 2020 Mayoral Campaign

By David Krogh

Sarah Iannarone is one of many candidates running for Mayor against Ted Wheeler. Originally from New York, Iannarone moved to Portland in the late 1990s and ran the Arleta Library and Bakery in SE Portland, before attending Portland State to achieve her PhD in Urban Studies.

She formerly worked as an administrator at PSU and currently teaches at the Wayfinding Academy in North Portland.

Iannarone is an urban activist and unsuccessfully ran for Mayor in 2016, coming in third behind Ted Wheeler and Jules Bailey. She views the current campaign as a real opportunity for her to interject positive changes into a negative situation.

Her campaign has not responded to specific questions posed by *The Southeast Examiner*. The campaign website and other sources of information have been researched in order to focus on issues especially relevant to SE Portland residents.

Here is how Sarah Iannarone’s campaign proposes to address certain issues.

- **Changing the commission form of government:** Iannarone advocates reforming the “weak mayor” commission through a robust charter review process. “Our current system of citywide at-large elections has

meant that only a small fraction of Portlanders are able to run for City Council.

“As a result, our elected officials on the City Council have historically been whiter, wealthier, more likely to be a man, and to live west of the Willamette River than the average Portlander.”

- **Public Safety:** Iannarone looks at public safety as a broad category that includes support for the homeless, an end to police profiling of people of color and ensuring safety for all, including a continuation of Portland’s Sanctuary City Status.
- **Traffic Safety:** As an avid bike user, Iannarone advocates for continued support of Vision Zero and speed limit reductions; stronger drunk driving enforcement; better street lighting; more traffic safety cameras at problem intersections and transfer of dangerous state highway facilities to the City for correction.

Traffic safety, she says, is only one part of a greater need to improve public safety overall. Her *Safety for All* comments indicate she is a transportation expert, however, she does not have a background in traffic management or transportation planning.

She advocates for increased bike and bus use, but her policy statements have not addressed current problems with traffic congestion, parking or street maintenance which are of great concern to residents and businesses in SE



Photo by Maddie Lee

Portland.

- **Housing:** Iannarone says, “We’ve had our heads in the sand about what housing is affordable to whom. This has left us with a shortage of the housing that our people actually need.”

According to her housing policies, Portland has only approved approximately 1,300 affordable units since 2016 when it is estimated that closer to 23,000 units are needed.

She adds, “We need to re-think our priorities as a community to focus on raising household incomes, reducing racial and economic segregation, and ending rampant speculation without benefit to local residents.”

- **Climate:** According to her, Portland has touted its “greenness” for years with little to show for it.

Among the points Iannarone advocates are declaring a “climate emergency” and taking dramatic steps to address it; including stronger promotion of green building construction; expanded (and free) transit services so more

people will be encouraged to bus; elimination of internal City silos which inhibit bureaus from working together towards meeting climate targets; prohibition of new fossil fuel related infrastructure along with a ban of oil trains and encouraging more local input into potential remedies.

The campaign website proposes to include vision statements and policies for the topic areas of Equity and Inclusion and Smart Cities in the near future.

A January 19 op-ed by Iannarone in *The Oregonian* states her feelings more openly about running for Mayor than on her campaign website.

She is upset over what she perceives is a lack of “bold leadership” in Portland City Hall saying, “The Portland mayor’s office is failing our city at a critical time and, yes, like my community, I’m frustrated about it.”

For additional information about Iannarone’s campaign and related events she is sponsoring, visit sarah2020.com/.



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Burnside Bridge: Retrofit or Rebuild?

By MIDGE PIERCE

Despite living in an earthquake zone, few Portland residents think about the danger of crossing the Willamette River on our aging bridges. Yet for 40,000 cars crossing the Burnside Bridge daily, it is a gamble.

In the event of disaster, Burnside is a crucial span for first responders and deliveries of emergency supplies. It is also at risk of collapse during a major earthquake and warnings have been issued about it.

Now, a year into reviewing bridge safety options, a City taskforce is facing the difficult decision of whether the bridge should be seismically retrofitted or completely rebuilt as part of the Earthquake Ready Burnside Bridge project under Multnomah County jurisdiction.

The taskforce is charged with reviewing three options that include retrofitting the existing bridge, replacing the bridge with essentially the same footprint or building a longer span that could bypass liquefaction risks on the Eastside’s potentially slippery slope.

An advantage of building a longer span is that it includes the extension of NE Couch St. to avoid a sharp westbound S-curve that now exists, according to press spokesman Michael Pullen.

The three options were narrowed from some 100 discarded alternatives that included a float-ing option and ferry crossings.

Built in 1926, the Burnside Bridge is one of the City’s longest and busiest thoroughfares with three bus lines, 2,000 bike-



Photo by Midge Pierce

pedestrian crossings and 40,000 cars daily. It is a major east-west truck route.

The projected cost of re-building, estimated at up to \$860 million, may rise with updates this spring. The planning and design phase costs for the project come from local vehicle registra-tions fees.

\$150 million in construc-tion funds would come from a regional transportation measure Metro is expected to put on the November 2020 ballot. The bal-ance could come from state and federal governments.

Eliminating a temporary bridge could be the biggest cost savings. County data indicated that diverting traffic to other bridges during Burnside con-struction would only add three and a half minutes to most com-mutes.

At a February meeting, the taskforce prioritized criteria that ranged from quality of life to im-pacts on Saturday Market; to so-cial and environmental justice is-

sues such as loss of shelter beds. Not surprisingly, seismic resili-ency was accorded most weight while aesthetic considerations came in comparatively low.

“Some of us were a little surprised that the City task force ranked fiscal responsibility and business and economics as lower priority than some other topics,” said Pullen.

The taskforce is expected to present its bridge preference to County officials this summer. Recommendations will be sub-ject to environmental and Federal Highway Administration reviews. The long planning process and construction may extend into the middle of the decade.

Because an earthquake may be imminent, experts say there is no time to waste. The county says it is working as fast as it can. In the interim, officials urge residents to develop emergency communication and preparedness plans.

More information at burn-sidebridge.org.

Courts Create Confusion on Homeless Camping Bans

By DAVID KROGH

As previously reported in *The Southeast Examiner*, the City of Salem recently instituted a ban on camping on public property aimed at curbing homeless camps and litter problems.

Wary of court actions, the City had arranged to provide funding to a nonprofit group to bolster homeless sheltering. That arrangement fell through and Sa-lem’s plans are now in limbo.

The City of Woodburn has just imposed its own homeless camping ban on public properties and has provided dedicated funds to a service provider for shelter-ing.

The court involved in these determinations, the federal 9th US Circuit Court of Appeals, made a landmark ruling in a case involving Boise, ID that cities cannot ban camping if there are not enough shelter beds to house homeless campers.

Another Oregon court case however, is now adjusting the fo-cus of that spotlight.

In 2017, homeless Portland-er Alexandra Barrett requested in County Circuit Court that crimi-nal charges she had been accused of for camping in downtown Chapman Park be dismissed be-cause they unfairly targeted her for being homeless.

Her attorneys argued the charges against her violated the Constitution’s Eighth Amend-ment’s prohibition on cruel and unusual punishment when ap-plied to the homeless. The Circuit Court ruled against her, sparking an appeal to the Oregon Court of Appeals.

The Appeals court upheld the Circuit Court decision Janu-ary 29 but with mixed observa-tions. The Oregon appellate jud-ges stated that they were not bound by the federal case because only federal appeals or Supreme Court cases are binding on a state ap-peals court.

They argued that Barrett had not gone into adequate detail to verify that no shelter beds were available to her at the time of her arrest.

Two judges additionally stated that banning camping on public property by homeless people likely does violate the Eighth Amendment, espe-cially if they are not voluntarily home-less. Such a determination, how-ever, would have to be done by a higher court than the state appel-late court.

Portland’s City Attorney’s Office welcomed the decision and reiterated that Portland’s camping ban is in line with state and fed-eral requirements. Subsequently the ACLU and the Oregon Legal

Justice Center have requested the City re-examine its camping ban as it has a tendency to criminalize people who have nowhere else to sleep.

Meanwhile, Barrett’s at-torneys are preparing to file an appeal with the Oregon Supreme Court where the issue of consti-tutionality might finally be ad-dressed.

Portland’s camping ban is not being uniformly enforced at this time as indicated by the many tents and tarps that have been popping up continuously in mul-tiple locations (mainly along pub-lic right-of-ways and sidewalks) all throughout the City.

Homelessness in Portland has actually gone up slightly since last year, according to me-dia statistics.

The City of Beaverton is looking into a program to allow homeless car/RV parking in select parking lots as one means to ad-dress street-side camping.

Other jurisdictions, particu-larly in southern CA, are looking at establishing homeless camping locations which include on-site services.

The Oregon state legisla-ture’s current “short session” will look at HB4001 which could pro-vide up to \$40 million to cities for homeless shelter and navigation center support.

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Community News

Aiden Palmer Takes Flight

By Abigale Crowe

Focus and determination glow in his eyes. It is what sets him apart. The power of his kicks propels him forward at lightning speed. He glides through the finish line, clenching first place.

Aiden Palmer is special, not just because of his star potential, but because of his passion for running that shines through, inspiring others.

Franklin Cross Country head coach Jacob Michaels said, “Despite the fact that he went to Ireland with his family for 15 days, I think he missed one day of running. He ran 75 miles one week in Ireland on his own through the Irish countryside.”

This kind of work ethic and commitment is champion-worthy. Every day he makes the choice to strive.

His journey to success in cross country running was not an easy one. It started with the choice between playing soccer and running cross country.

Palmer says, “My freshman year, when I first came out for track, I was just amazed by the level of competition and some of the athletes at Franklin, specifically Henry Mong.

“They really inspired me to want to train over the summer, and once I had done that, I had gotten so well acquainted with the team. I never really wanted to go back to soccer. I wanted to run cross country.”

After altitude camp in Sisters, Oregon with the cross country team, Palmer found where he belonged.

Coach Michaels said, “He gave up a sport that he wasn’t as good at for a sport that he had the potential to be great in.”

Drawn to cross country because he loves the satisfaction that comes after embracing the pain and intensity of running, Palmer appreciates the process, watching the hours of work you put in develop into something beautiful.

He said, “We spend every day after school with each other



Photo by Peter Chin

now, plan lots of fun things and just hang out with each other. That helps a lot in a race when you’re going to have to dig deep and you know you are doing it for six other guys who are on the starting line with you. The team culture this year has been a big part of our success.”

Not only has Palmer achieved high personal success, but, through his leadership, he has brought the team along with him.

Coach Michaels observed, “Aidan is very much the senior leader. Sure, he leads by example, but he has been really good at, keeping the team loose during all of the drudgery and training, and he has said extremely inspiring words...I’ve heard that Aidan has just been amazingly good at talking to his team before races.”

Palmer’s teammate, Charlie Robertson shared this about their connection: “He really inspired me, especially my sophomore year; he helped me train and real-

ize what it takes to get to the next level.”

At Nike Cross Nationals, his character and story showed, earning him the title of 52nd in the nation.

The rain was pouring, Palmer was covered in mud, his yellow spiked hair was drenched and his white shirt was clinging to his skin. The crowd roared as the runners passed in a blur.

Palmer’s teammates leaned over the edge of the course screaming, “Go Aidan!” at the top of their lungs.

Next year, Palmer’s journey in cross country continues at Boise State University. He will attend on a full ride athletic scholarship and will be running alongside his idol, Henry Mong, the person who inspired Palmer to run cross country three years ago.

Although Palmer’s time at Franklin High School is ending, an exciting new chapter is beginning!

Recycling Tips for March

By Bonita Davis, Master Recycler and SE Resident

Recycling, plastic pollution and climate change now have our attention with a growing number of news reports, documentaries and discussions about how to take action.

Simply going to the grocery can be a little stressful when we want to make not only the best food selections, but also wish to consider reducing waste.

Beyond remembering to bring our own shopping bags, we may be thinking about the best packaging or form to buy our products. Sometimes, the marketplace does not always make it easy to decide.

Just days after Oregon’s January 1 bag ban went into effect, I spotted a heavier mil plastic bag on display at a grocery check stand emblazoned with *I Am Recyclable* printed on the side. Other bags for sale were printed as *Reuseable*. I set out to discover how easy it to become confused by packaging.

Found on the grocery shelves were packages wrapped in earthy brown and green tones, often with graphics depicting butterflies, birds, mountains, trees, wind turbines and leaves.

The words *compostable*, *recyclable*, *biobased*, *reuseable* and *biodegradable* were found as frequently as the phrases *uses less energy*, *PVA free*, *chlorine free*, *BPA free*, *made of recycled content*, *saves water*, *trees*, and *energy*, (*this is*) *a safer choice*, *save the planet (when you choose this product)* and the chasing arrow recycling triangles surrounding resin identification numbers. Packaging messages urged me to *care more*, *reuse*, *compost* and *recycle responsibly*. Next came product attributes of *pure*, *all natural*, *organic*, *certified humane*, *fair trade* and *free from artificial flavors and colors*.

How do we make our best choice given this confusing roster of product and packaging attributes? It helps to realize that there is fierce competition between manufacturers to have us select their product and being *earth friendly* is a big appeal.

A little greenwashing might even be in play; making a product seem more environmentally friendly than it actually is. While some claims are backed by certi-

fying organizations, others mean very little, other than being a marketing strategy.

I turned to a fascinating set of reports from DEQ entitled *Popular Packing Attributes* to learn more about the environmental impacts of different types of packaging across the lifespan of the product from extraction, manufacture, distribution, use and eventual discard.

If interested, take some time for this deeper dive into the science behind packaging materials in the reports at oregon.gov/deq/mm/production/Pages/Materials-Attributes.aspx.

Food packaging is essential for transportation safety, preventing damage, bruising, spoiling and breakage, but does result in the creation of even more waste. Calculating the environmental friendliness of a packaging material goes beyond its recyclability.

The manufacturing of packaging materials involves energy, natural resources, shipping (fossil fuels), labor and eventual disposal impacts. Calculating that when out shopping would be cumbersome, so what is helpful in making purchasing decisions?

These ideas might help:

- The less unnecessary packaging, the better
- Buy just what is needed in amounts that will be used and not wasted
- Choose durables over single-use containers, particularly with food and beverage purchases
- Buying products made with *Recycled Content* supports the recycling market
- Select products that can be repaired or reused
- Switch to products with zero to low toxicity
- Go straight to the source for where-to-recycle information by searching for the recent copy of The Curbsider at portlandoregon.gov; visit recycleOrNot.org for instant answers in full color or call the experts at the Metro Recycling Hotline 503.234.3000.
- Put non-recyclable packaging waste in the garbage, not in the blue rollcart.
- Packaging made from bio-based, compostable or biodegradable materials are not part of the lawn debris/food scrape collection in the green rollcart. In our area, these items are disposed of as garbage.

2020 AHC Walking Tours Begin

The 2020 Architectural Heritage Center tours start up in March. The guided tours will explore the architecture in 50 neighborhoods across the city.

March tours include the

Pearl District, the North End of downtown, the South Park Blocks, Broadway and the Buckman Neighborhood.

Portland Vernacular: The Buckman Neighborhood Tour

strolls through one of the oldest east side neighborhoods on Saturday, March 21, 10 am-12 pm.

To register and for more information on all tours, see viahc.org.

Send your Community News announcements by the 15th of the month to examiner@seportland.news



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LWV Hosts ‘Privacy and Cybersecurity’

The League of Women Voters of Portland will host a timely program, *Privacy and Cybersecurity Today*, based on a new study by the League of Women Voters of Oregon.

LWVOR President Becky Gladstone, a previous member of the study committee, will be the featured speaker. The program is Tuesday, March 10, 7-8:30 pm at the Multnomah County Boardroom, 501 SE Hawthorne Blvd.

The public is invited to attend this free program to learn more about privacy, cybersecurity, and election security; current protocols for privacy and cybersecurity; current legislation on privacy, cybersecurity and election security; and “cyber hygiene,” or privacy and transparency protection.

Concerns about identity theft, security for personal accounts, internet security, sur-

veillance and privacy, election security and cyber warfare have alarmed the public for the past decade.

A one-year study of these issues began in May 2019 and is expected to be completed before March.

Once the study report is approved by the LWVOR Board of Directors, the entire study will be released and available to the public online at lwvor.org/studies/#cybersecurity.

LWV of Portland’s Civic Education programs are free and open to the public. Programs are designed to inform the community about current issues.

Street parking is available and the Multnomah County Boardroom is easily accessed by public transportation. TriMet options include bus lines 4, 6, 10, 14, 15, and the Portland Streetcar.

Board Members Sought

The Friends of Portland Community Gardens is seeking new Board Members. The all-volunteer board steers the work of the organization, founded in 1986.

Their mission is to support and expand community gardening opportunities in the city and to build community around gardening.

The Friends work closely with the City of Portland Community Garden program and on

its Produce for People Program, where community gardens donate produce to local food shelters.

They provide funds, tools and materials for the gardens and advocate for the Community Garden Program.

Those interested in becoming a Board member, wanting to learn more about the organization or want to tour a community garden should contact allen_field@yahoo.com or info@portland-communitygardens.org.

10-Day Genealogy Open House

The Genealogical Forum of Oregon hosts a 10-day free open house Friday, March 13-Sunday, March 22 with more than 40 classes offered.

The non-profit library is located in the basement of the Ford Building at 2505 SE 11th Ave. Open seven days a week, it is the largest genealogy library in the Pacific Northwest and staffed by an all-volunteer force.

During the open house, all classes will be free of charge and no registration will be required.

Four days will be themed – Beginners Day, DNA Day, Software Day and Irish Day – and two sessions on Mexican Genealogy will be lead by special guest John Schmal.

Hours of operation and a full schedule can be found at gfo.org/openhouse.

PORTLAND NURSERY MARCH CLASSES – Portland Nursery has a wide variety of classes in March ranging from small space gardening to tool maintenance to making a nesting ball for birds. Visit the Classes page for details and to register. portlandnursery.com/events/current-classes.

TALLULAH’S DADDY IN MONTAVILLA – Tallulah’s Daddy will play music at Beanstalk in Montavilla Monday, March 2, 10-11 am. Bring the kids for an hour of live music, dance and fun. Free and perfect for the whole family. Beanstalk is located at 8021 SE Stark St.

MEMORY CAFE – This event is designed for those with Alzheimer’s and other types of dementia along with their caregivers, Thursday, March 5, 4:30-6 pm at Authentic Thai, 3829 SE Division St. Share, socialize and provide/gain support. Sing along with members of the Hollywood Ukulele Group and enjoy delicious Thai food. For information or to RSVP contact franzs2008@yahoo.com or caitlinh@emersonhouse.com.

IMELDA’S SHOES OPENS ADJOINING STORE – 26 year old Imelda’s and Louie’s Shoes has launched a new venture, Imelda’s Apparel and Gifts, adjoining their flagship Hawthorne Blvd store. A grand opening celebration takes place all day Saturday, March 7 with giveaways, store-wide sale and complimentary refreshments. 3426 SE Hawthorne Blvd. imeldas.com.

ASCENSION CHURCH SPAGHETTI DINNER – Since 1948 Ascension Church has held their annual spaghetti dinner. This year’s meal takes place Sunday, March 8, 2-7 pm at 743 SE 76th Ave. (Tony Rinella Hall Entrance). \$13 adults, \$10 seniors 65+, \$6 children 6-10 (5 and under, free), \$40 family (up to 2 adults + 4 children).

FRIENDS OF MT. TABOR PARK ANNUAL MEETING – Monday, March 9, 7-8 pm the Friends will hold their Annual Meeting at TaborSpace, 5441 SE Belmont St., reporting on what was accomplished in 2019, announcements and the election of new Board members. A reception with refreshments will begin at 6:30 pm and include information about what the organization does.

MULTNOMAH MASTER GARDENERS SPEAKERS SERIES – *Growing Wisdom through Organic Gardening* will be held Tuesday, March 10, 7 pm at Multnomah County Headquarters, 501 SE Hawthorne Blvd. Gentiana Loeffler, Professor of Horticulture, Clackamas Community College, will share how to build soil to support healthy plants, use cover crops to add nutrients and conserve water and choose plant varieties that produce best in this region. Information at multnomahmastergardeners.org.

MEET THE MAYOR’S SENIOR POLICY ADVISOR – The public is invited to meet Robert King, Mayor Wheeler’s Senior Policy Advisor for Public Safety Thursday, March 12, 7 pm at the former police facility on SE 47th Ave and E Burnside. Refreshments will be served.

VIKING PANCAKE BREAKFAST – The Sons of Norway’s Grieg Lodge hosts a pancake breakfast Sunday, March 15, 8:30 am-12:30 pm. The all-you-can-eat breakfast features Viking pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage links, fresh fruit, strawberry compote, lingonberries, orange juice, coffee and tea. 20 percent of the sales will be donated to the Benson Booster Club. Bergen Dining Room at Norse Hall, 111 NE 11th Ave. Free parking. Adults \$8, children ages 3-10 \$4, under 3 are free.

MT. TABOR TREE IDENTIFICATION WALK – The public is invited to attend a free walk with Bob Rogers to identify many species of trees found in the park Sunday, March 15, 2 pm. Meet at the Mt. Tabor Visitor Center in the main parking lot, rain or shine.

PORTLAND SINGS! – This community sing-along and casual, group-singing opportunity is for everyone wanting more music expression in their life. Sunday, February 15, 2-4 pm at Artichoke Music, 2007 SE Powell Blvd. Sliding scale \$8 - \$15. More at portlandsings.com.

CLIMATE DHARMA: LOVE IN A TIME OF UNRAVELING – An intensive workshop to breathe, connect and find balance as we look deeply at the climate crisis and the complex stresses. Join presenters Dale Borglum, Belvie Rooks, Polo Catalani, Betsy Toll and Kat MacMillan March 20-21 at Friends Meeting House, 4312 SE Stark St. For information and to register: livingearthoregon.org.

FAIR SHARE 2020 – Learn about Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) and meet local farmers Sunday, March 22, 10 am-3 pm at The Redd, 831 SE Salmon St. Activities include cooking demos, kids activities and CSA farm match making. Local foods, flowers and garden starts will be available for purchase. More information at portlandcsa.org or email holly@portlandcsa.org.

OMHOF SCHOLARSHIPS – The Oregon Music Hall of Fame is accepting applications for college scholarships from Oregon high school seniors studying music (instrument or voice) and graduating Spring 2020. Application deadline Monday, March 23. Questions or to apply at omhof.org.

COLUMBIA RIVER ORIENTEERING EVENT – The Columbia River Orienteering Club is holding a season kickoff event at Mt. Tabor Saturday, March 28, 11 am-3 pm. Beginners, families and dogs welcome. Visit webscorer.com/register?raceid=209464 to register.

PERGOLESI’S STABAT MATER – One of Giovanni Pergolesi’s most celebrated works, *Stabat Mater*, is a 12-movement piece that alternates solos and duets that will be presented at Tabor Heights United Methodist Church, 6161 SE Stark St. Wednesday, April 1 at 7 pm. Donation-based admission.

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Taborspace Fills Community Need

By MIDGE PIERCE

SE Portland lacks a community center, a situation that leaves organizations struggling to find space for events, concerts and more.

Taborspace at 5441 SE Belmont St., is one of the non-profit organizations working to fill that void and they are currently hosting a new pop-up theater concept.

Just as it's not always easy for non-profit facilities to keep the lights on, it's even harder for a theatrical start-up to set up stage lights. Now in a first-of-its-kind match, newly-formed The Theatre Company will debut inside Taborspace's stain-glassed Copeland Hall with the March 18 opening of The Moors for a 17-night run.

"We want to enliven the community that doesn't have a theater hub, namely SE," says theater veteran Brandon Woolley, Co-Artistic Director of the start-up.

The idea is to bring a full experience to audiences where they live. "Using found spaces for bold endeavors," he says, "brings theater to the people."

The pop-up approach allows directors to match plays with appropriate places. Copeland Hall's paneled interior suits The Moors.

Woolley describes the Bronte-esque production as a darkly comedic, satirical, theatrically entertaining and shocking blend of mystery, power dynamics and intrigue.

"The show is Grey Gardens meets American Horror story

meets Calvin and Hobbes," he says.

Surprises abound. Upending gender politics is among the plot points as is a touching, odd-ball love story of a mastiff and a Moor Hen who, along with two isolated sisters, chafe against society's constraints.

Shaking loose constraints of traditional theater is a win-win for both art and communities, according to veteran actor, producer and The Theater Company Co-Director Jen Rowe.

"Portland is dealing with a space crisis," she says. Existing theaters are being torn down and replaced with pricey condos or reconfigured for multi-uses causing production costs to rise, doubling and even quadrupling in some cases. The affordability and accessibility that made Portland a creative mecca are vanishing."

Because it's getting harder for artists to afford to stay in Portland, one of the company objectives is to pay actors and crews a living wage. Renting local de-facto gathering spaces like Taborspace, helps keep costs down, grow audiences, keep Portland theater alive and support local venues.

Taborspace Director Josh Pinkston says events and productions like The Moors bring new visitors and levels of creativity to the building that houses a coffee-house and hosts art, music, concerts, language classes, wellness practices, recovery workshops and 500+ visitors who already come through the facility's oak doors daily.

"The purpose behind Ta-

borspace is to cultivate connected community," says Pinkston. "Because of the incredibly passionate, caring people who utilize Taborspace, we're able to continue our work."

Taborspace is a function of Mt. Tabor Presbyterian Church, which, as membership declines, is actively reaching out to families.

A recent offering is the interdenominational and non-denominational Mt. Tabor Presbyterian Peace Choir for kindergartners through 5th graders at all skill levels and abilities.

Choir Director Jane Clarke says it's not just another kids chorus, but a beginning music education class.

"We incorporate music from all cultures and religions. In addition to learning songs, we learn to read music, develop singing techniques and discuss inspirational influences."

The winter session focused on spirituals and civil rights leaders. "We want to empower children to sing for peace in times of hatred and violence."

Clarke, who has a Masters in music from Portland State, started the program with a Peace-making Grant from the Presbytery of the Cascades. The choir's first concert will be Sunday, March 15, at 11 am.

While Taborspace and other organizations serve children and the arts, SE still lacks a center with dedicated community and performance spaces, recreation facilities and replacement for the quadrant's defunct Buckman pool.

A New Approach to Development on Gladstone

By JACK RUBINGER

I've lived near the corner of 30th and Gladstone for more than 10 years. New business development has been slow, thankfully, unlike the congested mess that is SE Division.

While I've had fun at open mic night at the old Pub At The End of The Universe, gotten my hair cut at Barber Dan near Cesar E. Chavez Blvd., had sushi at Yoko's and drinks at Ship Ahoy and C-Bar, there's never really been new stores or restaurants with a real neighborhood feel, or one that might drive me back for more.

That's changed with the addition of Best Friend (smoothies, elixirs, fresh juices, coffee), Unicorn Bake Shop (sweets, cupcakes, bars) and Kitsune Salon. They're all part of a new mixed use development called Jolene's First Cousin, the brainchild of Guerrilla Development at SE Gladstone and 28th Pl.

The development hopes to ease homelessness and offer traditional apartment-style living in this SE neighborhood.

Jolene's First Cousin (a private joke, but a real person) consists of two, two-story buildings on a single lot in the heart of the Creston-Kennilworth neighborhood. There's a total of six units: three retail spaces, two market rate lofts and one containing 11 rooms in a Single Resident Occupancy (SRO) arrangement.

The 100 square foot SRO rooms share amenities: a fully-

outfitted kitchen, living and dining room, private landscaped courtyard, showers and toilets, and laundry facilities. Each room has its own bed, closet and sink. SRO renters will secure their spot in Jolene's First Cousin for \$425/mo.

Half of the rooms will be put out to the general market via Craigslist. The other five will be filled with working, houseless people in collaboration with Guerrilla's partner, Street Roots. The SRO residents will self-govern, establishing ground rules and operational systems.

"This is our first foray into homeless housing. Having competitive market rate units allows us to provide housing for the homeless," said Anna Mackay the Director of Development for Guerrilla Development.

"There has been an incredible outpouring of support from the Creston-Kenilworth neighborhood association," she added.

One of the first tenants is Lis Rourke, who also works for Guerrilla Development. She's moving into one of the market-rate apartments. Originally from the Chicago suburbs, Rourke lived in the Pearl with her software engineer husband for eight months, but she missed a neighborhood vibe with trees, dogs and families, so she started looking in SE Portland.

Jolene's First Cousin met her criteria. "It's a great building with a nice layout and plenty of

continued on page 17

APPLY NOW TO SERVE ON THE DIVISION STREET PARKING PLAN COMMITTEE!

The Portland Bureau of Transportation is starting to develop a plan for long-term parking management along SE Division St in the Richmond Neighborhood. Applications are being sought for the advisory committee to guide the plan's development. Learn more about the process and how to apply to be on the committee online at: <http://tiny.cc/SEParking>



We are seeking all types of people to help guide the plan. If you live, work, or own a business in or around the area between SE 28th and SE Cesar E Chavez Blvd and between SE Grant and SE Woodward Streets, we want to hear from you by March 6th.



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If you have questions and/or cannot access the online committee application, contact the project manager: Kathryn Doherty-Chapman at 503-823-4761.

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Kerfoot Running for City Commissioner Position 2

By Kris McDowell

Jack Kerfoot is running in the May primary to fill City Commissioner Position No. 2, recently vacated with the passing of Nick Fish in January.

During his 40 years of work as an energy executive, his focus was on turnarounds and startups; experiences he intends to apply to Portland should he be elected.

Kerfoot views the City as in need of an overhaul, similar to the turnarounds – a financial recovery of a poorly performing company to bring stability to its future. As with any company, there are multiple issues he feels need to be addressed to change the direction the city is going in to achieve future stability.

One of the major issues has to do with the polarization that exists between City Commissioners. The work that Commissioner Fish did was in Kerfoot’s words, “a bridge between sides.” He would like to continue to bridge the gap between Commissioners so that a base can be built for progress to be made fixing issues Portland wrestles with.

Outside the difficulties the commission form of government presents, Kerfoot has identified six priorities he feels need to be focused on: environment, responsiveness, the homeless crisis, hate crimes, labor support and fiscal discipline.

• **Environment** – Kerfoot’s career in energy has given him a detailed understanding of the environmental impacts of a variety of energy sources, from coal to natural gas, to wind and hydro-electric power he would share with the city to help meet its goal of being carbon neutral by 2050. He says, “There isn’t anyone on the City Council who understands energy to make formative changes.”

• **Responsiveness** – While all five city quadrants (six starting in May) share similar problems, understanding how to best address them is something Kerfoot intends to find out by holding open-to-the-public town hall meetings that rotate among the quadrants. In addition to hearing from residents, the media will be invited to attend the meetings.

• **Homeless Crisis** – Portland isn’t alone in having a homeless crisis on its hands; cities across the US are struggling to deal with it.

Kerfoot equates it with “a raging fire that is out of control,” but unlike the training and coordination fire departments have to fight a fire, Portland’s steps have lacked coordination and collaboration needed to be effective.

He applauds the steps taken in San Antonio, bringing the private sector and non-profits together to develop an effective program, and would like to see



Photo by Jack Kerfoot

similar plans put in place here.

• **Stop the Hate** – Kerfoot is intent on working with law enforcement, clerics and residents to address the growth of hate crimes. In addition to the damage done to the targets of hate crimes, he points out that demonstrations such as the free speech marches that have taken place in downtown are damaging to businesses in the area and a threat to the safety of bystanders.

• **Labor Support** – Teachers, police officers, healthcare workers, and others represented by unions are “heroes” that Kerfoot will work to protect by supporting unions.

He wants to work with trade unions, the city and businesses to expand trade schools and apprenticeship programs in fields which have critical skill shortages.

In turn he says, “further supporting our apprenticeship training programs can be an important tool in our efforts to bring good jobs to our region.”

• **Fiscal Discipline** – During his career, Kerfoot has run multi-million-dollar projects and feels it is egregious that the city is “unable to complete anything on time or within budget.”

He is committed to implementing steps to be applied toward any financial proposal that would lead to transparency and fiscally responsible decision making.

“In my opinion, we should expect our City council to use our hard-earned tax dollars wisely.”

As of this writing, there were eight others vying to fill Position No. 2; a broad field that Kerfoot will need stand out in to

achieve the needed votes.

Even if he isn’t successful in gaining enough votes to claim the Commissioner’s seat, he feels the campaign will have been worth it to bring light to the issues he has identified as priorities.

More information at jackkerfoot2020.com

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Bw Business Walkabout

Kabob

BY NINA SILBERSTEIN

A kabab or kabob usually consists of small pieces of seasoned or marinated meat or seafood, that can be grilled or broiled, and threaded on a skewer. Often it includes vegetables such as green peppers and onions.

The restaurant, Kabob is much more than this traditional Middle Eastern dish. It is a gourmet dining experience.

Nazeeh Iam and his wife opened Kabob in December 2019 and already have regulars stopping in three to four times a week. "That's how much they like the food," Iam remarked.

The couple, originally from Jordan, owned a restaurant in Dubai for 11 years before coming to the United States in 2011. They owned the Promise Land Café in NE Portland (now closed) before moving over to their present location in inner SE.

Iam considers his cuisine to be somewhat a Middle Eastern steakhouse as he uses grass-fed lamb and Black Angus filet mignon in the kabobs.

Traditional appetizers include everything from zait and zatter – an olive oil and mixed-herb dip, to hummus and baba ghanouj to vine leaf rolls (dolmas), garlic shrimp, lentil soup, Greek salad, fried cauliflower and a feta cheese plate.

House specialties include:

- Mouthawama – choice of meat cooked in fresh garlic and basil, lemon juice and olive oil and served on a bed of tomato sauce
- Lamb musaka – eggplant

A woman with dark hair, wearing a grey patterned sweater, is smiling and holding a glass of beer in her right hand and a plate of food in her left hand. She is standing in a room with blue walls. In the background, there is a large blue screen or partition and a framed picture on the wall. The room appears to be a museum or gallery.

Photo by Nazeeh Iam

cooked in tomato sauce

- Maglooba – choice of meat layered with rice and fried vegetables, placed in a pot, then flipped upside down when served
- Musakhan – roasted chicken cooked with onions, sumac, allspice, saffron and fried pine nuts, served over pita bread

There are plenty of vegetarian/vegan selections on the menu to choose from too – falafel plates, stuffed sweet peppers, squash stew, pasta eggplant, vegetable kabobs and hummseyeh, (chickpeas cooked with karri and natural herbs, served with rice). Iam prides himself on making “the best falafel in Oregon.”

The lunch buffet is nothing short of a feast offering more than 21 items, 15 of which are vegetarian/vegan friendly and, the entire buffet is gluten free. There is no

compromising on quality here as all organic and fresh ingredients are sourced from local farmers markets.

Certain days of the week Kabob offers specials. Mondays, diners can enjoy a free soup and salad with dinner; Tuesdays are reserved for Happy Hour 4-6 pm (\$5 wine and 50 percent off appetizers); dinners on Thursdays include a complementary dessert 5-9 pm and Fridays feature special menu items served 6-7:45 pm.

Kabob is available for private events, weddings, business lunches, cocktail receptions and more.

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Pilot Program to Address Non-Emergency Police Calls

BY NANCY TANNER

At the Lents Neighborhood Livability Association meeting (LNLA), a presentation was given that explains Commissioner Jo Ann Hardesty's plans to assist the police and fire departments with individuals experiencing homelessness and/or a mental health crisis.

Her vision, along with the support from several other agencies, is Portland Street Response (PSR) for non-emergency calls.

Since 2013 calls regarding “unwanted persons” has increased by 60 percent. Using police/fire resources for these calls is inefficient, doesn’t address the root cause, nor do the police have time to help solve the problems for those in crisis. The PSR pilot program is an attempt to fix the gap in services for these individuals.

PSR will be housed with Portland Fire & Rescue, a division Commissioner Hardesty oversees. It is modeled after CAHOOTS (Crisis Assistance Helping Out On the Streets), a mobile crisis intervention in the Eugene-Springfield metro area.

The pilot program will begin its trial this spring in the Lents neighborhood, five square miles bordered by SE Powell, north; SE Clatsop, south; SE 82nd, west and SE 111th, east.

Depending on the 911 call data, the pilot will initially run Monday-Friday, from 10 am-6 pm, but these hours could potentially change according to need. If the program is successful, it will be expanded to all Portland neighborhoods.

PSR will be a two-person, trauma-informed team able to go directly to the person in crisis with a van that can provide immediate stabilization in case of urgent medical need or psychological crisis.

The van will carry food, water, hand warmers and blankets with the intent of building trust between the person in crisis and the team.

After the team has addressed the needs of the immediate situation, they can either refer or advocate and transport to the next step in treatment. These assistance measures can take up to 50 minutes, time our local police officers don't have for non-emergency calls.

One of the filters 911 will establish before dispatching PSR is if the individual is violent, carrying a weapon or suicidal. Individuals who fit this criteria will still fall under the purview of the police.

More often than not, an individual is in need of what is known as a welfare check and PSR team can respond. This can be a person who is down, intoxicated or drug-affected.

The hope of the PSR pilot program is to reduce the number of non-warrant arrests, reduce the number of people going to hospital emergency rooms and reduce the number of behavioral health and non-emergency medical calls the Police and Fire departments respond to.

The pilot program is for one year and will be monitored and adjusted depending upon how well it is working. The people of Lents experience a lot of fallout from people living on the streets. This is why Hardesty chose to begin the PSR pilot here.

Mayor Wheeler has allocated \$500,000 for this project. Any money not used will be returned to the general fund.

Bw Business Walkabout

Delicious Donuts

BY NINA SILBERSTEIN

Husband-and-wife team Boun and Penny Nguyen decided to open a business together because they wanted to create something special on their own terms.

High school sweethearts married since 2008, the couple opened Delicious Donuts at 12 SE Grand Ave. in 2005.

"Running Delicious Donuts has been a lot like a marriage," Penny explained, "requiring love, commitment and hard work."

Boun first learned how to make donuts from his brother-in-law and has been fine-tuning his technique for more than a decade.

Prior to opening the shop, Penny worked as a dental assistant for five years. The most valuable lesson she learned from that was the importance of getting to know her patients. The experience certainly translates into what she's doing today, as Penny now runs the front counter at Delicious Donuts and enjoys connecting with her customers.

Donuts are made fresh daily, using only quality ingredients and classic pastry techniques. Best sellers include apple fritters, maple bars, old fashioned cake donuts and blueberry donuts, as well as breakfast burritos.

There are vegan versions



Photo by Penny Nguyen

of the cake donuts and breakfast burritos and visitors will also find eggs/omelets, breakfast sandwiches, burgers and sides, espresso drinks, fruit smoothies and teas.

Penny added that they offer, "pretty much everything for everyone."

Daily specials include *Free Donut Monday* (buy one espresso drink and get one, free regular donut); *Big Donut Tuesday* (buy any big donut for only \$2); *Free Donut Wednesday* (buy any breakfast item and get one, free regular donut); *Two Stamp Thursday* (buy one coffee/espresso drink and get two stamps on your loyalty card); *10¢ Friday* (10¢ donut holes) and *Combo BIG Saturday* (buy one big donut and 12 oz. coffee for \$4).

Small batches of donuts are made fresh each day and the shop

often sells out before closing. It's highly recommended that you call in advance to reserve your order.

The store offers catering for events such as wedding receptions and birthday parties, as well as gift cards (for in-store purchase only).

For the first nine years in business, Delicious Donuts was open seven days a week, but after the birth of their third son, Boun and Penny decided to close on Sundays to spend more time with family.

That said, their mission remains the same: to make delicious food and treat every customer like family.

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Fixing Our Streets

from page 1

ventative maintenance for busy neighborhood streets.

\$26 million will provide new signals, beacons, sidewalks, lighting, improved access to businesses and transit, safety improvements for pedestrians and bikers, and Safe Routes to Schools projects.

\$23.5 million will be for basic maintenance and safety improvements like fixing potholes, repairing failing roads, gravel streets, speed reduction, safer intersections and Neighborhood Greenway retrofits.

Not all of the gas tax money is used for fixing streets. Part of the strategy is to make streets safer, encourage alternative forms of transportation and to target areas of greatest need in overlooked neighborhoods. This all fits within the larger scope of Fixing Our Streets.

The proposed project list collects extensive public input from neighborhood stakeholders, transportation justice advocates and business groups. The program prioritizes projects addressing inequities of our transportation system and allowing under-represented communities greater access to social and economic growth.

These programs are advised by numerous plans and programs including: the Vision Zero Action Plan, PedPDX, Portland's Citywide Pedestrian Master Plan, Safe Routes to School, Southwest and Northwest in Motion,

Portland Climate Action Plan and many more.

The Fixing Our Streets proposal has the support of Business for a Better Portland, Oregon Walks, 1000 Friends of Oregon, the Rosewood Initiative, Street Trust, Northwest District Association, Professional and Technical Employees of Local 17, as well as Portland's Pedestrian and Bicycle advisory committees.

Some people believed that the 10 cent tax on gas was temporary and would end this year. While this tax is intended to be temporary, it should be obvious that a 10 cent tax on gasoline can only reduce the backlog of needed maintenance incrementally over many years.

Roads in a deteriorated condition cost exponentially more to repair and it is 10 times as expensive to replace them as fix them. To really solve Portland's street maintenance issue, the federal government will need to be involved. Without them as a partner, a gas tax or another local source of funding will be required.

A future potential source of funding will be a Metro bond measure being developed for the November 2020 election.

The Fixing Our Streets project represents a continuation of the relentless focus on street repairs and improvements that make it easier and safer for all Portland residents to get where they need to go.

In May, Portland will have the opportunity to vote on renewing this initiative.



King David Sez...

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Go **Going Out**

30th?! Buckman Art Show and Sell



The Buckman Art Show and Sell celebrates its third decade this year and its annual festivities continue to delight. Someone told us it's all happening at the school – 100 local artists in all kinds of mediums, paintings, ceramics, jewelry, garden art and everything in between. There are handmade creations alongside a student art sale, food carts, face painting and hands-on art activities for the whole family. Best of all, it's a benefit for Buckman Arts Focus Elementary.

This year's Show and Sell hosts special guests Letra Chueca, the Latinx Womxn-Owned Press "decolonizing design through collaboration + representation."

A new poster, made with the Race Forward Student Group, is especially striking and prints made for the weekend will go fast. The press uses conscious practices to "intertwine social justice with craft, latinidad and the printed word..." (letrachuecapress.com).

Rock and Roll Camp for Girls will have a zine making station Saturday from 11am-1 pm (girlsrockcamp.org) ...and did you know there's a camp for adults too?

Featured art and artists this year include wearable art by parker + simonne designs (pictured above), ceramic creatures by James DeRosso and Kendall Jones; Darby Granberry's art with co-workers in the staff art exhibit; Sachiko Quinn's batik and acrylics (pictured right); and elegant Elisabeth Jewelry by Molly Rahe.



Buckman Show and Sell, Saturday, March 7, 10-5 pm; Sunday, March 8, 11 am-4 pm at Buckman School, 320 SE 16th Ave. See buckmanartshow.weebly.com

arts & performance

Blood Brothers

Blood Brothers returns to triangle theatre, March 5-28. The story by Willy Russell is a rags to riches tragedy of our times.

A woman with many children to support surrenders one of her newborn twins to a childless woman she cleans for.

The boys grow up streets apart, never knowing the true nature of their relationship. They become friends and even fall in love with the same girl.

Originally produced in 1998, Shawn Rogers returns as The Narrator with Lisamarie Harrison and Caitlin Brooke as the women leads. Tyler Hendrix and Richie Stone play the Johnstone Twins, separated at birth.

Before the show and at intermission, patrons are invited to make Soul Boxes. With more than 65,000 people killed or injured by gunfire in the US every year through violence, defense, accidents and suicide, the Soul Box Project shows people the numbers by collecting a hand-folded origami box for every victim of gunfire in the country. Boxes will be incorporated into a traveling exhibit, including one on the National Mall in Washington, DC this October 17-18.

Presented at The Sandy Plaza, 1785 NE Sandy Blvd. # 2, Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays, 7:30 pm; Sunday, March 15 at 2 pm. All seats reserved. Tickets \$15-\$35. 503.239.5919 • trianglepro.org



Photo by Irene Young

Cathy Fink & Marcy Marxer Concert

Cathy Fink & Marcy Marxer are in a rare concert this month at Artichoke Music, 2007 SE Powell Blvd. Think superb harmonies and instrumental virtuosity on a whole family of stringed companions. Their original songs are gems and perfect along the classic country, swing and gypsy jazzgrass old-timey tunes that is their style.

Two-time Grammy winners and folk music fixtures, the duo has performed with Pete Seeger, Theodore Bikel, Tom Paxton, Patsy Montana and Riders in the Sky. They entertained the Queen of Thailand, have earned 60 WAMMIES from the Washington Area Music Association and know what musical FUN is about. Advance tickets recommended, *Sunday, March 29, 7 pm. \$20. Tickets: bit.ly/32i8WGT*

Also at Artichoke – March 7: Raising Hazel with Avery Hill, Jaspar Lepak and Mandy Troxel – a brand new trio from three Pacific Northwest areas. Besides raising their voices, children and hell (all in their own way), these music-voices came together to sing in the spirit of friendship with a love of musical expression. These multitasking mamas have the recipe for a fine evening of energy and attitude. 8 pm. \$15. Tickets: bit.ly/37T6YxM

Rebecca Solnit at Revolution Hall



Photo by Sallie Dean Shatz

The ever informative and entertaining writer, historian and activist Rebecca Solnit appears live in a conversation about her life and new book Wednesday, March 18, 7:30 pm at Revolution Hall, 1300 SE Stark St. Solnit will speak with Cheryl Strayed. It's presented by Powell Books.

The bestselling author of more than 20 books on western and indigenous history, feminism, social change and insurrection, and hope and disaster, Solnit's new memoir is *Reollections of My Nonexistence*, an electric portrait of the artist as a young woman exploring how a writer finds her voice in a society that prefers women to be silent. RebeccaSolnit.net.

Tickets are \$36 at revolutionhall.com and don't wait – book events there tend to sell out fast.



Gerle Haggard Goes to Space

Kendall Concerts' Music Under the Dome is OMSI's monthly planetarium music series combining live performance with stunning spacial visual adventures for the senses.

This month, hear classic country music with a twist with Gerle Haggard, an all-girl, all Merle tribute. The group shares the best of Haggard's music and his own covers from Bob Wills, Lefty Frizzell and Dolly Parton. Their performance includes storytelling, blues, jazz, and the Bakersfield sound of good ol' country music. See gerlehaggardband.com.

For patrons and visitors with mobility disabilities, OMSI's Kendall Planetarium is located on the ground floor. See omsi.edu/accessibility for accessibility, info or call Kathleen at 503.797.5411. Parking is free in either of OMSI's designated lots.

Gerle Haggard at OMSI's planetarium Thursday, March 12. Doors at 7 pm, music at 7:30 pm. All ages are welcome. Free parking, ADA accessible. \$15 advance tickets (15% off for OMSI members). See bit.ly/2PgyqPm

Portland Storytellers Guild



Howard Alder, Pam Maiben, Holly Robison and Penny Walters are at this month's weavers at the Portland Storytellers Guild showcase Saturday, March 7 at Clinton Street Theater.

This month's story theme is Follow Your North Star. For seven centuries, the North Star has pointed voyagers toward their destinations and returned them safely home. This quartet share true tales of how they not only followed it, but strayed off course from it too.

The show starts at 7:30 pm at Clinton Street Theatre, 2522 SE Clinton St. Advance tickets are \$15 at bit.ly/2SOHmxG. See the theatre's calendar at cstpdx.com.

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3	AN EVENING WITH <i>lúnasa</i>	15	CHAMBER MUSIC NORTHWEST PRESENTS GLORIA CHIEN, SOOVIN KIM & DAVID SHIFRIN SOLOS, DUOS, & TRIOS
5	LIVE WIRE RADIO WITH LUKE BURBANK	16	PETER YARROW
6	LIVE DEAD '69 W/ TOM CONSTANTEN GRATEFUL DEAD @ WOODSTOCK	18	SCIENCE RIOT
7	THE BYLINES CD RELEASE	20	MASTERS OF HAWAIIAN MUSIC GEORGE KAHUMOKU JR., NATHAN AWEAU, & JEFF PETERSON
8	COLIN JAMES	24	ON A WINTER'S NIGHT CHERYL WHEELER, CHRISTINE LAVIN, PATTY LARKIN, JOHN GORKA, AND CLIFF EBERHARDT
9	PORTLAND YOUTH JAZZ ORCHESTRA WINTER SESSION CONCERT	25	ALTAN
12	LIVE WIRE RADIO WITH LUKE BURBANK	27	TONY STARLIGHT'S 50TH BIRTHDAY PARTY
13	OREGON SYMPHONY PRESENTS OPEN MUSIC : CAROLINE SHAW	28	DAVID JACOBS-STRAIN + CHRISTOPHER WORTH • HALEY JOHNSEN DUAL CD RELEASE
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Going Out

arts & performance



Sidestreet Arts features fiber artist Karen Thurman and Her Whimsical Felt Objects for March. Her sculptures and hanging mobiles are other-worldly, full of brightly colored polka dots and plush spindly bits.

Strange plants? Beings from another planet? Thurman finds herself “in awe of the amazing detail found in nature; be it plants, flowers, insects, and everything else.”

Double Garden is pictured above, where a yellow and black polka dotted palm tree melds into a pink sunflower on a gorgeous day, and both are filled with delight.

Other sorts of playful felted flora and hanging objects have taken over Sidestreet this month too.

The show opens March 4. First Friday is March 6, from 6-9 pm. The monthly Brunch with Artists is Sunday, March 15, at noon.

Sidestreet Arts, 140 SE 28th Ave. sidestreetarts.com 503.327.8064



Watching Mary Flower play guitar can save your whole week in times like these. Her fingerpicking and lap-slide energize the room with an inventive, dexterous, mesmerizing blend.

This month, she plays solo for the Ides of March – Sunday, March 15, 7 pm at Corkscrew Wine Bar, 1665 SE Bybee Blvd. It's an up close, near perfect place to see and hear her.

An internationally known world traveling picker, singer, songwriter and teacher, Flower has lived here between tours in recent years. She mixes an intricate gumbo of acoustic-blues-roots guitar; her stylings move from Piedmont to the Mississippi Delta, into ragtime, swing, and what Now sounds like.

In concert, Flower is spontaneous and not about re-creation; it's a spontaneous combustion with a lifelong dedication to the language of this American string music.

See MaryFlower.com.

SE Arts news?
Send press releases
by the 20th to:
examiner@seportland.news
southeastexaminer.com

MIMM BTHVN 2020

March Music Moderne, an annual music fest force of nature, returns after a hiatus to celebrate Beethoven's 250th birthday with concerts, films, a radio show and music aplenty by Berio, Ives, Kahane, Mahler, Schnittke, Shaw, Tabakova, Ustvolskaya and Wagner. Six events in four days!

• **Monday, March 9, 8 pm – Live on KBOO FM 90.7's weekly A Different Nature with host Chris Merrick and D-Bob** introducing live performances by Lisa Neher and Robert McBride and James Harley's electro-acoustic piece commissioned for the broadcast.

• **Tuesday, March 10, 7:30 pm at Classic Pianos, 3003 SE Milwaukee Ave. \$15** – Pianist/composer Stephen Lewis plays excerpts from Beethoven's Diabelli Variations, Luciano Berio's Sequenza IV & Bach's Chromatic Fantasy & Fugue

• **Thursday, March 12, 7:30 pm at PSU's Lincoln Hall, FREE** – *Voyage to Cythera* by Dutch filmmaker Frank Scheffer is screened along with a rare film of Stuart Dempster performing Berio's Sequenza V.

• **Friday, March 13, 8 pm at Alberta Rose Theatre, \$20** – *Gabriel Kahane presents Pulitzer Prize and Grammy winning composer, Caroline Shaw* with Oregon Symphony members performing Shaw, Kahane, Brahms and Schubert.

• **Saturday, March 14, 7:30 pm, Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall \$5-\$125** – *Carlos Kalmar Conducts* Berio's Sinfonia, Shaw's Partita and music from Wagner's Tannhauser.

• **Sunday, March 15, 5 pm, 6:30 pm and 8 pm at Community Music Center, 3350 SE Francis St. – Marzena Mini Marathon** – Sequenza with Troika a Trois, Kogut Butoh and Eroica with Swing Nose Frog and more.

The complete program is at MarchMusicModerne.org. **Listen to the Here of the Now.**



Robin & Linda Williams

In their fourth decade as a duo, Robin & Linda Williams have performed the music they love for many people in so many places. This month, the road brings them to Portland FolkSong Society's concert series.

Based in the Virginia hills, they are known for their harmonies and songwriting rooted in the country/bluegrass/gospel tradition. Linda, a native of Alabama and Robin, from North Carolina, met each other in South Carolina in 1971 and discovered their voices in harmony as a clear and wonderful sound. They've appeared on The Grand Old Opry, Austin City Limits, Mountain Stage and were regulars on A Prairie Home Companion.

As gifted songwriters, the Williams have released 20+ CD's of originals, traditional Appalachian tunes and songs by contemporary artists and their concerts have earned them a large body of fans. See robinandlinda.com.

Robin and Linda Williams, Friday, March 13, 7:30 pm at the Reedwood Friends Church, 2901 SE Steele St. Advance Tickets \$21 general, \$18 PFS members. At the door, \$25 general, \$22 members at portlandfolkmusic.org • 503.860.8863

Unfit: The tale of another time

By NANCY TANN-



Portland author Lani Jo Leigh tells a poignant story of young love, motherhood and how much the times have changed in the last 50 years in her recently published novel/memoir. *UNFIT* takes place in the deep south in the late 60s. Despite the fact that other parts of the country were experiencing a liberal revolution, her small town in Oklahoma was not known as a hotbed of progressivism.

She was raised a Southern Baptist while being imprinted with the music of the Beatles, Bob Dylan, The Rolling Stones and the revolutionary music of the times. Southern Baptist teachings were the rule of law for their congregations' spiritual and moral lives – no dancing or alcohol, no sex before marriage – lots of NOs. In Leigh's case, these strict regulations went against doing what she knew in her heart was the right thing to do.

She was young, idealistic and in love, so when she found out she was pregnant, her reaction was to believe it wasn't necessarily a bad thing. After all, she was in love. Leigh figured she would marry her boyfriend, have the baby, finish high school and live happily ever after.

Unfortunately her own extremely conservative parents and her boyfriend's parents as well didn't see it that way. It was decided that Lani Jo would go away to a home for unwed mothers, give birth, put her child up for adoption and return to life as if nothing had happened.

UNFIT is a heart-wrenching story that stirs up outrage for those times when women were meant to be obedient and do what they were told. During that era 1.5 million girls and young women were sent to maternity homes and coerced into giving up their babies because they were told they would be unfit mothers.

Most of these young women had little or no sex education or access to birth control. Abortion was illegal, so that wasn't even a consideration. Their fate was left in the hands of a harsh and judgmental society.

For some young women, as was the case of Lani Jo Leigh, this decision made by those they loved and respected dramatically affected their lives. *UNFIT* is her meaningful story. The book is available at Powell's and the Clinton Street Theater as well as online at Amazon, and Barnes & Noble.

Short takes
...arts news of note

BARDO AND DELICATE FISH are two dance pieces presented March 5, 6 and 7 at Shaking The Tree Theatre, 823 SE Grant St. each night at 7:30 pm. Bardo is “a conversation and a conjuring” by Lyra Butler-Denman with a musical score by Ahmond. Delicate Fish is “an offering to call in an ocean of tenderness” by Jess Evans with music by D.L. Frazer. Both are solo pieces presented alongside and in communication with one another. Tickets are \$20 available at lyraandjess.com.

WISHBONE ASH IN-STORE AT MUSIC MILLENNIUM AND LIVE IN CONCERT at the Aladdin Theater, 3017 SE Milwaukie Ave., Wednesday, March 11, 8 pm. Earlier the same day, they'll be at Music Millennium at 4 pm to perform, sign albums and share their 50th anniversary cake. All ages are welcome at both. One of the first bands to use twin lead guitars, Andy Powell is the only original member left in this Wishbone Ash incarnation. Tickets for the Aladdin at bit.ly/2unqogD

FINDING UKULELE JOY—Ever been to a campfire where folks laugh, sing and make music together? Song by Song keeps the campfire spirit alive, offers fun and effective ukulele classes, workshops and jams in a relaxed learning environment. All the tools you need are provided. A new term of classes begins April 13. On 1st and 3rd Saturdays come to a ukulele jam at Artichoke Music, 2001 SE Powell Blvd. Absolute Beginners are invited Saturday, March 21, 1 pm at Artichoke for an Ukulele 101 Lesson. Full info and registration: learnsongbysong.com.

OREGON'S DELGANI STRING QUARTET collaborates with composer/vocalist, Clarice Assad in *The Soul of Brazil*, Sunday, March 22 at 3 pm in PSU's Lincoln Recital Hall, 1620 SW Park Ave. The concert includes a new quartet by Assad, a quartet by Brazilian composer Heitor Villa-Lobos and her arrangements of six Bossa Novas by Antonio Carlos Jobim. Tickets \$28 general, \$10 students at delgani.org or 541.650.5040. More information at delgani.org.

WALTER W COLE, AKA DARCELLE, AND DONALD HORN of Willamette Writers, are in a free meet-n-greet book signing of Horn's two new books about Darcelle, Sunday, March 8, 2 pm at Powell's Downtown, 1005 W Burnside St. The man who has entertained Portland for more than 50 years as The Queen of Portland holds *The Guinness Book of Records* award as the World's Oldest Performing Drag Queen. Horn's two books are *Looking From My Mirror*, a biography; and *The Many Shades of Being Darcelle*, a coffeetable book.

POETRY SLAM SEMI-FINALS are Thursday, March 5, at Rocking Frog Cafe, 2511 SE Belmont St., beginning at 6:30 pm. The features are eight poets and four will go to the Grand Slam April 5. See Ty Brack, Red O'Hare, Stephen Meads, Space, Vivian Knezevich, Sarah Bat, Josh Gross, Ari Lohr and a spotlight performance from Lee Chapman. All ages welcome. \$1-5 suggested donation.

THE RICH HALLEY 4 AND DUROCHE SONIC CONVERSATIONS fill the atmosphere of No Fun Bar, 1709 SE Hawthorne Blvd. March 24, 9:30 pm, 21+ \$5. The Rich Halley 4 consists of Halley on tenor; Michael Vlatkovich, trombone; Clyde Reed, bass and Carson Halley, drums. In Sonic Conversations, drummer Tim DuRoche is in extended conversation with Blue Cranes' Reed Wallsmith alto sax and the impeccable vocal stylings of Michael Sterling. This new Hawthorne venue continues to delight with its 21st century music of many flavors. See NoFun-Bar.com.

THE JOURNAL OF BEN UCHIDA: CITIZEN 13559, written by Naomi Iizuka, from Oregon Children's Theatre continues through March 22 at Winningstad Theatre, 1111 SW Broadway. The story of 12 year-old Ben Uchida and his family after President Roosevelt authorizes the imprisonment of Japanese-American citizens during World War II. There's an undeniable relevance to these times too, as former Japanese internment camps now are repurposed to house asylum-seeking children and families. Saturdays at 2 and 5 pm, Sundays at 11 am and 2 pm. Tickets at octc.org.

LOVE, p:EAR, are the photographs of Sean May at p:ear gallery, 338 NW 6th Ave. May's collection of photos are shot on 6 x 9 medium format film with pictures of the p:ear community. The “p:ear barista school” will serve free coffee drinks March 5, from 5-8 pm and the show is up through March 24. Artists keep 90% of the sales of their work. p:ear is in Old Town/Chinatown is building relationships with homeless and transitional youth through education, art and recreation. See pearmentor.org.




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Wellness Word

Editor's note: Wellness Word is an informational column which is not meant to replace a healthcare professional's diagnosis, treatment or medication.

Balance Training and Fall Prevention

Most younger people don't worry about their balance, but perhaps they should. Balance training earlier in life will benefit you later. Even if you've never thought about your balance, it's never too late to improve.

As we age, many things contribute to decreased balance including muscle loss (sarcopenia), reduced proprioception, reduced strength and agility, and vision or inner ear issues.

For older people, falls can result in devastating, life-changing consequences. Here are a few ideas to work on balance and fall prevention.

Start with the easy stuff and work from there. Begin by standing in a normal, hip width stance. Next, narrow your stance so that your feet are close together. If that's easy, try going into a split stance, with one foot forward and one foot back, with several inches between your feet. Then try a heel-toe stance where the toes of one foot are touching the heel of the other.

Now try adding some movement. Remaining in the heel-toe stance, begin slowly rotating the shoulders and head to one side

and then the other side.

Step out of it at any point if you need to return to a wider foot position or do it next to a wall or chair if you need more support.

Try standing on one foot and be sure that the ankle doesn't roll in. If it does, consciously lift through your arch and roll your ankle the tiniest bit outward to help you stabilize. Think of stacking your weight on that leg and remember that your center of gravity will be different. Then add in shoulder and head turns.

Another option is trying any of the above balancing positions, but reducing the advantage your eyes give you. Begin by closing one eye, then open and close the other eye. If you're able to, you can close both eyes. Notice how much of a difference that makes in making the exercise harder.

Other options if you have them available to you are standing on a Bosu trainer or small balance disc. These will challenge your balance and help strengthen muscles in the foot, ankle, and lower leg. Just be sure to be near a wall or something else you can hang onto if you feel the need at any point.

One of my favorite exercises is doing the heel toe walk, either on the floor or on a low balance beam. Try going forward and then backward.

Finally, here are foot and leg exercises beneficial to balance:

Lifting through the arches and slightly supinating (the outward roll of the foot) at the angles mentioned earlier; be sure to do this only on a stable surface.

On a stair, you can do heel drops and lifts to strengthen calf muscles.

Sitting and standing to a chair or low bench repeatedly will strengthen your upper leg muscles, especially the quadriceps, which are some of the largest in the body. They are also some of the most muscles important in terms of daily function.

Now you just have to practice and put them in your schedule to do regularly. Balance is important.

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Hawthorne Pave and Paint Project

By DAVID KROGH

The Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT) is undertaking a project which will impact SE Hawthorne Blvd. from SE 24th Ave to SE 50th Ave.

The SE Hawthorne Boulevard Pave and Paint Project will involve repaving, re-striping and curb reconstructions to comply with ADA standards.

Although too early to be known, this project could entail changing lane configurations and adding new crosswalks, as has occurred with other streets involved with Vision Zero upgrades.

PBOT staff have indicated the project may involve lane reductions so the area west of Cesar E. Chavez (SE 39th) would take on the same configuration as has already been implemented east

of Cesar E. Chavez, consisting of two travel lanes and one center turn lane.

This project is underway because SE Hawthorne Blvd. is one of 30 "high crash corridors" within Portland as identified by PBOT's Vision Zero program.

Hawthorne Blvd. is also one of the streets under consideration as part of the Rose Lane Project (see January's *Painting the Streets Red* at bit.ly/2uhSSZ7).

The Pave and Paint Project commenced in the fall of 2019 with PBOT identifying existing conditions within this corridor.

Analysis of potential improvements is occurring with alternatives to be identified through September of 2020. Engineering will commence through the end

of 2020 with road work scheduled for Spring and Summer of 2021 (corresponding with sewer repair work at the same time, prior to the paving).

A business-oriented workshop hosted by the Hawthorne Blvd Business Association (HBBA) was held February 18 at Bread and Ink Café where PBOT and other city staff summarized the overall project, including sewer work, and solicited input from business operators within the project area.

Additional meetings have been scheduled for residents and businesses Saturday, March 7, 1-4 pm at SEUL, 3534 SE Main, and Tuesday, March 10, 5:30-8:30 pm at Western Seminary Chapel, 5511 SE Hawthorne.

The City Council adopted the Rose Lane Project concept plan February 13 and, as a result, the Pave and Paint and Rose Lane projects will work concurrently.

Vision Zero is all about improving safety and both Rose Lane and Pave and Paint are intended to improve transit timing and access.

The community is encouraged to take a survey and provide input on specific improvements at portlandoregon.gov/transportation/hawthorne-repave.

PBOT project manager Karla Kingsley can be reached at Karla.kingsley@portlandoregon.gov or 503.823.5141.

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Neighborhood Notes

HAND

By Jill Riebesehl

Housing and transportation, mundane as those issues are, remain at the top of the lists for most Portland neighborhoods. In our Hosford-Abernethy, we expect we will soon have a low income housing project courtesy of St. Philip Neri and Catholic Charities.

In February a good crowd filled Carvlin Hall to view architectural proposals for the Division St. church campus. This may include as many as 50 permanent apartments, in old buildings and new. When ideas were first being imagined, past and current board members jumped in to help neighbors express their concerns.

On the horizon, Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT), is eyeing Hawthorne Blvd. repaving in two years, and has started inviting community participation. Staff members met with the HAND Board and neighbors in January to lay out ideas. This gave us a chance to participate early, to be heard about problems we have long seen that need addressing, to learn new options for changes and to make suggestions for this busy street on our northern border.

TriMet and PBOT occasionally update us on the ongoing effort to accommodate more transit ridership and speed traffic from outer SE to downtown. The large, multi-million dollar Division Transit Project has a finish date of 2022. The biggest snags we continue to voice in letters and at meetings lie at the west end of Division, in our neighborhood. Those of us who live near or frequently travel the area continue to grapple with TriMet proposals for rerouting bus, automobile and freight traffic and reconfiguring lanes. At a recent board meeting we learned TriMet may reroute the #10 bus out of Ladds Addition.

The long-hoped-for Gideon Crossing finally has a solid skeleton, with the horizontal piece placed the second week of February. TriMet anticipates the bridge, from SE 14th to SE 13th Pl. over freight, passenger and MAX tracks, will be ready for use by the fall. The HAND board had actively urged replacing a bridge that was removed to accommodate the MAX orange line, and the need for the crossing became urgent when people began endangering themselves trying to get past freight trains that often block SE 8th and 11th avenues.

We are anxious to see how the increased pedestrian and bicycle traffic will affect nearby businesses with accompanying freight needs.

Recent increasing amounts of graffiti will probably be on the agenda for our next meeting, among other local issues such as finalizing our comments on Hawthorne repaving and deciding on Eastbank Esplanade events. Discussions are shaping up about the best use of a city-owned site off Division at SE 19th that has had various uses, changing over the years. Ideas include houseless needs and possibly a community garden.

As the primary election nears, we invited and heard from two candidates for our state House district: Paige Kreisman and Rep. Rob Nosse.

The HAND Board meets every third Tuesday of every month, 7 pm in Carvlin Hall on the campus of St. Philip Neri. All are welcome to join us.

Montavilla Neighborhood Association

By Louise Hoff

Montavilla Neighborhood Association is very pleased that we will be able to hear the final report on the Montavilla Main Street Historic Survey at our next meeting Monday, March 9, 6:30 pm. Brandon Spencer-Hartle, Project Manager of the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability (BPS), completed the survey early last year, which was initiated by our neighborhood, funded by City Council and BPS.

The University of Oregon Historic Preservation program deployed graduate students to document the buildings and research building history for social and cultural associations.

The Lola and William Rainbow Mermaid Playground at Vestal Elementary, in memory of those dear children swept out to sea in January, is underway and community fundraising is being organized by the Vestal PTA.

We are always pleased to hear from Lt. Hays from the East Precinct. Even though our neighborhood feels like a friendly small town to most of us, we are still part of a big city with big city problems and we feel so lucky we have Lt. Hays to share information with us and answer questions.

March heralds spring and a neighborhood filled with blossoming trees, shrubs and bulbs. Plans are in the works for the 82nd Avenue of Roses Parade, the Taborville NET training, our annual cleanup fundraiser and summer events in our lovely parks. We hope more neighbors will join us at our monthly meetings.

Richmond Neighborhood Association

By Brian Hochhalter & Allen Field

The Richmond Neighborhood Association held its monthly meeting on Monday, February 10. Portland Police Sargent Sam Ajir described a renewed effort by the Police Bureau on community outreach and a commitment to try to have an officer attend most neighborhood association meetings.

He explained the severe staffing shortage in East Precinct: the current 125 officers are doing the work that the ideal number of 517 officers (based on national averages) should be doing. Call times increase as a consequence but it's important to report incidents/crimes so police know where to allocate resources. Property crimes and theft are the bulk of offenses in Richmond. Crime statistics can be viewed at portlandoregon.gov/police.

Gina Ambrose, President of the Junior League of Portland, presented an overview of the organization. Its mission is to promote volunteerism, develop the potential of women and improve communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. 2020 is their 110th anniversary. They are concluding their annual Delicates Drive and seek to collect 10,000 new undergarments of any kind to help survivors of human trafficking, which is more prevalent in Portland than people realize. For more information see jlpdx.org.

Kathryn Doherty-Chapman, Portland Bureau of Transportation, (PBOT) reported on the progress of the Division Parking Permit Project. Criteria for developing a Stakeholder Advisory Committee was discussed. Renters in apartments and in single family homes, as well as homeowners and business owners on or within a few blocks of Division are encouraged to apply. The deadline is March 6 but it might be extended. The proposed parking permit plan will be put to a vote of those inside the proposed area. For more information, see portlandoregon.gov/transportation/article/751632. The RNA will send out updates on its listserv as we receive them.

Karla Kingsley, PBOT, explained the SE Hawthorne Pave and Paint project and community outreach efforts. Of particular interest are coordinating new curb ramps, new marked pedestrian crossings and sewer upgrades in tandem with the repaving effort.

She noted PBOT is considering lane reduction and parking reconfiguration along SE Hawthorne in coordination with this repaving project. For more information: portlandoregon.gov/transportation/article/751359. 16,000 postcards were mailed out from PBOT the week of February 10 announcing upcoming workshops.

The next RNA Meeting is March 9, 6:30 pm at Waverly Heights Church (basement), 3300 SE Woodward St.

continued on page 17

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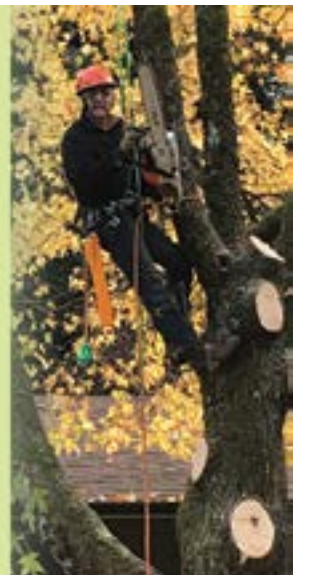
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Gladstone Development

from page 8

room for me, my husband and our Wheaten terrier. We love the idea that we’re helping the homeless,” said Rourke. She’s already gotten to know the neighborhood and enjoyed the jam-packed opening of Best Friend.

Best Friend

Chan Wong and Margaux Muller run Best Friend. Muller has a degree in International Baking and Pastry Arts. She’s worked in cupcake shops and small businesses since she was 15.

It was her dream to come to Oregon and focus on vegan/gluten free, refined-sugar-free pastries. Her passion for an alternative path to health-conscious eating began at an early age. Her lifelong goal has been to inspire others to make the connection between the food they eat and its effect on their body, the environment and the world.

Wong has a degree in Psychology/Communication. He got started with coffee after college and he was inspired by Comet Coffee in Ann Arbor, MI. He’s been working in coffee-making for 10 years.

Their energy, resourcefulness, work ethic, sense of humor and wisdom are impressive. They thoroughly researched this corner spot in the building and realized there was no other business offering what they had.

They opened February 14, just in time for Valentine’s Day. “We wanted to honor all the best friends we’ve known and have

supported us along the way,” said Muller.

“We were looking for a feeling of innocence, of nostalgia,” said Wong. “We’re hoping old friends find themselves at our store and bring some light to this corner.”

Schooled in the Buddhist tradition, Wong believes in serving the community. The pair also run a food cart near The Beer-Mongers on SE 11th and Division St. and will continue that venture. “We want to make health accessible and super simple,” said Muller.

Kitsune Salon

Light, airy and friendly, Kitsune Salon opened December 11. Owned by Roxanne Ranel, the 760 square foot Kitsune is staffed by four independent contractors who all have strong followings. Ranel, who lives in the neighborhood, provides full-service hair cutting and coloring.

Located across the street from Cowlick, a traditional men’s barbershop, the name Kitsune was inspired by foxes who are a part of Japanese folklore, reflecting the ability to transform or change shape or form, like changing hair.

“I’d been looking for a location for a few months,” said Ranel. “I enjoyed working with the folks from Guerrilla Development.”

Unicorn Bake Shop

Carrie Padian is the owner of the new Unicorn Bake Shop,



Unicorn photo by Jack Rubinger

her first true brick and mortar venture, though she has run a home kitchen since 2016.

“Sweets make people happy,” she said. The bake shop features both gluten-free and vegan offerings as well as custom cakes, unicorn bars and rainbow cinnamon rolls.

“It’s all about taking the average dessert and making it more fun,” she said.

Padian quit her day job as a software developer to focus on the bake shop and things are fully past the half-baked stage right now, she joked.

At less than 800 square feet with seating for a dozen, the bake shop offers a small, intimate setting in a neighborhood that has never seen anything like this.

“Kenilworth needed a sweet shop,” she said. “This felt like the right place.” Unicorn opened February 29.

While it’s too soon to gauge the total success of this experimental new community development, this writer will continue to partake the new food and beverage offerings now available here and examine the impact of the new tenants on the neighborhood.

Teressa Raiford for Mayor

from page 1

and intergenerational housing,” she said.

A registered Democrat, and a fourth-generation Portland resident, Raiford was raised in a large family.

“I utilize my great-grandmother’s scrapbook and other archives to research discriminatory policies and laws in the city of Portland as well as the state,” she said. “Understanding how these policies have affected us and continue to do so matter when we talk about moving Portland forward.”

This is why she continues to speak up for those affected by infrastructure and rising developments that often leave people

behind without a safety net. The biggest issue, she says, are these communities are not involved in the planning stages.

“During my campaign, we have spoken to Portlanders over the last 18 months about what matters to them and lots of people voice that they believe cannabis dollars in Portland would directly affect their livability,” she said.

In 2019, Oregon reported \$725.8 million in revenue from recreational cannabis sales.

“Working within the industry, we are building a coalition of cannabis leaders who are willing to work within communities to redistribute these resources. We would like to see drug and alco-

hol counseling, housing support services and accessibility for safe access,” she said.

If elected Mayor, she’ll focus on civic accessibility and community education, developing jobs, housing and real solutions to homelessness.

Using her diverse community partnerships, experiences and innovative ideas, she wants to bridge community and policy to create sustainable social change and reconstruct Portland’s well-known discriminatory systems.

In her spare time, Raiford is involved in community art projects, working with children, families and the Portland Art Museum on projects that support social justice.

For more, see teressarai-fordformayor.com.

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Police Bureau Pledges Ongoing Reforms

By MIDGE PIERCE

A spike in gun violence has added steam to Portland residents who talk of leaving the City and its problems behind.

New Police Chief Jami Resch gets it. With someone shot in the City every two days since the New Year, she seeks to stem lawlessness and restore trust in the institutions that serve and protect through improved training, public engagement and accountability.

These measures were required under a Department of Justice (DOJ) settlement over police use of force.

The DOJ compliance announcement on January 24 followed the Mayor’s appointment of Resch, a 21-year, well-respected veteran of the force. She hit the ground running following the surprise resignation of Danielle Outlaw, a popular, but short-term chief with the distinction as Portland’s first African American police chief.

Even though Portland Police Bureau is now in “substantial compliance” with federal re-

forms, Resch intends to continue crisis intervention, de-escalation techniques and misconduct investigations implemented by the DOJ after the 2010 shooting of an unarmed, suicidal man.

“Work is not done,” she said, adding there is no finish line to making the force more effective and committed to better relationships, especially with under-represented communities.

Resch said that Portland Police Bureau (PPB) is committed to minimizing force, but that the public must be prepared for force when lives are in danger.

As a result of the DOJ lawsuit, a citizen panel was formed that has now evolved into the Portland Committee on Community-Engaged Policing (PCCEP).

At a late January meeting, the group unanimously voted to recommend police implement a Procedural Justice Statement to explain reasons for vehicle and pedestrian stops and searches.

PCCEP member Lakayana Drury said the intent is to reduce

continued on page 19

NN

Neighborhood Notes

from page 15

North Tabor Neighborhood Association

By Kim Kasch

North Tabor Neighborhood Association is working on safety concerns for our neighborhood. To help us with our goals we will have the Police Commander speak at our next Board meeting.

Please join us Tuesday, March 17, 6:30 pm at 4837 NE Couch St. Email board@northtabor.org if there are question you’d like us to ask.

South Tabor Neighborhood Association

By Tina Kimmey

We held our Pancake Breakfast February 29 and are continuing to recruit for our Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee. If you are interested contact us at info@southtabor.org.

Monthly meetings are held the third Thursday of the month and Land Use meeting are held the Tuesday prior–Thursday, March 19 and Tuesday, March 17, respectively. Meetings are held at Trinity Fellowship, 2700 SE 67th Ave., 7-8:30 pm. Enter on the east from the rear parking lot. More information at southtabor.org.

Sunnyside Neighborhood Association

By Matt Lembo

Sunnyside Neighborhood Association (SNA) is highlighting two events and looking for help with a book in progress.

The first is a public Q&A with Portland Police Bureau Central Precinct Commander Mike Krantz. Following his participation in our October discussion on housing and homelessness, Commander Krantz will be offering a two hour public forum on the intersection of policing, homelessness and criminal justice policy on Thursday, March 5, 7 pm at the Sunnyside Environmental School Auditorium.

Incumbent representative Rob Nosse and challenger Paige Kreisman will face off in a candidate forum for the Democratic nomination for Oregon House of Representatives District 42. The SNA-sponsored event will be held Thursday, April 16, 7-8:30 pm in the Groves Church Social Hall (3520 SE Yamhill St). Candidates will have the opportunity to make prepared statements and field questions from the audience.

Author Rhys Scholes is working on a photographic history of Hawthorne Blvd coming this fall in Arcadia Publishing’s *Images of America* series. He is looking for historic Hawthorne Blvd photos with particular interest in: Bobby Kennedy at the Piggly Wiggly; Hawthorne Booster’s events in the 1950s and 60s; the 1948 Rose Festival Parade on Hawthorne; Hawthorne Park events circa 1900; 20th Century owners, employees and customers; Hawthorne Street Fairs in the 1980s and 90s; inside Dr. Hawthorne’s Asylum; events in Red Men Hall and at the Bagdad Theater; store openings, alternative culture and street scenes.

Visit hawthornebook.com or contact Rhys: Rhys@Oregon-Watchwords.com or 503.341.6514.

Age-Friendly Home Updates

By Rachel Hemmingson

I will always remember my visit with a healthy, vibrant retiree in Oregon City who lived up on a bluff. She and her late husband designed their home and loved it.

Built on a slope, there were 200+ steps to navigate between the outside and inside. She had a great social circle, but not one of her friends could get into her house.

You’ve possibly heard the idiom: “loneliness is the new smoking.” While different sources offer slightly different numbers, it’s well known that the majority of people in later years - like her - wish to spend the rest of their lives in their home, or at least in a home versus a senior community/facility. 80 percent is generally quoted, but it varies at different age points.

Over the last 15 years, this percentage has declined somewhat among the 65-68-ish group. Close to one third of Baby Boomers indicate a desire to move from their home, but to where, has not been made clear.

Some senior communities with life planning, non-profit and buy-in models are booked up and expanding. Other models, including independent and assisted living, memory care and skilled nursing units are still only serving about 12 percent of the population. Memory care is on the rise.

For those planning to stay where they are, consider not only your own current and future mobility but also that of your friends.

You may not be motivated to invest in age-friendly upgrades to your house for yourself but thinking about your friends may inspire you. In the end, it will be good for you as well.

Some Portland homes are difficult to renovate internally for accessibility, are situated on hills or lack sidewalks. In that case it may be more suitable to search for a more age-friendly house.

The Regional Multiple Listing Service (RMLS) all Realtors

use as a search engine for homes now has an “accessibility” field where agents can search for specific features.

Many houses can be modified adequately to keep them workable for impending age-related needs and accessible for friends.

Ramps can be elegant and integrated into the yard design and powered lifts can be placed behind side-entrance stairs, minimizing any visual impact. Scissor-lifts can be placed inside attached garages to help surmount short staircases there.

Ensuring that there is an accessible bathroom on the main floor is another important consideration. While widening doorways can be complex (and spendy) it may be worth it. Sometimes installing a pocket door will make the difference.

Sometimes a bathroom may need to include a neighboring hall closet to make changes you want. These may include a walk-in shower or a sink with space under it to accommodate a wheelchair. In some cases, you may need to have a bathroom built on the main floor.

The features like accessible entry ways and a bathroom on the main level are the basics of universal design for aging-in-place renovations.

There are many designers and renovation companies in the area who can assess these and other options.

Our friendships, old and new, become more and more vital to our emotional health while access to everything generally becomes more challenging with age.

Consider doing what you can to be a port in the age-related-changes-storm for your circle of friends, for your benefit and theirs.

Rachel Hemmingson facilitates age-related housing choices and changes for older adults.
971-207-2806
rachelhemmingson@gmail.com

What’s Happening to Montavilla’s Main Street?

By Megan McMorris

The sudden closure of Montavilla’s Country Cat restaurant in August at the corner of SE 80th and Stark St., seemed to set off a chain reaction.

Longtime business Eco Baby Gear across the street shuttered its doors in September, followed by Townshend’s Tea in October.

Changes are a given in any neighborhood, but sudden, successive closures have a way of making neighborhoods nervous, wondering where the future of their Main Street is going.

It’s Portland, after all, and “we don’t want what’s happened to other neighborhoods happen to ours,” is the common thought around here.

Look closely though and signs of life start appearing. Eric Mahan (of Stammtisch and Prost!) is opening Tinker Tavern this spring, moving into the old Eco Baby Gear location on SE 78th and Stark.

In the former Country Cat building, the restaurant Lazy Susan (Eem and Le Pigeon alums) may keep that corner on the radar for Portland’s foodie scene when it opens in March.

“There are a lot of great changes happening right now in Montavilla,” says Morgan Hart, owner (with business and life partner Jax Hart) of Hungry Heart Bakery on SE 80th, as she gestures around her under-construction, soon-to-open brunch spot, White Rabbit (occupying the former Townshend’s Tea spot).

One thing that won’t change, though, is these owner’s dedication to the community in which they’ve chosen to set up shop.

Hart recalls the community support that billowed following the tragedy when their beloved bakery manager, Erin Brenneman, was killed by a hit-and-run driver on SE 80th in 2017. That support solidified their dedication to the neighborhood, “what we already felt about this community,” she says.

“We definitely had a little say in who we thought would fit into the neighborhood well and who would be dedicated to Montavilla like we are,” she said referring to who would occupy the



Photo by Megan McMorris

former Heartbreaker spot on SE 81st, which they are relinquishing to open White Rabbit.

The new tenants are Daniel and Elise Gold, who will open their Sicilian deli, Sebastiano’s, in April, and envision a space where their children can grow up with their deli.

“We’re looking forward to being a part of the community, because we’ve already encountered so many excited, authentic people here,” says Daniel.

In explaining their dedication to setting up shop in Montavilla, he said, “We want to create crave-worthy food that imbeds in you and makes you want to come back. We want to be the answer to *Where do you want to go for lunch?* for local businesses.”

For Hart, that attitude is what will solidify the neighborhood moving forward. “Our goal isn’t to be one of the top hottest restaurants in the city, you know? It’s more important to be a daily touchstone for those in the neighborhood. It’s about being a part of the community’s every day.”

When she lights up, it’s hard not to see the new neighborhood through her eyes. As we stand outside on SE Stark outside White Rabbit, she lights up at the possibilities.

First Thursday downtown celebrations. Envisioning and appreciating, the “cozy, downtown district” of SE Stark. Renting out kitchen space for culinary start-ups. “It’s about community, not competition,” she says. “I have a feeling it’s going to be a good summer.”

What About the Purple Building?

No discussion of the neighborhood is complete, of course, without mentioning the Beets Mechanic garage, or as others know it, the purple building with the colorful murals on the side,

located on SE 76th and Stark St.

After months of sitting empty, it was demolished in February, reduced to a colorful pile of rubble in just a few days. The new owner, who also owns the lot that includes the farmers market site and the new Montavilla Guitar Studio, is reportedly years away from developing.

Future plans are far from set in stone, but could include affordable housing, community space and restaurant development, or food pods.

All eyes be will trained on this corner, which has long served as a community anchor.

After former owner, developer Randy Rapaport’s efforts to turn the former Beets building into affordable housing fell flat with the Montavilla Neighborhood Association (among the complaints were a lack of parking) he temporarily leased the space to an artists’ collective.

Named the Pegasus Project, the space hosted music and comedy shows, open mics, yoga classes, and served as a community for artists.

Bureaucratic red tape ended up getting in the way (some reports suggest to the tune of \$12,000 a year in fines) and Rapaport sold the building last summer and the Pegasus Project’s move-out day was October 31.

“We always knew we were temporary, which is why we gave Pegasus wings in the first place,” says Joshua Wallace, artistic director of the space, “and after three years it was our time to fly.”

While Pegasus has yet to pinpoint a new spot, he says, “We’ll land again somewhere when the timing is right.”

The closure itself begs the question of the future of Portland’s artist scene.

Read more about the Pegasus Project’s future in the April issue of *The Southeast Examiner*.



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Rs Representatively Speaking



BY STATE REPRESENTATIVE ROB NOSSE

By the time you read this, we will be more than halfway through the 2020 legislative short session. Here are a few of the bills my colleagues and I have introduced I believe will help make Oregon a safer and more livable state.

The Clean Energy Job Bill, now known as SB 1530, is one of my biggest priorities for the 2020 legislative session. In 2019, Senate Republicans walked out over HB 2020, last year’s version of this bill.

I am hopeful that by the time you read this, the Senate has passed a strong climate bill that will give resources to both rural and urban Oregonians, allowing our state’s regions to react and evolve to the effects of climate change while setting state-wide goals to reduce carbon emissions and climate pollution.

Unfortunately, railroads are regulated by the Federal Government and because of this, our state is federally pre-empted from regulating railroads for the most

part.

Presently, freight trains can transport oil through Oregon’s towns with few restrictions. That said, the oil trail derailment in Mosier a few years ago illustrated really well why Oregon needs to act where it can.

That is why I am one of the Chief Sponsors of HB 4105. This bill requires rail companies to notify ODOT about the frequency and nature of oil shipments and regulates the pressure of oil tanks to prevent explosions.

It would also require ODOT to notify the State Fire Marshal of oil train shipments so that agency can be ready to respond to a derailment when the next one occurs.

Common sense firearms regulations are what’s needed to curb the epidemic of gun violence in this country. I have supported every approach to gun safety passed by the legislature since I began serving.

One of the contributing factors to our nation’s high rate of gun violence is easy access to firearms by people in homes. Preventing children from having

access to guns prevents in-home injuries and deaths and can prevent criminals and troubled youth from access to weapons to then potentially be used in mass shootings and violent crime.

HB 4005 requires firearms to be locked when they are not in the owner’s active possession and requires owners of stolen firearms to report gun thefts to law enforcement. This is a bill I am proud to support.

Every year, numerous traffic accidents and deaths occur that are the result of speeding. The Oregon Department of Transportation currently has control over designating speeds on all Oregon highways.

HB 4103, a bill I introduced, will allow cities to petition ODOT to take over speed setting authority so that speed limits can reflect the context of the neighborhoods they are in. By passing this bill, we will be able to reduce speed limits in neighborhood settings and reduce the number of accidents, injuries and deaths on our streets.

Hopefully by the time you read this column, all of these bills have passed provided Republicans stay in Salem and do not walk off the job.

Meanwhile, know I really appreciate the communication and support from many of you during some long days filled with meetings and negotiations in our Capitol in Salem.

It is great to get so many phone calls, emails and letters encouraging me to support or oppose bills that have been introduced.

Watch for a column in April on the results of the session and analysis of where we ended up.

Police Bureau Reforms

from page 17

racial inequities that disproportionately detain and arrest people of color.

The Justice Statement is also intended to give voice to community members living with mental illness. Every police stop is a risk to life and limb, according to PCCEP member Amy Anderson.

She added that lawlessness could be reduced if people perceive they are treated fairly and justly. Members also discussed bodycams, under consideration by the Council as it weighs pros of video recordings against potential violations of civil rights.

PCCEP public testimony included Portland Copwatch member Dan Handelman’s description of the DOJ compliance as incomplete. He said that even though police checked all the right boxes, police interfaces still resulted in a surge in recent deaths.

Mental health crises are often trigger points, quite literally. At a Portland Community College (PCC) event last month, East Precinct Commander Tashia Hager and others emphasized the need for wraparound mental health services and compassionate, effective alternatives to police answering homeless complaints.

She issued a reminder that just because a campsite is reported, it doesn’t mean police will respond if there is no imminent public danger. Hager said camping is intrinsically a social, not a law enforcement issue.

“It is not against the law to

be homeless,” said Mayor Ted Wheeler, adding that problems tend to occur among the chronically houseless, a group that has grown by roughly one third in recent years, despite progress in sheltering families, veterans and those actively seeking housing.

Several speakers at the PCC event discussed a Portland Street Response pilot program to send mental health workers to handle 911 calls deemed non-violent. Commissioner JoAnne Hardesty’s office described the program as the right way to get the right first responder to the right incident at the right time.

Later in the month, the City Council discussed the future of the Gun Violence Reduction team, transitioned from the former Gang Enforcement unit. No action was taken to increase funding or add programs.

During an interview, Resch said her predecessor left PPB in a good position to move forward. The public can help, she said, by advocating for additional resources, and promoting the good rather than the negative so PPS can recruit the next generation of officers.

Asked if in-roads were being made to add women to leadership roles (Portland’s fire chief is Sara Boone), she said females represent 16% of the Portland force – higher than the national average.

“Seeing women in positions of authority, tells young girls considering joining law enforcement that of course you can.”

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Community Events Bulletin

Expo Antique & Collectible Show
Portland Expo Center
Saturday, March 7 & Sunday, March 8
10 am-5 pm

Antique & Collectible Shows-Portland displays products like jewelry, vintage toys, furniture from early American oak to European, paper Americana, China and glass including Fenton, Cambridge, Heisey, Tiffany, enticing smalls in silver, enamel and gold, country store, decor for every room in the home, kitchenware, coin-operated items such as jukeboxes, antique tools, costume jewelry, vintage clothing, bar-ware, etc.

Portland Women's Expo Event
Oregon Convention Center
Saturday, March 14, 10 am-5 pm

The biggest event for women in the state of Oregon is back! You will see the best in local wine, chocolates, home decor, health products, food and fashion. More than 300 exhibitors will greet event attendees with their products and services. Bring mom, grandma, sister, daughter and even dad. This event has been the #1 choice for "girlfriends day out for over 20+ years." Come with friends or by yourself and make connections with hundreds of women.

2020 Shamrock Run Portland
shamrockrunportland.com
Sunday, March 15

Celebrate Opening Day of running season and join the 25,000-participant Shamrock Run field! The Widmer beer garden and hot shamrock Irish potato soup awaits finishers amid the fun of vendors in the Park. Jam like the Irish and enjoy live music on stage while sharing your run story with friends.



LEFT TO RIGHT: Jamie Marion, Kevin Caplener and Jan Caplener

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