



# BWNA

# Beaumont-Wilshire Neighborhood Association

## January-February 2018

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FIND THE Beaumont-Wilshire Neighborhood Association online at [www.bwna.us](http://www.bwna.us)

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## BWNA Calendar of Events

### Monday, January 8

7:00-8:30 p.m.  
BWNA Board Meeting  
Bethany Lutheran Church  
Skidmore and 37th  
Library Meeting Room  
(enter on 37th side of church)

### Friday, February 9

BWNA newsletter submission deadline for March-April issue.  
E-mail articles to Al Ellis ([editor@bwna.us](mailto:editor@bwna.us)); photos, graphics, and ads to Jane Feinberg ([design@bwna.us](mailto:design@bwna.us))

*more dates on page 2*



## A transformative year for BWNA

by Al Ellis

**2**017 was exceptional in its volatility—for our nation, for the world, and even for this neighborhood association. But in BWNA's case, what began as exceptionally problematic soon became exceptionally positive—all within a few months.

Flash back to last January, and a reeling BWNA had no president, multiple board resignations, a newsletter drain on the treasury, and bylaws in dire need of an overhaul. So how was BWNA able to transform from one extreme to the other in a matter of months? Oddly enough, the initial catalyst for the turnaround was a set of proposed bylaw revisions—the kind of esoteric topic that usually illicit yawns, and certainly not a sense of urgency. But BWNA was in soul-searching mode, and the discussions that followed penetrated well beyond the form and substance of bylaws to the operational underpinnings of the organization—so much so that the board took the unusual step of scheduling a “special meeting” to resolve issues associated with the revisions proposal. Complicating matters, a competing bylaws revision proposal was submitted for consideration by a board member opposed to the initial proposal.

At the contentious showdown, board members collectively scrutinized the bylaws line by line, offering arguments pro and con on each proposed revision, taking multiple votes on everything from punctuation and sentence structure to officer duties and voting procedures. The final product can be easily accessed on the BWNA website ([www.bwna.us/about/bylaws](http://www.bwna.us/about/bylaws)). As trying as the special meeting was, in the end board members had reason to feel positive about their collective accomplishment, providing a pathway to the future.

That future soon took shape. Motivated by a forward-looking set of bylaws and the prospect of a new day for the organization, board member Tim Hemstreet stepped up to become president, which in turn motivated board members Kathy Campbell and Barb Strunk to throw their hats into the ring for the positions of vice president and secretary, respectively (replacing longtime officers Bill Markwart and Jim Karlock). Election of the three new officers at April's Taste of Beaumont encouraged others to fill vacated at-large positions, and the tide began to turn.

*continued on page 6*

## Oregon car theft follow-up

by Pat Bellamah

**T**he article in the Nov.-Dec. issue of the BWNA newsletter on skyrocketing auto theft in Oregon clearly struck a nerve in our neighborhood, eliciting unprecedented feedback. Two neighborhood associations, Roseway and Grant Park, contacted editor Al Ellis asking to reprint the article, and representatives from the offices of two state legislators, Senator Michael Dembrow and Representative Barbara Smith Warner, contacted Al as well, expressing their profound concern. Perhaps of greatest consequence, though, was *Willamette Week*, which picked up the story and ran a well-researched investigative report cover story in their November 29th issue.



*continued on page 3*



## President's message

by Tim Hemstreet

# Making Resolutions for the New Year

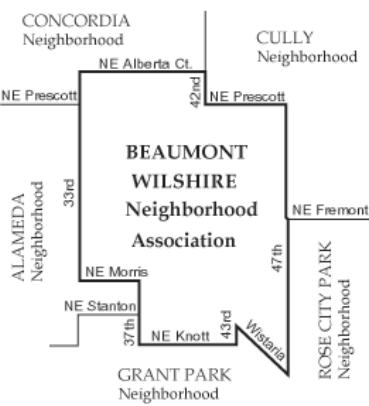
**W**ith the rush of the holiday season behind us, we now have a new year ahead, full of possibilities, opportunities, and challenges. I appreciate the feeling of renewal that comes with the New Year and the sense of moving back to the top of the calendar with a new chapter to be written. The turn of the calendar provides the opportunity to reflect on what we can do to create positive changes for our families, our community, and ourselves. These changes need not be drastic—and such focused thinking nurtures hope and an awareness of what provides meaning.

It is easy to be cynical about New Year's resolutions, given how hard it can be to make them stick. And we often find ourselves back in January considering the same resolutions to improve our health, relationships, and the other important aspects of our lives. For many years I eschewed New Year's resolutions for these reasons, or because I was—I thought—too busy to bother. But I've since realized that regardless of our ability to follow through, the process of reflecting on our lives to

identify what our resolutions should be is valuable in and of itself. Without such self-evaluation, it becomes all the more difficult to determine whether we are on the right path or whether a course correction is necessary to get us where we want to go. Given the fast pace of life, we need all the opportunities we can muster for such reflection. Therefore, this year I'll make some resolutions, and I hope you'll do the same. While I'll try to stick to them again this year, regardless of whether I succeed, the process will do me good. After all, I'll never achieve them if I stop trying.

If one of your resolutions involves getting more active in your community, then please consider participating in the Beaumont-Wilshire Neighborhood Association, which depends on neighbors like you volunteering their time to help make our community a better place.

Happy New Year!



### Calendar of Events (cont.)

#### Monday, February 12

7:00-8:30 p.m.  
BWNA General Meeting  
Bethany Lutheran Church  
Skidmore and 37th  
Fellowship Hall (enter on 37th side of church)

#### Monday, March 12

7:00-8:30 p.m.  
BWNA Board Meeting  
Bethany Lutheran Church  
Skidmore and 37th  
Library Meeting Room (enter on 37th side of church)

## Officers, Board Members & Committees

### President

Tim Hemstreet 503-239-6231  
president@bwna.us

### Vice-President

Kathy Campbell 503-515-6225

### Secretary

Barbara Strunk 503-284-7502

### Treasurer

Karla Lenox 503-292-4821  
treasurer@bwna.us

### Board Members at Large

Jack Bookwalter 503-539-2707  
Al Ellis 503-287-0477  
Katy Fackler 503-288-1895  
Anna Gillespie 503-484-7892  
Cliff Goldman 503-282-1150  
Gary Hancock 503-367-0862  
Deb Harris 503-284-4449  
Roger Price 503-287-9068  
(Two open positions)

### Beaumont Business Association

Andy Frazier  
[www.beaumontvillagepdx.com](http://www.beaumontvillagepdx.com)

### Crime Prevention

Bill Markwart 503-282-4610

### Beaumont Middle School

Al Ellis 503-287-0477

### Transportation

Jim Howell 503-284-7182

### Land Use

Jack Bookwalter 503-539-2707

### Parks & Open Spaces

Gary Hancock 503-367-0862

### Website: <http://www.bwna.us>

Mario Caoile and Helen Koba  
503-778-0881

### Newsletter Distribution

Georgina Head 360-739-7896  
John Sandie 219-508-4162

### Newsletter Editor

Articles and announcements to:  
Al Ellis, editor@bwna.us

### Copy Editor

Myrna Sheie 224-659-1537

### Newsletter Graphic Designer

Ads, graphics, and article photos to:  
Jane Feinberg 503-380-9485  
design@bwna.us

### Advertising Payments:

See <http://www.bwna.us> for instructions

### Central Northeast Neighbors Board

Beaumont-Wilshire Representatives:  
Barbara Strunk 503-284-7502  
Kathy Campbell 503-515-6225



## Editor's notes

by Al Ellis

A couple weeks before Thanksgiving, our BWNA newsletter team got the perfect holiday gift: her name is Jane Feinberg, and she arrived none too soon! Here's why:

It began last October with a bolt of news from ace graphic designer Amy Gwilliam. Due to time constraints brought on by an increased workload in her home-based business, Amy would be leaving our newsletter team by year's end. Gulp!! The newsletter graphic designer is the one who crafts the layout, a task requiring know-how, resourcefulness, and creativity to piece together the hodgepodge of articles, announcements, photos, graphics, and ads into a coherent, aesthetically appealing, and reader-friendly publication. Designers like Amy, with a resident's feel for the neighborhood and the motivation and availability to volunteer several hours per issue, are a prize catch for any neighborhood newsletter... and oh so hard to replace.

So what to do? Because the submission deadline for the Nov.-Dec. issue had passed,

it was too late to use this column for a recruitment pitch, but BWNA's October general meeting afforded the opportunity to make the announcement. Result: no takers. A concerned President Tim Hemstreet asked me what would happen if a replacement couldn't be found prior to the new year. My reply: "We don't publish."

Contingency plans were needed, and it was suggested that BWNA look into hosting a graphic design intern via a Portland Art Institute not-for-credit student practicum program as a short-term fix. I found the idea to be doable, although not a sure thing.

Happily, though, our contingency planning proved short-lived thanks to an initiative by none other than Amy Gwilliam, who took it upon herself to post a recruiting announcement on Nextdoor Beaumont-Wilshire, the popular local online network. Well, the newsletter gods were surely smiling when *the very next day* Amy received a positive response from B-W resident Jane Feinberg, a retiree with professional experience in graphic design and a strong desire to be of service to a neighborhood she's called home for 30

years. A career geologist, Jane's job resume includes technical editing and production management for a local geotechnical engineering consulting firm. Her gracious e-mail reply to me underscores just how fortunate we are:

*Thank you, Al, for the warm welcome and helpful information about the people and processes behind the BWNA newsletter!*

*I'm always pleased to see the newsletter on my porch and appreciate—even more—the effort involved in its production. I feel like I'm joining a great group of people!*

*I retired in 2015 after nearly 40 years in the geotechnical engineering field and have been thinking that I should do something more productive with my time than knitting, playing mah jongg, and lunching with friends, so it was an easy decision to offer my services when I saw Amy's post on Nextdoor.*

Postscript: While Jane Feinberg is listed as "Graphic Designer" in this issue, Amy Gwilliam deserves equal billing, providing invaluable mentoring to Jane every step of the way. (Amy, it's been a pleasure. On behalf of the neighborhood, MANY THANKS!)

## Oregon Car Theft Follow-up (continued)

Our article reported that Portland had experienced year-over-year increases in car theft of over 60 percent annually since 2015 because of a series of decisions by the State Court of Appeals, making the burden of proof for auto theft virtually unattainable. Car thieves, who know there is now no penalty for a non-prosecutable crime, are having a field day, with some individuals racking up arrest records of as many as eight thefts with no jail time, according to *Willamette Week*.

Logan Giles, chief policy advisor for Senator Dembrow, confirmed our reporting with the following response: "HB 2794-A, the legislation to close the loophole in the auto theft statute, was passed by the House Judiciary Committee, and then, because it

had a price tag on it, went to the legislature's joint budget-writing committee that approves all expenditures. It was estimated by the Legislative Fiscal Office to cost the state approximately \$1.4m for the 2017-19 biennium, with costs increasing to \$4.4m for 2019-21. Most of that expected cost was due to increased incarcerations and more prison time....The [Senate Judiciary Committee] never took up the legislation because it went into the budget process, and the members of that committee chose not to prioritize it for funding. Because we didn't hear from any constituents or from the proponents of the bill during the session, it was not on our radar." Well, it's certainly on this community's radar, as witnessed at BWNA's December General Meeting, when guest speaker, area Crime Prevention Coordinator

Sarah Berkemeier, had her hands full fielding questions and concerns from residents regarding the alarming increase in car break-ins and thefts.

Unfortunately, the legislature has a short session in 2018 and not much is going to make it onto the agenda. Best-case scenario, a fix would be amended to a larger bill addressing criminal statutes. Glass half-full, our local representatives are well aware now of the high frustration level of residents on this issue and the pressing need for corrective action. Meanwhile, constituents (you!) must continue to make themselves heard, demanding that Senator Dembrow, Representative Smith Warner, and their colleagues expedite elevation of this issue to a legislative priority during the session.

# BBA and BWNA on common ground in Beaumont Village

by Al Ellis

The name "Beaumont Village" has that small-town ring to it, conjuring up images of community socials, quaint shops, and bucolic architecture. And indeed, the poster child for Beaumont Village—that charming building on Fremont Street adjacent to 41st—not only looks the part, but it's arguably Beaumont-Wilshire's most recognizable landmark (hence the inspiration for BWNA's logo, reproduced on the front page of each newsletter issue in the upper left-hand corner). Yet as one walks from Beaumont Middle School on 42nd to Amalfi's on 47th (B-W's eastern boundary), it quickly becomes obvious that Beaumont Village is not one-dimensional, but rather an eclectic mix of small businesses housed in modest-sized buildings coexisting with bustling restaurants and cafes nestled amid modern mid-rise apartment complexes.

This is the heart of the Beaumont Business Association (BBA), a business district with citywide appeal that has been steadily evolving and transforming since its inception in 1984. This past year, under the dynamic new leadership of President Andy Frazier—longtime B-W resident, neighborhood activist, and owner of Frazier Wealth Management (a newsletter



Bucolic Beaumont Village architecture

advertiser)—BBA has more than doubled its membership, including businesses outside Beaumont Village limits, such as Whole Foods and Meticulous Plumbing (also an advertiser). Listening to Andy on the future, this is only the beginning for BBA.

Exuding a glass-half-full, can-do optimism at last November's BWNA board meeting, Andy impressed members with his three-year plan for energizing and expanding BBA through a combination of in-house teambuilding and community outreach. High on Andy's list of goals will be increasing BBA membership from its current 35 percent of in-district businesses to 75 percent—coupled with implementation of new strategies to attract out-of-district businesses. Revenue from increased membership dues is needed to sustain and expand upon popular BBA-sponsored community favorites, like Fremont Fright Fest, Fremont Holiday Fest, Dash for Donuts, Hip Hop in the Shop, and of course Fremont Fest (think of those gorgeous floral baskets!).

*continued on page 7*

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## A transformative year for BWNA (continued)

Fresh, energized, and smart leadership at the helm would steer BWNA into its future.

For starters, the newsletter was switched to a different printing company (FedEx, former Kinko's), providing equivalent quality at hundreds of dollars less per issue. In tandem, late payments from advertisers were significantly reduced as a result of Treasurer Karla Lenox's diligent e-mail reminders and conscientious recordkeeping.

VP Campbell brilliantly coordinated the National Night Out Picnic (one of the best in years), Secretary Strunk raised the bar with conscientious, thorough minute-taking, and President Hemstreet enlivened meetings by inviting guest speakers to address controversial issues—from pedestrian safety to infill development to car break-ins.

**Interested in joining the new team?** BWNA begins 2018 with two at-large vacancies.



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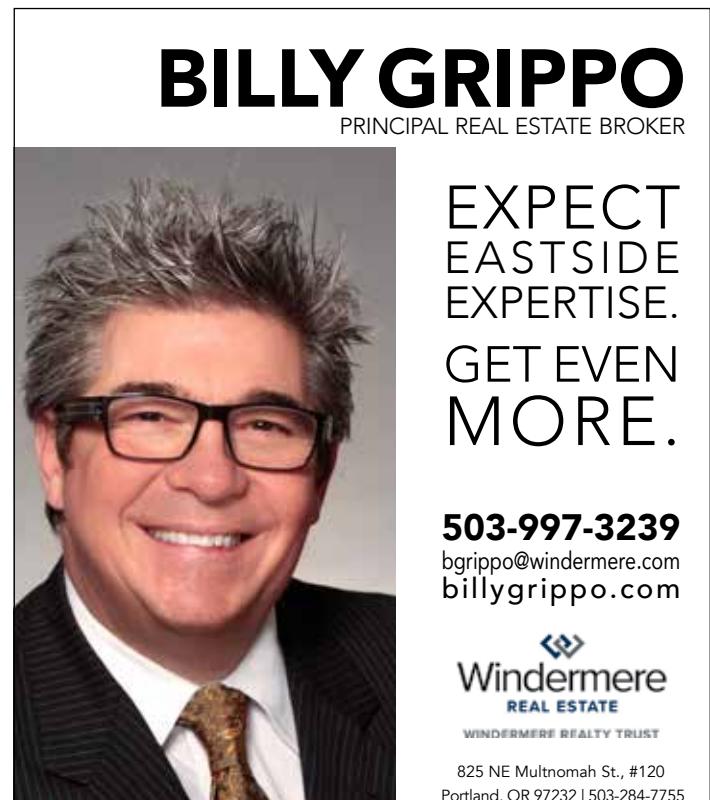
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## BBA and BWNA on common ground (continued)



Beaumont-Wilshires most recognizable landmark

Another of Andy's prime objectives for BBA is "the creation of a social environment on Fremont for business owners to meet neighbors," something BWNA is happy to assist with as a communication conduit, with BBA equally happy to provide support for BWNA in reciprocal partnership. Specifically, since BBA has no newsletter of its own, the BWNA newsletter and

general meetings will be used by BBA to promote BBA events and recruit community volunteers; correspondingly, BWNA will count on BBA businesses to post announcements and provide in-kind donations for BWNA events, such as Taste of Beaumont and the National Night Out Picnic.

Additionally, BWNA and BBA share common civic concerns that are most effectively addressed through collective action (e.g., rezoning, parking, crime prevention, and others) and networking with like-minded neighborhood and business associations, which hopefully boosts political clout. Lastly, BBA and BWNA will regularly be represented at each other's meetings, united in common purpose not only for the enhancement of Beaumont Village, but also in improving livability for both residents and merchants.



BBA readies Beaumont Village for holiday festivals

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# It's no optical illusion: Beaumont Vision helps patients see clearly

by Susan Trabucco

Nestled on Fremont Street between Green Dog Pet Supply and Umpqua Bank, Beaumont Vision found a comfortable storefront from which to offer comprehensive eye care and high-quality eyewear. The vision care-focused boutique was launched nearly 12 years ago by optometrist Dr. John Lewis O.D., who chose the site when he noticed the building under construction—and because it was near his home and in a neighborhood he enjoyed.

"Beaumont Village has a strong community feel that's nice. In general, I think Portland's neighborhoods separate it from other large cities," Lewis says.

Lewis, at the helm of Beaumont Vision, acknowledges the importance of his staff, including fellow optometrist Dr. Sarah Pajot, O.D., longtime Office Manager Shenyah Webb, and six other staff members



*Optometrists Dr. John Lewis, O.D., and Dr. Sarah Pajot, O.D., provide full state-of-the-art eye care and eyewear services in Beaumont Village through Lewis' business, Beaumont Vision*

who tend to the needs of Beaumont Vision's patients. In addition to conducting routine eye exams and providing both eyeglasses and contact lenses to meet the vision needs of patients of all ages, Lewis and Pajot also diagnose and treat several eye diseases with the help of state-of-the-art equipment, including advanced retinal imaging, OCT scanning, and visual field testing. It's not uncommon for them to co-manage and provide follow-up care for eye surgeries such as cataract or LASIK.

"Think of us as primary care doctors for your eyes," said Lewis. "If we diagnose an eye problem that needs the help of a surgeon or specialist, we provide a kind of triage, referring our patients to the best resource. We then provide follow-up care after any procedure."

Webb added that Beaumont Vision provides a higher level of service and greater quality in eye wear products than patients will find at big-box stores or chain stores, or when they buy eyewear via the Internet, where prescription accuracy is not a given.

"Our glasses are not made in China," says Webb. "And as a smaller shop, we're able to give our patients more time and attention to ensure a proper prescription and good fit. We also work through insurance details to ensure patients get the most out of their vision benefits."

Lewis received his Doctorate in Optometry from Indiana University in 1996. He later relocated to Portland, where he accepted a position with Pacific University's Optometry School as a clinical professor. Today, due to the time requirement of his business, Lewis teaches just part-time at Pacific.

Family-life is busy for Lewis: He and his wife are raising two daughters, ages 10 and 12, who attend Alameda Elementary School and Beaumont Middle School, respectively. Soccer coaching for the girls' teams largely fills his remaining free time.

"Although," he says with a smile, "I do manage to squeeze in a little time for guitar lessons."

Find Beaumont Vision, a valued advertiser and supporter of this newsletter, at 4331 NE Fremont Street. For more information visit [www.beaumontvision.com](http://www.beaumontvision.com), or call (503) 331-3937.

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# Volunteer profile: Myrna Sheie

by Mark Mohammadpour

This issue we are profiling our BWNA newsletter editor, Myrna Sheie (pronounced "Shay"). Myrna is a native Minnesotan, where she graduated from college with a B.A. in English. Myrna taught junior high English for four years but spent most of her career as an executive with the Lutheran church, first in the Twin Cities and then in Chicago. In Chicago, Myrna was on the presiding bishop's staff as the executive responsible for governance. Now that she's retired, Myrna is putting her experience in copy editing to great use to serve as BWNA newsletter editor.

Myrna is married to Steve, a former hospice nurse, and together they have two sons, a daughter-in-law, and twin grandsons, who are the reason they're now in Portland!

*How long have you lived in the neighborhood and what's your favorite part of living in the neighborhood?*

We moved here from Chicago in 2011 and wanted to be close to our North Portland-dwelling family. We fell in love with our house on 42nd Avenue and, even though it needed a lot of work, it's been a good place to live. We have fabulous neighbors and enjoy both the people and places in the neighborhood. When I was still working, my husband was here to meet the moving van and told me about the wonderful shops nearby, including the friendly and beer-full Beaumont Market. Since then, I've loved walking the neighborhood in all directions, enjoying beautiful gardens, and wandering through stores and shops.



Myrna Sheie, BWNA newsletter volunteer  
copy editor

*What's your favorite neighborhood store or restaurant, and why?*

It's very hard to pick a favorite! Stores include Beaumont Market, The Arrangement, and Gazelle—and we enjoy both Nepo42, South Fork. Jim and Patty's tempts us more often than we'd admit!

*What do you enjoy about volunteering for BWNA? What do you get out of participating?*

Copy editing the BWNA newsletter has been great fun. I draw on skills, of course, but I get to work with a great team (thanks, everyone!) and learn about people, places, projects, and concerns in this lovely part of Portland.

*Thank you, Myrna, for your service!*

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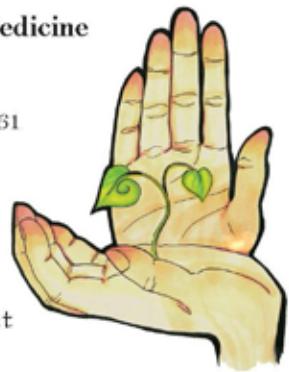
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A Husband-tested Valentine's Day Recipe from Kathy's Kitchen!  
by Kathy Campbell

## Filet Mignon with Rich Balsamic Glaze

2 filet mignon steaks  
½ tsp freshly ground pepper  
(to your taste)  
salt (to your taste)  
⅓ cup balsamic vinegar  
⅓ cup dry red wine

Sprinkle freshly ground pepper over both sides of each steak and sprinkle with salt to taste. Over medium high heat, brown the steaks on each side for one minute. You can use a non-stick fry pan or use a little olive oil in a regular fry pan to do this.

Reduce heat to medium-low and add the balsamic vinegar and red wine. Cover and cook for 4 minutes\* on each side, basting with sauce when you turn the meat over.

Remove steaks and serve with sauce in a small dish for dipping.

\* This recipe is for a rare steak. If your preference is more toward well-done, add 1 to 2 minutes (or more) to the cooking time on each side.

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