



Feed the Mass Feeds the Community

By ELLEN SPITALERI

Everyone is hoping for better times in 2021, but Jacobsen Valentine has specific items on his wish list for the new year.

As the founder and executive director of Feed the Mass, a nonprofit dedicated to feeding people in and around the metro area, Valentine is hoping the community will support the organization’s mission.

“Our biggest need right now is a donated commercial kitchen space that is large enough to allow us to continue our work,” he said. “In addition to space, we need funding and we need partnerships with restaurant owners/managers. We’re a relatively new 501(c)(3), so we do not have the consistent cash flow that we need for long term sustainability.”

Valentine encourages anyone needing a meal to come to The Breathe Building at 2305 SE 50th Ave., noon to 1 pm Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, or sign up for delivery at feedthemass.org/fed.

“I want people to not feel like there is a stigma for using our service,” Valentine said. “Everyone needs meals. Even if you just want to try our food, come on down or sign up for a delivered meal. Please be a part of our community.”

Feed the Mass was created in 2016 with a mission to bring people together through food and education. Valentine said he heard the story of Jesus and the miracle of feeding the masses with five fish and two loaves of bread.

“The story wasn’t that he multiplied the food, but that if people shared the little they had, it would always be enough,” he added. “To feed the mass, you need to teach people to feed each other. This is where the name Feed the Mass comes from. My goal is to teach people that we take care of each other through food and cooking.”

At first, Valentine started teaching children how to cook and bake simple, yet healthy food at their parents’ request. When pandemic restrictions were put in

place and he could no longer teach cooking classes, he realized the mission of Feed the Mass had to change.

Now the organization develops, cooks and serves healthy meals to all in need, while working with local property owners, grocery partners, food suppliers, regional farmers and people-of-color businesses.

“We are also providing on-the-job training for volunteers interested in the food industry, training them in the art of making beautiful, healthy food for large amounts of people,” he said.

“There is a big gap between people of color and access to healthy food. Before, we were teaching people how to close that gap and use healthy cooking practices to save their lives. Now we cook the healthy food and help close that gap for them,” he said.

COVID-19 has changed everything about the mission of Feed the Mass, including “how people receive food, how we cook it and how we volunteer.” Valentine noted that the virus has created obstacles for those who are already struggling.

“So many more people are losing their jobs, their health insurance and their personal securities. They’re in need of something consistent, something fundamental – care through food.”

The number of people affected by the virus is skyrocketing and when evictions start happening, there is going to be an even bigger need for sustenance.

“We are working hard alongside other great mutual aid organizations in the area to help support all those in need,” Valentine said.

“People’s generosity throughout the last nine months has been humbling and amazing,” he continued, adding that food donations come from individuals who want to help, partners like Oregon Foodbank, the Fresh Alliance Program, Food Fleet, The Wave NW, Heritage Foods, HLC Distributing, Urban Gleaners, local restaurants, local farms, food pantries and others.

Feed the Mass has 12-18 volunteers daily who help prepare raw goods, sort food donations, cook and package foods, wash dishes and deliver and pick-up donations.

“We have a strong, consistent volunteer team and we are looking to grow the network even more to allow for a broader reach into the community,” Valentine said. “Food connects every person in the world. I want to use it to create a community that is inclusive, diverse and accessible to everyone.”

Although the organization’s mission has changed drastically, Valentine feels it is still the same at heart.

“We are building community and nourishing that community through food,” he said, adding, “We don’t just serve food. We show that people matter and that we truly care for their well-being. No one is denied a meal.”

For more information about the organization, visit feedthemass.org.



Photo of Jacobsen Valentine by Michelle Pearl

Code Changes Could Relieve Homeless Crisis

By NANCY TANNER

Portland City Council declared a housing emergency in October of 2015, to help deal both with the city’s homeless and the affordable housing crisis. That housing emergency is set to expire in April 2021.

To protect these temporary sites, the Shelter to Housing Continuum Project (S2HC) is reviewing and proposing changes to parts of the Portland City Code to allow them to continue and expand upon the previous housing emergency declarations of 2015.

This is a multi-jurisdictional effort of the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability (BPS), the Housing Bureau and the Joint City-County Office of Homeless Services.

They have partnered to review and propose changes in order to expand housing and shelter options for individuals and households with extremely low incomes.

In 2019, 878 new affordable housing units were built and another 3,100 are in development. Even with this progress, it is obvious there are still a lot of unhoused individuals – approximately 4,015 at last count. The COVID-19 pandemic has even more people teetering on the edge of homelessness.

Solutions being explored will modify current permitting procedures, and some will require new City Code to be established. The S2HC project will make no changes to the zoning map, Portland City Code Title 33, which contains the City’s land use regulations.

Other Titles may be amended, like Title 24 that governs how development is allowed, or Title 29, that controls the types of uses that may occupy various types of structures.

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Rs Representatively Speaking

BY STATE REPRESENTATIVE ROB NOSSE

Happy New Year to all my constituents!

This holiday season has been different in so many ways. Despite the pandemic, I hope everyone had some joyful moments. I for one, am really looking forward to the inauguration of a new President.

Many of you probably heard that, on December 21, I went to Salem for a one-day special session of the Oregon Legislature. The focus of the session was to provide emergency relief for those impacted by the pandemic, particularly those who are worried about eviction and paying their rent as well as helping those struggling to recover from the Oregon wildfires this year.

For renters and landlords, we passed HB 4401, which extends the eviction moratorium until June 30, 2021. The previous moratorium was set to expire on December 31. Without action by the legislature, thousands of Oregonians could have faced eviction on January 1.

For landlords struggling, HB 4401 also created a fund to provide financial assistance if they forgive the rent of their tenants who have been unable to pay their rent.

If a landlord needs access to this fund, they can get 80 percent of the rent they are owed from their tenants, if they forgive the remaining 20 percent.

I'm also very proud of a bill I worked on and championed that is now law: SB 1801, the Restaurant Relief Act. Oregon's hospitality industry is struggling because of the need to maintain COVID-19 protocols.

Revenue losses have some-



times been between 40-70 percent due to closures, reduced indoor seating and many other hardships. As the weather has turned colder, outdoor seating is even more difficult to maintain.

The Restaurant Relief Act allows bars and restaurants to sell sealed alcoholic mixed drinks and single servings of wine "to-go" in the same way they already sell meals, beer, cider and bottles of wine.

As we all know, SE Portland has many bars and restaurants that are important to our community. Micah Anderson, General Manager of the Rum Club on 720 SE Sandy Blvd., and a bit of a bartender celebrity, stressed just how important this change is in an email he sent me a few days before the bill passed.

He said, "The independent restaurants and bars of Oregon have carried a large portion of the economic weight of the pandemic in their efforts to keep the citizens of Oregon safe. That weight is becoming unbearable for many of the employees and small business owners here in our state.

"We are pleading with you all to please give us some small avenue to recoup even a fraction of our lost revenue in a safe and responsible manner."

Hopefully SB 1801 helps. I am glad I was able to get this done.

I am now looking towards the 2021 long session. The Democratic and Republican caucuses will choose their party leadership on January 11 and then we will convene January 19.

Democrats are hoping to enact legislation that helps us get through this pandemic, aids in Oregon's recovery and strengthens our systems of public health should another pandemic occur.

I think most of us agree that COVID-19 has shown us, in ways that are undeniable, how much structural racism and economic favoritism are built into our society.

Poor people and BIPOC communities have been ravaged by the pandemic in ways that many of us have not. The legislature must apply the lessons we have learned this year to craft policies that will make Oregon a more equitable society for everyone.

We will also be addressing policies around education and learning as we know children and families in school under the current stay home orders have really struggled, as well as continuing the work started this summer around policing and criminal justice reform

In the February edition of this column, I will provide updates on what to expect as the session gets underway.

The Beginning and End of Laurelhurst Camping

BY DON MACGILLIVRAY

Since early spring, the Laurelhurst Park homeless camp along SE Oak St. grew until it was finally removed a week before Thanksgiving.

A few tents appeared along on the Oak St. parking strip near Caesar E. Chavez Blvd. in March and April. Within two months, it had become a line of tents, by July, the entire three blocks were packed full of tents, structures and vans.

By August, it extended along SE 37th Ave. to Stark St. and was beginning to grow along the south side of Caesar E. Chavez Blvd. Estimates put the total at well over 100 campers.

In the beginning, it was quiet and there seemed to be a positive sense of community. Minimal services including a Porta-Potty, lunch at midday, a cleaning station and minimal garbage service were provided.

As the summer wore on, concerns became more numerous and the social climate changed

with the arrival of more campers. By late summer, regular visits from the city's Urban Camping Impact Reduction Program helped out infrequently.

Nearby residents of one of Portland's most desirable neighborhoods were becoming restless. Many complaints about crime, safety, health, trash, drug use and unmentionable behaviors were expressed.

Word came down from the Portland Mayor and Commissioner in charge that the US Center for Disease Control dictated that homeless camps were not to be removed because of the COVID-19 virus.

The nearby residents believed their safety was threatened, not to mention the issues of unsightliness, livability and rumors about violent people around Laurelhurst Park.

The city reversed its policy about sweeping homeless camps if conditions warranted and in October, as the threat a sweep of

the camp became known, some local homeless advocates began to demonstrate in support of the camp.

In early November, over 50 people rallied waving signs protesting that a sweep would be cruel and inhumane. They said the homeless deserved to stay because there was no place for them to go and to move them would be a violation of human dignity.

They were able to delay the sweep, but not prevent it. The city assured the protesters that they were doing all they could to handle the situation compassionately.

A new shelter had just opened five miles away at the Mt. Scott Community Center at SE 74th Ave. and Harold St., but many campers said they didn't feel safe in the restricted conditions of the shelters and preferred the freedom camping allowed. Of the 56 people that expressed a willingness to relocate, only 18

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Charter Commission Chosen

By David Krogh

Portland City Council formally appointed 20 community members to the 2021 Charter Commission on December 3. The Commission will meet throughout a two-year period to identify issues with the current City Charter and suggest remedies and/or modifications.

The Commission members are now: Amira Streeter, Andrew Speer, Angie Morrill, Anthony Castaneda, Becca Uherbelau, Bryan William Lewis, Candace Avalos, Dave Galat, Debbie Kitchin, Debra Porta, Hanna Osman, Karol Collymore, Melanie Billings-Yun, Raahi Reddy, Robin Ye, Salome Chimuku, Scott Fogarty, Steven Phan, Vadim Mozysky and Yasmin Ibarra.

Bios and statements for each member are online at the Charter Commission website, portland.gov/omf/charter-review-commission/about/charter-commissioners.

Section 13-031 of the City Charter identifies characteristics to consider in the appointment of Charter Commission members. *“The Charter Commission shall be reflective of the City in terms of its racial and ethnic diversity, age and geography.”*

According to the biographies of the new members, at least 19 of the 20 members are college educated and approximately 14 of the 20 identify as BIPOC (Black, Indigenous and/or People of Color). Six are Black, six are White, one is Hispanic, three are of Asiatic descent and four are mixed or other backgrounds.

In addition, eight are male and 12 are female. No information was available as to age or geographic diversity, however two members have identified as LGBTQ.

The Southeast Examiner reached out to Julie Meier, Charter Commission Project Manager, and to City Council members for clarification of several questions.

Responses on behalf of the City were received from Ms. Meier.

EXAM: When will the new Charter Commission first meet? Will this be a more or less training session or is it anticipated that charter issues will be raised at that time?

Julie Meier: “The City has a request for proposals out for a facilitator for the Charter Commission. We hope to have the facilitator chosen by the end of January and anticipate holding a virtual onboarding retreat for the Commission in February 2021. The retreat will be a training and orientation session.”

EX: Will the Charter Commission monthly and will the meetings be virtual and accessible to the public?

JM: The Charter Commission will determine its own meeting schedule likely depending on workload and issues to be discussed.

“Meetings will be virtual through Zoom (for the time being) and will be open to the public.”

EX: Was there any City Council discussion about the makeup of the Charter Commission in response to Section 13-031 of the Charter? How is this representative of the general population (or does it need to be)?

JM: “While we know that 20 Portlanders can never fully reflect Portland’s population, City Council wanted the appointees to demonstrate the vibrancy of our City.

“City Councilors considered Portland’s existing and changing demographics when selecting Charter Commission appointments.

“City Council further acknowledged that some voices have historically been left out of City Hall. They were committed to ensuring that historically underrepresented populations would be heard in the charter review process so Portland can live up to its core values of anti-racism,

equity, transparency, communication, collaboration and fiscal responsibility.

“City Council committed to appointing a Charter Commission with the insight and connections required to engage our entire community in discussing how the City does its business.”

EX: Overall the membership appears knowledgeable and somewhat balanced. However, will workers in lower wage groups, such as service workers, be adequately represented by this group?

JM: “City Council did consider diversity in education and employment. Charter Commissioners reflect a broad range of employers including large business, small business, public sector, not-for-profits and labor.

Commissioners also reflect a broad range of where they are on their career paths, from a full-time student to folks near the end of their careers.”

EX: The Commission is also supposed to be geographically representative. Could you please verify how many members are from the east side of the river and how many from SE Portland?

JM: “The Charter Commission is geographically diverse with Commissioners who reside in SE, NE, North, the Westside and East Portland. About 75 percent of the Commissioners live on the east side and 25 percent live in SE Portland.

“While Charter Commissioners will be headlining this volunteer effort, the public is encouraged to participate and provide meaningful feedback at every stage of the process – and we hope to hear from as broad a spectrum of Portlanders as possible.”

The public can provide feedback or sign up for updates at portland.gov/omf/charter-review-commission.

BA Business Association Notes

Hawthorne Boulevard Business Association
By Bill Levesque

New Year’s Greetings to our Hawthorne business owners, employees, property owners, neighbors and friends. We wish you and your loved ones a healthy and successful 2021.

2020 has been an incredibly challenging year for us all. Some have been fortunate to be able to work from home. Others have had to continue to go to work to maintain their income. Others have lost their jobs. Our businesses have struggled to keep their doors open while contending with an unpredictable impact from the virus.

On Thanksgiving, the Boulevard was used as a poster for angry, organized people to deface walls and break windows to let the world know they believed that destroying other people’s property was an answer to their pain. On Friday and Saturday, properly masked and distanced neighbors, friends, employees and owners scraped, cleaned, painted and power-washed storefronts from SE 32nd Pl. to SE 42nd Ave. Thanks go out to them and to those who purchased raffle tickets towards a fund to assist businesses with their resulting expenses. Graffiti removal is ongoing and appreciated.

Hawthorne’s Board of Directors is working on establishing a District organization that will financially assist with the care, maintenance and beautification of the Boulevard and its public spaces. We will welcome input as we continue the process.

Thank you to those who have continued to support our businesses through take-out, website shopping, calls and in-store purchases with careful distancing. Vaccine distribution should bring safety and confidence for us to venture back out soon. We hope to learn from the many challenges last year to make this a better, more inclusive and safer community in 2021.

Stay up to date with the Hawthorne Boulevard Business Association at hawthorneblvd.com.

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TEATRO MILAGRO PRESENTS

HUELGA

Written by **Maya Malán-González**

Jan. 29, 2021

This historical narrative shares the struggles and accomplishments of Dolores Huerta, labor rights activist, and union organizer who co-founded the United Farm Workers.

Huelga will launch on Jan. 29, 2021 for Teatro Milagro’s national tour and will be accompanied by the social justice curriculum from the UNIDAD Teacher Workbook, available in five bilingual formats.

.....

The Dolores Huerta Foundation has given their approval for this new biographical play. Huelga's launch performance is supported by the Oregon Latinx Leadership Network.



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Electric Vehicles Become More Accessible

By Gabe Frayne

It appears, finally, the electric car’s moment has arrived. At the Tesla dealership on SW Macadam it is a busy Monday morning and a salesperson explains that there are no cars for sale on the lot because its quarterly shipment has already sold out.

At Ron Tonkin Chevrolet on SE 122nd St., a salesperson gives me a tour of the new Chevy Bolt and says, “Sales are increasing – Electric is taking over.”

This was definitely not the case when electric vehicles first came on the market three decades ago.

As documented in the 2006 film *Who Killed the Electric Car?*, the oil industry and the auto industry pulled the plug on electric vehicles shortly after they were introduced.

This was done after a mandate from the California Air Resources Board which required auto producers to offer electric vehicles in order to sell any cars in that state. The reasons given were high cost, weak demand and extremely limited range.

Yet in 2020, despite the pandemic, recession and low gas prices, a growing number of consumers – as well as state and local governments – are reaching the conclusion that electric vehicles (EVs) make sense both financially and ecologically.

In the years since Big Oil

and GM “killed” the electric car, public awareness and outrage over accelerating climate change, as well as technological improvements, have fundamentally changed the auto market.

It is no secret that the transportation sector is the number one global consumer of oil. In 2019, roughly two thirds of every barrel of oil produced in the US was refined into gasoline or diesel fuel for use in cars and trucks [see graphic].

Of course, EVs are not yet carbon-neutral either. As the Sierra Club notes on its website, “EVs are much cleaner than conventional vehicles today, even accounting for the emissions from electricity sources.”

How much cleaner largely depends on where the driver is charging the vehicle. The Pacific Northwest “has a very green grid” due to its reliance on hydro power as well as other renewables, says Whit Jamieson, program associate with the Portland-based electrification advocacy group, Forth.

“The carbon intensity of the Pacific Northwest grid is pretty good, and it’s getting better very quickly,” he adds.

Aside from environmental concerns, new technology has attenuated a few of the main obstacles to greater consumer acceptance of EVs.

The first of these is range.

Compared to an average range of 80 to 100 miles per charge for the first electric cars, the Chevy Bolt now advertises a 259-mile range per charge, a 10 percent increase over last year’s model. The Tesla Model 3 can get up to 353 miles per charge.

However, charging an EV is a bit more complicated than filling a tank of gas. Charging from home may require installation of a 240-watt breaker and typically requires an overnight charge.

Plugging in at a commercial Level 3 power station, most commonly known as DC Fast Charging, is much quicker (about a half

hour to an hour), but availability remains a problem for extended road trips.

A second concern is battery life. The Bolt’s battery is warranted for 100,000 miles, and at Tesla, the salesperson assures customers that its lithium ion battery won’t expire “during your lifetime or six others.”

Finally, there is the issue of cost. The manufacturer’s suggested retail price for the Bolt is \$38,345. The Tesla Model 3 with all-wheel drive is \$46,990. While these sticker prices may be a tad higher than, say, a Hyundai Accent, in reality the price comes down significantly after factoring in incentives and rebates.

Oregon offers a \$2,500 rebate to any customer who purchases an electric vehicle under \$50,000 and an additional \$2,500 based on income.

Perhaps the more important price consideration is the long-term cost: charging EVs is much less expensive than buying gas and they require far less maintenance.

One category of electric vehicles that is not changing the landscape as of yet is electric bus-

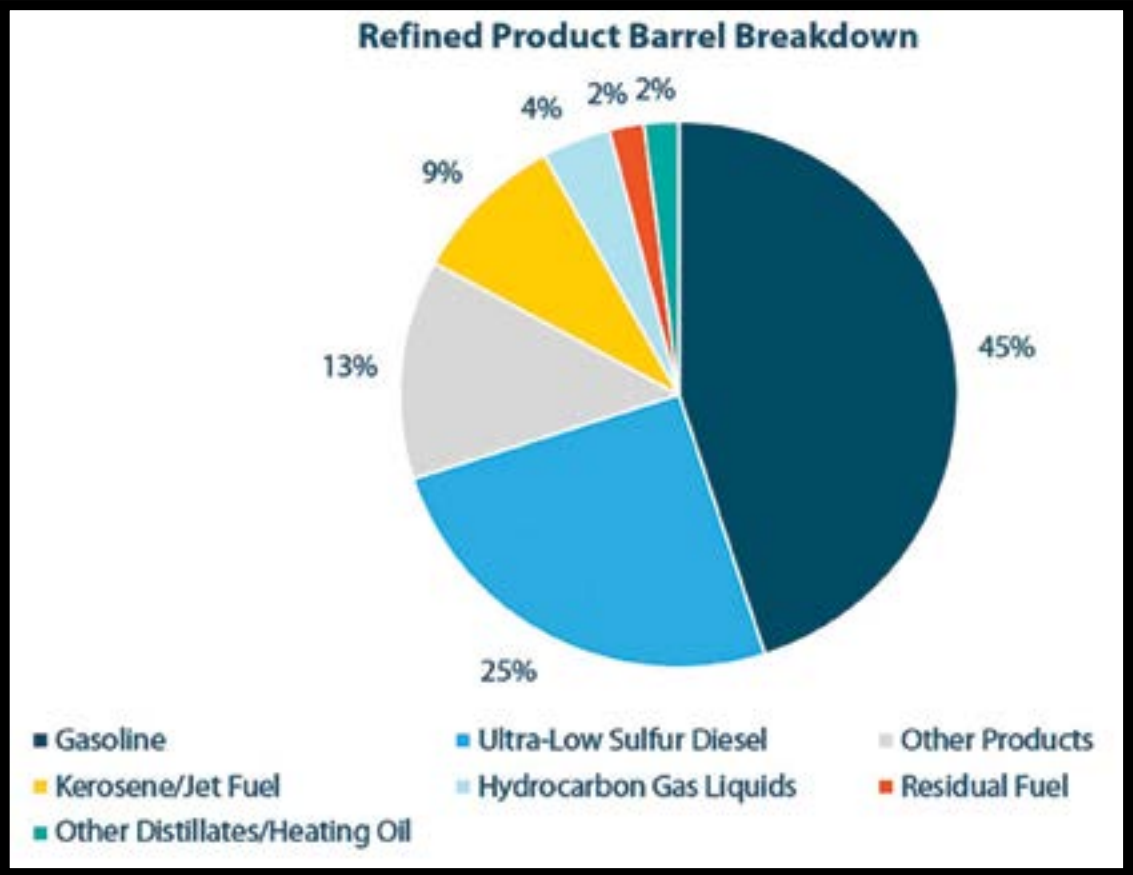
es. As Jamieson explains, “Buses are pretty expensive, so it’s more of a financing issue than it is an overall cost of ownership issue.”

Unfortunately, as local governments and school districts struggle with the financial impact of the pandemic, converting the bus fleet to EVs is not a top priority. Still, various large cities, including Los Angeles, San Francisco and New York, have committed to converting their bus fleets to all-electric within 20 years.

The electric vehicle movement has found a largely supportive audience in the Oregon State legislature and the governor’s office.

According to Rhett Lawrence, the policy manager at Forth, one of the group’s top two priorities this coming year is “supporting the Governor’s effort to pass an omnibus transportation electrification bill,” to “dramatically expand the income-qualified Charge Ahead rebate for EVs.”

If these and other pro-electrification policies succeed, 20 years from now a photo of a typical American city street in 2020 will look as quaint as Old Havana.



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Climate Change

By Don MacGillivray

A man-made climate emergency threatens our city, our state and the natural world.

Although Portland is playing its part to restore a safe climate and we continue to set a positive example, our clean climate efforts have plateaued and Portland has lost its place in the top 10 US clean energy cities in.

Local sources of air pollution result in increased respiratory, heart and cancer diseases along with other serious consequences.

Nearly 40 percent of people of color here live within 1.2 miles of major sources of air pollution. Exposure to diesel pollution alone is estimated to cost \$3.5 billion a year in health costs. According to the Oregon Environmental Council, every dollar spent to reduce air pollution delivers \$17 in health benefits.

Last June, Portland City Council declared a “Climate Emergency” and set a new goal for 2030 to reduce carbon emissions by 50 percent from the city’s 1990 levels. To date, Portland has reduced carbon emissions by 20 percent in the last 25 years.

City Council proposes to accelerate the transition to clean, renewable energy and address environmental justice by establishing fees on Portland’s largest polluters. Any facility that releases over 2,500 tons of airborne carbon a year will pay a fee of \$25 per ton annually.

35 facilities have been identified as the first industries to pay the fee. This fee is anticipated to raise \$10 million each year. Oregon businesses pay some of the lowest taxes in the US, nevertheless

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The Groundhopper Guide to Soccer in England

By Jack Rubinger

The Groundhopper Guide to Soccer in England is a 380-page travel and cultural guide to all things football in the UK, completely updated for the 2020-21 season. Written by Portland’s Paul Gerard, the book is a fun and informative read.

Gerard is a sports writer, an enormous soccer fan and a seasoned traveler, and he’s combined all three of his passions into this book.

“Groundhopper” is an old-fashioned term for people who literally dwell on the soil of the old stadiums found all over England.

In this new guide, Gerard checks out pubs, what’s good to eat and where to stay near each club. He doesn’t write about players. He’s more interested in showcasing clubs most Americans have never heard about, the food, the entertainment and the singing.

Andy Tice, a local who works at House of Spirits, went on a tour with Gerard a couple years ago, and found it really fun.

He went to several games, from a lower level League Two match (fourth tier) to a Premier League game at Wembley Stadium when Tottenham played there.

“For the League Two game,” Tice said, “there were about six of us who met up at a pub near the stadium before the match, had lunch and then made our way to the match.”

Gerard plans to do a Euro-

pean version of the soccer guide, modeled after the Rick Steves’ books, because that’s where the money is. He’s also planning a travel adventure story book.

The soccer season in the UK goes from August to May. Every season there are major changes.

“My goal is to teach people the history of each club,” Gerard said. “Some teams go back to the 1860s with four generations of fans.”

He intends to move to the UK next fall and live there for six months from October to March. During the summer, he does tour guide gigs and sells tickets to soccer games.

He has attended more than 100 games at 60+ clubs all over the country and encourages folks to visit an England you typically wouldn’t see; to leave London and find a true English soccer experience by checking out teams like Charlton, QPR, Millwall, Fulham. Sheffield, Nottingham, Brighton, Norwich and Newcastle.

This whole thing actually started from Gerard’s mission in life to go to interesting places, do interesting things, meet interesting people, then share the story and maybe help others do the same.

A professional writer and ardent traveler since the mid-1980s, Gerard used to watch a highlight show called “Soccer Made in Germany,” and fell in

love with the game and the singing of the fans. He decided he would have to get to one of those games one day.

He had a career in newspapers, mostly in sports, and by the 90s he had moved to Portland. As a freelancer, he specialized in sports, travel and the outdoors, and along the way, wrote five guidebooks to Portland and Oregon. The best known is the best-selling *60 Hikes Within 60 Miles of Portland* and one he self-published, *Breakfast in Bridgetown: The Definitive Guide to Portland’s Favorite Meal*.

He is a devoted fan of the Portland Timbers, a member of the Timbers Army and actually got to see them win the 2015 MLS Cup on a magical night in Columbus.

“The soccer book idea came from a simple combination of facts: I love to travel and write, I love soccer and nobody has ever written a book like this,” he said.

The Premier League is the one most Americans have heard of; that’s where you find Manchester United, Chelsea, Arsenal and Liverpool.

Beneath that level, there are three more fully professional leagues, known collectively as the English Football League, or EFL. They are called the Championship, League One and League Two.



Author Paul Gerard in his happy place.
Photo by Paul Gerard

Throughout the year there are Cup and League competitions that overlap the regular league seasons.

The FA Cup is a tournament for all clubs in England; the EFL Cup (aka League Cup or Carabao Cup) is for all professional clubs; the EFL Trophy is for smaller professional clubs; the Champions League is a European championship and the Europa League is a lesser European championship.

Where to sit when attending

a game is a matter of choice. The short answer is either (A) with the rowdy fans or (B) with a good view of the away fans.

“The funniest thing to me as an American is that you can’t drink alcohol in your seats during English football matches, so they put out a huge table full of cups of Budweiser at halftime and everyone in our section ran in to have a quick pint,” said Tice.

Purchase Gerard’s book at groundhopperguides.com.

Nurses Propel Healthcare Reform

By Nancy Tannler

As cases of COVID-19 continue to rise, we have all become aware of the important duty front line workers are taking on in this crisis. It has become evident that as a nation, we were ill-prepared for this type of catastrophe.

At a recent Oregon Health Forum presentation titled *Nurses Out Front: The Future of Nurse Driven Health Reform*, professionals in the field presented unique health reform priorities formed by their front line experiences.

The moderator, Travis Nelson, BSN, RN, RNBC, has firsthand experience of where the system is weak and what needs fixing. Originally from rural Louisiana before moving to the Tri-Cities in WA, in 2000 Nelson was the first Black man to graduate from the Tri-Cities area with a nursing degree.

He says it is very hard for a person of color to get the necessary education and funding to become a healthcare professional in this society. Opening this door of opportunity to people of color is the first step to building better care and trust with group of people who are being inordinately affected by COVID-19, he said.

Casey Shillam, PhD, Dean and Professor at the University

of Portland School of Nursing, explained why this nurse-driven health reform is a necessary next step to better address the needs of all patients in the future.

Shillam described the basic duties a nurse performs to help patients. They deal with chronic disease care, complex acute care, palliative and hospice care and, most importantly, health promotion and disease prevention. Today’s priorities requires nurses to be knowledgeable in telehealth, allowing long-distance patient and clinician contact.

In the past, Shillam admits the bias in nursing education has made it easier for certain people to gain admittance to the program. The U of P nursing education program now addresses the need for “diversity, equity and inclusion.”

The nursing program has changed both the admittance standards and educational structure. This step better meets the nursing needs of Hispanic, Black and Native American communities who are currently under-served. It brings more understanding to the chronic health complaints these communities experience, such as Type 2 Diabetes.

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Happy New Year! Here is to better adventures in 2021, cheers!

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Community Energy Project Virtual Workshops

The Community Energy Project, an organization that provides free home services focused on safety, health and energy efficiency is offering DIY Weatherization workshops and Oregon Community Solar presentations virtually in January.

The weatherization workshops provide an hour of information to educate low income Oregonians on low-cost energy saving techniques focused on draft-stopping. Renters and homeowners alike will find the workshops valuable.

After the presentation, qualified participants can pick up a free kit of weatherization supplies to install in their home or have them delivered. Participants without internet can utilize a call-in option at 503.284.6827.

The solar presentations help



low-income residents understand the working of the Oregon Community Solar Program and the benefits of becoming a program participant.

Participants don't need to own their home or have a sunny roof to benefit from solar, they only need to live in Oregon and

be a Portland General Electric, Pacific Power or Idaho Power customer.

For information on how to register for workshops and presentations, visit communityenergyproject.org/register-for/workshops.

OHA Launches COVID-19 Dashboard

The Oregon Health Authority (OHA) has launched a new public dashboard showing the status of the state's COVID-19 vaccination effort on a daily basis, both statewide and by county.

The number of people partially and fully vaccinated is displayed, along with key demographic information showing race, ethnicity, sex and age of those immunized.

COVID-19 vaccination providers must document vaccine administration in their medical record systems within 24 hours of administration and use their best efforts to report data to the

Oregon ALERT Immunization Information System as soon as practicable and no later than 72 hours after administration.

OHA will use a phased approach to ensure the first vaccines available are given to critical healthcare workers who work with COVID-19 patients.

In line with the Centers for Disease Control's (CDC) guidance, OHA will prioritize frontline healthcare workers and long-term care residents and employees.

This includes doctors, nurses, janitorial staff and others who have potential for direct or indi-

rect contact with COVID-19 patients or infectious materials.

OHA has established a COVID-19 Vaccine Advisory Community Council representing a diverse group of community members to ensure that distribution of the vaccine occurs in a fair and equitable way for all people of Oregon.

OHA expects 300,000-400,000 individuals will have access to COVID-19 vaccination in the initial phase of the vaccination plan.

More information at covid-vaccine.oregon.gov.

Hawthorne Pave and Paint Project Update

The Hawthorne Pave and Paint Project was described in the August edition of *The Southeast Examiner*.

Three alternatives were identified which would ultimately result in changes to Hawthorne Blvd.'s lane configurations, on street parking and pedestrian/bicycle amenities from SE 20th Ave. to SE 49th Ave.

In September 2020, Portland Bureau of Transportation (PDOT) published an alternatives

evaluation based on public input and City staff analyses. The final staff proposal recommendation was expected by November but that did not happen.

Hannah Schafer, Project Coordinator, at PBOT commented on the status of the project, saying, "Our second round of outreach has stretched a bit longer than originally anticipated. We are now analyzing the input we gathered and are following up on some of the suggestions and

questions from these conversations.

"At this point, we are anticipating that we will provide an update on our direction in January/February 2021, following the holiday season."

Schafer further encouraged those interested to sign up for project updates.

For updates, visit portland.gov/transportation/planning/se-hawthorne-pave-and-paint.

January Recycling Tips

By BONITA DAVIS, SE RESIDENT AND MASTER RECYCLER

Recycling is a feel good activity for me associated with doing my small part to reduce waste bound for the landfill and conserving natural resources. Perhaps it is for you, too.

Over time I have shifted to an emphasis on actions that have an even greater impact, such as reducing my consumption of "stuff" by borrowing, and sharing, repairing and opting for high quality durability when buying new or used products.

Still, I want 2021 to be a year I recycle right.

How do you know you're not getting it right? I thought I was doing curbside recycling correctly and I read the summer and winter *Curbsider* guide to stay informed.

I know to never put plastic bags or film in the blue rollcart and that all items are to be clean and dry. Also, no Styrofoam, no caps or lids on containers, no food, no compostables and no take-out containers.

Reusable goods need to go to a favorite charity or resale and not into garbage or recycling rollcarts.

So, it's easy enough to just read recycling directions and look at the illustrations, right? I can still feel my cheeks redden and the gulp that followed several years ago when I realized my error in recycling paper. Paper!

In a discussion with a Master Recycler about the curbside program, it dawned on me that paper items designed to hold food or liquids were reinforced or lined with plastic and are not recyclable.

I had been wrong on 'paper' plates, disposable coffee cups and paper boxes that hold refrigerator and freezer foods such as frozen dinners, pizza, microwave meals, margarine, butter, etc.

Why not recycle these? Because added plastic increases the strength and water resistance of this paper packaging.

Additionally, residue from food and liquids contaminates them and everything they touch, creating even more waste in the cart that has now become trash for the landfill. This was the opposite of my intentions.

Checking my *Curbsider*, it was clear I had glossed over this

information several times and it had not registered.

Is my reading comprehension or memory that poor? Maybe I just really wanted to believe the material was recyclable.

It's possible I didn't think about it enough and after hearing the word "paper," I took the easy route, omitting details and believing the obvious. Perhaps someone I believed told me it was okay. Maybe some of those containers were printed with a recycling emblem or message. Who knows?

Feedback could help. When Portland's curbside program began in the early 1990's, open yellow crates held our bundled newspapers and flattened tin cans. Open to the wind and rain, the garbage hauler who hand-carried the crate to the truck, could also survey for accuracy.

If your recycling was not done correctly, you got a checklist note telling you why. Chances are, your crate didn't get emptied either.

Today, our much larger blue rollcarts have lids and most trucks are equipped with mechanical lifts that deposit contents into the truck without a human seeing it and the result is feedback is less likely to occur.

Using Metro's Recycle Or Not tool (recycleornot.org and [Instagram.com/recycleornot](https://www.instagram.com/recycleornot)) is one way to double check recycling facts. While waiting for an appointment, I used my phone to access the website and clicked on each brightly colored frame to review what goes in and what stays out. In minutes, I got feedback verifying that I was on track.

I feel good to go for 2021 and anticipate possible big changes in package labeling from our state legislature. Hopefully we will also be seeing more durable, reusable packaging or Loop systems.

In the New Year, I encourage you to try out these great resources. It is never too late to do a better job recycling!

Portland Curbsider Hotline: 503.823.7202 or bit.ly/CurbsiderWinter2020

Metro Recycling Hotline: 503.234.3000 or oregonmetro.gov/findarecycler

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Community News

Library Resumes Hold Pickups

In mid-December, Multnomah County Library resumed hold pick-up service at all of its locations. Patrons may again place items on hold and schedule check out appointments. They will be notified when items are ready and schedule pickup appointments online or by phone.

In addition, library materials can be returned to all book drops. Returned materials will be quarantined for 96 hours. Due to this process, there will be a delay in returned items being cleared

from patrons' accounts.

The use of wireless printing services at all locations has also resumed. Printing is free and there is a no limit on the number of pages. Instructions for wireless printing can be found at multcolib.org/mobile-printing.

Library buildings are not currently open for other services. The library will make changes as necessary and expand other public services and access over time as public health guidance and physical spaces allow.



The library offers a wealth of online resources and events and personal help by phone, email and chat.

The latest updates can be found at multcolib.org/covid19.

Rose Lane Project Open House

The Rose Lane 2020 online open house is now available through Friday, January 8 to offer visitors information about the Rose Lane vision, and to provide status updates on dozens of projects to help make transit better with an interactive map.

They are welcoming public feedback too through a five-minute survey.

Through the Rose Lane Project, the Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT) is helping

bus and streetcar riders get where they need to go more reliably and quickly.

The Project, a close partnership with TriMet, will take several years and will continue to assess places where future projects could help deliver additional benefits to transit.

Visit portland.gov/transportation/rose-lanes/rose-lanes-open-house for a full look at the Rose Lane Project.

Take a Soundwalk Through a Park

For more than 30 years, Portland's Third Angle Music has played outside the lines of the expected with the creation of dynamic musical performances and multi-disciplinary collaborations that defy the boundaries of the traditional concert hall and reflect the spirit and vitality of the community.

Soundwalks started in the 1970s as a way of focusing on the sounds of the urban landscape and

the effect they have on people.

R. Murray Schafer, the Canadian composer who led the movement has said, "If you listen carefully, your life is enhanced. It's the same as looking carefully."

A collection of collaborative "ear-cleansing" soundwalks offers the community a soundtrack for their next stroll through a Portland park.

On the 15th of each month

a new composition from a local composer will be available online. **Sonic Sedimentation** by Yuan-Chen Li is currently available.

The group reminds listeners that "parks can sometimes be heavily trafficked public spaces" and cautions to "please be aware of your surroundings during the walks."

Visit thirdangle.org/soundwalks for more.



Window Shop on SE 28th

Portland Made and Makers Union PDX have collaborated with Window Shop 2020 to host a series of pop-ups in vacant storefronts throughout Portland.

The goal is to help local makers of goods get their products in front of customers and bring life to shopping districts in a COVID-friendly fashion.

"Window shop" by scanning the QR code found on the windows of the displays with your phone. You'll be directed to

PDXwindowshop.com where you can purchase items on display. Over 30 vendors have items for sale on the site.

The display in the Kerns Neighborhood at SE 28th and Ankeny debuted in December and continues through the end of January. Organizers are seeking sponsors and additional vacant spaces to continue the project into the new year as well.

Visit pdxwindowshop.com for locations and details.

New Portlanders Policy Commission Seeks Members

The New Portlanders Policy Commission (NPPC) is recruiting new members to join the 25-person commission.

Formed in 2016, the NCCP works to integrate immigrant and refugee community's voices into the City of Portland's policies and decision making.

Recently NPPC helped lead the effort to recommend the City

of Portland contribute to the Oregon Workers Relief Fund; a fund providing direct cash assistance to immigrant Oregonians.

Civic Life's Adaptive Integration Supervisor, Touk Keo, said, "This year, we're looking for emerging leaders and members with diverse lived experiences and racial justice analysis that can offer perspectives on

workforce development, education advancement, equity, racial and disability justice, and cultural representation."

Details and applications are due Sunday, January 17 at bit.ly/NPPCApplication. Contact marco.mejia@portlandoregon.gov with questions or call 503.823.8548.

AHC Virtual Gala Seeks Volunteers

The Architectural Heritage Center's (AHC) gala goes virtual on Thursday, February 25. It will be free and open to all.

The event is their biggest of the year, typically attracting over 250 people to celebrate the organization's work to connect people and place, past and future.

The AHC is looking for volunteers to help with key areas of the event. Specifically, they are looking for people to brainstorm

and secure items for the online auction, foodies who can develop and arrange delivered meal/snack baskets to gala attendees, those with experience videotaping and post-production video work.

Interested parties are invited to fill out their volunteer form at visitahc.org/volunteer-opportunities or send an email to AHC volunteer coordinator Dave Johnson at davej@visitahc.org.



Flanders Crossing Bridge Installation/Closure

Flanders Crossing, the Portland Bureau of Transportation's (PBOT) newest pedestrian and bicycle bridge, will be installed over I-405 in January. The bridge will connect NW Portland to the Pearl District and the central city.

Crews will install the bridge Friday, January 8 – Sunday, January 10 and the installation requires a full closure of I-405 in both directions at NW Flanders St., including the closure of both

the onramps and offramps at NW Couch St. (exit 2A).

When complete, the 24-foot wide Flanders Crossing will stretch 200 feet in length and add a seismic lifeline in case of a major earthquake. The bridge is expected to open to two-way pedestrian and bike traffic Spring 2021.

The work is weather dependent and the schedule may change. For real-time traffic information, visit TripCheck.com.

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Business Walkabout

Birdhouse Tattoo

By Nina Silberstein

Rumor has it Portland is one of America’s most “inked” cities so it’s no surprise we have an abundance of tattoo shops and talented artists to boot.

Relatively new to the scene is Birdhouse Tattoo, which opened for business at 5823 SE Powell Blvd. on June 12, 2020—the first day Multnomah County reopened after the pandemic shut-down.

Birdhouse provides a comfortable and welcoming atmosphere, and artists who work with all skin tones, body sizes and gender identifying people.

Owner Alia Bird was born and raised in Portland. She holds a bachelor’s degree in fine arts from the Pacific Northwest College of Art and previously owned a letterpress print shop on Foster Rd. in SE Portland for nine years.

“After closing the chapter of printmaking,” Bird said, “I dabbled in various artistic jobs, but eventually decided to learn about tattooing and have been immensely enjoying it for almost three years.”

Her initial inspiration for Birdhouse Tattoo was to create an environment completely different from a typical, hardcore tattoo shop vibe.

“My goal was to make an alternative option for people looking for a calm, relaxing, inviting and comforting experience,” she said. “I filled the studio with live plants, added warm lighting, chose natural wood accents and painted the walls white to create an airy, more natural feeling in the shop.”

So instead of playing heavy metal music, for example, their artists choose upbeat and easy-to-listen-to soundtracks so that they can hear their clients, have conversations and offer plenty of opportunities to ask for breaks.

“I want our guests to feel more like they are stepping into a spa rather than a grungy tattoo shop,” she adds.

Five artists work at the shop and they include Bird, Michelle Pomerantz, Chelsea Brazzo, Wesley Tucker and Uma Chopra.



Photo of Alia Bird by Hayes Peterson

“Birdhouse Tattoo is full of emerging tattoo artists and we all love sharing our knowledge and various experiences, while perfecting our craft,” Bird explained. You can find the artists’ bios on the Birdhouse Tattoo website.

Floral tattoos with delicate line work and details are a very popular request. “Because the art of tattooing is shifting into nontraditional imagery, a lot of people are looking for unique tattoos that hold a lot of personal meaning,” Bird explained.

Many of their clients may only have a few tattoos that they got when they were young, but as they age, they’re now looking for tattoos that are artistic and hold importance.

Starting a new business a couple of years after her print shop was daunting for Bird, especially with the unprecedented and complete shutdown of the industry, and the uncertainty of when tattoo shops and other personal services would reopen.

“Also, with so many artists moving to private studios in Portland and taking a precautionary hiatus on tattooing, we were worried that we would even be able to find individuals to fill out our space and create our little tattoo family,” she said.

During the shutdown, personal protective equipment was in very short supply and because of that, nitrile gloves, masks and even toilet paper were harder to

order and pricier to purchase.

“Starting a business in the middle of the pandemic definitely felt risky on multiple levels,” Bird says.

Because tattoo artists have always been trained in keeping their stations clean and sterilized between clients, there haven’t been a lot of changes or special restrictions due to COVID-19.

That said, to keep their clients and artists extra safe during the pandemic, it is mandatory for everyone inside the building to wear a mask and have their temperatures checked upon arrival before entering.

The shop runs two medical-grade, high-efficiency particulate air filters in the shop at all times to keep the air circulation clean.

“We’re now asking clients to come to their appointments solo to keep the overall population of the shop minimal and to make sure there is plenty of room to allow social distancing,” Bird added.

Before the pandemic, it was normal for guests to wait inside the shop until an artist was ready. Now each is asked to wait outside until the artists have sanitized their stations, as well all door knobs and checkout areas before guests are allowed inside.

Birdhouse Tattoo
5823 SE Powell Blvd.
thebirdhousetattoo.com
971.340.5634

Nurses Propel Healthcare Reform

from page 5

Violet Larry, RN, Clinical Nursing Supervisor of the Multnomah County Health Department, Healthy Birth Initiative spoke about the reasons infant and maternal mortality in the African American community is so high.

She said in Multnomah county, African American babies are more likely to have lower birth rates, be born prematurely, have more complications and are twice as likely to die before their first birthday than white babies and mothers. Larry believes that having more nurses of color on their team would be reassuring and build more patient/medic confidence.

Larry continued, saying having more in-home nurses would be a great service to the people in Multnomah County. For many people, it is to difficult to get to a clinic to see a medical professional. Choosing not to go often makes the matter worse.

Stacey Cohen BSN, RN, PCCN, at Legacy Emanuel Hospital, was clear about procedures that are going well in nursing – diagnosing and treating patients is top of the list.

Cohen further explained that the inpatient nursing staff is spread really thin. Because of this, nurses spend a lot of time with task oriented, check-the-box duties and not usually enough time for a wholistic approach. The ailment patients are being treated for is not always the root cause of an illness. Knowing more about a patient’s history and lifestyle helps nurses teach them about preventative medicine.

Summarizing the *The future of Nurse Driven Health Reform*, Deborah Riddick, RN, JD, Director of Public Policy and Government Affairs of the Oregon Nurses Association, gave the final presentation. She stressed that what is needed the most is more nurses. The only way this can be achieved is by making college more accessible for those who want to become a nurse.

Riddick said currently there aren’t enough schools or teachers to accommodate those wanting to apply. One of the reasons for this is the money. Academic nurses don’t get paid the same as nurses working in hospitals do. This is one reason there is a shortage of rural nurses too.

Riddick went on to say this maldistribution of pay makes it difficult to incentivize anyone to want to teach or work outside the Metro area. This needs to change, and hopefully soon. Riddick knows firsthand that, after the pandemic, there will be a lot of tired nurses ready to retire or at least take a break.

It was the consensus of all the panelists that Universal Single Payer Healthcare would ensure that everyone would receive the best treatment.

This would remove the barriers and challenges underinsured or uninsured people find when trying to seek medical attention.

The panelists felt hopeful about the future of nurses driving healthcare reform and they believe their common desire for better patient care and engagement will be the end result.

The Beginning and End of Laurelhurst Camping

from page 2

moved to the new shelter. What is compassionate to the city may not a positive alternative to the homeless.

Eventually on a rainy day in mid-November, the Rapid Response Bio-Clean-up Team arrived to tear down the campsite. The campers’ modest homes were torn down as they watched and people were crying as their belongings were stuffed into garbage bags. In the process, a scuffle broke out. Anything of value was moved to a city storage facility where it could be retrieved within 30 days.

Since July, a total of 52 campsite removals had taken place, but last year an equal number of camps were removed every month.

Today SE Oak St. and 37th Ave. are very much as they were a year ago, sans grass and a few minor changes. Only memories remain – some good, some bad. For those that spent their summer camping near Laurelhurst Park, their experience was memorable.

If you go eight blocks away

to the Sunnyside Environmental School, across the street from the Sunnyside Methodist Church, you will find a homeless camp of over 20 tents and 60 campers, many of whom were recently the residents of the Laurelhurst Park homeless camp.

The Bureau of Planning and Sustainability and the Joint Office of Homeless Services are working to address the homelessness crisis by improving city regulations concerning emergency, short-term shelter, day storage and hygiene facilities.

Code changes are being considered to regulate and change siting regulations for tent camping facilities, sleeping pods, temporary housing and shelters in certain zones, as well as the siting of day storage and hygiene facilities serving those unable to afford other housing options.

Homelessness has been common in Portland since the 1980s. Until the causes of homelessness are removed, this challenge will continue no matter how much is done to accommodate it.

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Nicholas Restaurant

BY NINA SILBERSTEIN

If you’ve ever been to the original location of Nicholas Restaurant on SE Grand Ave., you would undoubtedly see your fellow diners waiting outside the door to get in.

Built by word-of-mouth and a reputation for delivering great service and a flavorful meal, the Dibe family has been serving up Lebanese and Mediterranean cuisine for more than 30 years.

What follows is the story of how Nicholas Restaurant came to be and why even in a pandemic, the family legacy lives on.

Nicholas and Linda Dibe moved their family to Portland in 1982 from Beirut, Lebanon. There was a war going on at the time, Nicholas lost his job and their house was hit so bad that part of it was gone.

“My aunt lived here for a long time and she sponsored us to come,” says their daughter, Hilda Dibe.

Nicholas took his life savings and invested it in the family-owned restaurant, which opened in 1987. For the first few years, few came in. Lebanese food hadn’t really caught on yet for the Portland palate and some people didn’t even know where Lebanon was on the map. Dibe says they were asked many times, “Lebanon, Oregon, is that where you’re from?”

In the beginning, pizza and calzones were sold to bring people in. Then came a lot of sampling. Nicholas enticed diners with a taste of tabouli or hummus, and when they tried it, they were smitten.

Today, the most popular dishes served are the mezzas – small plates for sharing – that offer a chance to try a little bit of everything. The vegetarian mezza, for example, consists of hummus, tzatziki, tabouli, falafel, mini spinach pie and a baked macaroni feta cheese dish. The hummus, tabouli and falafel are also staples on their own.

Then there’s the pita bread.

Pre-pandemic, the enormous round came right out of the oven to your table still steaming hot. Paired with a zaatar dip of thyme, oregano, sesame seeds and olive oil, it’s a winning combination.

In addition, there are plenty



L to R: Linda Dibe, Hilda Dibe, Nathalie Zerka
Photo by Nicholas Restaurant

of vegan, gluten-free and keto-friendly options on the menu, too.

Dibe took over the operations in 1995 and manages the Grand Ave. and Gresham locations. There’s a Nicholas Restaurant on NE Broadway that is run by different family members. In fact, employees are all family at each location and some own other businesses.

Nicholas passed away in 2009, but Linda is still involved at age 75. Hilda’s 15-year-old son started working for the restaurant when he was 13. She has two other sons, 11 and 4, and an 8-year-old daughter.

The biggest thing on her mind today is COVID-19.

“We were doing our thing, making sure the food was good and keeping the family recipes. We never had to advertise and then the pandemic hit,” Dibe says. “We haven’t had dine-in since the beginning and gave in to the delivery services because we had to.”

Since business slowed down tremendously, they had to switch gears and figure out what food was good for takeout. Brainstorming and creativity have become the norm. They’re spending extra money on advertising and becoming more involved in social media.

“It’s definitely more marketing than I ever did in my life,” she adds.

Catering was almost like another full-time business for the family and they did a lot of it prior to the pandemic.

“We had about 40-50 orders per week going out to different offices. Of course, that dropped

off a lot,” Dibe explains. “We’re still doing some – a lot of individual box lunches, mostly to essential businesses.”

At the Grand location, there were a lot of disadvantages of the small setting.

“We’ve been looking for a new space for about three or four years now,” she said. The family wanted to stay in SE and be able to provide ample parking.

The East Side Deli at SE 11th Ave and Madison was closing down and the Dibes landed a good deal. The site is about 4,000 square feet with a 1,500 square foot-outdoor patio.

It’s still in the construction phase and being remodeled, with a target opening date of February 1, 2021. It will replace the Grand Ave. location – a space they have outgrown.

“The new place will have really high ceilings and a new ventilation/purifying system to make it as safe as possible,” Hilda says. It will also have a banquet area upstairs big enough to hold about 30 people.

“The new space will have a full bar with a lot of neat Lebanese cocktails, which we’re going to integrate with dates, tahini and pomegranate, and we have our own mix we’ve been working on.”

“The pandemic definitely makes you work harder,” Dibe says. “But we’ve lasted this long and we’re going to get through this.”

Nicholas Restaurant
318 SE Grand Ave.
nicholasrestaurant.com
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Fertile Ground Festival 12

For its 12th year, the Fertile Ground Festival of New Works, a program of the Portland Area Theatre Alliance (PATA), is thrilled to offer 40 projects, virtual and free, streaming January 28-February 7.

The festival will present pre-recorded "acts of creation," submitted by producing organizations and artist-producers. Recorded premieres will be live-dropped at scheduled intervals over the course of the 11-day festival, and streamed on Fertile Ground's Facebook and YouTube channels.

This year is the first time in Festival history participant "acts of creation" have been curated. The Grow Panel, a diverse community panel of artists and arts administrators, selected 31 projects for this year's festival, nine of which received a Grow Award.

Show times for each project have been randomly assigned to ensure equity of placement. After a premiere, most will be available on-demand through February 15. All festival events are free, and audiences are encouraged to make donations to Fertile Ground between now and the start of the festival in lieu of the typical \$50 Festival Pass. Audiences will be able to make donations while viewing projects to support each work directly.

"At this time, in our local and national landscape, our community needs artists' voices more than ever," said Dre Slaman, Fertile Ground Managing Director. "This re-imagined virtual Fertile Ground is about innovation, inclusion, and, most of all, the resilience of our local artistic community."

A sampling of this year's project titles include *Be Careful What You Ask For*, *Vanport Mosaic*, *Sadie and Myrtle*, *Hot Mess - A Zombie Musical*, *Red/Act*, *I'll Tell You How To Love Me*, and many others.

For details about the schedule, the plays, writers, actors, storylines, see fertilegroundpdx.org.



Artichoke Looks at the Year Ahead



Pretty Gritty photo by Liz Campbell

These "Poetic Waxwings" were sent by Bob Howard of Artichoke Music:

"Artichoke Music ended 2020 with a benefit for Transition Projects and the broadcast raised \$1,500. 100+ people watched and the show is available on Artichoke's Facebook and YouTube channels.

"The concert was a capstone to a difficult year. We miss welcoming everyone to our shows. The silver lining we have found in our broadcast projects and online productions this year is that we are making new friends around the world. We are convinced as we emerge from the necessary restrictions of the pandemic, that we will continue to share our future productions online as well as in person.

"The store is now open every day and our community came in throughout the holidays. Thank you so much for your support of local businesses.

"We are all musicians and we love your visits. We hope we have created an environment where we can interact in a safe and warm manner. Here's to a happy new year!"

- **Online classes** begin the first week of January. Registration is open online. Artichoke now has teachers from all over the world.

- **Cascade Blues Association's** first meeting kicks off the new year with a duet of West Coast's premier harmonica ace Mitch Kashmar and Muddy Award Hall of Fame guitarist Alan Hager. The show will broadcast on Facebook Live, Wednesday, January 6, 7 pm.

- **Virtual Village** open mics begin again Thursday, January 14, with a session themed "Hello/Goodbye" in the spirit of the inauguration.

- **Soldier Songs and Voices** meet every Sunday at 2 pm starting January 10.

- **Friday Night Coffeehouse** returns virtually January 22, 7 pm. Find all the classes and event listings at ArtichokeMusic.org.

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Gesture and Journey The Delgani String Quartet

The Delgani String Quartet continues their sixth season with **Gesture and Journey**, a concert of extremes, livestreaming Sunday, January 24, 3 pm and Tuesday, January 26, 7:30 pm.

The concert begins with three gestural works from the 20th century: Four Bagatelles by Alan Hovhaness, Igor Stravinsky's Three Pieces and Webern's Five Pieces.

Schubert's sublime cello quintet comes next, written two months before his death. It features conversational themes between two violins and two cellos. Eugene Symphony Principal Cellist Anne Ridlington joins Delgani for this piece.

The Quartet members are violinists Jannie Wei and Wyatt True, violist Kimberlee Uwate and cellist Eric Alterman.

Ticket holders and season subscribers have 30-day access to artist interviews, pre-concert lectures and livestreamed performances.

Tickets for adults, \$28; students, \$5 at delgani.org.

The Inked Image

Sidestreet Arts' annual Fine-Art Print Show, *The Inked Image*, features work by more than 30 guest artists from across the US.

All the works in the show are original hand-pulled prints with no digital reproductions, in media ranging from lithography, relief, intaglio and monotype.

The mechanics of print-making are centuries old, and these artists represent a fresh vision and interpretation of what classical techniques and materials can do.

The show usually focuses on from Pacific Northwest print artists, and this is the first year with a nationally-juried pool, curated by Gail Owen and Michele Sabatier. The show opens January 6 and is up until the month's end. Gallery hours are Thursdays-Sundays, 12-5 pm.

Tuesday, January 5, 6 pm is the Preview Night Zoom. See the artists' featured artwork, as they discuss their inspiration and ideas behind the work. The monthly Artist Talk Zoom is Sunday, January 17, at noon. Artwork can be purchased at sidestreetarts.com, 140 SE 28th Ave. 503.327.8064.



"One For Sorrow"
by Sharon Whitham

Steve Drizos' Axiom



Photo by Jason Quigley

Portland musician Steve Drizos celebrates the new year by popping the cork on his first solo release, *Axiom* – a stalwart collection of dreamy, moving, psychedelized rock.

Drizos, drummer for Jerry Joseph and The Jackmormons, has engineered and produced a number of albums with Patterson Hood (Drive-By Truckers), Jerry Joseph, Chris Funk (The Decemberists), and Scott McCaughey (R.E.M., Minus 5, The Young Fresh Fellows). This time around, it's his turn as writer.

Singing and playing many of the instruments, he enlisted his friends and life-partner wife, Jenny Conlee-Drizos (The Decemberists) on these sessions to accompany him. The eight-song cycle begins with the title track, leading into *Juggling Fire*, a tune that sets the tone for the album's compelling message.

"The motivation to make the record came a few months after I got sober," Drizos said. "*Juggling Fire* was the first song I wrote as a sober person, and it was really emotional to finish the song and feel that clarity in the creative process."

The vocal harmonies throughout the album are stirring and clearly mixed, the guitars are crisp and big, and Drizos' solid drumming propels every track. The tender moments alongside the rockers are soul-searching and intimate. *You Don't See That Now* is an inspiring tune with steady harmonies as counterpoint to Drizos' storytelling. Listen to the preview single, *Static*, online at bit.ly/3rzlQMS.

"This is the first time I have written, produced, recorded and mixed a project myself," he said. "Besides guest musicians helping out on the tracking process, Dave Jones helping out with vocal coaching, and Kyleen King's string and vocal arrangements, this record differs from anything else that I've been involved in because it was all me, for the most part, from beginning to end."

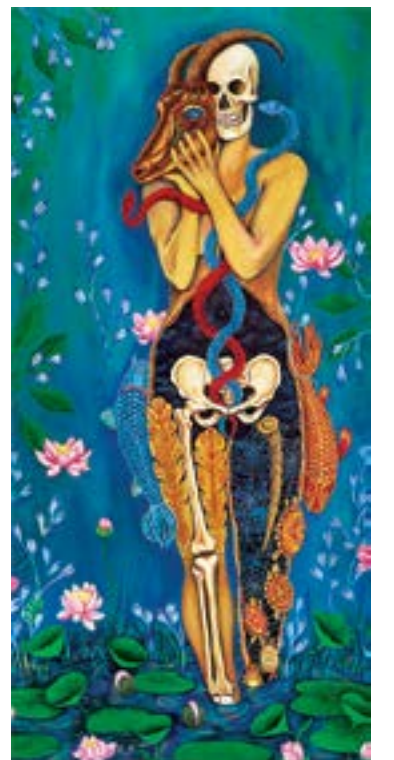
The album is a hopeful beginning to a sorely needed new year, with promise and transformation at its center. "I never wanted to say it's all going to be okay, Drizos adds, "because that's a promise nobody can make. But it can be better."

Axiom is, as the word is defined, a statement taken as truth. This new music rings true, and makes the day better.

Visit his new website, SteveDrizos.com and order a copy.



The cover of "Axiom"



Born and raised in the PNW, **Kiazora's** art explores interactions between life and death, form and the formless.

Her paintings convey the interaction of humans and environment. Her creative process is interactive as she continuously converses with the image as it emerges.

This piece is titled *Inner Space*. Kiazora's latest work will be part of a joint exhibit with Ila Rose that takes place next month and will be featured in our February issue.

See Kiazora.com or her Instagram page for more.

Tell The SE Examiner readers about Arts events, livestreams or virtual presentations of all kinds. Email press releases and images by the 20th of the month to: examiner@seportland.news Like our Facebook page too for updates, news and conversation. SoutheastExaminer.com

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REFORMERS AUGMENT REALITY

The Reformers are an experimental performing arts collective with a simple goal: to tell stories not commonly seen on local stages. Now they're fusing their immersive performance style with technology to bring you their first ARG (Augmented Reality Game) in a performance series called Re: Lilith Lopez.

Lilith Lopez is missing and she leaves behind a series of videos, a handful of clues, and a warning to anyone who might be paying attention: "If you think you see me, run."

She is pursued by paranormal investigator Tamsin Walsh, who must locate Lopez and whatever is hunting her in time to stop an unimaginable evil.

In the online series, viewers can click through Tamsin's investigative files, watch videos, read text message conversations, and listen in on phone calls that draw them more deeply into the story.

Then, in addition to the online experience (ticket \$25), participants can choose to be sent an expanded game play package (\$45) positioning them at the center of the plot. This package will be hand-delivered to your door if you live in greater Portland. Outside of Portland, they'll ship the box to you.

The audience helps connect the dots as the plot is revealed throughout the month of January. The thrilling conclusion debuts Tuesday, February 2, 9 pm during Portland's Fertile Ground Festival.

A different type of theatrical experience, this isn't simply an online reading. Sign up and you'll receive further instructions via email.

See thereformerspdx.com to find out more.

the Portland Music Stream



The Quick and Easy Boys

Alberta Rose Theatre hosts their new season of the Portland Music Stream to ring in the New Year of 2021. All shows begin at 7 pm.

Saturday, January 9: The Quick and Easy Boys – a power trio creating their own brand of rock & roll with elements from the Minutemen, The Police and Band of Gypsies among others.

Friday, January 15: DiMo on the Fringe – Hannah DiMo and Matt Iddings are a 70s music-inspired project with funk, soul and blues-rock, rich harmonies and "savory guitar licks."

Tickets are available at the website as a subscription package or for individual shows. The monthly calendar is there too. See AlbertaRoseTheatre.com.

Baez' 80th Birthday Livestream



Joan Baez

Celebrate Joan Baez' birthday with her. In commemoration of the her 80th birthday, a reception will be streamed at 5:30 pm (PST) Saturday, January 9 that includes an interview with Baez, a virtual tour of her new art show, *Mischief Makers 2* and other festivities and mischief to mark this milestone occasion.

Mischief Makers 2 is the second solo art show by singer/activist Baez showcasing her portraits of people making the world a better place. A follow up to her debut as a visual artist, the show features a new cast of luminaries and activists in a range of fields – from politics and public health, to literature, sports, music, environmentalism, spirituality and the counterculture. Baez' portrait of Vice President-elect Kamala Harris went viral when she posted it with the word *Badass* and her portrait of Dr. Anthony Fauci ignited the Internet when she added the word *Trust* alongside his image.

Her new show features portraits of Patti Smith, Greta Thunberg, Michael Moore, Colin Kaepernick, Emma Gonzalez, Wavy Gravy, and author Alice Walker. Limited edition prints of portraits including Bob Dylan, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Anthony Fauci, and Emma Gonzalez will be on display in the gallery and available for purchase.

Event tickets are \$15 online at bit.ly/JoanBaezLiveStream.

PORTLAND OLD TIME MUSIC GATHERING 2021



Hubby Jenkins
by Horatio Baltz

Square dancers, musicians and other fans of traditional Appalachian music have come together for the Portland Old Time Music Gathering for more than 20 years. This year's gathering continues in a new virtual format.

The multi-day event is putting a special focus this year on the ways Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC) communities have significantly influenced American roots music and continue to do so today.

The Gathering's Quarantine Edition airs January 14-17 and features streaming concerts from acclaimed national musicians, acoustic instrument workshops, online jamming, song swaps, a Sunday Cabaret, kids' programming and lots more. All events are open to the public and presented free of charge. Online donations will be gratefully accepted for performers, workshop leaders, and Bubbaville, the Portland nonprofit that hosts the Gathering each year.

2021 performers include Hubby Jenkins (of The Carolina Chocolate Drops), Houston's Keyun & the Zydeco Masters, North Carolina fiddle and banjo player Paul Brown, Portland fiddle phenom Annie Staninec and others. Sunday, January 17, Tatiana Hargreaves and Jake Blount lead an online discussion on the Black and Indigenous roots of old time music.

All concerts will stream on Portland Old Time Music Gathering's YouTube channel and Quarantine Happy Hour Facebook page. Workshops, jams and discussions take place via Zoom.

The details and full schedule with performer bios is all at bubbaguitar.com/gathering.



Annie Staninec



Mike Hsu

Classical Revolution PDX

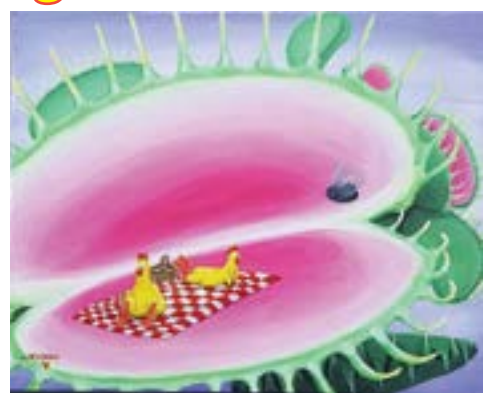
A special fundraising concert for Classical Revolution PDX livestreams from the Holocene stage, Saturday, January 16, 7:30 pm.

The concert features Mike Hsu, Kyle Grant and Chauncey Canfield in an evening of solo violin, and cello and piano music from Vivaldi, Beethoven, Tchaikovsky, John Williams, de Falla, Saint-Saens, Arvo Part, Massenet, Kreisler, Bartok, Sarasate and new work from Hsu, founder of the ARCO PDX group.

The evening streams live at twitch.tv/holocenepdx and bit.ly/YoutubeHolocene-Portland. See classicalrevolutionpdx.org for more.

Rubber Chicken Paintings by Dingo and Olive

Dingo Dizmal and Olive Rootbeer are well known clowns about town. Together, they collaborate in performance as well as in paint and have shared tunes, stories, comedy, bike rides, face painting, balloon twisting and public story time with Portland since 2011. These are a couple of recent paintings in their Rubber Chicken series.



"I used to run the Alberta Street Clown House," wrote Dingo. "I started painting the Rubber Chickens there as something to do with my hands after quitting drinking and was shocked when people started buying them."

"After that ended in 2007, I took off on my tallbike and started anew in SE Portland. I met Olive Rootbeer and she added a fine art element. I write the funny and then she either remakes some of my paintings or comes up with her own. We weren't going to have rent, but the chicken paintings saved us this year."

Olive and Dingo have supported small businesses, cycling events and the local parades. "We were on the show *Portlandia* several times and there is even a bus stop with our mural in SE."

"Now that Christmas is over, we are going to switch gears and restart our 10 year gig as busking kid performer clowns. We do a rockroll storytime that was very popular and are going to livestream our show. It's interesting having to reinvent ourselves a lot and those Rubber Chicken paintings keep our oars in the water during transitions."

"I'm honored that Portland has allowed me to be a burlesque clown, an activist and a kid's clown for over 20 years. We will have our work cut out for us when COVID blows over and I can't wait to help rebuild everything."

See oliveanddingo.com for contact, pics and antics.

Music Together Online



Music gives us a way to express emotions and it naturally relieves stress. Music makes us feel human. It is multi-sensory and supports children's learning and development. There's nothing like playing music to build the connections we need now more than ever.

The Music Together (MT) online classes make music come alive. Little ones are born ready to make music. Singing, dancing and making music with a baby or toddler throughout the day supports their growth in physical, socioemotional, language and early brain development. There are high-energy, interactive activities in classes for big kids (kindergarten-2nd grade) too.

MT is a package of online music experiences and resources that create a comprehensive music learning program. In a weekly live Zoom class, a teacher leads activities to sing, play and jam along to. Learn how to make everyday items like dish towels, pots, and even laundry baskets into musical props. Families receive a new song collection each session, with an illustrated songbook to accompany the recordings.

Try a free class or register today. Classes for babies, toddlers, preschoolers and big kids begin January 11. See musictogether-pdx.com or phone 503.236.4304.

Movies n Magic To Help Clinton Street

How can you help the Clinton Street Theater survive? Watch **SHAZOOM!**, an interactive eye-popping, mind-bending online magic show by Master Magician Dan Kamin.

Kamin has performed one-man shows in theatres and with symphonies worldwide. He trained Robert Downey, Jr. for his performance in *Chaplin* and created Johnny Depp's physical comedy in *Benny and Joon*. (dankamin.com)

Watch it any time from your home, office or school. Donate any amount. All proceeds benefit Clinton Street.

Virtual Cinema is another way to help and new movies are streamed every month. Buy a ticket, watch at home and support The Clinton.

A Dog Called Money is an intimate journey through the inspiration, writing and recording of a PJ Harvey record.

Song Without A Name is the story of Georgina, an indigenous Andean woman whose newborn baby is whisked away and never returned. Based on true events.

Stream the **New York City Children's Film Festival** and more. The film list is at cstpdx.com.



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Wellness Word

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

Taking the Gym Outside

It's the winter we never thought we would see – gyms and fitness centers are closed due to COVID-19. Now that we are told it's only safe to exercise outside, our winter weather makes outdoor workouts more challenging than they were last spring.

To assist my clients in retaining the gains they have made in strength and functional ability, I have reimagined exercise programming so it can take place outside instead of inside at my fitness center. Hopefully these tips can benefit you, too.

First, bundle up. You must dress in layers. Especially if you have neuropathy in your hands or feet, make sure you have warm gloves and socks, maybe even hand-warmers. You will warm up as you start exercising so make sure to have lighter-weight clothing underneath.

Second, hydrate. Even though it's colder now, don't neglect drinking enough water.

Third, check with your doctor if you have a heart condition or other medical issues to be sure it's safe for you to exercise in the cold.

Fourth, give yourself a long warm-up and cool-down to allow yourself to acclimate to the outdoor temperature and re-bundle-up once your workout is finished so you don't get chilled.

Finally, wear a mask if you are going to be anywhere you might encounter other people.

Walking is the easiest exercise to do outside. You will need sturdy athletic shoes (arch support if you need it; waterproof is a bonus) and a raincoat or umbrella if it's one of our infamous rainy

days. For the sake of your joints, walk on a school track or a trail if you have one available. If not, asphalt is softer than concrete.

Challenge yourself with some hills if possible; it's an easy way to interval train. If you don't have any inclines nearby, you can still increase and decrease your walking pace to create intervals or walk to the beat of your favorite music.

The goal is to move fast enough to increase your heart and respiratory rate, but not to exhaust yourself. You should be able to speak in short sentences while walking, but not have long conversations or be gasping for breath.

I like to rate the exercise intensity on a scale of 1-10 (a subjective measure that can vary day-to-day). Your goal is to be working at a perceived exertion level of 7 to 8 (excluding warm-up and cool-down), which will be roughly 70-80 percent of your maximum heart rate.

Strength training can also be taken outside. Keep it simple by finding a park, school yard or parking lot you can use. Body weight exercises and those using a stretchy band with handles will give you the most versatility in an outdoor setting, plus the bands are lightweight and easy to carry.

You can even incorporate the strength training exercises into breaks in your walking/cardio routine.

Here are a few exercises that can be done outside, reps are 10-15 unless otherwise noted.

- Band rows (attach the band at waist height around a pole, post or small tree) for upper

back strength.

- Band bicep curls (stand on the band with both feet)
- Band lateral shoulder raise (stand on the band with one foot)
- Pushups (use a wall or a bench to incline your body more than a standard pushup)
- Tricep dips off a bench
- Plank (place forearms on a bench to incline your body if needed), hold as long as you can.
- Side plank (like a plank, but focusing on obliques/waist-line muscles, use a bench to incline if needed), hold as long as you can, then do the other side.
- Bodyweight squats (plan on doing higher reps than usual and keep your focus on the working muscles, make sure you squeeze rather than bounce)
- Walking lunges (forward or backward) focus on good form and balance as well as squeezing working muscles. Continue to muscle fatigue. Modify or skip this one if it hurts your knees.
- Wall sit (invisible chair), hold for time
- Heel-toe walk (forward or backward) for balance, take your time and walk on a line or sidewalk crack, 2-3 times
- Repeat the strength exercises for multiple circuits as time and ability allows.

Despite the chilly/rainy weather, exercising outside has surprising mental and physical benefits. Don't forget to give yourself a pat on the back once you've finished your workout. Happy exercising!

Lori Vance, Body Image Fitness, LLC. 503.351.6476



Neighborhood Notes

Hosford-Abernethy Neighborhood Association By Jill Riebesehl

The HAND Board has a long hiatus over the holidays, but we anticipate interesting challenges in the coming year. It looks as if Catholic Charities is moving ahead on plans for low-cost permanent housing on the St. Philip Neri campus.

We anticipate a multi-neighborhoods meeting Monday, January 11 with the new city commissioner Mingus Mapps. We are looking forward to getting to know him. Watch for the notice of this Zoom event.

Our next regular meeting is Tuesday, January 19, 7-9 pm. The agenda is in flux and anyone who might have actions, problems or ideas to present is welcome at the executive committee meeting (date yet to be determined) to plan the agenda. Visit handpdx.org for updates.

Montavilla Neighborhood Association By Jacob Loeb

In the last meeting of 2020, Montavilla Neighborhood Association (MNA) has launched several new initiatives covering issues of safety, sanitation, property development and business support.

Newly-elected Public Safety Chair, Taylor Wells, presented an outline of programs launching in 2021 around safety. High on the list is disaster preparedness. MNA will work with local organizations to develop training and make resources available to residents and businesses. Additionally, Wells is in the early stages of building programs around theft prevention and reducing high-speed traffic on Montavilla streets.

The Board voted in favor of creating a new Sanitation Committee. That group's work will cover litter cleanup and expand public trash can placement through the neighborhood. The MNA website, montavillapdx.org, has volunteer opportunities to collect trash in public areas and safety information about cleanup activities.

Land Use & Transportation Chair Adam Wilson is leading an effort to create design standards for



Neighborhood Notes

future Montavilla development. This multi-year project will establish some baseline guidance for buildings constructed in the neighborhood.

In a unanimous vote, MNA created a new community resource available at montavillapdx.org/directory. Soon the site will offer a listing of businesses and organizations in Montavilla. A comprehensive list like it has not existed in modern times. By creating an inclusive directory, all establishments in the community will have the opportunity to connect with residents. Like membership in MNA, a listing in the directory is free and without obligation.

These initiatives and other projects will be topics at MNA's next general meeting. Join the conversation starting at 6:30 on January 11. Register for the Zoom online meeting at montavillapdx.org.

Mount Tabor Neighborhood Association By Stephanie Stewart

MTNA will host a community meeting on Zoom, Wednesday, January 13, 7 pm. (Note: this is a date change from our regular schedule to avoid conflicts with the inauguration on January 20.) At our meeting we will have a guest speaker from our area Emergency Response Team, with practical steps you can take this season to improve your disaster readiness.

Find links for this, and all of our Zoom meetings, under the "Meetings and Events" tab of our website, mttaborpdx.org. MTNA creates a monthly newsletter about important civic issues which you can find on our website next to each month's meeting minutes.

North Tabor Neighborhood Association By Kim Kasch

Meghan Caughey, MFA will be offering a free presentation, *Working Through Suicide - For Those Struggling and Those Who Care About Them* at our North Tabor Neighborhood Association Meeting which begins at 6:30 p.m. on February 16 via a Zoom presentation.

Please check out our website, northtabor.org, for additional meeting information or email us at board@northtabor.org.

Richmond Neighborhood Association By Allen Field

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

At the December 14 monthly meeting, we were very honored to have Commissioner Amanda Fritz attend for a second month in a row. In her last month as a Commissioner, she is making the rounds of neighborhood associations and district coalitions thanking them for their service and commitment to community engagement. She thanked the RNA Board for its ongoing efforts providing information to the community, sponsoring community projects and keeping neighbors engaged.

Officer Shaun Sahli gave a report on crime and safety issues in Richmond. There has been an increase in property crimes such as burglaries and car prowls and crimes against individuals, such as assault. At the same time, the Police Bureau has had a reduction in detectives investigating crimes but they are reorganizing roles to put more attention to neighborhood crimes. Concerning the high number of catalytic converter thefts, he explained the resources needed to conduct sting operations, the Bureau simply does not have right now.

Greg Bourget, Lead Researcher for Portland Clean Air (portlandcleanair.org), gave a very informative presentation on the problem of the high level of industrial pollution in Portland, especially diesel particulates. Portland Clean Air is organizing the city's neighborhood associations to work together on these issues. The Board appointed Kamal Belkhaty to serve as liaison to Portland Clean Air to keep it apprised of and involved in its projects.

The Board voted to adopt the PDX Mainstreet Guidelines for Hawthorne Blvd., similar to the Guidelines adopted for Division in 2018, and a Hawthorne special buildings list. Both documents can be found at pdxmainstreets.org.

If you would like to help distribute the quarterly Richmond Newsletter, please contact rnanewsletter@gmail.com. The RNA's next meeting is Monday, February 8. The Board has its annual retreat gathering in January. To get on the agenda, the agenda request form is on the RNA's website.

Sunnyside Neighborhood Association By Dave Boush

The December SNA General Meeting began with a discussion of the impending end to the moratorium on rental evictions at the end of the year. For information, see the related article by Jessie Maran at sunnysideportland.org. The SNA would like to help those affected and would love input from neighbors on possible action(s).

The meeting then redirected to the Buckman NA meeting featuring Marc Jolin, Director of the Joint Office on Homelessness. His office contracts with over 40 non-profit organizations to help alleviate homelessness and its effects. Like SNA, Marc expressed concern over the evictions of renters that is likely to occur over the coming months.

Some of his other main points were:

- Housing that is not subsidized is financially out of reach to lower income residents. The market alone cannot solve the housing shortage.
- Over the last 10 months, the COVID-19 crisis has led to a stand-down in moving encampments, a 50 percent reduction in residents in each shelter and efforts to isolate people with COVID-19 in motels. 82 COVID-19 cases have been reported among the homeless.
- 2017-19 saw an increase of over 30 percent in chronically homeless in our area.
- The Shelter to Housing Continuum's (S2HC) proposed code changes address the need for a wider range of shelter options. Marc supports the proposal. For more about S2HC, see portland.gov/bps/s2hc/about-shelter-housing-continuum-project. Those interested in learning more are encouraged to visit ahomeforeveryone.net.

Neighbors familiar with housing issues in Portland may not have learned many new facts. However, Marc expressed unmistakable optimism about the opportunities presented by increased resources from Metro Measure 26-210. Also on display was a nuanced approach to the many affected groups including domestic violence survivors and the immigrant refugee community, not always top of mind.

January's SNA General Meeting, Thursday January 14, will focus on preparedness, with three active Sunnyside NETs. Hope to see you at our Zoom meeting. The link is on the website, sunnysideportland.org. Stay safe. Happy New Year.



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Code Changes Could Relieve Homeless Crisis

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The main code changes under consideration will provide more flexibility for shelter siting, establish outdoor shelters for community use, expand group living allowances and allow permanent occupancy of recreational vehicles and tiny houses on wheels (THOW).

These stipulations are already used during periodic declarations of emergency. What the S2HC is working to accomplish is to establish new codes and procedures to allow the quick opening of temporary shelters in temporary locations.

These shelters would be allowed to operate for 180 days and in certain zones, and could remain for longer periods through base zone allowances or conditional use reviews.

Other terminology under review is clarifying what constitutes residential use. S2HC finds the current code ambiguous and constricting.

Single Room Occupancies can be classified as Group Living, Household Living, or Retail Sales and Service, depending on technical details. The proposed code designates two types of residential use: Household Living and Group Living.

Legalizing recreational vehicles and tiny houses on wheels (THOW) on residential property is being proposed as this is currently prohibited by Title 29. This change would allow an RV or

THOW on property that allows an accessory dwelling unit (ADU). The intent is to acknowledge the need for a wider continuum of housing types and to accommodate more people.

When asked about property owners charging for people to park, Al Burns, AICP, Senior City Planner, Bureau of Planning and Sustainability, Project Manager said, “The proposed regulations do not control, so a property owner may either charge rent for the RV or THOW or allow someone to live in it for free.”

The city is temporarily allowing overnight camping in RVs and THOWs on private property. The RVs and THOWs must be titled and registered by the State of Oregon.

Currently, City Code does not permit long-term residential occupancy of a vehicle. Residential occupancy of a tiny home without wheels, attached to a foundation is allowed by current Zoning Code and Building Code either as primary dwelling or ADU.

There are a few existing legal paths. Campgrounds, (anytime there are more than two vehicles parked together, it is considered a campground and requires a state license) and some commercial hotels operate as campgrounds and RV parks. Religious institutions can host up to three vehicles for the community.

Public testimony ended De-

cember 21, 2020. There is a lot of positive support for the S2HC because the need is so great. One of the biggest red flags expressed repeatedly is where will the city allow shelter, RV and THOW sites? As it stands now, the S2HC draft does not exclude parks and open spaces.

Daniel Newberry, Executive Director of the Johnson Creek Watershed Council said, “Over the past few years, we’ve watched a humanitarian housing crisis develop into an environmental crisis. People need to stay warm, and have privacy where they live. Unfortunately, trees that were planted by streams to provide shade for salmon have become a casualty of these needs.”

Burns said, “This project nudges Portland a little bit closer toward doing enough. The accomplishments to date of the Portland Housing Bureau and the Joint City/County Office of Homelessness Services are to be applauded.”

Like most other people concerned with this crisis, Burns realizes it won’t be solved until federal, state and local level city and county governments are doing their part.

The recommended draft for the project will be presented to City Council this winter and become effective by March of 2021.

For more information, visit portland.gov/bps/s2hc/s2hc-faq.

Climate Change

from page 4

less, the proposal is likely to face opposition.

At the federal level of government, many republicans and democrats are working to address Climate Change as the executive bias against it reverses.

The Republican Party, with the help of big business in 2017, addressed Climate Change by publishing *The Conservative Case For Carbon Dividends*, that states, “market-based policies are the most efficient approach to slowing Climate Change.”

It was signed by over 2,600 economists, including 18 Nobel laureates. British Petroleum, Exxon-Mobil, GM, JPMorgan Chase, AT&T, IBM and others. The Republican elder statesmen James Baker, Henry Paulson Jr. and Martin Feldstein are widely quoted.

The fundamental failure of our economy is that market prices do not include the costs that production impose on the environment. Economists agree that the solution is a gradually rising carbon fee collected from fossil fuels like coal, oil and gas. This fee revenue can be returned to citizens in the form of monthly dividends.

A family of four would receive \$2,000 per year and it would increase over time. 70 percent of Americans would receive more in dividends than they would pay

in increased prices. This will encourage energy companies, leading industries and American consumers to move toward cleaner, more efficient choices. The government would keep only enough to pay program costs.

The Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2019 (H.R. 763) was introduced in the House of Representatives in 2018 with bipartisan support that proposed a fee on carbon to reduce greenhouse gas emissions similar to the above strategy. It was also introduced in the Senate as S. 3791. Democrats widely support this legislation and their Green New Deal.

If there is any question about the veracity of Climate Change, the recent film and book, *A Life On Our Planet*, is a powerful witness statement illustrating the life lived by Sir David Attenborough, the British naturalist and broadcaster.

Since the 1950s, he traveled a changing world year by year and saw first-hand the monumental scale of the world’s environmental changes. The film presents a wide variety of distressed ecosystems along with solutions that could improve all life on our planet. This 90-minute film is available on Netflix.

The earth is changing quickly toward becoming uninhabitable. There are fires in Aus-

tralia, Siberia, California and the Amazon, floods in China, Bangladesh and India, heat waves in the northern hemisphere, and the Arctic, Antarctic and Greenland are losing trillions of tons of ice. These systems are all linked like dominoes.

The damage done to the Earth has crept up imperceptibly and must be reversed. The sustainability revolution must continue while we detach from the addiction of growth by distributing resources more evenly and reforming our lifestyles.


New fortunes will be made by innovators and entrepreneurs that devise products and services to help solve problems.

If we change to plant-based diets, only half the farmland will be required.

The Netherlands has increased its farm yields tenfold with less water and fewer chemicals while emitting less carbon.


Costa Rica has replanted native trees over half of the country after its extreme deforestation in the 1980s and today, Morocco generates 40 percent of its energy needs from renewable sources.

This film, along with Attenborough’s other works, illustrate the tools and solutions required to fix it. The new federal administration promises to do all that can be done to address Climate Change both here and around the world.



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Happy New Year Portland!



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



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