BEAUMONT WILSHIRE

Beaumont Wilshire Neighborhood Association Newsletter ▪ www.bwna.org ▪ October/November 2002

Neighbor Focus: The Sweeneys

Ye ol' neighborhood

BY JOHN M. CARSON

Here is the story of a couple who grew up in our neighborhood and then returned to raise their family here. You may enjoy reading this on a crisp October evening, relaxing by a warm fireside with a cup of hot chocolate.

Patrick Sweeney and Betty McCall grew up on 34th and 41st Avenues respectively, both living just south of Shaver Street. They attended Beaumont School back when Wilshire Park was nothing but woods, and children could get to school easily by cutting across vacant lots. They went on to Grant High School and Oregon State University.

Although Pat and Betty were acquainted during grade school, the four years difference in their ages was significant until their college years. Pat's four years of service in the Pacific during WWII in navy aviation electronics put them on about the same level in college. They became reacquainted when Pat worked as a houseboy at Betty's sorority, and were married in December of 1946.



Betty, Pat and son, Tim in the 50's

Pat went to work for Pacific Telephone and Telegraph after graduation. The Sweeneys returned to Portland after his being employed at the Bell Labs in Allentown, Pennsylvania for four years. They purchased a house on 41st from Betty's mother, and they moved there with their two sons, Mike and Tim. With the birth of a third son, Kelly, it became expedient to move to their present roomier residence on 40th Avenue, purchased from the Trenholme family.

All three sons attended Beaumont Grade School and went on to graduate from Benson Tech, where they enjoyed playing football and serving as Rose Festival drivers. Pat and Betty were pleased that their sons all obtained college degrees and married well.

Even though Mike, Tim and Kelly raised their own families in other parts of Portland,

See **Sweeneys** page 4

Calendar

Monday, October 14, 7:30pm
BWNA General Meeting*
Bethany Lutheran, NE 37th & Skidmore

Friday, November 8
Deadline for articles & ads for
Dec/Jan Beaumont Wilshire newsletter

Monday, November 11, 7:30 pm
BWNA Board Meeting
Bethany Lutheran, NE 37th & Skidmore

Monday, December 9, 7:30pm
BWNA General Meeting*
Bethany Lutheran, NE 37th & Skidmore

**GENERAL MEETINGS are held on the second Monday in each of the following months: February, April, June, October, and December. All Beaumont Wilshire residents are welcome.*

Artists put output online

www.bwna.org/artspace.html

BY MARGARET DAVIS

Other neighborhoods may have their First and Last Thursday celebrations, which serve to promote and unveil artists' work, but residents of Beaumont-Wilshire can witness their neighbors' creativity with a simple click of the mouse.



"Gathering Moss," Photo by Rita Catapano

Mario Caoile, webmaster for the BWNA site and an artist himself, created the 'Artspace' feature a few months ago on the neighborhood association's website because he saw that "Alberta Street had its great art thing, but we didn't have anything like it here." From the start he wanted to concentrate on presenting the artwork instead of conducting commerce: "It's totally an online thing. We don't take any commissions, and it's a free service to artists."

The site at **www.bwna.org** now features ten artists, from airbrush painters and sculptors to muralists and bookbinders. Caoile welcomes the submissions of more artists—the only caveat being that they reside or work within the BWNA boundaries—as well

See **Artists** page 4

Architect Cavenaugh, guest speaker

Monday, Oct 14, 7:30pm
Bethany Lutheran Church
NE 37th & Skidmore



Kevin Cavenaugh is the guest speaker at the Oct 14 general meeting. Kevin will discuss his most recent building at NE Fremont and 45th and also talk about some other sites on Fremont which he may be developing.

The Board will also present the results of the neighborhood survey, which went out to residents in the June/July newsletter. Come and hear what is of the highest concern to residents and be ready to discuss what actions the neighborhood should take to implement solutions to these concerns.

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Helen Koba & Mario Caoile 288-2568
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Jeanne Federovitch 460-9055
Newsletter Distribution

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Newsletter Editors

BWNA residents are encouraged to submit articles to this newsletter. Articles should be limited to 350 words and may be subject to editing. Send articles and ads to mc-hk@msn.com or 4025 NE Shaver, 97212. Website: www.bwna.org

Ad Rates: Business card size (3½ x 2 inches), $35 per issue or $180 for six issues. Other sizes can be accommodated. 503-288-2568, mc-hk@msn.com

Please send other BWNA correspondence to Melissa Ritter, 3143 NE 45th Ave, 97213, or email rittermg@attbi.com

BWNA is one of eight neighborhood associations that are part of CNN (Central Northeast Neighbors) Coalition. 5540 NE Sandy Blvd. 823-3156. Email: cnn123@teleport.com. Web: cnn.citysearch.com

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President's Message



by Melissa G. Ritter

Because of changes in her work responsibilities, Debra Kennedy has resigned as President of the Beaumont Wilshire Neighborhood Association. On September 9, 2002, the Members of the Board appointed me President, and I want to take this opportunity to introduce myself. My full name is Melissa Gronquist Ritter, and like many Portlanders, I come from Swedish stock. I grew up on Portland's west side, but I am thrilled to be living here in the NE now. In fact, I love our neighborhood! I think it's great that we can walk to so many unique shops and restaurants. I jog in Wilshire Park and I am always impressed by the size of the trees. Professionally, I am a teacher and education policy expert, but I am currently a stay-at-home mom to my 1 ½ year-old son. My husband, Tripp, is a marketing analyst. We enjoy hiking, camping, and other outdoor activities. We also love to read, and our house is filled with books!

My personal goal as president of BWNA is to foster a spirit of community. We do that through new neighbor packets, this newsletter, and various charitable and fun-oriented events throughout the year. I encourage you to get involved in one of our many projects. However, I believe we also need to reach out as individuals. Summer is a time when many families move, and I know we now have lots of new neighbors. I urge you to introduce yourself to the people who live close to you, whether they just moved in or have been here fifty years. It's never too late, and everyone likes to be welcomed! As a community, we'll be safer and happier when we know each other and know what's happening on our blocks. It makes me feel good to walk down Fremont and hear people greet each other, and I hope this Halloween there will be lots of lights on as I take my son for his first trick-or-treating. Enjoy the season. I can't wait to meet those of you I haven't met yet.

VISIT the Beaumont Wilshire website @ www.bwna.org
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Another fun annual picnic

by Diane Charlton



Neighbors dig in

The National Night Out/Beaumont-Wilshire picnic on August 6th was once again a huge success. Over 250 neighbors and friends consumed over 100 pounds of meat and Garden burgers, about 120 square feet of delicious salads and deserts, and over 25 gallons of sodas. Papa Murphy's provided pizza staight from their portable oven. There weren't many leftovers at the end of the evening.

Two people who should take big bows this year are Jose Escobar and my husband, Baer Charlton, for their great efforts in both organizing the picnic and gathering an impressive quantity of great door prizes from local businesses. Thank you to all the volunteers who made it the event of the summer. If you didn't go this year, don't miss the 2003 picnic.

We were also thrilled to have a great turn-out from city officials. It is not often that kids and adults get to sit in a real fire truck and get their pictures taken. What memories! And the fire hats for the kids were a great touch! Look for a few 'firefighters' this Halloween. Portland Police officers also were in attendance, arriving in several squad cars and explaining to kids how their computers work. Even the battalion chief showed up and enjoyed sampling some of the great food. The firefighters and police were heard to say that they had to pace themselves because they were due at several other National Night Out events that evening.

It was a great time for all. And as the coals died down and the silence settled in among the trees, we were already looking towards next year's event. Jose and Carrie Escobar have just moved from BW, so there's a vacancy on the Beaumont Wilshire Board for a leader for next year's picnic. Contact any board member, or attend the next meeting on Oct. 14.



Kids confer about pizza

*** To view photos from the picnic check BWNA photos page, 2002 Annual Picnic at* **www.bwna.org**

Papa Murphy's
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NE 41st 281-6833
NE 71st 287-5520

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neighbor

(n ā 'b ə r)

n.

One who lives near or next to another.
A person, place, or thing adjacent to or located near another.
A fellow human.

I am one.

Have you noticed that as property values have gone up in our *neighborhood*, suddenly everyone with a real estate license is claiming to be a Beaumont Village expert? Ironically few of them actually live in the *neighborhood*. I do. I have for years, and I love working with my *neighbors*. If you're looking to buy or sell a home in the *neighborhood,* or even find out what your current home might be worth, please contact me. I'd love to help.



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Recent photo of the Sweeneys

Sweeneys

Continued from p. 1

it was a family tradition to meet at Grandma and Grandpa's on Halloween to enjoy pizza. Following came trick-or-treating in this neighborhood that was preferred for its safety and friendly families.

Pat Sweeney has been retired from the phone company since 1983. Betty retired from substitute teaching in about 1985. They have stayed on here because they appreciate the friendliness of their neighbors and the pride that is shown in keeping up properties. Also the proximity of stores, good schools, and small businesses is important to them. When asked where they want to live during the "autumn" of their years, Pat and Betty were adamant and unanimous: "Right here!"

Artists

Continued from p. 1



A watercolor by Eric Aust

as any suggestions on how to improve the site.

Adrienne Fritze, an artist whose sculptural boxes are featured in Artspace, explains: "I chose to post the work to get it out of my head and heart and into the world where it actually has some impact on how people experience and live their lives." Painter Eric Aust, who has watercolors of area homes on the site, says, "It's a great option to get your work seen by more people."

Photographer Rita Catapano adds, "I view it as an opportunity to get feedback from the public. I would be thrilled if people like my work. If somebody liked it enough to purchase a photo, I would be even more thrilled." Each artist's space within the site includes contact information. People who wish to purchase art can contact the artists directly.



"Daisy in Grass," by David Friedman

Many of the artists involved said a bonus of the site is that it raises awareness of the wide variety of work created by the residents of a relatively small neighborhood.

Beaumont Wilshire may not have mobbed art openings, but it does brim with creativity. With Artspace, all that's missing is the wine and cheese.

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Land-use committee activities

By Heidi Blischke

The land-use committee did not meet over the summer, however we did provide input to the development plans for the cemetery. We recommended that the bureau implement the plans for a sidewalk and landscaping along the west side of the cemetery during the first phase of development.

The City of Portland has the task of improving their land-use and building code regulations, regulatory-related procedures and costs, and customer services. It is seeking to build a more effective approach to regulatory improvement. As a part of their outreach, they invited a land-use committee representative from each neighborhood to a meeting on July 30, 2002 to provide input. I attended for B-W. Land-use is a very important issue to our neighborhood especially with the expectations of increased development along Freemont Street. I reported that our neighborhood is in the beginning stages of creating a Neighborhood Plan with a design overlay and we are interested in having a plan that will influence future development in B-W.



The following concerns were also voiced at the meeting:

- Infrastructure must be a precursor to development
- Neighborhoods have a difficult time getting the same response from different city bureaus
- There is no current method to get neighborhood needs heard and met
- Neighborhood Plans should address design and should have influence
- Neighborhoods do not hear about development until planning is far underway (i.e. too late to affect change)

City meetings will resume this fall. We have a lot of work to do, and invite your input. During the Freemont Fest and picnic we heard from a few people who are interested in participating on the land use committee and will call those who have shown interest prior to our next meeting. If you are interested and have not talked to anyone on the committee, please let me know and I will include you. You can e-mail me at trekkers@aracnet.com or call me at 503-280-0133.

Exotic animals delight young and old

By Helen Koba



Thanks to Bethany Lutheran church, the Zoo Animal Presenters (ZAP) team paid another visit to our neighborhood and brought with them some exotic and some not so exotic animals. Ready to be petted, stroked and gawked at were: a Madagascar hissing cockroach, an Australian walking stick, a Muscovey duck, a domestic rabbit, a blue-tongued skink and a desert tortoise.

To get a glimpse of these animals and the people who enjoyed them, view the ZAP photos on **www.bwna.org**, photos page. Thanks to Bill Markwart for getting a photo of the skink's blue tongue. Great job, Bill! Watch the newsletter and the website for the date of the next visit by the ZAP team, which is planned for later this year.

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Local basketcases make good

BY DIANE CHARLTON



The first time Carrie Escobar heard about Longaberger® baskets she was hooked. She attended a party hosted by Beaumont Wilshire neighbor, Jan Stephens, who has been buying their baskets for 20 years. Carrie felt immediately connected to Longaberger's unique history and USA made extraordinary quality craftsmanship.

Carrie became a Longaberger® sales consultant in July 2001 and by December was a Management Bound Advisor with 3 reps under her. She went to the company's Ohio headquarters (a building shaped like a giant basket) and met Tami Longaberger. Carrie is an Ohio native and still has family there so she enjoys visiting the headquarters and attending sales conferences.

Carrie and Jan both say you can't fully appreciate how beautiful and functional a basket can be until you see a Longaberger basket and hear the story of this unique family run business. I'm glad I attended one of Carrie and Jan's parties and purchased some baskets. They are exquisite and true heirlooms. To see for yourself, call Carrie at 503-282-4156 or Jan at 503-282-7664. Carrie and her husband, Jose, work at Windermere Realty and volunteered often to better our neighborhood. Jose was co-chair of our annual "National Night Out" picnic this year.

Englewood Christian Church
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Bible School 9:30 a.m.
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Tree planting in Spring

by Eileen Stark

BWNA participates in a Friends of Trees planting every two years. If you missed the one that took place March 2002 and can't wait until 2004, there will be an opportunity for Concordia and Beaumont Wilshire residents to plant trees **March 15, 2003**. Residents can obtain trees for parking strips or private yards at greatly reduced cost from retail prices.

If you are interested in obtaining a tree **please return this form by October 31**. A city forester will inspect your parking strip and, following the inspection, you will be provided with tree choices (if you would like a yard tree, a list of choices will also be provided). Holes for the trees will be pre-dug and volunteers will help plant the trees on March 15. You must pay for your tree(s), which start at $60, but don't send money now. You are strongly encouraged to help with the planting in any way you can.



If you would like to volunteer during or after planting day and/or would like to donate money to Friends of Trees, please return the form below. Planting trees is easy, fun and incredibly rewarding! Get involved in the neighborhood and become part of the planting team.

Please call or e-mail Eileen Stark at 503-528-8172 or secondnaturedesign@attbi.com

TREE PLANTING



Return this by October 31, 2002 to:
Tree Planting, c/o 3820 NE Wistaria Drive, Portland, OR 97212

Name_____

Address_____

Zip_____ E-mail_____

Phone (day) _____ (eve) _____

____I am interested in a tree for my ___ parking strip / ____ yard

____I'd like a tree but have questions/concerns. Please contact me.

____I want to volunteer! Please contact me.

____I will contribute $____ to assist

(Make out checks to **Friends of Trees)**



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Announcements

Public hearings on Urban Growth Boundary

METRO will hold seven public hearings regarding the Urban Growth Boundary in October 2002. Send comments to ugb@metro.dist.or.us or questions to 2040@metro-region.org or call 503-797-1838. The last hearing will take place **Oct. 29, 2002** at the Portland Council Chamber 1221 SW 4th, Portland. Everyone's input is important.

Church Bazaars

- **Saturday November 2, 9 – 3 pm**

Bethany Lutheran Church Women's Annual Bazaar
—Crafts, baked goods, lunch. All proceeds to benefit charitable organizations. 4330 NE 37 at Skidmore.



- **Saturday November 9, 10 – 4 pm**

Wilshire United Methodist Church.
—Lunch at noon, crafts and other treats
3917 NE Shaver at 39th.

Neighborhood Traffic Safety Summit

November 9, 2002, 9 – 11:30 am
Benson High School, 546 NE 12th
The goal is for community representatives to partner with the city in implementing traffic safety initiatives such as safe routes to school, community policing, traffic enforcement, speed bump programs, education initiatives and safety funding.

Antique Appraisal



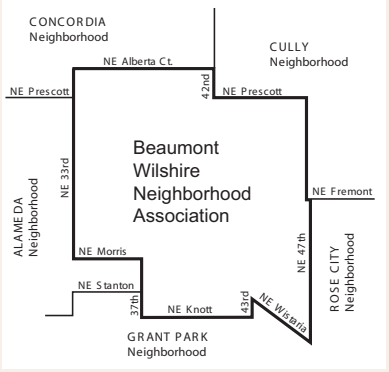
Oct. 19, 2002, 1 – 3 pm
Wilshire United Methodist Church, 3917 NE Shaver, 503-287-6526.
Tara Goodman, a Sotheby's trained and certified appraiser, will be on hand togive you information about your family treasures. Fees for small to medium items: 1 item $3, 2 items $6, 3 items $8. You may also bring photos of larger items. Refreshments will be available. All proceeds benefit mission projects.

Saint Charles annual spaghetti & meatball dinner

Sunday, Nov. 3, 12 noon – 6:30 pm
St Charles Church, NE 42nd at Emerson
Adults $8, Children $4
Dinner includes salad, garlic bread, dessert and beverage. Take out service available.

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All residents, property owners, government agencies, business licensees, and non-profit organizations located within the boundaries of the Beaumont Wilshire Neighborhood Association may consider themselves members of BWNA. Membership is free. Members are welcome to attend any BWNA business meeting.

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