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Ethics of Vaccine Allocation

By Nancy Tannler

As all Americans begin to queue up to receive COVID-19 vaccinations, medical ethicists want to be sure to prioritize racial minorities. In Oregon, our first allocations went to healthcare workers, teachers and the elderly, but who should be next?

The Oregon Health Association (OHA) asked Dr. Harald Schmidt, Professor in the Department of Medical Ethics and Health Policy at the University of Pennsylvania, to give a presentation titled, *Is It Lawful and Ethical to Prioritize Racial Minorities for COVID-19 Vaccines?*

We are all aware of the intense reckoning with structural racism we are experiencing here in the US. People of conscience are seeking ways to ameliorate injustices done to minorities in the past. Giving priority to the vaccine in communities hit the hardest by COVID-19 makes sense.

That is the recommendation of The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine (NASEM) and the

World Health Organization (WHO).

Dr. Schmidt said that Oregon’s number of COVID-19 cases is below average and there were more cases reported in our white population than Latino, Black and Indigenous. Most of those infected were older, lived rurally or were incarcerated.

These statistics don’t represent the rest of the country where the mortality rate, relative to population, is much higher in minority groups. It was noted that these elevated death rates are not due to biological differences.

Minorities with reduced economic mobility and healthcare access become super spreaders in their communities. That is why Dr. Schmidt and other like-minded individuals and organizations believe that moving forward we should reach these vulnerable communities first.

By giving the more disadvantaged states a higher proportion of the allotments, the spread of COVID-19 would be greatly slowed down.

This would make a big difference in states like New Mexico, Washington, DC, California and New York where people of color make up about 35 percent of the population; Oregon is around 20 percent.

How we would expedite the process, says Dr. Schmidt, is to have easier to reach dispensing site locations, opening school gyms, community centers, sports stadiums and mobile clinics. Since not everyone has access to the internet, there should be different ways to sign up.

Oregon is a state where vaccine hesitancy is very high. Dr. Schmidt said this trend is becoming more prevalent in places with a higher socioeconomic level. This strata of people has been least affected by the virus. Statistics so far have about 68 percent of whites willing to vaccinate, 87 percent of Asians and 42 percent of Blacks.

Vaccine hesitancy is high in minority communities also. They are already wary of what is considered “best” for them due to the effects of past and current discrimination.

Dr. Schmidt cited examples like the

Inner SE Action Panel Meets

By David Krogh

Inner Southeast Action (ISA) held a panel discussion as part of their monthly meeting March 2 to discuss the Residential Infill Project (RIP) and related programs adopted by the city.

ISA describes itself as “an antiracist SE Portland community group focused on making the city better and more equitable for everyone.”

This goal is progressively oriented especially considering Portland is the nation’s whitest large city and SE Portland is second only to SW Portland within the city in terms of a demographic dominance by white residents.

The citizen group is led by a four-person board of Chrystal Brim, Erik Mathews, Daniel Amoni and Kat West. None of the board members are BIPOC (Black, indigenous or people of color), however, there are citizen participants who are BIPOC.

Board member Kat West says, “it’s an Oregon non-profit that was formed two years ago by a group of about 25 community members in SE Portland. It was formed for the purpose of providing progressive-minded community members a way to make a difference.”

The group meets monthly, has several action committees working on a variety of topic areas, and a listerv of several hundred who have expressed interest in group activities.

Most of the group’s activities revolve around support and participation in various locational functions such as Sunday Parkways, Greenway gatherings, Hawthorne safety and business cleanup issues and Portland United Against Hate.

The ISA strives to provide information and links for getting involved with other civic-related activities within the city. They have partnered with other civic groups including SE Uplift, Oregon Walks, SOLVE and the Sunnyside Neighborhood Association for specific activities.

The panel discussion was comprised of Madeline Kovac from the Housing Action Collective; Tony Jordan with the Parking Reform Network; Bandana Shrestha of AARP Oregon Director of Community Engagement; and Neil Heller, designer and co-founder of Small Development Counts.

The topic of discussion was *Portland’s Successful Zoning Reforms: Portland’s recent progressive zoning reform successes focused on the Residential Infill Project (RIP) and Better Housing by Design*.

Their intent was to determine the extent of zoning reforms, their successes (or not) and lessons learned. The panel attempted to address the principal housing issue for most people: affordability.

Kovac feels policies are needed for “bringing down costs and increasing affordability.” Shrestha stated that AARP “wants older people to have living options including affordability,” and that these options need to include accessibility, transportation opportunities and neighborhood amenities.

The panel acknowledged that RIP does not include direct provisions to mandate affordability, but does allow for higher density which will in itself create a larger variety of housing types available.

Heller stated that the city should fo-

continued on page 8

Oregon’s New Medicaid Waiver Implications

By Daniel Perez-Crouse

Oregon’s 1115 Medical Waiver is up for renewal in 2022 and a focus addressing Governor Kate Brown’s directives on healthcare quality/inequities and cost savings for the state budget is being proposed. A discussion hosted by the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) about this matter took place March 4.

Jeremy Vandehey, the Director of the Health Policy and Analytics Division for OHA, provided a refresher on the nature of Medicaid, the program that provides healthcare for eligible low-income individuals.

It is a state-federal partnership where the federal government pays three-quarters of the cost. Therefore, they also generally set the rules. This is where the waiver comes in, which “waives” one of the rules that run the program.

“The idea is to create a situation for states to pilot changes,” Vandehey said. This lets states test things that may ulti-

mately be part of the program long-term.

Oregon’s waiver history dates back to 1994, when the Oregon Health Plan (OHP) was created and every five years or so, other initiatives have been introduced. However, he says there are some parameters to what can and cannot be changed - and the changes must be “budget neutral” to the federal government.

Vandehey says that while the OHP has grown by 200,000 individuals, there is concern over what happens once eligibility re-determinations are done without the luxury of more generous pandemic parameters. That also doesn’t factor in the general cost issue.

“Statewide healthcare costs have grown about 6.5 percent per person per year over the last several years,” he said.

To this point, Rep. Rob Nosse says that, due to rising healthcare costs, the state’s ability to prioritize other social needs, such as housing and education, are

continued on page 12

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continued on page 8

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Rs Representatively Speaking

BY STATE REPRESENTATIVE ROB NOSSE

It finally feels like spring is upon us. This has been a long, tough winter but I feel a real sense of optimism for the year ahead. The sun has been out (occasionally), the weather is warmer and legislation that helps working Americans was passed by the federal government.

As it turns out, elections matter. On March 11 President Biden signed into law the American Rescue Plan. This massive bill (and it is massive), will finally bring much needed help to working families, small businesses and so many Americans hurting in this pandemic.

This column will highlight some of the help that is on the way as it will most certainly impact the work of the state legislature.

One of the major parts of this legislation is a \$28.6 billion grant fund for independent restaurants and bars. Our own local Congressman Earl Blumenauer is a founding member of the Independent Restaurant Coalition which was instrumental in creating this fund.

This program is direct grant support through the Small Business Association for restaurants devastated by the pandemic. It can be used alongside the Paycheck Protection Program, Economic Injury Disaster Loans and the Employee Retention Tax Credit to help vulnerable businesses survive the remainder of this crisis.

Grants will be made available to establishments that are not part of an affiliated group with more than 20 locations. I won't delve too much deeper into the weeds of this part of the bill, but you can find more information at the Small Business Administration website.

Another portion of this bill deals with the Child Tax Credit. Beginning in June, low income families will receive a tax credit



of \$300 dollars per month for up to three children. This will help so many working families get over the hump and through this tough time. In fact, the bill is predicted to cut child poverty by 50 percent in our state.

For our seniors and retirees, the bill restores to financial health more than 100 failing pension plans, known as multi-employer plans, for union workers. This will mean that the risk of these pension benefits being slashed is gone. Truckers, bakery workers, plumbers, construction trade workers and others will receive the benefits they were promised based on their years of work.

For kids across Oregon, this bill provides funding to reopen schools. Portland Public Schools will get around \$74 million dollars to purchase personal protective equipment, cleaning supplies and equipment to improve ventilation – among other things – in order to bolster in-person education during this pandemic, and to plan for future ones.

This bill also provides \$25 billion in rental assistance to help those struggling to pay rent. It so important that we make sure we keep our fellow Oregonians housed during this pandemic.

Last, but certainly not least, and specific to Oregon, we have \$5.8 billion of relief coming in. Much of it will be sent directly to the counties, cities, tribes and state government to make sure it can have as effective an impact as possible. As our own Senator Merkley put it “that light at the end of the tunnel is getting brighter and brighter.”

This pandemic has been brutal and I don't think things will every truly go back to the way they were before, but it does feel like there is that light at the end of the tunnel especially with this kind of money to provide relief. It makes needed investments to help with the pandemic, last Labor Day's wildfires and much needed investments in equity to address the racism that exists in a lot of the ways we provide assistance.

The American Rescue Plan is a strong, important step towards those goals.

Watch for updates in my e-newsletter every Friday to see how all this plays out and learn about what changes and investments we need to make to get Oregon back on its feet.

Thanks for reading and stay tuned.

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Police Union Faces Funding, Staffing and Public Relations Difficulties

Op-Ed By Don MacGillivray

Currently the City of Portland and the police union are in the middle of difficult contract negotiations. There is a high degree of polarization going on within various interest groups over the outcome.

Last fall, a new police oversight board was adopted through measure 26-17 that received an 82 percent majority vote.

Immediately after the election, the police union filed grievances with the city and police bureau, arguing that the disciplinary practices proposed in the new oversight board must be brought into compliance with state law, the city charter and city codes as well as negotiated as part of the police union contract.

The police union believes the current multiple levels of oversight are more than adequate, even though it has been severely criticized by the community for decades.

The new oversight board will replace the existing police oversight system. It will have the power to hold police accountable for their actions, which leaves the police strongly opposed to this new system. Currently decisions about the discipline of police officers lie with the police chief, police commissioner, City Council and/or the existing citizen oversight committee.

The public wants more transparency and police accountability, however the police wish to retain control and secrecy regarding the methods and actions during controversial situations involving their officers. This is especially true during investigations involved with the officers' use of deadly force.

Police staffing continues to be a big issue left over from the 2016 union contract negotiations. These issues revolve around overtime, the retention of officers nearing retirement and the recruitment of new officers.

The demands on the police department over the past year have increased excessively from previous years and this has required difficult decisions made amid much criticism.

The nightly demonstrations of last summer required 160,000 hours of unplanned police overtime, expected to cost \$15 million this year. Police union leadership has charged this situation is due to poor management and that it is up to the city to fix.

This implies that the budget for Portland Police Bureau must increase, but progressive critics want the police force defunded and replaced with alternative methods of law enforcement and emergency response.

Police are accused of being the major cause of the demonstrations and riots because of their aggressive methods of enforcement. Even so, it is hard to understand how advocates can advocate for reducing the police budget through an undefined reorganization.

By national standards, Portland's police force is small. Of the 40 largest cities in the country, Portland had the second lowest number of officers per capita in 2016. The bureau had 882 sworn members of all ranks as of September, out of 917 authorized positions.

However, a large number of these officers are undergoing training and are still on probation. Others are senior officers nearing retirement. Considering that Portland has a larger number of crimes per capita than most large cities in the US, adding more officers would seem to be justified.

During the pandemic, all bureaus, including Portland police, were asked to cut 5.6 percent of their general fund budget. In June 2020, the police bureau had an additional \$15 million cut from its budget in the wake of racial justice demonstrations and

protests. Many of these protesters are seeking to cut the police funding further.

Unite Oregon is the largest and strongest organization holding Portland accountable for the actions of the police force and the new contract negotiations. Created by a merger of the Center for Intercultural Organizing and Oregon Action, they are devoted to the improvement of the lives of immigrants, refugees, people of color and the disadvantaged in Oregon.

They are joined by Albina Ministerial Alliance's committee for Justice and Police Reform and many other social services, nonprofits and churches.

From April 2018 to July 2020, Portland Police Bureau officers took the lives of nine people, had close calls with several more and launched brutal assaults on unarmed demonstrators during many of the nightly demonstrations and riots against police brutality.

The Police Union contract allows this to occur and many believe this must change. Lack of public trust in the police is a serious reality and Portland needs to create the effective civilian oversight board that was adopted in the November election.

The Portland Police Association is affiliated with the United Coalition of Public Safety, a national organization that supports the independence and control of police unions across the country.

It is conservative and resistant to change and they see any attempt at increased oversight and accountability as acting against the interests of the police. They believe that the answer to crime and safety issues is to provide more police.

The city needs a criminal justice system that will work to reduce the many challenges facing all the communities in Portland.



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Shelter to Housing (S2HC) Clarification

By Nancy Tannler

In the March edition of *The Southeast Examiner* the article, "S2HC Offers Remedies for the Houseless" stated, "There will be no camping in natural areas, environmental zones or parks."

A reader felt this was a misleading statement that might have some people surprised once the S2HC project is approved.

The statement is true regarding the code dealing with permanent shelter facilities. However, the new provision in the S2HC does accommodate temporary operation of a mass shelter or an outdoor shelter on a site in all zones of the city for up to 180 days if a disaster is declared.

Eric Engstrom, Principal

Planner, Bureau of Planning and Sustainability further explained, "The terms "mass shelter" and "outdoor shelter" are defined terms in the zoning code; which are types of community service land uses. These definitions specify they are nonprofit or government provided services.

So when we are authorizing a mass shelter or outdoor shelter, we are authorizing nonprofit or public service facilities; not individuals or groups to camp where they want."

When the S2HC was presented to City Council for the first time on March 17, it was reiterated by both Mayor Wheeler and Engstrom throughout the presen-

tation that, "This project does not legalize unsanctioned camping."

Over 120 people signed up to testify that day, although there was not time to hear everyone.

In general, residents want to see something being done about the humanitarian crisis we are witnessing here in the Portland. There was a lot of support for S2HC. The fear is that it won't really resolve the problem and will open up parks and other open spaces for camping.

Several residents of the Lents neighborhood are asking for there to be equal distribution of the shelters and services throughout the city and not just in their neighborhood.

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Compassion and Conservation: The Heart of Kindness Farm

By JACK RUBINGER

There’s a lot of love in the hands and hearts of the many volunteers at the new Kindness Farm in SE Portland.

Started by Lou Levit, Kindness Farm has two important missions. First, to grow nutritious, healthy fruits and vegetables for our houseless and low income neighbors in need and second, to practice and teach regenerative gardening practices that nourish and conserve the land.

“Our farm is based on an idea we call The Kindness Model,” explained Levit. “We believe that kindness is not only the most compassionate, but also the most practical model for the world to live by.

“Unfortunately, this is often distorted by a world that forces us to choose our own survival over helping others. Kindness Farm is our way of moving the world in a kinder direction.”

Located in the neighborhood behind the Leach Botanical Garden, on an acre and a quarter of donated land, Kindness Farm has received an outpouring of community support since it opened its doors to volunteers.

In the last 10 weeks, they’ve clocked close to 800 volunteer hours and have received countless in-kind donations from organizations like Portland Nursery, PBOT, Dirt Hugger Compost, One Green World and Johnny’s Selected Seeds.

“It’s been a breath of fresh air for volunteers of all ages to be able to spend time outside, building community and doing meaningful work with their hands,” said Levit. “People enjoy being out in nature on the peaceful farm, especially after all the isolation experienced with COVID-19. The mental health benefits are palpable.”

Volunteer Katya Watson loves Kindness Farm as it is “a place where we all can come together to help the community with time and skills, working together to feed our hungry neighbors.”



Photo of and by Lou Levit

bors.”

Ryan Elwood, the farm’s Chief Operating Officer, works alongside Levit to create no-dig beds, sow seeds, co-lead volunteer work parties, work on grants, help coordinate the farm’s internship programs and more. There’s much to be done.

“Lou and I both share a deep connection to the land and have a passion for empowering others and helping our communities be in relationship with the Earth,” said Elwood.

“It feels refreshing to work shoulder-to-shoulder with someone who shares this vision. I also appreciate the care that is going into the way in which the farm operates. We are actively creating a container where people can come to heal, especially now during a global pandemic and be among like-minded people who love to help because it’s the compassionate thing to do.”

“We will be gifting our produce to organizations making meals for our houseless neighbors and creating free produce boxes for our low-income neighbors,” he continued, “filling both an urgent need for more food security

in an insecure time, and injecting humanity back into our relationship with those that live around us geographically,” said Elwood.

The folks from Dirt Hugger Compost have been impressed with Kindness Farm’s ability to rally partners and enthusiasm for community farming.

“With so many starting to think about sustainable gardening, farming and our urban environments differently, it is special to see others sharing their time generously, along with experience, enthusiasm and creating access for everyone,” said Nate Fleming of Dirt Hugger.

Kindness Farm is a place for individuals to come be who they are, wherever they are on their journey; a place to come get intimately acquainted with plants, soil and the local community.

It’s a place where everyone is empowered to have a hand in cultivating and tending to the land as their own.

Information on their Earth Day event and fundraiser is on their Facebook and Instagram pages. Visit thekindnessmodel.org to support their work.

BA Business Association Notes

**Foster Area Business Association
By Jeff Lynott**

The Foster Area Business Association (FABA) recently held its Annual Meeting and elected its 2021 Board of Directors. While we missed the opportunity to meet in person and socialize, we did gather virtually and elected the volunteer Board for the upcoming year. The following Board members will help promote Foster as a place to do business, shop, eat, drink and play in the coming year: Allen Rowand, Gray Dog Digital (President); Danielle Deschenes, Living Room Realty (Secretary); Steve Woolard, Carts on Foster (Treasurer); Shawn Morgan, Law Office of Shawn Morgan (At-large) and Chris Correnti, Portland Digs Real Estate (At-large).

The last year brought many challenges to the local business community, but we’re proud of the work we accomplished on behalf of Foster area businesses. A few highlights: FABA secured grant funding to eliminate 2020 membership dues so any business could join at no cost; we used additional grant funds to support the construction of outdoor seating and/or the purchase of tents and heaters; we hosted two events to promote the district and local businesses; we’re currently working on securing more grant money to beautify Foster with planter boxes and more.

FABA is an all-volunteer organization that supports the business community along SE Foster Rd. Anybody who does business in the neighborhood is welcome to join. We are especially excited to welcome anyone who’s interested in volunteering to support events, market and promote the district, or add their own expertise to help SE Foster thrive. Find us online at fosterarea.com for more info or to get in touch.

Montavilla Mailman Transforms Streets with Dance

By MEGAN McMorris

As the world’s gears are slowly starting to turn again, it’s almost hard to imagine what things were like just one year ago – streets eerily empty; restaurants and bars shuttered; traffic nearly nonexistent and Zoom Happy Hours versus hugs.

Meanwhile, other signs of life were taking their place: sidewalk chalk; kids playing outside; teddy bears in windows; neighbors stopping to linger and chat over their fences and exuberant dogs salivating at the sudden extra time with their humans.

During a time when taking out your trash and getting your mail suddenly became a new daily highlight, a SE mailman was quickly turning into a new favorite face.

“I wave and interact with nearly everyone on my route,” says Ian Simon, 40, of his SE Portland route which includes about 600 households.

One customer in particular was already eagerly awaiting Simon’s visit every day – after all, she’s known him since she was in a highchair. Every morning, three-year-old Ava Whitlow perches herself by the window to wait for her buddy.

Their relationship started two years ago “with just a little jig,” recalls Simon. “I caught her eye as she was sitting in her high-chair eating breakfast, and I think I just waved from the window and wiggled around to make her smile, and soon enough her parents were purposefully bringing her to the window for her to wait for me, and we’ve been dancing together ever since.”

In 2020, Simon’s bond with the Whitlows’ has strengthened and made the now sheltered-in-place family even more appreciative.

“This year has been a particularly difficult time for parents when your children don’t have childcare and you’re working at home,” says Ava’s dad, David Whitlow, 38. “So it became a highlight of our day, too, to see someone else entertaining your child even if just for a minute.”

Little did anyone suspect, Simon’s audience was about to explode when David, wife Christina, 39, and a neighbor decided to film the action.

“I didn’t even realize they had been filming me and Ava, and one day David asked me if he could put up a video. I’m like ‘Yeah, sure,’ and then it just started blowing up from there,” says Simon.

The video, featuring Ava in a onesie, wiggling on the couch at the window while Simon dances in the yard, went viral in December and it wasn’t long before *Good Morning America* and *Ellen* called. Hugh Jackson and Sharon Osbourne became fans.

Simon’s Instagram page (Mailman of the Century) surpassed 10,000 followers. He’s even big in Japan...or will be soon. “It seems like every other

day, I hear about us reaching a new country,” he says.

The jig, in other words, was up. It was time to step up his game from just a wiggle here and there.

“I’m teaching myself how to shuffle dance,” Simon says, crediting his natural quick-footedness not to a dance background, but from “practically growing up on the Burnside skate park.”

He suddenly started looking at empty streets, staircases and even the grocery store aisles as his personal dance floor and has dedicated himself to improving his moves, and showing his progress on daily videos.

“It makes my day when people come up to me and say ‘Hey, I love your videos,’ because I do it to make people smile,” he says.

“And some of my followers are also learning dances, too, and I can show them my progress and encourage them.”

Simon’s favorite dancing spot is his living room, where he and son Mason, 8, perfect their latest moves.

“For the most part, he’s more interested in cartoons than in what Dad is doing on the videos, but he does love to dance with me,” he says. Dancing, he adds, has become a great bonding tool between him and Mason, who is autistic and home-schooled.

“My wife has been so great with all of this,” Simon adds.

“Ian has shown us that even in a dark time, things can be uplifting and it’s the simple things that can make your day,” says Whitlow. “And it’s not just us he’s interacting with, it’s how he is in general; we were just the ones who happened to capture it on video.”

Now even as his fame continues to grow (followers of his Instagram are angling to get him attention on *Dancing With the Stars*), don’t expect him to give up his zip code for 90210 anytime soon.

With the exception of a year in Iraq for the National Guard, Simon has primarily lived in the SE Portland region and outskirts his whole life. On his current route of SE 82nd and 94th Aves. between Yamhill and Mill Streets, where he’s worked for five and a half years, he feels most at home.

“People say, ‘you’re not going to get famous and leave us, are you?’ And I tell them, are you kidding? I could win the lottery and I’d still be working here,” he says. “I consider my customers as my family and this is my dream job.”



Khan Academy Aids Students and Teachers

By DON MacGILLIVRAY

In this period of school closures due to COVID-19, the education of children and teenagers is left to the resources of parents. Therefore many alternative learning options are being explored.

A relatively new source for at-home-learning is online programming provided by Khan Academy, grown into a surprisingly complete educational system over the last 12 years. They produce short lessons on a wide variety of subjects that include the basic classes of a K-12 education.

Khan Academy is a non-profit organization supported by contributions from foundations so there is no cost involved in using their educational programs. It’s easy to use, quite comprehensive and the price couldn’t be better. Khan Academy may be a great resource for families involved with home-schooling and they provide ways to organize teaching programs utilizing their lessons.

The Academy was created in 2008 by Sal Khan with the goal of creating a set of online lessons in the form of YouTube videos. In recent years it has been expanded to include various materials for teachers and educators to assist students either individually or in the classroom.

The curriculum has been expanded to include lessons on many subjects, they have been translated into over 36 languages, and it now offers classes for

all ages from preschool to senior citizens.

Ideal for many students that must learn at home, the advantage of learning on YouTube is that students can work at home at their own pace and repeat lessons they don’t understand.

Students are prompted to redo exercises until they gain proficiency. Each unit integrates quizzes and supplementary practice exercises and concludes with a test of the material. Students can set their own pace depending on the ease or difficulty of the material and this awards the successful student.

The videos display drawings on an electronic blackboard, which is similar to the style of a teacher giving a class presentation and the narrator describes each drawing and how it relates to the material being taught.

Parents and teachers can add individual student profiles. Adult learners can set up accounts for themselves. Throughout the lessons, users can earn rewards, which are displayed on their profiles.

When learning math, stay with it as long as necessary until you get it. Sometimes it will take several times through, but with repetition, mastery will be achieved.

Most things can be taught in this type of a framework. Some students may need some encouragement encountering difficulty

so it is useful for someone to be nearby who can offer help when needed.

Khan, a graduate of MIT and Harvard, quickly developed his online learning platform beginning in 2005 to help students learn basic educational lessons at home on their computers. It soon became the Khan Academy and has grown into a comprehensive curriculum for students in kindergarten through college.

Funded mostly by donations from philanthropic organizations, Khan Academy was designed as a supplement to in-class learning. It has the ability to improve the effectiveness of teachers by freeing them from traditional lectures and giving them more time to tend to the needs to individual students.

Teachers can use the instructional videos and integrate them into the traditional classroom settings. This allows them to assign courses within Khan Academy’s database. Teachers can track students progress as they work through the assigned tutorials and will know what students have been doing and what is giving them difficulty.

It shows which kids are doing well and which advance more slowly. Students will go at whatever pace they are able and if necessary, parents or teachers can provide any needed assistance.

Visit khanacademy.org and click “Sign Up” to get started.

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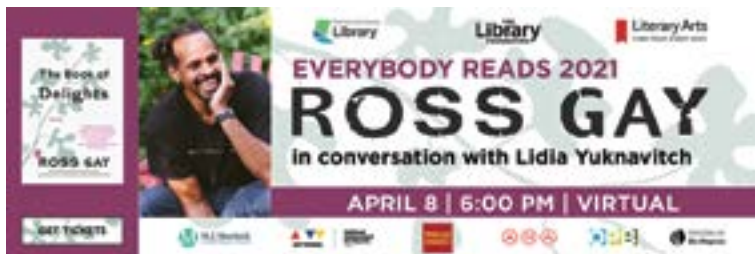
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April Events

AHC APRIL WALKING TOURS – The Architectural Heritage Center (AHC) offers walking tours in April that include Belmont-Sunnyside, Mt. Tabor neighborhoods and others. Visit bit.ly/AprilWalkingTours for more details and to register. \$12 AHC members, \$20 non-members.

LWV RESOURCES – The Portland League of Women Voters will provide a new study, *Portland Police Bureau - Oversight and Accountability*, for the community on its website, lwvpdx.org, by April 5. Mid-month they will be recording a panel discussion on the topic. By the end of April, they will add video and written information about the candidates and measures in the May 18 election.

CLIMATE CRISIS DISCUSSION – The Willamette Women Democrats host an online discussion with Meredith Connolly, Oregon Director of Climate Solutions, and Senator Jeff Golden Thursday, April 8, 4:30 pm. They will speak on Oregon’s climate crisis and outline solutions now being considered in the Legislature that serve both rural and urban Oregon. Register for the free event at w2dems.com.



EVERYBODY READS: ROSS GAY – Literary Arts presents the culminating event of their 2021 Everybody Reads with an online lecture by author Ross Gay Thursday, April 8, 6 pm. Gay’s 30-minute talk will be followed by a 40-minute interview with local bestselling author, Lidia Yuknavitch. Sliding scale event tickets at bit.ly/EverybodyReads.

AHC ONLINE BOOK TALK – The Architectural Heritage Center (AHC) hosts a virtual talk with author Rhys Scholes as he discusses his new book *Portland’s Hawthorne Boulevard* Thursday, April 8, 6:30 pm. Register at bit.ly/AHCBookTalk. Free for AHC members, \$15 non-members.

SOUTH PORTLAND EXHIBIT – The Architectural Heritage Center (AHC) will reopen its exhibit galleries to the public Saturday, April 10 with the exhibit *South Portland and the Long Shadow of Urban Renewal* on view. Also available will be exhibits on architect Howard Kable and the historic city of East Portland. More at visitahc.org.



OMSI AFTER DARK & VIRTUAL SCIENCE PUBS – OMSI is offering The Science of Clean, Safe Drinking Water Virtual Science Pub Tuesday, April 13 and Living with Volcanos in the Pacific Northwest Tuesday, April 20. Both run 6:30-8:30 pm. Mixology After Dark on Friday, April 30, 7-9 pm will take attendees through the creation of four unique cocktails or mocktails. Event details and tickets at OMSI.edu.

CASE FOR CHANGE COMPETITION – Join Time For Homes in their two-day case competition to create an actionable plan to end homelessness. The event will explore diverse solutions with teams working on one or more of the competition’s six themes, short workshops and panel discussions April 14-16. Registrations for teams interested in competing is Monday, April 12. Full details at bit.ly/CaseForChange2021.



FOOD SYSTEMS VIRTUAL EVENT – The Portland Fruit Tree Project presents a virtual happy hour event with anti-hunger and sustainability aficionado Andrew Fisher and Susannah Morgan, CEO of the Oregon Food Bank. With one in four Oregonians facing food insecurity and plenty of food for everyone, what continues to be the disconnect? Register for the Thursday, April 15, 6-7 pm event at bit.ly/PFTPAPril15.

April 15 Tax Deadline Extended

Both the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and the State of Oregon have extended the tax filing and payment due dates for individuals from April 15 to May 17, 2021.

The move is part of the American Rescue Plan and it aims to give already-strained Americans flexibility to file their 2020 taxes.

“This continues to be a tough time for many people, and the IRS wants to continue to do everything possible to help taxpayers navigate the unusual circumstances related to the pandemic, while also working on important tax administration responsibilities,” said IRS Commissioner Chuck Rettig.

“Even with the new deadline, we urge taxpayers to con-



sider filing as soon as possible, especially those who are owed refunds. Filing electronically with direct deposit is the quickest way to get refunds, and it can help some taxpayers more quickly receive any remaining stimulus payments they may be entitled to.”

Individual taxpayers do

not need to file any forms or call the IRS or the State of Oregon to qualify. Taxpayers should pay their taxes by May 17 to avoid interest and penalties.

The IRS urges taxpayers who are due a refund to file as soon as possible. Most tax refunds associated with e-filed returns are issued within 21 days.

Weatherization Home Upgrades

The Multnomah County Weatherization program offers low-income homeowners home upgrades at no cost.

The goal is to provide safer, more energy efficient and more comfortable environs in addition to reducing utility costs 25-40 percent and adding thousands of dollars worth of value to the homeowner.

This federally-funded program works with local contractors to upgrade eligible applicants for renovations such as insulating attics; repairing/replacing heat-

ing systems and old plumbing; air and duct sealing; and replacing windows and patio doors.

To qualify for the program, a household’s income must be at or below 200 percent of Federal Poverty Level. For a household of four, that translates to \$52,400 annually or \$4,366 monthly.

Qualifying residents who live in an apartment building are encouraged to have their property owner apply.

“It’s truly a win-win situation,” said Gary Walsworth, a County Weatherization specialist.

“Homeowners get safer, healthier and more affordable homes, and it helps make Multnomah County more environmentally friendly. We are literally giving homeowners a home upgrade at no cost to them.”

Visit multco.us/dchs/weatherization to fill out a Weatherization Program Pre-Screen Form to determine what services one is eligible for..

For program participants or for additional questions, call 503.988.7423 or email weatherization.team@multco.us.

AHC Volunteer Opportunities

The Architectural Heritage Center (AHC) is currently seeking volunteers to serve on four committees: DEAI Committee, Advocacy Committee, Collections Committee and Education Committee.

The new Diversity, Equity, Accessibility, and Inclusion (DEAI) Committee is tasked with helping achieve the goals of the organization’s strategic plan to integrate and elevate principles of equity and inclusion throughout the organization. The ad hoc committee which will operate for approximately one year.

The Advocacy Committee

supports a unique sense of place in Portland and takes public positions on vital matters in preservation supporting the past, present and future of Portland and its communities.

Committee members attend monthly meetings, research current issues in preservation, raise community awareness of issues, assist with outreach to local leaders, deliver written or oral testimony on policies and serve as AHC representatives on issue-based external committees convened by local, county and state bodies.

The Collections Committee

reviews and makes collections management policy and deaccession recommendations, assists with artifact, library and archival inventory, cataloging, storage and other hands-on collection related projects.

The Education Committee assists program staff with an extensive roster of public programs and tours focused on Portland area architecture, history and culture.

For details about the committees, including any background/experience needed, and to sign up, visit visitahc.org/volunteer-opportunities.

OMHOF Accepting Scholarship Applications

The Oregon Music Hall of Fame (OMHOF) is currently accepting applications for their college scholarship program through May 15, 2021.

Each applicant should be a student studying music, graduating in spring 2021 from an Oregon High School and continuing to college in fall 2021 with a major or minor in music.

OMHOF strives to inspire continuing higher musical education by offering assistance with college expenses so music students may aspire to a higher level of performance and success in their field of interest.

For the last eight years, contributions from EPB&B have allowed OMHOF to provide four scholarships. This year, the

scholarships have increased from \$1,000 to \$2,500 each.

See omhof.org/music-education-scholarships for the application. Completed applications and required supplemental information are accepted by US Mail only; online submissions are not accepted.

Questions? Contact Janeen Rundle at Janeen@omhof.org.



Community News

Excellence in Education Nominations Open

OnPoint Community Credit Union's nomination process for Excellence in Education Campaign is open through Tuesday, April 13.

Anyone can nominate an educator in a full-time or job-share teacher, counselor or librarian for grades K-12 in an accredited public, private or charter school located within any county that OnPoint serves. Educators may nominate themselves.

The Educator of the Year grand prize has expanded to three educators for 2021 and will pay each recipient's rent or mortgage for a full year and have \$2,500

donated to their school.

Three finalists, one teacher from each of elementary (K-5), middle (6-8) and high school (9-12) will receive a \$5,000 cash award and have \$1,500 donated to their school.

There will be five Community Builder Awards given to special school projects that need financial support as selected by community votes. Awardees and finalists will be announced May 11.

"We are always inspired by educators in our community, but the innovation and commitment we've seen throughout the

pandemic has surpassed expectations," said Rob Stuart, President and Chief Executive Officer, OnPoint Community Credit Union.

"Now more than ever, we're called to help lift up our teachers, celebrating their efforts to educate and engage our young people through the challenges of this past year. I invite our community to nominate educators who are sparking enthusiasm and passion in students, parents and their communities."

Information about the Excellence in Education and Community Builders Awards is available at onpointprize.com.

April Events

BRIDGE REPLACEMENT MEETINGS – Three public meetings will take place relating to the bi-state Interstate Bridge Replacement program. The Equity Advisory Group meets Monday, April 19, 5:30-7:30 pm, the Community Advisory Group meets Wednesday, April 28, 4-6 pm and the Executive Steering Group meets Thursday, April 29, 8-10 am. All meetings will be held virtually. More details at bit.ly/BridgeMeetings.



GREEN DREAMS: RE-IMAGING PORTLAND – The Portland Parks Foundation, Regional Arts & Culture Council, Portland Art Museum, Converge 45 and Urbanism Next invite you to participate in the next series of programs with leading voices on creating more just, inclusive and creative spaces. The Tuesday, April 20 Zoom event with Paul Farber of Monument Lab starts at 12 pm. Register at bit.ly/GreenDreamsApril20.

AOR VIRTUAL SILENT AUCTION – Starting at 7 am Wednesday, April 21 (the eve of Earth Day), the Association of Oregon Recyclers (AOR) will host an online silent auction to raise funds to support their work, shop the goods, make bids or make a donation at 32auctions.com/AORSilentAuction2021.

EARTH DAY – Thursday, April 22 is Earth Day. The first Earth Day was in 1970 and gave a voice to an emerging public consciousness about the state of the planet. It went global in 1990 and has become the largest secular observance in the world. Visit earthday.org or Google "Earth Day 2021 Oregon" for more.



#VIRTUALANDIA! 2021 – Literary Arts' youth poetry slam competitions, Verselandia! and East Side Slam! are combining forces to take place in an online event Thursday, April 29, 5:30-7 pm. Students from local public high schools will compete in a powerful community moment to reaffirm that young people's voices matter. Tickets on a sliding scale basis are available at bit.ly/Virtualandia2021.



STRIDE FOR SENIORS – Mark your calendars for Meals on Wheels' 4th annual Stride for Seniors event Saturday, April 24, 9 am-4 pm. Teams and individual walkers can pick up t-shirts, walker kits and a free breakfast at any of the four walker drive-through kiosks in the metro area. Pick one of their adventure trail walks to follow and see a live afternoon program online. Register at mowp.org/events/stride-for-seniors.

LAURELHURST TWO-PART WORKSHOP – Laurelhurst Neighborhood Association will present a two-part, in-person workshop on implicit bias and institutionalized oppression by Dr. James Mason. Session 1: Sunday, May 23, Session 2: Sunday, June 6. Both sessions are 1-5 pm and held at the Laurelhurst Club, 3721 SE Ankeny St. Visit laurelhurstworkshops.eventbrite.com for details and to register.

Have an event coming up the public needs to know about? Send your Community News announcements to examiner@seportland.news by the 15th of the month.

OMSI Reopens for Time-Ticketed Visits

In mid-March OMSI announced that it would be reopening in time for Oregon spring break and would continue operations Tuesdays-Sundays, 10 am-5:30 pm.

Visitors can experience *Dinosaurs Revealed*, the Natural Science Hall, Empirical Theater and Kendall Planetarium shows, tour the USS Blueback Submarine and enjoy refreshments and snacks from the Empirical Café.

Dinosaurs Revealed takes visitors on a journey back 250 million years to prehistoric North America. Get up close and personal with life-sized dinosaurs, two, detailed dinosaur cast fossils and more.

The Empirical Theater, with its giant screen, ventures through jungles and oceans while teaching about animals like dinosaurs, sharks, dogs, crocodiles and more.

In the Kendall Planetarium one can find constellations in the night sky, travel to the moon with Big Bird, experience the creation of the Milky Way Galaxy and more. Most shows are offered multiple times daily.

The 45-minute tour of the USS Blueback, the US Navy's last active duty diesel-electric submarine, is a fascinating look



at this 219-foot vessel full of marvelous period artifacts.

Tours are limited to six guests per tour, guests need to be three years of age or older and to facilitate tour operations, OMSI requests that individuals interested in purchasing only a single tour admission do so upon their arrival to OMSI.

Capacity limitations and timed ticketing have been implemented throughout the museum and OMSI strongly recommends purchasing tickets and parking online at omsi.edu or by calling 503.797.4000 prior to visiting.

Guest parties may not exceed six people and those age five or older are required to wear a face covering over their nose and

mouth unless an accommodation for people with disabilities or other exemption applies.

To further facilitate the safety of visitors, OMSI is taking the following steps:

- Additional hand sanitizer dispensers have been installed in key contact areas.

- All hands-on exhibition components have been removed or turned off. Enhanced cleaning protocols are in place with use of an EPA-registered disinfectant that is active against coronaviruses.

- Frequently touched surfaces will be cleaned, sanitized and disinfected multiple times daily.

See OMSI.edu for more.

Library Writers Project Submissions Open

The Multnomah County Library (MCL) is currently accepting submissions for the Library Writers Project.

Now in its sixth year, the program has expanded eligible submission types to include a broader range of diverse voices and subjects.

The Project showcases and supports local writers and bolsters the library's collection of self-published e-book titles.

Through Friday, April 30, authors who hold a Multnomah County Library card may submit original works for consideration at multcolib.org/library-writers-project.

Submissions of any length, are encouraged, in any genre fiction or non-fiction, and focusing on a place in the Pacific Northwest that sparks the writer's creativity.

Authors must publish their works through one of three self-publishing platforms: Smashwords, Draft2Digital or Kobo Writing Life and fill out a submission form telling reviewers about the work. English and Spanish submissions will be accepted.

"Since its inception, the Library Writers Project has been a successful way to highlight and support local writers while expanding the library's e-book col-

lection," said Electronic Content Librarian Kady Ferris.

"Our goal in expanding submissions to include more types of stories is to promote access to more local writing from non-dominant cultures, including offerings from local Spanish-language writers to better reflect the diverse voices in our community."

MCL will purchase a copy of submissions and library staff members will review them. Selected books will be added to the e-book collection on the OverDrive platform and Libby app.

See multcolib.org/library-writers-project for more.

Boys & Girls Aid Fosters Futures

By ELLEN SPITALERI

The pandemic is not the only crisis in Oregon right now. Unfortunately there are nearly 8,000 children in foster care and the spread of COVID-19 has made some families more hesitant to take in children.

Fortunately, there is an organization working to ensure the safety of families and children when making placements during this time, said Ellie Randall, outreach coordinator for Boys & Girls Aid, a 135-year-old non-profit dedicated to making sure that every child has a safe and caring place to call home.

Randall encourages anyone interested in learning more about the organization to attend Fostering Futures, a virtual fundraising event, Thursday, April 8, 6-6:30 pm.

“The purpose of the event is to raise funds for local foster youth in the Portland area, and to demonstrate the impact of positive foster care experiences for youth and families,” she said. “There will be speakers at the event, including a special surprise celebrity guest.”

For more about the event, register at fosteringfutures.rally-bound.org.

Boys & Girls Aid was founded in 1885, in response to a crisis: children were being aban-

doned on the streets of Portland with nowhere to go. The agency found homes for these children and is still seeking foster families for children today in Washington, Multnomah and Clackamas counties.

“Children need homes of refuge just as much now as they ever have and we can’t afford to turn them away during this critical time,” Randall said.

She noted that Boys & Girls Aid receives referrals from the Oregon Department of Human Services and the juvenile justice system.

“Children who are in foster care and need additional support and services are referred to us. We provide specialized training for our parents and regular staff support for children throughout the week,” she added.

Boys & Girls Aid provides substantial tax-free monthly stipends that relieve parents of the financial commitment of fostering. Additionally, there are a variety of foster care programs allowing people to foster even when they work full-time or don’t have a partner to foster with.

“Our staff and programs also work with families on an individual basis to arrange a schedule that will best support their family and the child that is in

their care,” Randall said.

“Parents may worry that they are unable to take care of children who display difficult behaviors because of the trauma they’ve experienced. However, we provide comprehensive training to make sure parents are well equipped to support children from all backgrounds,” she said.

In the event that a challenging situation arises, the organization has a 24/7 support hotline that allows parents to access assistance from staff on the phone or in-person.

In the interest of safety, Randall said each adult who wants to foster a child undergoes local, state and federal background checks.

“Therapeutic foster care comes with its challenges, but it is truly one of the most worthwhile and rewarding experiences to be a part of,” Randall said.

For an example, she described the journey Natalie and David Shin embarked upon when they decided to foster a teen who was faced with the possibility of aging out of care.

The couple went through the required training, and while waiting for a placement, they provided relief care for a 17-year-old named Tyler.

“When his circumstances



changed, and he needed a new home, the Shins jumped at the chance to support him,” Randall continued.

“It wasn’t easy, Tyler had been through so much in his life and was navigating the complex systems of foster care and juvenile justice. It took a lot of patience, grace, empathy and love, but the Shins were able to help Tyler get accepted into a transitional program where he would be offered housing support and job coaching,” Randall said.

“This was exactly what Tyler needed to ensure he didn’t fall through the cracks in the state system and end up on the streets.

Tyler wouldn’t be where he is today without the encouragement and support from David and Natalie,” she said.

“Children in Oregon’s foster care system are longing to find safe homes and supportive adult mentors,” she added. “Anyone over the age of 21 with room in their heart and home should consider whether foster parenting could fit into their life.”

Interested in becoming a foster parent? Visit boysandgirlsaid.org/fostercare, contact Katie Matten at kmatten@boysandgirlsaid.org or call 503.222.9661.

Ethics of Vaccine Allocation

from page 1

Oregon Eugenics Board that forcibly sterilized more than 2,600 prisoners, orphans and patients in mental institutions and wards of the state between 1917 and 1981. During the polio epidemic, the Cutter vaccine from a lab in California actually gave some children polio.

The messaging matters, Dr. Schmidt said, and it will be necessary to do more outreach and education. Facts about the vaccine will give each individual the information to make the right decision about what is best for them and to consider the greater good.

The ethical matter in question is whether the Supreme

Court would rule on vaccine distribution based on what is referred to as “reverse discrimination” where policy deliberately favors people of color. It is more likely they would rule in favor of an Area Deprivation Index (ADI) to prioritize populations based on factors like geography, socioeconomic status and housing density that would in de facto favor racial minorities.

Governor Brown has stated that vaccine will be open to all on May 1, but the general population may still face delays as Oregon officials plan to allocate doses in a targeted way to reach the most vulnerable groups.

Inner SE Action Panel Meets

from page 1

cus more on middle density housing, the housing type existing between apartments and single family residences saying, “There is a market for these types of housing and a job creator for smaller builders.”

Jordan mentioned the need for subsidies to builders in order to economically support the creation of affordable housing. “You can’t expect a city to solve issues that a builder could,” he said.

Discussion continued regarding how Portland was able to eliminate its exclusionary zoning (no longer having zones exclusively for single family houses). The consensus was that density

advocates swayed the city to adopt the changes.

In reality, the changes would have come about with the adoption of HB2001 by the State Legislature. However, Portland’s RIP program was intended to comply with that.

Kovac said that system is closer to what Oregon’s State-wide Housing Goal calls for and is a better system than what is now in WA and CA.

Jordan offered that parking advocates were also heavily involved in lobbying for RIP. The addition of onsite parking is a high cost for builders and tends to take away from affordability.

Heller concurred and stated that short of building smaller units, the only way to realistically provide affordability is to include subsidies and/or incentives to builders. He concluded stating: “Zoning codes can reflect political aims, but not address market realities.”

The question was asked, “Will people still bring their cars?” Jordan stated there was a study which showed around 70 percent of apartment dwellers still have cars. This correlated with a 2012 study by the Portland

continued on page 9



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Business Walkabout

Ritual Dyes

BY ELLEN SPITALERI

Even with the advent of vaccinations, COVID-19 is still with us and pandemic depression is a real thing.

Rachel Bratcher knows one sure way to combat that: using your hands to create something beautiful and useful. If the raw materials for crafting are free and readily available, that is a win-win situation.

Bratcher is the owner of Ritual Dyes, a yarn and fabric shop at 1117 SE Division St. and when pandemic restrictions began a year ago, she set up the Free Fiber Library outside the store, with the idea of helping new crafters get started.

The idea was to keep the box full of free yarn, crochet hooks, knitting needles and instruction books. People were encouraged to take what they wanted and to bring finished products to put in the box for give-away.

“We had learned of the idea from another yarn shop – Wild Hand in Philadelphia – and I instantly wanted to make one for Portland,” Bratcher said. “I know that knitting, and making in general, lowers my anxiety and it felt like a good thing to share with our community, especially during this time.”

She added that she hoped the community would appreciate

an opportunity to try fiber crafts without having to make a financial investment.

“We thought we would have to keep it filled, but I had no idea how incredibly self-sufficient it would be. People take things and leave things every single day and it’s so inspiring to see,” Bratcher said.

In addition to yarn and maker tools, she has seen completed handmade garments, like hats and shawls, and incomplete items for people to finish.

Chelsea Slaven-Davis lives in the neighborhood and said she and her children visit the Free Fiber Library often, leaving extra knitting needles and skeins of yarn.

“My kids are also big knitters and love having a project going. This was especially helpful during the holiday season in December, when they were making gifts for family and friends,” she said.

It is important for the community to support the Free Fiber Library, Slaven-Davis said, because there are therapeutic benefits to handwork.

“In a time when we’re all staying home more than usual, it’s so helpful to have some sort of creative activity to keep our hands and minds engaged; to see

progress in something when everything feels so stagnant.”

“Crafts like knitting and crochet require very little in materials to get started and having access to those materials in a community fiber box means that truly anyone can participate, regardless of financial resources,” Slaven-Davis said.

“Rachel has done such a beautiful job creating a space that is welcoming and warm in Ritual Dyes,” she added. “The Free Fiber Library feels like the perfect extension of her shop, but always open and full of surprises.”

With the coming of the pandemic, Bratcher noted that the shop’s business model changed.

Previously, she had used the space as the business’ office and to dye yarn, and only opened up as a retail shop to the public for the first time about a year ago. Since that time, she has seen more people experiment with and give more time to hand-made crafts during the pandemic.

“It has given us an opportunity to meet the needs of our community and we were so excited to see how many crafty neighbors we have,” Bratcher said.

Ritual Dyes is open 12-5 pm Wednesday and Thursday and 12-6 pm Friday and Saturday. Only a few people are allowed in



Photo by Kris McDowell

the shop at a time, everyone sanitizes their hands and air filtration runs constantly.

“We offer contactless curb side pick-up too, which has helped get materials into makers’ hands,” Bratcher noted.

The shop is stocked with yarn from independent dyers as well as hand-dyed yarn made on-site at Ritual Dyes. Other items include fabric and patterns for sewers, and materials for punch-needle, embroidery and crochet

projects.

“We have a line of project bags, namely the Knitter’s Backpack which is produced around the corner with our friends at Spooltown,” Bratcher said.

“We are so grateful to our customers and vendors for making this a true community space.”

Ritual Dyes
1117 SE Division St.
ritualdyes.com
503.206.5616

Inner SE Action Panel Meets

from page 8

Bureau of Planning and Sustainability (BPS) which was updated in 2019.

This means apartment dwellers park on neighborhood streets because of the lack of parking where they live; a Catch 22, as the addition of parking for apartments reduces the number of units for the site, creating higher unit costs.

Jordan went on to state that the city needs to provide full service transportation options, including the better management of curb space. This ultimately may result in the city initiating more parking permit programs in residential areas which had never experienced parking problems before now.

Due to a lack of time the panel was not able to address the full extent of the topic. In real-

ity, it is likely too early to discuss successes and the lessons learned from RIP given that it has only been in effect since August 2020.

“The bulk of the changes, including rezones, new overlay zones, increased options for housing and limits on building scale are slated to go into effect on August 1, 2021,” according to Project Updates provided by the BPS.

The panel agreed the adopted version of RIP still hasn’t addressed many questions citizens have raised including displacement due to gentrification, purchase options for renters and the need for better identification of neighborhood disparities. Additional discussion on this topic is anticipated.

For more on ISA, visit InnerSoutheastAction.org.

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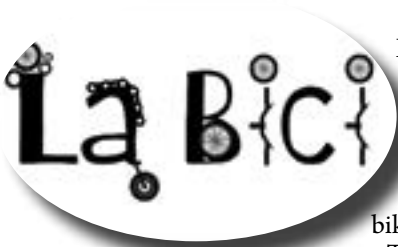
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Go Staying In



Teatro Milagro announces La Bici, an episodic video play series focusing on bike safety as it relates to technology, community, infrastructure, accessibility, environmentalism, art, camping, road tripping, altars and ghost bikes.

Togetherhness and freedom links the individual episodes, along with one bike - La Bici - an old City Bike that will be repurposed, reimagined and reused along the way. Each episode carries the same themes and central character, but will all be independent, stand-alone stories, poems or songs.

La Bici will be filmed on the streets of Portland and utilize local bike businesses and Milagro is planning a series of themed bike rides to further the development of the project through the spring months.

Adhering to COVID safety measures, the first group bike ride will be Sunday, May 9 for Mother's Day; a short ride through routes like the new East Side Green Loop to visit local businesses and to learn how their business relates to bicycles and bike safety.

Interested in being a part of this project? Milagro is accepting stories, poems, drawings and songs around the idea of La Bici; good stories that can be performed in any number of mediums. Compensation of \$25 will go to selected stories. Submit video ideas to malan@milagro.org by

Artichoke Live Music Returns with Sonny Hess and RCF



Sonny Hess photo by Ilan Laks

This month, Artichoke Music heralds its return to live music (at 50 percent capacity in accordance with the statewide mandate). Livestreams will continue as well. All event info and tickets are at artichokemusic.org.

Wednesday, April 7, 7 pm – The monthly Cascade Blues Association livestream features Jody Carroll, fingerstyle and slide guitar slinger and soulful singer. Presented online on **Artichoke Music's Facebook Live**.

Sunday, April 18, 7 pm – The first live, ticketed event of this year featuring the Sonny Hess Trio. Limited seating and tickets sold by the table.

Known for her dynamic guitar playing, songwriting and powerful vocals, Hess appears with her trio. She is part of the NW Women Rhythm & Blues and has played her blues in Oregon for nearly three decades. See sonnyhess.com.

Saturday, April 17, 2 pm – The April River City Folk radio show taping features Brooks Hill (Cindy Lou Banks, Brad Price and Donny Wright) with eloquent, nuanced and original Americana. They were the first group to be cancelled at Artichoke when the pandemic began last year. See brookshill.com

NACUSA 2021: New Music Festival

Cascadia Composers, the Northwest chapter of the National Association of Composers USA (NACUSA), hosts the Association's biennial six day conference in partnership with Lewis & Clark College held virtually for the first time in its 87 year history from April 17-May 2. It's all free to the public online (donations are encouraged).

Featured Northwest performances are by Friends of Rain, Evergreen Experimental Music Ensemble, members of the Portland Percussion Group, and ensembles from across the country that include The Crossing, Sam Houston State University Symphony Orchestra, Texas Christian University Concert Chorale, Pacific University Chamber Singers, Duo Stephanie and Saar, American Wild Ensemble, members of the International Contemporary Ensemble (ICE) and members of the Ensemble Dal Niente showcasing the music of a dozen local composers, along with two dozen other composers from around the US.

All events are free on the Cascadia Composers YouTube Channel. The schedule and concert and presentation links are at tinyurl.com/NACUSA21.

SIDESTREET ARTS PRESENTS

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encaustics

Shelly Fredenberg:
ceramic sculpture

March 31 - May 2, 2021

140 SE 28th Ave., Portland 503 327 8064
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arts & entertainment



Toward Space+ Wonder

Jeannine Shinoda is a Portland artist, architect, chef and the owner of Omakase-Ya, a food project inspired by delight, her mixed Asian heritage, memories, foraging and travel.

Agenda Gallery, 4505 SE Belmont St., is hosting a show of Shinoda's new visual work, **Toward Space + Wonder**, April 10–May 8.

The gallery calls it “a celebration of the gap between the idea and its manifestation / The emptying of expectation in order to create physical, mental and emotional space / Exploring what it means to bring the external experience of expansiveness inward.”

Shinoda writes: “I’m approaching the process of this show in a very different way than my past work which has been very concept and product oriented... as an opportunity to delve into my creative process using my curiosity as a guide towards something unknown... It’s a daily practice towards trust, compassion, joy and curiosity.”

The Artist Reception will be held Saturday, April 10, 3-6 pm by appointment with on-line sign up at tinyurl.com/AgendaShinoda.

See jeannineshinoda.com and agenda-pdx.com.



Photo by Deb Stoner

visual artists, Deb Stoner and Marilyn Zornado.

This virtual concert is presented online Saturday, April 17, 7 pm and reservations are required for the link.

Register at inmulieribus.org.

PWNW April Happy Hour



Stephanie Lavon Trotter

Performance Works Northwest Happy Hour returns Thursday, April 15, 5 pm featuring work by Stephanie Lavon Trotter and IXNAY.

Trotter is an electro-acoustic vocal-instrument, composer, improviser performer who has been dismantling her formal training in Western classical composition and operatic performance since 2009. Her work investigates Voice, Body, Desire, Death and Power and she will share from her improvisations, somatic revelations and a score for the audience to play along with. See stephanielavontrotter.com.

IXNAY is the performance project of Maxx Katz and John Niekrasz. Using sound, video and action, they make patterns for the third brain. Evidence of care, chaos on vacation, work and leisure, surfing undifferentiated space on veins of connective energy, they are debuting *Participatory Flow State Tour #3*. Katz is a multi-instrumentalist and classically trained flutist who explores vocals while Niekrasz uses sound, language and performance struggling with poverty and ornament, rigor and effortlessness, justice and militancy.

RSVP – You must register by 3 pm day of show to get the Zoom link. Tickets are sliding scale \$1-\$30. ASL interpretation is by Jme James Antonick. See PWNW-PDX.org.

The Oregon Symphony Gala 2021: The Music Plays On is a live concert event hosted by Scott Showalter and the Oregon Symphony musicians, to honor Carlos Kalmar in his 18th and final season as Music Director.

Join the Symphony for a free, livestreamed concert event packed with performances from Oregon Symphony musicians, guest artists and friends, all celebrating Jean Vollum Music Director Carlos Kalmar honoring his 18-year tenure at the podium. Guests include Andy Akiho, Emanuel Ax, Joshua Bell, Sarah Kwak, Wynton Marsalis, Pink Martini, Chris Thile, Elina Vähälä, Edna Vazquez and so many others.

Save the date: Saturday, April 17, 7:30 pm.

The concert streams at orsymphony.org/gala.



Kalmar photo by Leah Nash

Working Women Sing!



Mary Rose

Local musicians are honoring women's activism past and present with exuberant songs on May Day, May 1, beginning at 2 pm where, this last year, a group of women have been singing and playing music, on the porch at 1904 SE Alder St.

Organizer Mary Rose has written many songs and is a beloved folk legend. Her 1981 album, **Womansong**, is still a classic Northwest treasure and a rare find. She performs “Feminist Folk”

music and is known for songs such as Oregon Rain, Watch Out for Me, I'm My Own Woman Now and Real Gone Mama.

Rose has celebrated Women's History in March for 10+ years, usually at a library, but due to the pandemic, the celebration moved to the porch last year.

Four groups will perform songs by Malvina Reynolds, Holly Near, Buffy St. Marie, Kate Wolf and other folk icons. The groups are **Beyond Little Boxes** (James Cook, Mark Loving and Jen Dynes); **The Mary Janes** (Jane Keefer and Mary Rose); **The Quaren Tinas** (Jory Aronson and Jen Dynes); and the marimba and pan pipes of **Lynette Yetter**.

All ages are welcome, passersby too. Masks and social distancing required. For information, phone 503.230.2835.

The Clinton Street Theater

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The Soldier's Tale

Portland Columbia Symphony presents a livestream of Igor Stravinsky's *Soldier's Tale*, Saturday, April 17, 7 pm. The concert features local musicians in innovative, Covid-safe environments and is a ticketed online presentation.

Stravinsky's theater piece is directed by Steven Byess onstage at Disjecta Art Center. The Russian folk tale tells of a soldier who trades his fiddle to the devil for a lifetime of riches.

Scored for clarinet, bassoon, cornet, trombone, violin, double bass and percussion, the musicians are joined by actor and singer Vin Shambry as the Soldier; classical radio broadcasting legend Robert McBride as the Devil; and actor and director Stephanie Cordell as the narrator.

Tickets are \$15 per household at pcsymphony.org.

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Staying In

arts & entertainment

Free Imago Mime Lessons Online

Imago Theatre is offering families and schools free online short theatre games. Designed for K-6th students, these two to three minute short videos give viewers the chance to have fun learning mime.

Written and directed by Imago's Artistic Co-Director Carol Triffle and featuring Imago performers, each video presents a theatre lesson such as "making a ball come to life without the use of props" or how to "change your body to become anything in the universe."

A perfect quick break from study to get a little theatre and physical activity into your life, the videos are designed for adults to watch with younger students and for older students (4th-6th grade) to enjoy on their own. Use the videos at home or in classes. One sign up and you'll have access to them for over a year. For educators, teachers and parents, a printable, PDF study guide will be provided to you by email.

There are 15 videos available beginning April 15, all free to watch and available through June 2022. Email imagotheatre@gmail.com to request the link and your password. See imagotheatre.com.

Do The Time Warp Again

One of the oldest continuously operating movie houses in the USA is right here in Portland. It's the century old Clinton Street Theater, 2522 SE Clinton St., and it is getting ready to reopen its doors again after more than a year of being shuttered.

Saturday, April 3 – The Rocky Horror Picture Show returns to the screen to kick off the new *Be It Yourself Shows* for a maximum of 50 people, (half the 50 percent capacity currently allowed). Nathan emcees the festivities.

Wear your masks and stay six feet away from folks not in your bubble. Tickets must be purchased in advance (*not* at the door) at bit.ly/31rVnFg.

COVID guidelines require Clinton Street to close at 11 pm, so doors will open at 8 pm. Pre-show is at 8:30 pm and RHPS begins at 9 pm. Beer, wine and hard cider will be available for 21+. No concessions, but snacks are welcome.

Also at CST this month: private rentals for up to 12 people. You and 11 of your very best bubble-bubbly friends can enjoy a two hour flick on the big screen for \$100/per hour (about \$16.50 each).

Email info@cstpd.com or visit the website. There's a current list of The Clinton's latest streaming films too. Stream a movie and CST gets a portion of your ticket price – CSTpd.com.



Present Tense, an installation by SE Portland sailor and artist Bruce Bateau, is on display at the Lincoln Street Kayak & Canoe Museum, 5340 SE Lincoln St. from April 3-31.

Bateau has been seeking communion with salt water since his early college surfing days and for the last decade, he has explored the Salish Sea in Row Bird, his 18-foot wooden boat.

A columnist for boating magazine, *48 North*, and a contributing writer at *Small Boats Monthly* and *Small Craft Advisor*, Bateau uses writing and art to document his adventures on the Salish as well as the Columbia and Willamette rivers.

Inspired by a six-week solo sailing voyage through Canada's Inside Passage, the display is a reflection in words and art on both the literal and interior journeys he undertook – as well as on our collective journey through the pandemic.

Bateau works in watercolors, collage, dioramas and words, using stories and images to recreate scenes and experiences from his journey – from the threat of an unexpected storm, to the quiet moments of awe at an unfolding landscape.

The entire exhibit is COVID-safe and designed to be viewed from the sidewalk outside the museum.

His stories are engaging and entertaining too. His very active blog is at terrapintales.wordpress.com.

Bateau can be reached at bruce.boat.blog@gmail.com.



"Solo Rower"

April Art Alive

Shelly Fredenberg and Michele Sabatier are Sidestreet Arts' featured artists for April. The show is up through May 2 and both artists are nature inspired – a perfect show for this burgeoning spring!

Fredenberg's ceramic sculpture is bold and rooted in the clay tradition of utility and function. Her latest work explores fragility and strength, and implores growth and decay, action and reaction. The new pieces speak of the sea as in Tide Vessel (right), a smooth white circular bowl holds a teal green ocean inside. Prickly urchin-like spikes poke up along the edges as a living tide pool.



Sabatier's memories of natural landscapes guide her art with vivid recollections of places, people, time and history. Her encaustic paintings (left) are made with pigmented beeswax, juxtaposing the dark power of



nature with bright billowing clouds.

The monthly online Artist Talk is Sunday, April 11, Noon-1 pm and both artists talk from their art studios. Find out what they do and how they do it. The Zoom meeting ID and password are at their website, sidestreetarts.com. Gallery hours are Thursday-Sunday, Noon-5 pm.

Sidestreet Arts is at 140 SE 28th Ave. 503.327.8064



Parker Quartet in Concert

Chamber Music Northwest (CMNW) presents the Grammy award-winning string ensemble, Parker Quartet, Saturday, April 24, 7 pm, and available for streaming through Saturday, May 1. The Quartet will perform Thomas Adès' *Arcadiana* and Beethoven's *Opus 132 String Quartet* recorded at the acoustically superb Mechanics Hall in Worcester, Massachusetts.

Luminous sound and exceptional musicianship are the hallmarks of the Quartet. The group is Daniel Chong, violin; Ken Hamao, violin; Jessica Bodner, viola; and Kee-Hyun Kim, cello. It has distinguished itself as one of the preeminent ensembles of its generation.

In connection, CMNW will livestream *Song of Thanksgiving – The Interior World of the String Quartet* with Ara Guzelimian, free, Tuesday, April 20 at 6 pm. Guzelimian will explore how Beethoven and Adès, along with Haydn, employed the string quartet medium as a vehicle for personal expression. The show is moderated by Co-Artistic Director Soovin Kim.

Tickets are \$20 at tinyurl.com/ParkerQuartet. See CMNW.org for more.



"Rachel Brice" by Holly Wilmeth

Pushdot Gallery hosts a show of Holly Wilmeth's new works called **Sacred Nature**. It is a visual and written journey about plants, rooted in her belief that healing ourselves and our planet occurs through reclaiming an intuitive connection to ourselves, the natural world, and to our own "inner wild."

Wilmeth's images embody elements of nature, mysticism, and spirituality. Drawing inspiration from ancient mythologies, symbolism, diverse cultures and a deep spiritual practice, her images are a personal interpretation of her life's sacred dance. More at hollywilmeth.com.

Pushdot is at 2505 SE 11th Ave. Suite 104 in the Ford Building. Gallery hours are Monday-Friday, 8:30 am-5 pm.

The show runs through May 28. pushdotstudio.com.



"Storm Box" magazine, 48 North, and a contributing writer at Small Boats Monthly and Small Craft Advisor, Bateau uses writing and art to document his adventures on the Salish as well as the Columbia and Willamette rivers.

Inspired by a six-week solo sailing voyage through Canada's Inside Passage, the display is a reflection in words and art on both the literal and interior journeys he undertook – as well as on our collective journey through the pandemic.

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His stories are engaging and entertaining too. His very active blog is at terrapintales.wordpress.com.

Bateau can be reached at bruce.boat.blog@gmail.com.



"Solo Rower"

Tell your SE neighbors about your Arts events, livestreams and presentations. Send press releases and images by the 20th of the month to: examiner@seportland.news



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Wellness Word

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

Are Hemp and CBD Worth the Hype?

Since the passing of the Farm Bill in 2018, which legalized hemp and hemp products, the CBD industry has exploded onto the market, with sales expected to reach upwards of \$2 billion by 2022.

As a result, the market is flooded with CBD products in every shape and form, from tinctures to gummies, chocolates and sodas.

Although this feels like such a new fad (in many ways it is), hemp is also a historic remedy and medicine which can be traced back thousands of years to ancient China. For example, around the turn of the 20th century, hemp was the #1 prescribed remedy for migraine.

Why hemp was swept up with marijuana and prohibited for the majority of the 21st century defies logic. Luckily, scientists and researchers continued studying cannabis and hemp in the intervening years, and for that reason, we have a much better understanding of how these herbs interact with our body.

In 1992, while investigating the effects and interaction between our body and THC, researchers discovered our endocannabinoid system (ECS). To

say it was revolutionary is not an understatement. This discovery is akin to learning about neurotransmitters like serotonin and melatonin, or the numerous cells that comprise our immune system.

What is even more fascinating is that our ECS is intertwined with literally every other system in the human body. Its main role is characterized as helping maintain homeostasis – balance – in all the essential functions of our body, sort of like the messenger system that sends signals around the body, telling different organs or cells to increase or decrease their activity.

Different cannabinoids like CBD and THC all interact with our ECS in very different ways and our understanding is constantly progressing and expanding.

THC can activate our ECS on its own, which can be both good and bad. For some, this causes euphoria; for others, paranoia. That is because THC goes into our ECS and essentially ‘flips all the switches.’

The other cannabinoids found in hemp, like CBD, CBG and CBC on the other hand, play a much more supportive role of our regular and healthy ECS function.

While the research is still ongoing, the understanding at this point is that these cannabinoids help our body’s own signaling cells stay in circulation longer, but it doesn’t lead to the same hyperactivity that THC can cause.

Of course, as with many health products, there is a lot of variation, so be a well-informed and reasonably suspicious shopper. Look for brands with independent testing to verify potency and purity, be wary of outrageous health claims, and when in doubt, ask for the opinion of your doctor or a well-informed employee at your favorite health store.

So is CBD worth all the hype? In a word, maybe. The foundation of research keeps growing and growing, with very little evidence of negative side effects.

While western medicine will likely take a long time to acknowledge the potential of hemp and all its compounds, it is safe and reasonable to expect this new trend in supplements, treats and drinks to keep on growing.

Andrew Harmon is Education Specialist for Danadan Hempworks in Portland.

Medicaid Waiver Implications

from page 1

negatively impacted.

Nosse further notes that while the OHP is fully paid for, plenty of Oregonians get their care on the commercial market or from their employer and struggle to manage the costs associated.

Bruce Butler, CEO of Inter-Community Health Network and Samaritan Health Plans, said that focusing on populations with the “highest need” is going to have the greatest impact.

In order to have that impact, he sees a “global budget” for Coordinated Care Organizations (CCOs) being the ignition to get that going. This was part of the original CCO vision in 2012 but has yet to be realized.

Vandehey said the desired budget was a fixed per-capita amount that would expand at a fixed rate of growth for at least several years. “Unfortunately, the rules at the federal level require us to reset that every year.”

Former Governor John Kitzhaber echoed this sentiment and feels the current rate-setting process disincentivizes the kind of investments we need to address health equity. He feels this global budget will help the state stay within its sustainable health care cost growth target law (to not grow more than 3.4 percent per capita annually).

In regards to those of the “highest need,” Vandehey posed this question: “Are we really

committed to universal coverage? And if so, how do we make sure that we don’t lose traction over the next couple of years and continue to fill in gaps for those who remain without insurance?”

He says despite Oregon expanding healthcare coverage to 94 percent of residents, there is still the implied six percent who remain uninsured. “And that uninsured rate doesn’t fall evenly across all populations,” Vandehey said.

Two of the groups most affected are Hispanic or Latino at 12 percent uninsured and American Indian or Alaska Natives at 11 percent.

Annie Valtierra-Sanchez, Director of Southern Oregon Health Equity Coalition, discussed the reality of solving these issues of equity.

The mission of her company is to change systems by creating community partnerships and collectively promote health equity that centers the voices of impacted community members.

For example, she detailed instances amidst the pandemic and the recent wildfires when engaging with communities to understand their needs helped them.

“We want community to be at the center of decision-making for any of our organizations. We take their input to guide our priorities,” she said.

Kitzhaber said we “need to

get money directly into the community to address those social circumstances themselves and empowering the people who are most directly impacted in playing a central role in designing the programs and investments that are going to be necessary.”

He feels we should start with housing since it’s hard to address other health issues when you don’t have secure housing.

Vandehey said throughout the spring they will be engaged with communities around strategies to help create these goals. The ensuing timeline will see drafting of the waiver application in June, with more community engagement afterward, and a submission by the end of the year.

Kitzhaber feels that now is the time for “bold” waivers that get the attention of the White House.

“The question is whether congressional democrats have the appetite to push major non-COVID health policy legislation as we go into the midterm elections. What this means is the Biden administration is going to be looking for some quick wins to advance the health policy agenda, and that may be administratively through the waiver process. So I think we should take advantage of this opportunity.”

See the full discussion at bit.ly/ORMedicaidWaiver.



Neighborhood Notes

HAND
By Jill Riebesehl

Three main issues dominated Hosford-Abernethy Neighborhood Association's concerns this winter, none of which required action from the board, which holds elections in May. All are welcome to throw in their hats; there are several open seats, as the by-laws allow 20 people to serve.

In March, City Commissioner Jo Ann Hardesty addressed a small group of SE neighborhoods ahead of her Town Hall for all the city's neighborhoods. One of her bureaus is Community & Civic Life, which oversees the neighborhood system. She assured us of her respect for neighborhoods and their role in city government and said she won't follow through on the previous commissioner's efforts to remove NAs from city code. When asked by participants in both meetings what was on their minds, houselessness dominated, concerns which she fielded with patience, knowledge and recognition of the wide frustration.

Regarding train-track crossings, HAND chair Chris Eykamp reported on discussions during an ad hoc railroad subcommittee that includes HAND and Brooklyn NAs, the Eastside Industrial District and people knowledgeable of Union Pacific rail use. Despite Tri-Met's contribution to UP's automated switches, wait times for vehicles crossing the tracks at SE 8th Ave. have increased, sometimes lasting hours. Neighbors are wondering how that is going to affect Tri-Met's brand new Division transit project. We are hoping a Tri-Met rep will be at HAND's next meeting, Tuesday, April 20.

Catholic Charities and St. Philip Neri briefed us on their progress for affordable housing on the parish's campus. Changes reported differ from an initial open house held about a year ago. As it stands, after sufficient funds have been secured and various permits granted from the city, building could start in the summer of 2022. The plan now includes 38 one-bedroom and 12 two-bedroom units. Only one building, the classroom, will be demolished. Planners at this point see a piazza off SE Tamarack Ave. and they welcome input from the community.

Montavilla Neighborhood Association
By Jacob Loeb

Commissioner Mingus Mapps joined the March 8 Montavilla Neighborhood Association meeting to speak with attendees. He outlined ambitions for his first term and presented three projects underway within his bureaus. The Commissioner acknowledged the COVID-19 related damage to Portland's prosperity, but provided an optimistic call-to-action for community members.

Commissioner Mapps oversees the bureaus of Water, Environmental Services and Emergency Communications. Three initiatives stood out as examples of the public benefit coming from those agencies. From the Water Bureau, Portland is further protecting its water sources from contamination through a new water treatment plant. This project will ensure that our historically clean water will not suffer from future wildfires or bacterial infections. Keeping with clean water, Mapps shared information on the Super-Fund cleanup of the Willamette River. That project will begin soon and last for over 10 years, reducing pollutants left by industry. The Commissioner was most excited about developments around Portland's Street Response Team. That pilot program sends out specialists in mental health and houseless issues on some 911 calls instead of a police officer. Although early in the program, he shared examples of notable successes in conflict-free resolutions by the team.

Commissioner Mapps next moved the conversation beyond his assigned responsibilities to issues affecting all of Portland. His top priority is building a COVID-19 recovery plan that will stabilize small businesses. "We have lost a decade of growth in the restaurant industry in the last year," explained Mapps. He wants the city to be active in supporting those businesses affected by the shutdown. When the eviction moratorium ends, Mapps cautions Portland could see a new wave of houselessness, further stressing an overloaded system. His recovery efforts aim to lessen that impact of newly unsheltered and keep people in their homes.

Cleaning the city is second on Commissioner Mapps' agenda to revive Portland. He sees the neighborhood associations as a crucial part of the citywide cleanup. The Commissioner recognized and complimented the efforts of MNA's Clean Team and the work of SOLVE. However, more volunteers are needed. He sees the hiring of former-mayor Sam Adams by Mayor Wheeler as an excellent jumpstart to the city cleanup efforts and looks forward to working closely with Adams.

Public safety is the final piece needing immediate attention within Portland. The city had seen a consistent decline in shootings before COVID-19. "In the last year, we have given back 30 years of progress," commented Mapps. He is hopeful that new departments in the police force will change the tide of gang-related shootings. However, he seeks a non-militarized approach to policing, focused on prevention. After school activities and the return of community programs outweigh policing in the Commissioner's strategy for improved public safety. "If you are out doing something constructive, then you are not out doing something destructive."

The full recording of the meeting is available at montavillapdx.org/pdx-mna-meeting-podcast. The next Montavilla Neighborhood Association meeting is Monday, April 12, 6:30 pm. Register for the online Zoom meeting at montavillapdx.org.

Mt. Tabor Neighborhood Association
By Stephanie Stewart

At the March MTNA meeting attendees expressed alarm that City Council is poised to approve an Open Space Code change that will allow homeless camps in public parks. Taxpayers have generously funded city parks with the intention that they be green spaces open to everyone in need of relief from the dense city. Turning parks into residences allows a new, highly intense use by one group that will be present 24 hours a day. We voted to request City Council extends the education and comment period for this change, as much confusion remains. We also voted to sign a letter, written by park advocates, objecting to camps in parks in any case other than a natural disaster.

MTNA will host a community meeting on Zoom on Wednesday, April 21, 7 pm. Board Elections will be held on Wednesday, May 19. Find links for this and all of our meetings, under the "Meetings and Events" tab of our website, mttaborpdx.org. MTNA also creates a monthly newsletter about important civic issues, which you can find on our website next to each month's meeting minutes.

North Tabor Neighborhood Association
By Kim Kasch

North Tabor has revived its monthly newsletter. To sign up, go to mailchi.mp/156b872bb7d7/sign-up-page or follow the link on our web page, northtabor.org, to subscribe and get on our email list.

continued on page 15



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Neighborhood Notes

from page 13

March's meeting centered on a presentation about air quality by Greg Bourget of Cascadia Action. North Tabor, being alongside I-84, is especially affected by diesel particulate pollution and the Neighborhood Association will cooperate with his organization to monitor and provide data for ongoing studies of the problem (for more info, go to portlandcleanair.org).

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, April 20, 6:30 pm, via Zoom, and will feature a presentation on household emergency preparedness. Go to our website for the link: North Tabor Neighborhood Association.

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 on richmondpx.org and sent out via the RNA Announce listserv. Recordings of the monthly meetings are available on the RNA website. Meetings will be via Zoom until further notice. Preregistration is required; the link to preregister is on the agenda. To be added to the RNA's listserv, email richmondnas-secretary@gmail.com. The agenda request form is on the RNA's website.

The monthly meeting was held March 8. Unfortunately, Multnomah County Commissioner Vega Pederson cancelled. She will be rescheduled for another meeting.

The Board voted to send a letter to the Multnomah Co. DA about the increased level of vandalism in the city and on Hawthorne Blvd. The Neighborhood Response Team Officer in attendance explained that a DA was assigned to the Hawthorne vandalism event and it is being pursued very seriously.

The Board discussed the Hawthorne Fred Meyer's land use application to remove their south-side entrance on Hawthorne. The RNA voted at its March 8 meeting to inform Fred Meyer that it plans to oppose the removal of the south-side entrance.

The annual RNA Board election will be Tuesday, May 11, 6:30-8:30 pm in the parking lot of Waverly United Church of Christ, SE 33rd and Woodward St., where the RNA normally meets. Like last year, people can vote in-person or fill out PDF ballots and drop off their ballots at the election site. (People can drop off only their own ballots.)

Eight two-year seats are up for election. The deadline to announce candidacy for a board seat is the end of day Monday, April 12, the day of the RNA's April meeting. You can announce via email to richmond.pdx.chair@gmail.com or at the April 12 RNA meeting. At the May 10 RNA meeting, candidates will give brief candidate statements. COVID-19 protocols will be observed. We had a very good election turnout last year and expect the same this year.

On March 4, the RNA along with the Hosford-Abernethy, Creston-Kenilworth, Kerns and Buckman neighborhood associations hosted a community Zoom meeting with Commissioner Jo Ann Hardesty that was well attended and very informative. Commissioner Hardesty oversees the Office of Community and Civic Life, which oversees the neighborhood association system, and the Bureau of Transportation. The RNA will host future meetings with the other Commissioners.

The RNA's next meeting is Monday, April 12, 6:30-8:30 pm.

South Tabor Neighborhood Association By Tina Kimmey

Spring is here and with it, some hope for a better year. With vaccinations rolling out for everyone soon (fingers crossed) we can start thinking again about what community activities to hold for the year. If you are interested in brainstorming or helping with upcoming events contact us at info@southtabor.org.

South Tabor Neighborhood Association is holding annual elections in May via Zoom. We currently have an open seat for Vice Chair and this year we elect Chair and Secretary positions (two-year terms). If you are interested in any of these positions please contact chair@southtabor.org or join us at our next board meeting.

Our Land Use committee next meets on Tuesday, April 13, and the Board meeting is Thursday, April 15; both are held 7-8:30 pm. Be sure to check out southtabor.org where we post agendas, Zoom links and meeting minutes for both meetings. See you soon!

Sunnyside Neighborhood Association By Dave Boush

The March SNA general meeting hosted Heather Flint Chatto who spoke about building design in the neighborhood, especially along Hawthorne Blvd. and Belmont St. Complete with photos and illustrations, Heather explained the PDX Main Street Design Guidelines, pdxmainstreets.org/designguidelines, aimed at improving the fit between new infill and old buildings. Heather showed how structures built at different times and with different styles could fit together harmoniously. At the April general meeting, SNA will consider whether to adopt the guidelines which have been adopted by eight NAs and business districts for 12 SE main streets, including Hawthorne Blvd.

Building design has long been an interest of SNA. For history and context, search our website, sunnysideportland.org, using the term "land use docs." I especially recommend Adopted Sunnyside Neighborhood Plan-1999. This is far from a dry planning document, rather a rich combination of history, architecture and neighborhood aspirations. Proposed building projects above a certain size are required to notify the appropriate NA and, although NAs do not have approval authority, SNA generally asks builders to present their project designs at our general meeting. They usually seem open to questions and suggestions, which could include design guidelines.

Johanna Brenner next spoke on the topic of increased civilian oversight of Portland police. Johanna advocated that the SNA endorse a letter recommending specific language in the PPB contract (see related article in this issue). The SNA encourages neighbors' emailed opinions on the potential endorsement.

Taking up the final topic of the evening, the SNA continued its pursuit of pragmatic solutions to homelessness by endorsing the Committee on Safety and Livability to respond to the Joint Office of Homeless Services' request for programmatic qualifications, ahomeforeveryone.net/news.

Both Heather and Johanna are scheduled to continue their respective topics at the April SNA general meeting Thursday, April 8, 7-9 pm. I hope to see you all there. Stay safe.

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1517 SE 57th Ave.
Hawthorne Hill by
Ethan Beck Homes
2,941 Total Sq. Ft.

\$975,000
4 BD, 3.1 BA



48 SE 56th Ave.
1939 Bungalow + detached ADU
1,440 Sq. Ft. (house)
480 Sq. Ft. (ADU)

\$600,000
2 BD, 2 BA +
1 BD, 1 BA ADU



1318 SE 58th Ave.
1932 Tudor
3,209 Total Sq. Ft.

\$ - Call listing agent
4 BD, 2 BA



1830 SE 46th Ave.
1941 Bungalow
1,870 Total Sq. Ft.

\$ - Call listing agent
2 BD, 1 BA

Community Events

Spring Outdoor Events

Wooden Shoe Tulip Festival

March 19-May 2
Woodburn, OR
Tickets available online only:
woodenshoe.com/events/tulip-fest

This tulip festival blooms each spring, drawing many to come see 40 acres of tulips in full bloom. Considered one of the top spring attractions in the state, this event includes food, drink, activities for the kids and even hot air balloon rides!

Oregon Spring Cleanup

April 10-25
Various locations
solveoregon.org/spring-cleanup

SOLVE is excited to launch a brand-new state-wide event called the Oregon Spring Cleanup, presented by Portland General Electric. For over 50 years, SOLVE has been supporting the efforts of awesome partners and amazing volunteers from around the state who are motivated to take care of their special place in Oregon.

There are dozens of great opportunities for celebrating Earth Day with SOLVE. Projects occur on various dates throughout the month of April. Check out the list of projects and search by date and location, or check out the project map to find an event of interest to you.



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

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