



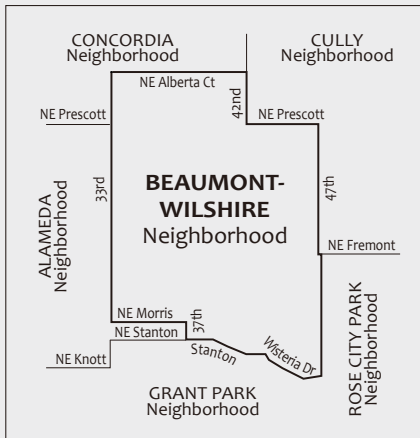
Beaumont-Wilshire Neighborhood Association

March-April 2023

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

Celebrating
Women's History Month in March
National Poetry Month in April
& Earth Day on April 22!

BIKEWAY IMPROVEMENTS COMING SOON

by Patty Nelson

There's been a great deal of social media chatter focused on what's happening with Skidmore Street around Wilshire Park. To bring answers to circling questions, we're providing some important news for auto and park users, walkers, rollers, and strollers in our neighborhood.

The City of Portland's NE Mason/Skidmore Neighborhood Greenway will be a new east-west major bikeway. Three projects will complete improvements for portions of the bikeway in Beaumont-Wilshire.

One project is along NE Skidmore Street from NE 37th to 47th Avenue and NE Mason Street from NE 47th to 77th avenues,

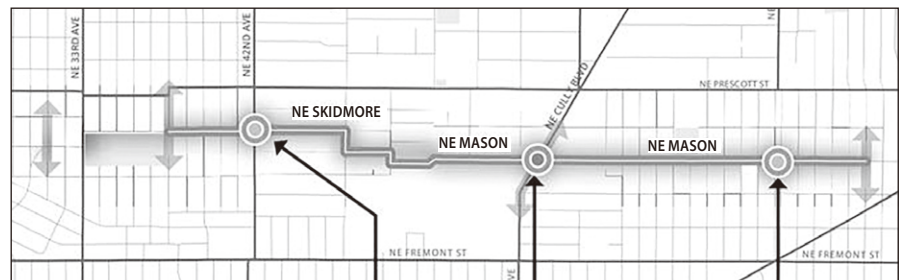
see image below. The bikeway is being improved as a Neighborhood Greenway.

Neighborhood greenways are low-traffic, low-speed streets where the roadway is shared with vehicles, people walking, bicycling, and rolling. Project elements include speed bumps, pavement markings (sharrows), and signage. Construction of the project is planned for 2024.

There are two separate bikeway improvement projects planned around Wilshire Park:

NE Skidmore Street Corridor Safety Project: This portion of the project includes bikeway improvements on NE Skidmore

(continued on back page)



Improve existing crossing at NE 42nd Ave.

Recently completed crossing at NE Cully Blvd

Opportunity for access management/treeway extension at NE 72nd Ave.



LONGTIME BOARD MEMBER STEPS DOWN, p 7
Adieu and thank you, Barb



CREATIVE KIDS, p 14
Meet Max Shannon



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

WE NEED YOU!

by Patty Nelson, BWNA Board President

I look forward to the daffodils and tulips bursting into color. Both give me hope the gray and wet winter/spring is coming to an end. Spring also means BWNA board elections at the April 10 meeting. Unfortunately, our secretary needed to resign, and another longtime board member tendered her resignation. (See related article on page 7.) Our vacant vice

“ I am hopeful we will fill these important positions with your help. ”

president position was filled in the interim but will be up for election as well. We are also in need of a point person for digital communications. I am hopeful we will fill these important positions with your help.

Please consider getting involved in your neighborhood association by joining the board, getting involved in a committee that interests you, or volunteering in a support position such as digital communications, contributing writer, or another role as time permits.

As a board member, you are asked to attend a meeting the second Monday of every month at 7 p.m. The vice president

fills in for the president when needed and supports the leadership team. The secretary is responsible for taking meeting minutes. The digital communications lead maintains the website with current information and distributes the monthly email blast. These

positions are critical to fill for a complete leadership team and to improve communication.

I have personally felt the challenge of these

vacancies, trying to cover their duties as needed. I am grateful to those who have stepped forward to take on extra duties to keep things moving forward.

If you are interested in getting involved and helping our neighborhood association, contact me at President@BWNApdx.org or call me at (503) 281-8035. I would be happy to discuss the details of these positions and answer your questions. If filling a position at this time does not fit into your life, I still encourage you to join us at our April 10 meeting and vote for your representatives. Your vote counts.

OUR ORGANIZATION BWNA Board

President

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

Vice-President

Al Ellis 503-287-0477

Secretary

Vacant

Treasurer

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

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Aaron Breakstone	Colin O'Neill
Angela Frome	John Sandie
Gary Hancock	Susan Trabucco
Patti Koehler	

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 Liaison – Vacant

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

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John Sandie, chair 219-508-4162

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Welcome & Thank You!



Beaumont-Wilshire Neighborhood Association

Welcome

to our new-this-issue advertiser:

MovementX
Rachel Wilkinson PT, DPT

& Thank You!

to our many faithful advertisers, who make this newsletter possible!



TACOVORE

CORRECTIONS

In the January-February newsletter we incorrectly reported that Beaumont-Wilshire restaurant Tacovore had fixed its ventilation system and is in full compliance with City of Portland requirements.

City planner Justin Lindley of the Bureau of Development Services' Property Compliance Division informed BWNA that Tacovore has been levied monthly fines since August 2022 for odor violations; the violations started in July 2021.

Jonathan Grumbles, Tacovore's owner, hired a contractor to do the work and secure the necessary mechanical permit for a new kitchen hood he hopes will mitigate odors. At that point Grumbles plans to remove the outside grills. While application for the permit was made, the work has not been done; the permit is set to expire in late February this year. Lindley informed BWNA that Grumbles recently hired a permit consultant for assistance in securing the required permits.

Upon completion of the work, the city will check the site to determine whether the modifications mitigated the odors that generated the complaints and violation.

As part of BWNA's Good Neighbor Agreement, Tacovore had committed to restoring part of its on-site parking to relieve congestion in the neighborhood. A portion of the restaurant's parking lot has been reopened. At our press deadline, however, expansion into the area where outdoor seating has been removed is not yet restored as parking. Current zoning codes do not require on-site parking.

The editor regrets the reporting errors.



LOVE your neighborhood & have ideas? Be a BWNA Board Member!

Annual board elections are **April 10**.
Email president@BWNApdx.org
to inquire.



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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

Wed, Mar. 8: FOWP Committee meeting via Zoom, starts 7 p.m.

Mon, Mar. 13: Board meeting, starts 7 p.m.

Mon, Apr. 10: General meeting, starts 7 p.m.

Wed, Apr. 12: 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

The board continues its work planning upcoming events, updating the bylaws, and establishing an annual budget. BWNA has applied for a Movie in the Park event for the summer. Look for more information about this event in future newsletters and email updates.



Crime Prevention & Safety

Property crime continues to be the primary issue in the neighborhood with car thefts and vandalism being the primary issues reported. While there was a murder-suicide reported in December, this was a domestic situation and not a home invasion.



Friends of Wilshire Park

Friends of Wilshire Park made payment to the City of Portland for design and construction of a new water supply for the dog park, which should be completed this year.

The committee is now seeking input from the community regarding interest in future projects. Scan this QR code to respond to the FoWP survey.

WHAT'S NEXT?



Land Use

A public notice was received, notifying the neighborhood of the intent to demolish the existing home at 4623 NE Failing St. The new owner intends to build a new single-family residence and save the existing mature fir trees on the east side of the property.



Transportation

The committee continues its effort to add painted street art to the recently installed "soft bump-outs" along Fremont. Artwork at NE 44th and 46th crossings is planned for early summer; the crossing at Amalfi's is slated for later in the year.


The traffic diverter at NE Alameda/Fremont by Tacovore was installed. Concerns were raised regarding cut-through traffic on the designated bike crossings as well as increased traffic on nearby streets that are being used as an alternative. PBOT indicated these responses are normal and given some time, people will adjust their driving patterns.

PBOT presented projects designed to complete bikeway improvements for the Mason/Skidmore Neighborhood Greenway Project in B-W at the Feb. 13 BWNA general meeting. PBOT was seeking input, which was given.




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April 10 at 7 p.m.
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For Zoom instructions visit bwnapdx.org/upcoming-events

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COMMUNITY COMES TOGETHER TO REMEMBER ONE OF ITS OWN

by Patty Nelson

On Dec. 21 last year, nearly 100 people turned out for the BWNA's candlelight vigil to remember neighbor Vivian "Gayle" Phillips on the one-year anniversary of her tragic death—she was hit by a car as she crossed the street at NE Fremont and NE 44th Avenue. The vigil provided an opportunity for BWNA to highlight improvements and raise awareness for pedestrian safety.

The event was held on the night before the brutal ice storm; temperatures were dropping, and the wind was blowing. The brisk weather did not, however, deter people from gathering to remember one of their own. Reflective arm bands were distributed by BWNA for people to use, and volunteer crossing guards helped people safely cross Fremont.

People lined both sides of that street near the fatal intersection to hold a moment of silence. Cars along Fremont slowed and stopped at times, achieving the goal of bringing pedestrian safety awareness to this busy corridor.

Since that fatal accident, the City of Portland has installed an additional streetlight on the north side of Fremont and "soft bump-outs" at marked crossings, improving visibility.

"See and Be Seen" is something to remember on dark winter evenings. Ensure your safety by wearing bright and/or reflective clothing, and keep your eyes on vehicles, cyclists, and rollers to make sure they see you and stop before you cross.



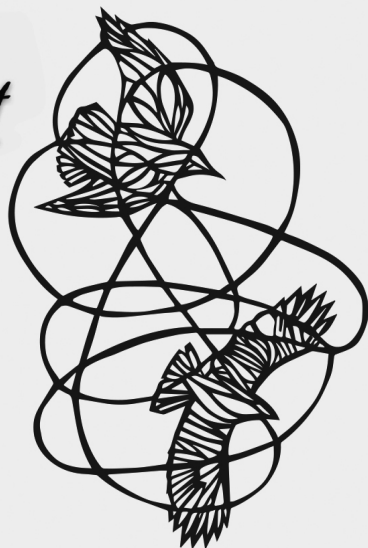
Flowers and candles placed during a December 2022 vigil pay homage to neighbor and accident victim Vivian "Gail" Phillips. Photo by Angela Frome



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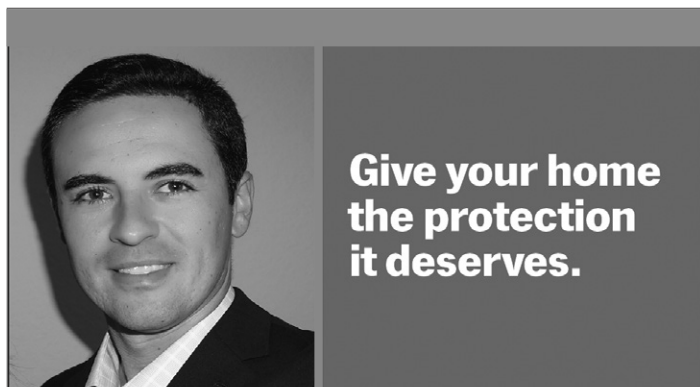
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BMS Foundation Seeks Prizes, Cash, Sponsorships for School Carnival

In late April the Beaumont Middle School Foundation will host a carnival exclusively for BMS students and their families. To add fun, the foundation is seeking donated prizes from neighborhood residents and businesses. Prizes can include candy, bags of chips, Rice Krispie treats or other pre-wrapped cookies and snacks, swag from a business, small toys, gift certificates to local restaurants or kid-focused businesses, glow sticks—or anything else donors think would be fun! Plastic bags or tote bags to hold children's prizes would also be appreciated.

To donate prize items, cash, or business sponsorships, contact Meghan Walstatter by emailing megsmac@gmail.com.

To support existing and new positions, including music, drama, health, and student support, the Beaumont Middle School Foundation raises money to pay for staffing beyond that funded by Portland Public Schools.

Let There be Light!

The Beaumont Business Association (BBA) reported that NE Fremont Street from Alameda (Tacovore) to NE 57th (Fire on the Mountain) will sport lighting on 103 trees by early March as part of Project Illumination, a City of Portland program. The program is managed by the Public Environment Management Office, which partners with local business districts across the city to help manage and fund some of the lighting and installation.

Project Illumination aims to provide improved lighting on sidewalks and storefronts to increase visibility, help improve safety, and deter crime, while making business districts more inviting. For more information about Project Illumination visit tinyurl.com/4hju47rp.

Metalwood Salvage 'Recycling' its Operation

According to a Feb. 4 Facebook post, Metalwood Salvage, near the corner of NE 42nd and Prescott, will be ending its 10-year run at the site on a yet-to-be-determined date in May. The good news is that the fabrication and welding class aspect of the business is spinning off; those services will stay in the neighborhood, see Wildcat Welding & Hobby Shop below.

To keep up with the many changes in store and to follow Metalwood Salvage founder Eric Bohne on his next venture, visit facebook.com/metalwoodpdx.

NEWS BITS

FROM B-W
&
BEYOND

BBA Website Kicks it up a Notch

The BBA has a new website. While you're checking it out at bbapdx.org, be sure to visit the new Events page. There you'll find a calendar with the various activities and events put on by BBA member businesses to help you indulge in retail therapy, music appreciation, and beverage and culinary delights.

Frozen Yogurt Shop Opening this Spring

Nectar Frozen Yogurt Lounge comes to Beaumont-Wilshire in late spring, setting up shop in the former Umpqua Bank location at 4335 NE Fremont St.

Owner Adrian Huether, a B-W resident who owns another Nectar Frozen Yogurt Lounge in Sellwood, said permitting is taking longer than anticipated. "Overall the City of Portland has been great to work with," Huether said. "I may have just been too optimistic on the timing related to this process, as it's my first time doing a build-out." He's hoping to open by Memorial Day.

The company will be hiring for this location in March. Visit nectarfroyo.com for more information, and look for an expanded article about Huether and his new business in our May-June issue.

More New Businesses in and near B-W Recently Opened or Coming Soon

The BBA reported that several new businesses are either now open or coming soon to Beaumont-Wilshire and nearby. The information was received too late in our news cycle for full reporting; look for more on these businesses in future BWNA newsletters.

The **Liquor Garden and Bottle Shop** is coming to 4741 NE Fremont St. BWNA sleuthing uncovered an application to the Oregon Liquor and Cannabis Commission for this name and location filed in early January for off-premises sales.

The BBA also reported the recent opening of **Wildcat Welding Classes & Hobby Shop** at 3615 NE 50th Ave. For more information about this woman-owned business visit wildcathobbyclasses.com.

And finally, **Maven Beauty** was scheduled to open in mid-February at 4941 NE Fremont St. The business specializes in hair, beauty, and aesthetician services. For more information visit instagram.com/mavenbeauty4941.



BWNA BOARD BIDS BARB ADIEU

by BWNA

Only a handful of neighbors who've served on the BWNA board stand the test of time. Outgoing board member Barbara Strunk, however, is one of those with a multi-year tenure—nine years, in her case. She started with the board by filling a vacant at-large board position in 2014; in 2017 she began serving as board secretary, a role she completed last year. In addition to serving on the board and as secretary, here are some of Barb's other notable contributions to our neighborhood:

- Served as the newsletter's garden columnist for over 10 years.
- Assisted with historic neighborhood issues by providing garden commentary.
- Represented BWNA on the Central NE Neighbors board (CNN).
- With board members Al Ellis and John Sandie, spearheaded United Neighborhoods for Reform (UNR), supported by over 50 neighborhood associations. The group's goal was to lobby City Hall to preserve the dwindling stock of viable, comparatively affordable homes from demolition and put requirements in



Barb Strunk

place to mitigate the danger to the public from demolitions. Barb served as the UNR steering committee chair.

And here, comments from those who served with Barb, some for many years:

"I will always look fondly at those strong civic-minded, friendships forged in [Barb's] living room for UNR meetings." John Sandie, former board president, current transportation chair, UNR cohort, and volunteer-of-all-trades.

"While developers won out, Barb was competence personified as UNR steering committee chair. . . . There's no better colleague to work with than Barb—kind, intelligent, dutiful, calm under fire, and fun—a gem of a person." Al Ellis, current board vice president, former BWNA president, former BWNA

newsletter editor, and UNR cohort.

"I was impressed with her knowledge and contributions, particularly her commitment to issues of land use planning. . . . I couldn't be more grateful to Barb for her contributions to our neighborhood." Tim Gillespie, immediate past president and current board member.

Thank you, Barb, from the entire BWNA board!

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WHY DO WE KEEP ALLOWING VANDALISM IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD?

by Diane Charlton

OPINION: WHAT I THINK

Vandals are tagging everywhere you look: on telephone poles, mailboxes, utility boxes at Beaumont Middle School, sides of buildings, and on curbs, windows, and fences. The word PARLE was etched into a glass window at Pizzicato, resulting in the expense of repairing this senseless damage; the same word has been

painted on the walls of businesses and retaining walls in the neighborhood. This type of vandalism affects the livability of our Beaumont-Wilshire neighborhood. (See our mission statement on page 1 of each BWNA newsletter.) We all know the Portland police are not enforcing the law prohibiting tagging (graffiti) on private and public property, so it falls on ALL neighbors to help STOP tagging.

Some neighbors seem to be apathetic, but you might feel differently when your fence or garage door is spray-painted with offensive graffiti. Sadly, the reality is we must clean up the destruction ourselves. Someone knows who PARLE is and is enabling the ongoing destruction. As reluctant as I

am to give more notoriety to this vandal, he/she/they must be stopped! Thank you.

Diane Charlton is a longtime resident of Beaumont-Wilshire; she and her husband were once the editors of this newsletter. Diane also served as a BWNA board member, newsletter delivery captain, and route carrier.



Professional Tips for Preventing Graffiti

The following suggestions come from city planners, landscape designers, and law enforcement officials.

- Plant fast-growing, low-maintenance bushes or trees along the sides of buildings. For example, Rosa Rugosa helps protect buildings and doesn't need much attention once it is planted.
- Install lattice-work trellises on the side of your building and plant fast-growing vines beneath them to create a wall of leaves.
- Improve outside lighting.
- Commission a local artist to paint a mural on your building.

To report graffiti or other types of defacement to private or public property, call 311 or go to portland.gov/311/graffiti-report.



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HONORING THE WOMEN WHO CAME BEFORE US

by Susan Trabucco

Once upon a time—the late 1980s to be exact—I accepted the challenge of starting a new sales operation for GTE, now Verizon. At 30 years old I was earning a very respectable income, the same as my male regional manager cohorts.

Leading the customer service side of this new sales team was Sandy, an “ancient-to-me” woman of at least 65 whose entire working life had been at GTE.

One day my path met with Sandy’s in a quiet hallway.

I greeted her and was setting to simply walk by when she grasped me firmly by the arm. “I have something to tell you that you need to know,” she said with a startling intensity.

Her story, it turns out, was a bittersweet one: nearly 20 years earlier, Sandy had joined in a lawsuit against GTE to sue for equal pay for women. That day she reached for me in the hallway was the day a positive verdict had finally been reached after years of corporate legal dodging. After imparting this information, Sandy had a crystal-clear message for me: “You would not have the job you have today if it weren’t for the women who came before you.”

With youthful brashness, I initially tossed it off. I was, after all, a self-made woman! I wised up with age, of course. As I near my own 65th birthday, while I’m painfully aware there are still many gains to be made in the fight for women’s equality, I

continue to be appreciative of the workplace brush cleared by the persistence of women who fought inch by inch over many years to secure the opportunities and pay afforded our male counterparts. For National Women’s History month in March, a toast to Sandy and to the many others who

helped pave a more just path for women—and to the women’s history yet to be made.

“ You would not have the job you have today if it weren’t for the women who came before you. ”

Susan Trabucco is the volunteer editor of this newsletter. She was the founder, editor, and publisher of a regional business journal and former editor/managing editor of Concordia News. Susan and her husband have called B-W home for 10 years, where she practices zonal denial in her tropical-ish garden. Reach her by emailing Editor@BWNApdx.org.



Susan Trabucco

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BOOK REVIEW: OLD STORIES; SOME BY TIM GILLESPIE

Reviewed by Peter Mogielnicki



The cover of Beaumont-Wilshire resident Tim Gillespie's poetry book, published by Moonpath Press in 2020.

A retired English teacher once told me that if you didn't connect with a poem on first reading, you could just skip it. Nothing like that came close to happening when I came across Tim Gillespie's poetry collection, *Old Stories, Some Not True and other poems* at Broadway Books.

The poems dig deep, yet are eminently readable. Some start off with a mundane event like a phone call from an old friend, attending a play, getting a garden ready for spring. Then, near the end, the poem sidles up to the reader to deliver a powerful shift of mood and meaning. Others give common stuff—a spider plant, a walk down a city street, a high school English class—sparkles of new significance. And there are plenty of special treats for local residents: the appearance of familiar landmarks like Lan Su Chinese Garden, a bar in Newport, and Sandy Boulevard cutting literally and figuratively across a poem.

Ordinary events turn to the complex

Until recently, I knew Tim only as the organized, agenda-conscious, now-past president of the Beaumont-Wilshire Neighborhood Association, but I was knocked off balance to discover him as the author of this sweet book of poems, one of which perfectly captures the feeling I had at the time. In "A Hesitant Love Poem," a dumbfounded child encounters his teacher, not where she is supposed to be—in the orderly environment of her elementary school classroom—but . . .

*pushing her cart at the grocery store
past the oranges, mounded high, and her saying hello
and chatting calmly with my mother
as I stared dumbfounded
at my first grade teacher
out in the world*

Like so many of Tim's poems, it begins with an ordinary event and ends up exploring complex but familiar feelings and ideas.

Poet elicits reader emotions

Describing hard-to-describe feelings is one thing, evoking them in a reader is another. In "The Bike on the Porch," Tim sets the reader up by recounting how a group of his childhood friends knew of the fact that a bike left on a neighborhood front porch belonged to a son the family had lost to leukemia. But then, near the poem's end, what

Tim Gillespie, left



NOT TRUE AND OTHER POEMS

was for the reader mainly an abstraction, hits home when the poet reveals that his own little brother. . .

*swooping down the steepest hill
in our hometown, lost control
and we lost him in a tangle of bike
and bus*

When I read that line, I felt a chill.

In the collection's central section, Tim's years as a high school literature teacher come through loud and clear as he lays out the relevance of classical old stories to the here and now. In the first two stanzas of "Cassandra in Three Acts," we relearn the role of Cassandra, "the dark-skinned daughter of the slaughtered Trojan tribe," in a classic Greek tragedy by Aeschylus. In the third stanza, however, he brings it home, courageously putting his own vulnerability on display with thoughts about his 16-year-old granddaughter playing the part of Cassandra in a school play. . .

*She gets
the sting at being dismissed for being a girl; for being
too young, too smart; for having darker skin; for holding
fiercely to her trust that there are truths that can be known. . .
be forewarned that here's a girl who won't be grabbed
except by truths
she won't stop telling, that here's a girl who won't be lured by
hollow golden things, that this girl's
no one's trophy. . .*

There are dozens of similarly rewarding surprises in *Old Stories, Some Not True and other poems*. It's a collection well worth reading and rereading. And you may even bump into the poet at Beaumont Hardware or chewing on his pencil at Jim and Patty's Coffee shop.

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 Cereflections.com, reading, working on environmental and biodiversity issues, and birding and identifying insects (bugging??) with his grandchildren.



Peter Mogielnicki

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JUST HOW HARMFUL IS A FIRE?

by the Multnomah County Health Department

Brendon Haggerty crouched beside a Solo Stove fire pit in his Portland backyard and stacked a few pieces of well-cured wood.

This is a common scene for many households, hanging out with friends and family around a warm, bright fire. He crumpled sheets of newsprint and lit the flame.

Haggerty supervises the wood smoke curtailment program at the Multnomah County Health Department and illustrated the impact of fires on air quality for his friends as they gathered in his backyard. Within moments, the air quality

monitor he was holding began to beep. As smoke from the flames blew across his backyard, the air quality maxed out the monitor's ability to measure air pollution.

Haggerty's demonstration proved what public health officials have long warned: Cozy backyard fires might feel good on a cool night, but even fire pits marketed as "efficient" or "smokeless" are not harmless. It's a key reason why Multnomah County regulates indoor and outdoor fires year

round. Wood smoke contains fine particulate matter (PM 2.5), a dangerous pollutant smaller than the diameter of a human hair. Short-term exposure may cause mild irritation symptoms. Long-term exposure can lead to serious health problems such as cancer and heart disease.

"Most of us probably don't imagine that one fire could be a problem, but to a vulnerable neighbor it really could be harmful," Haggerty said. "So even if that fire brings some people closer together, chances are someone lives nearby who is going to suffer the consequences."

Why do we burn wood?

With rising costs, many assume that people burn wood to stay warm. As an affordable source of energy, especially during hard times, wood is readily available for a good price. Yet consumer data show that most households in Multnomah County are not building fires to stay warm, but for enjoyment.

Comparisons of income data from the Census Bureau and burning behavior from the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality underscores that most of the burning occurs in higher-income households that have other sources of heat. Unintentionally, these higher-income neighborhoods, whose air has gotten cleaner over time, may be contributing more wood smoke and worsening disparities in air quality across the county through recreational burning.

“ Cozy backyard fires might feel good on a cool night, but even fire pits marketed as “efficient” or “smokeless” are not harmless. ”



Brendon Haggerty, who supervises the smoke curtailment program at the Multnomah County Health department, demonstrates the rise in air pollution levels from the smoke of a backyard wood fire. Photo courtesy of Multnomah County Health Department

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Why does my fire matter?

Wood burning may seem like a personal choice since it is often done in one's own home or backyard. But the health impacts of smoke affect everyone in the community. Wood smoke can also reach far more people because of the volume of emissions and the dense urban distribution of people across the county. The Environmental Protection Agency estimates that emissions from residential wood smoke account for 11% of cancer risk from air toxics in Multnomah County.

"Talking to your neighbors is the best way we can help people understand the impact of this problem," said Jonathan Cruz, a program specialist for the health department. "It can be difficult to explain to others that their actions are having negative consequences, but it's worth having a conversation."

Multnomah County is working to improve air quality for everyone and reduce these disparities by regulating wood burning and educating residents about the problem. Exemptions remain for residents with low incomes and in situations where wood burning is the primary source of someone's heat, for ceremonial purposes, or during an emergency. Cooking food is also exempt.

Cruz says the regulation is expected to improve conditions throughout Multnomah County and will benefit everyone affected by woodsmoke. "The good news about air pollution is that it is a solvable problem," Cruz said. "To protect your health, check the county's wood burning restriction status before you burn."

Find that information and more at multco.us/woodsmokestatus.

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Why I like living in Beaumont-Wilshire

by Max Shannon



Max Shannon

Hi, my name is Max and I've lived in Beaumont-Wilshire for three years. At first I said I did not want to move here. I lived down the street in the Grant Park neighborhood, and I went to Beverly Cleary School. I still go there and the reason we moved is because my mom and dad split up and we were renovating the house and the person living here moved out so we moved right on in. Now I love it, and here's why I love my neighborhood:

- ★ There is a pizza place.
- ★ There is a game store.
- ★ I have a lot of friends here.

- ★ I love Bagel Land. I think it is awesome (my mom disagrees, but she is from New York so I get it).
- ★ The church that I go to isn't far from here. (St. Rose)
- ★ WILSHIRE PARK!!! I love Wilshire Park because we run there, we bike there, and I have camps there.
- ★ I have great neighbors!

Max is almost 10 years old. He likes to draw, ski, mountain bike, and play basketball and baseball. He likes to sing and knows a lot of '80s music.

Hey, Beaumont-Wilshire kids!

Do you have a story to tell? A poem bursting from your heart? A drawing you'd like to share?

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Pearly everlasting hosts several butterfly and moth species.

GARDEN AS HABITAT

by *Gin McCollum*

Last spring, a ruby-crowned kinglet jogged frenetically along my bare pear branches, finding caterpillars and other tiny food. Both ruby-crowned and golden-crowned kinglets also feed in leaf litter. Seeing them feed (or not) is a measure of the quality of habitat we are growing for them.

Particularly at risk are species like caterpillars that feed on plants; they often need specific native plants ⁽¹⁾. Pearly everlasting hosts seven butterfly and moth species, including American Painted Lady, and is also a nectar plant ⁽²⁾. The oceanspray plant hosts 39, goldenrod 49, and yarrow 18 species.

Bushes I planted as a boundary for my space also turned out to be furniture for song sparrows in which to build nests. Song sparrows are native sparrows—unlike house sparrows. The hedge turned out also to contain food for the birds, including insects and the intense evergreen huckleberries (*Vaccinium ovatum*). Even though evergreen huckleberry leaves are tough, there are caterpillars that can eat the buds, including those of the Echo Azure butterflies.

To slow species extinction, we all have habitat to offer, whether it's in a yard, plant pot, or planting strip. ⁽³⁾

References:

- 1) portland.gov/bps/environ-planning/portland-plant-list; sparrowhawknativeplants.com; livingscapeportland.com
- 2) naba.org/chapters/nabaes/btrfly-gdng3.html; nwf.org/NativePlantFinder/Wildlife/Butterflies-and-Moths/2
- 3) pollinatorparkways.weebly.com

Gin McCollum has a food-thicket she is shifting to produce food not only for a human, but also for native birds and butterflies. She finds mathematical structure in neural systems and writes. She hopes for our familiar neighborhood habitat to become wild, native, healthy, and beloved.



Gin McCollum



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FOR PLANET AND YOUR WALLET KEEP FOOD OUT OF LANDFILLS

by Liz Erickson

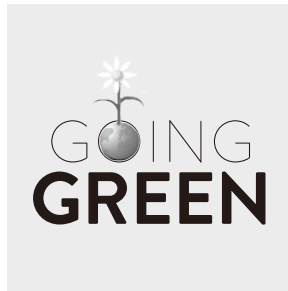
Food Waste Prevention Week, a collaborative project with many U.S. states and parts of Mexico, is April 10 -16 this year. Why devote a week to raising awareness about food waste? Because using food well prevents waste, saves money, and reduces harm to our environment.

Some facts: in Oregon, the average household wastes 35% of food purchased, which equals about \$1,800 each year. This wasted food contributes significantly to greenhouse gas emissions. Preventing a ton of food waste reduces greenhouse gases more than just keeping food waste out of the landfill does. (Reduce, reuse, then recycle applies to food, too).

Why grow, process, package, transport, store, sell, and then buy food that won't be used? It's like buying three bags of groceries and leaving one in the parking lot!

And most of the food thrown out could have been eaten, which is a very preventable problem. Here are some ways to take action to save food:

- Store food properly so it lasts longer. Keep fridge at its best setting and don't pack it so full you can't see what's there.
- Plan meals and use a grocery list, but shop your fridge, freezer, and pantry first. Use what you have.



- Prepare less to avoid extra. Our culture encourages surplus, options, and large portions, which can lead to waste.
- Kids in the house? Involve them in meal planning and preparation when appropriate.
- Finish leftovers or freeze and use later.

During this week and all year long, consider paying attention to the food you buy, prepare, and eat. These low-tech tips can help us love food, not waste it. Learn more about these and other helpful tips from Oregon DEQ at dontletgoodfoodgobad.org.

Ideas, questions, or comments? Contact elizabeth.ann.erickson@gmail.com.

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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PERSPECTIVES

compiled by Polly Webber

March is Women's History Month, so we thought this was the perfect time to ask female neighbors about important women in their lives. Our Perspectives question is:

"What woman has made an impact on your life?"



"My dear friend Shelly Federman, who passed in 2014, was an incredibly creative and brave woman who unflinchingly followed her dreams and helped others do the same." (*Jess, 3 years in B-W*)



"The two women that have had the most impact in my life are my mom, Ann, and my daughter, Sophia. They both embody resilience, courage, and empathy, and I continually learn from both of them every day." (*Julia, 10 years in B-W*)



"When I think of a woman that had an impact on my life, I immediately think of my grandma. She was always there for me. She was like a second mom and always a safe place to land. She helped shape the person that I am today. She was a strong, independent woman who would do anything for her family. Last October we helped her celebrate her 100th birthday. Sadly, my grandma recently passed. She was such a big part of my life up until the end. She will be missed." (*Tia, 30 years in B-W*)



"Carol Bryant, a local theater director in Bend, Ore., had a huge influence in my life at a young age. She directed me in a play when I was a teenager, teaching me the love of theatre. She believed in me, empowered me, and made me feel special—she inspired me to obtain a degree in Theatre Arts and direct a 5th grade play at Alameda Elementary School a few years back. Carol passed away in 2011 at age 85." (*Bianca, 18 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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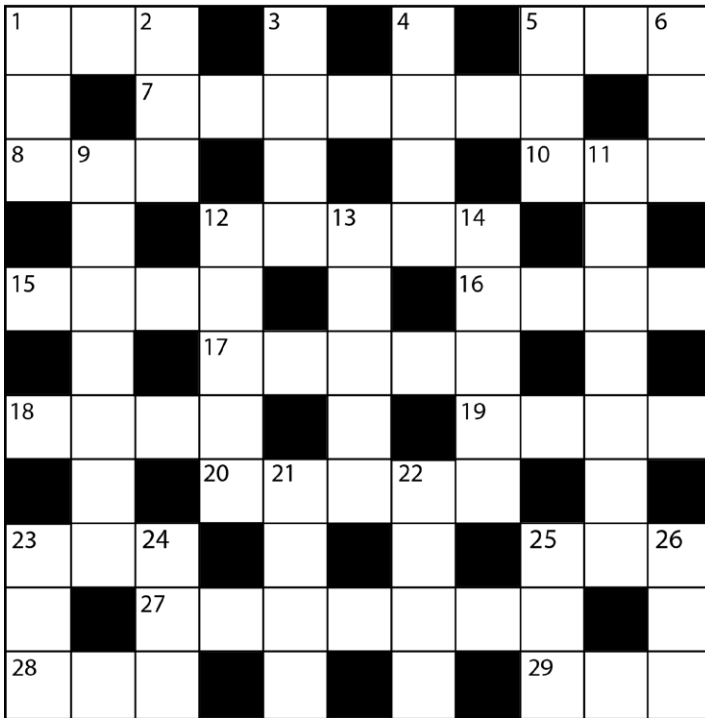
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MISSING LINKS

by JED, aka Brian Greer

Find a word that links after the first word in each clue and before the second. For example, for the clue NEWS / ***** / CLIP, the answer is **PAPER** (NEWSPAPER/ PAPER CLIP)



(Find answers on this page)

ACROSS

- 1) TWIN / *** / THUMPER
- 5) SAFETY / *** / CUSHION
- 7) RUNNING / ***** / JOE
- 8) MARTIAL / *** / GALLERY
- 10) CLASS / *** / ONE
- 12) ALL-TIME / ***** / DANE
- 15) END / **** / NUMBER
- 16) SKIPPING / **** / LADDER
- 17) ACUTE / ***** / BRACKET
- 18) OPEN / **** / CONTROL
- 19) GRACE / **** / PAPER
- 20) WARP / ***** / LIMIT
- 23) OYSTER / *** / POST
- 25) AGE / *** / GLORY
- 27) DUTCH / ***** / BRIDGE
- 28) CAUSE / *** / STATION
- 29) EASTER / *** / BEATER

DOWN

- 1) GREEN / *** / GARDEN
- 2) BASEBALL / *** / MAN
- 3) GREAT / **** / MARKET
- 4) RAW / **** / BASE
- 5) SWEET / *** / SHOOTER
- 6) WING / *** / SHELL
- 9) NATURE / ***** / PRICE
- 11) STATE / ***** / LETTER
- 12) BLUE / ***** / SKIRT
- 13) GOLDEN / ***** / EYES
- 14) LATEST / ***** / SETTER
- 21) BRAT / **** / ANIMAL
- 22) EMERGENCY / **** / POLL
- 23) RAIN / *** / TIE
- 24) CHRISTMAS / *** / LIGHT
- 25) NUMBER / *** / HORSE
- 26) HOT / *** / BISCUIT

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Brian Greer is Irish and lived most of his life in Belfast. He's been publishing crosswords since 1965, mostly in the UK. There, pseudonyms are standard, and JED is for his three children: Jonathan, Emma, and David. "Brendan" is his current persona in The Guardian. A retired-but-still-writing academic, Brian is interested in the political nature of mathematics education. He and Swapna, his wife, came to Portland in 2004.

Down: 1) TEA, 2) BAT, 3) BEAR, 4) DATA, 5) PEA, 6) NUT, 9) RESERVE, 11) CAPITAL, 12) GRASS, 13) EAGLE, 14) TREND, 21) PACK, 22) EXIT, 23) BOW, 24) DAY, 25) ONE, 28) WAY, 29) EGG.

Across: 1) TUB, 5) PIN, 7) AVERAGE, 8) ART, 10) ACT, 12) GREAT, 15) USER, 16) ROPE, 17) ANGEL, 18) ARMS, 19) NOTE, 20) SPEED, 23) BED, 25) OLD, 27) AUCTION.

Answers to Missing Links Puzzle

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BIKEWAY IMPROVEMENTS (continued from page 1)

Street between 33rd and 37th avenues. Planned improvements include a protected bikeway—called a cycle track—that would move existing parking away from the curb and reduce the travel lanes on NE Skidmore from two 12-foot lanes to one 14-foot lane and require oncoming traffic to pull over to let traffic pass, similar to other neighborhood streets, see Image A below. While parking will be retained on both sides of Skidmore, 20 to 25 parking spots will be removed at intersections to provide clear crossing for pedestrians coming from the north side of Skidmore to the park. Construction for this project is scheduled for this summer.

NE 33rd Avenue and NE Mason Improvements Project: As part of a NE 33rd paving project, bikeway improvements will be made between NE Mason and NE Skidmore. They include removing parking, upgrades to the signalized crossing at NE Mason Street to make it easier for people walking and biking to access Wilshire Park and NE Skidmore Street, and a new two-way, physically protected bike lane on 33rd between NE Mason and Skidmore streets, see Image B below. This will eliminate cyclists rolling across 33rd and onto the sidewalk adjacent to Wilshire Park. This project is tentatively scheduled for summer 2023.

Background

In August 2022, Portland Bureau of Transportation provided BWNA with two options for improvements on NE Skidmore between 33rd and 37th and requested feedback. One option was a greenway concept, with bikes and vehicles sharing the road and diverters added to reduce the daily volume of traffic. The second option was a cycle track design, with a two-way dedicated bike lane between the curb and parked cars along NE Skidmore. BWNA conveyed feedback heard at its August 2022 meeting, which included a preference for maintaining parking for the park, reducing speeds on Skidmore Street, and maintaining curbside parking along the park. PBOT initially indicated it would review the feedback and come

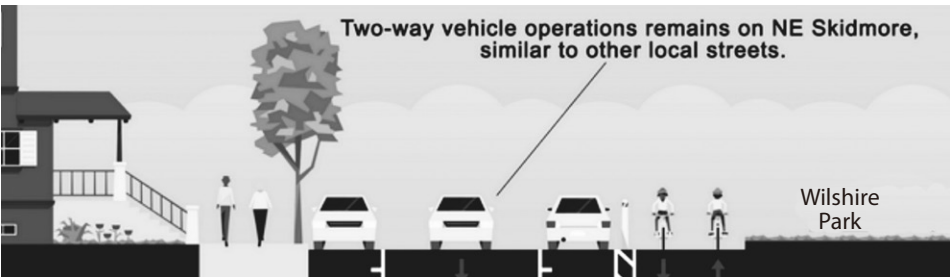


Image A

Sidewalk (8')
 Parking Lane (7')
 Drive Lane (14')
 Parking Lane (7')
 Two Bike Lanes (5' each)

The proposed design for NE Skidmore Street between 33rd and 37th avenues.

For more project information:

- portland.gov/transportation/pbot-projects/images/ne-33rd-avenue-and-ne-mason-improvements
- portland.gov/transportation/pbot-projects/ne-skidmore-33rd-37th-project
- portland.gov/transportation/pbot-projects/construction/mason-skidmore-neighborhood-greenway-project

back with options, allowing BWNA to vote on its preferred option. PBOT recently reported to BWNA that it does not have sufficient budget to develop multiple options.

Update and Feedback from February General Meeting

At the BWNA general meeting on Feb. 13, PBOT representative Scott Cohen provided an update on the proposed projects in our area and sought questions and feedback from attendees.

Feedback heard at the meeting included support for improved bikeways; one comment was from a child who described how much he enjoys riding his bike to school. Concerns were raised about poor ADA access to the park and the safety of children and the physically impaired arriving by car and having to step either into a narrowed travel lane or into a bike lane. Cohen reiterated there will be a two-foot buffer between parking and bike lanes, as well as the possibility of adding a disabled parking spot near the park entrance.

Concerns regarding plastic “candle sticks” within the buffer strip were also raised. Cohen said they will not be too closely spaced, so passengers can safely exit from the park side of a vehicle.

One resident commented he would like to see traffic diverted, while others were happy to see that option removed. Another commented that they would like to see the bike lanes widened.

The Wilshire Little League shared earlier that it’s highest parking demands are for weekend games.

There was a suggestion to maintain parking at “T” intersections, encouraging pedestrians to cross at the main park entrance on NE 36th. Lastly, concern was expressed that excess speed on Skidmore will continue to be an issue, and speed bumps were requested. Cohen conveyed that the narrowed travel lane has proven to be an effective way to reduce speed, and speed bumps are expensive.

It is unclear whether the feedback will result in any adjustments to the plans.

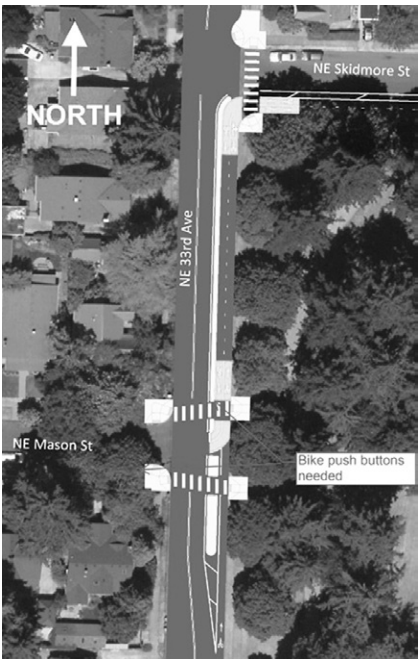


Image B