



NAs Vow to Keep Portland Neighborly

BY MIDGE PIERCE

If you value public input on landuse, transportation, infrastructure and livability, thank Neighborhood Association pushback for postponement (and perhaps reconsideration) of a City Council vote on a controversial code change that would erode Portland resident's City Hall influence. No reschedule date has been confirmed.

The code revision instigated by City Commissioner Chloe Eudaly and her Office of Community and Civic Life (OCCL) would disengage the system that officially connects neighborhoods with City government and provides a pipeline for policy notifications.

Eudaly and her OCCL Director Suk Rhee claim the new code would bring affinity groups with more diversity to the

public participation table, albeit without specified standards for open meetings, transparency and accountability.

Their approach has been punishing. In public presentations, Eudaly and OCCL have labeled Portland's ninety-five Neighborhood Associations as racist, elitist, discriminatory organizations that do not represent all Portlanders.

Eudaly has slammed NAs for putting up barriers to inclusion of marginalized groups and Rhee says the new code, developed by her handpicked committee, is needed because of Portland's history of white privilege and oppression.

What OCCL fails to acknowledge is that NAs represent residents of every stripe including renters, homeowners, and busi-

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Officer Calls for Patience

BY MIDGE PIERCE

In the face of protests, car thefts,

Next Door burglary reports, public drug use, "sharps" (preferred word for needles) on streets and playgrounds and a general rise in police calls, it seems counter-intuitive that crime is down.

East Precinct Commander Tashia Hager told the South Tabor Neighborhood Association that only reported crime is down, not actual crime.

Another consequence of Portland's extreme shortage of resources and officers is lack of data on how much lawlessness is actually happening around town.

Hager says anticipated retirements will leave twenty-five percent of Portland Police Bureau's (PPB) 1004 positions unfilled by next August.

Currently, the force is down thirteen percent with some 130 officer needs unmet.

Recruitment challenges are compounded by competition for officers from other towns and criticism of the bureau from both left and right.

These are confusing times for PPB. As the bureau's role shifts with political winds, the force comes under attack for being either too hardline or too soft.

Plus, the severity of the policing shortage means the likelihood of an officer

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History of Neighborhood Associations

BY DON MACGILLIVRAY

Controversy, criticism, and change challenge neighborhood associations today. It is not just city problems troubling the neighborhood system, but the possibility that the fifty-year system of public advocacy and volunteerism may face a complete overhaul.

Many neighborhoods grew up as independent towns often with their own post offices. These included East Portland, Albina, St. Johns, Sellwood, and Linnnton. In the early 20th century, various neighborhoods were the home to newly-arrived immigrants to Portland.

The Lewis and Clark Fair in 1905 brought visitors from all over the world. Many liked it and moved here, doubling the population in just a few years. With the streetcar, people were able to travel long distances, and soon the automobile allowed residential infill throughout.

The depression of the 1930s impacted older neighborhoods causing social service agencies to form neighborhood committees with their residents to help people in distress.

With the post war success of the nation in the 1950s, social service efforts slowly declined. There was still a serious need to rehabilitate neighborhoods and provide social assistance in the inner city. The Johnson administration of the 1960s created the nation's Great Society initiatives, one of which was Model Cities Program.

This was an anti-poverty program

that targeted low-income communities in inner NE Portland. Residents in depressed neighborhoods were involved in decisions on how to implement federal programs. This was the beginning of some inner NE neighborhoods.

Inner SE also organized under Model Cities Program in Richmond, Buckman, Sunnyside, and Brooklyn. In 1968, SE Uplift (SEUL) was formed by Portland Development Commission.

PACT, (Portland Action Communities Together) became IMPACT NW, the social service organization. SE Uplift worked with the neighborhoods to use federal money in the area and PACT became the advocacy organization.

Neil Goldschmidt was elected mayor in 1972. He was a believer in citizen advocacy and many of his progressive ideas changed city government. He saw neighborhood associations as an important tool of access and communication between city bureaus and residents.

Mary Pedersen, the director of the successful Northwest District Association, was tasked with creating a city office to work with neighborhoods and to help them communicate with the city. The Office of Neighborhood Associations (ONA) opened in 1974 to work with NAs and to organize them in the other areas of the city.

The existing neighborhood groups believed ONA was a front for downtown control and ONA had to demonstrate there was sufficient value in the neighborhood

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Summertime and the Livin' is Easy



BY MIDGE PIERCE

A silver lining of the attack on Neighborhood Associations is the growing outreach to under-represented groups.

It's not always easy, as groups that do not share language and culture may feel isolated and unwelcome, but NAs say it's not for lack of trying.

In addition to events that encourage community mingling at summertime's many commercial street fairs and farmer's markets, August was filled with National Night Out neighborhood events, block parties and picnics.

South Tabor Neighborhood, is plan-

ning its 9th Annual Harvest Fest, and even boasts a tireless volunteer who brings jellies and jams to welcome new neighbors.

The adjacent Mt. Tabor neighborhood resurrected its annual picnic by extending outreach to more than a thousand apartments, homes and businesses.

A six-block neighborhood within the neighborhood near SE Madison and 57th St. has been hosting a Dessert Night for neighbors new and old for twenty-two years. What started as a way to teach bored summertime kids how to cook pies has become a highly anticipated event.

"Dessert is a great way to bring neighbors together," says Tod Burton. Pies remain the treat of choice.

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A Solution to Climate Change

By MEERA RAMACHANDRAN

A scary book can help some folk nestle into the mood of the Halloween season. With the fall around the corner, it’s good to know about a book that should ignite terror in the hearts of people with its post-apocalyptic nature.

What makes it frightening is that it could very easily be the narrative of our future, with our older selves and children as the main characters.

The book is called *The Uninhabitable Earth: Life after Warming* by David Wallace-Wells.

Wallace-Wells is a self-described non-environmentalist, and a city loving reporter for *New York* magazine. He unapologetically describes what will come to pass if we do not change our way of life; one so intricately linked to fossil fuels.

Sure, we could change a few things about the way we live – eat lower on the food chain, bike to work, buy locally-sourced foods, drive electric cars, lead by example. Still, most of us know a single person’s impact is not enough to alter the course of this fate.

The good news is that there are many solutions. If enacted collectively, they could shift us away from this projected catastrophe.

Of those many possible solutions, the one that has been proven to be the most effective in rapidly cutting down our carbon emissions is that of a carbon tax. Plainly stated, if something increases in price, people will buy

less of it.

The word “tax” is fairly cringe-worthy. Nobody wants to be spending more money on something that has been a comfortable price for a steady period of time. Many feel they are already paying a lot without getting much in return.

How about those that live on the margins? Sadly, that is the majority of our country. Quite a few people say that even thirteen dollars a month more in efforts to save the planet was something they wanted to do, but could not afford.

A way to help get around these issues is a proposal called Carbon Fee and Dividend.

It is an idea that has been around for years and was recently written into a bill that resides in the U.S. House of Representatives called H.R. 763, The Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act.

The bill would place a fee of \$15/ton on carbon-based products (oil, natural gas, coal) when they are pulled out of the ground and the amount would increase every year by \$10/ton.

The money collected would be returned to each American in the form of an equal dividend. Children would get a half dividend.

There is also a border adjustment to help promote international engagement and to prevent businesses from “polluting overseas” to make their products cheaply.

What works about this proposal is that the price of fossil fuels will eventually become too expensive to use as a main source of fuel, paving the way for innovation and increased affordability of clean energy.

It also protects low-income individuals who would not be able to afford the transitory increase of everyday goods. In fact,

one is rewarded for living with a low carbon footprint.

Putting a tax on a product has been studied in comparison to just raising the price of it. For unknown reasons, consumers will change their utilization of a product if the price increase is labeled as a tax.

Additionally, this bill is bipartisan in nature, making it more likely to pass without the threat of repeal when there is a change of power in Washington DC.

It appeals to conservatives because it is a market-based solution that doesn’t create government. In addition, the program disappears once our goal of zero emissions is reached. (Alternatively though, the fee will ramp up if our target goals are not reached).

The majority of conservative voters believe in climate change and are interested in solutions.

This bill does not address all the sources of emission or other environmental problems. For instance, it does not target agricultural sources of methane production or coolants used for refrigeration.

Nor does it solve the problem of our overwhelming consumption of plastics, but, it is important to note that this proposal is expected to cut emissions by forty percent by 2040 and ninety percent by 2050; a goal that the most recent IPCC report recommended. No single policy has this dramatic of an effect.

This bill currently resides in the House of Representatives, so write to your Congress members to request their support.

Change comes from the bottom up so to avoid the apocalyptic scenario described in *The Uninhabitable Earth*, it is up to us to fight for a livable world.

For more information, visit: citizensclimatelobby.org.

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Publisher/Editor: Nancy Tannler

Advertising: Nancy Tannler – 503.254.7550
Proofreader: Albert Q. Osdoe
A & E: Brian Cutean
Contributors:
Don MacGillivray, Midge Pierce,
David Krogh, Jack Rubinger, Peter Zimmerman

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More and More Scooters Coming

By David Krogh

Note: The Southeast Examiner discussed the Portland Bureau of Transportation's (PBOT's) implementation of a new one-year pilot project starting next April for e-scooters in our June issue (The Scooters are Back).

In July, PBOT announced up to 15,000 scooters could be available within the City by the end of 2019. At the time, PBOT had also approved two companies, Razor out of California and Shared from Tacoma, to provide 725-seated rentable scooters here.

Then in mid August, PBOT announced that 655 additional scooters are approved to hit the streets as soon as available.

Bird, one of three companies already operating in Portland has been authorized to bring 525 more scooters to town. Portland separately gave two companies (Bolt and Spin) approval to expand their number of scooters as well.

At the same time as the scooter announcement, PBOT released ten weeks of performance data. Selected statistics from the performance data include the following:

- 46 estimated trips to emergency rooms involving scooter accidents
- 307,457 scooter miles logged during the period from 253,690 trips. Most trips were one mile or less in distance.)
- 16 e-scooter collisions with vehicles or pedestrians

• 903 complaints reported by companies in charge of tabulating complaints as required by their permits, primarily for parking issues or “poor riding behavior”

• 371 similar complaints received by the City from the public

• 116 tickets issued for illegal riding on sidewalks

• 191 tickets issued for illegal parking

Scooter companies are also charged for right-of-way use in addition to their permit fees.

Of interest to riders, because of excessive parking of scooters in parks during the initial trial, companies are now required to set up specific parking locations at parks.

Failure to park in those locations causes the scooter’s “meter” to continue running, accumulating additional costs to the rider.

The City continues to receive, audit and report data about the scooter program over time. PBOT has indicated that complaints will be monitored and tracked to ensure adequate follow up.

PBOT hopes that having a variety and large number of scooter types will encourage a wider variety of people to ride a scooter instead of a car and help



alleviate traffic congestion.

Enforcement will be higher this time than during the initial trial. In case of dangerous scooter operations or accidents, the public should call 911.

Chloe Eudaly is the City Commissioner in charge of PBOT and the program. Email her at: chloe@portlandoregon.gov.

Submit email questions about the program to the City at: e-scooter@portlandoregon.gov. Complaints are to be directed not at the City but to the individual scooter companies. Complaint access to the three companies currently approved to operate is at this link: bit.ly/2Zh6bY3.

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Striking for the earth's sake

By MIDGE PIERCE

Wondering about the large green billboard popping up on SE streets? It's part of a countdown to a weeklong Global Climate Strike September 20-27 in which citizens of the world stop normal activities for Earth's sake.

As temperatures rise, storms grow more erratic, and glaciers calve, time is running out to stop widespread devastation and extinctions within our lifetimes.

The billboards on SE streets rotate courtesy of Extinction Rebellion whose blog states: "There is overwhelming scientific evidence that we are living in a time when radical, rapid and far-reaching changes are needed to avert environmental disaster."

The group was established in the UK and spread across the world as one hundred and seventy-one governments in seventeen countries declared a climate emergency.

The Portland chapter meets regularly to plan non-violent civil disobedience actions to demand "real, effective and just action on the Climate Crisis".

In one article, the group suggests building on common concerns for maximum effectiveness because, "Talking to people who don't 'believe' in climate change can be very hard."

From their website, "We are facing an unprecedented global climate emergency. The government has failed to protect us. To survive, it's going to take every-



thing we've got." See facebook.com/xrpx.

350 PDX is also working to save the world. Communications Director Chris Palmer says the need for greater climate awareness is more urgent than ever with science deniers and an "EPA falling apart."

The group gets much of its inspiration from young activists around the world, including Oregon Youth Climate Councils that have lobbied the state legislature for environmental action.

Palmer fears that in the face of extreme climate change, people feel helpless and grow complacent. Yet, individuals can make a difference by changing their shopping and driving habits, drying their laundry outside, planting trees and demanding environmental justice.

The group is not just about climate change, but also climate equity.

Low income groups, in

Portland and other places, are hardest hit by global warming, changing weather patterns and fossil fuel pollution.

Temperature rises in parts of Southern Oregon are expected to be among the worst in the nation.

350 PDX is currently involved in efforts to stop the Jordan Cove fossil fuel facility, and the Zenith tar sands imports.

The group claims that during a Climate Strike last spring, some eight million students worldwide participated. In the ramp up to the September event, the group has held meetings almost every other night to organize and train volunteers.

"The future we face is not what our parents had," says Palmer. "When I was ten, I assumed some clever people were working somewhere to solve warming. Now I realize they're not out there. It's up to you and me." See 350pdx.org.

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Neighborhood Notes

Richmond

By Allen Field

Richmond Neighborhood Association held its monthly meeting on August 12, at Waverly Heights Church at SE 33rd/Woodward St. RNA meetings are held in the basement; enter from the east-side door. All are welcome. The website is richmondpx.org.

Officer Shaun Sahli reported that a very prolific car prowler was caught. In response to concerns raised at the meeting, he will try to arrange two day enforcement missions on Clinton and Woodward. He explained that Civic Life is eliminating its Crime Prevention program and rebranding it as “Community Safety,” but he did not know what the new program will entail.

With an almost unanimous vote of the twenty-seven members present, the following amendments were made to the Bylaws: 1) Directors can only be elected by the Members, the Board can no longer appoint people to the Board, 2) Robert’s Rules do not apply to Board of Directors elections since the RNA has its Election Standing Rules that govern election procedure, and 3) Directors must sign the RNA’s Code of Ethics instead of having the option just to orally agree to them.

The Board voted to oppose the Code 3.96 proposal that would effectively dismantle the City’s forty-five year old, nationally recognized Neighborhood Association System. The proposal would remove the formal recognition of neighborhood associations and District Coalitions, the requirement for neighborhood associations to follow Open Meetings rules (which ensure non-discrimination, inclusivity, open meetings, transparency and accountability), and the requirement that the City and Coalitions support neighborhood associations.

Contrary to the 2016 Auditor’s Report and a 2008 Community Connect Report, which recommended strengthening the Neighborhood Association System and adding to the Code formal recognition of other groups, the 3.96 proposal eliminates formal recognition of everyone. No one has a Code-protected seat at the table.

The Board voted to keep the RNA listserve restricted to announcements.

The next RNA meeting will be September 9 and will include an Ice Cream Social, an opportunity to meet the Board and your neighbors, with guest speaker Oregon House Representative Rob Nosse, District 42. He will give an update on important issues this legislative term and answer questions.

Hosford-Abernethy

By Jill Riebesehl

The dog days of August are over, but definitely not forgotten. These last few months have seen many who are involved in our neighborhood struggling with a proposal by the city government to write the neighborhoods out of the city code.

Along with many, many other neighborhood associations throughout the city, we are challenged by the proposed code changes to focus on how neighborhoods are and have been uniquely positioned to participate in changes that affect all those who live in our particular geographically designated areas.

This code change proposal – which won’t reach City Council for a vote until November at the earliest – has encouraged us to look back at how HAND has participated in improving our little section of SE Portland and to look ahead on how we can continue to help neighbors in the unique ways that we do: taking up residents’ causes, guiding people in ways to interact with the city, transit and county governments; providing a forum for experts and politicians to explain their positions or share their knowledge; inviting a wide variety of groups to speak on issues such as greenways, residential infill, low-income housing and more.

People who are involved with the HAND neighborhood (all volunteers) for decades have witnessed and participated in myriad ways with the city. For example, the intense fight long ago to keep Powell Park from being taken over by Fred Meyer; invite Catholic Charities and St. Philip Neri to open neighborhood discussion on low-income housing; cheer on the MAX Orange line, and then push for a train horn quiet zone; push to replace the bike/pedestrian bridge to provide safe crossing for bikes and pedestrian over the train/MAX tracks; participate with constructive suggestions in the city’s various greenway plans. And more.

As our neighborhood faces the future and its inevitable changes, we welcome all new residents, as well as those who live here already. We are eager to listen, share and help in the ways that we can.

We always enjoy meeting you all at our summer ice-cream socials in Piccolo Park and the Division-Clinton parade, and participating with other neighborhoods in issues that don’t have borders. We meet every month on the campus of St. Philip Neri every third Tuesday except December and August. We look forward to seeing you.

South Tabor

By Tina Kimmey

Join your neighbors and enjoy a day of community as the South Tabor neighborhood is holding our 10th annual Harvest Festival Sunday, September 8, Noon-4 pm. There will be fresh pressed cider, grilled corn on the cob, a seed, plant and garden tool swap, music, vendors, children’s crafts, and a raffle. Stop by the field near SE Clinton & 68th to find out more and support our neighborhood.

Land Use committee this month continued the discussion regarding SE Woodward & 62nd; repaving has begun and we expect speed bumps to come once the paving is complete. Additionally we are planning to discuss an engineering solution to the dangerous conditions for school kids and pedestrians in this stretch of Woodward in an upcoming meeting. Other future and ongoing construction in our neighborhood has our attention. Join us in September for more information.

At this month’s general meeting, we hosted speakers from the city and neighboring neighborhood associations to discuss the proposed city code change 3.96. The discussion concluded by voting in favor of sending a letter to City Council encouraging them to vote against the current iteration of the proposed change to city code 3.96. For a copy of this letter check our website southtabor.org.

As always we invite our neighbors and interested parties to our monthly meetings; Land Use next meets September 17, 7-8:30 pm, and the next General Meeting will be September 19, 7-8:30 pm. Join us as we meet in the Trinity Fellowship building, 2700 SE 67th Ave. Enter on the east from the rear parking lot. For more information go to southtabor.org or send questions to info@southtabor.org.

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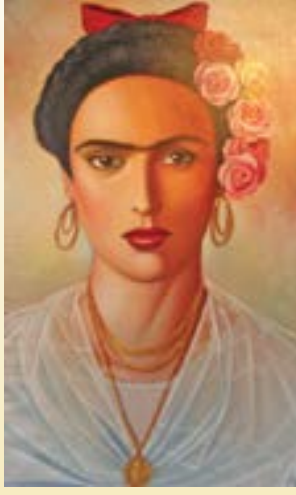
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Community News

Recycling tip for September

By Bonita Davis, Master Recycler and SE Resident

Ever convinced yourself you had the correct information on a particular subject, only to find out later you were, well, wrong?

You are not alone! Always a big fan of recycling, I take, Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle to heart. I still remember the day I heard that “to-go” coffeecups were not recyclable.

I had been wondering how paper could hold hot liquid, and suspected the shiny layer as being plastic, but I saw them in the recycling bin at the coffeeshop.

In disbelief, I reread my Curbsider* information, and there it was in black and white print: *No to-go coffeecups*. Embarrassed to have missed this detail, I was shocked! How did this I miss this? Truth is, I didn’t fact check because I assumed I was correct.

This can happen to anyone. Often, members of the same household are not in agreement and an ongoing debate ensues about what goes in and what stays out. The good news is it just got a lot easier to end the confusion.

Metro’s new website, RecycleorNot.org, (ReciclarONo.org in Spanish) shows full color photographs displaying items that do not belong in the blue roll cart; plastic bags, container lids, take-out clamshells, to-go coffeecups and much, much more.

Recognizable common household products that can be recycled curbside are also included.

At oregonmetro.gov’s Find-a-Recycler Tool, recycleornot.org even makes it easy to find resources for recycling, donation, and reuse.

Why care? For starters, unwanted materials placed into recycling have to be removed manually from conveyor belts and machinery when they are sorted. This slows the process and adds to costs.

Recycled materials compete with raw and virgin materials in the market, so it is important to keep recyclables attractive to manufacturers. Secondly, buyers can and do reject baled recyclable materials that are contaminated by unwanted items, and at that point, landfilling may be the only option.

Remember, it is better for our environment to put trash in the landfill where it is secured and not polluting our landscapes and waterways, than to have trash contaminating our recycling.

Find out if an item is recyclable at home by submitting a photo to @recycleornot or @reciclarono on Instagram.

*Want to talk to a person instead? Try the Metro Recycling Hotline, 503.234.3000. *Curbsider information at portlandoregon.gov.*

Search: “curbsider.”

Mt. Tabor Park

The Friends of Mt. Tabor Park’s annual summer potluck picnic – Tuesday, September 10 from 5:30-7:30 pm at Picnic Shelter A across from the main parking lot and Visitor Center.

It’s the perfect opportunity to chat with the Board, learn the latest Mt. Tabor news, sample delicious homemade treats, and win great prizes.

Each guest receives a raffle ticket for the chance to win. Bring a dish to share. Drinks, plates, napkins and utensils will be provided. No RSVP is needed.

Free Mt. Tabor Tree ID Walk – Sunday, September 15

Join Bob Rogers the third Sunday of every month as he leads visitors on a tour of the park’s most notable trees. Meet at the park Visitor Center at 2 pm rain or shine.

The 8th annual Friends of Mt. Tabor Park 5k walk/run and 10K run – Sunday, September 29

Celebrate autumn in the park. Prices for the races remain the same at \$25 for the 10K, \$15 for the 5K, and \$5 for kids 12 and under entered in the 5k. The race raises funds for the Friends of Mt. Tabor Park. Over the past seven years, the race has provided over \$8,000 to FMTP.

10K race begins at 9 am and 5K race begins at 9:05 am. For check-in and same-day registration, come to the parking lot near the Visitor Center between 8 - 8:45 am.

After the race, feel free to mingle with other runners and enjoy post-race snacks donated by local businesses. There will be a post-race raffle for prizes, donated by other local businesses.

For information and registration go to: runannie.net.

ADU Guide for townhouses

Portland’s Bureau of Developmental Services (BDS) has approved a new code guide (bit.ly/30BhtmA) that allows additional Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs), to be constructed within Townhouses if certain requirements are met.

The guide will provide clear requirements for spaces used in common by multiple Townhouses.

This code guide will be effective on Monday September 16, 2019.

Contact: Terry Whitehill at terry.whitehill@portlandoregon.gov or 503.823.7639.

Art Heads to Sponsor Local Artists

By David Krogh

Art Heads Custom Picture Framing, 1506 SE 50th St., will soon begin exhibiting a display of artwork by local artists. Gabe Rahe, the new owner since January, has been anticipating this for several years and is now able to bring it to fruition.

The first two artists to have their art showcased are Adrienne Stacey and Larry N. Olson. Both work with very different media. The opening reception for the exhibition will be Saturday, September 21, from 5-7 pm and the public is invited.

Stacey lives in SE Portland and specializes in pottery, frameable naturescapes and watercolor paintings.



Adrienne Stacey

Her small studio is available for viewing by appointment. Stacey has been a potter since 1972 and has a substantial history of exhibitions. She currently has pieces on display and for sale within galleries in Oregon, Washington and Utah. Her website is her website is adriennestaceypottery.com.

Olson has specialized in landscape photography for over forty years and his specialty is what he terms “intimate landscapes.” His studio is available for visiting by appointment too.

Both framed and unframed copies of his photographs are there for viewing or for purchase.

He is well known for his photographs of the Opal Creek Wilderness and for his book, *Oregon Rivers*. larrynolson.com.



Photo by Larry Olson

Owner Rahe has worked for Art Heads since 1999 and celebrated Art Heads 21st year on Hawthorne Blvd. in May with a reception and a display of seventy-five art pieces.

Having renovated the store substantially, he proposes it now serve a dual role as a frame/art shop and a community arts space.

The renovation has included movable components so that work area can be quickly converted to display area or vice versa. All in all, more than four hundred square feet of wall area can be made available for art displays.

Rahe hopes that if the September 21 event is successful he can provide quarterly gallery shows for other artists in a variety of mediums starting next year. At present, he will be contacting known local artists for inclusion. In the future, this could evolve into a jury type selection.

Rahe told *The Southeast Examiner* he had tried gallery shows several years ago, but they didn’t prove cost effective. Now with Hawthorne becoming more popular and heavily visited, he’s hoping the time is right to bring art shows back.

He describes himself as an “organic growth believer” and hopes his space will stay small, local, and be neighborhood art based.

More information about this and future exhibits, see art-heads.com or phone 503.232.5299.

LE

Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

The monthly receipt of *The Southeast Examiner* is a highlight of my civic life; a reminder of the importance of the media in democracy.

How refreshing to see pertinent local news, community events, businesses and culture explored with as healthy an advertising mix as I see in any print media today.

The Examiner is often the only media source presenting regular articles about the city’s Office of Community and Civic Life, the future of neighborhood associations, urban density and housing demolition. These are issues deserving thorough research and exploration.

I wish you the best of luck in finding a new owner. You are a critical part of our shared life.

In the same spirit, I ask that you consider a change in editorial approach.

In my opinion many of the articles about our neighborhoods, growth and housing seem to be written from the perspective of someone who has prejudged the issues.

These articles often vilify people or opinions in conflict with the prejudgment rather than bringing a truly impartial curiosity to uncover the rationale behind opposing viewpoints.

If possible, it would be wonderful if these subjects could be pursued with more journalistic neutrality, uncovering different viewpoints and facilitating a productive community debate rather than missing a deeper understanding of issues critical to our future.

Another approach would be to simply identify these articles as opinion pieces rather than a news article, and ideally seek opposing viewpoints for publication in the same edition.*

Thank you again for your essential contribution to our community.

Glenn Lamb

(*Editors note: News stories headlines are capitalized.)

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CN Community News

Girl Scout Creates Historic Laurelhurst Walking Tour guide

Amelia Shields, a senior at Grant High School, created a walking tour of the NE neighborhood Laurelhurst for her Girl Scout Gold Award Project. The tour is available in both audio and print formats and can be downloaded from the Laurelhurst Neighborhood Association website online at laurelhurstpdx.org/history.

The historical walking tour is broken into two parts. Part one outlines the history of Laurelhurst from a dairy farm to a carefully planned community in the early 1900s and takes you to historically interesting homes and landmarks.

Part two focuses on Laurelhurst Park starting with an overview of the park history and how it came to be. This part of the tour walks you through the park and explains the designer's vision and the purpose for each of the different sections within the park.

The printed version of the tour has both parts and includes fun photos from the past.

Val Ballestrem, education manager for the Architectural Heritage Center, calls the tour "a well-researched and thorough account of Laurelhurst neighborhood, its history, architecture, and of course, its famous park."

Shields has grown up in the Laurelhurst neighborhood and has been in Girl Scouts since the first grade. She enjoys reading, knitting, and playing with her dog.

This summer she is working



as a Junior Counselor at Girl Scout Camp Arrowhead in the Columbia River Gorge for the second year. Besides Girl Scouts, she is a steward at the Children's Book Bank, a member of the Multnomah County Library Teen Council, and on the National Honor Society at Grant High School.

The Girl Scout Gold Award is the highest level award a Girl Scout can earn. It requires a minimum of eighty leadership hours toward the completion of a project to better the community.

The Gold Award allows a Girl Scout to develop leadership skills, be seen as a role model, master time management skills, and make the world a better place.

Girl Scouts of Oregon and Southwest Washington serves approximately 14,000 girls in 37 counties with the help of nearly 10,000 volunteers. For information, please visit girlscoutsosw.org.

7TH ANNUAL CATIO TOUR! Saturday, September 7, 10 am-2 pm, \$10 per person (free for the first child 12 & under). To register see: CatsSafeAtHome.org. Don't miss this popular Portland, one-of-a-kind event. The Tour will showcase ten diverse outdoor cat enclosures Hosted by the Feral Cat Coalition of Oregon and Portland Audubon, the self-guided tour was created to inspire cat owners to build or buy their own outdoor cat enclosure to keep cats safe from outdoor hazards while protecting wildlife from cat predation.

WHAT ABOUT CARBOHYDRATES? High carb, low carb, net carbs, ketones, sugar substitutes. All of these, and more can change your blood sugar levels. To manage diabetes, what have you found to be effective? Or frustrating? Or tasty? Join the Hawthorne Diabetes Group for a lively discussion on how you can improve your blood sugars by altering your relationship with carbohydrates without shame or blame. Thursday, September 19, 7-8:30 pm at Colonial Hts. Pres. Church, 2828 SE Stephens. \$10 donation requested. No one will be turned away for lack of funds. For more info, contact Julia Hanfling, RD, CDE at 503.936.8086 or julia@3peachesnutrition.com. RSVP is appreciated. See tiny.cc/what_about_carbs.

5G STRATEGIES MEETING, Thursday, September 12, at 7 pm, Ontario Institute of Cancer Research (OICR) will be holding a Readings for Now Seminar on the issue at Mother Foucault's Bookshop, 523 SE Morrison St.

VIKING PANCAKE BREAKFAST SEPTEMBER 8 – Join us for our delicious all-you-can-eat Viking pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, fresh fruit, strawberry compote, lingonberries, orange juice and coffee or tea served in our charming Bergen Dining Room at Norse Hall, 111 NE 11th Ave., 8:30 am-12:30 pm. Adults \$8, Children ages 3-10 \$4, Children under age 3 are free. Parking is free. Best breakfast in town.

PORTLAND SINGS! – returns from its summer break. A community sing-along and casual, group-singing opportunity for everyone wanting more music expression in their life. Sunday September 15, 2-4 pm at Artichoke Music, 2007 SE Powell Blvd. Sliding scale \$8 - \$15. See PortlandSings.com.

INNOVATIONS IN PUBLIC EDUCATION – a civic panel discussion presented by the League of Women Voters Monday, September 16, 7-8:30 pm, at the Multnomah County Boardroom, 501 SE Hawthorne Blvd. Learn about new programs in our schools. Many educators in the Portland area are dedicated to improving public schools. In spite of funding challenges in recent years, they have found innovative ways to foster learning and equity for students. For more information contact Nancy Donovan, civiced@lwvpdx.org or Margaret Noel, communications@lwvpdx.org

THE COMMUNITY MUSIC CENTER 3350 SE Francis Street celebrates new classes and fifty years in the Francis Street Firehouse with an Open House, Saturday, September 21, 12-4 pm and free for all. There will be live music from The Northwest Piano Trio (northwestpianotrio.com); mini demo classes (for kids and adults) in percussion, piano, improvisation, and bilingual English-Spanish family music for Early Childhood and an Instrument Petting Zoo – rooms full of instruments to try out, including violins, cellos, drums, guitars, pianos, xylophones and trumpets, CMC artist instructors will perform throughout the day and talk about their class offerings.

Built in 1912 for Portland Fire Co. No. 25 as one of the last Portland firehouses for horse-drawn firefighting equipment, the Francis Street Firehouse was renovated in 1969 as the site for Portland Parks & Recreation's Community Music Center, which continues programs to this day. The Community Music Center (CMC) is a Portland Parks & Recreation facility in partnership with an all-volunteer nonprofit organization that raises money to help subsidize tuition fees at the school. CMC's need-based scholarship fund enables students to follow their dreams in music. For more information, call 503.823.3177 or visit communitymusiccenter.org.



PARK(ING) DAY 2019 is right around the corner. This annual tradition celebrates the creativity of our community as they transform parking spaces into parks for a day. PARK(ing) Day encourages artists and residents to work together to temporarily transform parking spots around the city into engaging, creative public spaces. The event began in San Francisco in 2005 and has since then become a global movement. It is voluntary and free for all. The deadline to apply is September 13. Visit portlandoregon.gov/transportation/74212 for all the details. Reviewed the program guide, fill out an application, and submit the application and any questions to: pbtparkingday@portlandoregon.gov or call 503.823.7788.



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Broadening NA outreach

from cover

ness proprietors on issues from safety and cleanup to affordable housing. No one is excluded from NAs.

The current system ensures that all have a voice in civic affairs within an organizational framework that follows guidelines of inclusiveness and non-discrimination.

A majority of NAs say they too seek more participation by under-represented residents. Language and cultural barriers, not neighborhood discrimination, can make it difficult for some groups to participate. NAs need help strengthening outreach efforts which, leaders say, was the premise of a code rewrite directive by City Council to OCCL, then known as the Office of Neighborhood Involvement (ONI).

Instead, the proposal by a bureau charged with expanding public engagement, limits neighborhood engagement.

Critics say the Bureau is playing the racial card to mask its true intent of stifling neighborhood voices on issues of growth and development. Outrage grew as OCCL twisted narratives, blaming media and NAs for misrepresentations, misunderstandings and lies. As a pundit said, Eudaly poked a sleeping bear.

Damage control went into high gear after The Oregonian published a text revealing the unbridled disdain of Eudaly’s policy director toward what she considers privileged NA members (see Text Reveals True Colors sidebar below). The text paralleled Eudaly’s curt dismissal of longtime activist Mary Ann Schwab as she expressed code change concerns during an August City Council meeting.

After the text debacle, OCCL staff shifted its pitch with promises that the code change would not rob neighborhoods of influence. In its efforts to wrestle back control, it reposted a survey originally discounted because too many respondents were Caucasian.

At a South Tabor NA meeting, OCCL’s Sabrina Wilson said the media was responsible for “misinformation” about a “robust community engagement experience.”

Not true, countered NAs claiming they were never informed of the code change and only learned of the proposal when news leaked about a vote by OCCL’s committee stacked with anti-NA bias.

That vote granted significant power to the bureau director to choose which community groups deserved official roster recognition.

Some SE NAs aim to bridge Eudaly’s wedge politics. The slogan “Keep Portland Neighborly” is going viral with a website describing accomplishments that have made Portland better for all residents. (see bit.ly/2ZpCjDV)

Another positive outcome of the controversy is that NAs have upped their outreach efforts. (See Summertime and the Livin’ Is Easy on cover this issue.)

Pete Forsyth, head of the South Tabor NA, takes the high road. He lauds the code committee’s goal of broadening participation while urging OCCL to support and expand neighborhood outreach, not breach it.

“I unequivocally value the work of the committee. It’s good aspiration that most Portlanders want to honor.” He says OCCL should build on the Committee’s work by adding the transparency and accountability missing from the proposed code revisions.

As the code moves slowly toward City Council without clear standards and practices, it also fails to provide restrictions on political contributions.

Wilson admitted the new code does not follow former ONI open meeting rules. Director Rhee consistently dodges questions about group selection and how guidelines might be implemented.

Outspoken critic Allen Field says that, without guidelines for incoming affinity groups, the new code will cause mass confusion and allow politically-based organizations to inject undo influence over City Commissioners.

“Instead of adding seats, they are taking influence away from a majority of Portlanders. One bureaucrat with decision power over all public voices and no accountability is simply wrong.”

Of additional concern to SE NAs is the language in a SE Uplift newsletter that is decidedly pro-Code. Since the board has yet to take a position, observers say the

language chills thoughtful code consideration.

Other challenges remain. Youth activist Sabina Urdes of the Lents Neighborhood Association says code goals sound good, but without neighborhood assigned staff, execution is doomed.

“How are you going to serve more people when we (NAs) are not being served?”, Urdes said.

Field laments that OCCL is no longer a service-oriented entity as it pulls back from Good Neighbor agreements, neighborhood mediation services and community safety activities.

Urbanist Michael Mehaffy and other critics say the Eudaly-Rhee tactics are a threat to Democracy. They call the bureaucrats’ “czar-like” behavior, pitting community groups against each other, more fitting for demagogues than a bureau charged with neighborhood relations.

The City’s 2008 Community Connect Report concluded: “A strong neighborhood system means a stronger and more resilient Portland.” According to critics, the code change goes in the opposite direction.

Text Reveal True Colors

Below is a text message – minus the profanity, sent from Eudaly’s policy director Jamey Dumahel to Mayor Ted Wheeler’s operations manager during a westside NA meeting.

“How you like that high income, high caliber bull.... This is why we need our neighborhood associations in their place. They get too much power and voice.”

She continued, “...they are white and high caliber soooooooo... any inconvenience is a big deal to their cozy lives. HOW DARE WE STRESS THEM OUT!!! So. Much. Privilege.” (as printed in the *Oregonian*)

Neighborhood leaders frequently on the receiving end of Eudaly verbal assaults were nonetheless stunned by the staffer’s blatant bias. If an employee spoke of a client that way in the private sector, heads would roll, said a resident with non-profit and for-profit experience.

The fallout rained from many quarters. Online site Next Door’s bloggers complained that we don’t need divisiveness and conflict fomented by the Bureau charged with overseeing Civic Engagement.

Expanding NAs to be more inclusive by unifying vs dividing people could have been a tremendous win for everyone.

A SE resident wrote, “Eudaly is leveraging the language of progressive ideology to gain political power. This has nothing to do with diversity, he continued. “It has to do with NAs being an obstacle to lucrative development deals.”

In a letter circulated about the loss of public trust, a resident called for the resignations of both Eudaly and Rhee.

“OCCL leadership has fomented division among people and groups that actually share many common goals and concerns. OCCL has worked to pit groups against each other, based on perceived race-bias, age-bias, wealth-inequity, and other wedge opportunities to divide and dismantle.”



Business Walkabout



Belmont Books

By Nancy Tannler

The Masonic looking symbol on the T-shirt of Belmont Books’ owner Joe Witt, actually reads *Ordo Templi Oklahomis*, Oklahoma being the place where he was born and raised.

Like most people who migrate somewhere new, he was looking for a better and more creative life, something more in line with his view of the world.

“The allure of Portland was the politics, the DIY attitude, the aesthetics,” he said he was impressed that, “Portland has an effective local government and even has an Urban Growth Boundary or Neighborhood Associations.”

This was back at the turn of the 21st century and, since that time, Joe has done a lot of different things to stay afloat and maintain the values that attracted him to this community.

Joe was a waiter on a train that went from here to Chicago during the Bicentennial Lewis and Clark Celebration. He was the editor of *The Alliance* until it went to an online format. In 2011 he became a financial planner and remains a partner in Goldmark Financial Planners.

All along the way, he has indulged his passion for buying books. “I have a book collection problem,” he said, but he also receives great joy in buying and reading books.

One of the motivating factors in Joe’s decision to open Belmont Books last year, is his admiration for the small business entrepreneurs that exist here. The idea that not all people shop big box, strip malls or online is a quality he admires. It is these individuals he works for.

“I wanted to offer a well-curated selection of quality books for the everyday reader,” he said and this is just what Belmont Books delivers.

Every shelf you see has an author or a title that either you know or would like to know. The best way to describe the selection is that there aren’t any formulaic writers. Books are arranged in categories and alphabetically. The price point is reasonable.

Sci-fi is a favored genre, and you can find some of the greats and newly becoming greats in many genres: Kurt Vonnegut, Ursula La Guin, Neil Stephenson, Charles Stross and Shirley Jackson.

For some of the news trending authors, like NK Jemison’s Broken Earth Trilogy, he buys new books because they aren’t available secondhand yet.

Joe prefers history and non-fiction. He is currently reading **Radical Mycology, a Treaty on Seeing and Working with Fungi** by local author Peter McCoy.

This tome is the complete collection of all the magazine articles McCoy has written about the profound influences that fungi have on the evolution of all life and human cultures.

It impresses Joe how many



Joe Witt

readers like poetry, so there is a full selection devoted to that subject. Contemporary books on the environment and politics are available too for the stout of heart.

He did note the book *Drawdown* as one that offers solutions to global warming. You can read all the way through or jump to the diagrams pointing out the worst culprits in this climate emergency and what is being done to counter their devastation.

Belmont Books is a small, efficient store and if Joe is there he can immediately direct you to what you are looking for. For newcomers, it is a lovely place to browse the shelves to find something to stimulate your brain and enjoy the written word.

Belmont Books is at 3415 SE Belmont St. Open 11 am - 9 pm daily

Eastside Coffee Bar & Workspace

By Nina Silberstein

Located inside the foyer of the renovated Hinson Baptist Church on SE 20th Avenue, the Eastside Coffee Bar & Workspace is a place that encourages community, creativity and conversation.

The hope is to provide an environment where people can come together to collaborate on projects, work remotely or privately, or simply grab a cup of coffee.

For the last five or six years, the main part of the church building had been empty. There’s a massive auditorium inside that will seat about seven hundred people, as well as a full basement. The coffeeshop’s owner, Tim Mills, said he wanted to use the space to serve the surrounding neighborhood.

“I was having a conversation with our pastor and we were trying to think of what we could do with this empty building. We tossed out ideas and talked about a coffeeshop,” he said. Initially, the idea was tabled, then resurfaced, then pitched to other people, and then tabled again. “This went on for seven years,” he explained.

Demolition work began about four years ago, but stopped because of permitting issues and snags with the city. “Things slowed down pretty drastically,” Tim said, and construction took longer than expected.

“I started full time in November [of 2018], just getting

everything ready. We were hoping to open in February, then March, then April, and we finally opened in July.”

In addition, the church has leased different parts of the building to other nonprofits. Currently, there are a number of neighborhood

community groups already using the facility for meetings, fundraisers and such.

Tim described phase 1 of the plan as the coffee bar and workspace area. Phase 2 will be renovating the auditorium with the intention of it being used daily with larger conference-style tables that could then be pushed aside for bigger events and even concerts.

He and his wife have two children and they have lived here for about eight years. Their extended family is in Texas and Tim was in seminary school in California before moving here and then transferred to an extension campus in Vancouver.

“The entire time I was going to school, I was working at Starbucks,” he said. Starting as a barista, Tim worked his way up and the last two of those years he was a store manager. He and his family now live a block away from the coffeeshop.

Eastside serves mostly



coffee, hot tea, including chai, and pastries. Tim chooses his suppliers carefully, based on the quality of their products, ties to the local neighborhood, and a commitment to ethical sourcing.

It is a nonprofit coffeeshop, which means all proceeds stay within the shop to cover overhead costs. Many nonprofits struggle to find an affordable space to host their events, so the goal here is to provide a space and keep it reasonably priced for others to use.

An additional, unique aspect of the coffeeshop is that all staff are volunteers. There’s a stay-at-home mom, a couple of students and others with full-time jobs who come in on their days off. Eventually Tim hopes to hire some part-time staff, but for now, the volunteers have been working out great.

Eastside Coffee Bar & Workspace is at 1315 SE 20th Ave. See eastsidecoffee.org. 503.915.9078



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Portland's Premiere Pagan Emporium

Featuring one of Belmont's longtime retail businesses and in fond remembrance of co-owner Reverend Roland W. Lakey 1949 – 2019.

Moonshadow

By NANCY TANNER

We are lucky to still have so many interesting retail shops to browse through in southeast Portland. One that brings a bit of earthly magic into our lives is Moonshadow, Portland's Premiere Pagan Emporium, 3819 SE Belmont St.

The owner, Debora Bartlett-Lakey, is just the person to be the conduit between the practical material world and the unseen forces in life. Ever since she was a little girl she sometimes dwelt in the realm of the fairies. She played for hours at a table top made from a sawed off cedar tree where she constructed furniture and houses for these little people.

She was also a twin and one of fifteen children in a household where there was never a dull moment. Her retreat into the world of imagination and nature was where she found her truth. Debora's formal religious training was Catholicism, but when she told the priest that Mother Mary was the most important person in the universe since she was the mother of God his negative response made her doubt that this was the path for her.

As a young married woman and mother, Debora lived close to the Sierra Nevada mountains. There was a canyon within walking distance of her home and

this became her church. Her children would tease anyone who came to visit while she was in the canyon that she was, "off talking to her fairy friends."

Sorrow struck with the untimely death of her first husband Bill Bartlett, leaving her with three young children and a future to face. During this time of mourning one of her friends invited her to a pagan circle. Part of the pagan philosophy is that they are a part of the whole of nature, the rocks, the animals, the plants, the elements, the stars; all humans are brothers and sisters.

This resonated with Debora, it was what she had always been searching for and it was here that she met the remarkable Reverend Roland W. Lakey. Together they had the epiphany to open a shop that supported the practice of paganism and magic.

Roland was from England and his affinity for the Druid traditions just came naturally. He was formally schooled in the Church of England but in the long run it didn't speak to him.

Their home in Reno seemed an unlikely place to open a store front of this type but Portland, Oregon was not.

The name Moonshadow Children of the Mist came from a vision Debora had of a shadow cast by the moon on a group of dancing people. The first Moonshadow opened on Roland's birthday August 19, 1995 at 32nd & SE Hawthorne Blvd. It was the weekend of the Hawthorne Street Fair and the place was jammed with people. They quickly realized this wasn't going to be enough space so they quickly acquired the space above what is now the Farmhouse Kitchen Thai Cuisine, 3354 SE Hawthorne



Debora Bartlett-Lakey

Blvd. Zoning issues had them relocate to their current location on Belmont.

Sadly The Reverend Roland Lakey unexpectedly passed away on June 6 of this year. During his illness Debora continued to maintain the business but their leadership of the local pagan circle, the Order of the Sacred Oaks, is on hold for now.

Moonshadow is one of those stores where you can find something charming, beautiful, unusual, earthy, arty, healthful, educational, practical everywhere you look. The cases of fine crystals and unusual rocks are enthralling. The books, tarot and oracle cards are inspiring and beautifully illustrated. Statuary and jewelry, caldrons and magic wands, swords and helmets, herbs and essential oils are just some of products available.

The most consistent seller are the candles and incense. When times are hard people still buy them, Debora said. There are a variety of sizes and colors but the fifteen hour intentional votive candles are this shoppers favorite.

Debora's knowledge about the elements in her shop, the deities of the past, herbs and oils and other sundry pieces of information, is vast. She makes you aware that there is a little bit of magic in everything, you just need to pay attention and eventually you too will see it.

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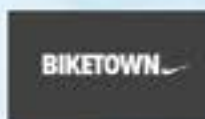
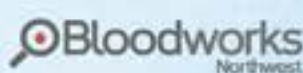
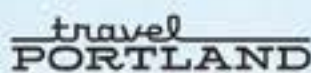
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Homelessness in SE Portland

By JACK RUBINGER

One of the dangers of getting used to the homeless problem in Portland is that you start feeling numb, then angry, then sad, then you just want to leave town. It's probably just as bad (if not worse) in any other city in America.

The homeless crisis here though, is worth talking about even if we can't all agree on the best solutions.

That's why people like Andy Miller, executive director of Human Solutions conducted a Community Conversation about Portland homelessness.

The first one, a test to see if there's strong interest in the topic, was held in Mt. Tabor in August, with a panel consisting of Lisa Frack, Director of Communications & Development, and Marci Cartagena, Director of Emergency Services in charge of rental assistance and two shelters for the homeless.

Human Solutions is a thirty year old non-profit that provides rental assistance, family advocacy, and case management.

The organization runs both a family shelter and a shelter for unaccompanied women. They provide employment services, after-school programming for youth, and they build and operate affordable housing with more than seven hundred units currently.

While the fifty or so folks who showed up for the conversation were largely middle class white people who live in the Mt. Tabor neighborhood, the problem affects us all, no matter where we live.

Miller talked about both

the problem, its complexity and a number of solutions, including creating more affordable housing.

He moved to Portland from the East Coast in the early 90s and said one of the problems is that Portland housing costs keep rising, but wages don't.

He remembers reading articles about Portland being one of the most affordable cities in America, but now it's one of the least affordable cities in America.

"This is a complex issue," he said. "No one intervention is the right one."

He discussed the prevalence of mental illness and substance abuse disorder among the street population, and the fact that there are many causes of homelessness, many related to systemic barriers and lack of opportunity.

Miller shared a study and data from both Scotland and Helsinki, which have public sector support for housing. Housing first is the concept.

"If it's a lack of having a home regardless of traits, then we need to provide homes," he said.

The meeting was lively and discussions focused on two things: that Portland residents do have a deep empathy and, while it's easy to lose empathy, there are some homeless who are unable to meet community norms and expectations.

Miller believes its important to check in with the community at regular intervals to avoid what he calls compassion fatigue.

He indicated Human Solutions saw a noticeable drop in people seeking services after the City's Relocation Assistance Ordinance went into effect.

"To me, that demonstrates that there are many people around us we don't realize are actually living on the cusp of homelessness," said Leah M. Fisher, Neighborhood Planning Program Manager, SE Uplift

Neighborhood Coalition.

She added, "For those folks, the expenses associated with relocating to a, most likely, more expensive place given the increased housing costs, is more than they have."

"It also suggests that the incremental (relocation) cost for landlords can make the difference as to whether it is 'worth it' to evict a tenant for no cause or raise the rent over ten percent. I

"In my opinion, it reinforces the importance of tenant protections and demonstrates how some support from, and accountability on, the private housing market can make a real impact on people's lives while reducing the burden on limited resources and organizations to address the housing crisis."

According to the 2018 State of Housing in Portland Report, recent economic gains in the job market and steady migration of young educated professionals is fast transforming Portland into a higher cost city.

Between 2011 and 2016, the number and share of households here that make \$100,000 or more increased by well over 11,000 with the share going up from twenty-three percent to twenty-seven percent.

In spite of the increase of income overall, a closer look at the data still reveals a different picture for many Portlanders based on their race and household type.

Most Communities of Color show stagnant or, in some cases, decreasing incomes when adjusted for inflation. Renters still haven't achieved their pre-recession income levels, while homeowners have easily surpassed pre-recession levels.

"The seldom told story of the housing crisis is that it reinforces historical patterns of racial segregation," said Miller.

On the bright side, communities have been supportive, he explained, with the passing of two affordable housing bonds, so it seems people do want to see more progress.

PDX Needs More Police Officers

from cover

responding quickly to anything but a 911 call is slim.

"Exercise patience with us," pleads Hager. Emergency calls are the priority. Most others can be reported online or to One Point of Contact at pdxreporter.org.

Those expecting police crime prevention will be disappointed.

Recently, Community Safety measures that were once handled by the former Office of Neighborhood Involvement are going begging. With its rebrand-

ing as Civic Life (OCCL) confusion has arisen about who is responsible for what.

Of concern to Hager is the inordinate time officers spend addressing the houseless situation when there is little they can do that is effective.

"Houselessness is the symptom, not the problem. If we just deal with the symptom, we'll never make progress, says Hager.

After PPB staffing hits rock bottom next summer, she is hopeful the numbers will start to improve slowly as new recruits become ready.

"It takes eighteen months to grow an officer," she says.



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A Festival of Contemporary Dance

Union PDX, presented by push/FOLD dance company, takes place September 26-29 at the Hampton Opera Center, 211 SE Caruthers St. each night at 7:30 pm.

Festival:19 consists of four public dances performed by the push/FOLD dancers: Liane Burns, Briley Jozwiak, Ashley Morton, and Holly Shaw. Portland choreographers, Amy Leona Havin and Carlyn Hudson join in, showcasing three world-premiere works, and the fest features a long-form performance structure highlighting the breadth of dance here. Hudson's work is ballet-based, Havin's work is influenced by Ohad Naharin's 'Gaga' movement language, and Hobbs' work is mixed-discipline.

An outreach performance for young dancers is part of the week-end as well as three professional-level workshops led by Havin, Hudson, and Artistic Director Samuel Hobbs. Three Artist-Talks, are part too and all are open to the public.

The post-festival gathering is Sunday, September 29, at 4 pm and celebrates the recipients of Portland Dance Community Awards (PDCA). All are Portland-based artists and key members of the dance community. Recipients are selected by a panel of peers from across the Portland dance communities.

See unionpdx.org for more.



Liane Burns, photo by Jingzi Zhao

Much Ado

Much Ado, new from Enso Theatre Ensemble, was adapted from Shakespeare's *Much Ado About Nothing*. The new version is written by Helena Fisher-Welsh, Caitlin Lushington and Madeline Shier.

A streamlined, 21st century take where friends meet at their childhood summer home to relax and reunite, only to discover old flames, feuds and subterfuge.

Jon loves Hero, who only has eyes for Claudio. Benedick and Beatrice feud until their friends set them up with each other. Margaret waits for Beatrice and Dogberry is hot on the case of Jon's deception.

It's like the original: a soap opera and timeless drama of deception and self-deception with all the nuances of a bizarre house party – only performed in an actual Mt Tabor home.

It opens Friday, September 13 at 7:30 pm and continues through September 28 Thursday to Saturdays.

Tickets include one drink and are on sale for \$25, at bit.ly/2Pk0rYK. The house address is revealed with ticket purchase. Doors open a half-hour prior to each performance.

See ensotheatre.com.



Portlandia Brass ~ Artichoke's September

The Portlandia Brass Ensemble is a group of professional musicians dedicated to spreading the joy of music and promoting music education while maintaining the highest standard of musical excellence. The players have come from music schools like the New England Conservatory, Eastman, UNT, and the Eugene and Salem symphonies. They begin their new season of music performance Sunday September 8 at Artichoke Music, 2007 SE Powell Blvd., beginning at 7 pm. All ages are welcome.

This is "brass with class" and PBE's new *Whirlwind* program includes: Rossini's William Tell Overture, Duke Ellington's Do Nothing till You Hear From Me, Leonard Bernstein's West Side Story, Copland, McKee, Menken, Gershwin and more. Tickets are \$15 and limited for this venue so get 'em in advance at 090819.brownpapertickets.com. Hear a taste at portlandiabrs.com.

Also at Artichoke this month: Sunday September 15, Mare Wakefield & Nomad with Nathan & Jessie, 7 pm – Mare and Nomad's latest record *Time To Fly* was nominated for 2018 Album of the Year by *No Depression* magazine (marewakefield.com). Nathan and Jessie play bluesy jazzy folk on resonator guitars and accordion (nathanandjessie.com).

Saturday September 21, Steve Cheseborough and Richard Saslow 8 pm – Cheseborough's blues, hokum and ragtime of the 1920s-30s, and his longtime mentor/teacher Richard Saslow, author of *The Art of Ragtime Guitar*.

Saturday, September 28, Robin Jackson and the Caravan, 8 pm – Dreamy cinematic soul, whimsical indie folk and storytelling gypsy jazz. (robinjackson.net)

Tickets for all shows are \$15 at artichokemusic.org. 503.232.8845

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THE BEST OF INTENTIONS

Any intention can lead to unintended consequences, and Portland Storytellers Guild's September show features members exploring what it is to find themselves out on a limb when things didn't turn out as they planned.

The Best of Intentions is onstage Saturday, September 7, at Clinton Street Theater, 2522 SE Clinton St.

Steve Henegar's stories are: "Truth and lies mined from a long life looking around." Ken Iverson came to a show, then helped found PSG thirty-five years ago. He's still surprised by where a story leads. Juliana Person, winery lab supervisor and cancer survivor, has collected her own tales over the years.

Tickets are \$12 in advance at bit.ly/2ZIDg4o or \$15 the night of the show. Doors open at 7 and stories begin at 7:30. A volunteer will be chosen to tell a five-minute story after intermission. See portlandstorytellers.org for more.

Go

Going Out arts & performance

That's No Lady

Triangle Productions kicks off its big three-O Life Is A Ball season with the world premiere of *That's No Lady*, a celebration of the life of Darcelle XV.

The book and original lyrics were written by Don Horn with additional lyrics and music by Tom Grant, Marv/Rindy Ross, Jon Quesenberry, Storm Large, Rody Ortega, and Wesley Bowers and other songs like Rhinestone Cowboy, Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy, Hang Em' High, Send in the Clowns, and Proud Mary too.

It's the story of the Oldest Working Drag Queen in the World. Darcelle has been a Portland icon for over a half a century now and Darcelle XV has become the oldest drag cabaret in America.

Walter Cole worked at a local grocery chain, and purchased the first Portland coffee bar. Land use moved him out twice until he purchased an old beer/wine tavern in the skid row part of town.

One day a woman walked in, went straight to the restroom and within minutes came out as a man. That person was Jerry Ferris who Cole would soon get to know as Tina. Their friendship forged into a drag act that became Darcelle XV in 1974.

The show runs three weekends September 19-October 5 Thursdays-Saturdays at 7:30 pm with a Sunday matinee September 29 at 2 pm. Performances are at PSU's Lincoln Performance Center, 1620 SW Park Ave. All seats are reserved.

As part of the Darcelle Project celebration, Oregon Historical Society hosts *The Many Shades of Being Darcelle – 52 Years of Fashion, 1967 – 2019* through November 3. The OHS is at 1200 SW Park Ave. The exhibit features several of Darcelle's more than 1,500 extravagant costumes, often designed and constructed by Cole himself. See more at the OHS site: bit.ly/2MH7BnO

Tickets available online at trianglepro.org.



Flesh & Stone

Sidestreet Arts features *Flesh and Stone*, a new collection of work by oil painter Brooke Walker-Knoblich and jewelry artist Kathleen Mistry through September 29.

The collaboration is unusual with Walker-Knoblich's series of female nudes adorned by Mistry's wearable jewelry art. In a delightful twist, you can see the jewelry modelled in painted form and then the actual 3D version too.

Opening is Friday, September 6, from 6-9 pm and the gallery's monthly Mimosa Sunday is September 15, from noon-2 pm

Sidestreet Arts is at 140 SE 28th Ave. Sidestreetarts.com

Short takes
...arts news of note

MOSAIC STRING ACADEMY, 5120 SE 28th Ave., has openings for a new season of private lessons in violin, viola, cello and bass for people of all ages. Monthly group classes explore a variety of musical styles. Special offerings for adult players. The academy is near Reed College. See mosaicstringacademy.com for information. 971.221.4237.

SILENT-HIKE is a musical journey into mindfulness taking place at Forest Park's Vietnam Veterans of Oregon Memorial, 4000 Southwest Canyon Rd., in the city's largest park, Wednesday September 11 at 6 pm. The hike is an immersive music and meditation experience created by composer and concert pianist Murray Hidary. During SilentHike, participants wear wireless headphones (provided) and hike with music, guidance and commentary from Hidary. The event is free for all ages and registration is required. All the details are at bit.ly/2Zy8dT7.

SONGWRITING AS TRUTH TELLING – A new session begins Tuesday, September 10. A six-week inspiring, non-judgmental workshop to deepen songwriting taught by Matt Meighan. All levels of experience are welcome. Participants write in and between classes, share songs, and look at new ways of listening. Tuesdays, September 10-October 15 from 7-9 pm at Artichoke Music, 2007 SE Powell Blvd. Enrollment limited to ten participants. \$160. Details/registration at mattmeighan.com

CASCADIA COMPOSERS 11th SEASON begins with new music to celebrate the 50th birthday of composers Ted Clifford and Paul Safar. The concert is Saturday, September 21 at The Old Church, 1422 SW 11th Ave. beginning at 7:30 pm. Performers include Safar and Clifford along with members of the Delgani String Quartet, pianists Asya Gulua and Maria Choban, and vocalist Nancy Wood. Art songs, jazz and poetry-inspired pieces and lyrical improvisation included. Tickets are \$25, \$10 and \$5. Under 12 are free at the door and online from brownpapertickets.com. See cascadiacomposers.org.



Paul Safar

THE STEEP AND THORNY WAY TO HEAVEN's Night Carnival is Saturday, September 7 and recaptures Saturday mornings before anyone else was up, with a bowl of sugary cereal, footie pajamas, and wild cartoons with flying squirrels and foolish coyotes. Watch Thundercats, Bugs Bunny, Silly Symphonies, She-Ra, and an animated lineup of live performers onstage from 9 pm-2 am. Dress as your favorite cartoon character and bring a friend. SE 2nd & Hawthorne Blvd. Tickets are \$18/\$10 for members; \$90 VIP packages for 2 for those 21 and over. RSVP or advance ticket required - rsvpdx.com/ animated. More at thesteeppandthornywaytoheaven.com.

ECLIPSED BY PATRICIA BURKE BROGAN is onstage Friday September 20-October 13 at New Expressive Works, 810 SE Belmont St. In a Magdalene Laundry, nuns regard worker women as mindless vessels of evil and their infants are forcibly put up for adoption. A group of unwed Irish mothers struggle, resist, and strive to overcome the conditions. The play is based on true accounts and written by an ex-nun who worked there, and it's a story of pain and hope. The Magdalene Laundries opened in the late 1800s and didn't close until 1996. Directed by Gemma Whelan with an all-female cast and design team. A Post Show Discussion with Tim DuRoche of World Oregon is Saturday, September 21. ASL Interpreted Performance is Saturday, October 5. See corribtheatre.org.



Storied musician **Dick Weissman** returns to Portland to celebrate a new album and book.

A Denver resident these days, Weissman appears with guitarist Thad Beckman at The Vault at Gastromania, 7840 SW Capitol Hwy., Monday September 30 at 7 pm.

The new CD, *No Ceiling*, is his seventh, and filled with instrumentals accompanied by guitars, banjo, harmonica, fiddle, bassoon, oboe d'amore, clarinet, alto flute and bass clarinet.

Weissman's repertoire of instrumentals are melodic in invention and nearly unlimited in scope and his provocative liner notes are nearly as entertaining as the songs.

A man of many talents, his illustrious music career began in the days of the "Great Folk Scare" of the early 60s, when Weissman was a member of The Journeymen with bandmates John Phillips and Scott McKenzie.

He is celebrating the release of his tenth published book too, *A New History of American & Canadian Folk Music*.

His tunes and books are available at dickweissman.com



The Return of Jim Kweskin

photo by John Scheele

Portland Folk Music Society presents venerable blues crooner Jim Kweskin with Meredith Axelrod for their season opener. Friday, September 27, live at the Reedwood Friends Church, 2901 SE Steele St.

Kweskin has several decades of musical notoriety behind him as a singer, jug band leader and guitarist of the 60s and 70s. He was the founder of the pioneering Jim Kweskin Jug Band with Fritz Richmond (who lived in SE Portland for many years), Geoff Muldaur, Maria Muldaur, Mel Lyman and Bruno Wolfe. The band had five good years and seven unforgettable albums.

His masterful ragtime blues fingerpicking radiates charm, humor, and sophistication. Kweskin sings songs by Benny Goodman, Johnny Mercer, the Sons of the Pioneers, and Fats Waller.

Kweskin is joined at the Portland show by Meredith Axelrod, an old musical soul in a young form who plays guitar like she really was there in the ragtime of the 1920s.

Music begins at 7:30 pm (doors at 7 pm) and all ages are welcome. Under 12 years old are free.

Tickets online at portlandfolkmusic.org.

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Wellness Word

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

The cause of heart attacks - Part II

In part one of this series, I questioned whether or not the ongoing travesty that is heart attack morbidity and mortality in our world today is at least in part due to the fact that the conventional treatment approach is not fully addressing the true cause of this condition.

I also brought up questions about cardiovascular disease that are unanswerable using the theory that elevated LDL particles are in and of themselves the sole or primary cause of this condition. Finally, I discussed a way of viewing the cause of this condition that would allow for answers to these questions and thus provide a more thorough way of addressing it.

Here were my parting thoughts: "If then, we are to be as thorough as possible in our efforts to prevent heart attacks, we should not stop at lowering cholesterol. In fact, that should be a secondary focus, with the primary focus instead being the conditions which allow for it to become a problem."

Here is what I mean...

One of my mentors, Dr. Mark Houston of the Hypertension Institute in Nashville, Tennessee, always stresses the ideas of *infinite insults* when discussing the true causality behind cardiovascular disease, with the aim of more thoroughly preventing and treating it.

Infinite insults is a term Dr. Houston uses to describe all the

various things that can harm the function of your endothelium, or the inside lining of your blood vessels. Your endothelium is where the rubber meets the road in terms of potential for plaque to form in your arteries or not. A healthy, resilient, and robustly functioning endothelium makes you all but impervious to this process developing, whereas endothelial DYS function is the prerequisite and breeding ground for it.

Certainly, excessive levels of cholesterol carrying molecules like the infamous LDL or 'bad cholesterol' can fit into the category of infinite insults, but so can elevated levels of: Oxidative stress, Inflammation, Blood sugar, Homocysteine, Iron, Insulin and more obscure factors such as Lp(a), TMAO, endotoxins, heavy metals, various types of bacteria, viruses, and other microorganisms. Hence the term *infinite*.

A thorough approach in the prevention and treatment of cardiovascular disease should always include assessment for the presence of these factors.

Of course, once identified, every effort should also be made to try and reduce exposure to these insults. However, due in large part to the all but impossible task of identifying and avoiding them all, if one is to be as successful as possible in preventing or reversing plaque development, an additional concept which must be considered is *susceptibility*, as it pertains to the vascular endothelium itself.

If we are evaluating for the potential of damage to occur to a structure, the most thorough evaluation would not only include assessment of factors which can harm the structure (in this case the endothelium), but also the structure itself, and how susceptible, or vulnerable to damage it is.

In this case then, what would increase the endothelium's susceptibility to damage?

Far and away, the factor which has the most impact on this area is nutrition. In other words, superior nutritional status which assesses and accounts for both predisposing genetic factors, as well as specific nutrients crucial to optimal production and function of blood vessel linings, to provide the most bang for the susceptibility buck and exponentially reduce risk even further.

These nutrients include: •

Amino acids- Arginine, Lysine, and Proline; • Macrominerals- Potassium, Calcium, and Magnesium; • Vitamins- A, B Complex, E, and especially C; • Trace Minerals- Copper, Zinc, and Manganese; and • Phytonutrients- Nitrates, Flavonoids and other Antioxidants.

For various reasons, nutritional therapy should always endeavor to obtain important nutrients through food whenever possible. In terms of those noted above, it is not surprising that the primary sources of all them can be found in what is popularly termed a 'whole food, plant-based diet'. It is also of interest to note that a high intake of processed, and animal-based foods will directly, or indirectly provide a steady supply of all noted insulting factors above.

Realizing this, the tremendously successful results seen through the work of pioneers in this field like Dean Ornish, MD, Caldwell Esselstyn, MD, and Nathan Pritikin, all of whom have utilized a whole food plant-based in the prevention and reversal of thousands cardiovascular disease cases, starts to make a lot of sense.

Hopefully by now it is becoming clear that if the version of prevention employed in order to avoid the development of arterial plaque, and potentially the most common cause of death in the world, starts and finishes with an aspirin and a statin or other cholesterol lowering drug, a tremendous opportunity to further reduce risk is being completely missed.

Why? Well, hopefully that is obvious by now. Drugs, by their very nature, do not and cannot satisfy unmet needs the body may have. They may not offset the negative effects of many of the noted insulting factors above, and they may not adequately reduce susceptibility to this disease to the degree possible when nutrition is also, or alternatively employed.

Instead, they're designed to make up for the negative effects of these crucial factors; to simply put a band-aid on a poorly healing, dirty wound that needs cleaning, in a body that needs better nutrition.

This disease is running rampant. Only a thorough approach, which may or may not need to include such drugs, will serve to provide truly adequate protection from its grasp.

Daniel Chong, is a licensed ND who can be reached at 503.893.4364/drdanielchong.com

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Wireless Silent Spring

By NANCY TANNER

The Oregon Legislative Assembly passed Senate Bill 283 on August 12. The bill recommends Oregon Health Authority and The Dept. of Education conduct a scientific study on the biological, cognitive and psychological effects of long-term exposure to microwave radiation.

SB 283 exists because of the perseverance of local book dealer David Morrison.

Morrison became alarmed when a cell tower was constructed in the center of his daughter's schoolyard. After doing the research first nationally and then internationally, he found there are studies conducted by reputable scientists proving that exposure to microwave radiation from cellphones and other devices is harmful to humans, especially children and pregnant women, and other living things. Wireless technology, no matter how convenient, has its consequences.

The red light is flashing as scientists and medical professionals are warning people that we need to beware. In *Wireless Silent Spring*, an article by Cindy Russell, MD, she describes how the 1962 book by Rachel Carson, *Silent Spring*, exposed the devastating and long-lasting effects of pesticides on wildlife and all species, including humans.

That book has similarities to the rapid and widespread adoption of wireless technology and its consequent fallout. Until recently, no one had any data about the long-term effects of wireless technology.

Magnetite is a form of iron ore found in a wide variety of organisms. It acts as an internal compass. Migratory birds use the earth's magnetic field to navigate and other animals rely upon this geomagnetic field as their GPS for breeding, feeding, migration and survival.

Biologists unexpectedly discovered that wireless radio frequency radiation (RFR) disturbs the internal magneto-receptors of mammals, birds, fish, amphibians, insects, trees, plants, seeds and bacteria.

Researchers now attribute wireless radiation from cellular communication to be a significant factor to the bee "colony collapse disorder," the decline of house sparrows and the steady deterioration of the world's bird populations.

It was discovered that the recent plunge in bee population was not primarily due to the suggested viruses, bacteria and pesticides, but rather, to the loss of their navigational skills to return to the hive. Their receptors were literally being fried.

There has been a rapid decline of the Aspen tree in Colorado too since 2004. A four-year experiment on the ambient electromagnetic radiation from a variety of sources (cell towers, satellites, electric power generation) showed poor growth and smaller leaves. Whereas seedlings shielded from these waves showed vigorous growth, no lesions and richer color.

It was Morrison's concern about the effects on a human child that caused him to file his first lawsuit against Portland Public Schools (PPS) back in 2012. He did not win the case, but the judge acknowledged the validity of his lawsuit and advised him that this was a case for the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). (*The FCC has minimal guidelines for wireless communication devices sold in the US.*)

Since then, Morrison has

consulted with men and women of science from around the world, held seminars, gathered the people in our community and has spent his time trying to alert the public to this silent threat.

In a conversation with *The Southeast Examiner*, Morrison provided extensive documentation about the long term effects on children and adults exposed to electromagnetic frequencies when schools and homes are located close to cell towers.

The term *cancer clusters* is ascribed to studies that reveal an inordinate amount of people in an area developing the same type of cancer.

Brain cancer is the worst case scenario caused by the oxidative stress of radio frequency radiation (RFR), but there are other concerns as well for those susceptible.

Changes in learning and memory; heart irregularities; hormonal imbalances; altered brain development in infants; abnormal sperm; chronic headaches; fatigue; nervous system problems; insomnia (radio waves are a melatonin suppressant) and immune dysfunction. These are some of the symptoms linked to excessive RFR.

Although not everyone is susceptible, just like other sensitivity issues, some bodies adapt. The concern that Morrison expresses is for the children. It's a little known fact that over half the children in this country have some kind of chronic illness. It's these children and other vulnerable people who are the first to exhibit the inexplicable symptoms of RFRs.

France has banned Wi-Fi in nursery and elementary schools and all Wi-Fi must be turned off when not being used for instruction.

Other countries Spain, Switzerland, Bavaria and Germany recommend wired-only connections in schools. Belgium has banned cellphones for children, and India and Russia recommend headsets with cellphones.

Another point of interest is that cell towers and wireless technology contributes to global climate change due to the energy consumption used from data transfer and storage.

The digital economy uses a tenth of the world's electricity according to a report by technology and investment advisory firm, Digital Power Group. The report found a single iPhone can consume more energy than a refrigerator due to the substantial data usage of a typical smartphone owner.

No one is going to stop using technology, but the way consumers can make a difference is to vote with their dollars by choosing service providers who recognize the impact this kind of data usage and storage is having on the environment and making sure that everything is stored in an environmentally-friendly facility, to make it as green as possible,

We have gone from a 2G, 3G and 4G network to now 5G is rolling out. This is the same frequency used in scanners at the airport. It's what the military uses in their non-lethal weapons system and it requires three times the energy than other types of application. In order to proceed with the 5G network, we will all have a big antenna on every utility pole, a mini cell tower.

Another idea Morrison expressed in our conversation is the fact that we are turning over so many of our brain functions to our cellphones. We start to lose our ability to perform these functions after awhile.

If you are concerned and conscientious, then there are a few things you can do: Turn off your routers at night and move routers away from where you spend a lot of time. Don't let your children sit by routers in school and demand Portland Public Schools remove the use of the playgrounds for cell tower siting. Use wired connections at home and don't sleep with cellphones and iPads or headsets. In other words, use common sense and stay informed.

We all love technology but we want to beware of loving it too much.

For information: Contact Environmental Health Trust, ehtrust.org or David Morrison, s-cargo@pressmail.ch

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Rs Representatively Speaking

BY STATE REPRESENTATIVE
ROB NOSSE

Happy Labor Day! Unlike the rest of the world that celebrates workers and their unions on May 1, the United States celebrates Labor Day on the first Monday of September.

The first Labor Day parade took place on September 5, 1882, when 10,000 workers took unpaid time off work to march from City Hall to Union Square in New York City.

In 1887, New York was the first state to introduce Labor Day holiday legislation, but Oregon was the first state to pass it. By 1894, almost thirty state legislatures had followed suit. It took a tragedy to make Labor Day an officially recognized federal holiday.

Shortly after the US Army and US Marshals Service killed two striking workers during the Pullman Railcar Strike in 1894, Congress made Labor Day a national holiday with President Grover Cleveland's urging as a gesture toward trade unionists.

Those that know me well know I am fond of saying solidarity is the only thing that has changed anything. A union is legal solidarity at work and unions have, without a doubt, made the lives of workers better in this state and country.

Since the 1980s the labor movement has been through some tough times. Attacks on labor started in 1981, when President Ronald Reagan "busted" the air traffic controller's strike and their union and signaled to the private sector it was acceptable to aggressively target union workers and their contracts.

Public Sector workers,

who are granted the "right" to collectively bargain state by state or municipality by municipality, have also seen their unions come under attack from state legislatures in Michigan, Wisconsin and Ohio, once bastions of the labor movement, albeit with some successes and failures.

Despite the US Supreme Court decision in Janus v. AFSCME, at least in this state, the public sector labor movement is still going strong.

I wish more workers, particularly those in the private sector, had an easier time creating an organization to represent them. Unions have lifted up workers in all sorts of trades and jobs in manufacturing, healthcare and retail, creating good jobs with decent pay and benefits.

While it would be too simplistic to say our current wealth disparity and unchecked corporate power is based solely on a lack of union power, it certainly plays a part.

At the height of the labor movement in the late 1940s and 50s, one out of every three workers in the United States belonged to a labor union. In that now bygone era, a white male-headed household could be supported by one worker, CEO wages were not so ridiculously high when compared to the lowest paid worker in the shop or company, and taxes, both personal and corporate, were more progressive.

Now, union membership hovers at ten and a half percent across the United States. New York and Hawaii have the highest density of union membership at a little over twenty percent of all workers, compared to the Carolinas having the lowest, hovering around two percent



of all workers. Oregon ranks at around fifteen percent of all workers having a union, and would probably be lower if the public sector was excluded from the count.

I am hopeful that resurgence for the labor movement is coming. Polls show rising popularity for the idea. A good economy and a tight labor market give unions the ability to drive a harder bargain and make gains more likely. That being said, a true recovery for labor as a force in our economy will require a strengthening of federal laws. Something like that has not happened in the United States since Richard Nixon was president.

Congratulations to the workers at OHSU who recently gained a good contract after threatening to strike. The same will hopefully be true for workers at Kaiser Permanente and Fred Meyer, where strikes are looming. Burgerville's employees are using periodic strikes as a tool to make a job in the fast food industry more economically sustainable for workers.

This Labor Day, I hope you will join me in wishing our local unions success in their fight for economic justice.

NAs History Over the Years

from cover

concept to justify City support.

One goal was to eradicate blighted neighborhoods and to address livability issues. Then in the 1980s, neighborhood programs of crime prevention and mediation were added to local planning and the reporting of neighborhood needs.

In 1979, Portland had sixty active neighborhood associations. Today there are than ninety.

In the Bud Clark and early Vera Katz administrations, the NA system probably reached its zenith. Most of the inner city neighborhoods developed their own, city adopted, neighborhood plans to advocate for needed improvements in each neighborhood.

This met with limited success because of the failure of the city and commercial interests to support and fund these citizen-generated proposals.

Other citizen groups began to criticize the neighborhood system as not being inclusive and representative and neighborhoods were accused of being run by white, middle class, homeowners that did not reflect the interests of their entire neighborhood.

Most people do not realize or appreciate the work that neighborhood leaders and volunteers provide to improve both neighborhoods and the city. There are

volumes documenting these efforts.

The lack of participation is often due to public apathy and difficulties in communication. Often controversy becomes a good means of organizing.

Renters can be temporary neighborhood residents with little interest in their local geographic area. Diverse ethnic residents have a unique set of interests and needs that may not be shared with others in their neighborhood. Common interests must be the basis for successful political advocacy.

These issues were addressed by the four-year effort to revise ONA Neighborhood Standards in the 1990s with the participation of citizens from a wide range of interests and backgrounds.

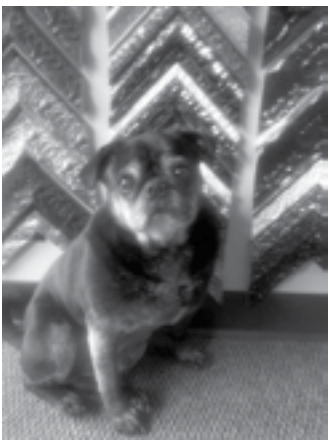
Then in 1996 a commission was formed to study neighborhood systems and to recommend improvements. One recommendation was to change the name of ONA to the Office of Neighborhood Involvement to broaden the scope of the office. This led to wider participation of under-represented groups in the city neighborhood office, but there was little to attract them to their NAs.

In recent years Portland has succumbed to significant growing pains. Affordable housing, traffic, parking, public safety, planning, and homelessness have all be-

come significant challenges. It is no wonder that the neighborhood system is under attack.

Many powerful city leaders don't appreciate the criticisms that come from their citizens. Many of the diverse, ethnic citizens want a share of the assistance and resources that could be available from the City though the OCCL.

Many recognize these issues, but there is strong support for maintaining geographically based Neighborhood Associations as they are.



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Community Events Bulletin

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Feastportland.com

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The Bloody Mary Festival
Sunday, Sept 29 from
10:30 AM - 6:00 PM

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Dragon Boat Festival
Saturday, Sept 7 - Sunday Sept 8
Portlanddragonboats.com

The festival venue will be located at the south end of Tom McCall Waterfront Park, between the Hawthorne Bridge and River-Place. Food vendors and the Beer Garden will be located just north of the Hawthorne Bridge; entertainment and merchandise vendors will be located just south of the Hawthorne Bridge.



LEFT TO RIGHT: Chelsie Coon, Kevin Caplener, Caroline Easton, and Jan Caplener


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