



Photo by Don MacGillivray

Homeless Solutions Remain Elusive

By Don MacGillivray

Homeless encampments have grown exponentially in Portland since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic along with public health and safety concerns. Since March, 40 additional campsites have sprung up, each with 10 or more tents. There are an estimated 4,000 people experiencing homelessness in the Portland area often choosing to live along city streets. Small groups of tents are often found in secluded places in the Central Eastside: around the St. Francis Dining Hall, near the Sunnyside Environmental School property and along SE Powell Blvd. One of the larger camps is located in Laurelhurst Park along SE Oak St. between 37th Ave. and César E. Chavez Blvd. It has grown to approximately 50 tents since early spring, but the camp is generally invisible unless you traverse this section of SE Oak.

A portable toilet and one handwashing station has been provided to the campers. The park provides additional facilities and a few garbage receptacles, but crowding is the cause for many concerns. Local volunteers from Sunnyside

Methodist Church provide a lunch seven days a week and help with a variety of minor issues. Campers generally respect each other and there is often a positive sense of community among them. However, it is believed that the camp may be removed in the coming weeks. In March, the US Center for Disease Control and Prevention declared a moratorium on campsite cleanups as a way to address public health issues of the homeless community. This changed in early July when the City said that they would sweep camps larger than eight tents. The dilemma is whether it is better to allow the camps to remain in place or to remove the residents to other unknown locations. The COVID-19 epidemic has created havoc with the homeless situation here. Never has more attention and resources been focused on homelessness, but still it seems to have only increased over the last 35 years.

In the fall of 2015, Portland City Council, under the leadership of Mayor Charlie Hales, declared a “housing emergency.” They promised that everything possible would be done to house the homeless. Six years and two mayors later, the situation remains a significant dilemma. This summer, three new organized camps for the homeless have opened in Portland. Two are in the Inner Eastside along SE Water Ave. at SE Main St. Reservations are required to live in these new campsites, but they are now full. They are fenced off and contain 12x12 foot camping sites provided with tents, cots and sleeping bags. There are bathrooms, showers and storage for personal belongings. The camps include social distancing measures and they are regularly disinfected to provide a clean and safe living environment. Local government has been particularly active in raising funds to address homelessness this year. In May, voters approved a one percent tax on the wealthiest residents and largest businesses which is expected to raise \$250 million a year, unless the COVID-19 economy reduces this amount. The funds will be used for behavioral

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Hawthorne Pave and Paint Update

By David Krogh

The Southeast Examiner first reported on this project in April. At that time, Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT) solicited public input for the Pave and Paint Project to improve street crossings and safety measures for SE Hawthorne with the potential to redo existing travel lanes. Based on the public input, PBOT has completed Part 1 of its follow up report on the Project and posted this report at its website (bit.ly/PavePaintPhase1). It spells out project goals and summarizes existing conditions for Hawthorne including safety issues. Hawthorne, for example, is one of 30 high-crash corridors in the city. It discusses public input received and lists a number of alternatives under consideration by PBOT. The report concludes with an announcement that Part 2 will be released near the end of August and will include more complete findings and recommendations. Project staff have indicated an additional series of public comment opportunities will be offered after the Part 2 release, most likely in September and October. The purpose and goals of the project are multi-fold. Major sewer work and repaving was anticipated along Hawthorne Blvd. and it was hoped that safety elements of Vision Zero could be incorporated along with improvements to facilitate improved transit service. In addition, crossing improvements

and other features to support the main street character of Hawthorne are also desirable. The report states up front that COVID-19 is creating impacts to the project. Because of the need for social distancing there might not be any additional in person public meetings or workshops. Project staff are hopeful that virtual means can be used to support public involvement and comments. Also stated is some project funding has been redirected and the full project might not be accomplished without additional funding. Present funding available is for repaving, re-striping (painting), curb and ramp improvements and some median additions to comply with ADA standards. Other safety measures such as additional crossings, as requested by the public, and signage may lack funding unless other sources can become available. Although Part 1 doesn’t offer a recommendation yet on what ultimate traffic lane patterns will be proposed, it does identify that the last street improvement plan for Hawthorne (in 1997) called for lane reductions west of Caesar E Chavez Blvd. to match the stretch to the east. This would transform the street from four travel lanes down to two, with a center turning lane and bike lanes. When The Southeast Examiner asked a PBOT representative at one of the public workshops if that was still the proposal project staff was favoring, the response was in the affirmative although the actual

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Residential Neighborhoods Rezoned for Multiplex Housing

By Midge Pierce

After five years of heated debate, City Council’s passage last month of the Residential Infill Project (RIP) codifies the allowance of up to six housing units on formerly single-family lots in Portland’s residential neighborhoods. Focus now turns to Infill implementation and anti-displacement measures for Portlanders whose homes are replaced with multiplex development. RIP is slated to take effect in August 2021, giving time for map changes that, among other things, reflect rezoning of some 7,000 parcels from R5 to R2.5. The 3-1 vote in favor of the ordinance came over Commissioner Amanda Fritz’ lone no-vote warning that RIP would cause carbon emission increases antithetical to climate goals. While her objections were no surprise, the vehemence of her statements was unexpected. “Our planet is on fire,” she said. RIP will make Portland “burn faster” with the fuel of newcomers’ cars, construction traffic and inadequate transit connections. Claiming that it was the saddest vote she participated in during 12 years on

Council, Fritz said RIP threw out 40 years of land use planning. She indicated that RIP fails to provide housing stability and affordability for the low income Portlanders it was intended to help. Residents of homes at risk of demolition in neighborhoods like SE Lents and Brentwood-Darlington will be a likely focus of anti-displacement measures. For the three other Commissioners, a key to RIP passage was a Deeper Affordability Bonus that allows six-plexes in all geographically-viable residential neighborhoods providing half are affordable to lower income families. Duplexes, triplexes and four-plexes will be allowed with few restrictions. While the policy reduces the size of new homes on formerly single family lots from 6,700 to 3,500 square feet, bonus incentives may add square footage. Off street parking will not be required. Commissioner Jo Ann Hardesty said RIP will help repair the damage of Portland’s exclusionary housing practices. Commissioner Chloe Eudaly, credited with pushing visitability requirements that will make multiplexes accessible to

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Modern Middle Housing Virtual Tour

By David Krogh

In June the Homebuilders Association of Metropolitan Portland (HBA), Metro and the Build Small Coalition hosted a virtual tour of modern middle housing project examples intended to shift the way people think about housing in response to HB 2001.

That bill, which the Oregon State Legislature adopted in 2019, requires cities to plan and implement zoning permitting middle density housing within traditional single-family neighborhoods.

Middle density housing includes duplexes, triplexes, multi-plexes, accessory dwelling units (ADUs) and cottage-style homes.

Leading the tour were Oregon State Representative Julie Fahey, Chair of the House Interim Committee on Housing and representatives from Portland area building companies Blue Sky Property Northwest, Green Hammer, Marmella Homes, Portland Houseworks, Roost Homes and SQFT Studios.

This tour video is accessible to the public on YouTube (bit.ly/MiddleHousingTour) and shows a variety of middle home types. Several project examples were illustrated, many located in SE Portland.

Roost Homes illustrated a stand alone ADU which fits into the back yard of an existing house. Another example was a cluster of small homes near the PCC Eastside Campus (Tabor 77, SE 77th Ave. and Sherman Court) which includes a central courtyard shared access way.

Another example is Montavilla Court Condominiums at SE 76th Ave and Alder St., a small townhouse complex (units of 800-1,000 square feet per unit) arranged in a cluster around a central landscaped courtyard.

In all cases, the units are small and energy efficient and according to the participating builders, all are available at market rates with town homes being available for sale or for potential rentals. Builders stressed that keeping the units small is one way to keep costs down.

Eli Green with SQFT Studios expressed a goal to “make small spaces more functional, including such unique features as lofts.”

Another way is to not provide onsite parking. Blue Sky representative Douglas MacLeod said, “parking drives up the costs and reduces flexibility.” Other builders echoed that, although most buyers would like onsite parking, it usually doesn’t pencil out for builders or buyers.

The Southeast Examiner participated in the tour as did close to 200 other area participants.

State Representative Fahey was asked if the bill included provisions to guarantee affordability. Fahey responded that no, affordability was not built into the bill. However, it was hoped that by providing a large number of new units, prices would become more affordable than at current price levels.

The Southeast Examiner asked if any of these builders were going to seek the bonuses



Photo of ADU by Roost Homes

potentially offered by Portland’s just adopted Residential Infill Project (RIP) to make some units “affordable.”

Rebecca Small with Metro responded,

“The Deeper Affordability Bonus (per RIP) is geared towards non-profit affordable housing developers and community development corporations (like Habitat for Humanity or REACH) rather than private developers,” she said, “since producing units affordable at 60 percent or below MFI (median family income) still requires a significant public subsidy to pencil out.”

This means most middle housing will not be constructed as “affordable housing” by commercial builders.

What is affordable housing? Basically, it is housing that a household can pay for and still have adequate money left over for other necessities such as food, transportation, clothing and healthcare.

The federal Housing and Urban Development Agency (HUD) generally calls housing affordable if it costs no more than 30 percent of a household’s income (considering monthly rent/payments). However, since household incomes are extremely variable, affordability is not something one can realistically pin a particular value on.

For informational purposes, the US Census identifies Portland’s median household income in 2018 at \$65,740. This averages out to one person earning wages at roughly \$31 per hour or two people at \$15+ per hour. This median has been increasing steadily over the years largely due to the influx of professional workers into the area.

This is one of the reasons why finding affordable housing is so difficult in Portland for those in lower wage brackets.

After the tour *The Southeast Examiner* asked what the estimates are for needed units versus how many units builders are capable of providing (in terms of middle housing).

Small responded.

“One recent study by Up for Growth showed that we under produced over 155,000 units of housing since the great recession. Between 2010 and 2016, Multnomah County saw only 59 units of new housing for every 100 new households formed. This means that every 10 new families were competing for a mere six units of housing!”

It should be noted that these housing totals include all unit types, including apartments, and

that since 2016 there has been substantial construction of new apartment buildings in SE Portland.

What is needed is more variety in available unit types and not just more apartments, which both HB 2001 and the RIP have largely attempted to provide.

In middle housing projections, Johnson Economics projected for the Portland Planning and Sustainability Bureau (PSB) that there is a possibility of 24,000 middle housing-style units being built over the next 20 years, or about 1,200 new units per year.

Another study, more recently released by PSB indicates that value could be as low as 4,000 units. Most of this development is expected to be constructed on currently vacant or infill lots.

Small said, “It is expected that the majority of middle housing, particularly types that require use of an entire property such as triplexes or cottage clusters, will only come to fruition on vacant lots since redevelopment is extremely costly and presents a whole host of challenges.

“But many other middle housing styles, such as detached duplexes, single family home conversations and accessory dwelling units, can be easily incorporated into existing single-family home properties without requiring the destruction of the original structure.”

Several other facts became available as part of the tour and subsequent questions. For instance, no builders of color and few women are currently involved in middle housing construction. It is especially hoped by Metro that this situation will improve based on the current high demand for housing and growing opportunities within the housing industry.

In addition, no projects are being built at this time considering the needs of residents to maintain social distancing, a key function in limiting the spread of COVID-19, due to an assumption that the pandemic will be resolved soon.

Many projects actually have common or central areas for socializing, but since units tend to be smallish and yard areas are small to nonexistent, outdoor private areas and landscaping are often not provided or only minimally included within many of these projects.

This may constitute a new normal for living units in order for Portland to increase its housing density to comply with the middle housing standards of HB 2001.

Southeast in the Loop

By Nancy Tannler

The Green Loop was approved in 2012 by City Council as part of the Central City 2035 Plan. It is a six-mile, linear park and active transportation path that will connect people through the heart of the Central City.

The Green Loop concept will promote more walking, biking, rolling, jogging and public transit trips for all Portlanders and will contribute to a smaller city-wide carbon footprint.

Keith Jones, Executive Director of The Friends of the Green Loop said, “A lot of the visioning occurred during the Central City 2035 process.”

He said the main precedents are the Indianapolis Cultural Trail (Indianapolis, IN), the 5280 Trail (Denver, CO), Underline (Miami, FL), Highline (NYC, NY) and the 606 (Chicago, IL).

Using these models and others throughout the world, a 2016 analysis by NERC, an economic research team based at Portland State University, produced substantial evidence that shows how active transportation infrastructure positively effects business districts’ prosperity and economic vitality.

It further stated that they are proven to have positive impacts on property values, reductions in crime and an increased sense of connectivity by having more community engagement.

To encourage more biking, the Green Loop will have dedicated biking and walking lanes. Portland already has one of the nation’s highest percentage of bicycle commuters with a 7.2 percent work commute rate.

Most people aren’t that confident riding in the inner city, so this will create a safe place for recreational riders.

“The Green Loop is much more than a transportation project. It is deeply connected to travel and tourism, economic development and resiliency,” Jones said.

Portland’s Tourism Master Plan 2018, states that the Green Loop experience would create a “whole city” connection for visitors, group business and residents.

“Imagine being a visitor to

Portland and being able to walk or jump on a scooter or bikeshare and experience local businesses and communities along the Green Loop – all without needing cars or additional parking,” Jones said.

This connector would open up to other greenways and further exploration of Portland’s neighborhoods.

The Green Loop will potentially support businesses and social services by improving access to places where people can get the staples and support they need.

Central City is home to 60 percent of Portland’s affordable housing units. This area also has the largest concentration of social services and care providers in the city, especially shelter facilities.

In addition, a third of Portland’s jobs are in the Central City, and more than 50,000 new jobs are coming in the next two decades.

Building the Green Loop offers a chance to harness opportunities for more people at all income levels to work in the Central City and call it home.

Each quadrant of the city was taken into account when the Central City Plan was being adopted and the SE quadrant has the unique factor of being an industrial sanctuary or IG zoning.

When asked how this will effect this land use, Kate Merrill, Executive Director of Central Eastside Industrial Council said, “We don’t see it as a major conflict, as long as we can keep our major north/south freight corridors (7th Ave, MLK/Grand, Water Ave), and maintain a transportation infrastructure that supports urban manufacturing and distribution.”

Merrill went on to say that the Green Loop creates opportunities for freight innovation, like using bicycle freight, plus the added bonus of more green areas for employees working in the area.

A tentative time line shows the project being completed by 2022. PBOT was unavailable to confirm this projected end date.

More information can be found at portland.gov/bps/green-loop and pdxgreenloop.org.

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Free Geek Helps PPS Students

BY ELLEN SPITALERI

"We view the internet like electricity and Free Geek provides the light bulbs," said Adelle Pomeroy, the digital inclusion manager at Free Geek, a nonprofit community organization that sustainably reuses technology, enables digital access and provides education that empowers people to realize their potential.

Pomeroy said those words back in late February before anyone had even heard of COVID-19, but now students are going to need those light bulbs more than ever.

Following guidance from health officials and Gov. Kate Brown, academic instruction in Portland Public Schools (PPS) will be online from the first day of school, September 2, through at least November 5.

Now, even though the Free Geek site at 1731 SE 10th Ave. is currently closed, the organization is gearing up to help students facing online school.

One of the programs they offer is Plug Into Portland, which serves students in grades K-12 in Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington counties.

Before COVID-19, Plug Into Portland offered free computers to K-12 students who volunteered in their communities. Now, since the volunteer requirement is now no longer safe for students, it has been waived completely.

Students who need computers can send an email to plugin@freegeek.org and explain their situation.

"We will follow up with them to ask a couple of questions about internet connectivity and then set up a contactless or socially distant pickup for the student and their family at Free Geek," Pomeroy said.

"The mission of our Plug Into Portland program has become more critical than ever," said Ingrid Dos Santos, digital inclusion associate.

She added, "In the time since the pandemic reached our communities, Free Geek has been working to reduce the number of



Adelle Pomeroy and Ingrid Dos Santos
Photo by Ellen Spitaleri

barriers in the way of folks being able to access technology from us."

Prior to pandemic restrictions, students without computers at home could use their school computers and/or computer libraries around their communities in order to complete their schoolwork. Now they've been limited to their school's capacity to provide borrowed devices in order to keep up with their education, Dos Santos said.

"In a world where the digital divide and homework gaps were already creating an unfair disadvantage, COVID-19 has deepened the divide and worsened the gap. Our work has never been more crucial," she added.

"Anyone with an identified need for a computer can get in touch with us and we have been granting devices to adult community members on a case-by-case basis," Dos Santos said.

With social distancing and safety measures in place, in-person classes are no longer held at Free Geek, but the organization is working to bring free classes online.

"We will work with folks who want to attend our classes but don't have a computer, so that they can also participate. We hope to roll out free webinars starting in the fall," Pomeroy said.

Before COVID-19, statistics showed that "70 percent of

teachers assign homework that requires a digital device," according to Dos Santos. Now lack of computer access will be even more of a barrier for students taking all classes online.

Getting a free computer "has a direct impact on people's lives," said Dos Santos, adding that she has heard stories about students trying to write essays on their phones.

Pomeroy pointed out that the digital inclusion program depends on monetary contributions and donations of computers by individuals or corporations.

"We rely on our community to power our programs and bridge the digital divide," she said, noting that COVID-19 safety protocols are in place for donations.

Free Geek is now accepting contactless donations in the parking lot on the northeast side of the building, Wednesday through Saturday only, from 11 am-1 pm and from 3-5 pm.

Pomeroy noted all donated devices are wiped to National Institute of Standards and Technology specifications. She added that technology and access are now health and safety issues.

"If you don't have a device or understand how to use one, you will have put yourself at much greater health risk because everything, including even grocery shopping and doctors' appointments, is online," she said.

For more options, visit freegeek.org/get-involved/donate-technology. Visit freegeek.org or call 503.232.9350 for more information.

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Walker Tracker

By JACK RUBINGER

It’s been five months since the initial lock down in Portland and we’re facing the next (silent) public health emergency, a mental health pandemic.

People aren’t leaving their houses that much and motivation can be difficult.

As feelings of loneliness and isolation plague remote workers and fear is a day to day struggle for many people, employers like the City of Portland and Multnomah County are seeking digital solutions.

Enter Walker Tracker.

Walker Tracker helps organizations all over the world support their employee’s health and fitness with wellness programs, digital tracking devices like Fit-bits, service, support and motivation.

“People need connection and purpose right now,” said Taylor Welsh, Walker Tracker CEO. “We provide a space for shared motivation and support, team building and health insights. Getting and sharing exercise and being accountable are all tied together.”

Walker Tracker is teaming up with Moda Health for a Portland-wide movement challenge to support the Children’s Cancer Association. This is usually a one-day event called “Jog for Joy.” Last year, the Blazers showed up to promote the event.

Because of COVID-19, the event is going digital this year.



Marketing Manager Mike McGuffey, Blaze the Trail Cat & Wellness Advisor Cassy Brown set up on the waterfront for the 2019 Jog for Joy
Photo by Walker Tracker

Companies and individuals can get involved with donations. The goal is to raise \$6,000. Dates of the event are September 14-22.

“Because people aren’t gathering in break rooms, we’re creating new environments to stimulate conversation and new ideas,” said Welsh.

For example: the Oregon Education Association (OEA) Choice Trust, a local organization, has created a virtual map route so participants can virtually visit the Seven Wonders of Oregon.

Along the way, walkers are notified of reaching milestones and how others are doing on their journey while walking at their own pace.

OEA Choice Trust is an organization dedicated to promoting the total well-being of Oregon public school employees. They believe that all educators, no mat-

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Residential Rezoning

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those with disabilities, said RIP opens the door to so-called middle housing for city residents of modest means.

Wheeler said allowing more housing types and a greater mix of incomes is a crucial step in the right direction, especially since COVID-19 has exacerbated houselessness and the need for low income homes.

He thanked pro-RIP groups ranging from the Homebuilders Association to Portland for Everyone for their support.

RIP upzoning surpasses mandates passed by the state legislature last summer that eliminated single family residential zones and allowed duplexes on all lots in most cities statewide.

National watchdogs have called it either the most progressive or untenable housing policy in the country, topping Minneapolis’ two-year-old allowance of triplexes in single dwelling zones.

Presaging passage, the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability (BPS) and a housing coalition began an Anti-displacement Action Plan to reduce the harmful impacts of involuntary removal of Portlanders from homes and businesses.

The Plan’s priorities are racial equity and targeting vulnerable populations. Minority applicants are encouraged to apply for the plan’s Anti-displacement Task Force.

Portland’s RIP was initiated

by former Mayor Charlie Hales after Metro released figures that 260,000 new residents would arrive in Portland by 2035.

Those estimates, not updated since 2016, do not account for the COVID-19 downturn or recent social unrest in Portland. New growth allocations are expected later this year, according to RIP’s lead planner Morgan Tracy.

While Hales’ directive was to add density, it did not specifically address demolition or affordability. Planner’s thinking then, as now, is if enough units are built, prices will tumble. Critics fear that it is affordable houses and neighborhood stability that will tumble as long-time renters and owners are displaced from lower cost homes and families are pushed out of town by slice and dice development lacking sufficient yards, trees or parks.

Fritz, the only Council member who was in office when policy discussions began, claimed that RIP veered from original intentions of upzoning only within a quarter mile of transportation options.

“By allowing development far from centers and corridors, we are allowing housing to be developed in areas without safe, immediate access to transit,” said Fritz. “We are promoting our continued reliance on cars.”

She indicated that Portland already had sufficient zoned capacity to accommodate growth without densification that fails to

take infrastructure needs into account.

Eudaly acknowledged concerns that RIP could cause demolition of affordable housing and displace vulnerable populations.


With a nod to critics’ comments that an existing house is the greenest house, she advocated conversions of single family houses into multiplexes and granting low income locals’ access to capital, enabling them to convert their homes into multiplexes.

She also dismissed fears of widespread demolition by predicting that RIP would not “bulldoze” neighborhoods. RIP would result in about 5,000 units over 20 years, she predicted, equating to 250 units per year.

Reactions to RIP have been swift. 1000 Friends of Oregon took an online victory lap for its lobbying group, Portland For Everyone, indicating that its advocacy for more multiplex units made RIP even stronger.

Conversely, a Stop Demolishing Portland posting cautioned that the housing situation was “about to get even worse for Black, Brown, immigrant and low income renters” because of land value increases and real estate speculation.

RIP passage may not be the final word on upzoning however. Objectors have a limited window to file appeals to the Oregon Land Use Board of Appeals (LUBA)—within 21 days of the August 12 decision.



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Improvement Grants Awarded to Nonprofits

By Nancy Tannler

In February of 2019 Portland City Council approved the Enhanced Services District (aka business improvement district), in the Central Eastside; a geographic area from the Willamette River east to SE 21st Ave and Powell Blvd. north to I-84.

It was the first ESD to be issued in the past 18 years. The Central Eastside Industrial Council (CEIC) calls the improvement plan, Central Eastside Together.

This year's Central Eastside Together Community Grant program awarded \$44,000 to six nonprofits.

According to Kate Merrill, Executive Director, CEIC, business owners went to City Council in 2019 and asked for the grant program. The grant program is supported by fees from property owners and other private donors. The grants will be distributed for three years and will then be revisited to apprise their effectiveness.

Merrill said the name *Enhanced Services District* is used because the City is already providing services to this area and this adds to what is already being done.

The intention of this grant program is to help the industrial sanctuary remain economically viable and safe.

"Due to COVID-19 this year's grants were awarded to more service-based organizations that could still do what they do during the pandemic. In the future, we will consider event-based grants too," Merrill said.

The core values and goals for this year's awards are: increased cleanliness; improved safety; creating a brand to increase business customers and visitors; supporting innovative ways to work here and building a viable employment center; and

ensuring that Central Eastside is a good place to create, work, live and visit.

Non-profits receiving the grants are Portland Street Medicine, Portland Street Alliance, Trash for Peace, Milagro Theatre, Architectural Heritage Center and Hygiene4All.

Molly Pringle, Executive Director for **Portland Street Medicine** (PSM), spoke about the services of the non-profit and how they are using the \$6,000 awarded to them in June of this year.

PSM was founded in 2017 and consists of 90 volunteers. They are professionals in social services and/or medical fields. They work in teams of three or four and go out among the homeless population providing medical supplies, comfort, food and water.

Since many of the homeless rely on bicycle transportation, volunteers need to be able to reach them by bike. Pringle said they will be using their funds for bike maintenance, helmets, lights and supplies for those they treat.

The money from this grant will help PSM secure those essential items that make their job easier. To refer someone who needs a little help call PSM Triage at 503.501.1231 or portland-streetmedicine.org.

Trash for Peace was founded by Laura Kutner Tokarski. She was compelled to start this non-profit after living in Granados, Guatemala.

"People threw trash everywhere. Rather than just leave it lying about, we figured out ways to use it to build houses," Tokarski said.

Upon returning to the US she saw our need to reduce and reuse trash by cleaning it up and teaching people to become more

environmentally and socially aware.

According to Andrew Judkins, Metro Transfer station and supporter of Trash for Peace, there are 1.5 million people living in the Metro region. They throw away three million tons of garbage a day. "As long as we have so much garbage, we are not sustainable."

One of the programs Tokarski will be using the grant money for is Ground Score. This program has a few different aspects.

They hire workers to collect litter in the Central Eastside as well as at events, then disperse it to either be recycled, trashed or upcycled (i.e. making it saleable).

They also pickup cans and bottles for deposit and give recycled crafts workshops. There are currently 80 potential workers and 20-30 involved consistently.

Currently they're conducting a survey to show how effective this program is. So far they have collected 135,931 bags of trash, 6,198 needles and 7,245 items of drug paraphernalia. They use this information to share with businesses and others in the Central Eastside.

Another project is a partnership with Outside the Frame, who will make a video to share stories from Ground Score workers. Mostly about the People's Depot, a community-led, independent bottle redemption service born out of the COVID-19 pandemic when access to bottle redemption

became limited and people were in critical need of income.

Bottle and can deposits are a critical source of income for many members of our community to cover basic human needs such as food, housing costs, bus passes and laundry. Informal recyclers often exist on slim economic margins and the COVID-19 crisis has magnified their economic instability.

Jean Zondervan, from **Architectural Heritage Center's** (AHC) Communications, spoke about how they were putting their grant money to work to enhance the Central Eastside.

The work they've been doing since Jerry Bosco and Ben Milligan first established the organization in 1987 is to record and preserve as much architectural history as can be salvaged from our city.

AHC has hired a local designer to create a physical map of the Central Eastside describing each of the buildings and the businesses there. It will tell the history and style of the older architecture as well as some of the unique history of this part of the city.

AHC reopened on July 24 with limited operating hours from 11 am-5 pm, Thursday-Saturday.

Currently on exhibit is Darcelle XV at Home; East Portland: A Changing Landscape and a Forgotten City; and Practical and Artistic: The Life and Work of Architect Charles Howard Kable.

Zondervan said they hope to build a stronger online pres-

ence so people can experience a virtual presentation the new ways museums are presenting their exhibits.

The Miracle Theatre Group, aka Milagro, 525 SE Stark St., was founded by José Eduardo González and Dañel Malán. This small non-profit theater features Latino shows, arts and culture, including bilingual performances.

The funding they received from the grant will be used for the Día De Muertos programming. They will be focusing on a virtual altar-making workshop and sharing the traditions of Día De Muertos with the community in a virtual capacity.

Portland Street Alliance offers professional and educational services promoting and maintaining street art. Funding from Central Eastside Together will directly support a new mural at All Service Moving, 66 SE Morrison St., paying for the artists, supplies and travel costs.

Hygiene4All is a bathroom, washing, basic first aid, bedding and clothing exchange and trash removal hospitality hub. Due to COVID-19 this service will not open until October 2020.

Central Eastside Together will offer the next round of funding in Fall 2020. For more information on Central Eastside Together Community Grant Program visit ceic.cc/community-grant-program.

Letter to the Editor

Editor's note: Letters to the Editor should be less than 300 words and The SE Examiner reserves the right to edit them for length or content.

To the Editor:

The North Tabor Neighborhood Association meets every third Tuesday to discuss topics that impact our community.

One of these topics includes construction taking place in the area and we currently are on trend to have a huge influx of construction in a very small area of the neighborhood. This construction will create traffic restrictions with waves of crews coming and going, as well as large machinery needing to be moved into the area.

If you are interested in being aware of ways to avoid the worst traffic created by these construction projects, you might want to join us at some of the meetings.

Just to give you all a heads-up of a few of the projects slated to begin soon, I thought I'd make a short list:

1) 60th and E Burnside is scheduled to have a 64-unit apartment/condo complex built in the spot that the 7-11 mini-mart used

to occupy.

2) Between 60th and E Burnside and 60th and NE Davis, a 14-unit apartment/condo complex has already broken ground, with construction slated to begin soon.

3) On 52nd and E Burnside, there is an 18-unit apartment/condo complex slated to be built in the next year.

These are three large construction projects in less than a 10-block radius that will definitely impact the traffic and create congestion for all neighborhood residents travelling through our area.

To keep apprised of this issue, please join us at our neighborhood association meetings and visit our North Tabor Next Door community chat board.

If you have questions or are interested in attending a meeting, please contact us at board@north-tabor.org.

Kim Kasch







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City of Gardens Guide

Portland Parks Foundation (PPF) has created the region’s first free guide to the Portland region’s public gardens. Nearly all of the 17 publicly accessible parks can be visited in one free, phone-friendly web guide, *The Passport to the City of Gardens*.

The guide includes local destinations like the Hoyt Arboretum and Portland Japanese Garden as well as south valley gems like Salem’s Lord & Shriver Conservancy.

Perhaps a surprise inclusion



is McMenamins Edgefield whose grounds have curated gardens of hardy native plants.

PPF has plans to grow the guide in the future, adding more gardens and making video tours with history and gardening tips.

It will be part of the annual

gathering of public garden devotees, the American Public Garden Association, planned for June 2021.

Visit bit.ly/PPFCityofGardens to start a great staycation of the Willamette Valley’s horticultural wealth.

I-205 Toll Project Input Sought

The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) has launched an online survey seeking public comment on five preliminary alternatives for tolls on I-205 between Stafford Road and OR 213 to raise revenue and improve travel reliability.

This is part of a federally-required environmental review process and 45-day period for public comments; the first steps that will lead to selection of a toll system in the corridor.

Each of the five alternatives

would toll all lanes for this corridor of I-205 and are one tool ODOT will use to improve the transportation system.

Tolls would vary by time of day and would be collected electronically without requiring drivers to stop.

A transponder, a small sticker placed on the inside of the windshield, would be connected to a pre-paid account, which tolls would be drawn from when it is read.

If a vehicle driving on a toll

road doesn’t have a transponder, a camera would capture the car’s license plate and the registered owner would be billed.

The 17-question survey is available through Wednesday, September 16. Questions include those that gauge how tolls will affect individuals, the purpose and need for the project, the project’s draft goals and the five alternatives.

Background on the project and a link to the survey at bit.ly/I-205Tolls.

Friends of Laurelhurst Park Update

By PEGGY GLASCOCK

As the summer progresses, Laurelhurst Park is getting used a lot! Between camping, protest meet-ups, people needing places to be in nature and people needing somewhere to go to get fresh air and exercise, the place is pretty packed.

Nextdoor lists Laurelhurst Park as a place to go for a reprieve and “green” time. We love our park.

Duck signs

Thanks to the Capitano family for re-hanging the wooden waterfowl and adding signs to the fence by Firwood Lake. Some of the ducks were starting to fall over. The Capitano Family have been great stewards of the park.

Protests

Laurelhurst Park has been a meeting place for some of the nightly protests. In early August, anti-protester(s) set off pipe bombs, throwing them at protesters. If you see a pipe bomb or something suspicious, please do not touch it. Call 911 immediately. Pipe bombs can be unstable and dangerous.

We ask that you please supervise your dog(s). Don’t let dogs swim in the lake. This spring some goslings were killed.

There have been other reports of dogs going after the ducks and geese. It is disturbing to other park visitors. Thanks!

The green layer on top of the water is duckweed (Lemna minor).

There are reports that certain stool-passed diseases have been discovered in Portland. DO NOT let your dog eat or nose around human feces.

Shigella is one disease that has been found in Portland recently. Giardia, Salmonella and Cryptococcus are possibilities.

The diseases might not even hurt the dog but could go through its digestive system and hurt you while you pick up after your dog.

Please note that the Park Rangers close down the restrooms at night. They are not re-opened until a Park Technician can come to clean them in the morning.

Thanks everyone. Be careful out there. We hope to resume volunteer work parties next year. We will let you know.

September Recycling Tips

By BONITA DAVIS, MASTER RECYCLER

How recycling gets done in any household can be a bit tricky. Does recycling fall on one person or are many hands involved? When several are contributing to the blue roll cart, how does one know if your household is getting the recycling right? This may take ingenuity and/or monitoring.

Recently, a longtime friend I’ll refer to as Katy came down for an extended stay. Katy lives in a picturesque coastal community on Puget Sound and loves the tiny house she calls home.

Environmentally aware, she has trained and worked as a chef and baker. After assessing how much I enjoyed her meals, eyeing the ample counter space and sizing up the empty freezer space, Katy shyly asked if she could whip up some ready to go ready-to-go freezer meals for me as a gift. I jumped at the offer! Katy did the menus and shopping and I picked up the bill.

The next few days were a whirl as smells from savory entrees to vegetable sides and nut breads emanated from my kitchen. Meals were neatly sealed and labeled for the freezer.

Right away “What do I do with this?” became a frequent question about packaging recycling. Katy’s interest was cooking, and her community has different guidelines for recycling – no beverage container refunds and no nearby options for plastic films or Styrofoam.

We came up with a hybrid system: food scraps in the stainless canister on the counter and all empty cans, bottles, cartons, bags and wrappers into a designated dishpan in the sink.

My job was to manage the materials in the dishpan by emptying and rinsing cans, bottles and jars, removing lids and caps, separating dime deposits for the BottleDrop green bag in the garage, and sorting paper, cardboard and plastic cartons into the recycling bin under the sink.

I made sure non-recyclables such as used paper towels, plastic tubs in the wrong shape or size and flat plastic lids made it in the bin.

Empty, rinsed and dry stretchy plastic film went to my “bag of bags” in the garage for return to a collection bin at either Safeway or Fred Meyer.

The system that seems so simple and straightforward to me was not so for my guest.

Recycling materials in the dishpan took just minutes on my trips through the kitchen. Even better, Katy was able to stay focused on the cooking she enjoyed and the shared adventure was fun and stress-free for both of us.

Using a bussing bin system is something that has also worked well at parties.

Guests simply placed durable dishes, glasses, utensils and cloth napkins on a tray or bin with cans and bottles on the side. It can be sorted later and beats contaminated recycling and fishing out durables from the trash. In the end, it can save time.

In this pandemic, many are cooking more at home and have more materials to manage for recycling. Kids might be home from college or extended family may be sharing the household. Finding out who is interested in recycling and doing it correctly is important.

Investing time to create or review your system and parceling out tasks based on both interest and ability can lead to getting recycling right. Get information at RecycleOrNot.org, plasticfilm-recycling.org and bottledropcenters.com.

Any time of the year is a great time to engage kids of any age in some fun environmentally focused at-home activities.

Environment Oregon has 50 great activities on topics such as climate change, waste reduction, plants, waterways, conservation, birds, bees and wildlife, as well as creating a healthier home and community. Go to environmentoregon.org for info.

Concerned about the re-emergence of onetime use plastics, despite current laws? Check out what efforts are being made by advocacy group Eco-Cycle at ecocycle.salsalabs.org/august-2020newsletter.

Paper items contaminated with food-coffee filters, tea bags, paper towels and pizza delivery boxes-go into your green compost roll cart.

Items contaminated with cleaners or other substances are garbage and go into the waste bin. This includes wipe products, facial tissues, paper plates and cups and paper carry-out containers other than pizza delivery boxes.

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Interstate Bridge Nine-Day Closure



September 12-20, the northbound span of the Interstate Bridge, connecting Oregon and Washington across the Columbia River on I-5, will be closed so that crews can replace mechanical parts that help lift and lower the bridge.

The bridge will remain open in both directions with north and southbound lanes sharing the three existing lanes and sidewalk

(for bike and pedestrian travelers) on the southbound bridge.

A moveable concrete barrier will shift to allow for two lanes of traffic to travel in the heaviest direction during commute times. During the morning commute, there will be two southbound lanes open and one northbound.

For the evening commute, the barrier will be moved to allow two northbound lanes and one

southbound.

Four ramps will also close during the bridge closure:

- Marine Drive on-ramp to I-5 north in Portland
- Hayden Island on-ramp to I-5 in Portland
- I-5 North to SR 14 off-ramp in Vancouver
- SR 14/Washington St. on-ramp to I-5 south in Vancouver

Keeping Children’s Vaccinations Current

August was National Immunization Awareness Month and the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) is working to ensure that the pandemic is not followed by an increase in cases of vaccine-preventable diseases or a preventable outbreak.

The pandemic has made some parents understandably nervous about taking their children and teens to doctors’ offices while others may be out of work and therefore without health insurance.

To ease concerns about a doctor visit, OHA recommends calling to find out what precautions your provider is taking.

Many are keeping sick children separate from those who are well, limiting the number of people who can go with a child to their appointment, taking temperatures of all attending the appointment and some are providing drive-up vaccine programs.

For those who are without health insurance, the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program of-

fers free vaccines to families who cannot afford to pay for their children’s vaccines. To find out more call 211.

Children may be eligible for health insurance through the Oregon Health Plan (OHP).

The plan is open to **all** children and teens younger than 19, **regardless of immigration status**, who meet income and other criteria.

Visit OHP.Oregon.gov to find community partners in your area.

Census Deadline Approaching

The 2020 Census was previously scheduled to conclude on October 31.

However, in early August, the Trump administration made a decision to end the count four weeks early, on September 30. That means there is still time to complete the questionnaire if you haven’t done so already.

By completing the 2020 Census, your responses help direct billions of dollars in federal funds to local communities for

schools, roads and other public services.

Information will be used to determine the number of seats each state has in Congress and the political representation in your area at all levels of government.

The questionnaire will only take about 10 minutes to complete and can be done online at my2020census.gov.

If you are unable to respond online or would prefer to respond by phone, call 844.330.2020.



AARP 50+ Cycling Survey

AARP has created at 50+ Cycling Survey to compile data about cycling and people age 50 or older to help inform local leaders, transportation practitioners and community members about the cycling infrastructure and services that all bicyclists need.

This is the third year of the three-part survey.

The results will be shared with transportation profession-

als, advocates and community members to help inform the work involved in creating bicycle facilities and programs that support cycling.

A summary of the results will appear at AARP.org/LiveableSubscribe later this year.

To complete the survey or share it with a 50+ cycling friend, visit bit.ly/AARPCyclingSurvey.

Heritage Tree Program Guidebook



Portland’s Heritage Tree program began in 1993 and provides legal protection for trees certified by a qualified arborist to receive the heritage designation.

The trees are regarded as being of “special importance to the city” because of “their age, size, type, historical association or horticultural value.”

Over 300 trees in Portland are designated as Heritage Trees which includes 120 species or cultivars and 60 genera.

The Guidebook, available

at portlandoregon.gov/parks/article/441738, breaks the trees down by species and location, gives species descriptions and the best times to view the trees (by month or season).

At 76 pages in length, the Guidebook provides a wealth of information.

For those who prefer to focus on SE, skip ahead to pages 29 and 30 for a list the locations of more than 25 Heritage Trees in SE, the quadrant with the greatest number in Portland.

2020 Catio Tour Goes Virtual

The 8th Annual Catio Tour, hosted by the Feral Cat Coalition of Oregon and Portland Audubon, takes place virtually Saturday September 12, 10 am-4 pm.

The event will showcase 10 diverse outdoor cat enclosures (catios) that have been professionally filmed to showcase their creative and unique designs, from efficient to expansive.

Guests will “take the tour” via Zoom with other catio fans, be the first to see catio videos and have the ability to interact with catio hosts during a live Q&A.

The event was created to in-

spire cat owners to build or buy their own outdoor cat enclosure to keep cats safe from outdoor hazards while protecting wildlife from cat predation.

Proceeds from the event (\$25 for full access, \$15 for guidebook and catio videos only) will support the **Cats Safe at Home** campaign, which aims to reduce free-roaming cats in the Portland metropolitan area with solutions that are good for cats and wildlife.

To learn about the campaign and register for the event, visit CatsSafeAtHome.org.



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Bw Business Walkabout

Nemo Design

BY NINA SILBERSTEIN

When the COVID-19 pandemic began earlier this year, not only did some of Nemo Design’s clients put their creative needs on hold, but the agency had also seen a lot of their favorite local businesses shut down.

To help ease the pain, Nemo launched the *PDX Creative Support Club* in May 2020, offering free design services to Portland’s small businesses affected by COVID-19 to help them generate revenue during this difficult time.

The support club connects local businesses with Nemo designers to create limited-run apparel. Nemo employees submit ideas for local businesses that they feel passionate about and want to support. They then reach out to those businesses to offer the program. For those who accept, Nemo creates three different designs that can be applied to T-shirts, hoodies and tote bags.

The businesses select a design and through a partnership with Pacific North Press, the designs are printed on merchandise. Nemo supplies the businesses with the social media assets to promote the merchandise and sell it through Pacific North Press’ online store. Proceeds from the sales go directly back to the partnering small businesses to help with pandemic relief.

Portland-based Nemo Design offers a variety of branding and design services and specializes in outdoor and active lifestyle brands for clients such as Nike, Alterra Mountain Company, MasterCraft, Danner, Rossignol and Sonos.

The agency was started in 1999 by three partners who worked together in the marketing department of Morrow Snow-



Nemo building exterior photo by Nemo Design

boards. The snowboarding industry was going through changes then and the trio decided to start their own design and marketing agency with skills they acquired through their experiences at Morrow.

Trevor Graves is president and co-founder of Nemo Design. In the ‘80s, he was drawn to the snowboarding community and discovered he had a talent behind the lens of a camera.

For the next 15 years, he shared the excitement of snowboarding around the globe through his photography, creating features for leading magazines covering the sport.

Some of Graves’ other accomplishments include helping Nike break into mainstream action sports with their Nike 6.0 brand and leadership in the marketing evolution of MasterCraft and Smith Optics.

Co-founder Jeff Bartel’s talent as a designer helped revitalized the Smith Optics brand, allowing the company to launch product lines in helmets and military eye wear.

As an art director, Bartel was instrumental in Nike’s athletic training line, helping it maintain its number one world ranking in the athletic training category.

Mark Lewman has been creating stories since starting his

career as a journalist at 17 years old. As an editor, he has taken the helm at influential publications including *Freestylin’*, *Dirt* magazine and the Beastie Boys’ *Grand Royal*.

As writer, Lewman has penned episodes for “Jackass” and “Wildboyz,” and co-authored BMX legend Mat Hoffman’s autobiography, *The Ride of my Life*, which he then adapted as a documentary for ESPN. Lewman is a partner and executive creative director at Nemo.

Nemo Design has been thrilled by the response of those who have embraced the *PDX Creative Support Club*. So far, they’ve raised nearly \$12,000 that has gone directly back to these businesses.

Nemo has done a significant amount of pro bono work over the years and says their next venture will be helping a local nonprofit organization that focuses on voting, democracy, diversity and equality efforts.

Visit tinyurl.com/pdxcreativesupportclub to explore the collaborations that help support small businesses in Portland affected by COVID-19.

Nemo Design
1875 SE Belmont St.
nemodesign.com
202.460.7500

Friends of Mt. Tabor Park Update

BY JACK RUBINGER

Friends of Mt. Tabor Park (FMTP) started in the year 2000. Its purpose is to monitor park use, assist visitors and preserve and protect the park.

FMTP has 11 board members and three volunteer programs committees:

The Foot Patrol – ambassadors who help answer questions and pick up trash; the wonderful and wacky weed warriors – eliminating invasive plants like English Ivy, (this group has teamed up with the Bureau of Environmental Services and has received a great deal of city support) and the Visitors Center which receives about 12,000 park enthusiasts annually.

Dave Hillman, one of the original members, retired from FMTP recently. Hillman organized the foot patrol and was responsible for the Visitors Center.

“Dave and I worked together for 14 years,” said volunteer Mary Kinnick. “Dave’s philosophy was to do what needs to be



Photo of Dave Hillman by Andrew Haliburton

done and ask for permission later.

Without his persistence, Kinnick continued, “we would likely have had no Visitors Center because there was a period when some volunteers felt that establishing a Center was a bit grandiose for our small park. But Dave realized that Mt. Tabor Park is a destination park as well as a neighborhood park and that volunteers would come forth to support it. They did.

“He realized how the Center could contribute to the community’s knowledge of the park and to visitor information about going out and about in the metro area and beyond. The rest is history!”

Hillman was instrumental in 2018 with connecting individuals and business owners in the Tabor neighborhood to raise more than \$100,000 to support

continued on page 17

Bw Business Walkabout

Bipartisan Café

BY NINA SILBERSTEIN

The idea of opening a café where polite and civil political debate was allowed came to mind after President Reagan's landslide reelection in 1984.

A group of friends felt they were all living in a bubble as far as politics was concerned and someone said they needed a bipartisan café that was not just for Democrats and Republicans, but a place where all political perspectives could be voiced and stated respectfully.

According to the *Oxford Dictionary*, the term bipartisan, "involves the agreement or co-operation of two political parties that usually oppose each other's policies." In other words, bipartisanship is about finding common ground through compromise.

Peter Emerson, one of the owners of Bipartisan Café, had the name stuck in his head, and in 2004 after working 10 years at Starbucks, he decided to take his stock options and make the café a reality.

"We briefly considered [calling it] Pete's Partisan Café," he says, "but the 2004 election had just ended and we felt that 'partisan' would be a turnoff." The name, Bipartisan Café, stuck and the café opened June 13, 2005.

The most popular and best-selling item on the Bipartisan Café menu is pie. From fruit pies like cherry, blueberry or marionberry to something smooth and delicious like banana cream or key lime, Bipartisan Café boasts the best homemade pies in Portland.

There's even a 100 percent, totally satisfying vegan pie and gluten-free options. An assortment of pies is available by the slice daily and whole pies are baked fresh every day and can be purchased in the store. Keep in mind that email orders are not accepted.

Bipartisan Café is adding and removing menu items as sales dictate. Weekly offerings have included spanakopita, a stuffed croissant French toast sandwich, brownies and raspberry bars, to name a few choices. Soup and chili will return in the fall with daily changes.

In addition, beverages are available, including locally sourced options from Coava Coffee Roasters and Spirit Teas.

Emerson, who was born in Minnesota and moved to Portland at 19 years of age in 1980, created and opened the café with Hobie Bender, who was born in California and moved to Jacksonville, OR in 1966 around the age of 6.

He started on the floor, but now does the finances, bakes, coordinates repairs, hires, prices items and determines the menu.

Hobie is involved in human resources and manages the bakery/bakers. The two are lifelong restaurant-bar-coffeeshop workers and both of their children have worked in the café since



Photo by Bipartisan Café

they were 14. They are currently being transitioned into ownership and management roles.

If you've ever visited the Bipartisan Café, you've probably noticed the abundance of artwork adorning the walls. "The artwork attempts to illustrate the history of the United States,"

Emerson explains: "It flows chronologically from a representation of Native Americans on the front east wall through the founding fathers. In the center of the east wall is a section on the Civil War, including the leaders of the confederacy," he says.

The next section leads up through Franklin Delano Roosevelt and Harry Truman. On the back wall the theme is assassinations, which include all four presidents who have been assassinated (Abraham Lincoln, James Garfield, William McKinley and John F. Kennedy), the assassins and other notable people such as Martin Luther King Jr., Robert F. Kennedy, Malcolm X and Harvey Milk.

Emerson says they have an illustration of all the US presidents except the current one. "Expect that one not to be flattering," he adds.

The café artwork depicts several significant events and leaders such as the Suffragettes, Frederick Douglas, Harriet Tubman, Rosa Parks and César Chavez, along with the Emancipation Proclamation and intern-

ment of Japanese Americans.

"This is my passion," he says. "Most of it I collected on eBay. All of it was framed by KB Custom Frames here in Montavilla. I regret that I don't have more space for display."

"COVID-19 is devastating," Emerson continued. "We're doing OK, but not nearly at the levels as before."

The café has taken this opportunity to revamp their menu and make it more flexible, and institute online ordering and payments.

"We have transitioned to more of a take-out model and intend to stay there until this all blows over. After that, we will probably reassess how to move forward."

Bipartisan Café has been collaborating with nearby businesses and are working on a bar menu for local bars that allow outside food. In the past they have televised every primary, debate, convention and election night, and all inaugurations except the last one. There are no virtual events planned.

"Every day is a reinvention," Emerson says. "I feel good about where we are at and hope to be here to fully hand off the café to our children if they want it."

Bipartisan Café
7901 SE Stark St.
bipartisancafe.com
503.253.1051

Pave and Paint Update

from page 1

recommendation will not be released until Part 2.

Part 1 identifies prospective alternatives as follows:

A. Existing lane configurations, B. Reduce Hawthorne west of Chavez from four lanes to two with a center turning lane, and C. Reduce travel lanes down to two, remove center turning lane and provide bike lanes and parking on both sides.

Several unknowns are still evident. PBOT staff mentioned at the workshop the possibility of providing clear vision setbacks for sidestreets accessing Hawthorne for safety purposes.

There was discussion about the possibility of striping parking spots on Hawthorne to make on-street parking more efficient. The need for additional crosswalks was also a major issue and was discussed in Part 1. Due to project funding cuts, it is unclear to

what extent new crosswalks can be provided and where.

Finally, the matter of traffic circulation and congestion does not appear to be a consideration of this project other than to improve transit movements at Hawthorne's west end (as part of the separate Rose Lane project).

With Hawthorne functioning as a funnel in and out of the downtown core for many vehicles, reducing travel lanes and street speeds could greatly contribute to congestion.

This raises the question as to how PBOT intends to relieve congestion by attempting to re-route east/west traffic onto other arterial streets such as SE Powell or E Burnside or to ignore it for now?

The discussion of congestion is something many hope PBOT will address as part of its finalization of this project.

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ETHAN BECK HOMES

In 2007 Ethan founded Ethan Beck Homes Inc. in order to pursue his interest in sustainable and green building practices. Ethan has lived in the Mt Tabor area for 15 years. He is a husband and a father of three young children. He is a former finish carpenter with a passion for building energy efficient homes. Ethan's vision is to build responsible homes that match a family's life style, by honing the options available. He strives to add to the beauty and character of a neighborhood for generations to come, while reducing their impact on the environment. Ethan listens to and works closely with prospective homeowners and subcontractors to ensure that all homes are built with the utmost integrity and easily qualify for Earth Advantage Platinum certification.

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The Pre-Vinyettes' Suffragette Centennial



By Pacale Arpin

The Gentle Revolution presents The Pre-Vinyettes' Suffragette Centennial; a new critical, commemorative exhibition of handpainted signs made by women, trans and post-binary sign painters displayed at the Ford Gallery, September 26-October 25.

The exhibit is the second iteration of the Pre-Vinyettes womxn sign painters' event and features an international array of more than sixty five artists whose work displays the wide range of experience, skill and technique apparent in the sign painting world today.

The Pre-Vinyettes' show is a call to action to continue the necessary work of protecting and advancing the rights of all marginalized people with a focus on sign painting and its interpretations.

The invite-only, physically-distanced opening reception is September 26, with viewing appointments available upon request. It will be live-streamed on various social media platforms and the online gallery will show all the work for sale.

As a companion to the exhibition, the Centennial includes a 64 page, standard-size catalog with a cover illustration by Anna Weber of Astoria Signs, an essay by co-curator Meredith Kasabian and images and artist statements by 43 of the show's artists.

See previnylitesociety.com/previnyettes for more.



By Valentina Casale

Fall Music Classes at Artichoke Music

Artichoke's September online classes are open for registration now.

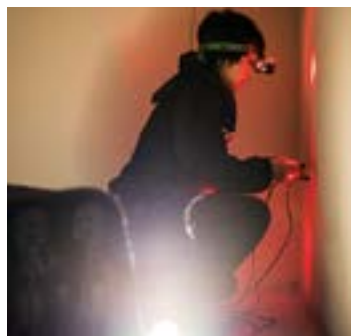
There are plenty of instrument options, music styles and several new teachers including Beth Wood, Haley Johnson and Baba Wague Diakite. New offerings too from Zac Leger (guitar and tinwhistle) and Jim D'Ville (ukulele).

Returning Artichoke favorites Adrian Martin, Anne Weiss, Tracy Kim, Richard Colombo, Dan Compton, Annie Sea, Steve Cheseborough, Rene Berblinger and Martha Stone are back teaching too. Classes start after Labor Day. The store is open again by appointment Monday-Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, noon-6 pm and weekends 10 am-5 pm. Masks are required and Artichoke practices physical distancing and wellness checks.

If you'd like to make a contribution, donations are a lifeline in these times. Make a contribution once or monthly through their Patreon page. See artichokemusic.org for the full listing.



PWNW Happy Hour Change



Yim photo by Mario Galluci Studio

Pacific Works North West's Happy Hour update: Lu Yim is performing via livestream Wednesday, September 2, 5-6 pm.

Lu began their current project by conjuring in their own body an impromptu dance they witnessed by their father, in a dispute with his sister about the "ungodliness" of homosexuality.

See the PWNW website for info. The RSVP link is: tinyurl.com/PWNW-Yim. All proceeds are split between Lu and Ori Gallery.



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My Buddy Bill

triangle! productions returns with a new live onstage, one act play called *My Buddy Bill*. The show is written by Rick Cleveland (writer for *The West Wing*, *Six Feet Under*) and is directed by Donald Horn.

On a visit to the White House, a dog-loving screenwriter reprimands Buddy, the First Dog, for piddling on the Oval Office rug. This canine interaction sparks a lasting relationship with President Clinton. The show features Joe Healy as Rick in his first one-person show.

In order to present live theatre in these times, triangle! has certain requirements for COVID-19 safety: • Each performance is limited to 23 attendees • Temperatures will be checked at the door • Masks must be worn before entering and during the performance • This is an all paperless presentation and there will be no paper tickets or programs available.

My Buddy Bill is presented Thursdays through Saturdays, September 10-26, at 7:30 each night. There is no intermission. A Sunday matinee is scheduled for September 20 at 2 pm.

Reservations required. See trianglepro.org / 503.239.5919.

PORTLAND STORYTELLERS SHIFT PARADIGMS

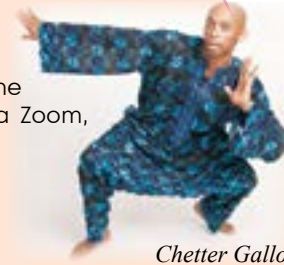
Normal? Abnormal? Paranormal? **When Paradigms Shift**, is the theme for an evening of stories kicking off the 2020-21 season of the Portland Storytellers Guild (PSG) via Zoom, Saturday, September 5 at 7 pm.

Guild storytellers Barbara Fankhauser, Chetter Galloway and Juliana Person share stores of life-changing events.

Barbara Fankhauser embraces stories from all the traditions, but the Celtic and Norse epics of her heritage make her heart sing these days. Virginia native Chetter Galloway grew up hearing his father tell stories on road trips. His storytelling has taken him on journeys touring across the United States including to The Smithsonian.

Juliana Person attended a PSG performance and was chosen from the audience to tell a story at intermission. She's been at it ever since, telling personal tales drawing from her travels, making wine, growing up with horses and surviving cancer.

New shows go online the first Saturday of each month until Clinton Street Theater is open again for live audiences. Tickets are \$10 per household. Register at tinyurl.com/PStorytellers.



Chetter Galloway

80s Arcade Games for a Good Cause



Stuart Watson harbors an affinity for his childhood video games of the 80s. Now he's figured out a fine way to share all those games with his community here.

"I had been thinking about this mysterious and challenging arcade game I used to play called Pleiades, in which each level was like a completely different game; yet I never passed the last level. After an unsuccessful search around the NW to find it, I found a small business in Florida that makes multi-game units that include Pleiades....so I purchased one."

He was playing the games with his daughter when COVID-19 hit. He decided to make the unit available to others for a rental fee to encourage people "to donate to racial justice, food

security and environmental causes."

Of course, another reason is so other kids of the 80s could play their beloved games again and share them with *their* kids...

It's not as large as arcade games of that bygone era – it's a tabletop model. Best of all, instead of the console featuring only one game, it is filled with 60 classic arcade games – Pac-Man, Galaga, Donkey Kong, Dig Dug, Centipede, Time Pilot, Pleiades and many others.

Households can rent the game console by making a donation of \$85-\$150 per week (or \$250-\$400 per month) to various nonprofit groups. If you live in SE, Watson will deliver the game to your doorstep, cleaned, disinfected and ready to be enjoyed.

Sound like something for your home? Email Stuart@Progressive-Mediation.com. He'll send you a calendar of available dates and a list of pre-approved community organizations to donate to. Participants pick one (or request a different organization, too). It's a win-win Home Retro-Arcade Social Justice FUN-draiser!

Find his Facebook page at [PortlandRetroArcade](https://www.facebook.com/PortlandRetroArcade).

Owen & Swink New Works



Marmalade by Sara Swink

Sidestreet Arts, 140 SE 28th Ave., presents new works by printmaker Gail Owen and ceramic artist Sara Swink, through September 27 in their gallery.

Gail Owen's hand-stitched linoleum-cut prints dazzle the eye with Azaleas, pink dogwood blossoms and things you might find in a Portland garden like koi, chickens and gnomes (yes... gnomes).

This month, you'll find fantastic ferns and sprawling rhododendrons, all done with her characteristic luscious layers of ink and hand-stitchery.

Clay artist Sara Swink crafts humans and animals



"Ferns" by Gail Owen

with whimsy. Her hand-built sculptures impart feelings and ideas through stories, and often with a humorous side.

First Friday Zoom is September 4, 6-7 pm. Get familiar with the artists and see their art while sipping a beverage from your own home.

Sidestreet's monthly Artist Talk is Sunday, September 20, noon-1 pm.

Zoom details at sidestreetarts.com.



Tuesday night Acrylic Painting Tutorials are held online from 6:30-9 pm starting September 8, taught by Jolyn Fry. This month's theme will be landscape painting.

Class begins each week with a painting demo. The focus will be on demonstrating how to paint with acrylic, speaking to technique, color and value choices.

Many students paint independently during the demo, and share their work and process with the group during the last hour of class. Students are encouraged to watch along and share as they feel comfortable.

Sign up at jolynfry.com and be sure to check out her listing for Saturday morning introduction to painting classes too.



Staying In

arts & entertainment

MILAGRO: BLAST OFF!



Blast Off cast photo by Liset Puentes

Blast Off!, a new Teatro Milagro production, is partially based on the life of Dr. Ellen Ochoa, the first Latina to go to space. The play is a bilingual touring and video production opening this month virtually and presented through June 2021.

In the story, a young passionate girl, Valentina, meets the first Latina astronaut, Ellen Ochoa, and is inspired by her, dreaming of a bright future becoming an astronaut. Some of Valentina's classmates cast her off because she's a girl who enjoys ballet. Even people in her family don't support her dreams of being an astronaut.

Then Valentina finds confidence and inspiration in a new, imaginary best friend also named Ellen Ochoa, and the two of them navigate the world of big dreams, doubt and education. They find out how the sciences and arts work together, and agree to never let fear get in the way of learning.

Blast Off was written by Maya Malan Gonzalez and directed by Mandana Khoshnevisan. The choreography is by Gabriela Portuquez and the show will be available in a high-quality video format. Once it is safe for the cast to perform live shows again, the show will tour.

The cast includes Sulema Alamillo as Valentina and Cati Rangel as Ellen Ochoa. The performance is paired with Unidad Mas Alla (going higher with unity), a STEAM curriculum that includes rocket and robotic design, astronaut training and theatrical activities for students in elementary and middle school.

With grant support, Milagro will offer free virtual school residencies to schools with significant Spanish-speaking populations in Woodburn, Hillsboro and Portland. Blast Off will launch onto the virtual stage for the Arcata School District in Northern California in October and be available to schools nationally through June of 2020. Read more about the life of Ellen Ochoa at milagro.org.

PORTLAND JAZZ NOTES

For the first time in seven years, Montavilla Jazz did not host a late summer neighborhood jazz festival. Instead, the group celebrated Portland jazz by hosting two live-streamed concerts as a fundraiser for future programs and projects. It is shifting to new projects and expanding educational programming in 2021.

In each of the past six summers, Montavilla Jazz Festival has featured established and emerging local jazz artists and with each successful event, the group has grown. Its mission is to support local artists and build an audience for jazz. The group is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit and you can donate to their programs at montavillajazz.org.

Mt. Hood Jazz Festival has begun an online livestream program as well and the public is invited to their concert series this month.

- Friday, September 11, 6-7 pm featuring Marilyn Keller and the Augustana Jazz Quartet, with Ron Steen, drums; Kevin Deitz, bass, and George Mitchell, piano.
- Friday, September 18, 6-7 pm. MHCC Faculty Jazz Quintet, with Dan Davey, piano; John Nastos, sax; Ryan Meagher, guitar; Tim Gilson, bass and Tim Rap, drums.

See mhcc.edu/jazzfestival or facebook.com/MtHoodJazzFestival for more information.

Fertile Ground Fest 2021

The 2021 Fertile Ground Festival, presented by Portland Area Theatre Alliance (PATA), will become a free, virtual festival held Thursday, January 28-Sunday, February 7, 2021.

In order to serve a wider range of artists and audiences in the community, an equity-infused process is being created to prioritize inclusivity for this new works festival's 12th year.

Fertile Ground (FG) is seeking submissions from a wide range of artists on a variety of topics and welcomes an array of artistic genres and disciplines.

September 4, 2020 is the application submission deadline and applications are online at tinyurl.com/FGFest21.

The Fest will present pre-recorded "acts of creation," submitted by producing organizations and artists. Recorded premieres will be streamed on Fertile Ground's channels. Time slots for each premiere will be randomly assigned.

There are a limited number of festival slots available, making FG 2021 a curated festival. Although curation is a departure from one of the founding tenets of the Fest, this offers an opportunity to ensure representation of underserved communities.

"I believe we have a pivotal, vital opportunity to meaningfully invite new artistic voices into the festival while challenging all artists to innovate their work for this new kind of digital performance, and in doing that, evolve Fertile Ground," said Nicole Lane, FG Festival Director.

See fertilegroundpdx.org.

Portland Music Re-Streams

Alberta Rose Theatre continues its new season of live Portland Music Stream performances in October. In the meanwhile, they are hosting Re-streams of favorite performances from its previous seasons on their Facebook and YouTube channels. Instead of tickets, the shows are streaming by donation and offered to all whether or not you can donate. Performances are online for one night and all begin streaming at 7 pm (or slightly after the spoken introduction).



In September, the Re-streams are: Tuesday, September

1-*Adam Sweeney*; Wednesday, September 2-*Espacio Flamenco* (pictured left); Thursday, September 3-*Little Sue*; Sunday, September 6-*LaRhonda Steele Gospel Quartet*; Monday, September 7-*Patterson Hood*; Tuesday

September 8-*Kate Power & Steve Einhorn*; Wednesday, September 9-*Joe Kye* and Thursday, September 10-*The Rose City Circus*.

These are multi-camera productions with mixed sound and intimate, up-close performances featuring a wide array of talent and genres. If you watched these streams the first time and enjoyed them, see them again and let your friends know about them too.

For Re-stream links and to find out who's performing on the new season of the Portland Music Stream in October, or to make a donation to ART, see albertarosetheatre.com.

72 HOUR GUIGNOLFEST CELEBRATES 12 YEARS

GuignolFest (geen•yôl•fest) presents a 72-hour Horror Movie Contest in October while celebrating its 12th year. Its usual home is at the Clinton Street Theater, but this year being this year, this fest, too, has gone virtual.

Dylan Hillerman founded the Fest with a handful of movie teams showing their work at a bar. The screenings moved to Clinton Street Theater in 2013 and Hillerman was joined by Julia Reodica as producer for the Fest. Reodica acts, co-directs, produces and co-edits GuignolFest's horror series, The Night Attacks.

The Fest offers an opportunity for filmmakers to be edgy and experimental with subject matters and movie methods. It's a time-based challenge and each year, returning and new teams flex their movie-making skills. The tone of team entries ranges from creepy to downright gruesome. Horror subgenres include grindhouse, psychological, sci-fi, musical, and vampire, just to name a few.

Teams challenge themselves for three days of movie-making the weekend of October 16. Movies are turned in for judging that week and the entire collection is screened (this year, online) Sunday, October 25 on Clinton Street Theater's CoVideathon webpage. The event is hosted by Uncle Eerie, who along with Hillerman, facilitates the annual movie lineup.

All entry fees paid by the teams will be donated to Clinton Street Theater to support them during the pandemic closure. You too can startle folks with your own film. For info about entering the contest, see guignolfest.com.



Music Together

Music Together of Portland brings music classes to your child online for the fall session, September 28-December 12.

Try a free class the week of September 16-22 or during the fall session. Choose from: Infant classes for babies up to 8 months, Mixed Age classes for infants through age 5 and Big Kids classes for ages 4-7.

Music Together classes give children basic music skills during the period when they are most receptive to learning. The program is designed to teach the way young children learn – through play.

During weekly live, interactive classes at home, the whole family can enjoy singing, dancing and jamming along with each other.

Make reservations for classes at musictogether-pdx.com or by phone at 503.236.4304.

You Were Here - Portland

PushDot Gallery presents *You Were Here - Portland*; an exhibit featuring images of long-forgotten icons of Portland's history. It opens Friday, September 4 and runs through Friday, October 30, at PushDot Gallery, inside the Ford Building, 2505 SE 11th at Division St.

Lyn Nance-Sasser and Stephen Sasser have created art together for four decades. Both were born in Portland, and have lived here their entire lives. They've seen plenty of changes and have been exhibiting their *You Are Here* prints since 2012. This is the final time they will do so.

The show consists of images of people, places and things no longer in our city. They've assembled 30+ new prints, including a large scale, wallpaper sized, 1956 service station tourist map of the city of Portland as it was then, and images ranging "from the magnificent to the mundane."

20 percent of all sales will be donated to the Architectural Heritage Center in SE Portland. There are plans for a closing reception too on October 30, open from 6-8 pm.

See more of the Sasser's new prints at tinyurl.com/werehere2020.



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MY BUDDY BILL

By Rick Cleveland
(writer for The West Wing, Six Feet Under)

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"CARING FOR EACH OTHER IS WHAT OUR COMMUNITY DOES"

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.

Coping During These Challenging Times

This has, without a doubt, been one of the most challenging times in history. No one was prepared or has been left unaffected. Even those who have remained healthy, still have food on the table and basic needs met, have dealt with physical, mental and emotional challenges.

I myself have had a worsening of my depression from not being able to go to work. I was left without a sense of purpose, as well as a lot of grief from the loss of the activities I enjoyed the most, such as going out dancing with friends and lifting weights at the gym.

Since it looks like our lives will remain uncertain and radically different for an unknown length of time, and we don't know if life will ever return to our previous normal, I hope these tips will be helpful and bring a bit of relief.

Be Kind to Yourself

Many of us don't give ourselves the same grace we would give to a friend or loved one. Remember to give yourself self-love and be careful to avoid using a negative internal narrative. You might even catch yourself doing this without realizing it.

Feel Your Feelings

There is a saying, "What we resist, persists." Pushing away negative feelings never works in the long term; they will eventually come back even stronger. A better option is to sit with your feelings without judgement, observe them as you would a third person. Feel the emotions and remember that often they will pass. If they don't, find a trusted person to help you talk through them.

Structure Your Day

Long, empty days with little to do can make you feel very unmotivated. Do your best to schedule multiple activities throughout the day at specific times. If you like making lists and crossing things off, write down everything, even if it's just getting the mail.

Exercise

Fitness might look different to you right now since we can't have packed classes, weight rooms or cardio areas. You might be exercising at home. If you find yourself lacking the motivation you used to have, that's okay.

Even if you can talk yourself into going for a walk or spend some time doing yoga or stretching, that still counts as exercise. Housework and yard work counts, too. You will feel better for getting up off the couch.

Go Outside

Get outdoors when possible, whether it's walking, hiking or just sitting. Spend time in a green space (trees) or a blue space (water). Make a point to notice how your mood may be lifted afterwards. Do this daily if you can.

Mindfulness and Meditation

Endless bad news from the media or acquaintances can send us into a negative emotional and mental spiral. Take time away each day to either practice a simple meditation such as focusing on the breath and the feelings in your body or focusing on the sights, sounds and smells around you.

Your mind will likely wander off (I call this going off the rails), but that's normal, and you can just keep bringing it back. Try

different forms of mindfulness or meditation to see which works best for you. Don't forget to eat mindfully as well.

Stay Connected

Be safe. Continue to wear masks and social distance, but get together with friends and family as much as you can. Even just getting together in the backyard for a while can help to meet our need for community. If you can't see them in person, video calls are still a great option.

Let Go

Try to release the need to control the situation. We create a lot more suffering than we need to when we battle against things that are outside our control.

Remind yourself that there are only some things we can control or change. As unfair as it is, bad things will happen that we can do nothing about. Take it one day at a time or even one hour at a time, especially during this time of uncertainty.

Remember frustration, stress, anxiety and depression are all normal and likely magnified at this time. Even if you haven't lost a loved one or friend, it's still normal to feel grief for what we have lost, including the sudden and shocking end of the normal day-to-day lives that we knew.

Give yourself a hug, physically or mentally, and send a virtual or socially-distanced hug to your loved ones.

*Lori Vance
Body Image Fitness, LLC
503.351.6476*

Neighborhood Notes

HAND
By Jill Riebesehl

Laying low during COVID-19, in July the Hosford-Abernethy Neighborhood Association heard, via Zoom, from TriMet regarding progress on the Division Transit Project. The agency has kept the neighborhood apprised of the large project from its start. Among other improvements, it will include 20 new signalized crosswalks with improved lighting. A Board member suggested there needs to be a marked crossing on Division at SE 79th Ave. The other TriMet project that affects our neighborhood is the Gideon Crossing, the new bike-ped bridge over the tracks at SE 14th Ave.

TriMet expects the bridge, which will connect HAND and Brooklyn neighborhoods and provide safe crossing over the tracks, will be open in mid-September. The bridge will be managed by the Portland Bureau of Transportation. It will include elevators large enough for bikes with trailers as well as bilateral bike gutters for stairway use. Access to the bridge has removed a turnaround used by large trucks servicing the businesses on SE 14th and trucks have been seen blocking Clinton St. for that purpose. Board members had concerns about some upcoming changes in parking and other traffic patterns.

State Rep. Rob Nosse reported on the first special session this summer. Legislators passed 28 bills in three days, allocating \$1.3 billion targeting a wide variety of needs in the state. We discussed more widely other ongoing concerns, such as the protests downtown.

HAND welcomed two new Board members: Bruce Bikle and Karen Girard. In the short August meeting, the Board elected officers and then adjourned for a Zoom retreat. Officers for the coming year are Chris Eykamp, chair; Mark Linehan, vice-chair and treasurer; Jill Riebesehl, secretary; Michelle Sprague, publicity and communications.

Before adjournment, the Board passed a resolution guiding its representative who sits on the SE Uplift (SEUL) board. SEUL is a coalition that includes 20 neighborhoods as well as other organizations. The HAND rep is instructed to vote against a suggested SEUL by-law change that would affect each neighborhood association's ability to select its representative to the SEUL board.



Neighborhood Notes

Montavilla Neighborhood Association By Louise Hoff

Montavilla Neighborhood Association will have its next virtual neighborhood meeting Monday, September 14, 6:30 pm. Montavilla Jazz was not able to hold the annual Montavilla Jazz Festival this year and came up with the most innovative idea of Take Out Jazz for one evening and two fantastic live streams of the trios Integer and Ron Steen as a fundraiser on the following nights. Montavilla Jazz has music programs at three local elementary schools and will soon be embarking on a local film about the music and culture in our community. We hope to hear more from Neil Mattson at the meeting.

Adam Wilson, our Land Use Chair, will give us an update on the search for a local mosaic artist to create a mural on the corner of SE 82nd Ave and Glisan St. at the Jackson Plaza. One of our neighbors is launching an idea to expand community gardens in light of increasing food scarcity for many in our neighborhood, which also has the lowest median income in Portland. Rachel Phariss will join us if she can access some of the bee materials since gardens and bees are key to a healthy future. Portland Parks and Recreation is accepting applications for community gardens. We have one at Berrydale Park, one on Mt. Tabor and one at Vestal School.

Peter Dills, METBA Chair, will let us know how small businesses in Montavilla are faring. We are definitely noticing a metamorphosis of downtown Montavilla/Stark Street which is looking more like a street in Europe with outdoor seating, little fences and umbrellas. Bipartisan Cafe has a new takeout window and outdoor seating is popping up on several side streets.

The Montavilla Farmer's Market on Sundays has grown and the wide selection of fruit, vegetables, flowers, honey, hummus, bread, pastries, drinks, jams and even more wonderful items show us what can be produced locally and stay in the local economy.

Portland Community College is offering virtual classes this fall and has an exciting selection in their new catalogue. You can learn a profession, learn a language, exercise, find stress relief, hone your skills and investigate new fields of interest. In these turbulent economic times, it is important to look at all of your skills and see which ones might lead to a career change or an increased online presence. Meanwhile, wear a mask, grow a garden, stay healthy and see you at our next meeting. Our monthly board meeting follows at 7:30 pm.

Mt. Tabor Neighborhood Association By Nadine Fiedler

MTNA has been meeting on Zoom during the pandemic, at our usual gathering time of 7 pm on the third Wednesday of the month. For info on meetings and how to attend, check the Meetings section of our website at mttaborpdx.org. Visit our website and Facebook page for more about MTNA, what's happening now, who we are and what we have done to support our city and our neighbors over the years.

Participants at the August Zoom meeting discussed and took actions on issues that included SE Up-lift's expulsion of a board member who represented a neighborhood association and the possible installation of peace poles and a plaque at the neighborhood entryway on SE 50th Ave. and Hawthorne Blvd. We celebrated longtime board member John Laursen, who received a 2020 Governor's Arts Award. Come join us – we welcome all neighbors to participate at our monthly meetings.

North Tabor Neighborhood Association By Kim Kasch

At the August meeting of the North Tabor Neighborhood Association we authorized cash donations to the following organizations: Community of Christ Church, Grace Covenant Fellowship Church, North-Star Clubhouse and Friends of Mt. Tabor Park. Both churches provide essential humanitarian assistance to people in our community. NorthStar is a mental wellness organization and the park's importance to the community in this time of pandemic has become ever more apparent.

Our next meeting will take place Tuesday, September 15, 6:30 pm at 4837 NE Couch (Community of Christ Church). We have been meeting in the parking lot with appropriate social distancing but may switch to an online format. Check our website, northtabor.org, for details. We will elect a new Board at our October 20 meeting and encourage all neighbors to get involved in our activities.

Richmond Neighborhood Association By Allen Field

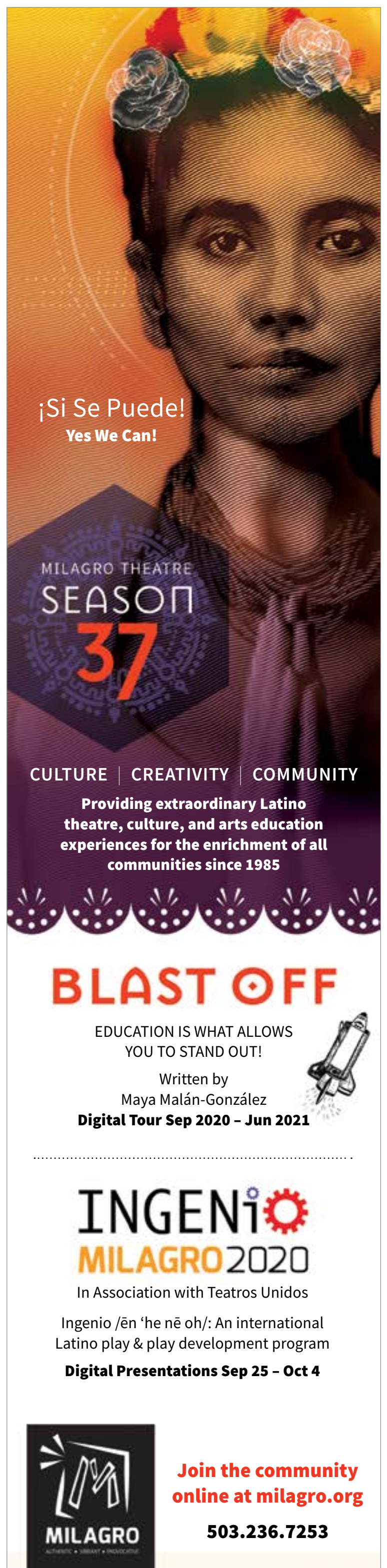
The RNA meets the second Monday of the month, 6:30–8:30 pm. Everyone is welcome. Agendas are posted the week before on richmondpx.org and are sent to the RNA Announce listserv. Meetings will be via Zoom until further notice. Preregistration is required, the link is on the agenda and sent to the listserv. To be added to the RNA's listserv, email richmondnasecretary@gmail.com.

At the August 10 monthly meeting, Kira Smith, Bureau of Environmental Services (BES), explained BES' Watershed Health Grants. To encourage green infrastructure projects to help manage stormwater where it falls and improve watershed health, BES is offering \$100 grants and \$10,000 - \$20,000 grants for community-oriented projects. Grant deadlines are on a rolling basis. For more information, contact Kira at kira.smith@portlandoregon.gov, 2theriver@portlandoregon.gov or 503.823.5729.

Quiet Clean PDX requested a letter of support for their campaign to end gas leaf blowers. Homeowners have mostly converted to electric leaf blowers, so their focus is getting contractors to switch. The Board voted in favor of a letter of support of their efforts to ban gas leaf blowers, but comments were made that (1) the ban does not go far enough and all 2-stroke engines should be banned, (2) the ban could disproportionately impact people of color who comprise a large percentage of professional yard-care workers and (3) electric leaf blowers pose the same problems of blowing pollutants, allergens and germs and are very noisy as well.

Albert Kaufman, Allen Field, Denise Hare, Heather Flint Chatto, Leslie Poston and Simon Kipersztok were elected to the Board in the July 14 election. A Board Member Orientation was given on Board Member fiduciary duties, the city's standards all neighborhood associations must follow, the RNA's Code of Ethics and the city's Open Meetings rule which limit voting and discussions underlying the Board's votes to the RNA's public meetings.

Debby Hochhalter was reelected by the Board as Chair, Simon Kipersztok was elected as Treasurer, Allen Field and Kamal Belkhatat are co-Secretaries. Simon agreed to become the Richmond Newsletter Editor, so we look forward to resuming our quarterly newsletter. The Board selected Committee Chairs and Liaisons. The next meeting is Monday, September 14, 6:30–8:30 pm.



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Written by
Maya Malán-González
Digital Tour Sep 2020 – Jun 2021

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Pandemic Pivots: Two Success Stories

By MEGAN MCMORRIS

When Marko Johnson opened MuddWorks coffee roastery on NE 70th and Glisan in November 2019, his plan was to focus on wholesale roasting first, retail second.

Plans during 2020 have had a funny way of changing though.

“When the rumblings of COVID-19 started happening, it was unknown what I was going to do,” recounts Johnson. “Things were changing by the day. You can’t be business as usual anymore; you need to be flexible to survive.”

His solution: open his doors to the public in the mornings.

“For me, it’s about doing what I love, and what I love is to roast coffee,” he said. He also owns Half Pint Cafe in inner SE.

“That completion cycle of the process is particularly enjoyable, when I can sell a pound of coffee and a customer comes back and tells me they really enjoyed it, that’s probably the most fulfilling thing I can do.”

Opening up during the lockdown with many neighboring businesses still closed, allowed Johnson to become a de facto “water cooler.”

As a native Portlander, and neighborhood resident himself, “One of my favorite things in the neighborhood is to get a slice

of pizza and a beer at the Academy Theater,” – bonding with his Montavilla customers enhanced his day-to-day experience on a personal level in addition to helping keep his business afloat.

“For some customers, I was the only face they’d see during the day, so we’d talk about what else was going on in the neighborhood, and what we’d heard about various places opening up, that kind of thing,” he continued.

“They’d bring their dogs by and I’d get to give them cookies and hang out with them for a little bit. I like people to feel like this is my kitchen. I want to give you a drink and something to eat and I want to hear a story of what you’re up to.”

On the subject of food, part of Johnson’s pandemic pivot was to re-think his business’ food offerings. With some bakers on hold, he decided to go for it himself.

“Here I have the equipment just sitting there, and there is an element of making food in-house, very DIY Portland, that is appealing to me. So I’ve decided to experiment,” he adds.

Up next: breakfast burritos and gluten-free, vegan offerings “that people don’t even realize are gluten-free or vegan. I grew up as a Portland hippie, before Keeping Portland Weird was even

a phrase,” he laughs.

Johnson credits his ability to survive and thrive on being flexible as the new reality reared its head.

“You can’t think about what you did do, you have to think about what you can do,” he says. “If you’re stodgy and set in your ways, you won’t survive.”

Meanwhile, five blocks down the street on Glisan St., another business was learning that same lesson.

White Pepper, which opened in the Spring of 2019, was just about to enter its busy season when COVID-19 hit.

“Event season was just kicking off, which is our main source of income, and 85 percent of our business is weddings,” says Deborah Wiser, general manager.

Their answer, just as with MuddWorks, was to temporarily shift their focus.

“We thought, well, we already have a Burger Thursday pop-up which the community has responded well to, so we decided to continue with that the very first week of the shelter-in-place orders, to see if it made sense to open it for longer.”

As it turned out, it did make sense. “We were slammed,” she says. Realizing this might be their ticket to surviving until Phase



MuddWorks photo by Megan McMorris

One opening – and retaining their employees in the process – they decided to include Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays in the Burger Thursday action.

“Our crew was happy to still have a job and we all pitched in,” Wiser says. “Managers who are normally on our sales team, for example, ended up being the ones serving the burgers. We all did what we could.”

After Multnomah County entered Phase One, White Pepper returned to their catering roots.

“Once things re-opened, sales dropped, so we decided it was a good time to say let’s get back to what we do,” she said.

In addition to weddings and special events, White Pepper has a tasting room and offers backyard catering for your home.

“It’s been a delicate dance as we navigate the new realities with events, but I’ve been proud of the crew for continuing to move forward in whatever way we can. It’s a lot of unknowns so you just have to be flexible,” Wiser adds.

Even though they have since shuttered their Burger Thursday pop-up, their appreciation for the community lives on.

“Our regulars were the highlight of our burger pop-up for sure,” Wiser says. “When we talked about closing it, our staff was sad they wouldn’t be seeing their favorite faces on a regular basis, but we still see our regulars walking by and run out to say hi. I can’t express enough how much the community helped us, it gave us purpose.”

Your Home and Community

By RACHEL HEMMINGSON,
CONSULTANT & ADVOCATE FOR
AGING WELL

When I was first working with Home Equity Conversion Mortgages, a woman called me with great shame and fear. She’d come to realize she would run out of money well before the end of her expected life.

Her community was a sparse, international group of specially trained psychotherapists. A single woman, she’d moved to Portland in her 60s.

Now in her 70s, she’d never made any real friends here. She counseled clients from home over the phone. She saw her colleagues at conferences overseas. She lived in a house set back from a busy street and surrounded by tall hedges. She had sisters in California. She felt she had a community, but she had no eyes upon her.

I gently informed her that, if she fell, she could lay out in that backyard for a very, very long time. She ended up using equity to fund modifications to her house so she could rent part of it out while keeping her privacy.

So what is community? Is it people in an area? Or with shared perspective?

The value of exploring the questions about what is true about your community is that, in difficult times, having a strong, caring community can be a literal lifesaver.

If you’ve lived in your home for many years, there may have been a time when you were part of a community of parents with kids playing outside and that common ground created relatedness.

You may have developed

deep friendships watching the gardens, yards and trees along the street mature.

Neighborhoods, however, do what’s called “turning over.” There may be no one left from that time and you may have no obvious commonality with the new homeowners. So where is your community?

You may experience community at a church, in a gardening group or book club. Maybe it’s through staying in touch with old pals and family, on the phone or virtually.

We are all reading and seeing a lot about both the need to physically distance from each other due to COVID-19 and the need to be proactive against isolation, especially as older adults.

I encourage you to think about what you can do to nurture supportive relationships you have, explore creating new ones and consider whether your home adds to or diminishes a sense of community for you at this time.

If, in fact, you feel disconnected on your street and perhaps uncomfortably alone in a now-oversized house, here’s an idea. Like my client those years ago, perhaps there’s a way to put your house to work as part of the solution to the lack of “middle,” affordable housing. Renovate or add a space for others. The added income from rent could be great, but so might the security of proximity, the occasional sharing of time and enjoyment and the support of shared chores to keep plants and pets happy.

Chosen well, your new property-mate(s) and their circle of people could be the start of a lovely new community of your own with eyes on you.

Homeless Solutions

from page 1

health services, job training and homeless services. People of color and the chronically homeless will be prioritized when funds become available next year.

A Metro bond was approved in 2018 a to provide \$653 million to build affordable housing. Prior to that, in 2016, Portland approved a housing bond for \$256 million that has built 1,300 units, but this is only a small beginning to provide the thousands of the low-income housing units our city needs.

A recent study estimated that nearly 40,000 people experience homelessness each year and another 105,000 residents are housing insecure. The COVID-19 situation could change the dynamics significantly due to a poor economy that will cause the loss of employment and rental housing.

September will be the last month of warm weather this year and by November, campers will need to prepare for winter.

Portland has expanded its shelter capacity and there are other temporary shelters that can be opened in extreme weather conditions. Nevertheless, it is not clear how all the people living on the streets can find shelter for the winter.



Friends of Mt. Tabor Update

from page 8

the weed warriors.

Future park challenges and opportunities include oversight of the park’s reservoir and participation in the Intertwine Alliance, a group of public and private organizations dedicated to integrating nature into the park.

In the future, the park will need funding for bike racks, drinking fountains and other amenities.

FMTP has received numerous awards over the years from Oregon’s Citizenship Award and the Spirit of Portland Award. FMTP was recognized by the annual award from the statewide Oregon Recreation and Parks Association as an outstanding community-based organization.

FMTP Weed Warriors were recognized as best community-based organization by statewide SOLVE, and the FMTP Foot Patrol has been recognized as a model volunteer program by the Portland Police Bureau.

FMTP received no funding for these awards.

This October 4, FMTP will sponsor the Tar ‘n’ Trail Race, an on and off-pavement fundraising race if the County is in Phase III

of the reopening plan.

The Tar ‘n’ Trail is an annual event that contributes many thousands to FMTP through donated funds. Those funds are used for projects designed to enhance park facilities and amenities and the ecological health of the park, according to Kinnick.

In early July, Portland Parks & Recreation indicated they hope Multnomah County will be approved in September to enter Phase III of the reopening plan, which has no limit on crowds participating in outdoor activities, though, it’s hard to predict what will happen between now and then.

The plan is to open race registration as a “wait list” to allow people to sign up without being charged.

“If things go as planned and we do enter Phase III, wait-listers will be “invited” to register and will be charged upon acceptance of the invitation,” said Kinnick.

Visit the race website, runannie.net, for details.

Interested in learning about the park and upcoming activities? Visit taborfriends.org.



Good News for Black Homes and Heritage

BY MIDGE PIERCE

Amidst three-plus months of outcries for racial justice and reforms, one City department quietly achieved an equitable path toward national recognition and preservation of homes and structures meaningful to the Black community.

Through a project called Portland's African American Historic Resources Multiple Property Document (MPD), sites significant to Black Portlanders are now eligible for listings in the National Register of Historic Places.

The document, prepared by the City's historic resources staff in collaboration with Black community leaders and preservation groups, has been approved by the National Parks Service which oversees the Register.

In addition to protections and prestige, listing on the National Register can offer financial advantages that may include special tax assessment programs, grants and potential restoration incentives.

For commercial buildings, up to one-fifth of renovations (including some seismic upgrades) are eligible for federal funds. Homes can receive tax abatements.

The MPD streamlines the application and designation process of properties with African American provenance that could mitigate displacement of Black Portland residents by providing a framework to save hundreds of

homes and buildings.

The project serves as an umbrella to cover many properties that might otherwise experience demolition and the gentrification of historically Black neighborhoods happening recently in N and NE Portland neighborhoods such as Albina.

Within the MPD are a smattering of eligible sites in SE Portland. Despite charges of exclusionary practices, SE neighborhoods have historically included Black-owned businesses, churches and housing enclaves, notably in Montavilla, inner Buckman and Hosford-Abernethy.

According to Portland's Historic Resources Planning Manager Brandon Spencer-Hartle, the Register's acceptance of MPD's umbrella rights some of the wrongs of Portland's history.

"It's a way to save some of the best of the past that has not yet been raised to historical significance," he says.

In a summer of upheaval with nightly aircraft overhead, this under-the-radar, book length, 191-page document honors the heritage and lived experience of African Americans that many in Portland seek.

It details how Blacks were historically excluded from white-dominant systems of real estate, finance and employment and is a step toward equity of resources that can enhance Black lives by removing "barriers of access to opportunities," according to Historic Landmarks Commissioner Derek Spears.

During October public hearings on the soon-to-be released Historic Resources Code Project, the project's low profile will likely rise with citations that it is an encouraging racial pivot toward social parity.

Contributors to the MPD document hope it discourages the destruction of homes that might otherwise be in the way of development as a result of the recent passage of Residential In-fill Project rezoning and ongoing densification along commercial corridors in traditionally Black neighborhoods.

The MPD provides a comprehensive overview of African American properties here residents can draw on to expedite their applications.

Local historian Kimberly Moreland is a board member of the Architectural Heritage Center (AHC) and member of the Oregon Heritage Commission. She provided foundational history described in the MPD.

"The national designation provides an additional layer of protection for historic properties that are threatened by aggressive redevelopment pressures.

"While national landmark designation cannot prevent displacement, it is a valuable tool to elevate the cultural heritage of African American places," she said.

Executive Director of the AHC and MPD contributor Stephanie Whitlock stressed the urgency of the MPD.

"Many African American properties that could have been candidates for National Register listing have already been demolished. Buildings and other resources risk disappearance from the landscape and from our memory, unless we take steps right away to identify, designate and protect them."

The MPD covers the African American experience in Portland from 1865 to 1973, a period encompassing the Civil Rights Movement. Allowing potential recognition of structures less than 50 years old is a departure from Register requirements that opens the door for a wider array of historically-Black-owned sites, including those involved in Civil Rights events.

The crux of the document is that it recognizes cultural significance of structures even if they do not meet traditional criteria of architectural merit.

By allowing special consideration for Black historical sites, Spencer-Hartle says the document is an alternative guide to designation even for properties that have been altered.

For instance, it allows homes with exteriors that were converted to accommodate businesses or churches or vice versa. Without the MPD, altered homes and businesses would be ineligible for National Register listing.

Along with the MPD, the Parks Service listed NE's Billy Webb Elks Lodge as the first building to receive a National Historic Register designation under the new cultural criteria. The building was a former YWCA with a storied history as a USO Center for African American soldiers as well as a refuge after the 1948 Vanport flood.

Spencer-Hartle says the National Register MPD and Billy Webb listing encouraged staff to expand criteria for future listings in the local Historic Resources Inventory (HRI).

Information will be in the draft of the three-years-in-the-making Historic Resources Code Project to be released mid-month

and followed by a public hearing slated for October 27.

Historic preservation is not an easy sell in a city bent on growth and change. Given the challenge of balancing competing interests, Spencer-Hartle predicts the Code Project will please some and displease others.

Changes to review processes for buildings with historic designations will be of particular interest to residents in SE's three National Register Historic Districts: Laurelhurst, Ladd's Addition and Peacock Lane.

Also anticipated are plans for updating the 33-year-old city-wide HRI and revising procedures for both adding and removing properties from the inventory.

Enhanced historic protections through conservation landmarks and districts are expected, as are controversial issues involving owner consent.

Since the African American Multiple Property Document's release, the City has received renewed interest from the Black community to preserve longstanding businesses, churches, homes and fraternal organizations that were cultural touchstones.

Spencer-Hartle says that as building's origins are researched, Portlanders reconnect to their roots and restore forgotten histories.

Property owners and local groups are encouraged to identify potential sites deserving commemoration. The significance of National Historic Resource listing for Portland's Black population, which "endured displacement several times over" cannot be underestimated, according to a project press release.

While Portland's MPD is a ground breaking approach to preserve Black history, other themed multiple listing projects have been developed for Asian-American and Pacific Island communities in California.

"The MPD framework is like a Christmas tree on which we can hang ornaments of cultural history for recognition," Spencer-Hartle said.

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Representatively Speaking

BY STATE REPRESENTATIVE ROB NOSSE

I have been your Representative in the State Legislature for almost six years and am heading into my fourth term. Rather than reflect on something going on in politics either federally or locally, I would like to share a little bit about who I am personally.

The personality of a politician matters quite a bit, as President Trump demonstrates daily. In fact, most other politicians spend a fair amount of their time trying to understand their peers if they want to know how to befriend them and find ways to persuade them.

Here is why. We deal with a lot of topics and a lot of complexity in our state legislature. I vote on agricultural and forestry practices as well as education and healthcare policy and even bills about what judges should be paid.

When a politician does not know what they think about a topic and are struggling to figure something out, their core values and experiences will inform their priorities and ultimately their vote. Here are a few things about me you might not know about that make me tick.

I was born in 1967 to Bob and Gloria Nosse. I am the oldest of four children. I grew up with two younger brothers and then my sister came along when I was 16. My parents were not part of the counterculture movement in the 1960s.

We lived in a small town in northeast Ohio where my dad worked for a utility company. It provided him a good salary that allowed my mom to stay home and raise us kids. Life was good. I grew up on a country road with lots of other kids our age. My brothers and I loved Star Wars and playing outside.

I went to Catholic grade school and high school. To this day, I still regularly attend Sunday services at my local parish in SE Portland. This despite my profound disagreements with the Catholic Church on its positions on abortion, the role of women in the church, and same sex marriage.

I am strongly pro-choice and the marriage I share with my husband, Jim Laden, is the most important relationship of my life. Jim and I met in August of 1992, three months after I moved to Oregon. We now have two grown children whom we adopted in 2000, one three-year old grandson and a granddaughter on the way.

At some point in my youth, I realized that not possessing any athletic ability set me apart from some of my friends. In many ways I was an awkward teenager in high school, but I still have fond memories of good friends and fun experiences. One of the best parts of my teen years was working at the local pizza parlor in town; a job I held for years.

I graduated from St. Vincent/St. Mary in Akron, OH, where LeBron James is an alumnus. After that, I headed off to Miami University in Oxford, OH be-



cause it was the best state school I got into. I majored in liberal arts and began to find my tribe.

The university not only gave me a good education, but also fostered a campus culture where I gained the confidence to run for student government and win.

I was student body president my senior year in college. One of my tasks in that role was to monitor the Ohio Legislature for changes to tuition and financial aid, something I could not easily do being three hours away from Columbus, the State Capitol, with no car.

I spent three years in Ohio starting a student association to advocate for student interests. That is what got me here to Oregon – to run the Oregon Student Association for four years in the early 1990s; an experience that started me on the path that has led me to serving as a member of our legislature.

It was during my first year out of college working in Columbus and then here in Oregon that I figured out I was gay. There was still a great deal of stigma against gay people in rural Ohio in the early 90s and Oregon was not much better when I moved here. It was rough, at first, but I got over it and came to accept myself.

When it came time to stop being a professional student activist, I went to work for the labor movement. I have worked for three different unions since the 1990s, most recently the Oregon Nurses Association.

Helping to foster solidarity at work and in the community is one of the things I am most passionate about. The student movement, the gay rights movement and the civil rights movement all take many cues and tactics from the labor movement in terms of organizing and building power.

In 2000, Jim and I adopted two kids through the Department of Child Welfare. After commit-

ting to Jim, it was the second-best decision I have ever made. I cannot imagine my life without our two kids, our grandson and now a granddaughter on the way.

My desire to create a better life for them and other young people is strong motivation to be involved in politics, along with my time in the student and labor movements and the LGBTQ movement.

So, that's a little about what makes me tick, my family, my faith, my sexuality, my career and my education. Probably all the things that make anyone else tick, for that matter.

Many of my legislative priorities have focused on those areas as well, whether it was banning conversion therapy, standing up for healthcare workers or a tax system that raises enough money for schools.

I am proud to serve this district and its residents and I look forward to lifting up your priorities as best as I can in the coming months.

from page 4

Walker Tracker

ter their role, should have the support they need to be well-physically, emotionally and socially.

Through grant opportunities, professional development and technical assistance, they provide expertise and resources to help Oregon public school employees create comprehensive and flexible well-being programs.

"When the COVID-19 pandemic hit, having access to virtual wellness challenges was a helpful tool for our grantees to continue their well-being programs and communicate with their staff," said Rachel Drushella, of OEA Choice Trust.

"Used to being around students, either in the classroom or on the bus, many educators were feeling isolated and supporting mental health was important to district and community college leaders. Walker Tracker provided a virtual platform for staff to challenge each other and stay connected while supporting their health and well-being."

OEA offers Walker Tracker as a free benefit to all current and eligible past grantees across the state. Currently, over 30 K-12 districts, education service districts and community colleges are utilizing the program.

Another example: a county in West Virginia was voted the least healthy county in the state. Rather than laugh it off, county officials got a grant to take a huge initiative to change. With the funds, they got motivated and

contacted Walker Tracker to create a community-wide program to help get people in shape, feel better and get off their bottoms.

Now encompassing more than 5,000 participants, the program actively involves community members of all ages together walking, talking, laughing and de-stressing during these chaotic times.

The Tracker sees three different personas getting involved in these types of wellness programs: those who love the physical challenge, those who are driven by data collection and others who simply enjoy the social aspect of walking. Once they get going, they may drift from one category to another.

It attracts many in their 30s and 40s and women generally have high rates of engagement. They're in use in more than 100 countries and have had success with school districts, corporations and manufacturers.

Health insurers are looking for ways to stand out, so they're offering Walker Tracker-created wellness programs to their corporate members. These wellness programs create loyalty and devoted followings. When people feel fit, they tend to eat and sleep better, feel more connected and are generally happier.

During these troubling, confusing and stressful times, isn't feeling better something we all want?

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\$TBD
3 BD, 1.1 BA



6653 SE Ash Pl.
2014 Northwest Contemporary House 3728 Sq. Ft., 3 BD, 3 BA + ADU 952 Sq. Ft, 1 BD, 1.1 BA

\$1,750,000



3050 NE 41st Ave.
1927 Tudor
4502 Total Sq. Ft.

\$1,175,000
5 BD, 2.1 BA



7110 SE Main St.
1951 Mid-Century
2644 Total Sq. Ft.

\$850,000
3 BD, 2 BA

SOLD



4905 SE Tibbetts St.
1962 Mid-Century
3902 Total Sq. Ft.

SOLD
4 BD, 2 BA

PENDING



21504 Shannon Ln.
1991 Contemporary
4022 Total Sq. Ft.

Pending
5 BD, 3.1 BA

Note From the Caplener Group

Check Out These Updated Outdoor Patios For a Late Summer Bite!

Restaurants are starting to open up again for dine-in eating in the safest way possible. Many are updating to outdoor seating, adding ambiance to the dining experience as we move from hot summer nights into early fall.

The following SE restaurants are doing it all to look out for your health and safety... go support!

Atlas Pizza and 5 and Dime on SE Foster have teamed up. While 5 and Dime has suspended food orders for the time being, you can still grab a drink there, then head over to Atlas Pizza for dinner.

Papa Haydn has opened their outdoor patio seating for both their SE and NW locations. Grab dinner and a much-deserved dessert!

Normandie on SE Ankeny has recently upgraded their outdoor seating. The perfect setting to enjoy their coastal-style meals.

PDX Sliders has opened both their Sellwood and Division locations. Sellwood has patio seating while the Division location has opted for sidewalk dining options.

So bon appétit, but as always....remember to wear your mask!



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


Windermere
REAL ESTATE
WINDERMERE REALTY TRUST

The Caplener Group is a dynamic real estate team that is part of the Windermere Realty Trust family of brokers.

We specialize in homes for sale in Southeast Portland, and have been representing buyers and sellers here for over 35 years. We have the kind of knowledge and insight that can only be gained through experience.

But we aren't old school; we work with the latest and best in real estate technology. That means you can sell your home faster and for more money, or find your dream house or next investment in the most efficient way possible.

We never stop learning, improving, or working hard to earn your business.

THE CAPLENER GROUP

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