BEAUMONT-WILSHIRE

Beaumont-Wilshire Neighborhood Association (BWNA) www.bwna.us March • April 2011

General Meeting to Feature
"Taste of Beaumont" & Beaumont-Wilshire Neighborhood Association Elections

By Al Ellis

With flowers in bloom and temperatures on the rise, spring is a symbol of renewal and hope. And so it is with Beaumont-Wilshire Neighborhood Association (BWNA) on the second Monday of April, when the best-attended general meeting of the year takes place. The impressive turnout, however, is due more to cullinary and musical artistry than changes in the natural environment. It's the annual Taste of Beaumont/Elections General Meeting, beginning at 6:30PM on April 11th at Bethany Lutheran Church (corner of 37th & Skidmore, across from Wilshire Park) in the basement activity room ("Fellowship Hall").



Monday
April 11th
6:30PM start

So what's the excitement about? How about a free meal, free entertainment, and the opportunity to participate in the selection of BWNA's leadership for the next 12 months?!

The buffet-style dinner consists of cuisine samples from some of our neighborhood's finest eating establishments, with refreshments provided by BWNA and local businesses. Enjoy musical entertainment during dinner from a group of gifted Beaumont Middle School musicians, under the direction of dynamo director Cynthia Plank. Following the meal, a Beaumont-Wilshire-beat police officer reports on the incidence of crime in our neighborhood (usually among the lowest in NE Portland) and fields questions from the audience. The remainder of the evening focuses on business agenda items--first and foremost being the nomination and election of BWNA officers and Board members. With Board vacancies to fill and a vacated Treasurer's position as well, the hope is that neighbors will step forward and volunteer to be nominated. (To qualify as a candidate, one must be a Beaumont-Wilshire resident, available to attend meetings on the second Monday evening of most months, and have a desire to improve and enhance the neighborhood.) Lastly, committee reports concerning ongoing issues and projects are presented, followed by door prize drawings just prior to adjournment.



2010
Beaumont Middle School Small Jazz Combo



2010
"Taste of Beaumont" BWNA General Meeting

With limited seating, a 6:15PM arrival to secure your chair(s) at a table is recommended.

Also, marking April 11th on your calendars now would be a wise move.

See you then!

Youth Run & Walk

By Dan K. Johnson



On Saturday April 23 from 11AM to 2PM at the Fremont Court property at the Corner of NE 41st and Fremont, there will be a youth run & walk to the Northeast Emergency Food Program located at 4800 NE 72nd. The youth groups will go straight up Fremont on the sidewalks to 72nd and turn left for 8 blocks to the food bank location. They will drop off $2 or 2 cans of food and return to Foot Traffic for a party. The party will feature a band, free pizza and hot dogs and fruit and drinks. Youth groups from throughout the city are invited.

Sports Teams, Church Groups, Chess Clubs: All Groups Welcome.

The sponsors include:

Adventure Boot Camp for Women
Albina Community Bank
Foot Traffic
Mountain Shop
Papa Murphy's
Pilot Wealth Management
Pride Financial Partners
Rip City Skate
Therapeutic Associates



President's Message

Purpose and Participation

By Al Ellis

"What exactly do neighborhood associations do, and why should I care?" Although I haven't heard it put quite that way (thankfully), I have run into my share of Portlanders who fit the implied description: never attended a neighborhood association meeting and know little or nothing about how neighborhood associations function. My reaction? Empathy. Fact is, I was that person a little over a decade ago--too busy with my teaching career, too busy raising two daughters, too busy caring for an ailing dad, etc., to allow myself to participate in BWNA--despite the fact that the meetings took place just across the street from my house, that they were held every other month, and, most ironic of all, that I, a social studies teacher by trade, had a professional interest in attending. Nonetheless, it took retirement to push me across the finish line. My wife (still a full-time teacher) and I made our BWNA debut at the annual Taste of Beaumont General Meeting one April, intent on enjoying the delicious cuisine samples, then staying to observe the business meeting afterwards--which mainly involved election of officers and selection of new Board members. What happened next was downright weird: When it seemed that nobody in the room would step forward to fill one of the vacant Board positions, I, inexplicably, raised my hand and volunteered--surprising my wife and myself. But that's how it is for a lot of people: Once at the meeting, the neighborhood spirit takes over. One of the most important challenges for a neighborhood association president is to motivate residents to take an interest in participating--first as regular attendees at general meetings, second as volunteers in neighborhood events and projects, and lastly--vacancies permitting--as Board members. I found that serving on the Board is especially rewarding, because you have a say in setting the agenda, and you're in the thick of the decision-making process. It's also become apparent that one of the best ways to effect change on the local level--be it the need for diagonal parking spaces, traffic calming measures, or even cell tower monitoring--is through a neighborhood united in purpose and working collectively through its neighborhood association. At City Hall, testimony from individual residents is one thing, neighborhood associaton resolutions quite another. There's political strength in numbers and unity, and the BW neighborhood has been a prime example of that. But back to the issue of attendance at meetings. It's no secret that attendance at BWNA gatherings, with the notable exceptions of Taste of Beaumont and the National Night Out Picnic, has been disappointingly low. But we're not the only ones. A couple months ago, neighborhood association presidents began exchanging e-mails concerning low turnouts at meetings and asking each other for advice on how to improve things. One frustrated president lamented that he had "long ago stopped fretting over low attendance," attributing the problem to "a cultural attitude about how to spend one's evening" rather than a failure of neighborhood association outreach efforts. However, most of the others cited successful ploys--from bringing homemade pies...to posting publicity signs around the neighborhood.... to social network promotions on Facebook. As for BWNA, I'm not sure we can deliver on the pies, but our Board members are putting up signs in their yards the week prior to a general meeting, and there's an ongoing project designed to improve communication via our Web site (www.bwna.us) and on Facebook. Most of all, though, we're counting on you, our loyal Newsletter readers, to fill the Fellowship Hall of Bethany Lutheran Church on those second Mondays of even-numbered months. So, now that you know what BWNA does and why it's in your best interest to care, make it simple.

See you at Taste of Beaumont!

Officers & Board Members

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Al Ellis 503.287.0477

Vice-President
Bill Markwart 503.282.4610

Secretary
Jim Karlock 503.284.5644

Treasurer
Dan K. Johnson 503.476.5426

Beaumont Business Association
Kathy Mollere 503.467.8736

Crime Prevention & Foot Patrol
Bill Markwart 503.282.4610

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Colin O'Neill 503.288.8892
Tom Melville 503.267.3848
Michael Rounds 503.936.0740
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BWNA is part of Central Northeast Neighbors.
4415 NE 87th Avenue. 503.823.3156.
Email: cnnoutreach@teleport.com
Url: http://www.cnncoalition.org



What is Your Voice?

Letter from the Editor

By Dan Johnson

Now that American Idol has returned to television for another season, I began to wonder, "What is my voice"? As the show eliminates contestants each week in search of the next amazing undiscovered vocalist, it must first eliminate thousands to reach the top twelve. As the show highlights personal stories of the contestants, you obtain a better understanding of each unique voice. Some voices are loud, some soft. Some high, some low — and some sad. Each contestant has a voice, but not all voices sing well. I was told by a good friend many years ago that, "Everyone has a story to tell, the question is whether we are willing to listen." So what is your voice, and what story do you have to tell?

With the Taste of Beaumont and the Beaumont-Wilshire Neighborhood Association (BWNA) annual elections coming up on April 11th (see page one), there is no better time to let your neighbors and friends hear your voice. The BWNA is the voice of this community. The volunteer board works to keep our neighborhood safe and vibrant. Just as you hear birds chirp and dogs bark when you walk down our sidewalks, your voice should be heard too. The annual elections on April 11th are how I became involved with the BWNA several years ago… and now it's your turn. I'll see you on April 11th, and together we'll taste some great food from local restaurants and elect a few new board members who will continue to develop the BWNA and be the voice for our community.

Join the Beaumont-Wilshire Neighborhood Association Board and make a difference

Project Coyote

By Bob Sallinger

Urban coyotes are all around us. Researchers at Portland State and Alameda Elementary are beginning a study of these coyotes and would welcome your help. If you see a coyote, please report the sighting and share your stories at browerb@pdx.edu . For more information www.projectcoyote.com. You should also report it to the Audubon Society of Portland at 503.292.0304 or bsallinger@audubonportland.org.



BWNA Calendar

Friday, March 11th • 5:00PM – 9:00PM
Second Friday on Fremont
(See page twelve)

Monday, March 14th • 7:00PM
BWNA Board Meeting
Bethany Lutheran Church, Conference Room
NE 37th Entrance

Saturday, March 19th
Friends of Trees Tree Planting
(See page four)

Friday, March 25th
Deadline for ads and articles
for the May-June 2011 newsletter

Friday, April 8th • 5:00PM – 9:00PM
Second Friday on Fremont
(See page twelve)

Monday, April 11th • 6:30PM
BWNA Community Meeting & Taste of Beaumont
Bethany Lutheran Church, Fellowship Hall
NE Skidmore Entrance
(See page one)

Saturday, April 16th • 7:00PM
Wilshire Methodist Church
Native American Flute Concert
(See page eight)

Saturday, April 23rd • 10:30AM
Bethany Church and Community Center
Easter Egg Hunt
(See page nine)

Saturday, April 23rd • 11:00AM – 2:00PM
Youth Run and Walk
(See page one)

Saturday, April 30th • 10:00AM – 3:00PM
Wilshire Methodist Church
Plant and Garden Sale
(See page eight)

Monday, May 9th • 7:00PM
BWNA Board Meeting
Bethany Lutheran Church, Conference Room
NE 37th Entrance

Friday, May 13th • 5:00PM – 9:00PM
Second Friday on Fremont
(See page twelve)

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

TREES NEED YOU ON MARCH 19!

By Eileen Stark

Beaumont-Wilshire will welcome over a hundred new trees to parking strips and yards this year, but they need a little help getting in the ground. Volunteers are needed the morning of Saturday, March 19, when BW teams up with Roseway and Cully neighborhoods for the big planting.

Uncovered pick-up trucks are greatly needed, but there are many other ways to help as well, including joining a planting team, helping with food and refreshments and assisting with mulch and cleanup. If you are available to help or have questions, please email the Beaumont-Wilshire planting coordinators at beaumont-wilshire@plantitportland.org or call 503.467.8545.

Planting trees is treemendously rewarding and a great way to meet your neighbors.
Please join us!

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PDX Nears Final Runway Improvements

By Brooke Berglund

The Port of Portland completed many major projects in 2010 including the extension of the north runway. Many major projects will also be undertaken in 2011. Among the largest and most complex is the reconstruction of the south runway which will complete our three-year runway rehabilitation program.

The south runway reconstruction is scheduled to begin in April and rebuild the existing 11,000-foot runway. Construction activities will require the runway to be closed for the majority of the six month project, resulting in an increased use of the crosswind (north-south) and north runways. During the closure, residents will likely notice changes in flight patterns and aircraft noise in communities north and south of PDX.



The number of flights over the Beaumont-Wilshire neighborhood is anticipated to be similar to what was previously experienced during the two previous construction years. However, a six week period from the middle of July to the end of August will open a portion of the south runway and close the crosswind runway, temporarily lessening flights over the neighborhood.

Port staff have worked with the Federal Aviation Administration air traffic control managers to ensure safe and efficient operations.

The Naga Center

By Nephyr Jacobsen

The Naga Center is a small school of Traditional Thai Massage and Medicine as well as a community Thai massage clinic, located in the Beaumont neighborhood at 44th and Fremont. Thai bodywork is an integral component of the ancient system of traditional Thai medicine. As such, it differs vastly from the western, or Swedish, massage that is commonly known in the U.S. Thai massage is performed on a fully clothed client on a mat on the floor, and is a deeply therapeutic, intensely physical form of bodywork that employs deep compression, point work, passive stretching (like having someone do yoga to you), hot herbal compresses, balms and liniments, percussive beating, fire cupping, and many other tools that encourage healing, opening and soft tissue release.

In addition to teaching Thai massage on a uniquely in-depth level, The Naga Center serves as a clinic where Thai massage is performed by therapists who have studied extensively both at The Naga Center and in Thailand. The clinic offers massage in the traditional manner of clinics in Thailand; a large open room, with several mats, where multiple massage sessions can occur in the same space. In the U.S. massage is generally experienced in small private rooms in a sedative atmosphere. Conversely, in Thailand, massage is expected to be about intensive healing in a social environment.

Every month The Naga Center hosts sliding scale massage clinics for those who may otherwise be unable to schedule sessions, as well as donation based open houses that raise money for local and Thailand-based charities. Those interested in classes or Thai bodywork treatments can find out about open houses, sliding scale clinics, flash specials, Thai movie night and more by visiting their website nagacenter.org, following them on Twitter, or checking out their Facebook page.

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Real Estate News from Beaumont-Wilshire & Beyond

By Kathy Mollere

PORTLAND METRO MARKET ACTION

December Residential Highlights:

Home-buying activity is expected to pick up a little in 2011, when compared to 2010. High inventory, low mortgage rates, and a slowly improving job market will bring more buyers off the fence. The average sales price for 2010 dropped 2.7% and the median sales price is down 2.9%, however the number of days for a house to be on the market dropped 6.6% from last year, which is good!

Inventory for the Portland Metro area dipped down in December to 7.9 months from what it was in November at 10.2 months, which brings us close to the lowest we have been in the last 3 years at 7 months.

Although closed sales were down 2.9% when compared to last year in December, the number of pending offers on homes went up by 6%. New listings also dropped by 8.5% from 2009 to 2010.

CURRENT LISTINGS IN BEAUMONT –WILSHIRE

Active Listings	*11*
Bank Owned	*0*
Short Sale	*2*
Pending since Dec. 1	*4*
Sold since Dec. 1	*9*
Total Sold in 2010	*70*

When comparing the previous month of November to December 2010 closed sales made an increase by 14.3%. Although pending sales fell by -15.2%, the number of new homes on the market were fewer by -22.2%. For sellers with homes are on the market, this means less competition and more buyers.

The year to date market activity for closed and pending sales both dropped in 2010 from that of 2009. The numbers show 0.2% less homes that sold, and 2.1% less that went into contract. The number of new listings from year end 2009 to 2010 increased by 3%.

For additional information contact:

Kathy Mollere ABR, GRI Super Realty Group

4605 NE Fremont St. #202

Kathy@superrealtygroup.com or call 503.224.7873



Grant High School
Grad Night Party

By Cory S. Bowey

Grant High School has an All Night Party Committee comprised of parent volunteers who plan and execute the Grad Night Party that immediately follows graduation. In order to help raise funds for this event, we have partnered with Papa Murphy's Pizza at 41st and Fremont. On the **first Wednesday of every month** Papa Murphy's will donate a portion of their sales to the All Night Party. Patrons must mention Grant High School when ordering!

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Northwest Garden Academy

By Shelly Barshaw

Northwest Garden Academy, a non-profit project of Parkrose Community Foundation, will be hosted at the historical Rossi Farms located at 3839 NE 122nd, corner of NE 122nd and NE Shaver. Its mission is to teach people how to garden so they can turn open spaces at their churches, schools, businesses and homes into gardens that can provide access to healthy food for themselves, their community and to create more sustainable neighborhoods.

Offerings will include: How to garden in the dirt with a master gardener; workshops on subjects related to gardening, but not gardening specific (i.e., soil testing and proper amendments, etc.), and on-site consultation services. Although a class schedule has not been finalized and published, classes will start mid-April and continue into Fall. Watch for grand opening news soon!

Don't forget...

BWNA Board Meeting
Monday, March 14th, 7:00PM

"Taste of Beaumont" and
BWNA Community Meeting
Monday, April 11th, 6:30PM

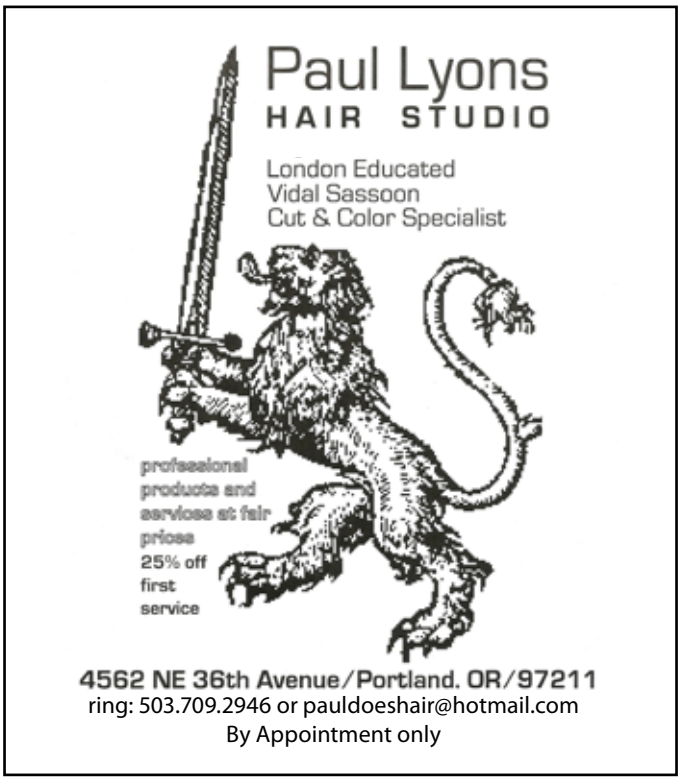


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Andrine de la Rocha, LMT
Carla Welker, LCSW
Joel Amundson, M.D., PC

Neighborhood Focused
Volunteer Driver Recruitment Message

By Trink Easterday

If one of your New Year's resolutions was to give back and be more active in your community look no further than Ride Connection! Become a volunteer driver for those who need assistance in your neighborhood! Help get older adults and people with disabilities to doctor appointments, grocery stores or other destinations.

Each day many requests for rides are being denied due to the lack of volunteer drivers. Call today to take the first step in becoming a volunteer driver! Ride Connection knows and appreciates how precious your time is so we have created many volunteer options to fit around your schedule! Please contact Trink Easterday at 503.528.1738 or teasterday@rideconnection.org to learn about the varied opportunities.

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Wilshire United Methodist Church
Upcoming Events
Native American Fellowship

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By Helen Stewart

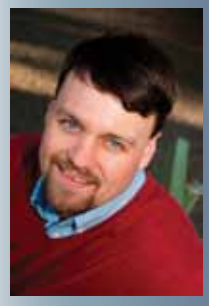
Morgan Fawcett
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Saturday, April 16th, 2011 • 7:00PM
Benefits: Fetal Alcohol Syndrome
Tickets: Love Donation at the door
Silent Auction starting at 6PM
Indian Fry Bread Tacos $6 available before concert

Wilshire United Methodist Church
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will hold their annual PLANT and GARDEN Sale
Saturday, April 30th, 2011 • 10AM–3PM
Snacks available
3917 NE Shaver Street Portland, Oregon 97212
For further information, call Jean at 503.281.0324

shop locally

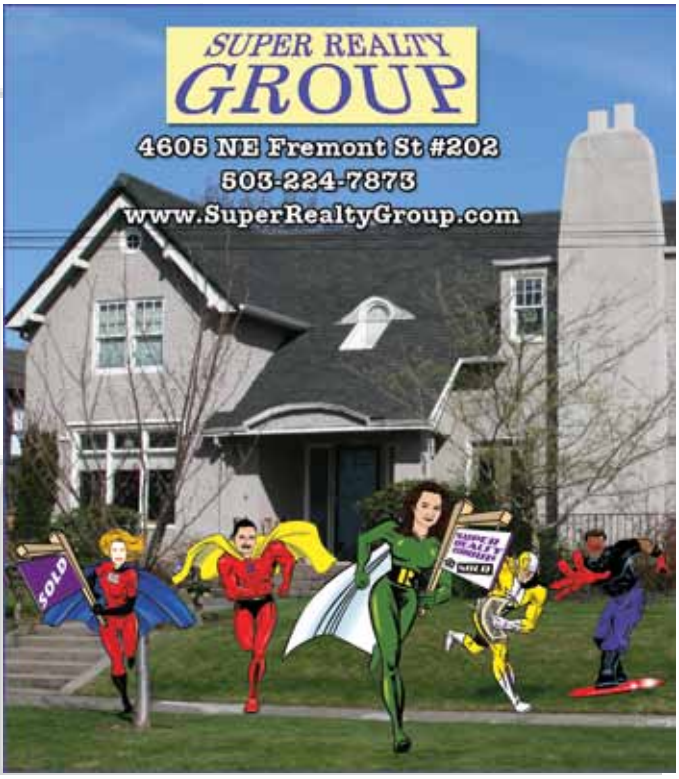
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Neighborhood Easter Egg Hunt

By Deborah Shimkus

Saturday, April 23rd 10:30AM
The annual Neighborhood Easter Egg Hunt will take place this year beginning on the front lawn of Bethany Church and Neighborhood Center at 37th and Skidmore just across from Wilshire Park. Children (toddlers through 10-year-olds) are invited to bring their Easter baskets and join in the fun for this annual community event. There will be hundreds of eggs waiting to be found. Bring the whole family. It's GREAT FUN and it's FREE! For more information call 503.284.3836 or go to www.bethanyportland.org. The Easter Egg Hunt will take place rain or shine!!



Easter Week Services at Bethany Lutheran Church

The community is invited to join neighbors and friends for special Easter week services:

Monday, April 18th thru Thursday, April 21st, 7:00PM

Good Friday: April 22nd, 7:00PM

Easter Sunday: April 24th, 10:00AM

Experience a rich, traditional Easter service, with exceptional music and a children's program.

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...$9.00

City of Portland's Urban Growth Bounty Series Offers Sustainable Food Courses for 2011

By Steve Cohen

From urban chickens, goats and bees to year-round food gardening, edible landscaping and cheesemaking, Urban Growth Bounty provides the tools for the "urban homesteader."

Presented by the City of Portland's Bureau of Planning and Sustainability, new partners and well-known local experts are on board for the 2011 Urban Growth Bounty sustainable food education series, including Oregon Tilth, Naomi Montacre, Glen Andresen, and Josh Volk. Classes for all skill levels are offered from February through June and held at locations all over the city. Thanks to last year's popular classes, more than 700 local residents learned how to transform their yards into "urban farms," preserve their harvest and keep chickens and bees. This year's roster includes advanced cheesemaking, chicken, goat and beekeeping, and innovative gardening, permaculture and edible landscaping classes. What we eat and how our food is produced, packaged, shipped and disposed accounts for at least 13 percent of human-caused carbon emissions in the United States. Growing food and raising animals that are complementary to food gardening saves money on food bills and offers families the freshest food possible. Backyard food farming also helps reduce carbon emissions that cause global warming. Portland's goal is to attain an 80 percent reduction in carbon emissions by 2050.

Class schedule and on-line registration is available at www.portlandonline.com/bps/ugb. Questions? Please send an e-mail to food@portlandoregon.gov.



Beaumont-Wilshire Neighborhood Association
Delivery carriers wanted • 4-5 block radius • 20-30 minute commitment • Deliver every other month
Contact Marsha Mahon at 503.284.1859 or mahonmurrell@gmail.com
You can help!

In 2011, Grow as a Public Speaker!

By Brenda Westford

Made your New Year's resolution yet? Why not challenge yourself to speak, share, and grow as a public speaker by becoming a member of Portland Toastmasters!

2011 is a new year, which means new beginnings and a fresh start. But aiming for greater success over the next 12 months is also about growth: growth as an individual, as a professional, and as an effective member of society. What better way to achieve these goals than by growing as a public speaker?

If this sounds like a challenge that you'd be interested in taking on in 2011, then Portland Toastmasters is for you. With our unique mix of members from industries like marketing, finance, and even show business, there will always be someone interesting to connect with.

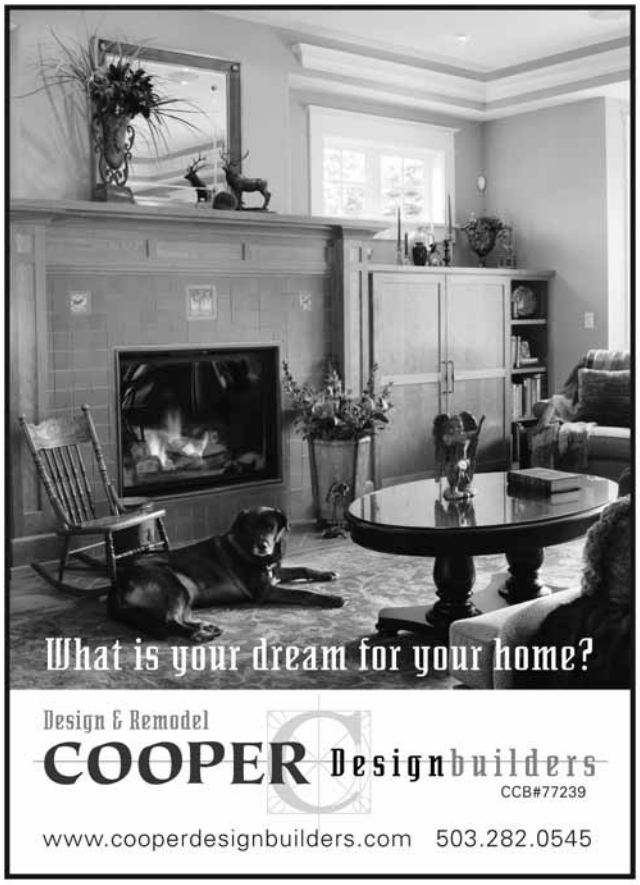
Don't delay your growth as a public speaker any longer – 2011 is the year! Take a moment to explore our website portlandtoastmasters.org. Learn more about us, find out what happens at a meeting, meet a few of our members. Then, join us as a guest at our next meeting.

What: Portland Toastmasters

When: Every Monday 6:30PM

Where: Concordia University Library Meeting Room

Any final questions? Don't hesitate to send us an email at publicrelations@portlandtoastmasters.org.



Green Building Questions Answered Here!

By Valerie Garrett



Metro, the City of Portland, Multnomah, Washington and Clackamas Counties want to ensure you know about their joint community resource: the Regional Green Building Hotline. The Hotline provides practical and impartial information about green home strategies, resources and incentives for new and existing commercial and residential projects in the region. We'll answer your questions about ways to reduce your carbon footprint, renewable energy, indoor air quality, salvage, training workshops and more. The Hotline is a bridge to information, programs and local resources to help you be as green as you would like to be.

Inquiries are welcomed from homeowners, renters, real estate professionals, non-profits, contractors, students, developers, business owners and design professionals in the tri-county area. It is the Hotline's intent to inspire callers (not overwhelm!) to incorporate as many sustainable choices, either material or behavioral, into their projects as possible. The Hotline can also help callers overcome barriers and obstacles they have around green building.

A great place to start is right where you are, know which resources are available and take it one day at a time. How can you get money back on your stormwater/sewer bill? What actions can you take to save on your home energy use? Where can you tour a green home? When is the next class on rain gardens? What is the WaterSense label? How can I retrofit my house to age-in-place? Can I get a rebate for planting a tree? Call us!

The FREE Regional Green Building Hotline can help! 503.823.5431

Find us:

online–www.buildgreen411.com.

via email–greenhotline@portlandoregon.gov

Twittering–we tweet! @greenhotline

Join us on Facebook: Green Development Resource Center.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Valerie Garrett on the Hotline at 503.823.5431.

Save the Date

Taste of Beaumont & Beaumont-Wilshire Community Meeting

Monday April 11th at 6:30PM

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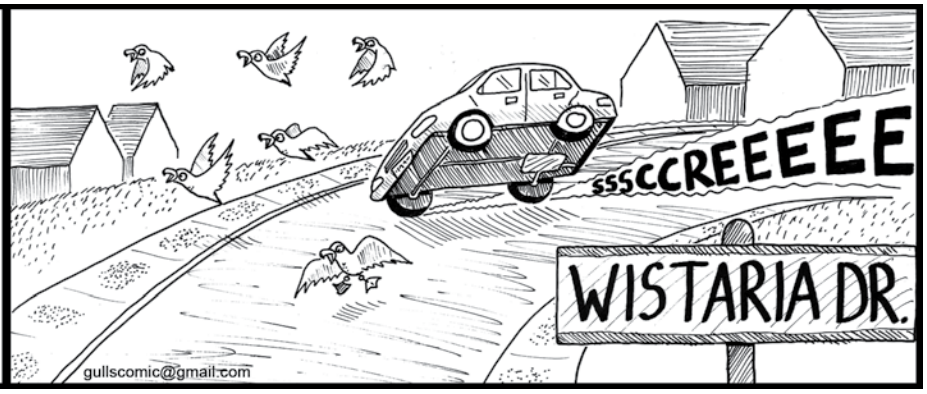
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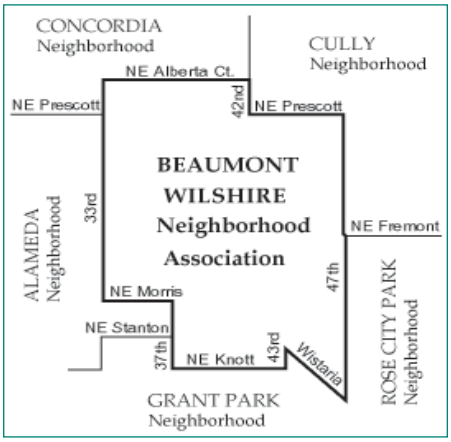


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