



Beaumont-Wilshire Neighborhood Association

March-April 2024

BWNA NEWSLETTER

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Zak, fresh from National Guard duty, and his girlfriend Ellie in deep thought at his parents' front yard chessboard. Photo by John Sandie.

QUEEN'S GAMBIT ON NE 44TH

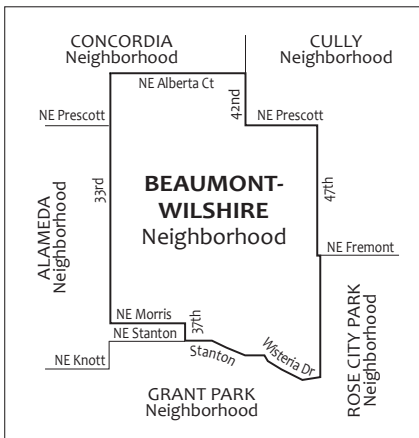
by John Sandie

When Stan and Dana Fisher moved seven years ago from the American southeast, the move was driven by a desire to initiate new adventures in their lives; and, to them, Portland offered that opportunity.

After moving into their home in Beaumont-Wilshire on NE 44th near Fremont Street, they had problems with an existing magnolia tree, eventually making the decision to cut it down.

Stan admitted that laziness played a part in not having the remaining stump removed, prompting the couple to get creative about what to do with it. Luckily for the neighborhood, a custom-made chessboard table crafted by Stan won over a birdbath idea.

The Fishers have since added bench seating and a small library to the parking strip area, much to the delight of nearby neighbors. The chessboard typically gets two to three visits per day, and the bench seating often offers an overflow spot for customers of Grand Central Bakery to enjoy their treats.



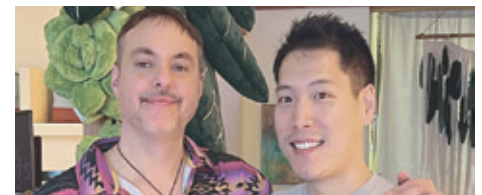
OUR MISSION:

The mission of BWNA is to enhance the safety, beauty, participation, and community connections for all who live and work in the Beaumont-Wilshire neighborhood.

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



FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER, p 6
Mind the signs!



QUEER PLANTS CAFE, p 10
Plant shop meets cozy cafe on NE 42nd Avenue



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

IT TAKES A VILLAGE

by Patty Nelson, BWNA Board President

The saying, "It takes a village," has been associated with caring for and raising children. I believe it takes a village to care for and support one another through life's journey. In our village of Beaumont-Wilshire, we experience this often: your neighbor brings up your garbage can, drops off a meal when you are sick, checks in to see how you are doing, or picks up a package for you before the porch pirates see it.

Our B-W village is made up of residents and business owners who take time to get to know each other, care for one another, and come together to celebrate.

I was reminded how important our relationships and connections within our community are while attending a neighbor's funeral in January. Bernie Fagan was well known and loved in his soccer community, but what stood out to me at his funeral was the number of people in attendance who were outside

of his professional life, including people from his church and his neighbors.

Many of us in B-W may know Bernie not because of his soccer career, but because he would regularly walk our neighborhood, stopping to talk along the way, creating relationships and friends. As his dementia progressed, Bernie continued to walk his familiar route. The relationships he

built along the way transitioned to support for him: people saying hello or ensuring he would make it back home. As his needs grew, these same people extended their care to Bernie's family, helping where needed.

We do not know where life's journey will take us or what tomorrow holds, but remember you are not alone. The people you meet along the way and with whom you build relationships and connections are an integral part of your support system, so take the time to get to know, care for, and be there for each other. These tight-knit connections are what make Beaumont-Wilshire a special place to live.

"I believe it takes a village to care for and support one another through life's journey."

OUR ORGANIZATION BWNA Board

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President@BWNApdx.org

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Immediate Past President

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Related Organizations

Beaumont Business Association

Kathy Madore, Community Organizer
beaumontbusinesses@gmail.com

Wesley Callaway, President
bbboardpresident@gmail.com

Central Northeast Neighbors

Board Liaison: Patty Nelson

Areas of Interest

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

Crime Prevention and Safety Cmte

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

Events Committee

John Sandie, chair 219-508-4162

Friends of Wilshire Park Committee

Gary Hancock, chair 503-367-0862

Land Use Committee

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Transportation Committee

Colin O'Neill, chair 503-803-0015

Website (BWNApdx.org)

Rob Lee, swollentongue@gmail.com

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in our neighborhood



March 15, 2024 @ 9 AM
NE 41st & Fremont
(gather at the Foot Traffic courtyard)

Join BWNA representatives and the City of Portland's
graffiti cleaning program folks for a community clean-up
event. We'll provide:

- Light refreshments
- Graffiti kits
- Garbage grabbers
- Cleaning supplies
- Neighbors & friends!



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BWNA BOARD & GENERAL MEETINGS

Mon, Mar. 11 @ 7 p.m.: Board meeting
Mon, Apr. 8 @ 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., Mar. 5 @ 7 p.m.
Tues., April 2 @ 7 p.m.

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

Friends of Wilshire Park

Wed., March 13 @ 7 p.m.
Wed., April 10 @ 7 p.m.

For Zoom link to meetings,
contact committee chair
Gary Hancock via
outside503@aol.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](mailto:EmailEditor@BWNApdx.org)

Advertising

Ads are accepted as space
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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

BOARD UPDATES & MORE

by BWNA

The following information includes a brief summary from BWNA-approved board meeting minutes for January 2024, committee updates, and more. Find the full meeting minutes at BWNAPdx.org.

Committee Policies Clarified

At BWNA's November board retreat, documentation for BWNA's various committees was identified as an organizational need. Thus, at BWNA's January meeting, the board reviewed, amended, and approved chair-submitted policies for the Land Use and Transportation committees and the newsletter team; the Events Committee policy was approved at the December 2023 meeting. The Digital Communications Committee policy will be submitted at a future board meeting. The final versions of the committee policies will be posted on the BWNA website.

Art & Garden Tour 2024 Approved

With the success of BWNA's 2023 Art & Garden Tour, the board approved the Events Committee's \$500 funding request for 2024 event expenses. This year's Art & Garden Tour is scheduled for Saturday, July 27; more details to come.



Crime Prevention & Safety Committee

Community members were shocked and frightened by a February 3 shooting incident near Tacovore at the intersection of NE Milton Street and 37th Avenue. To maintain the integrity of the investigation, the Portland

Police Bureau's Public Information Office was unable to release information about the circumstances surrounding the shooting. A representative said news releases will go out on Twitter and Facebook, and can also be found at portlandoregon.gov/police/news. While a disturbing event for our neighborhood, our hearts go out to the victim's family.



Events Committee

Meeting for the first time in January, Events Committee members generated a host of ideas that support the BWNA mission of creating community in B-W. Event suggestions include a neighborhood-wide music event (Porch Fest),

team bike rally, Wilshire Park BBQ, craft fair, neighborhood yard sale, and more.

In 2024 the committee will focus on the Art & Garden Tour, Phase II of the Fremont Street Art Project, and, with the committee's successful application to the City of Portland in hand, BWNA will again co-host a summer Movie-in-the-Park with the Alameda Neighborhood Association on July 25. Last summer over 1,000 people gathered in Wilshire Park to see the movie *Encanto*. More details to come.

Committee meetings will be held on the first Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. For location email chair John Sandie at SandieFam@gmail.com.



Friends of Wilshire Park Committee

Chin Up! FoWP encourages folks to check out the new chin-up bars next to the playground at Wilshire Park. FoWP asked Portland Parks & Recreation to replace the missing bar on the existing equipment and they went above (pun intended) and beyond. Thanks to PP&R the park now has a two-level chin-up bar for exercise enthusiasts of all ages!



Land Use Committee

A notice of intent to demolish a residential structure at 3700 NE 42nd Ave. was received by BWNA. Chair Tim Root reported that permits for the site have been issued for four townhomes with a shared drive and no garages. Two requests for Airbnb/short-term rentals in the neighborhood were also received.



New Neighbor Welcome Project

Our neighborhood saw 13 home purchases in December/January, up from an average of eight per month. BWNA board members welcomed our new neighbors in February.



Transportation Committee

See page 8 for a detailed update on the results of the Alameda/Fremont diverter pilot project.

THROW YOUR HAT IN THE RING!

Board elections are Monday, April 8. Get involved in your neighborhood by joining the board!

Email President@BWNAPdx.org



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New Eatery/Bar Opens in Former Stanich's Spot

The Mule Bar opened its doors in early February in the former Stanich's space; that restaurant closed several years ago. Find The Mule Bar at 4915 NE Fremont. For more information visit themulebar.com.

BWNA Seeks a Room of its Own

Does your business, church, or organization have a room to spare after 5:30 p.m. on weekdays just a few times a month? If so, BWNA would love to hear from you as it scouts for space. The "must haves" are a location within Beaumont-Wilshire, space to seat at least 25 people, Wi-Fi, and windows that open. BWNA's board meets monthly at 7 p.m., committees meet monthly or bi-monthly starting at 6 or 7 p.m.

NEWS BITS

FROM B-W
&
BEYOND

If you believe you've got space that fits the bill, please contact BWNA board member Susan Trabucco via Editor@BWNAPdx.org or call (503) 440-7732.

Gym Class PDX Offers Services in Beaumont Village

Recently launched by Anna Rego, Gym Class PDX is a fitness and nutrition business operating from Body Image Fitness at 5046 NE Fremont St. Services include helping people of all ages achieve

their wellness goals — from getting to their first pull-up, gaining strength after an injury, or supporting a chronic condition through lifestyle and dietary choices. Rego has a master's degree in nutrition from the National University of Natural Medicine and is a certified personal trainer through the National Academy of Sports Medicine (NASM). For more information visit gymclasspdx.com.



UPCOMING EVENTS

March 7 (Thursday) 4 – 8 p.m. (note extended hours)

First Thursday

Location: Artistic Portland Gallery, 4110 NE Fremont St.

The gallery window will feature a group show with the theme of Renewal. Many of the artists will be offering hands-on demos throughout the month. Sign up for the demos at the gallery or call (971) 339-0945. For more info visit artisticportlandgallery.com.

March 15 (Friday) 9 a.m.

Join Us! Spring Cleaning in B-W

Location: Meet at NE 41st & Fremont (in front of Foot Traffic)

Bring your enthusiasm! BWNA will provide supplies for trash pick-up and graffiti removal. Look for information about future clean-up events in the newsletter and BWNA emails. Not a subscriber to the monthly email? Sign up at BWNAPdx.org/subscribe.

April 4 (Thursday) 4 – 8 p.m. (note extended hours)

First Thursday

Location: Artistic Portland Gallery, 4110 NE Fremont St.

The gallery window will feature the work of photographer Mark Clifford; the Annex theme will be Art and Chill, honoring National Beer Day, Record Store Day, and Cannabis Day all rolled into one. For more info visit artisticportlandgallery.com.

April 18-20, 2024

Jefferson Dancers Annual Spring Concerts

Location: Newmark Theatre, Antoinette Hatfield Hall
1111 SW Broadway

The Jefferson Dancers is one of the country's oldest, most elite dance programs. Located on the Jefferson High School campus, the company draws students from Irvington, Sabin, Beaumont-Wilshire, and other neighborhoods. The group is comprised of 17 high school students from varied ethnic, racial, religious, and socioeconomic backgrounds. At the spring concert dancers will perform ballet, pointe, jazz, tap, modern, African, hip-hop, and contemporary dance pieces. For more information visit jeffersondancers.com.

April 20, 2024 (Saturday) visit website below for time details

Alameda School Gala & Auction (Camp Alameda)

Location: The Den at 116 SE Yamhill St.

Plus an online auction open to all

Join the Alameda School Foundation to support its K-5 school and public schools across the district. To support this event donate an item or service for the catalog, buy a ticket to attend, or register to bid virtually through the online auction. Details at ourschool.auction/campalameda.

Got Events? Email Editor@BWNAPdx.org



FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER: MIND THE SIGNS

by Pamela Plimpton



Obey the tennis court rules.

As a faculty member at a small university, I always enjoyed the last item on our faculty meeting agendas. The meeting would close with an invitation to offer announcements to the faculty community “for the good of the order.” They reminded us that despite our differences of opinion, we all had the same goal: educating our students. It is in that same spirit that I relate the following:

Recently, as I walked through Grant Park, I saw a youth about thirteen or fourteen years old riding his skateboard inside the fenced-off tennis courts. A sign outside the door leading onto the courts states “No Skateboarding” among other prohibited activities. I sighed. Should I say something to this young man? I looked up to see a woman with her tennis racket slung over her shoulder standing outside the gate at the other end of the court. She was watching the young man warily. I had already passed the gate nearest me, but when I saw the woman, I turned around and went inside the court. I kept my distance from the skateboarder, and raising my voice I called:

“Excuse me! There is no skateboarding on the tennis courts!” There was no response from the young man. He kept skateboarding; his longish blond hair partially covered his face. I called to him again: “The sign says ‘No Skateboarding.’ It ruins the surface of the courts,” I offered. This time he replied, saying calmly,

“I’m not going to be here very long. I’m just waiting for my friends.”

“How long you’re going to be here isn’t the point,” I responded. “The problem is that skateboarding on the court surface ruins it.” The young man kept skateboarding. Then I heard a voice behind me,

“Get off the **** court!” I turned around to see a man about six feet tall, probably in his mid-thirties, about half my age. “Get off the court!” he yelled again, walking up to stand beside me inside the court. “Look,” he continued, “I was a skateboarder, too. It’s cool, but when you skate in places you aren’t supposed to, it gives skateboarding a bad rap. Now, get off the court!” The young man finally stopped skating, flipped his skateboard up, and walked past us off the court, but not without saying, “I’ll just come back here tomorrow.”

I thanked the man for his support, and we went our separate ways. When I told my husband about the incident, he remarked he wasn’t surprised the skateboarder had paid no attention to the sign prohibiting skateboarding on the tennis courts. “Why would we expect a teenager to read and follow the directions given on a sign, when he sees adults ignoring signs every day? Every day I see people ignoring signs. They speed through the neighborhood streets; they don’t come to a full stop at a stop sign. There are



Obey the speed limit.



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that will lead?



Come to a full stop.

plenty of other examples. Children and teenagers witness their parents and other adults ignoring posted signs every day.”

I had to admit he was right. The speeding has gotten so bad on our street, a designated greenway, that we recently received a notice stating that following a monitored speed check, the city determined it would install speed bumps on our street. That’s a lot of tax dollars to spend just to get people to slow down and do what they should be doing if they would only read the signs and follow the directions. It benefits all of us, not just economically, but communally, to do what is best — for the good of the order.

Pamela Plimpton, a B-W resident since 1980, retired as a professor of English in 2020. Her interests include reading, writing, gardening, and singing in a community chorale. She and her husband enjoy playing golf, traveling, and grandparenting their granddaughter.



Pamela Plimpton

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DATA OUT ON IMPACTS OF ALAMEDA/FREMONT TRAFFIC DIVERTER

by Colin O'Neill

Scott Cohen, capital project manager for the Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT), recently attended a Beaumont-Wilshire Neighborhood Association meeting to share findings on how the traffic diverter installed last year on NE Fremont at Alameda has impacted traffic patterns in the neighborhood.

PBOT's goals for the project were to reduce the number of cars on Alameda Street, a designated Neighborhood Greenway; reduce crash potential at the Fremont/Alameda intersection; and create more crossing opportunities for pedestrians and cyclists. (Note: Neighborhood Greenways are designated low-traffic, low-speed streets that give priority to people walking and cycling.)

The BWNA board had voted not to support PBOT's diverter plan over concerns that diverted traffic would cause congestion on nearby narrow streets. The BWNA Transportation Committee worked with PBOT to consider alternatives, but ultimately PBOT proceeded as planned.

At BWNA's request, PBOT conducted traffic counts at 15 locations in the neighborhood to evaluate the impacts. The data showed a significant reduction in traffic on Alameda and

increases on many neighboring streets, including 38th, Cesar Chavez, and Klickitat.

Cohen told attendees the program met PBOT's goals, and PBOT does not consider the increases "significant" by their measures. The BWNA board, however, noted the increases on narrow streets like 38th and Cesar Chavez are significant to some residents.

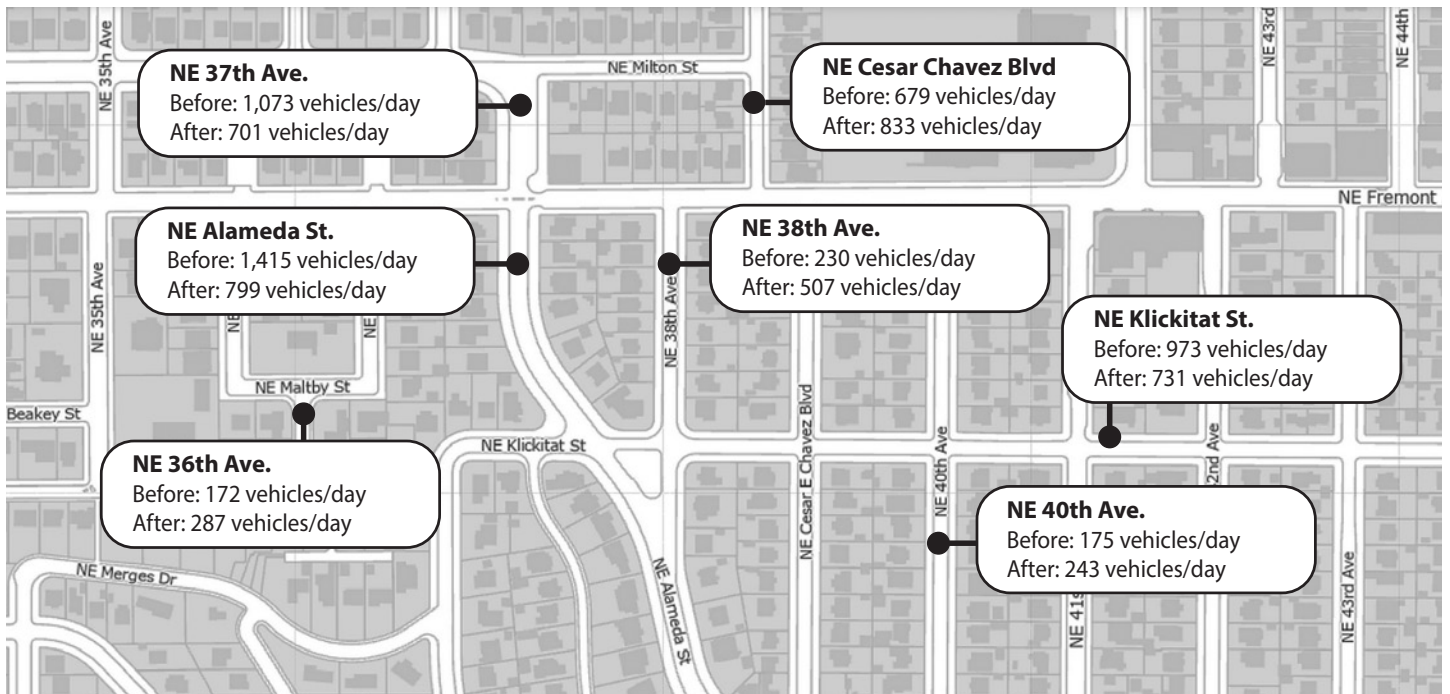
PBOT will continue to monitor traffic on 38th and Klickitat and plans to add parking setbacks on Fremont at 38th, Cesar Chavez, and 40th to improve visibility. It will also install speed bumps on 37th during the next phase of its Neighborhood Greenway program.

PBOT's full report is available on its project website: portland.gov/transportation/safestreetspdx/ne-alameda-and-ne-fremont.

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



Selected traffic counts from data supplied by PBOT

For ease of reading, the data highlighted here combines traffic in both directions. The "Before" data are from March through May 2022, prior to installation of the diverter. The "After" data are from September 2023, several months after installation. For full details visit www.portland.gov/transportation/safestreetspdx/ne-alameda-and-ne-fremont. Map and data summary by Colin O'Neill.

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QUEER PLANTS CAFE SERVES UP PLANTS, AND SAFE SPACE FOR

by Chris Rauber



Ross and Ernest Koh had a vision: to create a unique combination of a coffee shop and an indoor-plant emporium where members of the LGBTQ+ community and other community members would feel at home.

“We’re going for a dreamy plant shop meets a cozy cafe,” says Ross. He handles the plants, marketing, retail management, accounting, menu development, and other back-end details; Ernest is the cafe’s chef and chief foodie.

“It’s a stressful time,” Ross notes. The cafe’s goal, he says, is for people to come in and stay awhile, have nice conversations, and enjoy the ambience. Think pleasant but vibrant: pinks, purples, acid greens.

The shop, located at 5027 NE 42nd Ave., opened its doors Nov. 7, taking on a spot long occupied by the popular Miss Zumstein Bakery & Cafe.

Ross and Ernest loved its east-facing windows, fireplace, and vintage espresso machine — and that its nearby Concordia neighborhood doesn’t boast a similar establishment.

Ross (left) and Ernest Koh opened Queer Plants Cafe on NE 42nd Avenue in the former Miss Zumstein Bakery & Cafe space in November. Photo by Susan Trabucco.

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A glowing tower of living plants provides an other-worldly vibe to Queer Plant Cafe's space. Photo by Susan Trabucco.

When I visited after hours, at the end of a rainy Monday in late January, the place was dark. But on nicer days, Ross says, the sun's rays stream through those street-front windows.

It's still early times — Queer Plants is just beginning to catch on. But its entrepreneurial owners, who so far do all the work themselves, say they're just getting started.

Both have significant experience: Ross in the restaurant/food service and nursery arenas and Ernest as former general manager and sushi chef at Gresham's Yami Sushi & Teriyaki restaurant and, most recently, Origami Catering.

Ernest did his culinary training at the Art Institute in Tampa, specializing in French cuisine, and has also worked in agriculture, forestry, and landscape design.

Building on the couple's somewhat eclectic resumes, their cafe features an eclectic array of food choices: a handful of breakfast options, including the popular Brekkie breakfast sandwich, several bagel options, and a Gaia bowl with egg, sweet and russet potatoes, roasted vegetables, and arugula; many drink choices, including Coava specialty coffee, latte, and espresso options as well as tea and cold drinks; and a curated lunch menu featuring a Rainbow Roots salad, Nightshade stew, and a selection of chic sandwiches.

Partners on the food side include Bakeshop (pastries), Bowery Bagels, and Dos Hermanos Bakery (sandwich breads). Coming soon: vegan and gluten-free pastries.

As for plants, "We don't have a lot of space," Ross admits, so he focuses on smaller, more unique choices. "Hence the name Queer Plants," he says. That includes carnivorous plants, air plants, and hydroponics, at least some of which get their own individual names. My personal favorite: Pickle.

This is your cup of tea if you dream of sipping an espresso surrounded by "a lush backdrop of fantastical plants," Ernest and Ross say.



An unusual plant with an unusual name, "Pickle" is for sale at Queer Plants Cafe. Photo by Susan Trabucco.

Chris Rauber and his wife, Kim Williams, moved to Portland and B-W in the summer of 2022 after many years in the San Francisco Bay Area. He worked as a journalist at the S.F. Business Times and other publications. He was born in Oregon.



Chris Rauber



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POETS IN OUR MIDST

From the Editor: April is National Poetry Month, so in this issue, showcasing a poem written by one of our treasured and multi-talented newsletter team writers seemed just “write.”

The Powers That Be

by Chris Rauber

Portland is run by crows.
They strut, jump, jabber,
convene, converse, cavort
and famously swoop.



More effectively than the City Council they patrol the streets, digest trash

Scare off owls and other predators, make decisions on the fly.

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ON POETRY POSTS

by *Tim Gillespie*

Our neighborhood is home to a scattering of poetry posts, those delightful eye-level literary display boxes offered to anyone ambling by who needs a brief respite to ponder some thought-provoking, heart-stirring lines. An unexpected urban gift, these are poems liberated from the page and parked on the street — just for you, passerby!

Here's a sample of places to find poetry posts in B-W:

South of Fremont

In an order that might make for a pleasant loop walk:

Start at the corner of NE Beakey and 33rd Place, in front of one of the most charming hobbit-like homes in our neighborhood.

Head east. On the corner of NE 35th and Klickitat, find a post crafted of metal to look like bamboo, tucked away behind a book box.

Go a stone's throw east to find the post on NE Klickitat between 36th and 37th.

Walk east and downhill, and check out the post on NE 38th between Wistaria and Stanton.

Turn left — eastward — on NE Stanton, and check out the poetry box nailed to a tree a few houses past Cesar Chavez Blvd.

Even farther east, at the wide intersection of NE 43rd and Wistaria Drive, look for the house with a white picket fence on the corner.

Keep traipsing along NE Wistaria Drive and locate the post a few steps up the hill from 47th.

Heading uphill, hike to NE 47th between Siskiyou and Stanton.

Back to the ridge, check out the post on NE Alameda next to Wiberg Lane.

Finish up on NE Beaumont Street, the short block leading down to the sweeping 41st Avenue curve, where there's a book box with a poem often on its cover.

North of Fremont:

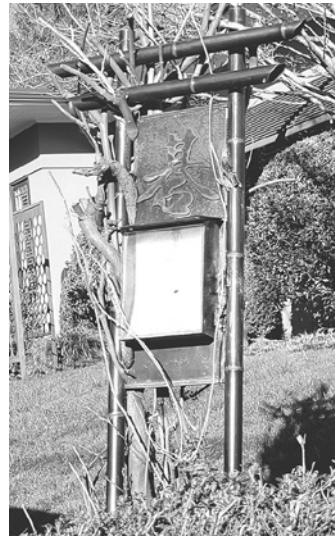
Scan the post on NE 38th between Shaver and Skidmore.

Interested in having your own? A pioneering Portland poetry box crafter is David Cooke, whose workshop is in nearby Woodlawn. Check out his website at poetryboxes.com.

BWNA board member Tim Gillespie was a public school teacher in the Portland area for almost four decades.



Tim Gillespie



B-W neighbors share their love of poetry with passersby through a variety of charming poetry posts. Photos by Jane Feinberg.

TREES OF WILSHIRE PARK NATIVES AND NEWCOMERS

by Peter Mogielnicki

Imagine Wilshire Park if there were no trees! Summer heat would be unbearable, there would be nothing for kids to play hide-and-seek behind, and there'd be minimal carbon capture or carbon sequestration — the process of capturing and storing atmospheric carbon dioxide. Most of all, where would dogs leave their calling cards?

Fortunately, that's not the case. In 2017 volunteers inventoried the park's 347 individual trees and found 18 different species. Only five of the species were native to Oregon, though a few natives have been added since. Our state tree, the Douglas fir, was, and continues to be, the most common. But a close second is the Norway maple, now considered invasive since its helicopter seeds are easily lofted to other locations and germinate readily.

It would be easy to fill the entire BWNA newsletter with fascinating information about the park's trees, but space limitations make that impossible. So for more tree details, visit tinyurl.com/26er7sxn.

When you do, be sure to scroll down the sidebar until you come to "Tree Walk Through Wilshire Park."



A fawn lily rears its head in Wilshire Park in late spring. Photo by Peter Mogielnicki.

There you'll find a detailed map identifying each tree present in 2017 and, with one more click, interesting facts about that individual tree.

For a more immersive dose of native plants, take a stroll through Wilshire Park's NatureSpace. A native Ponderosa pine guards the south end of the gravel path and, at this time of year, cascaras, madrones, and vine maples are just leafing out elsewhere.

On warm March days you may catch a whiff of the early white blossoms of the osoberry shrubs, whose leaves smell like cucumber. Its female flowers call to mind almonds, and male flowers smell to some like cat urine! As the days get warmer, watch for the handsome fawn lilies, with their blooms lining the path near ground level.

In college Peter Mogielnicki vacillated between careers in writing or medicine. He chose the safer route, but since retirement has enjoyed writing short essays for his blog at Cerelections.com, reading, working on environmental and biodiversity issues, birding, and identifying insects (bugging??) with his grandchildren.

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DID YOU KNOW Beaumont-Wilshire had its very own historian?

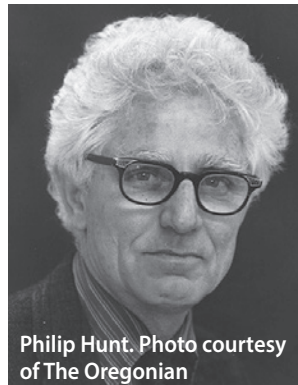
by Chris Rauber

It did indeed. Local author Philip Mulkey Hunt, who died in 2017 at the age of 97, wrote “Beaumont Profiles,” a 400-page history of our neighborhood.

Hunt’s 1998 opus can be found at the Hollywood Library, the Oregon Historical Society, and a few other locations. Because it’s quite rare, it can only be viewed within the keepers’ confines.

We plan to share a number of historical tidbits from “Beaumont Profiles” in upcoming newsletters.

Hunt’s own story is a saga in itself. He wrote his own obituary for The Oregonian, in which he described himself as a



Philip Hunt. Photo courtesy of The Oregonian

“...lover of life and having fun.”

Supporting that claim, he noted that

...he loved all four of his wives: Becky, Ann, Beta and Doris.

A longtime writer for both The Oregon Journal and The Oregonian, Hunt long covered theater and the arts. He worked on one of Nelson Rockefeller’s two presidential campaigns, and visited far-off spots like the Great Wall of China, the Parthenon, and the site of ancient Troy.

Hunt was born, he wrote, “in a modest house near NE 45th and Fremont...the son of writers Harold and Flossie Hunt and a descendant of Oregon pioneers.” He graduated from Beaumont Grade School and Grant High School before studying at the University of Oregon and Stanford, then going off to see the world courtesy of the U.S. Navy.

But he always remembered beautiful Beaumont.

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TOILET TALK: BECAUSE MARCH 18 TO 24 IS THE EPA'S FIX-A-LEAK WEEK

by *Bonny Cushman*

There are many names for the toilet in the English language. Porcelain throne, outhouse, potty, growler, and loo are just a few that come to mind.

Toilets are the main source of water use in the average home. Each flush uses about 1.28 to 2.5 gallons of water.

They are also a common source for household water leaks. Sometimes these leaks are easy to hear, but many times they can be silent, which makes them easy to miss.

Toilet leaks can waste a few gallons of water a day or — in some cases — up to hundreds or thousands of gallons a month. This unintended water use also translates into higher water and sewer bills.

So, whatever you call your toilet, take 20 minutes twice a year to check it for leaks. Many water providers give their customers free dye strips or tablets, or you can use food coloring, to check your toilet for leaks. Here's how:

1. Remove the toilet tank lid.
2. Drop one dye tablet, dye strip, or 10 drops of food coloring into the tank.
3. Put the lid back on. Do not flush.
4. Wait 20 minutes.
5. Check your toilet bowl. If you see colored water, you have a leak. If not, you don't.



20
minutes

Check your toilet for leaks

Learn how in 5 easy steps at regionalH2O.org/toilet

The next time you flush your toilet, the dye will be visible in the bowl. Don't worry — it's not a leak, and the dye won't stain your toilet.

Get tips on what to do if you find a toilet leak and other resources for conserving water at home and in the garden from the Regional Water Providers Consortium at regionalH2O.org/toilet.

Beaumont-Wilshire resident Bonny Cushman is mother of one, wife, canner, prepper, walker, and avid gardener. She works as Program Manager for the Portland-based Regional Water Providers Consortium. In her spare time she coordinates the Alameda Elementary School Discovery Garden.



Bonny Cushman



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STIRRING THE POT

by Mark Cockcroft

A warming Japanese-style dish that is hearty and filling while remaining light, this makes a nice bowl as we transition to spring. This simple soup makes the most out of each ingredient and delivers clean flavors that really work in harmony. I recommend using dashi, the classic Japanese staple, for your broth for the most authentic flavor, although beef or chicken broth will also work well. You can make your own dashi from kombu seaweed and bonito flakes, which are readily available in Asian grocery stores or online — or do as I did, and use the much more convenient dashi “tea bags.” Fresh, frozen, or dried udon noodles all work well in this recipe.

Beef & Vegetable Udon Noodle Soup

Serves 4

- 8 c prepared dashi or low-sodium beef or chicken broth
- 2 Tbsp neutral oil (canola, avocado, or grape seed), divided
- ½ lb shiitake mushrooms, stemmed and sliced in half if large
- 1 lb beef chuck roast, cut into roughly equal 1-inch cubes
- 6 quarter-size slices of ginger (from a roughly 2-inch thumb-size knob)
- ¼ c soy sauce
- ¼ c mirin
- ¼ c sake (optional)
- 1 c winter squash, diced (kabocha or butternut work well)
- 1 c daikon radish, diced
- 1 bunch spinach, rinsed and trimmed
- 4 servings of udon noodles
- 2 scallions, trimmed and thinly sliced

In a large stock pot bring the dashi to a simmer. Place a medium skillet over medium-high heat and add 1 Tbsp of the oil. When the pan is hot, add the mushrooms and cook until lightly browned, about 2 minutes. Remove from the pan and set aside. Add the remaining Tbsp oil to the skillet and then add the beef in a single layer. Brown on a couple of sides and then add to the simmering dashi.

Add the ginger, soy sauce, mirin, and sake (if using) to the dashi and return to a simmer. Cover and simmer, adjusting heat as necessary, for 30 minutes. Add the reserved shiitake mushrooms and continue to simmer for another hour. Check the meat for tenderness. When almost tender, add the squash and daikon radish and simmer for another 15 minutes.

Prepare the noodles according to the package instructions. When cooked, divide into four bowls. Add the spinach to the stock pot and cook another 5 minutes until wilted. Taste the broth for seasoning, adding soy sauce as necessary. Ladle the meat, vegetables, and hot broth into the bowls over the noodles, discarding the ginger slices. Top with the scallions and serve immediately. Enjoy!

Mark Cockcroft has been a B-W resident since 2008, sharing home and life with wife Bonny Cushman and daughter Hazel. In addition to always thinking about his next meal, Mark loves to play his guitar and to spend time at Wilshire Park with the family dog, Cashew.



Mark Cockcroft



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PERSPECTIVES

compiled by Polly Webber

From the editor: If we're not careful, this newsletter could be, from a young person's vantage point, a stuffy magazine for old folks! To help remedy that possibility we're bringing you some thoughtful student voices in this issue. Polly's Perspectives question was:

“What is your favorite thing about middle school?”



“Being able to have more control over my academic journey. I enjoy hanging out with my friends during passing periods and lunch. I love being a part of the yearbook team and participating in STEM.” **(Zach)**



“I like that I can learn new things in varied classes. I like how things I learn in math I can use in science, and how a lot of my classes can build off of each other.” **(Xander)**



“Looking back and seeing how I've grown socially, academically, and just as a person. I remember walking into middle school as a 6th grader, terrified of the older kids and not knowing many people, and it's crazy to think that next year I'll no longer be here. I love Beaumont specifically because of the supportive teachers who have helped me through challenges (big and small) and knowing that there are people who care for me in school. I also love the affinity groups they have, so that we can express ourselves and gain confidence in our own skin.” **(Rhodes)**



“Some of my favorite things about middle school are that the teachers are super supportive of students in different ways and fun to be around. There are opportunities for students to be involved outside of school hours such as band, choir, and different student unions. The Spanish Dual Language Immersion program at BMS gives me (students) an opportunity to develop a deeper level of bi-literacy and bi-culturalism, which is really cool.” **(Oliver)**

Polly Webber is a realtor and mom of two teenage girls. Born and raised in the neighborhood, she purchased and lives in the B-W home next door to her childhood home. Reach her by emailing polly.webber@cascadehassonsir.com.

Let us know if you'd like to be interviewed for Perspectives! Email PWebber5678@gmail.com.



Polly Webber



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