



Photo by Gabe Frayne

Post-Pandemic Portland: Will SE Ever Be the Same?

By Gabe Frayne

It was a fitting denouement to the year 2020: The Rocking Frog café at the corner of Belmont St. and SE 25th Ave., a mainstay of SE Portland’s music and poetry scene, closed its doors permanently in December.

“This one hurts,” wrote a local resident on Reddit. “There are small places like this that make this city feel good to be here... By the time we see the ‘light at the end of the tunnel’ Portland won’t be anything like it was.”

There have been other casualties as well. The youth hostel on SE Hawthorne Blvd., built in 1909, and its signature cob bench will soon give way to a five-story, 61-unit apartment block.

The building housing the Red Light Clothing Exchange at SE 36th Ave. on Hawthorne Blvd. is up for sale, and one employee says he believes it’s “absolutely”

possible that it could be sold to a developer and demolished.

Not least, the celebrated Pok Pok restaurant on SE Division St., folded nearly a year ago.

Up and down Belmont, Hawthorne, Division and south on César E. Chávez Blvd., “for sale” and “for lease” signs proliferate.

A lingering premonition from the early days of the shutdown now begs the question: will billion-dollar, out-of-state corporations buy up and potentially demolish Portland’s devalued small-retail buildings in the post-pandemic recovery?

At this point the answer is...not necessarily. As it happens, the sale of the Rocking Frog was planned before COVID-19 entered our vocabulary.

Most of the commercial properties for sale at this time will probably remain intact, and although the youth hostel took an “absolute direct hit” from the pandemic, in the words of Bill Levesque, president of the Hawthorne Boulevard Business Association, the toll on other businesses may have roots in longer-term trends.

“A year ago there was almost a terror just in terms of what all was going to be happening over the next six months to a year,” Levesque recalled. Now, however, “businesses are talking about the future.”

Local real estate broker Jordan Fe-

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History of Homelessness

By Don MacGillivray

Homelessness in Portland was generally unseen until the 1980s when it was exposed by various economic and social changes. These included a lack of growth in real earnings for those with moderate incomes; a growing scarcity of affordable housing; and the closing of institutions that had long served the mentally ill.

Homelessness is a misfortune for the city, but especially for the homeless themselves and a symptom of many problematic conditions.

In early England vagrants were penalized through their *Poor Laws*, and could be whipped, put in the stocks, branded with a V, imprisoned and/or transported to the colonies.

In American history, homeless people were mentioned as early as 1640. After the American Revolution, many soldiers were penniless and homeless due the severe post war depression. At that time, fewer than seven percent of Americans lived in cities before the 1820s.

Homelessness became a national issue in the 1870s and was facilitated by the construction of the national railroad system, which increased urbanization, industrialization and travel. This led to a greater mobility of laborers, although it also led to the emergence of drifters “riding the rails.”

The industrial revolution of the 19th century changed the dynamics of being without a home. Laborers had to work long hours for a meager living with no job security. In America, immigrants without jobs filled New York and other East Coast cities only to live in extreme poverty, many

without housing.

The Great Depression of the 1930s was a time of extreme displacement and homelessness. Living in shacks and shanty towns was an accepted practice in towns across the country. The majority of the homeless population then were white and over the age of 45.

The federal government created new programs to address the causes of the depression, but the economy was slow to respond. It wasn’t until World War II that full employment was achieved. After the war there was a housing shortage and unemployment that ended with the economic boom of the 1950s.

The inflation of the late 1970s and the recession of the early 1980s contributed to the causes of homelessness in many large cities, including Portland.

Serious causes of homelessness were the HIV-AIDS epidemic and the reduction of state hospital patients that dropped by 75 percent. Psychiatric patients were released from public hospitals and their failure to self-medicate left them living on the street.

The Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act was created in 1977, along with the US Interagency Council on Homelessness, but neither was adequately funded to meet the growing need. The brunt of the homeless problem was left for the local communities to solve.

In Portland, people living on the street did not become commonplace until the mid-1980s. Before then a number of rundown buildings in the Old Town area had upper floors used for inexpensive lodg-

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Critical Thinking Required

By Nancy Tannler

At a Civics for Adults workshop sponsored by the Oregon City Public Library Donna Cohen, M.L.I.S., M.Ed., presented *Misinformation, Fake News, and Political Propaganda* to a non-partisan audience.

These on-going series of workshops are intended to increase factual knowledge about civics/politics and provide the tools for civic/political engagement.

The timely presentation discussed the

way current events are misconstrued by the media so they read in favor of various political, social and moral agendas. Because misinformation is so prevalent in today’s media, the only way to prevent people from becoming ensnared by it is to inoculate them from misleading or manipulative argumentation strategies.

Cohen’s presentation described how the mainstream press and *fake news* became synonymous with each other and

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TWO SIDES OF COVID-19

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Representatively Speaking

BY STATE REPRESENTATIVE ROB NOSSE

With the speed of change in politics and events in general these days it can be a little tricky to write a column a few weeks in advance of publishing.

I had originally planned to talk about how the Republican stalling/stalemate ended on April 15 and the bills we had started passing again without the Republicans insisting that every bill be read line for line word for word on the House Floor.

Reading of the bills aloud is a provision of the state's constitution that has routinely been suspended in light of photocopying technology.

I was also going to share how the third COVID-19 outbreak in the Oregon Legislature caused us to delay floor session and not meet for another week, until April 26.

Then the announcement of one of the most important racial justice cases in the recent history of our country came. I am not sure if it was planned this way or the universe allowed for a symbolic and important coincidence, but the Oregon House was preparing to consider and pass several police accountability and policing reform bills during the announcement of the results of the trial of Derek Chauvin for the murder of George Floyd.

It is hard to put into words how I felt when I heard the result of the trial. It almost feels like I cannot admit I was relieved. Imagine the state of the country and our city and the message it would have sent had Derek Chauvin not been convicted for murder.

While this verdict is a step toward justice in this particular case, it will not bring back George Floyd, Daunte Wright, Breonna Taylor, or any of the many Black men, women, and children who have lost their lives at the hands of police.

In the year since Floyd's murder, communities across the



globe, including this one have risen up to demand transformation and justice from policy makers and lawmakers, to demand changes that will prevent more lives from being taken particularly from people of color at the hands of the police.

In Oregon, elected leaders have been working hard to examine policing practices that are racist and outdated or don't contribute to safety and accountability so the police will truly keep all of our communities safe.

Here are just a couple of the bills that should have passed by the time you read this.

HB 2513: Requires officers to be trained in CPR and first aid;

HB 2929: Expands officers' duty to report violations and misconduct;

HB 2936: Requires background checks into whether officers have membership in hate groups;

HB 3059: Removes the requirement that police officers go into unlawful assemblies and arrest those who do not disperse;

and **HB 3355:** Specifies which identification is needed on officers' uniforms.

Many people of color and community leaders concerned about policing have been advo-

cating for these changes, in some cases decades. It is part of the tragedy of George Floyd's murder in that it took his murder to create the political space for these changes to be made.

While this verdict is absolutely a step in the right direction, police violence and brutality are still things we see every day inflicted onto Black Americans.

It is hard for me to imagine the fear and pain that is re-triggered for Black Americans nearly every day as news breaks of another Black person dying at the hands of police somewhere in the US – which is one just another example of white privilege.

It is unacceptable for Black Americans to have to live with this trauma day in and day out. There must be changes in the way police officers conduct business, and with the way we view policing, to help us heal this trauma, because at the end of the day, police are supposed to protect all of us, regardless of who we are.

I was excited to join my colleagues in passing strong police reform bills with my colleagues this legislative session, and it is imperative that other states do the same.

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Portland Statue History Through the Sculptors

BY DANIEL PEREZ-CROUSE

For many, the television show *Portlandia* primarily conjures images of Fred Armisen and Carrie Brownstein impersonating Pacific NW stereotypes in skits, even for citizens who walk by the actual *Portlandia* statue atop The Portland Building located downtown. Like other public works, the statue can blur in the background of daily commutes.

However, upon learning more about the history, creation and implementation of the iconic trident-wielding woman (second-largest copper repoussé statue in America after the Statue of Lib-



Photograph date October 9, 1985
Image courtesy of City of Portland Archives and Records Center

erty), its visage now represents something far greater.

This realization came after reading *Portland Public Sculptors: Monuments, Memorials and Statuary, 1900-2003* (America Through Time), the newest book from Fred Poyner IV, historian and author.

Broadly speaking, it chronicles 10 different sculptors and their key public sculptures, all contributing to the landscape and identity of Portland.

“That exploration of public art, how it came to be, how it has served the public in terms of identity and how it has changed over time - that drives a lot of my passion, interest and research,” Poyner said. “A sculptor and their

studio are half the picture.”

The other half is how their commissions came to be. For example, Alice Cooper’s trailblazing journey created what is now Washington Park’s *Sacajawea* - and is a reflection of The Suffragist movement’s progress, while representing NW women history.

“It’s helpful to have visuals convey that history,” said Poyner.

He clarifies that this is more a book about Portland sculptors, rather than about the city itself; an important distinction considering many of the artists are not from the Pacific NW.

Looking through the eyes of these artists and their works, one gets a good historical account of the city’s lifespan in this particular era.

Whether it be seeing how a powerful, 19th-century patron in the form of David P. Thompson-commissioned works like The Skidmore Fountain (created by Roland Hinton Perry) to advocate Portland’s greatness with a practical and grandiose creation, or the more recent ascendancy of municipal art commissions as told through Raymond Kaskey’s *Portlandia* - there’s plenty of interesting information imparted about the area’s history.

Poyner has an extensive 26 years of experience in the museum industry, including curatorial roles with the Museum of Northwest Art, Texas Maritime Museum, Washington State Historical Society and The National Nordic Museum.

In particular, The Washington State Historical Society is where his passion for public sculpture and statuary bloomed.

“I had access to their James A. Wehn sculpture collection. That is when it really began for me in terms of Northwest sculptures and how their works have lasted over time,” he said.

Wehn’s most iconic piece, located in Seattle, Washington, is *Chief Seattle* at Tilikum Place, one of Poyner’s favorite statues

of all time.

Its approach to realistically capturing the visage of a Native American figure in a symbolically progressive way inspired him.

“It was a great thing and moved us forward as a society in promoting Native American identity and culture,” he said.

Poyner’s first book, *The First Sculptor of Seattle: The Life and Art of James A. Wehn*, was entirely dedicated to the life and works of Wehn. This led to another book, with a more expanded scope, *Seattle Public Sculptors: Twelve Makers of Monuments, Memorials and Statuary, 1909-1962*; which the new Portland book is a companion piece to.

One reason Poyner was “very satisfied” with this book is he spoke with sculptors James Lee Hansen and Raymond Kaskey.

“Being able to access a primary source for that kind of historical detail is invaluable and I want to thank James, Ray and Elizabeth Hansen (James’ wife) for their time.”

Poyner gets a thrill out of finding connections amongst the sculptors and their works. One example, he notes, “is the Leonard Wells Volk ‘Life Mask of Lincoln’, and how George Fite Waters used this years later to help model another sculpture of Abraham Lincoln. That “ah-ha” moment of discovery is great.”

Ultimately, he hopes the book can be a resource for people to edify themselves on the relevance and history of statuary and the discourse around it. This is unintentionally prescient considering the renewed fervor around public statues amidst social justice movements.

In fact, he says several of the pieces mentioned in this book have been impacted after its publishing.

In regard to whether a statue that’s been up for a long time should come down, be removed, or relocated, he says “it’s a dia-

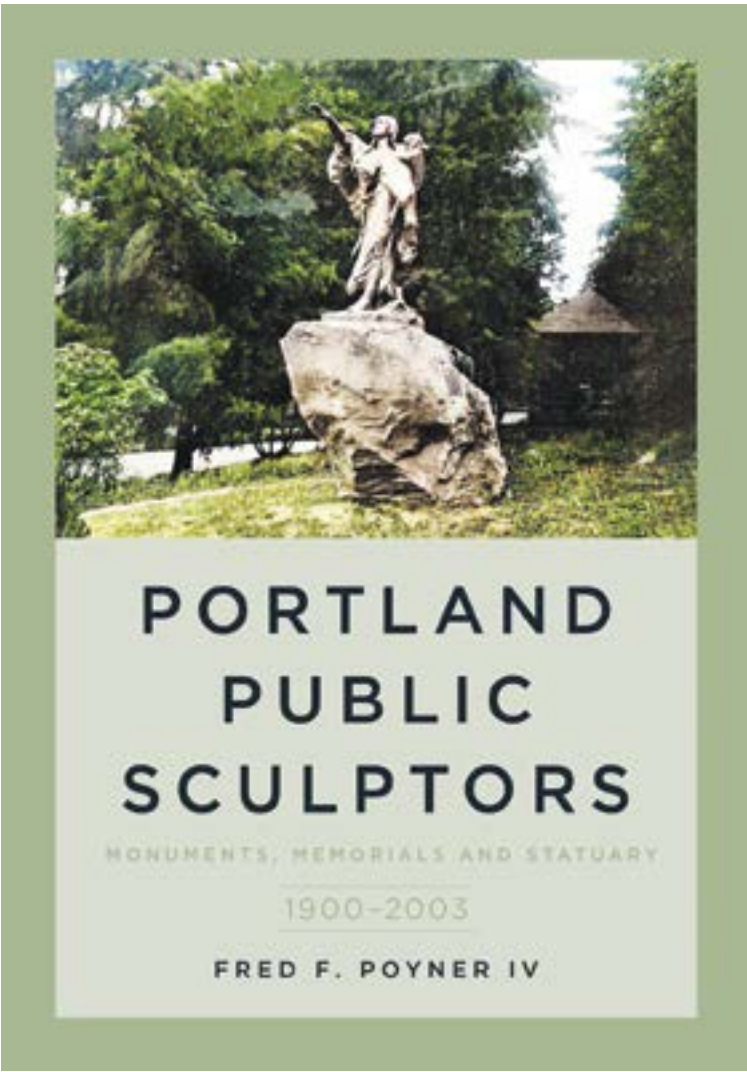


Image courtesy of Arcadia Publishing

logue that involves sculptors, creators, stakeholders and the community,” and these groups should be engaged in such a process.

Poyner himself tries to take an objectivist view as historian.

“In my books, I don’t pass judgement, but I do try to prove as much factual detail as I can.”

He stressed that it’s important to learn the facts about each respective piece and the context it was created in, versus the context we have of it now; which contributes to a better understanding of our current society, how we got here and making our dialogue laced with a more nuanced understanding.

He reminds us that we have a stake in the pieces surrounding us too. “Those are your sculptures. That doesn’t mean you can do whatever you want to them. There’s a slight distinction there. But that is your sculpture and you have a say in its present and future.”

Speaking of the future, where is Poyner’s non-fiction journey headed? Another Pacific

NW city? Somewhere east?

Try the whole country.

“I want to do a survey on how American sculptors of the past 150 years or so portray Native Americans,” Poyner said.

Building off similar topics alluded to in his prior works, this will be a nationwide study/evaluation of how Native American statuary has evolved and differed over time and what influenced that.

“It’s not going to be an easy topic to research or write about,” he said. In this pursuit, he has a team of peer reviewers to help him.

In the meantime, you can find *Portland Public Sculptors* at various retailers and if it gives you the historical, statuary bug, Poyner says people can satiate that by consulting libraries, repositories and other facilities full of dedicated people who work hard to preserve the history around this topic and make that information publicly available.

“All you have to do is ask,” he said.



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Social Stigma of COVID-19

By JACK RUBINGER

Some people are born to be caregivers. Others grow into the role.

In Maria Beatty’s case, she was born into a caregiver role as part of big, Cuban family. She’s cared for her daughters and her whole family has taken care of one another.

So when Beatty’s mom started feeling ill during the pandemic, the whole caregiver model started to break down as her mom’s caregivers all fell ill, her daughter fell ill and eventually Beatty fell ill. She couldn’t taste or smell.

Who was caring for whom? Where were the gaps? What kind of courage would it take for the care giving to continue?

According to the National Institutes of Health (NIH), during outbreaks or pandemics, human fear arises from the anxiety about a disease of an unknown cause and possible fatal outcome, especially when infection control techniques such as quarantine and isolation are applied to protect the community.

In the past, stigma has been associated with different infectious diseases and resulted in discrimination against these patient groups, which caused negative consequences both on the individuals and society, according to the NIH.

These features, which have

been reported during the COVID-19 pandemic in different studies, may result in stigmatization of the potentially infected that flourishes with dramatic stories in media and through the internet, NIH sources reported.

In my case, I grew into the role of caregiver. While I cared for my son when he was little, working from home, taking him to indoor play parks, plunking him in front of the TV so I could get work done, it was a reluctant role. I felt somewhat bitter and annoyed at times, but we got through the period and I think we formed a really tight bond.

Many, many years later, I got into the healthcare field as a result of my interest in music performance and working with seniors. This was my entree into the world of caregiver — forming relationships with new people, getting into the details of their lives and lifting their spirits through laughter, music and games. But then I’d go home and leave it all behind.

At a certain point, the pandemic hit everyone and it hit the healthcare industry hard. People began getting sick. I got sick and I was forced to quarantine.

When I returned, I was treated like a pariah — an outcast blamed for getting sick. This was where I encountered the social stigma of COVID-19. Eventually

I was dismissed which created a mixture of relief, sadness and appreciation for being a caregiver. No one could ever disagree that I didn’t care for “my people” every day.

A compounding situation for Beatty’s mom was that she also suffered from mental health issues and an assortment of medical issues. The result was that her COVID-19 wasn’t diagnosed quickly.

In many ways it was a blessing because she didn’t really know what was going on. Her caregivers thought she was suffering from a simple cold.

Beatty is a certified fitness instructor and felt the social stigma of COVID-19 when she had to tell her fitness clients about her illness. She felt shame and embarrassment as the caregiver responsible for the group. She felt she was letting them down.

She was afraid people would be mad at her. Eventually she opened up to her people and her people opened up to her. Stories were shared and healing began.

“It’s affected all of us. We’re all connected,” said Beatty. “We can get over our fears by telling our stories.”

Beatty continues to care for city employees as an instructor with stretching programs for health and wellness.

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History of Homelessness

from page 1

ing and known as flophouses.

The indigent slept in large rooms full of double bunk beds where a cot was available for 25 cents a night. Due to building code restrictions, the upper floors of these buildings could not be used commercially.

Baloney Joe’s became a popular shelter and was operated by the Burnside Community Council. This was when Central City Concern (1979), Transition Projects (1969) and the St. Francis Dining Hall (1978) emerged to provide homeless services.

Mayor Bud Clark’s 12 Point Plan made significant headway in addressing the homeless problem in 1986 and became a milestone in these efforts.

Then, in 2000, a group of 75 homeless folks were forced to move from place to place around the downtown area. They organized into Dignity Village and were finally allowed a degree of permanency at Sunderland Yard, seven miles from downtown.

It has survived to become an internationally known model for alternative living and local leaders formed a commission to study homeless issues resulting in *The 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness*.

By 2008, 1.5 million people or about 0.5 percent of the US population, stayed in an emergency shelter or a transitional housing facility. Of these, approximately

44 percent were employed.

Homelessness has remained a problem that has defied solid solutions and is now managed locally by the City County Joint Office of Homeless Services with increased funding.

While they have successfully addressed many issues, the problem of chronic homelessness has yet to be resolved and poverty, the housing crisis, unemployment and other factors remain.

12 projects, totaling over 1,420 units of affordable housing are either open or under construction in Portland and another 3,100 are in development due in large part to housing bonds supported by the public.

After many years, the US government will provide additional funding to address the homeless crisis. Money from the \$1.9 trillion coronavirus relief funding will target homelessness through the American Rescue Plan.

There will be \$5 billion for the development of affordable housing and other services. Another \$5 billion will be made available for emergency housing vouchers.

The money will be distributed through the Department of Housing and Urban Development to communities impacted the most by homelessness and they will be able to determine the use of these resources.

Best Friends Forever

By Nancy Tannler

Peering out the window on any given Tuesday morning – rain or shine – a contingent of women pull up to my neighbors’ house for coffee. These ladies have figured out a way to continue to gather, despite COVID-19, so as not to interrupt a 60-year friendship.

My neighbor, Cheryl De-Francisco, grew up in Montavilla and attended Ascension Catholic Grade School where she first became friends with Patty Richnure and Alice Magnano.

The other “Regulars,” Sharon Hughes and Diane Lake, connected at Marycrest High School in SE Portland. They have been magnetized to one another ever since. They were dubbed the Regulars in high school because they were always together.

“We had so much fun as kids growing up here,” Alice said. “I was born to be wild and Mt. Tabor Park was my jungle.” The others concurred that they felt safe to ramble anywhere attending Catholic Youth Organization sports activities and dances, hanging out in SE Portland and in the summer waiting for the berry bus in the dark with no worries.

A common thread of these women was the support they received from their parents. “They were never too busy to be involved with our lives,” Alice said.

“As we grew older,” Sharon said, “we were there for each other’s weddings, births, funerals, dinners and other life celebra-

tions.”

“It has also been like therapy for me, having someone to listen when I needed it the most,” Diane said.

A beautiful tribute to the group’s fidelity is the fact that those who married have remained married.

When asked if any of them had heard stories about the H1N1 Influenza of 1918, only Cheryl knew of family members who had died or were affected.

“I remember hearing the family talking about hair loss in those who contracted the disease and people dying,” she said.

Polio, however, was different. It was first discovered in the late 1800s and was quickly identified as contagious. The first epidemic hit New York in 1905 and in 1916 President Franklin Delano Roosevelt contracted the disease, which brought a lot of attention to the virus.

In the 1950s, there was a surge of polio cases, making everyone aware of the dangers of contracting this disease. It was in the mid-fifties that Jonas Salk discovered the vaccine.

There was a lot of controversy over the vaccine, much as there is today, due to adverse reactions. It was later discovered that certain manufacturers were not being careful in preparing the doses and they actually poisoned and even killed some recipients.

“I remember my mom keep-

ing me home from school when I was in the sixth grade until I could get a polio vaccine,” Cheryl said.

It was serious, and most everyone knew people affected by polio, so there was no question about being vaccinated.

The Regulars gathered for dinners regularly until Cheryl became a full-time caregiver for her niece, Felicia De Francisco, about three years ago. It was then that they began their Tuesday morning gatherings.

While waiting for her niece’s dialysis treatment, she suggested that the friends meet at Freddie’s coffee shop to visit and catch up. It became their thing.

When COVID-19 closed all social gatherings, they decided to meet at Cheryl’s, either in her front yard or on her porch where they continue to social distance and wear their masks.

Cheryl is careful to keep the virus away from Felicia so she only goes to treatments and the doctors. In the meantime, these friends pick up the slack by doing all her shopping for her and occasionally delivering meals.

There are 350 years of accumulated wisdom gathered here so my final question to the Regulars was asking if COVID-19 had changed them personally and how about the rest of the world?

Alice: “I used to be outgoing and now feel more reserved, the world is more somber, too. This time has made me love and



Photo by Nancy Tannler

cherish my friends even more.”

Cheryl: “I realize how much I miss my family after being quarantined for a year. I’m sad that this has divided some people – maskers, non-maskers, vaxxers, non- vaxxers, etc. That is why I am so thankful for my dear friends that meet here on Tuesday mornings.”

Patty: “COVID-19 has changed everything, it might take years for everything to get back to a sense of normal and I’ve missed my antique business. Looking forward to going to dinner again.”

Diane: “It’s hard to understand why people can’t just be kind and get through this and

wear their mask until it’s over.”

Sharon: “I’ve missed the freedom of being able to go on trips or out to eat or see a movie and I mostly miss my daughter who lives in TX. I am thankful to have the gathering of The Regulars.”

From my front window to Cheryl’s front yard, I have watched these women gather weekly and have been inspired by their commitment to hold on to their valuable relationships even when the going got tough.

I’m sure I am not the only one that will miss their presence, their voices and their laughter when “normal” returns.



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The offer is valid at stores nationwide by using the coupon

code 52516714. Bring your card in, they will make a copy of it and laminate the copy.

There are 10 locations in the greater Portland-Vancouver area, including 323 SE Martin Luther King Blvd. (MLK Blvd. and SE Pine St.), 9908 NE Halsey St. (NE Halsey St. and I-205) and downtown at 604 SW Washington St.

Mt. Tabor Nature Series

The Friends of Mt. Tabor Park Urban Nature Series continues throughout the month of May. Outdoor activities that emphasize the natural beauty of Mt. Tabor Park and the importance of large, urban forests in our everyday lives includes guided walks, nature presentations and hands-on projects.

All activities take place at Mt. Tabor Park on Saturdays, beginning at 10 am, and lasting for two hours or less. Each activity will be limited to 10 people and participants will be required to wear masks.

Activities are designed to accommodate children, adults and families who can manage walking on dirt paths and up and down small hills.

Meet at the Mt. Tabor Visitor Center with appropriate clothing and walking shoes for all



types of weather and terrain.

Visit taborfriends.org/urban-nature-series for a full listing with descriptions, age restrictions and to register for May activities.

Questions can be directed to Hap Pritchard - pritchap@spiretech.com, 503.880.4383 or Mo Klein - moklein74@gmail.com, 503.704.4488.

LWV Resources for May 18 Special Election

The League of Women Voters of Portland (LWV) has produced videos and online written information about the candidates and measures in the May 18 Special Election for their website, lwvdpx.org.

The Special Election features candidates for school boards, fire districts and water districts in Multnomah County.

There are also two ballot measures. One is a five-year levy for the Oregon Historical Society, affects all Multnomah County voters. The other, a fire district levy, concerns voters in rural NW

Multnomah County.

The information for this special election includes a Video Voter's Guide of recorded interviews with candidates, a Video Voter's Forum of candidates for the Portland Public Schools District 1J School Board, candidate answers to questions and explanations of the ballot measures.

Multnomah County Elections will begin mailing ballots to registered voters on April 28. Ballots are due back to the Elections Office or to an official drop site no later 8 pm on Election Day, Tuesday, May 18.

Portland Speakers at Recycling Conference

The 2021 Northeast Recycling Council (NERC) Spring Conference offered two days of presentations on environmentally sustainable materials management, a topic not only something many people in the Pacific NW are interested in, but those across the US and the globe.

Presentations ranged from the easily understandable, to those on the consumer side of the equation, to those quite technical and more suited for ones working in the industry. Two of them included speakers from Portland.

Jules Bailey, Chief Stewardship Officer of the Oregon Beverage Recycling Cooperative (OBRC) was part of a panel entitled *Renewed Interest in Refillables*.

Bailey offered the perspective of Oregon's statewide program, BottleDrop. The five-cent bottle deposit that was started in 1971 was described as "aspirational and not prescriptive."

It wasn't until 40 years later (2011) that the BottleDrop Redemption Center was introduced. However, things have moved more quickly in recent years. In 2016, planning for a reusable bottle program was begun to complement the recycling component, launching in 2018.

There are currently 12 participating breweries, cideries and wineries in the program which not only lowers the bottle cost for producers, but offers the environmental benefit of having a fraction of the carbon footprint of even recycled glass.

At present, bottles in the BottleDrop refillables program are only getting two or three "turns" (refills), but they are durable enough to get 25 or more.

Bailey addressed a common question on many people's minds: the sanitation process of refillable bottles. OBRC takes full responsibility and liability for the cleanliness of any bottle before filling, including post-wash inspection of all bottles and additional swab testing to ensure cleanliness.

Their bottle washing machines are equipped to easily handle foreign contaminants that may find their way into bottles like cigarettes, limes, and even syringes.

Looking ahead, Bailey said in order to increase participation in the program, the OBRC will have to overcome challenges like working with companies that



have 25 percent or less out-of-state distribution (for a sufficient return and refill rate), providing clear labels standards and approved labels (so the cleaning process can remove them), and to address the recent shift in craft packaging to cans and away from glass.

The *Recycling Markets Opportunities & Challenges* panel included Kim Holmes, Portland-based Owner & Principal Consultant of 4R Sustainability. She acknowledged that the recycling industry has had its ups and downs, but stressed that now is not the time to give up. Instead, now is the time to prepare for tomorrow's recycling.

Holmes identified the biggest issue: the economic sorting of materials into segregated commodity streams. At material recovery facilities (MRFs), mechanical and manual sorting of the contents of our blue recycling bins happens, however there has been a practical limit to what could be captured at the scale of most MRFs. While this is a challenge, the recognition of the limitations has led to the potential for a secondary sorting market.

"We know the material is out there. We need to make sure it gets into the hands of the people that can responsibly recycle it," Holmes said.

Currently 80-90 percent of what is collected, post-sorting at MRFs, is effectively processed to meet industry specifications and get it to markets that need it. The remaining 10-20 percent, composed of mixed plastics, cartons and residue, is where things get complex, but where there is also opportunity.

Secondary sorting keeps valuable materials from going into landfills, reduces the amount of greenhouse gasses generated and reduces the amount of pollution to oceans. In keeping these materials domestically (as opposed to shipping them to other

countries), there is the additional benefit of having good, regulated solid waste systems for the percentage of unrecyclable material.

Municipalities and residents benefit from "Blue Bin Accountability" and data generated encourages product stewardship and improves recycling rates as well as creates domestic clean technology jobs.

Holmes presented the Portland Summer 2019 report, available at pnwsort.org, a project managed by the Plastics Industry Association that received and sorted samples from four MRFs in OR and WA. The project used results from Los Angeles as a baseline against which to compare Portland to.

One of the big differences between the two cities was the amount of polypropylene that could be recovered and markets that can recycle them. Holmes feels this could be the next frontier for emerging and domestic markets.

Based on what the project was able to pull out during the 60-day duration, Holmes is hopeful there can be an expansion of what can be put into our blue rolling bins, including items like red Solo cups, beer can six-pack holders and cold cups like those used by Dutch Bros. and Starbucks.

Findings suggest an additional 50,000 tons per year of additional recyclable materials could be captured.

These two presentations were just a fraction of what the conference offered to attendees. The overall tone of the conference was encouraging to this recycling believer.

There may be hurdles to recycling certain products, but there are people working to overcome them and help our communities become more environmentally responsible.

More on the conference and NERC at nerc.org.



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Have an event coming up the public needs to know about?



Community News

Five Library Locations Reopen June 1

Multnomah County Library will reopen Capitol Hill, Gresham, Holgate, Kenton, and Midland libraries for some in-building services on June 1. Planning is underway to restore access at other locations with a community-centered approach to phase in services over time.

Libraries will operate with limited capacity and time limitations. Services will include access to computers and wi-fi (one-hour limit); printing, faxing, copying (free of charge); family computer spaces (two computers per space; one-hour limit); holds pick up; browsing (30-minute limit); information services and public restrooms.

Work is underway to finalize modifications to spaces like

removing shelving and tables and to establish other COVID-safe changes to maximize the health and safety of patrons and staff.

Each library building is unique and has different considerations around capacity, layout and work processes.

The libraries' plans have been shaped by an extensive community engagement and outreach process, led by staff who provide culturally and linguistically relevant services.

The five locations reflect a geographic spread across Multnomah County and support the library's priorities of serving those most deeply impacted by COVID-19 and systemic inequity.

"We know how much people have missed being inside

of library buildings and we are eager to welcome them back," said Director of Libraries, Vailey Oehlke.

"The pandemic has highlighted both the naked inequality that permeates our society, and the resourcefulness and resilience required to make meaningful change. I am grateful to the library staff and community members who have shaped this vision for how libraries can continue as forces for good."

The library will share details about specific locations, services and hours at multcolib.org.

Patrons can continue to access a wide range of services online and by appointment at all libraries as buildings reopen to the public.

PBOT's Vision Zero Dashboard Debuts

The Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT) has introduced a new tool to help Portlanders better understand the bureau's efforts to eliminate deaths and serious injuries from Portland streets – the Vision Zero dashboard.

The new dashboard gives a visually rich snapshot of the variety of quantifiable street improvements, speed limit changes, educational events and other efforts underway across the city to achieve the goal of zero traffic deaths.

It answers the most common questions PBOT receives about the city's Vision Zero work and will be updated quarterly.

The topics presented in the dashboard are street design (where PBOT has built something new to create safer streets on the High Crash Network), speed limit reductions in 2019 and 2020, fixed speed safety cameras (locations, traffic volumes and monthly violations), education and outreach (what type and where events were presented 2018-2020) and recent traffic crashes.

Each section is fully interactive so users can click, select, filter and hover over any items in a map or chart to change the display or show more information.

PBOT will publish summaries twice a year translated into multiple languages and then



distributed to a broad audience of community members with the help of community-based organizations.

Visit bit.ly/PBOTVisionZero to dive into the information and sign up for email notifications as the dashboard is updated.

Teacher Appreciation Week

May 3-7 is Teacher Appreciation Week and National PTA has developed a teacher appreciation toolkit with thank you cards, certificates, flyers, web ads, virtual stickers and social media graphics, available in English and Spanish at bit.ly/PTAtoolkit.

Since 1984, National PTA has designated a week in May as a

special time to honor the men and women who lend their passion and skills to educating children.

Give a teacher a virtual sticker, start a social media conversation about the amazing teachers you know by dressing up your social media profiles with graphics and share the love on your school website or app with

an ad.

Teachers, whether providing instruction virtually, in person or using a hybrid model, change the lives of children every day.

Their immense work and impact have provided community and connection despite the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. Let's thank them!



May Events

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH – Visit the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) website, nami.org/Get-Involved/Awareness-Events/Mental-Health-Awareness-Month, for resources.

URBAN LEAGUE JOB FAIR – The Career Connections Job Fair is one of Urban League's ongoing efforts to engage, educate and empower the workforce. See ulpdx.org for more information and to register for the Tuesday, May 4 virtual event that runs 10 am-2 pm.

YOUTH JOB FAIR – The Portland Youth Opportunity Fair is a job and resource fair for youth aged 16-24, that takes place Friday, May 7, 11 am. Find resources to prepare for the fair and register at youth.pdxjobfair.org/?page_id=44.

HUMAN SOLUTIONS GALA – The virtual gala, *There's No Place Like Home*, takes place Friday, May 7, 5:30 pm. The event is free for all to attend and support the organization's work. Make a donation, purchase raffle tickets or order a Happy Hour Box to enjoy during the event. Full details and registration at bit.ly/HumanSolutionsGala.

MOTHER'S DAY – Don't forget to thank the mothers and mother-figures in your life on Sunday, May 9.

DOZA HEARING – City Council will hear public testimony on the Design Overlay Zone Amendments (DOZA) project Wednesday, May 12, 2 pm. Watch the virtual meeting at portlandoregon.gov/28258.

FOREIGN POLICY CHALLENGES – The Willamette Women Democrats will host an online discussion by retired Ambassador Mary Carlin Yates about the likely approaches of the Biden Administration to meet its foreign policy objectives and challenges, Thursday, May 13, 4:30 pm. Register at w2dems.com.

MAY FUCHSIA SALE – The Oregon Fuchsia Society will hold their Annual May Fuchsia Sale Saturday, May 15. Visit Tran's Automotive, 4810 SE Belmont St., starting at 9 am for hardy uprights, ground covering hardy fuchsia and a modest number of baskets. Browse, learn, oooh and aah and talk fuchsia.

SEPTL REOPENING – Beginning Saturday, May 15 the Southeast Portland Tool Library (SEPTL) will be open 9 am-noon. New loans will be by appointment only and reservations must be made online at bit.ly/BorrowTools. Tools may be returned without an appointment.

CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP – Join Write Around Portland and the Portland Art Museum for a free, online creative writing workshop exploring setting, place and landscape and drawing inspiration from works in the *Ansel Adams in Our Time* photography exhibition. Sunday, May 23, 10-11:30 am. Register at bit.ly/May23workshop.

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

PORTLAND ROSE FESTIVAL PORCH PARADE – Starting Monday, May 31, the Portland Rose Festival encourages residents to decorate their front porch, front window, yard or walkway. The Festival will produce an online map with locations of all registered porches. Register yours at rosefestival.org/events/2021/porch-parade.

THE LOT WITH HOLLYWOOD THEATRE – In May and June the Hollywood Theatre and The Lot at Zidell Yards will present a series of film and music at 3030 S Moody Ave. with a full stage, large format LED screen, site-specific sound system, food/beverage and socially-distanced seating pods. Details at thelotatzidellyards.com.

Email details to examiner@seportland.news by the 15th of the month.

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WildCraft Studio School

By ELLEN SPITALERI

WildCraft Studio School has come a long way from its roots, moving from a rural studio in White Salmon, WA, to a roomy, light-filled space on SE Hawthorne Blvd.

The school offers workshops for adults 16 and over in the practices of traditional craft, textiles, Native American arts, foraging and herbal medicine.

Chelsea Heffner, WildCraft Studio School founder and owner, began offering classes out of her personal studio in 2013 and then realized that the majority of her students were from Portland.

"It seemed like a smart move to bring the studio to Portland. Our friends at Fieldwork Design and Architecture were moving into the current space back in 2015 and invited us to share space," she said. "The large windows and tall ceilings make it a fantastic workspace."

Heffner noted that WildCraft offers off-site classes like mushroom forages out in the Columbia Gorge and clam digs on the Oregon coast. Special classes like Flower Farm Dyes or Coastal Dyes are hosted on private properties, rented for the occasion.

Textile and craft classes are the most popular offerings at

the SE Hawthorne location, with workshops such as Seasonal Natural Dyes, Weekend Weaving and Wood Carving.

For Heffner, one of the most rewarding aspects of seeing the school grow over the years "has been witnessing many creative collaborations develop between teachers and students as the result of conversations in class, watching artists take skills they learned in a workshop and incorporate them into their artwork and seeing entrepreneurs learn new techniques and build them into their businesses."

She said students who take the workshops are a diverse group including industry professionals looking to expand their knowledge base, textile designers, color and apparel designers, artists and hobbyists.

"Curiosity is the main driver, drawing people to new subjects, skills and practices," she said.

"Some folks come for the process and others definitely come for the end product, which might be a hand-carved and cast silver ring or a woven rag rug."

Hannah Fischer, assistant program coordinator, said the school offers a unique experi-

ence that people can gain in just a one-to-two-day class, without the commitment of attending a college or paying for an entire semester.

"A person can learn a new skill, dive deeper into a hobby, explore the Pacific Northwest or try their hand at something entirely new and out of their comfort zone," Fischer added.

Heffner said fall classes this year will offer the most ambitious and diverse workshops to date.

"We ran an open call for teachers and have an incredible collection of new classes like Tapestry Loom Building, Screen Printing with Natural Dyes and Traditional Zapotec Weaving," she said.

Signups for these classes will take place in late May and early June.

Instructor Julie Beeler teaches dyeing classes using mushrooms and botanical and natural dyes. She said she loves teaching at WildCraft because of the studio model Heffner has created for the school, which is similar to a professional artist's studio practice.

"Creating this alternative studio school allows everyone to collaborate and participate



Instructor Rose Holdorf teaches wood carving and pack-basketmaking
Photo by Hannah Fischer

in creative expression that they can bring into their own lives. It is a very interactive, collaborative and participatory experience where everyone can express their own unique creativity," Beeler said.

Heffner is looking forward to starting the Access program, a completely new offering providing 50 free seats a year to BIPOC students actively pursuing degrees in art/craft/design, as well as to K-12 Portland Public School teachers.

"The immediate purpose of this program is to make WildCraft classes more accessible to BIPOC individuals who are dedicated to creative practice, with the hope of seeing these individuals thrive in leadership roles in the PNW art/design/craft community in the future," she said.

The program "grew out of the social justice movements that took center stage in 2020 and the feeling that WildCraft needed to address issues of representation, diversity and inclusion in our own

creative community," she said.

She is thrilled to still be in business after the hardships of the past year and noted that she feels a "renewed sense of purpose and focus."

The city's reputation of being a haven for creative people has been weakened over the years with development and skyrocketing rental prices, she said and added "2020 was extremely hard on all businesses, and we've seen the closures of some of Portland's cultural institutions. We hope that WildCraft can continue to grow and continue to be seen as a leader in art and craft education in Portland and in the great Northwest."

The list of spring and summer classes is available on their website.

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Critical Thinking Required

from page 1

how the public can best find the truth in news stories.

An example of how subtle manipulation can be is *The Social Dilemma*, an American docudrama written by Jeff Orlowski, Davis Coombe and Vickie Curtis. It goes into depth on how social media's design can easily nurture addictions, manipulate politics and spread conspiracy theories.

Former employees from social media platforms such as Facebook, Google and Apple were interviewed for this show. It's agreed that social media platforms and big tech companies have been instrumental in providing positive change for society, but these same platforms have caused problematic social, political and cultural consequences.

They do this by using algorithms to track the websites you open and what your interests are to eventually begin feeding you information that pertains to these subjects in articles known as *clickbait*.

What happens, Cohan explained, is how information being received is not always factual, journalistic writing, but rather opinion pieces posed as truth. There is a grave concern in the country today about the lack of journalistic writing whose job is to present the facts objectively.

A simple example used to define the difference between reporting and opinion reporting: "There was a crash on I-84." versus "There was a terrible crash on I-84." Injecting opinion into reporting can be as subtle as using subjective adjectives (in this case, the word "terrible"). Terminology can make a huge difference in how a story reads.

Another challenge to our sensibilities are *deep fakes*. These are sophisticated videos and audios coming from what we assume are reliable sources. They are made using authentic-looking logos that upon close inspection are false. Check logos, websites and credentials because when something doesn't sound right or look right, it usually isn't.

We all have the capability to share information via Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc. Encouraging people to critically evaluate information before posting is the best way to stop the spread of misinformation. Asking ourselves

if we have fact checked before posting should always be part of the process.

Unfortunately, many people will repost statements that are familiar to their preconceived views and biases. However, a claim without substantiation is still just an opinion.

Debunking Handbook 2020 (tinyurl.com/debunking2020) states: "Objective truth is less important than familiarity: we tend to believe falsehoods when they are repeated sufficiently often."

An example of how effective this can be is the perpetration of the 2020 presidential election Big Lie that President Joe Biden didn't win. This was a tactical conspiracy theory used to purposely feed those who want to believe he lost.

The US Office of Strategic Services (predecessor to the CIA) has compiled documents on how Hitler used the Big Lie technique to mislead the German people.

Other media manipulations to be aware of are data in the form of graphs and charts. These can be read quite differently.

Suppose a graph is intended to portray the average net worth of a group of people. One type of average is called the mean, and you add up the total value of money and property of everyone

in the group and divide it by the number of people.

The other type, called the median, you identify the net worth of the person who is richer than half the people and poorer than the other half.

So if Warren Buffett drove through a tiny village in India, the mean net worth of those in the villagers would suddenly rise to perhaps a billion dollars, but their median net worth would remain close to zero. Which figure would be more meaningful?

There are a ways to identify fake websites and emails. An important first step is to pay close attention to the address bar in your browser. If for any reason the URL seems suspicious you can go to tinyurl.com/browsingtransparency and drop the address in Google's Safe Browsing technology site for confirmation.

Finding the truth in today's media barrage is not always easy. We have to be willing to look at our own preferences as a starting point and then determine if we are willing to hear objective facts that might be counter to our dearly held beliefs.

"Democracy requires critical thinkers," Cohen said.

Additional information at civictinker.info/resources.



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—Xóchitl Morales

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Go Staying In

arts & entertainment



M IS FOR MISCHIEF

3 Leg Torso and Lakewood Center For The Arts present a new film, **M is for Mischief**, a warm-hearted musical comedy premiering Mother's Day, Sunday, May 9 at 7 pm.

Filmed on a set at Lakewood Center for the Arts and accompanied with newly-recorded music by 3 Leg Torso and Storm Large, the film tells the tale of an over-worked, single mother (portrayed by Large) unknowingly avenged by her four mischievous sons who discover she has been mistreated by her deplorable boss, Mr. McDonald.

As the boys secretly use their super abundant musical powers to prank and torment the man, he learns the hard way it's not nice to fool with Mother Torso.

Watch the film trailer at tinyurl.com/3LegMischief. A large percentage of ticket sales will be donated to Raphael House, an organization providing safe haven for survivors of domestic abuse.

M is for Mischief tickets and info at 3legtorso.com.

Art by Kim Murton

City Without Altar

Milagro hosts a virtual reading of the play **City Without Altar** by Jasmine Mendez. The performance is a collaboration with Teatro Luna West (Los Angeles), UrbanTheatre Company (Chicago) and fellow members of Teatros Unidos, a national collective of theatrical organizations rooted in their community to support, collaborate, share knowledge, resources and their rich tradition of storytelling.

It's a play in verse that seeks to amplify the voices and experiences of victims, survivors and living ancestors of the 1937 Haitian Massacre that occurred along the Northwest Dominican/Haitian border during the Rafael Trujillo era.

The play follows the chronological timeline of events that occurred before, during and after the massacre. The story explores the trauma that anti-blackness and colorism leave on a community, and how it gets passed down from generation to generation.

The reading will be available for a free virtual public viewing May 16-18. To reserve tickets, email marketing@milagro.org or call 503.236.7253.

Mother's Day Bike Ride

Milagro hosts their first guided bike ride to promote bike safety in the Central Eastside, Sunday, May 9, beginning at 1 pm. The ride will explore murals and local business in the community. The afternoon begins at Milagro with socially-distant theater games followed by the ride, in total a 1.9-mile loop, ending at Milagro Theatre at SE 6th and Stark St.

Metropolitan Youth Symphony's Finale

Metropolitan Youth Symphony's (MYS) season finale is Saturday, May 29 at 7 pm, and features world premieres by award-winning composer Giancarlo Castro D'Addona's *Portland Beauty*, performed by the Symphony Orchestra and MYS's collaboration with Fear No Music's Young Composers Project.

The Orchestra performs *Fazar Henry's Epiphany*, and three MYS ensembles perform *Theme and Variations on Edvard Grieg's Peasant Song*, composed by Koharu Sakiyama, Kara Taylor, Haladar Wright, Jackson Grace and Johann Mohnen.

The evening closes with multiple ensembles performing selections of *Georges Bizet's Carmen Suite No. 1* and *Dvorak's Slavonic Dance No. 8*.

The concert is free to view on YouTube, but requires registration to receive a private concert link. Register at: tinyurl.com/36rbx3ev to receive an emailed link to the concert. See playmys.org for more.



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Blues Hour: King Louie & Renato Caranto

The Cascade Blues Association in partnership with Artichoke Music presents Oregon Music Hall of Fame's Louis "King Louie" Pain on Hammond B-3 organ with Muddy Award Hall of Fame saxophonist, Renato Caranto, Wednesday, May 5. Showtime is 7 pm on Artichoke's Facebook Live page.

Pain moved to Oregon from San Francisco and spent several years as the organist for the Paul deLay Blues Band. Philippines-born Caranto works with Norman Sylvester, Tom Grant and Michael Allen Harrison and toured with artists Bernard Purdie, Clarence Gatemouth Brown, Arturo Sandoval, Merle Haggard, Esperanza Spaulding and others. They have performed together for 20+ years and are regulars at the Waterfront Blues Festival.

Saturday, May 15, 2 pm at Artichoke: Tom May's live-taping of River City Folk features the young bluegrass duo, Whiskey Deaf.

ArtichokeMusic.org, - 2007 SE Powell Blvd. 503.232.8845.



"Short, Remarkable Video"

PWNW's May Happy Hour is Thursday, May 20, 5 pm with duo collaborations by artists Wendy Hambidge + Jorge Samuel Faria, and Rachel Kessler + Matt Fielder. ASL interpretation by Jme James Antonick.

Faria and Hambidge present **Stand Up, Show Up, Own Up**, a 10 minute improvisation film. Faria is a movement artist from Brazil and Hambidge is an artist, somatic therapist and Body-Mind Centering Practitioner/Teacher. See Livinginthecbody.com.

The second collaboration features Kessler and Fielder in a "short remarkable video." Kessler, a painter, visual media performer and process-based arts education, teams with Fielder, artist, performer, sculptor, writer, stop-motion animator, fool and musician.

Tickets are \$1-\$30 sliding scale. RSVP at bit.ly/3tQrafm. Register by 3 pm day of show to get the Zoom link.

See PWNW-PDX.ORG.


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Aviary Inspiration



Jackie McIntyre's "Party Boys" (detail)

May art at Sidestreet Arts is for the birds with the carved books of Melody Bush and the painted feathered denizens of Jackie McIntyre. Both find aviary inspiration and flowering blooms abounding in their work. It must be the joy of Spring.

There's no shortage of flora and feathered fauna in Bush's vintage book carvings which include Western Cape Sandveld Flowers, Thorburn's Birds and other Audubon-inspired delights. Each book is deeply sliced to bring forth images or words for emphasis (think cut-up collages without the glue kept in book form) and cardinals and raptors pop right off the page.

McIntyre's variety of mediums (oil, oil with cold wax, assemblage and collage) is filled with a variety of "situational" birds. Whether an oil painting of a flicker, an assemblage with crow, or a pair of seagulls with seashells, they are always cleverly titled and entertaining.

Phyllis Flurry's fused art glass is featured in May's Spotlight Artist for the month and the whole shebang runs May 5-30.

An online preview is Tuesday, May 4, at 6 pm in discussion with the artists and their work. An online Artist Talk is Sunday, May 16, Noon-1 pm.

The art is available for online purchase. Sidestreet is at 140 SE 28th Ave. For a preview or for online links, see sidestreetarts.com.

Jason Vieaux: Guitar Eloquence




Chamber Music Northwest's season finale presents classical guitarist Jason Vieaux, Saturday, May 15 at 7 pm.

Vieaux is highly regarded for his versatility, lyricism and virtuosity. A passionate advocate of new music, he will perform **Four Paths of Light**, composed for him by guitarist Pat Metheny. Other pieces are by Bach, Scarlatti, Brouwer, and Ellington.

It's an evening of guitar inspiration and the performance was recorded at the Mechanics Hall in Worcester, Massachusetts. Tickets are \$20. Register at tinyurl.com/vieuxcmnw.

The performance will be streamable through Saturday, May 22 via CMNW.org. As a bonus, watch a free Musical Conversation with saxophonist Branford Marsalis too, Tuesday, May 11, 6 pm.



A Roof and A Bed

Portland Lesbian Choir (PLC) presents its Spring concert, **A Roof and a Bed**, Saturday, June 5, 7:30 pm via their channel, [youtube.com/PortlandLesbianChoir](https://www.youtube.com/PortlandLesbianChoir).

The concert's music is presented to amplify the critical issue of homelessness and housing insecurity and PLC engaged two composers to write music for the group to premiere. Giselle Wyers, conductor from the University of Washington wrote *A Roof and A Bed* and Kim Horenstein, section lead and Assistant Director, composed *Brandon's Journey Home*.

The Choir is partnering with four agencies who work closely with families, youth and children – Portland Homeless Family Solutions, p:ear, Rose Haven and Transition Projects.

The songs are closed-captioned and ASL is available for four pieces. The concert is presented free, and in honor of PLC's 35th anniversary, they're asking 100 people to donate \$35. See plchoir.org.

Repairing the Breach: Songs for the Journey



Folk musicians Annie Patterson and Peter Blood (left), creators of the popular *Rise Up Singing* and *Rise Up Again* songbooks, have created a "tour" of virtual singalong benefit concerts.

Repairing the Breach, Songs for the Journey takes place Saturday, May 15, 7 pm and the concert is inspired by the Rev. Dr. William Barber II and the Poor People's Campaign, focusing on the theme of immigrants and asylum seekers. The duo will be joined by the award-winning activist duo, **Emma's Revolution** (Pat Humphries and Sandy O).

The concert is a benefit for Project Voice, the Oregon/Washington immigrant rights program of the American Friends Service Committee. Pedro Sosa, director of Project Voice, builds leadership and resiliency in rural immigrant communities through virtual education and training. More about the program at tinyurl.com/Project-VoiceAFSC.

Purchase tickets at tinyurl.com/repairthebreach. A Zoom link and song sheet will be emailed before the concert. All are invited to join in song and spirit while supporting the work for immigrant rights.

Go

Staying In

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The Strange Case of Nick M



Time for real radio! Imago Theatre and KBOO Community Radio present an original radio theater drama, *The Strange Case of Nick M.*, Monday, May 3, 10 pm via the KBOO airwaves.

Audiences can tune in on 90.7fm in Portland, 91.9fm in Hood River, 104.3fm in Corvallis, or online at kboo.fm/listen. The play was written by Drew Pissarra.

The title character is a pianist who suffers from a rare, crippling illness which leaves him with a memory that only lasts seconds. Imago's surreal audio journey into his fragmentary world is narrated by a podcaster who has unearthed a box of long-forgotten reel-to-reel tapes once belonging to Nick's psychotherapist, the controversial Dr. Polina K.

Listening to these tapes, the audience witnesses the doctor tinkering with Nick's mind as she struggles to reactivate his frozen memory. You'll hear from Nick, his wife, Betty and their daughter, Liz and when he unravels after an experiment backfires...

It's real radio theatre and KBOO has kept this rare medium well done going for years with their Monday night radio theatres. This collaboration with Imago is the first of a multi-production radio series and a natural and exciting progression.

Visit imagotheatre.com/nick-m.html for more.



Portland Center brochure, c. 1965, AHC Library

The Architectural Heritage Center, 701 SE Grand Ave., has reopened its exhibit galleries to the public. Their new exhibit, *South Portland and the Long Shadow of Urban Renewal*, examines the history, redevelopment and future of South Portland.

This designation alludes back to the era in the first half of the last century when these surrounding neighborhoods were part of the city's most ethnically diverse community, commonly referred to as South Portland.

Face coverings and distancing are required. See VisitAHC.org.

Catherine Lee's "Remote Together"

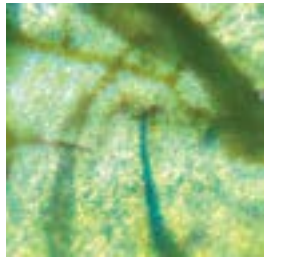
Oboist and renowned improviser Catherine Lee releases her second album, *Remote Together*, this month. On this recording, Lee's pure, clear oboe sound is recorded so well, the breath is a main instrument, transporting the listener to the outside world of musical counterpoint, birds, wind and wingsound.

It's a compelling evolutionary journey of spacious deep beauty – explorative, moving and cathartic. The sonics of the oboe, oboe d'amore and English horn are integrated with field recordings, manipulated sounds and electronics – all featuring Lee, whose tone, timbre and melodic inventions are impeccable in this graceful listening journey.

"Through the album, we move through moments of stillness and moments of activity, periods of disconnection juxtaposed with times of deep connection, from a dreamlike orientation to a fresh space," she said. "The sound worlds contained are somehow very micro and macro at the same time, similar to the way in which the pandemic has shaped our culture and realities. Forever changed, we experience new orientations to the world around us."

Lee has appeared with the Oregon Symphony, Oregon Ballet Theatre Orchestra, Portland Opera Orchestra and Les Grands Ballets Canadiens de Montréal.

The album release and premiere for *Remote Together* is Friday May 21, 5 pm, streaming from the Extradition Series YouTube page at tinyurl.com/CMGextradition, free and hosted by The Creative Music Guild. It will be moderated by radio host Robert McBride with Catherine Lee herself. See catherinemlee.com for more of her work.



"Remote Together" cover

Reel Life Returns to Clinton Street

Films and fun return to Clinton Street Theater May 6, 7 & 9 with the in-person screening of the Japanese horror cult classic, *Tetsuo The Iron Man* where a "metal fetishist" is driven mad by the wound he's made to embed metal into his flesh and runs out into the night.

Saturday May 29-Monday May 31, live performance returns to the CST stage as the Amazing Bubble Man returns for six shows for families and children (11 am and 2 pm each day). There's a special late night risqué cabaret of bubble magic for the grown ups too – *Bubble and Squeeze*. Marvel at sexy, beautiful, mind-blowing bubble/fog/helium creations as your ears are treated to tasty accordion tunes from the formidable international cabaret wonder, Jet Black Pearl. CSTPDX.com. 2522 SE Clinton St.



Amazing Bubble Man by Miriphoto

Clever Little Lies

Live theatre returns in person May 6-22 as triangle productions! presents a new story of long-term love and marriage. *Clever Little Lies* is a one-act play with no intermission written by Joe DiPietro, author of *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change* and directed by Donald Horn. The show is presented Thursday-Saturday at 7:30 pm with a Sunday Matinee, May 16, 2 pm.

Alice notices husband, Bill, has returned home on edge after a tennis match with their son and wonders what is going on. Determined to piece together the puzzle, she invites her son, Billy and daughter-in-law, Jane, over for drinks and dessert. Sidesplitting chaos ensues as Alice digs for the truth. A mother always knows when something is wrong.

COVID-19 safety measures – Seating limited to 45 people • Must have a reservation • Must wear a mask before entering and during your time in the space • Temperatures will be checked at door • All paperless – no paper tickets or programs available. Make reservations and purchase tickets at tinyurl.com/cleverlies. See trianglepro.org for more.

GRUMPY PORCUPINE ART

Lezlie Amara Piper has been a Portland resident for many years. Originally hailing from Idaho, she spent her childhood hours listening to wind, drawing plants, following animals and birds, and learning from local folk healers.



Here, she's studied at Lewis and Clark, Oregon College of Arts and Crafts and PNCA and besides being a communitarian, mother, visual and sound artist, healer, writer, film-maker and recently lapsed farmer, these days she single-handedly (pun intended) created a new line of visually stunning note cards. They're \$5 each and 5 for \$20.

Piper began her Grumpy Porcupine Art series last year after a spill broke her dominant wrist. She said she "decided to try to increase the dexterity of her non-dominant hand and attempt to keep herself sane by painting." Now there are 18 creatures populating her series of whimsical wonderful note cards, left blank inside for every occasion's messages.

See her art page at etsy.com/shop/GrumpyPorcupineArt. Order directly from her too by emailing grumpy.porcupine.art@gmail.com.

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Radius Annex Gallery presents *May Flowers*, a collection of floral studies by Portland painter **Jolyn Fry**. The show opens to the public First Friday, May 7, continuing through May 30. A socially-distanced gallery talk with the artist takes place Saturday, May 22, beginning at 6 pm. The Radius Annex Gallery is at 3022 E Burnside Ave. Gallery hours are Thursday-Sunday, Noon-6 pm. RadiusAnnex.com.



"The Corporate Vision" by Bob Conge

These Truths – Gallery 114's juried show for May has artists from across the country presenting work prompted by the idea that truth can be interpreted to mean something different to everyone. The artists explored lessons learned during this year-long pandemic.

Work was selected from 400+ applicants, and the exhibit showcases provocative and compelling responses to the theme.

The online show runs May 6-29 and can be found at gallery114pdx.com.

In a universe tending toward chaos, remember to always check the latest COVID updates for in-person event changes.



Tokes, jokes and magic tricks aplenty are presented in a show called *Smokus Pocus*, a cannabis-themed magic and comedy show. The THC-induced extravaganza features caricatures coming to life, phones vanishing and reappearing in impossible places, and minds read and green and blown – the stoned and the sober love the buzz.

Magician Ben Zabin blends mind-bending illusions with culturally relevant comedy – a one of a kindbud entertainment experience, one might say.

Zabin's show is COVID compliant and seating is limited for social distancing. Tickets must be reserved in advance.

Performances are May 15, June 12 and June 26 at 8 pm. Attendees must be 21 or older. Tickets are \$20. Make reservations at SmokusPocus.com.

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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.

Exercise Intensity or Duration: What is Best for the Heart?

You can walk into any gym in America and observe people exercising at various intensities. Some may ride a stationary bike for an hour at low-to-moderate intensity, while others may ride for only 30 minutes at high intensity. Which method provides the greatest benefit for the heart?

New evidence suggests that intensity is more important than the volume of physical activity in reducing cardiovascular risk.

Researchers at a University Hospital in Denmark monitored the activity levels of 10,135 study participants (ages 21-98) for over 10 years. The study, reported in *The British Medical Journal Open*, found that brisk walking or jogging halved the cardiovascular risk of participants over a 10-year period.

In contrast, leisurely walking, even for more than an hour each day, had no preventive effects. Previous research has found similar results. Medical researchers have shown that for both jogging and walking, speed rather than duration provides protection from all-cause and cardio-vascular disease mortality.

An international research team performed a scientific review on the effects of walking volume and pace on the risk of coronary heart disease. The review, published in *The European Journal of Epidemiology*, included over 295,000 participants and demonstrated a greater protective effect for walking pace than walking volume.

Another international research team examined the effect

of walking on cardiovascular disease and all-cause mortality. The study, published in *The European Journal of Cardiovascular Prevention and Rehabilitation*, found that walking pace was a stronger predictor of overall risk than walking volume.

An exercise regimen that focuses on intensity, rather than duration of activity, can improve your cardiac risk profile.

Please note that before starting any exercise program, you should consult with your health care professional.

Dr. Hari Dass Khalsa is a chiropractor specializing in the non-surgical treatment of spinal conditions with offices in the Hawthorne District. Call 503.238.1032 for information.



Neighborhood Notes

HAND
By Jill Riebesehl

Within Hosford Abernethy Neighborhood Association's boundaries lie Ladd's Addition, Colonial Heights, the Central Eastside Industrial District, OMSI and various and assorted small-businesses, renters, homeowners and people who are houseless. In other words, the neighborhood is a mixed bag.

The HAND board will hold its annual general meeting, including Board elections, Tuesday, May 18 via Zoom. We have not nailed down the agenda, but have great ideas for speakers. We will post an agenda in a week or so. It should be fun and interesting. As for elections, Board members look forward to adding several more members from the community.

At our April meeting, Heather Flint Chatto and Linda Nettekoven sounded the alarm for protecting the major and longtime features of Portland: our Main Streets. Heather, Linda and others have long been studying what makes Portland unique and liveable from the standpoint of built architecture.

The work was extra motivated by the rapid development of SE Division St., with the high dark walls of indistinguishable buildings on the south and the north that defy walkability, sunlight and safety. The many-years-long Main Street volunteer effort produced a detailed and thorough analysis with suggestions for ways development can happen and be modern, economical, useful and in keeping with the city's history and uniqueness.

Portland's planners are currently busy finishing plans to rezone for development (portland.gov/bps/doza). They have not, despite constructive, sustained volunteer work and suggestions from the Main Street project and others, included standards that would protect one of the crucial ways that make this city Portland.

City Council will be hearing the rezone proposal on May 12. Soon after, the city will be making decisions about the design overlay. Neighborhoods throughout the city are gathering support for incorporating the many constructive ideas for protecting Main Streets. Learn more at pdxmainstreets.org.

At our April meeting, TriMet's Thomas Scharff brought us up to date on the Division St. transit redesign. The \$175 million project has finally reached our neighborhood with work between SE 26th to 11th Avenues that will include street reconfigurations. TriMet expects the first articulated bus to arrive from New York soon, with a fleet to follow. The agency anticipates the project opening next year.

We learned that the Gideon Street Overcrossing – a new bicycle/pedestrian project we strongly lobbied for so bicyclists and pedestrians could get over the tracks – is receiving heavy use, and the gutters, designed for cyclists to wheel their bikes up and down the stairs, work well.

Montavilla Neighborhood Association
By Jacob Loeb

A fire broke out in the early morning of April 19 at the Portland Garment Factory, located in the center of Montavilla at 408 SE 79th Ave. The apparel maker lost all of their materials and tools due to the acts of arson. A GoFundMe page is accepting donations to help rebuild the business (gofund.me/19ab100f). As an ethical employer with a commitment to environmental sustainability, Portland Garment Factory became an essential part of the neighborhood's culture. With more support, this company can reopen stronger than before.

The Montavilla Neighborhood Association (MNA) continues its efforts to clean the streets. Membership in the volunteer Clean Team continues to grow and partnerships with other groups amplify their efforts. Free cleanup kits are available for volunteers. Sign up at montavillapdx.org/clean. Fundraiser Chair, Ron Thrasher, is working on a scrap metal and styrofoam recycling event. The date for that event will appear on the MNA website's calendar page, montavillapdx.org/mna-calendar, along with additional information regarding accepted items.

The next MNA meeting is Monday, May 10, 6:30 pm, with guest speaker Portland City Commissioner Jo Ann Hardesty. Register for the online Zoom meeting at montavillapdx.org.



Neighborhood Notes

North Tabor Neighborhood Association By Kim Kasch

The North Tabor Neighborhood Association (NTNA) hosted a safety presentation on Emergency Preparedness by Linda Bellerby at the April 20 Neighborhood Meeting via Zoom. A recording was made of the presentation which will be up soon on YouTube. Check our website for further details at Northtabor.org.

NTNA hosts a presentation on Short Term Rentals (Airbnbs), Tuesday, May 18, 6:30 pm via Zoom followed by questions and discussion. Presenting will be the President of Host2Host, an organization of short-term rental hosts (including several North Tabor residents). They are not affiliated with any of the booking platforms that have worked with the City in developing the way such rentals are regulated in Portland.

Neighborhood Meetings are every third Tuesday at 6:30 pm via Zoom. Links are listed on the website. If you have questions, direct them to board@northtabor.org.

Richmond Neighborhood Association By Albert Kaufman and Allen Field

The Richmond Neighborhood Association held its monthly meeting April 12. RNA meetings are held via Zoom on the second Monday of the month 6:30-8:30 pm. Preregistration is required, the link to preregister is on the Agenda, which is posted to richmondpx.org and sent out to the RNA Announce listserv. To be added to the listserv, email richmondnasecretary@gmail.com.

The annual Board election will be Tuesday May 11, 6:30-8:30 pm in the Waverly United Church of Christ, parking lot at SE 33rd Ave. and Woodward. Eight candidates are running for eight seats: Ann Sandvig, Brian Hochhalter, Claire Cofsky, Debby Hochhalter, Hope Townsell, JoAnne Knowles, Kamal Belkhatat and Madeleine Anderson-Clark.

Candidates will give short statements at the RNA's May 10 meeting. Candidate statements will be posted to the RNA website, the RNA listserv and NextDoor Richmond. Any person 18 or older who is a Richmond resident, business or property owner can vote.

Ballots will be emailed to the listserv, posted to the website and available at the voting site in the Waverly Church parking lot May 11. Ballots can be filled out at home and dropped off at the church. Under the City's rules, voting by mail and proxy voting are not allowed, so people have to drop off their own ballot.

There was discussion how the RNA can support the Sunnyside Farmer's Market, opening June 1, at Central Christian Church parking lot, 1844 SE César E Chavez Blvd. The RNA listserv is limited to announcements of agendas and events directly relating to or impacting Richmond and is not for discussion or advocacy purposes, especially not for promoting for-profit businesses. The Board discussed having an information table at the market and will send out notices to the listserv when an RNA table will be at the market.

Leah Fisher, SE Uplift (SEUL) Interim Executive Director, explained the reasons behind the changes to the neighborhood association (NA) communications funds program, where funds to NAs were cut in half, with the other half to be distributed to non-NA groups.

The RNA Board had sent a letter to SEUL objected to cutting the NA communication funds in half because the decision was made by SE Uplift staff without consultation with or approval by the SE Uplift Board, which consists mostly of NAs. Leah described SEUL's challenges given the city's budget changes and said that NAs in the future may not get the level of support from SEUL as in the past. She introduced our new SEUL liaison, Alexander McPherson and a bio of Alexander is on the SEUL website.

The closure of the Hawthorne Fred Meyer south entrance (it's been changed to emergency-use only) was discussed again by the Board. Last month the RNA voted to inform Fred Meyer that it plans to oppose its application to close the south-side entrance. As of the April meeting, Fred Meyer's land use application to close the entrance was still not complete.

The next RNA meeting is Monday, May 10.

Sunnyside Neighborhood Association By Dave Boush

The April SNA general meeting continued last month's discussion on building design and police oversight, endorsing documents on both topics. Johanna Brenner from the Portland Metro People's Coalition and Sarah Kowaleski, Coalition Organizer at Jobs with Justice, fielded questions relevant to their March request for the SNA to endorse a letter recommending specific language in the PPB contract. (*See the related article in the March newsletter and read the letter at uniteoregon.org/policing.*) The SNA voted to endorse the letter.

Heather Flint Chatto continued the discussion about building design in the neighborhood, especially along Hawthorne Blvd. and Belmont St. As in the March meeting, a principal focus was the PDX Main Street Design Guidelines, which you can find at pdxmainstreets.org/designguidelines. These guidelines are aimed at improving the fit between new infill and old buildings. Among Heather's main points was that good design is key to increasing density. Buildings can be built taller when they fit in well with the existing pattern. The SNA voted to adopt the Hawthorne special buildings list and the Main Street Design Guidelines for Hawthorne. The SNA endorsed a letter to City Council advocating for Main Street design-specific standards and for parity in design review with downtown. An example of design parity is when a specific building height triggers design review.

The Board voted to elect Vincent Dawans as a Board member, replacing Sunia Gibbs, who recently resigned. Vincent has done wonders as SNA Clean-Up Coordinator and we look forward to working more with him. We thank Sunia for her service. Please note the announcement of our Annual Board elections on July 8 and consider running. Visit sunnysideportland.org to learn more about how to run for an open Board seat during our next elections.

South Tabor Neighborhood Association By Tina Kimmey

May is the month for neighborhood elections. As mentioned previously, we have two positions that are on the ballot currently, Chair and Secretary. We also have an opening for a new vice chair. If anyone is interested in holding a position on the Board or has any questions about the duties of a Board member, email chair@southtabor.org. The current chair is resigning so feel free to ask him about the positions.

During this past year of staycations did you realize that you have more stuff than you need? Need a reason to purge some items from your home? South Tabor NA is promoting a neighborhood yard sale Saturday, June 12. If you are interested in helping out or participating, contact secretary@southtabor.org. We will create a map with participants so you'll know where to find the good stuff. One neighbor's trash is your new art project. White Elephant gift? That thing you never knew you needed.

Since Board elections are this month we will hold a general meeting, Thursday, May 20, 7-8:30 pm. Our Land Use Committee (as always) meets the Tuesday prior, so this month will be May 18, 7-8:30 pm. All meetings currently are held on Zoom, so check southtabor.org for links and agendas. See you soon!



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Business Association Notes

Hawthorne Boulevard Business Association

By Nancy Chapin

Amazing that it is May already! Portland Bureau of Transportation’s (PBOT) paving starts in June and the Bureau of Environmental Services (BES) is moving right along with curbs, ramps and extensions to make walking and busing safer on the Boulevard.

District businesses have been amazing in their dedication and ingenuity these past months and almost all of them are still on the Boulevard. A few businesses changed hands, a couple of owners decided to retire, some spaces have new businesses – be sure to check in and see what’s new.

After 20 involved years on Hawthorne, the Healthy Pets NW owners made the hard decision to close the store leaving Portland Pet Supply, Portland’s Pampered Pets and Mudbay continuing to serve our District’s animal population.

For the young people in our community, Echo Theater is signing up students for summer programs and School of Rock has both Online and In-School music lessons. Kids at Heart Toys has heritage and new games and items for real and imaginary fun – things we want or need to amuse ourselves and the children. Backstory Books & Yarn and Powell’s Books on Hawthorne have extensive selections for children. 30 years ago, there were so many bookstores on Hawthorne they had a group bookmark on their counters. We are happy to still have two.

As you are choosing gifts for the mothers and fathers in your life, along with shopping in person, another place to start is at Hawthorneblvd.com under SHOP or at Hawthorneblvd.com/HAH in the Booths section.

The Portland Police Bureau and Multnomah County District Attorney are working together on the Thanksgiving Day damage case. Thank you to the Fernie Brae for starting a raffle and for the additional items from several businesses towards a small fund to assist with damage and cleanup issues. So far, it has been used for graffiti covering paint, part of the dumpster cost for the cleanup on SE 36th Ave. that our Sunnyside neighbors accomplished and for a small grant towards a vandalized front window.

We are hoping to know in May whether we can have an outside street fair this year. We will still have Hawthorne at Home up on the website and whether we are out on the Boulevard again or creating an adventure online, we will host a party in August and beyond. Contact HBBA via Administrator@HawthorneBlvd.com.

Post-Pandemic Portland: Will SE Ever Be the Same?

from page 1

zler, who represents the owner of a one-story, four-tenant building at SE 47th and Belmont St., says there is little chance the property will be redeveloped and expects the current leases to be renewed after the sale.

Fezler acknowledged that commercial real estate values have declined in the past year, but says there is still a niche for “small, community oriented, Amazon-proof retail.”

Though there may be cause for optimism as far as restoring inner SE’s small, community-oriented retail mix to its former vibrancy, the situation for Portland as a whole is decidedly less cheerful.

Earlier this year a report from the Urban Land Institute ranked Portland 66th out of 80 US cities in terms of investor desirability. As recently as 2017 it was ranked third.

“Portland was a darling among the investors and in a very short period of time fell from grace,” said PSU professor emeritus and former state economist Tom Potiowsky.

The negative publicity over last September’s wildfires and the repeated trashing of commercial properties – including a wide swath of Hawthorne during Thanksgiving week by protesters – have been significant factors here in addition to the pandemic, Potiowsky maintained.

“I think Portland will bounce back once these things are alleviated,” he added.

Potiowsky emphasizes that he sees Portland’s predicament as short-term, not structural, unlike rust-belt cities as Detroit or Buffalo that have been declining for decades.

“It’s only been a little more than a year. That doesn’t generally cause huge transformational or structural changes,” he said.

Indeed, a strong housing market suggests that at least home buyers still consider Portland a desirable place to invest their money. According to real-estateagentpdx.com, the median home price here increased by 13.3 percent in 2020, higher than the national average.

With lower commercial real estate prices, will this potential increase in consumer demand presage a new surge of gentrification and transform inner SE’s landscape in the manner of, say, SE Division?

Again, there is no evidence yet of this happening. According to data provided by the Bureau of Development Services, there were 25 demolitions of commercial buildings in SE between March 2019 and March 2020, and 23 in the same time period between 2020 and 2021 (“commercial building” includes any residence of three or more units).

Perhaps a more hopeful omen for the nascent economic recovery is a plan in the works for the long-abandoned Gordon Fireplace building at 3300 NE Broadway.

The heavily-tagged and vandalized former aircraft factory, more evocative of the South Bronx than Portland, will soon undergo a major facelift developed by InterUrban Development of Seattle.

The plan calls for 8,000 square feet of ground floor retail with office space on the upper floors, as well as new brick siding on the building’s original pilasters.

Nonetheless, what works for an abandoned industrial building situated beside a freeway may not necessarily be a model for the urban villages of SE Portland.



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Community Events

Portland Saturday Market

Tom McCall Waterfront Park
Saturdays 10 am-5 pm
portlandsaturdaymarket.com

The Portland Saturday Market is back up and running! Nationally recognized as the largest continuously operating open-air arts and crafts market in the country, PSM is proud to provide a marketplace for local small businesses creating handmade arts, crafts and foods from the Pacific Northwest.

Portland Art Museum

1219 SW Park Ave.
Wednesday-Sunday 10 am-5 pm
portlandartmuseum.org

The entire Museum will open on May 5, giving visitors full access to all galleries including the highly anticipated new exhibition, *Ansel Adams in Our Time*. Expanded hours of operation will be Wednesday-Sunday 10 am-5 pm, including the Museum Store. Timed-entry tickets are required, which we recommend booking in advance because capacity is limited.

Memorial Weekend in Wine Country

Willamette Valley Wineries
May 29-31
willamettewines.com/memorial-weekend-in-wine-country/

Springtime in wine country is cause for celebration! During the long-running Memorial Weekend in Wine Country event, wineries open their doors to welcome the return of vibrant colors to the landscape and the first chapter in the story of the next vintage. This is the time for exciting new white wine and rosé releases, soft buds emerging on the vines, the scent of flowers everywhere and the joy that comes with a fresh start.



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

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