BEAUMONT-WILSHIRE

Beaumont-Wilshire Neighborhood Association (BWNA) www.bwna.us November • December 2011

Volunteer rescues gardens at Beaumont Middle School

By Dave Anderson

Marilyn was looking for a way to give back to the community two years ago when she drove by her old school, Beaumont Middle School.

"It looked absolutely appalling," she says. The rhododendrons were brown. Thistles grew everywhere. And the lawn was full of 18-inch weeds.

She wasn't the only one who noticed. Liz Casson-Taylor became the Principal of Beaumont about the same time, and it wasn't the curriculum or the staff or the school band that people wanted to talk about.

"The first thing people said was, 'Do something with the outside. It looks terrible,'" Casson-Taylor says.

Marilyn happened to drop by the school and left the Principal a note. She wanted to volunteer as a groundskeeper. It was literally an answer to Casson-Taylor's prayers.

"It was like she fell from the sky," Casson-Taylor says. "It's just been a real blessing to our school."

Marilyn, who asked that her last name not be published, adopted the school's gardens. She lives in the North Tabor neighborhood, but none of the schools near her home needed help. She noticed Beaumont on her drives to New Seasons grocery store. It was a nice coincidence that Beaumont was her alma mater, "So long ago that I won't tell you," she says.

Marilyn spends two hours twice a week during the summer and once a week during the winter on the gardens. Her best friend and partner Alfred often joins her. He helped turn a "gross weed patch" into a flower bed by spading for a half-hour each visit. Marilyn's crowning achievement is what the school calls "Beaumont Hill" at the corner of Fremont Street and 42nd Avenue.

Passing drivers roll down their windows and express their gratitude. Local business owners have shown their appreciation. During a fire drill in fall 2009, a class of students thanked her. "I have been thanked more times than I can tell you," she says.



But Marilyn claims that she does the gardening for selfish reasons. "I get what I call a spiritual high by working in the garden," she says. "Any worries I have are gone during those two hours. Any unhappiness is gone."

The only downsides are the occasional vandalism to flowers and recently hurting her leg when she got too "rambunctious" with a shovel.

Marilyn, who still works 32 hours a week, doesn't have a cell phone and uses the money she would otherwise spend on that to pay for the bright perennials, annuals and evergreen shrubs that she's bought for the gardens. Those include a Norway spruce, a miniature pine and a black dragon Japanese cedar. She also bought a trimmer to keep the borders of the grass neat and hired a landscaping crew to get the lawn in order. "This is how I love to spend my allowance," she says.

The Portland Public Schools have only two full-time groundskeepers for 84 schools and a total of 100 properties, says Matt Shelby, a district spokesman. That means mowing and basic pruning are all that get done on a regular basis. And because the district doesn't use herbicides, the weeds can easily get out of hand.

"I would say our schools depend tremendously on the efforts of volunteers," Shelby says. He adds that he's a big fan of Marilyn's work.

That goes for Casson-Taylor. An anonymous volunteer painted the school's doors. That has made a huge difference combined with Marilyn's work.

"We get a lot of compliments about how the school looks," Casson-Taylor says.

Others have stepped up to make the school look better. The school participates in Project Community Care, when volunteers show up on a Saturday in late summer to spruce up the grounds. And Marilyn is quick to credit others, including a neighbor who helps with mowing and the father of a student who spent a Sunday spreading lime.

Marilyn plans to continue her work through the summer of 2012 because she's very excited about some new plants next season. After that, she is hoping that someone else takes over. Those who are interested can go to the neighborhood association website at www.bwna.us to find out how to help.

She highly recommends the feeling of accomplishment. "It's like being a mother," she says. "I get the joy of creating something beautiful."



President's Message:

'Tis the Season of Appreciation

By Al Ellis

"You can't always get what you want. . ." was the first part of a refrain made famous by the Rolling Stones in the 60s. The thought concludes with: ". . .but if you try, sometimes you get what you need." Pretty savvy advice from a very young Mick Jagger, but I would add a cautionary note: "Watch what you wish for!" Case in point: If we had our druthers, what natural setting would we choose to live in, other than the one we're living in now? For starters, imagine residing in Hawaii or San Diego, or the Bay Area—all significantly warmer and sunnier than Portland much of the year. And how about places like New England or Colorado or Zion National Park?—spectacularly brilliant in their fall colors and regularly picturesque during winter snowfalls. The possibilities are endless. But as a guy who was raised in California, periodically visits our older daughter and her husband in New York City, and has traveled the world a bit. . .I'm inclined to leave well enough alone and stay put. Consider the Northwest's upside: four distinct seasons, comparatively mild weather (absence of tornadoes, hurricanes, blizzards, massive flooding, etc.), extensive greenery (resulting from all that rainfall), and as a bonus, summers that are relatively low in humidity and therefore less prone to bug infestations (e.g., no baseball game delays or cancellations due to flying insect invasions!). On balance, I'd say we come out ahead. . .way ahead.

Appreciating what we have (as opposed to lamenting what we don't have) is a mainstream theme this time of the year. With Halloween in the rearview mirror, Thanksgiving coming up fast, and winter holidays not far behind, the focus is on family and personal well-being—both of which are inextricably linked to the neighborhood in which we live. And that's where the neighborhood association should find its calling, right?-- providing forums and services aimed at facilitating neighborhood well-being. But there's a catch: Residents must opt to participate, and my observation is that BWNA is often underutilized, and perhaps a bit underappreciated as well. The solution? I think the key is communicating more effectively with neighbors about what BWNA has to offer.

Awareness Question #1:

Do you know that BWNA has a Web site (www.bwna.us) and that on that Web site is a blog with information about local issues, activities, and events? You can get information out to the community on the blog or in the Newsletter by e-mailing it to editor@bwna.us.

And at the top of that website home page are informational categories to click on, one of which ("Links") provides phone numbers for a wide range of organizations and services.

You can also sign up for bwna@bwna.us on the home page, which hooks you up to our neighbor-to-neighbor e-mail information loop (including timely announcements & news).

Lastly, you can air your views in the Newsletter by submitting a "Letter to the Board" of 500 words or less on issues of local interest. Send your "letters" to editor@bwna.us.

Awareness Question #2:

Do you know that concerns about vandalism, traffic safety, and proposed projects affecting our neighborhood (municipal or commercial) are the kinds of issues that BWNA is actively engaged in addressing? There's strength in numbers, and BWNA has established a reputation as an effective organizational vehicle for neighborhood advocacy. BWNA also serves in the planning and implementing of neighborhood events & activities, such as Taste of Beaumont, National Night Out Picnic, and graffiti cleanups.

Conclusion:

Explore the possibilities, get involved, "and you just might find...you get what you need!"

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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

support the businesses in your neighborhood

Write a Letter to the Board

The Board of Directors welcomes letters concerning local neighborhood issues. Writers are asked to limit letters to 150 words. Letters may be edited for length and clarity and will be published as space allows, including on our website/blog (www.bwna.us).

September 28, 2011

Letter to the Board:

As neighbors that live adjacent to the island at the intersection of NE Klickitat and Alameda, we have a vested interest in the plans for the island and surrounding streets. The current plan design (60% complete) expands the width and length of the island, adds a rain garden on the North side and narrows both streets at the intersection of NE Klickitat and Alameda.

Many of our neighbors have given feedback along the way and have been in contact with the City. Whereas everyone has been very professional and willing to listen and discuss our concerns, we are certain the project will go forward. Our concerns are:

1. Narrowing of NE Klickitat and Alameda at the intersection. This will lessen the amount of street parking for several residences in the area and will increase congestion on a busy street. Alameda is one of Portland's wide residential streets and this change will impact the aesthetics of this iconic street.

2. Maintenance of the island. Currently, and for several years neighbors have maintained the island. We designed and paid for the plantings, mowed the lawn weekly, edged and maintained the beds. The neighbors took this on because the City stopped maintaining the island. Recently the neighbors were given access to the key to turn the water on. Water is paid for privately – not by the city. Now, what can we expect when the rain garden is planted? We are being told that the City will maintain the rain garden side of the island, but not the whole island. If we have the money to spend on this project, why are we not planning for the whole island to be maintained by the City?

3. We also have been told that the rain garden will cost approximately $100,000 to build. What is the return on that investment? Given the financial state of affairs, do we have money to do this? Is there a less expensive option?

We would like the City to accomplish the rain garden without impacting the width of the streets involved.

Roger & Cynthia Gahlsdorf

Mark & Kris Olson

John Spathas

BWNA Calendar

Saturday, November 5th • 9:00AM – 3:00PM
Community Christmas Bazaar
Bethany Church, 37th & Skidmore
(page five)

Friday, November 11th • 9:45AM
Veteran's Day parade, 40th & Hancock
(page four)

Friday, November 11th • 11:00AM– 11:00PM
Pride Financial Partners Grand Opening
4759-A NE Fremont Street
(page nine)

Friday, November 11th • 5:00PM – 9:00PM
Second Friday on Fremont
(page eleven)

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

Friday, November 25th
Deadline for ads and articles
for the January - February 2012 newsletter

Friday, December 9th • 5:00PM – 9:00PM
Fremont Festival of Lights, 41st - 52nd Fremont
(page twelve)

Friday, December 9th • 5:00PM – 9:00PM
Second Friday on Fremont
(page eleven)

Monday, December 12th • 7:00PM
BWNA Winter Holiday General Meeting
Bethany Lutheran Church, Fellowship Hall
NE Skidmore Entrance
(page six)

Saturday, December 24th • 7:00PM
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
Bethany Church, 37th & Skidmore
(page five)

Sunday, December 25th • 10:00AM
Christmas Day Celebration
Bethany Church, 37th & Skidmore
(page five)

December 31st • 9:00AM – 3:00PM
Troop 107 Tree Recycling, 33rd & Skidmore
(page eight)

January 7th & 8th • 9:00AM – 3:00PM
Troop 107 Tree Recycling, 33rd & Skidmore
(page eight)

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

Friday, January 13th • 5:00PM – 9:00PM
Second Friday on Fremont
(page eleven)

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

Hollywood Home to Portland's Veterans Day Parade

By Jo Schaefer

Hollywood will host the 37th annual Ross Hollywood Veterans Day parade Nov. 11, 2011. The parade begins at 9:45 AM at Northeast 40th Avenue and Hancock Street and travels east on Northeast Sandy Boulevard to Northeast 48th Avenue.

"This is a wonderful event for Hollywood," said Jo Schaefer, parade co-chair. "It's our chance to show our appreciation for veterans, active military and especially their families who bear the burden when their loved one is deployed. We have many bands and marching entries this year."

The Ross Hollywood Veterans Day parade is the only parade in the Portland area held on Veterans Day. Harold Ross, founder of Ross Hollywood Chapel, which continues to sponsor the annual event, first organized it.

Army veteran Dr. George Timmons, 91 of Portland, will serve as this year's Grand Marshal. Timmons was originally sent to the Pacific Ocean theater of WWII as a member of a military band. However, he soon had to trade his trombone for a rifle and became part of the Army's 41st Division's fight with the Japanese on Biak Island off New Guinea's Papua coast. Following his military service he served as Assistant Dean of Education at Portland State University and led a swing orchestra for several years.

"This is an opportunity to say 'Thank you' to those who have served in our nation's military and those who serve today," said Michael Wolfe, general manager, Ross Hollywood Chapel, located in the Hollywood area.



"Showing our support is especially important to veterans and active military families when our country continues to be engaged in two conflicts affecting many Oregon families."

Parade participants will include marching bands, the historic horse-mounted Buffalo Soldiers Moses William Chapter of the 9th and 10th Calvary, military service organizations and marching bands. Boy Scout and Girl Scout troops will participate with parents and military veterans.

A memorial presentation at the Ross Hollywood Chapel, 4733 Northeast Thompson Street, will follow the parade. Covered seating will be available for seniors and those with disabilities.

Veterans are also invited to attend a free USO-style show following the presentation at the Hollywood Senior Center, 1820 Northeast 40th Avenue. Hollywood entertainer Tony Starlight of Tony Starlight's Supper Club and Lounge will showcase music from the World War II years and refreshments will be served.

Papa Murphy's
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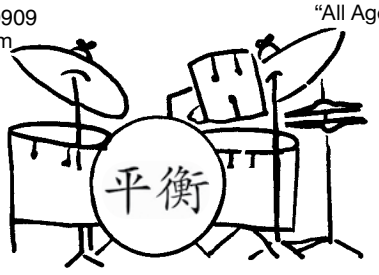
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Delphina's Bakery

By Michael Gray

Delphina's Bakery began in the back kitchen of Delphina's Restaurant in 1983 with bread being baked daily for its dinner customers. By 1985 they were making a push to make their product available to more customers. Carolyn Mistell came on board at this time and the bakery thrived. After some time away pursuing archeology and anthropology, Carolyn became the sole owner and president in 2004. Now she presides over a business that has grown leaps and bounds from it's beginnings at the restaurant. Primarily a wholesale operation (although you can enjoy these delicacies at the café on 42nd), Delphina's Bakery provides artisan breads and breakfast pastries to businesses all over the Portland area, baked and delivered fresh daily. Carolyn is particularly proud of her employees, stating that they have a very strong team in place. With clients as large as Trader Joe's, they keep very busy getting their products where they need to be while maintaining the freshness, quality and flavor that have become synonymous with Delphina's Bakery. This can be a tall order with a product that has only a one day shelf life. They are constantly developing new ideas and methods to get their goods from the oven to the customer as quickly as possible. As Carolyn says, "We want our customers to enjoy our products the way they are fresh out of the oven." This can mean improvements in anything from packaging and transportation to the conditions of their fleet of vans they use to transport the items.







It is clear in talking with Carolyn that she is passionate not only about baking and her business, but also cares immensely about our community. She is an active participant in a number of projects that are helping improve 42nd Street including the recent street fair, working with a team of graduate students who are seeking out and applying for grants to improve the neighborhood, developing a mural and aesthetic improvements, and adorning the cafe's walls with work from local artists to give their work exposure. Her eyes light up when discussing how far 42nd has come since Delphina's first relocated and how excited she is to see what the future holds.

If you mention this article you'll receive a free pastry with the purchase of a coffee drink through the end of November. Delphina's café is located at 4636 NE 42nd Avenue.



CHRISTMAS at BETHANY CHURCH

Everyone is invited to the special Christmas services being held at Bethany Lutheran Church 4330 NE 37th, across from Wilshire Park.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service: Saturday 7:00 PM
Join your friends and neighbors for this beautiful service of music and the Greatest Story Ever Told. All ages welcome.

Christmas Day Celebration: Sunday 10:00 AM
Traditional Christmas celebration for the community.



COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

November 5th, 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Bethany Church: corner of 37th and Skidmore

The community is invited to Bethany's Annual Christmas Bazaar the first Saturday in November. This annual event is a favorite among the neighborhood to usher in the Christmas season. The ladies of Bethany have spent the year making homemade craft items, and have gathered many treasures and vintage items for the White Elephant Sale. Refreshments will be available, as well as baked goods to take home. Join your neighbors and friends for this holiday event.



BWNA Holiday Meeting to Feature Treats and PPS Focus

By Al Ellis

It seems a world away now—that pristine summer evening in early August when neighbors flocked to Wilshire Park with home-prepared picnic dishes for our National Night Out gathering. But take heart. The winter holiday season ushers in yet another opportunity for an all-neighborhood pot-luck gathering, this time at Beaumont-Wilshire Neighborhood Association's (BWNA) Winter Holiday General Meeting. On the evening of Monday, December 12th, residents are encouraged to bring winter holiday desserts and snacks for sharing, with BWNA supplying refreshments, additional goodies to nosh on, and plates, utensils, etc. The festivities begin at 7:00PM in Bethany Lutheran Church's "Fellowship Hall" (a basement activity room on the Skidmore Street side of the church, located at the corner of 37th and Skidmore across from Wilshire Park).



Highlighting the meeting agenda will be an examination of the evolving redesign plan for Portland Public Schools, with an emphasis on what the future may hold for the neighborhood's own Beaumont Middle School. Featured speakers will be Beaumont Middle School Principal Elizabeth Casson-Taylor and community organizer Mary Jaron Kelley. Principal Casson-Taylor will provide a "state of the schools" assessment, including the latest on proposed boundary changes, as well as personal commentary on achievements and challenges at Beaumont Middle School. Mrs. Kelley adds a parent's perspective, providing information on volunteer opportunities at the middle school and ongoing PTA activities and service projects. The audience is encouraged to ask questions and share views following the presentations.



In addition to the "state of the schools" forum, local police officers will give their regularly-scheduled crime report and address residents' concerns. Agenda time is also reserved for updates on local land use and traffic safety issues, as well as an opportunity to make suggestions and provide input to the Board regarding future speakers, activities, and projects.



So get into the holiday spirit and come participate in this tasty and informative evening. Bring an after-dinner treat to share, learn more about Portland's educational scene from those closest to it, and contribute with your comments, questions, and ideas.



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Gone but not forgotten. . . remembering Eddy

By Debbie Schwing



Victor "Eddy" Morgan
7.18.48 - 5.29.94

My husband saved a news segment on the DVR last Friday night for me. When I came home, he said " I recorded something I know you'll want to see. He was right, it was about a cold case – a segment about Eddy. You may recall Eddy "the weatherman" Morgan. A retired homicide detective is reviewing his unsolved murder case. The news segment interviewed the owner of the Wilshire Tavern. In the interview Shar Fisher said Eddy was trustworthy, harmless and child-like. If you needed help, he was always there to help you.

If you lived in our neighborhood during the 60's to early 90's there isn't any way you can't be familiar with Eddy. Eddy was someone special in our neighborhood, mentally challenged and perfectly innocent. Eddy's fixation was the weather, all the local weathermen knew him. During the late 70's and 80's he would walk with determination up and down 42nd Street between Holman and Hollywood with a huge smile on his face reporting the weather that was on the way to whoever would listen. He was known in every business along 42nd and would boldly come in and tell you the weather. On Memorial Day in 1994, a car pulled up and someone inside shot Eddy for no reason. He died right where he fell on 42nd and Alberta. It had to be a random killing, a drive-by is what it is referred to these days. Our neighborhood was beside itself. There's a small memorial plaque that marks where he died. Eddy will be in our hearts forever. I feel a sense of gratitude to the retired detective who hasn't forgotten Eddy either.



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The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched. They must be felt with the heart. Wishing you happiness.
– Helen Keller

Troop 107 Tree Recycling

By Lecia Schall

We will be at our regular site at the corner of 33rd and Skidmore on the following dates: Saturday, December 31st, Saturday, January 7th, and Sunday, January 8th. The times of collection will be from 9AM - 3PM. We will be able to pick up trees on both Saturdays if arrangements are made by phone to 971.246.2865.

If you need any other details please email or call the number above. Thanks for this service.

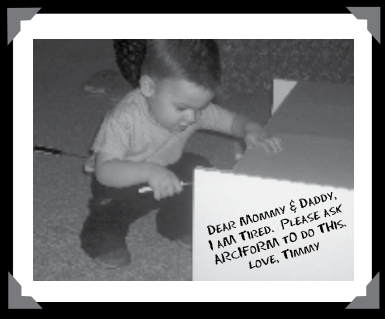
Save the Date

Troop 107 Tree Recycling

- December 31st 9AM - 3PM
- January 7th 9AM - 3PM
- January 8th 9AM - 3PM

GULLS COMIC





Yes Timmy was a bit slow on the job, but they figured that if they had him start on in on the project in July, he'd surely be done by the holidays.

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Making Contact

By Dan Johnson

Did you know that Beaumont-Wilshire Neighborhood Association (BWNA) has an email list for anyone wanting to communicate with other neighbors to review and discuss general interest topics? This list is used to discuss and share information like traffic calming concerns and developments such as the Clearwire cell tower site.

Don't let this valuable resource go unused. To subscribe to the BWNA Community List, simply do the following:

1. Go to the BWNA Web site at www.bwna.us
2. On the bottom right of the home page click, "Subscribe to BWNA email discussion list"
3. Type your email address, name and password

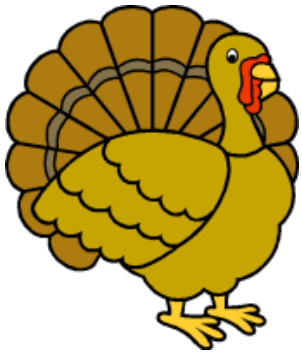
When someone sends an email to the list, you will automatically receive a copy of the email. This is a great way to communicate with several neighbors at one time, stay current on the issues that concern our community, as well as keep our community safe and vibrant.

We want to hear from you! Your voice counts.

Don't forget…

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

BWNA Winter Holiday General Meeting
Monday, December 12th, 7:00PM

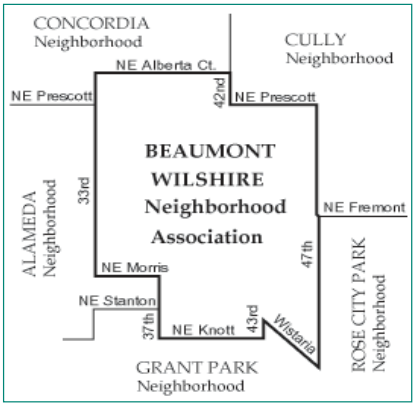


Blessed is the season
which engages the whole world
in a conspiracy of love.
– Hamilton Wright Mable

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

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.

Beaumont-Wilshire Boundaries

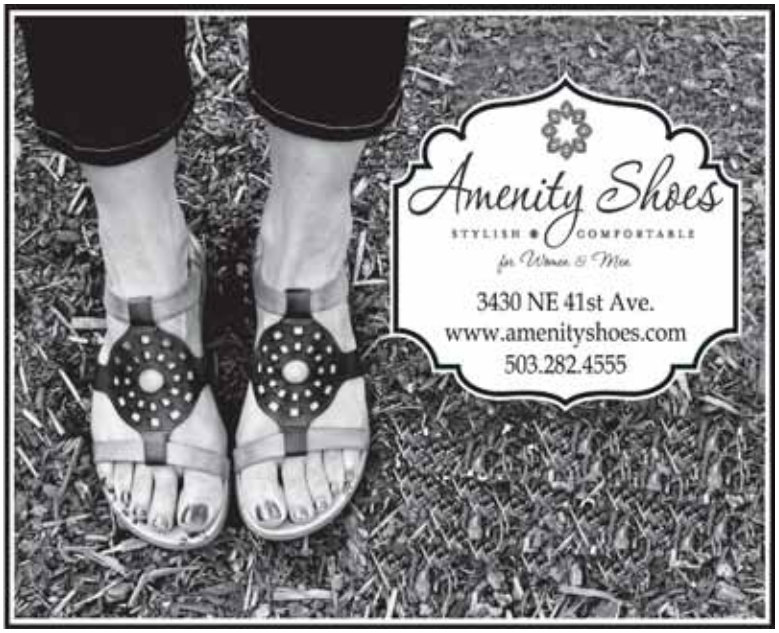


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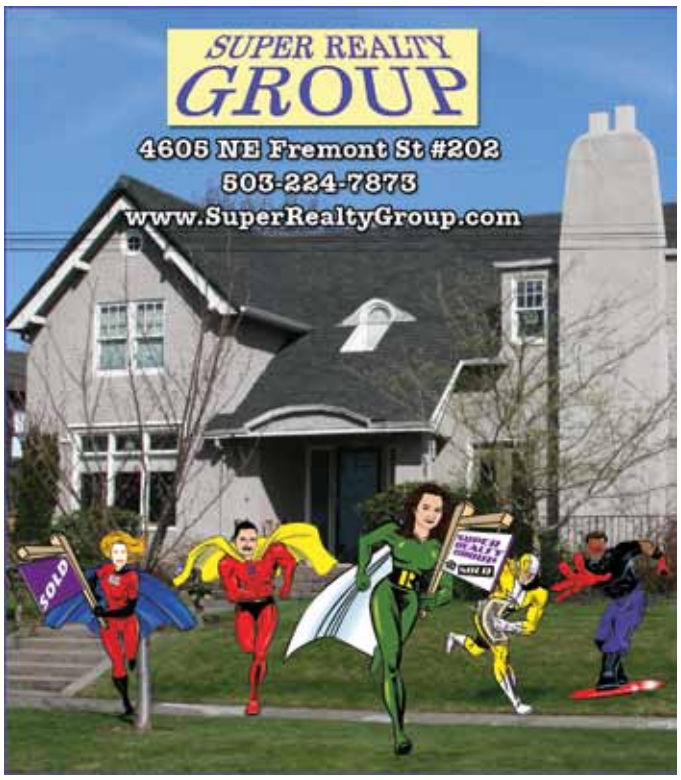
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neighbor

(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.

Providing experienced representation to Buyers and Sellers of Beaumont-Wilshire homes, a neighborhood I'm proud to call *home*. If you're looking to buy or sell, or even find out how to increase the value of your current home, I'd love to help.

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supreme court highest court in the united states. the court has nine justices who are appointed by the president and confirmed by the senate. the court generally hears and decides cases that involve constitutional issues or questions of federal law.

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Fremont Festival of Lights

We're Puttin on the Glitz

Friday - December 9th, 5:00pm - 9:00pm

What better way to kick off the holiday season!
Join the festivities at our
2nd Annual Lighting of the Trees in Beaumont Village
Bring out the whole family to an evening of
holiday cheer and enchantment!
Don't miss Santa's trip down
NE Fremont from 52nd to 41st
on our own Portland City Fire Truck!
Arriving at Foot Traffic Court Yard

We've added three venue tents for your enjoyment
in addition to:
Dickens Christmas Carolers
Portland Bagpipe Players
Innisfree Celtic Band

Friday - December 9th, 5:00pm - 9:00pm

Santa's Village @ 41st & Fremont

Santa will be available for visits and photos
Portland Fire Crew & Fire Truck
will be available to visit
(as long as there is no emergency)
Vendor Tables

Celtic Holiday Celebration @ 45th & Fremont

Enjoy the sounds of
Innisfree Celtic Band
Roasted Chestnuts
Vendor Tables
Holiday Window Display contest
(Cast your vote to pick the winner!)

Children's Craft Tent @ 48th & Fremont

Children are welcome to come and make a special surprise
to take home
Vendor Tables
Holiday Music

For additional information contact:
Rebecca Lehman at 949.395.3305 or
beaumontbusinesses@gmail.com

Sponsored by The Beaumont Business Association
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BEAUMONT