BEAUMONT-WILSHIRE
Beaumont-Wilshire Neighborhood Association www.bwna.us January • February 2010

WP Price Tax & Accounting Services

By Dan K. Johnson

Will Price and his family moved to 44th and Klickitat in the summer of 2008. Before moving to our neighborhood, they owned a bakery in Overlook. Will loves living in the Beaumont-Wilshire neighborhood with the ability to walk to his favorite shops and restaurants. This kind of accessibility has really increased the amount of time that he can devote to fun family things… and being able to walk to his office isn't bad either!

Will's office is located at 43rd and Fremont in the Columbia Plaza office building. He is an Enrolled Agent, which is a federally authorized tax practitioner with technical expertise in the field of taxation. He is empowered by the US Department of the Treasury to represent taxpayers before all administrative levels of the IRS for audits, collections, and appeals. Will is also licensed as a Tax Consultant with the Oregon Board of Tax Practitioners.

"My practice is focused on self-employment and small businesses services" describes Will, and "my clients operate in a diverse range of industries, including medical, food service, creative design, auto repair, real estate sales, professional service, and merchandising to name several". As an owner/practitioner, Will provides a very high level of service and attention to his client's tax and business affairs.

Over the past 11 years, Will has wholly owned or held interests in companies operating in the franchising, automotive repair, food service, and professional service industries. His business experience enables him to understand his clients' tax and business situations thoroughly. This thorough understanding of a business and its operations is his passion. Helping individuals to develop and grow their business enterprises is a very rewarding activity. Will's business clients have his cell phone number and they talk often.

Will is a big believer in leveraging technology to deliver large firm service to small business at a price point that fits their budget. He offers accounting and payroll services that are custom tailored to integrate with his client's business operations.Whether you would like a complete virtual office hosted on his servers or just email him a QuickBooks file once a quarter for review and processing, he can build an accounting and reporting system that will meet your needs. For more information, feel free to contact Will at will@wpricetax.com or call 503.525.2985.

Albina Community Bank Providing Small Business Loans

To Create and Maintain Local Jobs

By Susan Beall

Small businesses are the building blocks of healthy neighborhoods, and investing in these businesses and the jobs and wealth they inspire in Portland has long been a focus of Albina Community Bank. Since tracking began in 2002, Albina has lent over $500 million to individuals, businesses and projects in Portland. In the last 6 years alone, Albina has assisted in the creation of 550 jobs, while helping to maintain another 4,186 jobs in local neighborhoods.


Jackie A Safko

As many larger banks in the market have decreased lending opportunities for small businesses, Albina is doing everything they can to support local businesses during these challenging economic times. "As a bank that was founded with a mission to help inspire jobs and opportunities for businesses and neighborhoods in Portland, providing Small Business Administration (SBA) America's Recovery Capital (ARC) loans for customers willing to establish a full banking relationship with Albina felt right, even though the bank collects no additional fee income from these loans," stated Cheryl Cebula, Albina President and Chief Operating Officer.

The ARC Loan program provides viable small businesses with financial relief from current financial hardships in order to help keep their business open. Viable businesses, as defined by the SBA, are existing businesses that have a history of profitability and can demonstrate they can remain so with the aid of an ARC loan. The loans provide up to $35,000 at 0% interest to cover non-SBA principle and interest debt payments for the borrower for up to six months, and provide a 12-month deferral period after the six-month disbursement.

Albina was the first Oregon bank to disburse on an ARC loan. Since the SBA introduced the program in June 2009, Albina has completed 42 of the total 60 ARC Loans approved in the SBA's Oregon/Southwest Washington district. The bank also offers other SBA loans, and is the #2 SBA lender in the district.

For more information about ARC loans or Albina's complete array of business products and services, please contact Jackie Safko at Albina's Beaumont Office, located at 4020B NE Fremont Ave., or call 503-445-8720. With over 10 years experience at a larger bank, "being able to personally work with clients, building relationships, and providing the right banking fit for them is my favorite thing about working at Albina," stated Ms. Safko.



President's Message

New Year, New Hope

By Al Ellis

What a seesaw year 2009 was! Economic meltdown followed by Wall Street bounceback, Obama's storybook inauguration followed by Obama's decline in popularity, Blazers high hopes followed by Blazers injury-induced disappointments…and the pendulum kept swinging. But locally, here in the Beaumont-Wilshire (BW) neighborhood, things weren't so volatile. In fact, comparatively, one might say it was downright calm! And frankly, that's what many of us like so much about living here--relative stability and sameness: Security-wise, police officers continue to report on the low BW crime rate compared with other NE neighborhoods; Recreation-wise, even in the dead of winter, joggers are jogging, dogs are scampering, parents are strolling, cyclists are whizzing by; and despite the "Great Recession," stores and eating establishments on Fremont St. and 42nd Ave.-- some new, some old--continue to bustle with patrons. It's heartening to see such "bend-but-not-break" resilience and vitality in our community.

But how does the neighborhood association fit into this rosy picture? Certainly not as an agent of complacency. With its mission to improve and enhance the livability of the neighborhood, status quo is not an option for Beaumont-Wilshire Neighborhood Association (BWNA).

Accordingly, the BWNA Board is looking forward in 2010 to making life better for its residents in three main areas: Safety issues (e.g., traffic calming, coyote monitoring, graffiti cleanup); community service projects (e.g., Beaumont Middle School, Wilshire Park, Taste of Beaumont); and communication initiatives (e.g., Newsletter outreach, Web site expansion, and member recruitment).

BWNA is only as effective as the participation of its residents. My hope for this new year is that, despite our neighborhood's many positives, you will consider becoming actively involved to help effect benefical changes. Better yet, why not add serving on the BWNA Board to your list of New Year's resolutions?! There are vacant positions just waiting to be filled, and I'd be happy to oblige. Cheers!

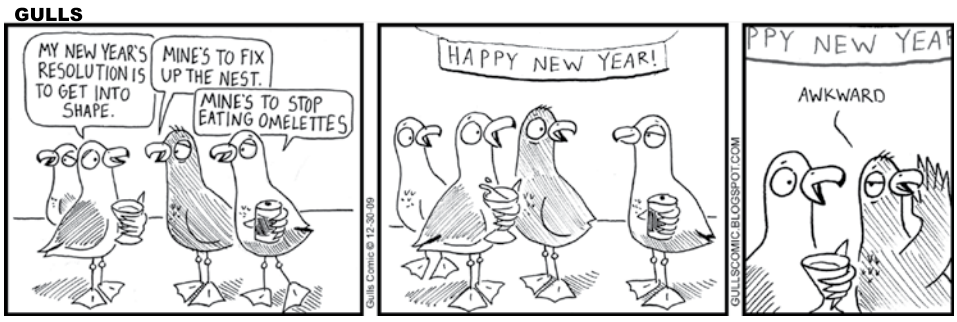
Calendar

Monday, January 11th • 7:30pm
BWNA Board Meeting
Bethany Lutheran Church, Fellowship Hall
NE Skidmore Entrance

Monday, **February 8th** • 7:30PM
BWNA Community Meeting
Bethany Lutheran Church, Conference Room
NE 37th Entrance

Friday, February 12th
Deadline for ads and articles
for the March-April 2010 newsletter

BWNA's calendar is on the web!
Go to www.bwna.us and select BWNA Calendar



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American Lung Association of Oregon Sponsors Radon Information Presentations in Northeast Portland

By Emily Townsend

January is Portland Radon Action Month. Considering nearly half Northeast Portland homes have indoor radon levels above the Environmental Protection Agency recommended action level; the American Lung Association of Oregon and radon expert Don Francis of EcoTech are offering free presentations about radon. The presentation will include the following: what is radon; where does radon come from; how to test for radon, and how to fix a home with a radon problem.

Attend a presentation at:

- Beaumont Wilshire Neighborhood Association general meeting February 8th 7:30PM. Bethany Lutheran Church, 4330 NE 37th Ave.
- Public Presentation, Tuesday, January 19th from 7-8 PM. East Portland Neighborhood Office 1017 NE 117 (On the corner of 117 and Holliday).
- Public Presentation, Wednesday February 3rd 7-8 PM. McMenamins Kennedy School Community Room, 5736 NE 33rd Ave.

Radon is the leading cause of lung cancer in non-smokers in the U.S., responsible for an estimated 22,000 lung cancer deaths every year Therefore, the American Lung Association and the EPA recommend that every home be tested for radon, previously tested homes should be re-tested if they have been remodeled or weatherized. Testing for radon is easy and inexpensive.
Test your home yourself with a $14.00 EPA approved kit from the American Lung Association. www.lungoregon.org/air/Radon.html.
Learn more about EcoTech and radon mitigation at www.oregonradon.com.

FAST RADON FACTS:

Radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas.

Rocks and soil containing granite are the primary local sources of radon.

Radon cannot be seen, smelled or sensed in any way.

The only documented health impact of radon is lung cancer.

An estimated 22,000 people die each year of radon caused lung cancer.

Radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer and the leading cause of lung cancer in non-smokers.

There is no established safe level of radon – the lower the level, the lower the risk.

Radon is measured in pico curies per liter of air – expressed as pCi/L.

The EPA recommends that people not have a long-term exposure to radon of more than 4 pCi/L.

One year of radon exposure at 4 pCi/L is the equivalent health risk of 300 chest x-rays.

Half the homes in many Portland & Vancouver neighborhoods have radon levels exceeding 4 pCi/L.

Workplaces and schools can also have high radon levels.

EPA, Surgeon General, American Medical Association and the America Lung Association recommend that every home in the USA should be tested for radon.

Radon testing is affordable – less that $40 for a short-term home test kit.

Radon testing should be part of every home inspection – professional measurements cost $150 - $200.

Homes with high radon concentrations can be fixed – usually for less than $2,000.

Most of the 22,000 radon caused lung cancer deaths each year are preventable.

Adoption Mosaic

By Kelly Jeske

Adoption Mosaic is a Portland nonprofit organization that provides support and resources to all people who are touched by adoption. Adoption Mosaic is not a placement agency. Adoption Mosaic's mission is to connect, honor and serve the adoption community through innovative education, practices, and support services Adoption Mosaic serves all members of the adoption constellation. This includes adoptees, adoptive parents, birth parents, extended family and friends, adoption professionals, and other members of our community.

With creative programming, Adoption Mosaic reaches out to the diverse adoption community and provides support and resources intended to foster a healthy lifelong adoption experience. With dynamic workshops, movie discussion groups, youth groups, and special events, Adoption Mosaic brings together members of the adoption constellation to share, connect and grow together. Some examples of Adoption Mosaic's ongoing workshops include: Adoption Readiness, Transracial Parenting, African American Hair Care, What and When: Talking About Adoption With Your Child, and Strengthening Attachment With Your Child. Adoption Mosaic also presents speaker's panels, like the Transracial Adult Adoptee Panel, movie discussion groups specifically for adult adoptees and those open to the larger community, and groups for adopted youth. Adoption Mosaic is committed to providing services for all people influenced by adoption and is actively working to expand resources and services for adoptees and birth/first parents.

In addition to in-person programs, Adoption Mosaic also provides a lively virtual gathering place for dialogue and learning. Adoption Mosaic's website boasts an active blog, an online newsletter and an extensive resource library. The website is the go-to place to learn about Adoption Mosaic's organization and leadership, current programs, and resources.
Please visit www.adoptionmosaic.org to learn more and to become involved.

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Ad Rates: Business card size (3½ x 2 inches), $90 for 3 issues or $180 for 6 issues.

Please send other correspondence to
Al Ellis 503.287.0477 or ApeLainJoy@aol.com
BWNA is part of Central Northeast Neighbors.
4415 NE 87th Avenue. 503.823.3156.
Email: cnnoutreach@teleport.com
Url: http://cnncoalition.org

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

By Rebecca Roberts Galloway

Last October, my family and I moved to the Beaumont-Wilshire community from Willow Glen (San Jose), California. We loved the neighborhood and found it very similar to our old one ... older homes, beautiful trees, walkable neighborhood, nice neighbors. But what we didn't have any more was a lengthy list of plumbers, electricians, etc. that we'd built up and come to rely on there.

After a year or so, I decided it was time to get some maintenance done on our furnace and had no idea where to turn. My husband suggested that there was probably an email list just like the one we had previously in Willow Glen. Sure enough, he was right, and in one day, I joined, sent an email, and got a quick reply with a recommendation for a furnace guy. He came the next day and was honest and $29 less than other folks I had called.

I sent more emails. I got recommendations for handymen and information about Radon with more referrals. With an out-of-state landlord, we were thrilled to get first-hand advice from our "virtual" neighbors on who to trust, what they charged, etc.

You can find information about the Beaumont-Wilshire neighborhood and email list in the bi-monthly newsletter or look online at the www.bwna.us website where there is a link to subscribe to the email list so you can connect also… http://bwna.us/mailman/listinfo/bwna_bwna.us.

Beaumont Artspace on Facebook

By Helen Koba

If you have ever checked out the Beaumont-Wilshire website www.bwna.us, you know that there is page dedicated to artists who live in or close to the BW neighborhood. The group calls itself Beaumont Artspace and currently has nineteen members. You can also see samples of each artist's work on the website.



"Fountain" small mask
by Brita Gould



"Callas on Red" painting
by Zdena Antonia

The group meets monthly and occasionally has group shows. In 2009 they had a show at Blackbird Wine Shop on NE Fremont and at Taborspace on SE Belmont.

Artspace now has its own page on Facebook and if you have a Facebook account, you can be a 'fan' of Beaumont Artspace. This allows you to check out what they are up to and who is having a show where. Search for 'Beaumont Artspace' on Facebook.

Be sure to check both Facebook and the website www.bwna.us/artspace to learn more about your neighborhood artists.

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Relying on the Kindness of Strangers

By Ashley… Translated by Eileen Stark

You might already know me, but if not, I'm Ashley (named after a southern fellow in some old movie), but you can also call me Ash. I'm the big grey tabby on Wistaria Drive between 38th & 39th. I insist on going outside because it's what I've always done, even though my mom worries constantly about cars (slow down!) and other things and says "all future cats will be indoor-only"—glad I'm not a 'future cat'! I like people, parties, yard sales and playing with kids and (some) dogs. Did I mention parties?



I'm from Buras, Louisiana, where Katrina first hit land in late August '05. I got left behind with the nasty waves and wind but hung on for dear life. Later there were smelly dead things lying about and I survived by eating whatever wasn't too icky. In October some National Guards started feeding me and one day two nice ladies came and fed me again. Then they whisked me into a cage and drove me to a clinic in New Orleans where I spent the night with lots more stuff to eat. The next day they stuck me in a tiny cage (I was emaciated then, so fit sort of ok) and one of the ladies put me under a seat on a plane. I stayed in that little box for over ten hours and didn't utter a meow! Finally we got to PDX and the lady lifted me up to her face to say nice things. When I started purrin' she started cryin' and I knew I had found a home.

I'm writing to ask you to think about kitties much less fortunate than me. I heard that in 2008, Multnomah County Animal Services (MCAS) took in 5,063 cats but only 1,635 were adopted, returned to their guardians or transferred to other shelters. My math is bad, but this sounds horrible! During "kitten season" this shelter, alone, gets an average of 22 cats every day.

Cats taken to MCAS are generally free-roaming cats, often the result of abandonment. Ferals (those who became feral as adults or kittens born to feral parents) face certain death because they aren't socialized/adoptable. That's why the Feral Cat Coalition of Oregon (FCCO), a non-profit "dedicated to the humane treatment of feral cats and the prevention of future generations through spay/neuter programs and education," is working with MCAS to educate people about trap, neuter, release (TNR), which decreases the heart-breaking number of unwanted, homeless cats who are killed or have to live outdoors in all sorts of terrible weather. Every day is a struggle to survive for most of these usually short-lived cats who die painfully. Euthanasia is often the most humane thing, but it's much better not to bring them into the world in the first place.

For cats needing TNR, FCCO provides the surgery. If you know someone feeding non-altered feral cats, please put them in touch with FCCO. They provide an indispensable service and are funded solely by donations: http://feralcats.com.

If you're ever in my neighborhood, I'd be thrilled to meet you! If you like me, you may want kitties of your own, so please adopt from a shelter. And if you want to invite me to a party, I'd be much obliged.

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Alameda Graffiti

By Erica Perez

On Feb. 20, 2010 at 5:30 p.m., please join us for Alameda Elementary School's annual auction: Alameda Graffiti. Held at the Columbia Convention Center, adjacent to the airport Holiday Inn, guests will roll back the clocks to a time of hot rods, cool cats, cute chicks and rock-and-roll. This event will feature a silent auction, dinner, a live auction and dancing. Funds raised will secure funding for additional school staff and a new playground structure. Neighborhood businesses and residents can participate via sponsorship, donations or attendance! Call Chris Wiegand at 503.284.7069 or visit www.alamedaschool.org/auction for more information.

RNRC4G ROCK 'N' ROLL CAMP FOR GIRLS

Contact: Marisa Anderson
Marisa@girlsrockcamp.org, 503.445.4991

ROCK 'N' ROLL CAMP FOR GIRLS ANNOUNCES DECEMBER SHOWCASE CONCERT AND SIGN UPS NOW OPEN FOR WINTER TERM OF GIRLS ROCK INSTITUTE

PORTLAND, ORE – December 7, 2009 - The Rock n Roll Camp for Girls, a non-profit that builds self-esteem through music creation and performance, will be presenting a Showcase Concert of original work by 10 bands. All bands are made up of girls ages 8-18 who have been attending Girl Rock Institute, the after school program of the Rock Camp. The concert will be at 6PM on December 18 at Disjecta, 8371 North Interstate Avenue.

The Girls Rock Institute is also now accepting applications for Winter Rock Block. Starting January 5, 2010, Rock Block is a weekly class for girls age 8-18 to learn instruments and play in bandsAll girls are welcome; no experience is necessary.

Tuition for camp is $250, and all proceeds support the Rock n Roll Camp for Girls. Financial aid is available for any girl who needs it. All levels of musical skill and experience are welcome at the camp.

Girls Rock Institute (GRI) offers a safe place for girls to explore their creative side and develop their technical, musical and leadership skills. GRI provides weekly instruction and technical training, encouraging the development of life skills, creating leadership opportunities and providing girls with a supportive community of peers and mentors.

About Rock n Roll Camp for Girls The Rock 'n' Roll Camp for Girls, a 501(c)3 non-profit, builds girls self-esteem through music creation and performance.

For more information visit:
http://www.girlsrockcamp.org/programs/girls-rock-institute

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Beaumont History Series December 2009

by Doug Decker

The next three editions of the newsletter will feature short stories about neighborhood history written by local historian Doug Decker. The first article focuses on our name. The second article describes the early advertising campaign that promoted Beaumont. The final article focuses on early development of Beaumont School.

Ever think about how the neighborhood came to be known as Beaumont? There are some interesting theories that have been kicked around over the years, including one story that it's named after a close friend of one of the early developers.

The first and mainstream story comes from the authoritative source on Portland historic names Eugene E. Snyder, who writes the following in his book Portland Names & Neighborhoods—Their Historic Origins:

"…it means 'beautiful mountain' in French. The neighborhood, northeast of Alameda, though hardly 'a mountain,' is slightly elevated, and the developers wanted to call attention to that desirable feature."

The backstory behind the neighborhood name came to light in an article written for the real estate pages of The Oregonian, on April 10, 1910, not long after the original neighborhood was platted. Under the headline "New Addition's Cause of Worry Congnomen is Always reported that to Owner," the story the neighborhood developer, the giant Columbia Trust Company, held a banquet for its employees and called a vote on several possible names. The official favorite, backed by the company and probably hard to say no to for the rank and file employees, was Verona Heights, named for the company president's sister.



Must have been a private ballot, because (thankfully) Verona Heights lost by a landslide to the "beautiful mountain." Think about that the next time you drive, ride or walk uphill into the neighborhood.

To read more about neighborhood history, or to suggest a history topic, visit Doug's website at www.alamedahistory.org

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Neighbors respond to proposed cell tower

By Anne Trudeau

In late November a few Beaumont-Wilshire residents received a flyer about a December 7th community meeting regarding a proposed Clearwire cell tower installation at 37th and Fremont.

Although the city postponed the official meeting, over twenty neighborhood residents arrived at Beaumont School December 7th, most voicing strong opposition to the tower. Two Pacific Power employees attended.

The cell tower installation process involves Clearwire, Pacific Power, the City of Portland, the landowner where the pole is sited, and neighborhood residents. Legally, Clearwire is required to hold a public meeting before installation and notify all residents within 400 feet of the proposed pole.

Keith Terry, a Pacific Power employee who has been working on pole design for the past year, explained that cell towers often share existing utility poles. Equipment is enclosed in metal poles which can reach sixty feet. Site selection considers traffic and proximity to residential areas.

Ric Bernat opposes the installation and set up a website to inform residents. The site (www.healthybw.org) includes research about reduced property values and negative health effects for people living near cell and other wireless facilities.

Last year, Bernat filed a formal appeal to the City Zoning Board aganst the cell phone tower on Beaumont School. His appeal lost, but Portland Public Schools subsequently decided not to install wireless antennas on any schools.

Several people agreed to talk to the owners of Wilshire Market and Deli, the site of the proposed tower, and explain neighbors' concerns about Clearwire equipment.

A public meeting arranged by Kevin Martin (on behalf of Clearwire) will be at Beaumont Middle School on Wednesday, January 13th beginning at 6:30PM and will be chaired by BWNA President Al Ellis. Use entrance doors on the north side of the school (by the parking lot adjacent to 42nd avenue) and proceed to the library, located near the main office (on the first floor).

For more information:

- BWNA President president@bwna.us
- City of Portland Office of Cable franchiseinfo@ci.portland.or.us
- Commissioner Amanda Fritz Amanda@ci.portland.or.us
- www.healthybw.org

General Meeting to Focus on Neighborhood Awareness

by Al Ellis

A primary function of BWNA is to serve as a conduit for the dissemination of information vital to our residents. Thus, at our upcoming General Meeting on Monday, February 8th, three very different topics of importance to the neighborhood will be discussed: crime, the census, and radon contamination.

Local police will begin with a report on incidents of crime--not only in the BW neighborhood, but in adjacent neighborhoods as well. This will be followed by Buena Price from the U.S. Census Bureau with a presentation on what to expect beginning in March when census-takers walk the neighborhood gathering population data--a process that very well could result in the addition of a US representative to Oregon's congressional delegation. The evening will conclude with some unsettling, but sage advice on how detection and mitigation of high levels of radon in homes--especially in the BW-Alameda Ridge area--can save lives. Representing EcoTech and the American Lung Association of Oregon, Don Francis will provide technical explanations and personal stories about the danger of radon exposure and ways to combat it. A question-and-answer session will follow each presentation.

As always, you are encouraged to express your opinions and suggestions on these topics and others affecting our neighborhood. The meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. at Bethany Lutheran Church, on the corner of NE 37th and Skidmore St. (across the street from Wilshire Park). Enter from the Skidmore side of the church and go down the walkway to Fellowship Hall. See you on the second Monday of February!

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