



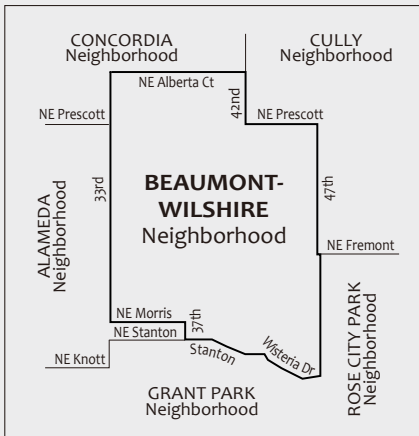
Beaumont-Wilshire Neighborhood Association

November-December 2022

BWNA NEWSLETTER

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OUR MISSION:

The mission of BWNA is to enhance the livability of our neighborhood by undertaking various neighborhood improvement projects, examining local issues, and serving as a conduit for communication between neighbors, government agencies and officials, area businesses, and other neighborhood institutions and groups. We are committed to diversity and equity in all our activities.

**Beaumont-Wilshire
Neighborhood Association**
BWNApdx.org

HAPPY WINTER HOLIDAYS,
WISHING YOU GREAT JOY
IN ALL THAT YOU CELEBRATE!



Congratulations to BWNA board member Sam Balto!

His Bike Bus project made The Washington Post (tinyurl.com/2ecfszd2)
and NBC Nightly News (tinyurl.com/3kzp5mxs)

PEDESTRIAN FATALITY MOVES BWNA TO PUSH FOR SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS ON FREMONT

by John Sandie

After a pedestrian was struck and killed by a car on NE Fremont in December 2021 BWNA, in coordination with Beaumont Business Association, engaged the Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT) to address pedestrian safety concerns within the Beaumont Village commercial corridor.

During a BWNA-sponsored meeting with PBOT representatives in February, several areas of concern were raised with two of those concerns getting early supportive responses from PBOT: improved

lighting and lines of sight at crosswalks. During the first half of 2022 these concepts were formalized and became active PBOT projects.

Improved Lighting

The lighting project included the addition of a light and enhancements on two existing street lights near the crosswalk at NE 44th Avenue, close to where the accident occurred. These lighting improvements have been completed by PBOT.

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JOIN US FOR CANDLELIGHT VIGIL, page 5
Remembrance for Vivian "Gayle" Phillips



B-W NEIGHBOR ANIKA CALDWELL, page 12
Expanding business beyond her home



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

THE GIFT OF PRESENCE

by Patty Nelson, BWNA Board President

With winter approaching we'll spend more time indoors, gathering with friends and family. I love this time of year, when we give thanks for all we have. I am most grateful for the "Gift of Presence" provided by my friends and family. Their presence gives me joy, growth from enriching conversations, and companionship with which to experience life's adventures. A hug, kind word, or gesture from them can ease the pain of hardship when life's journey takes a difficult turn.

I was recently reminded that not everyone readily enjoys this support so must seek it within their community. While on a community watershed rafting trip, I was reminded of the Gift of Presence by the words of two elderly residents. One told me how lonely it can be with family living far away. Another mentioned that COVID eliminated many avenues of community connection.

We can give the Gift of Presence within our own B-W neighborhood community and make our neighborhood safer, cleaner, and stronger by supporting

each other. It does not require money, only time and attention.

People in our neighborhood give their time to be present for others and

to provide a support system when a neighbor needs it. Some people do this by serving on the BWNA board or its committees to help make B-W a better place to live. In B-W there are folks

who've "adopted a block" to pick up trash on daily walks; there's a volunteer group that helps with yardwork and minor home repairs for seniors and others in need. A B-W resident initiated native plantings and annual maintenance in public stairways on the Alameda Ridge.

At a vigil on Wednesday, Dec. 21, you'll have the opportunity to use your Gift of Presence to both remember accident victim and neighbor Gayle Phillips and bring attention to pedestrian safety along Fremont. See related articles on pages 1 and 5.

It does take a village: your presence truly can make a difference in your neighborhood and in your neighbor's lives.

May you all have a wonderful Thanksgiving and holiday season.

“ We can give the Gift of Presence within our own B-W neighborhood community and make our neighborhood safer, cleaner, and stronger by supporting each other. ”

OUR ORGANIZATION

BWNA Board

President

Patty Nelson 503-281-8035
President@BWNApdx.org

Vice-President

Al Ellis 503-287-0477

Secretary

Carlos Montalvo 650-743-9083

Treasurer

Karla Lenox 503-686-5915
Treasurer@BWNApdx.org

At-Large Board Members

Sam Balto	Laurel Marshall
Aaron Breakstone	Colin O'Neill
Angela Frome	John Sandie
Gary Hancock	Barbara Strunk
Patti Koehler	Susan Trabucco

Immediate Past President

Tim Gillespie 503-287-6272

Related Organizations

Beaumont Business Association

Kathy Madore, Community Organizer
beaumontbusinesses@gmail.com

Wesley Callaway, President
bbboardpresident@gmail.com

Central Northeast Neighbors Board

Barbara Strunk 503-284-7502

Areas of Interest

Residents are encouraged to participate. Contact committee chairs for details.

Beaumont Middle School Cmte

Tim Gillespie, chair 503-287-6272

Crime Prevention and Safety Cmte

Bill Markwart, co-chair 503-282-4610
Patty Nelson, co-chair 503-281-8035

Land Use Committee

Tim Hemstreet, chair 503-239-6231

Friends of Wilshire Park Committee

Gary Hancock, chair 503-367-0862

Newsletter Team

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Copy Editor:
Myrna Sheie 224-659-1537

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

Transportation Committee

John Sandie, chair 219-508-4162

Website (BWNApdx.org)

Carlos Montalvo 650-743-9083

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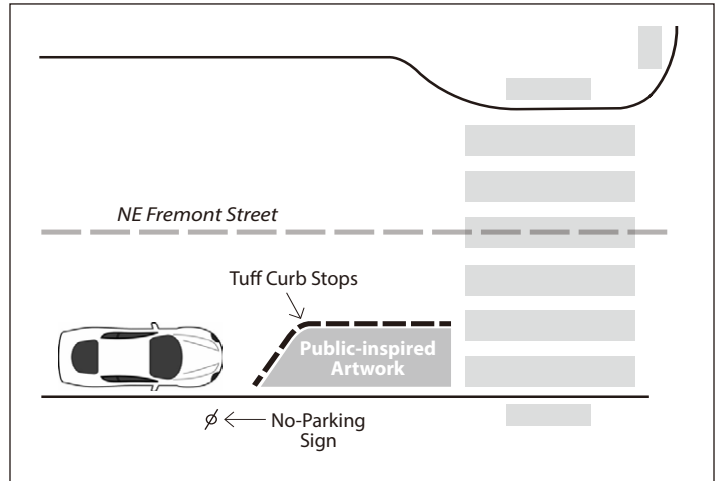
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SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS ON NE FREMONT continued from page 1

BWNA continues to have discussions with PBOT about additional lighting needs beyond what has already been completed along the NE Fremont corridor, but higher accident corridors in the city continue to be the priority for PBOT resources.

Lines of Sight with Soft Bump Outs

To provide improved lines of sight, slow traffic, and improve pedestrian safety, PBOT designed soft bump outs to be installed at three existing marked crosswalks on Fremont near NE 44th, 46th and 47th avenues. Soft bump outs are sidewalk and curb extensions at crosswalks (see graphic at right). As of our press deadline, the soft bump outs were scheduled to be installed by the end of October.



A representation of a soft bump out.

Community Participation Opportunity

As shown on the adjacent drawing, the soft bump outs provide areas for community artwork to enhance local participation and highlight these unique safety features.

There are ongoing discussions about having specific artwork themes at each of the three locations, as well as encouraging Beaumont Middle School student involvement. One idea suggested was to honor Vivian “Gayle” Phillips, the pedestrian who lost her life, with artwork at that fateful NE 44th Avenue crosswalk (see related article, A Neighbor Remembered, page 5).

It is hoped that related permitting, artwork submissions, and the selection process to create these additions to the soft bump out installations will support a community event in late spring 2023.

Those interested in submitting a design—or just helping out with the street art event—please contact John Sandie at SandieFam@gmail.com.

John Sandie relocated from the Midwest with his wife, Kathy, to be closer to children and grandchildren in the area, landing on Fremont Street in B-W in early 2011. In retirement they pursue their desires to make a difference locally; John by volunteering with the neighborhood association, Kathy with Alameda School.



John Sandie

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BWNA MEETINGS, ADS & ARTICLES INFO

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

For Zoom links to FOWP Committee meetings, contact Committee Chair Gary Hancock via outside503@aol.com

- Mon, Nov. 14:** Board meeting, starts 7 p.m.
- Wed, Nov. 16:** FOWP Committee meeting via Zoom, starts 7 p.m.
- Mon, Dec. 12:** General meeting, starts 7 p.m.
- Wed, Dec. 14:** FOWP Committee meeting via Zoom, starts 7 p.m.

Newsletter Article & Ad Submission Info

Articles

Would you like to write for the newsletter, have an idea or opinion you'd like to voice, or have a Letter to the Board or Editor? If so, email Editor@BWNApdx.org.

Advertising

Advertising is appreciated and accepted as space is available. For ad rates and instructions, visit BWNApdx.org/newsletter-submissions.

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 a publishing date.

Submit articles to Editor@BWNApdx.org.

Photos, graphics, and ads to Design@BWNApdx.org.

BOARD UPDATES & MORE

by Patty Nelson

Your neighborhood association board has been at work on the following:

- **Sept. 12:** The board met at Wilshire Park. The executed Good Neighbor Agreement between BWNA and Tacovore was presented to the board. See the January-February newsletter for more details.

At that meeting board member Al Ellis stepped forward to take the vacant vice president position, and Carlos Montalvo stepped in to take over the secretary position from Barb Strunk, who will continue serving on the board. With these appointments the BWNA board currently has no vacancies.

- **Oct. 8:** The board held a retreat to receive board training from Central NE Neighbors and set goals for the coming year. The outcomes will be reported in BWNA's January-February newsletter.
- **Oct. 10:** At this general meeting, the focus was City Charter Reform. Speakers presented for both support and opposition of Ballot Measure 26-228, which proposes to change our form of city government and the election process.

Due to COVID concerns, BWNA will continue to have general meetings via Zoom and meet in-person for regular board meetings. Please see page 3 for meeting dates and check our website for meeting locations, times, and Zoom links.



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Crime Prevention & Safety

Property crimes continue to be the primary issue, with continued reports of car theft, vandalism (car windows being smashed), and stolen catalytic converters. While street racing is not a problem in B-W, it has occurred on a nearby stretch of Sandy Blvd. The District Attorney's office emphasized that their staffing shortage is resulting in release of arrested individuals due to lack of district attorneys to assign to their case.



Friends of Wilshire Park (FoWP)

FoWP now has the funds for water at the off-leash dog park. Fundraising brought in over \$17,000 of the \$22,000 required. According to FoWP representatives, City Commissioner Carmen Rubio and Portland Parks and Recreation will cover the difference to install a spigot fountain in late 2023. For more information visit FriendsofWilshirePark.org.



Land Use

Land use activity has been limited and land-use notifications have been limited to a few design reviews.



Transportation

Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT) has not provided an update about when the Alameda/Fremont diverter will be installed. Eastbound vehicular traffic has been eliminated on NE Alameda at 57th with diverters installed in early September. PBOT is actively making pedestrian safety improvements along the Fremont business corridor. Future PBOT work is planned for NE 33rd and NE Skidmore for bikeway improvements. The board is working to schedule a presentation in upcoming months on these future projects.

New Neighbor Welcome Packet Project

BWNA welcomed nearly 10 new homeowners to our neighborhood with hand-delivered welcome packets that include coupons to various Beaumont Village businesses. Efforts are underway to expand welcome packet delivery to new renters in the neighborhood.

BWNA Volunteer Opportunities

The **BWNA Transportation Committee** would welcome assistance securing artist submissions for our "soft bump-out" street art project on NE Fremont. See related article on page 1. Contact John Sandie at SandieFam@gmail.com.

The **BWNA Newsletter Editor** is seeking folks with interviewing experience to write short feature pieces about people in our neighborhood. Contact Editor@BWNApdx.org.

The **BWNA Neighborhood Helper Group** is seeking a volunteer handyman. Email John Sandie at SandieFam@gmail.com.

continued on page 6

A NEIGHBOR REMEMBERED

by Patty Nelson

Sadly, on Dec. 21 last year we lost one of our B-W neighbors, Vivian "Gayle" Phillips. She and her husband, Dennis, were walking to Beaumont Village for a little last-minute holiday shopping when they were both struck by a car while crossing NE Fremont at 44th.

Dennis spent the next month in the hospital recovering as he mourned the death of his wife. This tragedy occurred on the winter solstice, the shortest day of the year. This means it is very dark



Beaumont-Wilshire neighbor Vivian "Gayle" Phillips will be remembered during a candlelight vigil on December 21, 2022. All are invited.

You are invited to a
Candlelight Vigil in Remembrance of

Vivian "Gayle" Phillips

Wednesday, December 21, 2022

5:15 pm – 5:45 pm

NE 44th and NE Fremont Street

Bring a candle, lantern, or light

during the evening commute, creating visibility challenges for pedestrians and vehicles alike.

On the one-year anniversary of Gayle's death, we will hold a candlelight vigil at that fateful intersection. As we remember Gayle, we will also bring attention to this busy corridor and the need for caution as pedestrians cross to find their way to our businesses and neighborhoods.

All are invited to the vigil. Please bring a candle, lantern, or light and meet on the NW corner of NE Fremont and 44th Avenue at 5:15 pm. Dennis will say a few words before we line each side of Fremont, light our lights and/or candles, and hold a moment of silence at 5:30 p.m.—the time the accident occurred last year.

BWNA Board President Patty Nelson is a native NE Portlander. With her husband she's logged 31 years in B-W, raising two girls and four dogs. When not working as an engineer, Patty enjoys walking her dogs, hiking, and sewing.



Patty Nelson



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Scavenger Hunt Winners

Thanks to all who participated in the neighborhood walkabout scavenger hunt, the items of which were featured in our July-August issue. The winners, randomly picked from all submissions, each received a \$25 gift certificate from a local business. Drum roll, please: the winners are Paula Frechen, Owen and Jackson Gardiner, and Grace and Elliott Esayian. Congrats to all, and we hope you had some fun while learning a little more about your neighborhood!

Our Two Newest Board Members Joined Because...



Carlos Montalvo

“I wish to better understand our neighborhood and meet with community members and businesses. I’m super passionate about human connections and the positive power of storytelling. I enjoy hearing different perspectives on important topics.”



Susan Trabucco

“By serving on the board, together with my role as the BWNA newsletter editor, I hope to help foster a greater sense of connectedness among B-W neighbors, something I see as very possible in our relatively small neighborhood.”



Upcoming EVENTS

Nov. 5 (Saturday) 3 pm– 6 pm

Youth Market at Alder Commons

Location: 4212 NE Prescott Street

This market aims to highlight youth creatives (ages ~10-24) in our communities. There will also be tables for local youth-led and youth-focused organizations. Details: aldercommons.org

Nov. 11 (Friday) Starts at 10 am

Veteran’s Day Parade

Location: Begins at NE Beech & NE Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd., traveling north; ends at the Natural Grocers parking lot.

Details: veteransdaypdx.org

Dec. 2 (Friday) 4 pm - 7 pm

Fremont Holiday Fest presented by Beaumont-Business Association

Details: beaumontvillagepdx.com

Dec. 5 (Monday) 6 pm - 8 pm

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Training, part of a series from Central NE Neighbors (CNN)

Explores historical contexts of systemic oppression. Learn ways to support disadvantaged groups and practice DEI values in your daily life. For more info or for required registration, contact Central NE Neighbors, Ronda Johnson rondaj@cnncoalition.org.

Dec. 21 (Wednesday) 5:15 pm – 5:45 pm

Vivian “Gayle” Phillips Remembrance, see article with details on page 5. Bring a candle, lantern, or light.

Got Events? Email Editor@BWNApdx.org

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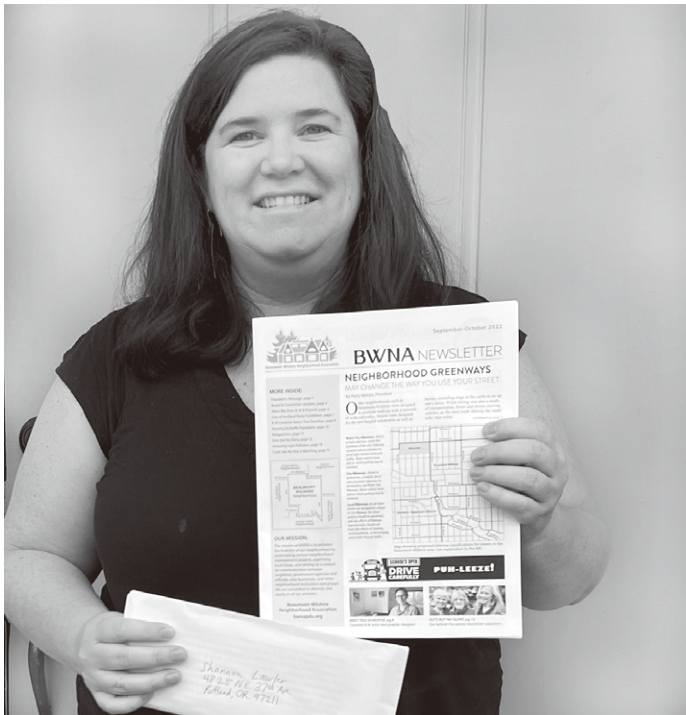
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OUTREACH AT THE CORE OF BWNA

by Al Ellis



New B-W resident Shannon Lawlor relocated from the St. Johns area to NE 37th Avenue. Here she happily poses in front of her home with the new neighbor welcoming packet and a copy of the current BWNA newsletter delivered to her by a volunteer. Photo by Susan Trabucco

A neighborhood association's core purpose is to enhance livability for its residents. To fulfill that role, participation and input from neighbors is essential. Key to encouraging neighbor involvement is an effective community outreach strategy. No surprise, then, that a longtime priority for the city bureau that oversees Portland's 90-plus neighborhood associations—the Office of Community & Civic Life—has been to broaden participation through outreach. To that end, BWNA provides several conduits:

- **Newsletter:** Distributed bimonthly to roughly 2,700 households and area businesses, it's also online at BWNAPdx.org. The BWNA newsletter is not only a vehicle for information about neighborhood and BWNA board and committee activity, but also for generating participation by

over 70 neighbors who volunteer their time and talent as route distributors, content contributors, or production staff.

- **Website:** Over a two-year period, the revamped website has enjoyed increased traffic and a tripling of residents subscribing via the BWNA homepage to receive important email updates.
- **Virtual BWNA Board Meetings:** Residents join via Zoom when meetings are held virtually. Visit the BWNA website's Upcoming Events page for dates, times, and Zoom links.
- **Board Positions and Committees:** Participation is just an e-mail or phone call away. See "Our Organization" on page 2 for contact info.
- **New Neighbor Welcoming Project:** B-W newcomers receive hand-delivered welcome packets containing discounts from local businesses and welcome letters from BWNA and Beaumont Business Association presidents. Tip off BWNA to a new homeowner or renter by emailing coordinator Al Ellis at aje0280@gmail.com.

A San Francisco native, Al Ellis and his wife have been B-W residents since 1990. He's a current and longtime BWNA board member, past president, and served as editor of this newsletter for 12 years. He taught Russian and social studies in Portland schools for over 30 years and served as president of the Portland-Khabarovsk Sister City Association.



Al Ellis



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EXPLORING RELIGIOUS, CULTURAL HOLIDAY OPENS DOOR TO UNDERSTANDING

by Susan Trabucco

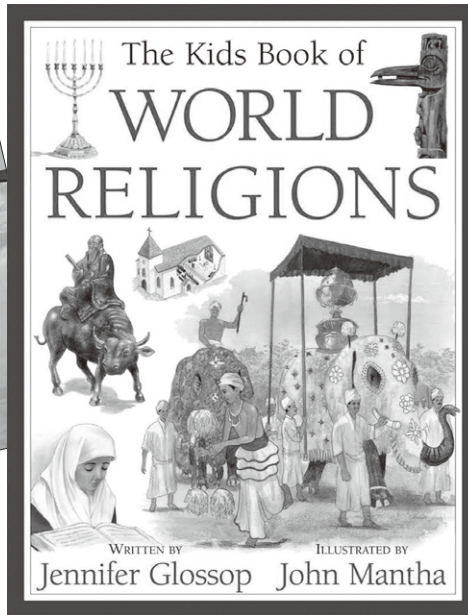
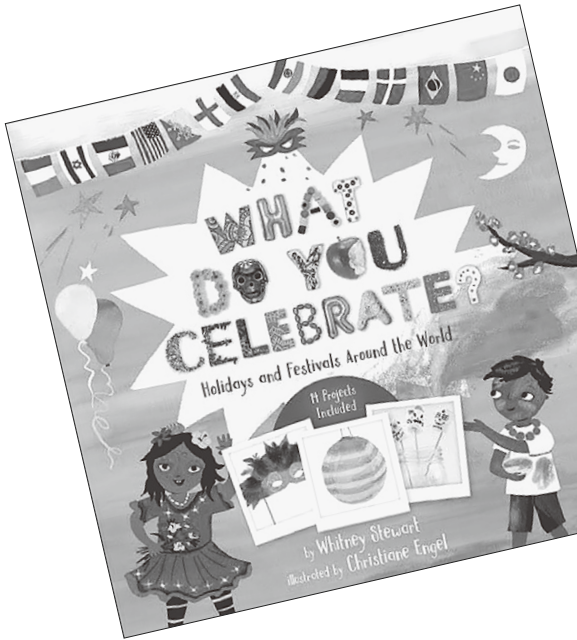
Many years ago, on a damp December day in downtown Astoria, I was confronted with a parenting failure-to-educate moment. On that fateful morning I walked with my young son past several retail storefronts, all adorned with traditional Christian nativity scenes. Suddenly, my then-four-year-old hollered out in ear shot of passersby, “Mom, who’s that baby I keep seeing around everywhere?”

Suffice it to say I immediately raced to the library and checked out a book about the religions of the world to read to him. While I was raised as a Catholic, my nuclear family didn’t adhere to an organized religion, leaving my son rudderless in the sea of Christianity that surrounded him in this small coastal town.

“*Santa Claus, he would discover, was not everyone’s winter superhero.*”

Without formal religious education, I realized my son needed to have a clue—and an open mind—about the various religions and associated cultural traditions practiced around the world. Santa Claus, he would discover, was not everyone’s winter superhero.

There are many books available to help children learn about the religions and cultures of the world. These are just a few ideas; check with you local bookstores and the library for more.



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TRADITIONS OF OTHERS

Understanding the beliefs and traditions of others is helpful in bridging disinformation gaps that serve to divide us. With that in mind as this winter holiday season descends upon us, it's a good time to ponder how we can educate ourselves, and our children and grandchildren, about the richness of cultural celebrations—religious or secular—that are not just Christian nor focused on a bearded, jolly, gift-bearing guy in a red suit coming inexplicably down one's chimney.

Susan Trabucco is editor of this newsletter. She and her husband, Peter, have called B-W home for 10 years. She's passionate about tropical-ish gardening (a nut, really), cooking, and getting people together. Contact her by emailing susan@trabucco.biz or Editor@BWNAPdx.org



Susan Trabucco

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THE GIFT'S IN THE GIVING

by Myrna Sheie

I like gifts. I like getting them, but I like giving them even more. I love seeing sparkling eyes and hearing, "This is the best gift EVER! Thank you!" But my favorite gifts are those I've given anonymously.

It all started with a gift my husband and I received on December 23, 1976. We were young, had two preschool children, and were having a tough time. We had moved home to St. Paul, Minn., from out of state with \$13 in our checking account. We knew Christmas would be simple and the months ahead would be lean. When the wind picked up and caught the storm door, Steve reached outside to latch it and discovered a plain white envelope taped just above the handle. We opened the envelope and discovered three \$100 bills. Nothing more. No note. No "Merry Christmas from a friend." Just an astonishing gift for two anxious young people.

We never discovered who gave us that incredible gift, worth about \$1,500 today. That gift, though, contained much more than

money, for it brought us hope, joy, and a reminder that someone cared deeply about us. It also taught us an important lesson in gift giving: the gift *IS* in the giving. Over the years, we have delighted in passing on similar hope-filled gifts to friends and neighbors who were experiencing tough times.

In this holiday season, let's be creative and expansive about our gift-giving. Let's share smiles, warm greetings, much-needed food, or even what a friend called "giving the gift of space" on the highway . . . or on our narrow B-W streets. Happy Holidays!

Myrna Sheie is this newsletter's copy editor. She's a former English teacher and church body executive. Now happily retired to NE Portland, she loves finding new walking routes, hanging out with her 11-year-old twin grandsons, and keeping the Portland Water Bureau solvent by obsessively watering her gardens.



Myrna Sheie



A B-W neighbor offers to freely gift her figs to strangers through the sweetest of notes. Photo by Susan Trabucco.

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You may already have “favorite” charities to which you give. If not, here are a few ideas, most of which were submitted by BWNA board members. Thank you for giving!

FOOD

St Vincent DePaul Food Pantry, svdppdx.org

Helps thousands of people a year to maintain housing, keep utilities on, and get emergency food boxes.

Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon – NE Emergency Food Program, emoregon.org/nefp

Meets the urgent food needs of our Portland metro area neighbors, primarily people living in east Portland.

Oregon Food Bank, oregonfoodbank.org

Distributes free food to anyone experiencing food insecurity.

Portland Food Project, portlandfoodproject.org

Has neighborhood coordinators who pick up food from about 1,600 households; it's distributed to local food pantries, five of which are in NE Portland.

HOUSING/HOMELESSNESS

Portland Community Warehouse, communitywarehouse.org

Provides donated furniture and household items to those seeking the comfort and dignity of a furnished home while overcoming adversity.

Habitat for Humanity Portland Region,

habitatportlandregion.org

Offers low-income families, single parents, and refugees a chance to help build their own homes alongside volunteers.

Street Roots, streetroots.org

Produces a newspaper focused on houselessness, poverty, and social justice issues. Vendors, who are jobless and/or houseless, sell the newspaper as a means of earning income.

MISCELLANEOUS

Mercy Corps, mercy corps.org

A Portland-based organization that supports people undergoing economic, environmental, social, and political instability. In Oregon, its focus is helping low-income entrepreneurs overcome barriers to starting and maintaining a small business.

YOUTH

Beaumont Middle School PTA Family Resiliency Fund,

app.memberhub.gives/gobeumontbobcats/Campaign/Details
Offers, through the PTA, support for students at BMS who are experiencing emergencies that may impact their overall well-being and ability to be successful in school.

Portland Youth Builders, pybpd.org

Has helped thousands of young people change their lives through a combination of education, vocational training, counseling, career development, and long-term support.

New Avenues for Youth, newavenues.org

Portland-based nonprofit dedicated to the prevention of youth homelessness for young people ages 9 to 24.



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SUCCESS LEADS B-W WOMAN TO EXPAND BUSINESS BEYOND HER HOME

by Susan Trabucco



Beaumont-Wilshire resident Anika Caldwell recently moved her home-based business to the new Toast building on Killingsworth. Photo by Susan Trabucco

Entrepreneurial, creative, and skilled, Anika Caldwell, a driven businesswoman and Beaumont-Wilshire resident for over a decade, has taken her talents to new heights: success allowed her to move Ankor (ankorpx.com), her marine, commercial, and

residential sewing services business, from her home on NE Prescott Street to a newly constructed building at 4232 NE Killingsworth. Ankor started operations there in June. An official public grand opening of the building and its tenants was held Oct. 1.

An experienced sailor with a BA in graphic design, Anika used her love of fabrics and patterns in the marine trades industry, where she learned to sew while utilizing her creative talents. She draws from that experience to create interior and exterior custom cushions and pillows, outdoor weather curtains, boat covers, and more. She also re-upholsters and repairs existing pieces, as well as providing consulting and design services.

Anika established Ankor in 2015. After balancing a full-time role in soft goods manufacturing and product design, in 2017 she was ready to give Ankor her full-time attention. As her client needs grew, Anika and her husband built and moved into an ADU on their property so she could expand her work-from-home space. She soon realized, however, that her home location was still limiting.

“I needed to provide my clients a place where they could visit Ankor,” she said. “And having samples and fabrics on display was a necessity.”

In the new building, which houses the owner Toast—a designer and manufacturer of leather and canvas covers for technology devices—and other “maker” businesses, Anika’s upstairs space is open and well-lit, offering her more space to stock fabric samples and a more inviting atmosphere for her clients.

“I love it,” Anika said. “It’s what I’ve dreamed of having, and now I do.”

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PERSPECTIVES

compiled by Polly Webber

While the practice of being thankful for the things that bring joy and meaning to our lives isn't limited to the holiday season, Thanksgiving and other cultural celebrations this time of year make for a good time to pause and reflect on what's important. These Beaumont-Wilshire neighbors stopped to do just that when we posed our Perspectives questions this way:

"I am thankful for..."



"...my family, friends, and our 2 awesome doggies. I love living in this neighborhood that has such a sense of community and respect for each other."
(Carrie, 20 years in B-W)



"... my community of dog-loving people and respectful neighbors. I love living in this neighborhood with its local shops and restaurants. Everyone is so friendly!"
(Pavel, 3 years in B-W)



"...home, paws, family, solace, warmth, growth, sustenance, smiles, love."
(Regina, 32 years in B-W)



"...food, my house, sports teams I can play on, and water."
(Hudson, 7 years in B-W)



"...my family, food, water, and my life."
(Zoey, 7 years in B-W)

Polly Webber is a realtor and mom of two teenage girls. Born and raised in the neighborhood, she can't quite shake her original stomping grounds. She purchased and lives in the B-W home next door to her childhood home. Reach her by emailing polly.webber@cascadehassonsir.com.



Polly Webber

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IT'S A WRAP—GO SUSTAINABLE IN GIFT GIVING

by Liz Erickson



While we give and receive gifts year-round, the practice tends to increase this time of year. If you're someone who considers the environmental impact of your choices, perhaps on gift-giving occasions you will try one of these ideas to reduce, reuse, or recycle.

REDUCE your use of single-use wrapping paper. Instead, use cloth bags or wrap that can become part of the gift.

REUSE materials you receive or have around the house. Paper gift bags, tissue paper, ribbons, and bows can be used again and again. When receiving gifts wrapped with these, take care to store for another use. Creatively use the paper you have for gift wrapping: newspaper, maps, packing paper, or children's art. Find used materials to create your own wrappings at SCRAP Creative Reuse, located downtown at the corner of SW 18th and Alder.



RECYCLE by purchasing wrapping paper made from post-consumer recycled material. Paper embedded with glitter or shiny foil cannot be recycled; it goes in the garbage.

Only "plain" paper can go in the recycle cart. Ribbons and bows, no longer in use, go in the garbage, not recycling.

With more of these items being ordered on-line, follow these directions for dealing with packaging:

- Plastic mailing envelopes and bubble wrap like bubble mailers cannot go in your curbside recycle cart. They can be taken back to stores for recycling or use Ridwell if you have access.
- Mailing envelopes that are a mix of paper and plastic are garbage, not recyclable.
- "Therma-form"—those hard-to-open plastic packages around items—are not recyclable. They are garbage. The only plastics accepted in the blue recycle cart are clean plastic bottles, jugs, round food containers, and rigid plant pots.

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. Fun facts: she's visited 46 states, 46 countries, is a Master Recycler volunteer with the Portland Bureau of Planning and Sustainability, and served in the Peace Corps in Morocco.



Liz Erickson

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COOK LIKE NO ONE IS WATCHING

by Susan Trabucco

Every now and then a food item pops up that's just plain fun. Although to be truthful, I don't think this one qualifies as "food!" Its redeeming qualities are that it's light as air and subtle in flavors and colors, and weighs in very heavily in the fun department—just what's needed during the holiday season to please kids and kid-like adults. This marshmallow recipe comes from this newsletter's graphic designer, Jane Feinberg.

Homemade Marshmallows

Makes approx. 36 pieces

Marshmallows

1 c water, divided	½ c light corn syrup or honey
3 pkgs unflavored powdered gelatin (¼ oz. each pkg)	½ tsp fine salt
2 c granulated white sugar	2 Tbs pure vanilla or vanilla bean paste

Dusting Mixture

- ½ cup powdered sugar
- ½ cup potato starch or corn starch

1. Spray a 9x9- or 7x11-inch baking pan with a light coating of cooking spray.
2. In the bowl of an electric mixer, sprinkle gelatin over ½ cup cold water.
3. Meanwhile, in medium saucepan over medium high heat, stir together the sugar, corn syrup, salt, and remaining ½ cup water until sugar dissolves and mixture begins to boil. Raise heat to high and continue to cook until syrup reaches 240° F on candy thermometer. Remove from heat. Pour mixture into a 2-cup glass measuring cup, to make it easier to pour into mixer bowl.

4. Carefully pour the boiling syrup into soaked gelatin and turn on the mixer, using the whisk attachment, starting on low and moving up to high speed. Add salt and beat for 10 to 12 minutes, or until fluffy and cooled to almost room temperature. Add extract and beat to incorporate.
5. Using a spatula or silicone scraper coated with neutral oil, transfer marshmallow into the prepared pan and press it into the pan evenly. Place a piece of lightly oiled plastic wrap on top of the marshmallow and press lightly, creating a seal. Let mixture sit for several hours, or overnight, until cooled and firmly set.
6. Sprinkle a cutting surface generously with the dusting mixture. Remove marshmallow from pan and lay on top of the mixture. Dust the top generously with the mixture as well. Use a large, sharp knife to cut into squares. Separate pieces and toss to coat all surfaces with the dusting mixture.
7. Store in airtight container at room temperature for up to 3 weeks.

To change things up a bit, add a little good-quality ground cinnamon to the dusting mixture (taste and adjust amount), or try rolling the freshly cut plain vanilla marshmallows in toasted shredded coconut *instead* of the dusting mixture.

You can also add gel or powdered food coloring and flavor extracts to the marshmallow at the same time you add the vanilla—for example, rose or orange blossom water (taste as you go). Or try melting a couple ounces of good dark chocolate just before the marshmallows are finished whipping and then swirl it into the marshmallow as you pour it into the prepared pan.

Once you've seen how easy marshmallows are to make, look for more fun flavor ideas online.

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