

BWNA

Newsletter of the Beaumont-Wilshire Neighborhood Association



EVENTS! EVENTS! EVENTS!

BWNA Events Committee members (pictured left) take organizing neighborhood events seriously, but not too seriously! Front row from left: Angela Frome, Kate Krider, Laurie Webber, and John Sandie. Back row from left: Ayumi Angel, Patti Koehler, Beverly Yashar, and Susan Trabucco. Not pictured: Ann Angulo and Ande Reisman. (See related article on page 3 and event details on page 5.)



**SKIDMORE
BLOCK PARTY**
Fri, Sep. 12
5 - 8 p.m.

**MOVIE IN
THE PARK**
Thurs, Aug. 7
7:30 p.m.



**FREMONT
FEST**
Sat, Aug. 2
10 a.m. - 6 p.m.



July-August 2025

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

THE SUNNY SIDE OF THE STREET

by Al Ellis, BWNA Board President

It was 1930, and the country was reeling from the 1929 stock market crash. At a time exacerbated by the Smoot-Hawley Tariff Act — passed by Congress and signed by President Herbert Hoover over the objection of 1,000 economists — the first recording of “On the Sunny Side of the Street” became a nationwide hit. It was also in 1930 that “Happy Days Are Here Again” soared in the charts, destined to be Franklin Roosevelt’s campaign song during his successful run for the presidency in 1932. Thus, amid the worst economic calamity of the 20th century, Americans found solace in songs of hope. But there’s a caveat hidden within the lyrics of “Sunny Side.”

From the first stanza: “*Life can be so sweet/On the sunny side of the street.*” Followed by the bridge: “*I used to walk in the shade/With those blues on parade...*” — if you will, a free-will approach to hope. In other words, despite our difficulties, sweetness in life is still possible, providing one chooses the “sweetness of the sun” over the “shade of the blues.”

Accordingly, BWNA chooses to walk on the proactive, activity-driven side of the street, encouraging neighborhood involvement in the mitigation of problems as well as the organization of community-enhancing events.

A good example of the former is the much-lauded and PBOT-approved pedestrian crosswalk flag project that was initiated and implemented by BWNA with support from the Beaumont Business Association and Beaumont Hardware. Its purpose is to mitigate the danger of crossing busy Fremont Street. With respect to community-enhancing events, a prime upcoming example is the second annual BWNA Block Party along Skidmore Street adjacent to Wilshire Park happening this year on September 12. Mark it on your calendars, and plan to attend.

Thankfully we don’t have a Great Depression to deal with (though America’s current out-of-whack economy is worry enough), but a problem that neighborhoods continually face, in varying degrees, is crime. In response to concerns, Portland Police Bureau North Precinct Sgt. Greg Moore will field questions at BWNA’s next general meeting on August 11. Please e-mail your questions to me ahead of the meeting at President@BWNApdx.org so Sgt. Moore has time to research them.

Meanwhile, “Just direct your feet to the sunny side of the street” in step with BWNA.

OUR ORGANIZATION

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Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods

Board Liaison: Patty Nelson

Areas of Interest

Residents are encouraged to participate.

Contact committee chairs for details.

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B-W EVENTS TEAM MAKES THINGS HAPPEN IN THE 'HOOD

by Chris Rauber



BWNA has put on events for many years, but only last year did it create an official Events Committee to take charge of — and grow — the number of them.

Pre-Covid, BWNA hosted A Taste of Beaumont and a National Night Out picnic, says John

Sandie, who heads the new committee. Then the pandemic hit, giving BWNA an opportunity (and a budget reserve) to consider other options.

Inspired by the success of the first Art & Garden Tour and Fremont Street Art Project in mid-2023, John, Susan Trabucco, Laurie Webber, Kate Krider, and Patti Koehler volunteered to create a committee to replace earlier efforts, which relied on individual champions to drive ideas forward.

Since starting up in January last year, the group has built on the success of several recent projects, including the summer 'Free for All' movies at Wilshire Park, the first BWNA-sponsored neighborhood block party last year, a recycling event, and a speakers' forum, which thus far has featured local historian Doug Decker and habitat gardening expert Amy Campion.

Anyone can suggest a potential event and lead it to help bring a stronger sense of community to our neighborhood.

"The committee has streamlined the process for organizing BWNA-sponsored events by fielding suggestions, assessing feasibility and efficacy, working out logistics and cost, and then submitting recommendations to the board for approval. The results have been impressive," says Al Ellis, BWNA's president.

Ideas for new events are often the result of brainstorming by its regular committee members who, in addition to those mentioned earlier, include Beverly Yashar, Ayumi Angel, Ann Angulo, Ande Reisman, and Angela Frome.

But anyone can suggest a potential event and lead it to help bring a stronger sense of community to our neighborhood

— and ideally have a bit of fun in the process. Email John at SandieFam@gmail.com to inquire about getting involved.

Chris Rauber and his wife moved to Portland and B-W in mid-2022 after many years in the San Francisco Bay Area. He wrote for the San Francisco Business Times and other publications. He was born in Oregon.



Chris Rauber



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NEWS BITS

FROM B-W
&
BEYOND

Hi-Top Tavern Adds A.M. Coffee Service, More

Meg Cotner, editor and publisher of the food blog Bridgetown Bites, shared with subscribers in a recent email that Hi-Top Tavern is now open daily at 7 a.m. for coffee and breakfast. Offerings include Coava Coffee, sweet treats from the Flour

Market — a woman-owned bakery near NE 30th Avenue and Killingsworth Street — breakfast tacos and sandwiches (served until noon), and full lunch service. After that, the tavern switches gears into cocktail hours.



According to Bridgetown Bites, one of Hi-Top's owners, Ezra Caraeff, said the tavern is, coincidentally, the same space occupied years ago by Jim & Patty's coffee shop; its newer location nearby, closed last year.

"Part of the reason we opened the bar in the first place is that we love the neighborhood, and we've always loved the

community around it," Ezra explained to Bridgetown Bites. "So, when we opened Hi-Top each day, we would be at Jim & Patty's in the mornings." This scenario made them realize they could make and serve coffee and breakfast without much change to their schedules.

Hi-Top Tavern is located at 5015 NE Fremont St. For more information about what's on their menu, visit HiTopTavern.com.

Green Dog Celebrates 20 Years with Thanks to Customers and Staff

In late May, Green Dog Pet Supply announced its 20th anniversary in business on NE Fremont Street. In an email from the company, Green Dog staff wrote: "Thank you, everyone, for being fantastic customers! We love feeding your incredible little



Green Dog Pet Supply owners Christine and Mike Maller launched their pet supplies business with a "green" focus 20 years ago. Submitted photo

buddies (and big buddies!!) and helping them feel their best. We get to see such awesome transformations, shy to confident, itchy to luscious, and uncomfortable to energetic! You all make this job so rewarding. Here's to the future and all the happy pets to come!" For more information visit GreenDogPetSupply.com.

Dogs Off-Leash Where Not Allowed Can Result in Ticket

According to a June 16 article in The Oregonian, "the party is over in Portland for dog owners who are used to letting their dogs off-leash in parks where they are required to be leashed."

Since 2013, Portland Parks & Recreation rangers have had the ability to cite people who allow their dogs off leash in areas in which dogs are required to be on a leash. Those rangers, however, have been required to issue a warning before the citation. A recent city policy change to Title 20, which addresses Portland parks rules, means park rangers can now go straight to citation. Visit portland.gov/parks/park-rules-update for details.

Food Cart Pod on NE Fremont Delayed to 2026

While many neighborhood residents have eagerly awaited a food cart pod coming to NE 43rd and Fremont, they'll have to wait longer. Developer Daniel Silvey recently informed BWNA that the opening date for the pod has been pushed to early spring 2026. Permitting and other challenges have led to the delays, but the build-back and infrastructure for the project are in progress.

Hollywood Library to Close Temporarily

In a recent email received by BWNA, administrators of the Hollywood Library shared that the Hollywood Library at 4040 NE Tillamook St. will be temporarily closed for several months beginning in July to remodel and refresh the facility. The email suggested affected library-goers consider visiting the newly rebuilt Albina Library at 205 NE Russell Street, which re-opens in July.

BWNA BOARD & GENERAL MEETINGS

Mon, July 14 @ 7 p.m.: Board meeting

Mon, Aug. 11 @ 7 p.m.: General meeting

Check "Upcoming Events" page on BWNA website for venue and/or Zoom link info regarding Board and General meetings

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Events

Tues., July 1 @ 7 p.m.

Tues., Aug. 5 @ 7 p.m.

For meeting location, contact committee chair John Sandie via SandieFam@gmail.com

Newsletter Team

Meets every other month.

For details email Susan Trabucco via Editor@BWNAPdx.org

ARTICLES & ADS

Articles

We invite you to write for the newsletter or submit an opinion piece or letter to the editor or board.
Email Editor@BWNAPdx.org

Advertising

Ads are accepted as space allows. For ad rates and instructions, visit BWNAPdx.org/ad-rates

Deadlines

We publish the 1st of Jan., March, May, July, Sept. & Nov.

Pre-approved articles & ads must be submitted by the 1st of the month PRIOR to publishing date. Submit articles to Editor@BWNAPdx.org



UPCOMING EVENTS

July 3, August 7, and September 4 (Thursday) Times vary

First Thursdays on Fremont

Location: NE Fremont Street in Beaumont Village

Participating businesses along Fremont host special events on the first Thursday of the month through September. Visit the Beaumont Business Association's Instagram (@bbapdx) for more details, or look for balloons in front of participating businesses.

July 14 (Monday) 7 p.m.

Multnomah County Chair Representative Speaking at BWNA Meeting

Location: Sylvan Learning, 4000 NE Fremont St.

An Bui, constituent relations liaison for Multnomah County Chair Jessica Vega Pederson, will attend the BWNA board meeting. His goal, as outlined in an email to BWNA, is to "engage with the Beaumont-Wilshire community to be better informed about what's happening in your neighborhood and around the county." The session is open to all.

August 2 (Saturday) 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Fremont Fest Marketplace

Location: NE Fremont Street in Beaumont Village

This year's Beaumont Business Association family-friendly street festival on NE Fremont Street is expected to have over 200 vendors. The theme for the event, which stretches from NE 42nd Avenue to NE 51st Avenue, is "Bubbles." The event kicks off at 10 a.m. with The Last Regiment of Syncopated Drummers (lastregiment.com). See page 7 for more information, and closer to the event date find more details at bbapdx.org.

August 7 (Thursday) Starts at 7:30 p.m., movie starts at dusk

Movie-in-the-Park, "Inside Out 2" - FREE!

Location: Wilshire Park baseball field

Enjoy a night of fun with the free outdoor showing of the 2024 animated family film "Inside Out 2," rated PG. Presented by Summer Free for All and jointly sponsored by Beaumont-Wilshire and Alameda Neighborhood associations. Pre-movie live music by Red Yarn will be sponsored by BWNA. Grab a blanket or chair and bring your friends & family!

September 12 (Friday) 5 – 8 p.m.

BWNA Block Party on Skidmore Street

Location: Skidmore Street between NE 34th and NE 37th

Enjoy live music, Grant High School's Royal Blues a cappella group, dancing, games, *MORE* food trucks than last year, and sponsor pFriem Beer again pouring its brews. Thanks also go to Elizabeth Nathan Real Estate, another event sponsor. Free for all, but bring a chair if you want a seat!

Interested in being an event sponsor?

Email PatriceKoehler@gmail.com.

September 16 (Tuesday) 7 p.m.

Save the Date for Go Electric!

Location: To Be Determined

At this BWNA-sponsored event, learn how you can make your home safer and more comfortable, lower your energy bills, and help fight climate change by adopting the latest high-efficiency electric appliances and moving away from fossil fuels for home energy and personal transportation. Presenter Brian Stewart is a co-founder of Electrify Now, a volunteer organization devoted to educating energy consumers and homeowners about the health and economic benefits of electrification. Watch BWNA monthly emails and the Sept.-Oct. newsletter for more details.

Got Events? Email Editor@BWNApdx.org



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5 to 8 pm



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and (even more!) No-Host Food Trucks!

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NEIGHBORHOOD “SWEEP” STAKES WINNERS

by John Sandie

Friday, June 13, proved anything but unlucky for the 15 volunteers who gathered in front of Foot Traffic to receive instructions and cleanup kits from Angela Frome, BWNA’s coordinator of this neighborhood “spring cleaning” event, and John Steup, the City of Portland’s graffiti abatement coordinator. Not only did they get to partake of donuts and refreshing beverages, but they also got to keep their “swag” of a five-gallon bucket, trash grabbers, safety glasses, gloves, and graffiti removal kits to take home to help in continuing their local cleanup efforts.

The group formed into five teams that dispersed to all four points on the compass to sweep, pick-up, spray, and scrub their way to helping our neighborhood shine just a little bit brighter. Decked out in BWNA-provided safety vests, they encountered many encouraging words of thanks as they made their way up and down the main streets of NE 42nd, NE 41st, and Fremont.

After a little more than an hour, the many buckets full of dirt, grime, and trash stood as a testament to the efforts of these dedicated neighbors. Stay tuned to this newsletter and monthly email updates for news of additional beautification and other events sponsored by BWNA.

Special thanks to the City of Portland’s graffiti removal specialist and to those who donated supplies, including Adopt One Block and Home Depot.



BWNA board member and neighborhood clean-up event coordinator, Angela Frome, distributes supplies and refreshments to the dedicated volunteers. Photo by John Sandie.



Volunteers at the BWNA-sponsored neighborhood clean-up on June 13 gather for a group shot before heading out to scavenge the neighborhood for trash and to remove graffiti. From left: Angela Frome, Karen Wells, Nancy Williams, Patti Koehler, Susan Trabucco, Karla Lenox, John Steup, Abby Stark and her uncle Steve Sandie, and Diane Charleton. Not pictured are John Sandie, Kari Strong, and a few other volunteers who arrived after the group shot. Photo by John Sandie.



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by Scarlett Heydt, BBA board member

LOCAL BUSINESSES
WORKING TO ENHANCE
OUR COMMUNITY



The Beaumont Business Association's busiest and bubbliest season is underway with a host of outdoor events highlighting local businesses in the Beaumont-Wilshire neighborhood.

Fremont Fest Marketplace will be back this year on Saturday, Aug. 2 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. The Last Regiment

of Syncopated Drummers will open the festivities at 10 a.m.

This year's theme for Fremont Fest is BUBBLES! Businesses and booths will be offering bubble-themed attractions and activities throughout the day.

Amalfi's Italian restaurant will host live music, offer their pizza by the slice, and sell drinks from their walk-up bar. Other participating vendors include The Arrangement, Homewatch CareGivers of Portland, Hi-Top Tavern, and many more. The festival will span Fremont Street from NE 42nd Avenue to NE 51st Avenue.

In addition to Fremont Fest, First Thursday events offer family-friendly activities and opportunities to shop locally on the first Thursday of each month through September.

Mark your calendar for all the BBA's upcoming events:

■ **First Thursdays on July 3, Aug. 7, and Sept. 4**

■ **Fremont Fest Marketplace on Aug. 2**

The BBA is excited to invite the community to celebrate with and enjoy our small business community. Bring extra bubbles!



Festival goes fill NE Fremont Street at the 2024 Fremont Fest, enjoying local vendors, live entertainment, and summer sunshine. Photo courtesy of the Beaumont Business Association.



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PBOT DECLINES NEW SAFETY MEASURES AT NE 45TH & FREMONT – FOR NOW

BWNA STAYS COMMITTED TO LOCAL ACTION AND ADVOCACY

by Colin O'Neill, BWNA Transportation Committee Chair



Earlier this year, the BWNA Transportation Committee requested a study of additional safety improvements on NE Fremont Street, following a reported hit and run in October 2024. Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT) has now completed its review and, based on its analysis, decided not to pursue new traffic measures at this time.

Here's what they told us: Speed data collected in 2019 and 2024 showed no increase in vehicle speeds on NE Fremont. If you're like me, that probably doesn't align with your experience as a neighbor, but PBOT's data show that most drivers are going under the posted limit of 20 mph. Because of this, PBOT determined that more traffic calming (such as the digital speed reader boards we requested) isn't necessary. They also found that traffic volumes in the area are too low to justify a traffic signal.

You may remember that Tuff Curb® bulb-outs were installed in 2022 following another pedestrian-related incident. PBOT considers those bulb-outs an "enhanced safety feature." Their

study shows no serious crashes at the site since 2022, just one rear-end collision during icy conditions. The pedestrian hit and run in 2024, while reported by BWNA and others in the community, does not show up in the city's formal crash database.

One area PBOT is still reviewing is our request for improved street lighting. PBOT's Signals and Street Lighting team is still analyzing whether additional lighting is needed in the area. We've asked for an update and will share more as soon as we hear back.

In the meantime, BWNA continues to advocate for safety improvements with the City of Portland, but we also know it's important to take action where we can. Our recently launched Flags on Fremont is a good example of a simple but visible step to help pedestrians cross more safely. (See related article on page 10.) We're also continuing to raise awareness about safe driving, biking, and walking in the community by sharing safety information in our New Neighbor Welcome packets.

PBOT has significant budget constraints, and much of their safety focus is on the high-crash network of city streets. But as neighbors we can still do our part by driving with care, using crosswalks mindfully, and reminding others to do the same.

Late-breaking news: In response to a B-W neighbor who expressed concern for pedestrian safety at the intersection on Wistaria Drive between NE 38th and 41st avenues, BWNA brought the issue to the attention of PBOT. We recently learned that PBOT has formally started an assessment of traffic in this area. It will likely be a month or two before we receive an update from PBOT.

Colin O'Neill is a BWNA board member and chairs the Transportation Committee. He's lived in B-W with his wife and kids since 2008.



Colin O'Neill

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SUCCESS!

'FLAGS ON FREMONT' IMPROVING SAFETY ON BUSY BUSINESS CORRIDOR

by Susan Trabucco

Is it okay for kids to laugh out loud and erratically and enthusiastically wave the brightly colored pedestrian safety flags as they use them to cross Fremont Street? YES, is the right answer — the more these BWNA-installed flags get used by pedestrians, the safer our community. And it's all the better if they provide a little fun, too.

Last year, when the Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT) informed BWNA that the bustling NE Fremont Street corridor in our neighborhood is considered a low-priority area for PBOT safety improvements, BWNA took action in response to resident and business concerns about the speed of traffic in the business corridor and the difficulty in safely crossing the street.

Led by board members Patti Koehler and Angela Frome, who also constructed and installed the flag receptacles, the Flags on Fremont project was implemented in late March at several NE Fremont Street intersections. The duo had researched other cities, including Kirkland, Wash., where flags had been used successfully to assist people to safely cross the street.

If the photos on these pages are an indication, the orange and yellow flags and their accompanying receptacles and instructions have been well received.

Greta, “not Garbo,” she said with a smile, is a fan of the flags. She uses them frequently near her home at NE 50th and Fremont. Recently she and her granddaughter were using a flag to cross near Nectar Frozen Yogurt at NE 43rd Ave. “I love them,” she said. “They’re a wonderful addition.”

Frome, who lives at NE Alameda and Fremont, notices a side benefit to the flags even when they’re in the receptacles.

“I watch cars slow down there because of the orange flags,” she said. “They think something is happening, and they move through the intersection more cautiously.”

Kudos are in order for the Beaumont Business Association, which chipped in \$185 for the flag project; Beaumont Hardware, which provided the receptacle materials at cost; and Paperjam Press for the donation of the design and printing of the weather-resistant instructional signage. Thank you, everyone, for helping BWNA make this safety project a success. Look for flags at more intersections in the future!

Susan Trabucco is a BWNA board member and the volunteer editor of this newsletter. She was the founder, editor, and publisher of a regional business journal. Since 2012, Susan and her husband have called B-W home, where she practices zonal denial in her tropical-ish garden. Reach her by emailing Editor@BWNAPdx.org.



Susan Trabucco



Samantha Oishi, left, and her sister Mika proudly display the flags they used to cross Fremont safely with their parents. Photo by Susan Trabucco.



Neighbor Greta and her granddaughter crossing Fremont at NE 43rd Avenue. Photo by Susan Trabucco.



A gaggle of neighborhood girls using flags to parade across Fremont at NE Alameda near Tacovore. Photo by Patti Koehler.



A woman from Washington state using a flag to cross Fremont with her granddaughter at NE 43rd Avenue. Photo by Susan Trabucco.



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DOG OWNER AND HOMEOWNER ALERT!



The foxtail plant may look harmless, but the barbed tips of its spiky seed pods can cause many problems for dogs and other pets.

Summer is the perfect time to remind readers of a serious health threat to our dogs: foxtail plants in the neighborhood. According to PetMD.com, foxtail, an annual summer grass shaped like the tail of a fox, has a tip with seeds arranged in spiky clusters with backward-facing barbs. The spikes and barbs allow for one-way burrowing, causing pain, infection, and sometimes more serious issues.

Please avoid them when walking your dog, and remove them if you have them in your yard or garden. There are myriad internet sites to help in plant identification and information on how to remove a foxtail barb from your pet. For starters, visit petmd.com/dog/care/how-protect-your-dog-foxtails.



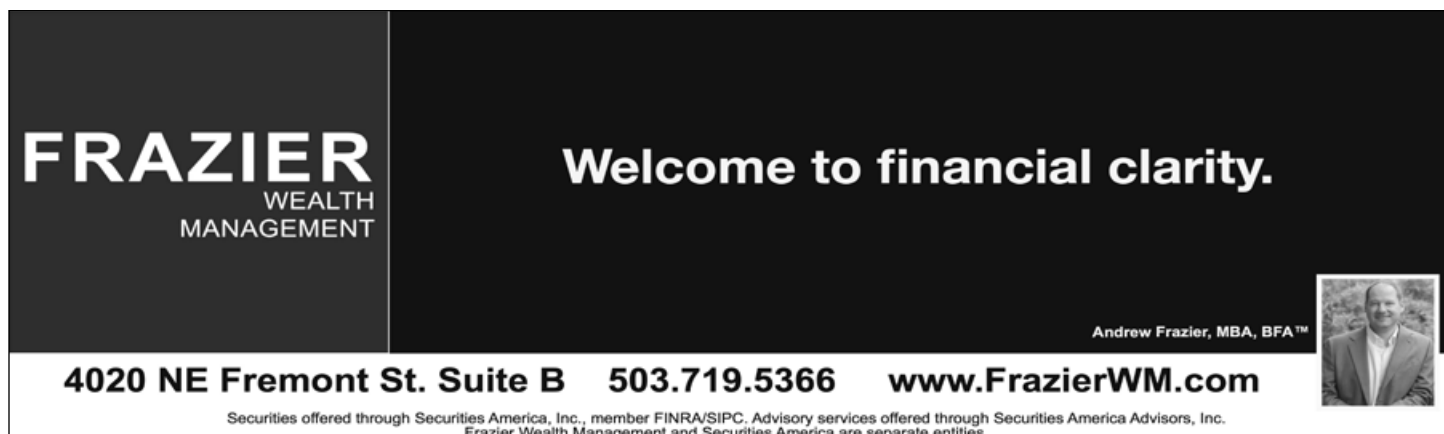
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COMMUNITY FOR POSITIVE AGING SUPPORTS OLDER ADULTS IN NE PORTLAND

by Amber Kern Johnson, Executive Director, CfPA

The Community for Positive Aging (CfPA), founded as the Hollywood Senior Center, supports older adults in the Beaumont-Wilshire neighborhood and beyond. It offers a wide range of free services and programs that promote independence, connection, and well-being for adults 55 and older.

CfPA services include personalized case management, weekly food pantries with culturally specific offerings, health and wellness programs, technology support, and social and recreational activities. Their person-centered approach meets people where they are and works with them to address unique needs and goals. So whether someone needs help accessing food, connecting to community resources, navigating health services, or simply finding social connection, the CfPA team is there to help. Volunteers of all ages are also welcome to get involved. Volunteers help deliver food, support special events, provide tech help, serve meals, and assist with programs that make a real difference in the lives of older adults in our community. Do you have a few hours a week or want to help with a special project? CfPA would love to hear from you.

Know a neighbor who might benefit from their services? Interested in volunteering or learning more? Visit CfPA at communityfpa.org, email staff@communityfpa.org, or call (503) 288-8303.

With the support and services of CfPA, older adults in our neighborhood feel supported, connected, and valued.



Community for Positive Aging participants enjoy a game of mah jongg at the center. Submitted photo.



Participants in the Hollywood Ukulele Group (HUG) meet to play every Tuesday. Submitted photo.

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IT'S OFFICIAL: MYERS OWNS SYLVAN LEARNING ON FREMONT

by Amaan Mohiuddin



Mary Myers, now the full-fledged owner of the Sylvan Learning's Beaumont Village location, works with students to help them master a variety of skills. Submitted photo.

“Originally thought I was going to be a clinical psychologist,” said Mary Myers, center director and new owner of Sylvan Learning’s franchise location on NE Fremont Street. “But what really lit me up was helping kids grow, learn, and build confidence.”

Founded in 1979, Sylvan Learning centers provide personalized instruction in reading, writing, math, testing preparation, and more.

After earning her Master of Arts degree in elementary education from Ball State University, Myers moved to Oregon and taught reading programs before joining Sylvan in January 2020 as director of education. Just as the pandemic began, she helped transition the center to online tutoring.

“It was challenging but rewarding. We had to pivot quickly to meet students’ needs.”

By June 2020 she was promoted to center director. Her leadership brought key changes — enhanced student-teacher engagement, better use of technology, and monthly family check-ins. “We grew quickly because we focused on the student experience.”

In 2021, Myers began working toward purchasing it. She expanded programming, launched summer camps, and deepened community connections.

“It gave me the chance to raise tutor wages and create new enrichment opportunities for students.”

In June this year, her purchase of the center was completed; she also owns the S corporation associated with it.

At the heart of Sylvan’s success is its team of tutors. “Our tutors are deeply committed,” Myers said. “They tailor lessons to meet each student where they are whether they need support, challenge, or confidence building.”

With summer in full swing, Myers encourages families to prioritize reading.

“Read together, celebrate independent reading, and introduce chapter books,” she advised. “The more kids read, the more confident they’ll feel in the fall.”

Looking ahead, Myers hopes to host monthly science nights and continue making Sylvan a joyful welcoming hub. “We’re more than tutoring — we’re a community for learning.”

Amaan has lived in B-W since 2019. He enjoys playing the piano, traveling, cooking, and doing yoga—not all at the same time. He is an educator and works in higher ed.



Amaan Mohiuddin



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BRING BACK THE BUGS!

by Susan Trabucco

“**A** dung beetle walks into a bar and says, ‘Is this stool taken?’”
With that as her opener, biodiversity expert Amy Campion quickly revealed to an audience at an BWNA-sponsored presentation in April that she would be anything but dull. Campion



Long-horned bees, shown here, are particularly fond of flowers in the Asteraceae family, including this native gumweed. Photo by Amy Campion.

writes and speaks about gardening strategies that provide habitat for insects and other wildlife; she’s passionate about the importance of improving biodiversity.

Campion worked for 16 years at a nursery in the Cincinnati area, then moved to Portland with her husband in 2013. She works at Garden Fever, a plant shop in the Alameda neighborhood. Campion is co-author with Paul Bonine of the book “Gardening in the Pacific Northwest: The Complete Homeowner’s Guide.”

To help those assembled at this event get an idea of how the insect population — critical to feeding birds and other critters — has changed for the worse over the years, she told a story about car trips of her youth, which resonated with many in the audience, too.

“It used to be that after a drive, we’d come home and the first thing we did was wash the bugs off the windshield,” she said. “Today you don’t need to do that, and it indicates a steep decline in the insect population.”

And while most of us don’t think about bugs all the time, it’s apparent that Campion does. She spends a great deal of time in her own garden and has photographed insects that range from comical to stunningly beautiful, from the surreal to alien-looking. No matter which category they fall into, they all have an important purpose in the grand scheme of biodiversity.

continued on page 16

Small Classes, Big Virtues

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BUGS! (continued from page 15)

Campion told the audience that habitat loss is the biggest reason for insect decline. “If insects vanish, the system dissolves into chaos,” she said, quoting American biologist E.O. Wilson.

All is not lost, however. Campion insists an area you can control to help increase insect population is your garden. “It doesn’t take a lot of area,” she said, “Mine is a small urban garden.”



A yellow-faced bumble bee collects nectar from a lupine bloom. Photo by Amy Campion.

From there, Campion outlined the eight actions gardeners can do to help replenish our diminishing insect population. They are:

- **Add keystone plants:** these are home to caterpillars, which are an important food source for birds and the food web. Best are *Salix scouleriana*, *Prunus virginiana*, *Populus tremuloides*, and *Alnus rhombifolia*.
- **Don’t spray your aphids:** they are food for a great many insects. Fun facts: Aphids don’t need a mate to reproduce, and aphid babies are born pregnant!
- **Provide pollen plants:** pollen is protein for insects including beetles, flies, some wasps, and bees. Tomato, blueberry, and penstemon are good sources.
- **Provide nectar plants:** nectar is a carbohydrate for insects.
- **Leave some bare ground:** bees need it to nest.
- **Provide cut stems, 12” to 15”:** bees chew their way in for nesting.
- **Provide dead wood around the garden:** “Who are these people throwing away perfectly good logs?” said Campion.
- **Put in a pond:** they attract mosquitos, but dragonfly nymphs eat them, so not to worry.

In closing, Campion said she’s met many spectacular friends in her garden.

“I get to connect with nature,” she said. “It’s like a safari in my back yard.”

For more information visit amycampion.com.

ACTUAL PATIENT REVIEW:

“ I was in need of a new dentist when my previous one retired in 2020. I had a hard time finding a dentist that could replace the office I had been going to for a couple of decades. Beaumont Village finally felt like the right fit after trying a couple of other offices in the area.

It’s small, simple, and has a nice family business feel to it. All the staff are kind and skilled and my dental visits are back to feeling like a treat to myself and my health. This is not an office with fancy decor and a bunch of extras... that’s actually my preference; I prefer the sense that their priority is the work they do, not the facade of the business.

If you’re in search of an office that will take good care of you and leave you feeling you’re in good hands, I’d highly recommend Dr. Mistry and his staff. ”



Dr. Kiran Mistry, DDS

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POORLY PLANNED CLUSTER HOUSING REDUCES STREET SAFETY, EMERGENCY ACCESS

by Luella Nelson

I would like to add some context to the May-June newsletter article on cottage clusters. A major problem with putting these types of developments just anywhere is the safety impact of multiple units with no off-street parking.

Case in point: the new eight-unit Mason Street cluster cottages in the 4300 block of NE Mason Street. Mason between 42nd and 47th is 27'8" wide. Two small cars on both sides of the street occupy at least 15' if parked a legal distance from the curb, and at least 18' for SUVs or larger vehicles. If vehicles are large or not parked close to the curb, fire trucks with a standard width of 10' will be unable to get down the street safely. The addition of eight to 16 parked vehicles will leave few openings to dodge into to allow vehicles to pass. Mason will eventually need parking on only one side of the street to permit emergency vehicle access.

Portland did not learn from the experiences of other cities that tried this. Before the Mason Street project was approved, Berkeley, Calif., had already amended its similar program to allow off-street-parking developments only on streets at least 32' wide. That leaves room for two-way traffic and emergency vehicles.

OPINION:
WHAT I
THINK

Other less safety-sensitive impacts were not addressed in the article.

Driveways of older homes are narrow. With vehicles parked up to the driveway edge, and more across the street, turning in and out of them is tight. The Mason Street developer reneged on his offer to paint curb cuts.

Waste receptacles for eight units will more than fill the 75' frontage on garbage day. The developer did not follow through on plans for fewer, shared receptacles.

Some of the units are supposedly "visitable" by people with disabilities, but the bathrooms are not ADA compliant. The narrow winding path to the back units will make even visiting a challenge, especially in a wider wheelchair. That path, with obstacles set in the curves, will also hinder emergency responders.

Mason Street residents are trying to welcome our new neighbors, but this poor level of planning left us with tragedies waiting to happen.

Luella has lived in Beaumont-Wilshire since Halloween 1993. She, her partner Charles, and a series of feline supervisors have been slowly fixing up a now-100-year-old house ever since.

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Beaumont-Wilshire Neighborhood Association.

Editor's Note:

After receiving the above Letter to the Editor, BWNA reached out to Eric Thompson of SNUG Homes, developer of the Mason Street cluster cottages project, to get his response to Luella's concerns. This is Thompson's response:

““ Parking

- We were contacted by four neighbors following completion of construction who requested their curbs to be painted. We painted four (*later he amended it to three*) curbs at our expense.
- If there are others in the immediate vicinity (4-5 houses to either side of our project on either side of the street) that would like to have their curbs painted, they can email amy@oregonhomeworks.com. (*Luella rebutted this; she said the neighbors have tried this, with no response.*)

Garbage

- We built a dedicated garbage "corral" at the rear of the project and suggested to all new owners that they combine their accounts and share the service throughout all the new homes. We also had our condo manager relay this when the HOA was turned over to the new homeowners. We'll ask the condo manager to send another reminder suggestion.
- Ultimately, it's up to the new owners to execute on our suggestion, but we did everything we promised, including building the dedicated area to store the shared carts/bins.

I take it very seriously when I say I'll do something and don't believe we reneged on any of our offers ... and strongly believe that we went above and beyond what most developers would have done. ””

Additionally, BWNA invited Luella to its June 9 general meeting to present her grievances. The board is considering whether it will take a position on this issue, much of which is a result of state-mandated density that allows for no off-street parking requirements or City of Portland building codes.

CURRENT REAL ESTATE MARKET STATS FOR BEAUMONT-WILSHIRE		
23 Homes for Sale	\$662,450 Median List Price	28 Median Days on Market
5 Homes Under Contract	\$1,450,000 High Price	\$283,000 Low Price

The statistics above provide an up-to-date snapshot of the listed inventory as of June 18, 2025. Median days on market is a good indicator of the average length of time the current inventory has been on the market. Compiled by Polly Webber.

DEN FOR LIL' DOGS TO OPEN JULY 14

compiled by Susan Trabucco



Lil Doggie Den founder Kari Strong enjoys a moment with her pup pals, Ruby and Gus, at her Beaumont-Wilshire home. Submitted photo.

A recent email from founder Kari Strong shared news that a new dog daycare — Lil Doggie Den — is planning to open on July 14 in Beaumont Village. Strong reported that her facility is designed exclusively for small dogs, those under 25 pounds. Lil Doggie Den will offer an intentional enrichment-based environment tailored to the unique needs of petite pooches.

“We’re proud to be the first boutique dog daycare in the area focused entirely on small breeds,” Strong said.

Strong said Lil Doggie Den will be Portland’s first, and only, small-dog-only enrichment daycare. The daycare will provide personalized care, interactive play, and mental stimulation for the animals.

“Ours is not the chaotic all-day-play model,” Strong said. “We believe our model better supports long-term behavior and health.”

She explained that larger, mixed-size dog daycares often aren’t ideal for little dogs. Lil Doggie Den will fill that gap with calm, safe, personalized care.

“We will ensure every pup feels loved, secure, and engaged as part of our family,” Strong said.

Strong’s inspiration came from her own two small dogs, Ruby and Gus. She sought out a daycare facility where they could socialize with other small dogs.

“I wanted a place where my dogs would feel safe, comfortable, and loved, and focused on their physical, emotional, and mental well-being — a place where we all felt part of a larger community.”

When she found that nothing like that existed in Portland, Strong decided to take her 15 years of operational experience working for a major childcare corporation and transition her skills and drive to establishing Lil Doggie Den.

“Now, it is coming to life near my Beaumont-Wilshire neighborhood, where my wife, Trina Ramirez, and I have lived for the last 12 years!”

Lil Doggie Den is located behind Hi-Hop Tavern at 3528 NE 50th Ave. A grand opening party is open to those who sign up at LilDoggieDen.com. For more information, follow the doggy daycare on Instagram @LilDoggieDen.

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A LOOK BACK: THE EARLY HISTORY OF B-W

by Liz Erickson

Editor's Note: In our last newsletter, we provided an overview of local historian Doug Decker's BWNA-sponsored presentation on the history of our area. Lack of space prevented us from providing all the details. What follows is some of what we left out, with more to come in the next issue.

Doug Decker began his April 1 presentation by explaining that Indigenous peoples thrived here for over 10,000 years before the arrival of settlers, who brought disease that decimated the native population and forever transformed the landscape. In contrast, our current grid-like streets and neighborhoods have existed for only about 115 years.

Homesteading Begins

By 1860, much of what we think of as the Portland area was homesteaded by 212 settlers. Today's Beaumont-Wilshire area was homesteaded by three large land claims that were later sold into smaller and smaller parcels.

However, substantial development did not begin until the population boom following the 1905 Lewis & Clark Exposition, which helped put Portland on the map.

Beaumont Rises

A subdivision developer named our area Beaumont — "beautiful mountain" in French — and marketed it as the "Portland

Heights of the Eastside," a neighborhood with "unquestionable beauty ... out where the sun shines." One developer promised a dozen rose bushes per lot. The population grew rapidly.

What's Now Beaumont Village Takes Shape

In 1926, when Fremont was still a gravel road, Beaumont School was built for \$225,000 and provided education for K-8 students. Businesses thrived along Fremont, including barbershops, auto repair shops, bakeries, meat markets, pharmacies, shoe stores, and hardware stores. There was only one restaurant: Walter's Oh So Good Sandwiches, where Sambaing Thai is today.

For more neighborhood history, visit Decker's extensive website at alamedahistory.org.

Liz Erickson has lived in the neighborhood with her husband and two children since 2009. Growing up in Beaverton, she remembers visiting grandparents on NE 42nd and walking to Rose's Ice Cream for a scoop of butter brickle. She's a Master Recycler volunteer with Metro and served in the Peace Corps in Morocco.



Liz Erickson



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