

Star NEWS

THE HOLLYWOOD



STREETCAR DESIRE City explores several routes for extending Portland Streetcar system to Hollywood. **PAGE 6**

★ SERVING NORTHEAST AND NORTH METROPOLITAN PORTLAND NEIGHBORHOODS ★ AUGUST 2020 ★ VOLUME 38, NUMBER 02 ★



FREEMAN FAMILY Reynolds School District Executive Director Angela Freeman and her family share thoughts on talking to kids about race and the effects of institutionalized racism. **PAGE 10**



SCHOOL BUILDING De La Salle North High School breaks ground on relocation project to Cully. **PAGE 5**



NEPDXSTRONG Neighbors continue to gather on street corners, seeking justice and equity. **PAGE 9**



ERICA ON THE BLOCK Erica visits Alberta Arts district as it prepares for 'virtual' street fair. **PAGE 8**



GARDENING FOR GLADYS Neighbors work to restore neglected Gladys McCoy Garden in Eliot. **PAGE 11**



MOW THE MERRIER Volunteer Roseway cutting crew keeps neighborhood park blocks groomed. **PAGE 12**



ON POINT Working Class Acupuncture reopens with limited appointments and safety precautions. **PAGE 14**

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THE HOLLYWOOD STAR NEWS
NORTH AND NORTHEAST METRO NEIGHBORHOODS
2000 N.E. 42ND AVENUE PMB 142
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★ STAR COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

PUBLISHER'S STATEMENT

We stand in solidarity with the Black Lives Matter movement and support nonviolent protests that demand authentic change. As a white, woman-owned business, we acknowledge our privilege and recognize that we may have benefited from and tacitly supported institutionalized racism in our society.

For more than 30 years, the Star's mission has been to advocate for vibrant and inclusive neighborhoods and to promote a strong and sustainable economy through locally-owned business. As the cry for justice long-denied sweeps our city and our nation, we are deepening our commitment to our core goals.

To achieve true racial justice and dismantle our city's long racial history, our community needs to engage in real and challenging dialogue. We proudly accept the responsibility to assist in that effort and will monitor our content for bias going forward to ensure that voices of people of color are heard.

Toward that end, we are actively seeking editorial contributions from our Black neighbors, their allies and other voices of color in our community. If you have suggestions, please reach out to our editorial team at editorial@star-news.info.



BY JANET GOETZE

JANETGOETZE@STAR-NEWS.INFO

DAN RYAN, LORETTA SMITH VIE FOR NICK FISH SEAT ON SPECIAL AUG. 11 BALLOT

Voters will decide Aug. 11 whether Dan Ryan or Loretta Smith will be a new city commissioner, completing the unexpired term of Nick Fish, who died in January. The term will end Dec. 31.

Smith is a former Multnomah County commissioner. Ryan, a former Portland School Board member, stepped down last year after 11 years as CEO of All Hands Raised, a non-profit supporting Portland's school districts. Smith's website is www.voteloretta.com. Ryan's website is www.danryanforportland.com.

Ryan and Smith received the most votes in the May primary, but neither received the 50 percent required to gain the commissioner's seat without a runoff.

Voters began receiving ballots in late July. They may be mailed by Aug. 6, to make sure they arrive by 8 p.m. Aug. 11 at the Elections Division office, 1040 S.E. Morrison St. They also may be delivered to



RYAN



SMITH

drop boxes outside the office.

Other ballot drop boxes are at the Goodwill Store in Arbor Lodge and the McDonald's Restaurant in Hollywood – a box is on the west side of McDonald's on 40th Avenue between Tillamook and Hancock streets.

Ballots also may be deposited in the book drop slot at libraries, where they are picked up frequently. Branch locations include Albina, 216 N.E. Knott St.; Gregory Heights, 7921 N.E. Sandy Blvd.; Hollywood, 4040 N.E. Tillamook St.; Kenton, 8226 N. Denver Ave., and North Portland, 512 N. Killingsworth St.

NEW 'HEALTHY BUSINESSES' PERMITS HELP EXPAND SPACE FOR SOCIAL DISTANCING

The Portland Bureau of Transportation is helping businesses – especially restaurants – increase their square footage by expanding into nearby streets or other public spaces. The permits are free from the Healthy Businesses program.

Having the extra space helps businesses meet requirements for social distancing to limit the spread of Covid-19. Single businesses may apply or several may

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★ STAR COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS



Disjecta Contemporary Art Center in Kenton is selling artwork and donating the funds to social justice organizations selected by the artists. (Arvie Smith)

apply together for a block-long solution.

Bureau staff can help design the expansion, which could be a short-term pick-up and drop-off space at a curb. Another plan could convert on-street parking space into space for customer seating or lining up to enter the business. A street on the side of a business could be altered for seating or other activity.

Businesses owned by people of color may qualify for free professional design resources, free limited temporary street equipment and free paint for decorative purposes.

Assistance is available at 503-823-4026 or by emailing PBOTBusinessToolkit@portlandoregon.gov.

APPLICANTS NEEDED FOR CHARTER REVIEW

The City of Portland is seeking residents of many backgrounds to apply for a Charter Review Commission to recommend amendments to the city charter.

A commission convenes every 10 years to consider the way the government operates, how council members are selected and rules that govern the city's policies and structure.

"City Council is committed to using an equity lens when reviewing applications and building our Charter Review Commission," according to information from the Office of Community & Civic Life.

Applications are due at 5 p.m. Aug. 30. Information is available from Shoshanah Oppenheim 503-823-2559 in the civic life office or at www.portlandoregon.gov/civic.

MEYER TRUST INVESTS IN BLACK RESILIENCE

Meyer Memorial Trust plans to make strategic investments in Black lives in Oregon by launching a five-year, \$25 million initiative. Named "Justice Oregon for Black Lives," it is the largest initiative in the trust's 38-year history.

The trust, established from the estate of grocer Fred G. Meyer in 1982, is among the largest private foundations in the state, with assets of approximately \$828 million.

"Oregon is at a tipping point for real change," said Toya Fick, Meyer board chair. "Meyer Memorial Trust is an institution with equity at the heart of its work. We stand ready to meet the moment by supporting Black resilience in Oregon."

The initiative is in its early development. Future grants will likely include new ideas for public safety, efforts at prosecutorial reform, wealth building, cross-racial progressive movement and work to change hearts and minds by countering hate, injustice and dismantling anti-Blackness.

The first 11 grants total \$129 million. They include American Civil Liberties Foundation of Oregon, \$50,000; Black

United Fund of Oregon, \$200,000; Center for Intercultural Organizing, \$100,000; Communities United for People, \$50,000, Critical Resistance Portland, \$10,000, KairosPDX, \$200,000; Oregon Justice Resource Center, \$50,000; Portland African American Leadership Forum, \$200,000; Self Enhancement Inc., \$200,000; Southeast Uplift Neighborhood Program, \$10,000; and Urban League of Portland, \$200,000.

BUYING ART SUPPORTS SOCIAL JUSTICE GROUPS

Kenton's Disjecta Contemporary Art Center at 8371N. Interstate Ave. is selling artwork online and, at the same time, donating funds to social justice organizations selected by artists Edgar Fabian Frias, Jodie Cavalier and Arvie Smith. Information for ordering is available by visiting www.disjecta.org and clicking "explore" then "shop catalogs and more."

Frias' work includes sacred animals, shamanic figures, clowns and aliens. Some of these images are printed on fabric pillows. He has designated 25 percent of proceeds from sales of his work go to the National Queer and Trans Therapists of Color Network.

Jodie Cavalier, whose materials include objects and language, has her "waiting for" work printed on archival paper and signed by the artist in an edition of 50. She has designated that 25 percent of sales proceeds go to Don't Shoot PDX.

Arvie Smith, a Portland muralist, completed a work on a commercial wall at Northeast Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard at Alberta Street in 2018. A digital print image of the work, titled "Still We Rise," measures 22.75 inches by 18 inches. Smith has designated that all proceeds from sales of the digital image go to The Portland African American Leadership Forum.

URBAN FORESTRY HELPS SELECT CORRECT TREES

Choosing a tree is a decision that can last a lifetime, according to the Urban Forestry staff in the Portland Bureau of Parks & Recreation. To help property owners choose the right tree in the right place, the staff is offering a Zoom meeting from 9-11 a.m. Aug. 11.

The session will provide information on planting locations and species selection. "We will demonstrate how to perform a site evaluation and may even introduce you to new tree species," says a staff news release.

Registration is available at <https://www.portlandoregon.gov/parks/article/762675>. The Zoom details will be sent by email to those who register in advance.

- CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



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**SEEN A COYOTE?
TELL THE PSU PROJECT**

Coyote sightings are beginning to appear on social media, again. However, the critters aren't new in the city. The Portland Urban Coyote Project has been gathering information and marking sightings on a map for several years. Researchers at Portland State University want to know about sightings as they seek to uncover the mysteries of the urban coyote population. Those who provide information can become "citizen scientists" collaborating with the study. Information about the project is at www.portlandcoyote.com.



(Urban Coyote Project)

**RED CROSS SEEKS
MORE BLOOD DONORS**

It takes only about an hour to donate blood, and it may help save more than one life, according to the American Red Cross. With hospitals returning to normally scheduled surgeries and treating trauma patients, demand for blood is high. The Red Cross says it follows the highest standards of safety and infection control. All donors wear face coverings. Anyone who doesn't have a mask will have one provided. A Red Cross donation site is 3131N. Vancouver Ave. The telephone number is 503-RED-CROSS. Information is at www.redcrossblood.org.

**COMMUNITY ART SHOW
SETS AUG. 15 DEADLINE**

Visual artists, poets, song writers, video makers, and spoken word artists may submit work by Aug. 15 for a community art show titled "Engage in the Change," said Jordana Leeb, coordinator of the show.

Ideas that might be considered, she suggested, include: What does community mean or how has it changed? Do neighborhoods bring us together or keep us apart? What makes us resilient? The show is scheduled to run from Aug. 27 to Sept. 9, from 12 noon to 5 p.m. daily, at Alberta Street Gallery, 1829 N.E. Alberta St. The art show is funded in part by the Regional Arts and Culture Council and is connected to the Concordia Conversations event held earlier this year. A people's choice work will receive \$100 and the best of show will receive \$200. A "Best 18 and Under" award will receive \$100. Submissions may be made at a Facebook event page - tinyurl.com/engageart - or by emailing jazzyjor@gmail.com. Youth entries should be marked in the subject line as "under 18." All submissions should include the artist's name, email address, title of the work and medium. Two dimensional visual art should be no larger than 16 by 20 inches for the in-person show. Photos of visual art, including sculpture, should be included. ★



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★ STAR DEVELOPMENT NEWS

DE LA SALLE NORTH BREAKS GROUND IN CULLY

Four years of planning and 15 months of fundraising moved forward at a July 21 groundbreaking at St. Charles Church in the Cully neighborhood. Renovation of the church's gym and school – including construction of a new gym – are “still optimistically expected” to have the school open in August 2021, according to Ashleigh de Villiers, De La Salle's vice-president for development.

“That we've come this far is absolutely remarkable,” de Villiers said, “We look forward to bringing our 280 students to neighborhood and welcoming many Northeast students as future Knights.”

Currently occupying Kenton School at 7528 N. Fenwick Ave., the high school was forced to move when PPS announced its lease would not be renewed past June 2021. City approved construction plans in early July led De La Salle's Board of Directors to give a green light to move forward in July.

“We've already raised the \$20.5 million needed to renovate the old school,” de Villiers said. “But we still need to raise most of the \$3.65 million to construct a new gym.”

The St. Charles gym will be transformed into a science center and the bulk of the old school into 12 classrooms and a visual arts center. More than 50 construction workers will be employed over the next 12 months.

“We are fortunate to have found St. Charles and the parishioners as excited as we are about reinvigorating the campus,” de Villiers said. “We look forward to engaging with many organizations that support Cully, its residents and businesses.”

Over the next few years, De La Salle's expects the student body to gradually expand to 350.



BY PHILL COLOMBO

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COMMUNITY, CITY COUNCIL WITHDRAW SUPPORT FOR I-5 WIDENING PROJECT

Oregon Department of Transportation plans to relieve an I-5 Rose Quarter traffic bottleneck turned sour this summer when Albina Vision Trust announced it could no longer support the project. Mayor Ted Wheeler agreed, and city council directed municipal bureaus to stop working with ODOT on the project.

“I'm pretty disappointed in ODOT and how they didn't keep Albina Trust's vision in mind,” said State Senator Lew Frederick. “We need to speed up traffic for that mile and a half of I-5, but it has to be done in a way that's economically and environmentally sensitive to people who live there.”

Frederick said Albina and surrounding neighborhoods were economically decimated when Memorial Coliseum was built in 1960. Interstate traffic has heightened environmental concerns.

“We need to restore basic, easy access

- CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

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De La Salle North Catholic High School faculty, staff, donors and students participated in a mid-July groundbreaking on the grounds of St. Charles Church. In a year, the high school will be relocated to the Cully campus, Portland's first newly constructed Catholic high school in more than 50 years. (Andrea Lonas Photography)

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★ EXPIRES 8/31/20 ★



City Planners are studying which of three routes will best move the Portland Streetcar between downtown and Hollywood. Under consideration are Northeast Broadway to Sandy Boulevard, Northeast Irving Street to Sandy Boulevard and Northeast Burnside to Sandy Boulevard. (Bureau of Planning and Sustainability)

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between the Lloyd District and the river and restore appropriate housing,” said Frederick. “Anything done near Harriet Tubman Middle School needs to conform with safety and a clean environment.”

Frederick added that ODOT should reassess the project, listen to the community and ensure that all are economic winners.

PCC TO DEVELOP AFFORDABLE HOUSING AS PART OF TRAINING CENTER EXPANSION PROJECT

Three years may seem far in the future, but Portland Community College and Home Forward have begun collaborating to develop affordable housing as part of PCC’s Metro Workforce Training Center expansion project in Cully. Home Forward will lease about one acre of the PCC property to build and operate housing units near the corner of Northeast Killingsworth Street and 42nd Avenue.

Jonathan Trutt, Home Forward’s director of development and community revitalization said the agency plans 80 to 100 units, ranging from studios to three bedrooms. Groundbreaking is envisioned for early 2023.

“The project aims to provide job training and affordable housing at a single site with convenient access for residents of affordable housing to the Training Center’s programs,” said Trutt. He added that the collaboration would address complicated rules often preventing full-time students from living alone in affordable housing.

“We plan to create opportunities for roommate-friendly housing by building larger units – two-bedroom and three-bedroom – mindful of providing appropriate outdoor space for kids,” said Trutt.

Deeper connections between PCC and Home Forward to better align workforce development with affordable housing and modeling this ideal for affordable housing providers elsewhere in the region are also expected, Trutt added.

CITY PLANNERS STUDY THREE WAYS TO GET CITY STREETCAR TO HOLLYWOOD

By identifying land use, urban design and economic development strategies, the bureau of planning and sustainability is looking at three potential streetcar routes between downtown and Hollywood. The study is also exploring opportunities to create transit-oriented districts between Montgomery Park and Northeast Portland.

On a 10- to 20-year horizon, a streetcar extension to Hollywood would take one of three street alignments. The bureau is seeking comments on East Burnside Street to Sandy Boulevard, Northeast Irving Street to Sandy Boulevard, and Northeast Broadway/Weidler to Sandy Boulevard. Comments may be made by visiting www.portland.gov/bps.

“We expect to identify areas where future changes are recommended if streetcar and transit were implemented,” said Senior Planner Barry Manning. “We expect to have draft proposals for public consideration in fall or winter 2020 and a more formal staff proposal to the commission in spring of 2021.”

Information on existing land use, transportation, economic and demographic conditions; a review and summary of information from the first open house, and other supporting materials are also available at the bureau’s website.

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★ STAR DEVELOPMENT NEWS

COVID-19 DELAYS EXTEND BROADWAY MEDICAL CLINIC RENOVATION AND EXPANSION

Despite COVID-19-caused delays, Broadway Medical Clinic's renovation project in the Hollywood district has moved rapidly, but an opening date has been tentatively delayed from August to mid- October.

"The project is an exciting addition to the quality healthcare we have provided since the 1930s," said Shaun Hescoc, facilities and supply manager. "Renovation and new construction will provide our patients with a new, modern entrance on the south side of the building, eastside ADA parking close to the building and a level parking area with easy access to a new, spacious lobby, something we have wanted to do for our patients for years."

A new elevator, serving three levels of the structure, will complement a 2,500-square-foot basement expansion and renovation of other areas. Improvements include an updated internal medicine clinic; lab and phlebotomy space; a new, modern and spacious dermatology suite; diagnostic services department, and a pediatrics department with a larger waiting area and an updated look.

Broadway Medical Clinic has remained open while other clinics closed and used tele-health platforms. While still seeing patients and adjusting guidelines surrounding Covid-19, the clinic has, also been testing patients for COVID-19 since March, one of the first clinics to implement pandemic testing.

CVS PHARMACY TO REPLACE SHUTTERED GRANT PARK QVC

A summer installation of a new CVS Pharmacy sign in front of the closed former QVC grocery in the Grant Park neighborhood was one clue that a new business would be opening soon.

A quick check with QVC's Manager of Retail Communications Matt Blanchette confirmed it.

"QVC will be opening a 14,613-square-foot store at the corner of Northeast 33rd Avenue and Hancock Street in the fall," he said.

While no specific opening date is set, Blanchette said the store expects to employ 115 individuals.

SOLAR POWER TO DEFRAY CHURCH COSTS

Saint Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church was one of a dozen recipients of Pacific Power's renewable energy Blue



Grant Park's Northeast 33rd Avenue is sporting a new CVS sign. The pharmacy firm announced the fall, opening of a new store to employ 115. A QFC Grocery once occupied the site. (Steven Lemon)

Sky Award. The grant will help fund a new solar power array installation on the south facing roof of the Hollywood church.

"Because the array will allow us to generate our own electricity," said Dan Bagwell, the church's solar project coordinator. "We'll save on energy costs and dedicate more of our budget to our core mission of Latino ministries; twice-a-month community meals; Northeast food bank support, and other social and outreach ministries for environmental and other causes."

The project will also serve as a community model, Bagwell added.

DEVELOPMENT PROPOSED

In Arbor Lodge at 7333 N. Boston Ave., Fabrycki Development of West Linn has proposed two new, two-story, single-family homes with detached single-vehicle garages. Permits were issued earlier this year to deconstruct a 1500-square-foot, single-family residence and detached garage built in 1919.

In Sullivan's Gulch at 2739 N.E. Halsey St, UDG 28th & Halsey LLC of Beaverton has proposed to construct a new three-story apartment building on vacant property with 53 studio and one-bedroom units.

PERMITS ISSUED

In Boise at 3512 N. Haight Ave., Albina 35 Condominium LLC of Northeast Portland has applied to build six, new, attached townhouse units where a 1539-square-foot, single-family residence has stood since 1900.

In Concordia at 4906 and 4914 N.E. 35th Place, Oregon Homeworks LLC of Southwest Portland has applied to

construct two, new, two-story, single-family homes with single-vehicle garages. A permit was issued in May to deconstruct a 940-square-foot, single-family residence built in 1942.

At 5251, 5253 and 5257 N.E. 32nd Place, MC Investing LLC of Northwest Portland has applied to build three attached town homes without garages on property where a 950-square-foot, single-family residence has stood since

1906. A deconstruction permit was issued in June.

In Cully at 4642 N.E. Sumner St., DBS Group LLC of Tualatin has applied to deconstruct an 832-square-foot, single-family residence built in 1926.

In North Tabor at 508, 512, 516 and 520 N.E. 56th Ave., Reilly Custom Homes has applied to build four new, four-story town homes – each with a single-vehicle garage.

At 5635 and 5645 N.E. Glisan St., G25 LLC of Northwest Portland has applied to construct two, new three-story apartment buildings with a total of 25 units on property where a 2,020-square-foot, single-family residence has stood since 1924.

At 5321 N.E. Glisan St., Rami Abduwahab of Southwest Portland has applied to build a new single-story building for commercial use on property where a 1207-square-foot, single-family residence has stood since 1907.

In Vernon at 5214 N.E. 19th Ave., West Coast Development Group of West Linn has applied to deconstruct a 1292-square-foot, single-family residence built in 1909 and replace it with a new three-story duplex with a single-vehicle garage in each unit. ★

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★ STAR ERICA ON THE BLOCK

AUGUST ON ALBERTA

The last month of summer is here which means it's time to head to Alberta Street. I even convinced my daughter Z and my son Somes to go with me, so we crammed into the Datsun. Z always has to sit in the middle – and usually complains. Her brother will say something rude and then it devolves into a pushing match. That didn't happen. It was weird. We got to Alberta Street and found a parking spot. On the street. And my parallel parking was superb.

We stopped at Mimosa Studios to paint pottery and we all painted gnomes – because Somes rhymes with gnomes. Our gnomes were adorable. Then I realized my son will be going to college in a year and I'd be left with only a gnome, and I started crying.

To cheer up, we walked by the Alberta Main Street office and marveled at Bunny With a Tool Belt's "Window of Wonders." The unicorn inspired creatures were my favorite. Then the kids wanted to eat. It's so annoying how they always want to be fed.

We were totally psyched to find an outside table at Petite Provence. Z ordered a chocolate croissant and Somes ordered a marion berry, cream cheese brioche. I ordered the flight of mimosas. We sat and talked and laughed. The kids did not bicker. Not once. It seemed unnatural. I wondered if they knew I was dying of a terrible disease and hadn't told me?

We decided to stay a bit longer and take family photos with the big wooden dinosaurs that now adorn the street. We were all smiling. Together. Then I woke up.

It was a dream. I knew the ride in the Datsun was too peaceful. The kids agreeing to family photos would never happen. I'd been to Alberta Street, researching this article, and was so enamored that I dreamed about it.

The moral of the story, however, is that you can do all of these things. For real.

There truly is much to do on Alberta this summer that is new and fun. Many businesses have turned their parking into outdoor seating and it's wonderful to walk by people, enjoying themselves amid the beautiful planters and handcrafted tables. So, get out there and find the dinosaurs, gaze at the murals and support the locally owned businesses. Alberta Street, with all its resilient entrepreneurs, is waiting for you.

MIMOSA STUDIOS

Reopened from Thursday through Sunday, with appointment times at 10:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m., take the kids or go with a friend and paint your own gnome, or cup or plate or bowl. Try the to-go kit with everything you need to take home and paint yourself silly. It's a brilliant activity in-store or at home – and so fun to pick up your project after it's been fired. Plus, this summer, Mimosa Studios is donating 10 percent of its gnome sales to the Oregon Humane Society.

ADDRESS: 1718 N.E. Alberta St. **PHONE:** 503-288-0770 **WEB:** www.mimosastudios.com
INSTAGRAM: @MimosaStudios

PETITE PROVENCE BOULANGERIE AND PATISSERIE

Offering an enticing menu of breakfast, lunch, dinner, desserts, cocktails, coffees and bakery yummys, the Provence now offers expanded outdoor seating for 22, with socially-distanced tables inside. Beautiful plantings and an open atmosphere make it so welcoming and relaxing. Take the parents. Take your kids. Take a date. Just don't forget to try my favorite – the mimosa flight – brut champagne with fresh orange, grapefruit, pineapple and seasonal fruit juices.

ADDRESS: 1824 N.E. Alberta St. **Phone:** 503-284-6564 **WEB:** www.provencepdx.com
INSTAGRAM: @PetiteProvenceAlberta

ALBERTA MAIN STREET

A non-profit community organization, focused on advancing social justice within the vibrant, neighborhood culture of historic Alberta Street. Each year, the organization works with businesses, artists, residents and musicians to host a street fair. This summer, on August 8, there will be a lineup of bands performing in the Alberta Rose Theater – streaming live online – as well as on several big screens set up indoors and outdoors along Alberta. So go, listen to music and enjoy the offerings of Alberta Street Fair in a new and different way.

ADDRESS: 1722 N.E. Alberta St. **Phone:** 503-683-3252 **WEB:** www.albermainst.org
INSTAGRAM: @AlbertaStreet



BY ERICA SOMES
ERICASOMES@STAR-NEWS.INFO/@THEWRITERE



Mike Bennett displays an "A-Zoo" in front of his house, showcasing an animal for each letter of the alphabet. His new dinosaur installation on Alberta for summer is called 'Albertasaurus PDX.' (Mike Bennett)

WINDOW OF WONDERS BY BUNNY WITH A TOOLBELT

Bunny With a Toolbelt offers a street's-eye-view of whimsical wooden critters, cacti and rainbows, with lots of unicorn horns atop imaginary animals. Hilary Pfeifer sculpts her work from 75 percent reclaimed wood. Word on the street is that Pfeifer used to dress up in a bunny costume, just because. I want to be Hilary's friend. She could come to my urban farm in her bunny outfit and make the neighborhood kiddos ecstatic.

ADDRESS: 1722 N.E. Alberta St. **Phone:** 503-342-2928 **WEB:** www.bunnywithatoolbelt.com
INSTAGRAM: @bunnywithatoolbelt

MIKE BENNETT'S DINOSAURS

When the Oregon Zoo closed in March, Mike Bennett started an "A-Zoo" in front of his house, showcasing a new animal daily for each letter of the alphabet. He then approached Alberta Main Street about making dinosaurs for the neighborhood. His installation is called Albertasaurus PDX. Bennett began creating and placing 40 wooden, cut-out dinosaurs all along Alberta. He hopes to give families and dinosaur lovers of all ages something free and safe to do outside. Check out Bennett's instagram and website for lots of cool videos of him making art.

WEB: www.atozoo.com **INSTAGRAM:** @MikeBennettArt

GREEN BEAN

Green Bean's little, community bookstore rocks. They sell books. Real books made from paper. You can go online or call and buy books from them that may be picked up during business hours. They also partnered up with Bunny with a Tool Belt and Mike Bennett to create a free map you can pick up in front of the store. The map will take you on a self-guided, walking tour of animal art on the street, with 28 cryptic clues. All the art is between 14th and 30th avenues on Alberta Street.

ADDRESS: 1600 N.E. Alberta **Phone:** 503-954-2354 **WEB:** www.greenbeanbookspdx.com
INSTAGRAM: @GreenBeanBooks

Good luck dear readers, have fun during August on Alberta and sweet dreams. ★



Elizabeth Hughes at Mimosa Studios. (Star file photo)



Petite Provence. (Star file photo)



Hilary Pfeifer at Bunny with a Tollbelt. (Star file photo)



Jennifer Green at Green Bean Books. (Star file photo)

★ STAR FEATURE

Neighbors continue to gather, seeking justice, equity

By Janet Goetze
janetgoetze@star-news.info

Groups of Portlanders have gathered on street corners in North and Northeast Portland for more than two months, waving signs seeking justice and equity for all people. They feel support from the honking of passing cars, trucks and, sometimes, buses.

The gatherings, lasting about an hour on designated days, began after the May 25 death of George Floyd in police custody in Minneapolis. They continue with participants waving signs that read “United for Justice” or “Justice for George Floyd” or “How Many Aren’t Named? Justice for Elijah McClain.”

It’s a far cry from the noise and controversy on downtown streets around the federal Justice Center where groups of protestors, Portland police and federal agents have squared off late at night after larger groups of peaceful protestors have gone home.

The people waving signs also are a far cry from the late night group that smashed windows on Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard in May and another group that broke windows, sprayed graffiti and started a fire off MLK Boulevard and Killingsworth Street in June.

The June vandalism damaged Black owned businesses as well as the Police Bureau’s North Precinct, where people were inside the building as a fire started and doors were barricaded.

Black community leaders held a press conference the day after the damage on Killingsworth Street, denouncing the violence as an attempt to distract people from the Black Lives Matter movement.

Jamaal Lane, owner of Champions Barbering Institute, was among Black business owners decrying what he called “tearing down the community.”

Tony Hopson Sr., president and CEO of Self Enhancement Inc., which supports youth in education and other opportunities, also urged people not to be



Peter FitzGerald is among neighbors gathering to show support for equity and justice about 5 p.m. weekdays at Northeast 24th Avenue and Fremont Street. He wants changes so his grandchildren can grow up in a more equitable world. (Janet Goetze)



Andie Petkus hears cars honk in support of local residents showing support for equity and justice. Petkus stands at Northeast 24th and Fremont Street with a face mask purchased from a Black Lives Matter website. She wrote the letters on the black umbrella with a silver sharpie. (Janet Goetze)



Leonna Hardiway, manager of the Nike Factory Store on Northeast Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, decries the smashed windows and looting at the shop. Vandals may have thought they were attacking a corporation, but they affected employees of color. “We’re not just the brand,” Hardiway says. “We’re people here, too.” (Janet Goetze)

distracted by the destruction. “Not only is it not about Black Lives Matter,” he said. “It’s against Black Lives Matter.”

Farther south on MLK at Knott Street, Leonna Hardiway, manager of the Nike Factory Store, lamented the May destruction and looting at the community store. She’s is Black and her 70 employees make up the company’s most diverse staff, she said.

While vandals may have thought they were striking at a big corporation, they actually were threatening the livelihoods of local people of color and the community they want to serve, Hardiway said.

“When I see the hurt and the anguish and the frustration, I sympathize,” she said. “But I’m an adult. I know it’s vandalism and not the way to go.”

“We’re not just the brand,” she said, standing in front of the Nike store’s boarded windows. “We’re people here, too.”

The store on MLK was to stay open while remodeling progressed this summer, she said, but with smashed windows and interior damage, the company decided to close the shop temporarily to complete remodeling. The plan is to reopen when the work is finished.

On street corners, in daytime hours, those supporting Black Lives Matter said they plan to continue waving signs to continue support for justice and equity.

“I don’t want to lose momentum and I don’t want people to forget this is as urgent now as it was three months ago,” said Eleanor Escafi, who was demonstrating her support at Northeast 42nd Avenue and Killingsworth Street while holding her 4-month-old son, Vincent. “Also, I’m reminding myself I can’t become complacent.”

Ann Hubbard, wearing a T-shirt saying “Juneteenth Matters,” joined the group

waving signs at noon weekdays on Northeast Broadway between 15th and 16th avenues.

“It’s a reminder that white people should be doing something,” she said, explaining why she waves her sign to passing cars.

A companion, Taylor West, said she wants to see equity achieved. “The process is finally starting and we want to keep it going,” she said.

Peter FitzGerald, who helped organize the group meeting at 5 p.m. weekdays at Northeast 24th Avenue and Fremont Street, has a personal reason to support justice and equity. He has five grandchildren and two, he said, are designated by American culture with the “race – a social construct that is only skin deep – of the group that has the least social, economic, and political power. I am standing up for a better world for them to survive in.” ★



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★ STAR FEATURE

TALKING TO KIDS ABOUT RACE:

A conversation with the Freeman Family

By Lisa Lakes

lisalakes@star-news.info

Angela Freeman is executive director of schools for Reynolds School District and a Northeast Portland mother of three. She and her children – Jaylin Freeman-Broadous, 27, Quinci Freeman-Lytle, 23, and Bella Freeman-Moule, 15 – recently shared their thoughts with the Star on how to talk to kids about race.

THE IMPORTANCE OF TALKING ABOUT RACE

Angela began preparing her children for potential discrimination when they were quite young. Unlike white families, Black families and families of color do not have the choice to ignore discussions about race. It impacts their lives on a daily basis.

“As a mother of three Black children, I talked about how the world, the United States and society views my kids,” she said. Angela explained to her children that when they walk into a room, people might have preconceived opinions about them. They would need to work to show their real selves and counteract stereotypes.

“Most people are good people, but there are some who do not understand and appreciate difference,” she told them.

“Not to talk about race, is to ignore the current reality that has created social disparities,” said Jaylin.

If children are sheltered, it is more difficult for them to confront social disparities as adults – to understand, empathize and avoid defensiveness. It should not be taboo to discuss race, Bella said. It is a part of American history. Causal conversations over dinner can go a long way to increasing understanding.

SETTING UP A LEARNING CULTURE

If your family has not had discussions about race, a good way to start is to create what Angela calls a “learning culture.”

Self-reflection to identify unexamined bias is a first step. Establish an understanding that this is a journey the family is taking together and that parents don’t have all the answers. Angela acknowledged that being vulnerable with kids is tricky, but critical. Creating a safe



Members of the Freeman family of Northeast Portland, Angela Freeman, left, Matthew Moule, Jaylin Freeman-Broadous, Quinci Freeman-Lytle and Bella Freeman-Moule recently sat down with the Star News to discuss talking with children about race. (Angela Freeman)

space for learning is easier if children are told that parents are humans, that they struggle with their own bias and that they are also on a learning path.

“Make sure your kids know that failing is ok, and that you are doing your best until you know better,” said Quinci.

Appreciate everyone’s effort. When facing such a significant inequity in our culture, doing anything is better than doing nothing.

“We are all on an equal playing field, everyone gets to talk, and no one is the authority,” said Jaylin – relating his own experience with Freeman family discussions. “Everyone is able to be heard, to be taken seriously, and to express themselves.”

UNDERSTANDING AND TALKING ABOUT THE EFFECTS OF INSTITUTIONALIZED RACISM

Jaylin addressed the difficulty of exposing beliefs and attitudes that are so deeply embedded we often do not recognize them.

“People find it difficult to look at their own racism because they can’t think of a time when they were taught to be racist,” he said.

Children learn racism in subtle ways by observing how authority figures talk to and about people who are different. A conversation about racial inferiority may not have occurred. Becoming antiracist requires more than simply telling kids that everyone is equal. It requires self-

reflection and transparency.

“It is important not to make your kids feel guilty or ashamed,” Angela added.

She suggested focusing on the fact that we are all participating in a system that needs immediate change. Removing personal guilt and focusing on actions is helpful.

“Particularly for white people, you now know that you have privilege and that you are part of a system with power,” she said. “With that power, you actually get to change the course of things. Taking that opportunity gives hope for a more just society.”

Bella suggested that learning from the personal experiences of Black people and people of color is an important action.

“Hearing someone’s story and talking face to face may seem like a small step but can be a major learning experience,” she said.

Bella suggested focusing on issues in your neighborhood and what you could do to help. Learn and act in your sphere of influence.

Quinci suggested learning Black history. “White America does not see Black history as American history,” she said. “This country was founded on the blood and backs of African Americans – brought here illegally – and the blood of Native Americans.”

Before society can change, we need to acknowledge the past.

Jaylin added that slavery is perceived as being something that happened a long time ago, yet the construct of race was created to justify slavery, colonialism and manifest destiny.

Angela recommends challenging the way Black people and people of color are portrayed by traditional mediums. Seek out alternative viewpoints that portray them as human.

“We have been dehumanized for hundreds of years,” Angela said.

There are Black and people of color in all art forms. Look beyond the stereotypical mediums. For example, Black musicians play and compose classical music as well as hip-hop. Amplifying those voices will enrich your life and the lives of your children.

“Listen to what we are saying, believe us, see everything we are trying to do,” Quinci said. “Listen to every word, read every book. Black stories in general need to be amplified in this world.”

ALLYSHIP

Being designated, as an ally is an earned privilege, Angela said. “Ally is a term given to you by people of color when your actions have earned their trust.”

It is not appropriate to call yourself an ally until that title is granted to you. Instead, focus on becoming an antiracist.

“Don’t be afraid to know what you believe and to stand up for it even in public or when it might be uncomfortable,” Angela said. “That is how you earn the respect of allyship.”

KEEP CONVERSATION GOING

Find ways to interact with those who are different, Angela suggested. Step outside of your comfort zone and accept situations where you may be uncomfortable. Find books to read together or simply have critical conversations about the news. Decide how you can explore the topic further. Challenge facts and statistics. Do your own research.

“It is a privilege to be able to choose to talk about race or not,” said Jaylin. “It is a responsibility to do so when you have the privilege because people who are affected by race don’t have the option not to talk about it, because it effects our lives every day.”

To read books recommended for young readers, visit www.quailridgebooks.com/how-be-anti-racist-kids. ★

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★ STAR FEATURE

Neighbors restore neglected Gladys McCoy garden

By Janet Goetze
janetgoetze@star-news.info

"I was so upset watching the video of George Floyd," said Kate Thompson, a retired nurse. "I couldn't watch it to the end."

While many Portlanders marched with those supporting equity and justice following the death of George Floyd in police custody in Minneapolis on May 25, Thompson said, going downtown at night wasn't what she felt called to do.

A few days later, after an unruly group broke windows on Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, she and her husband, Bill Scott, walked over from their home on Northeast 11th Avenue. Employees of the Nike Factory Store were cleaning up glass from their shattered windows on the east side of the street. On the west side, where Knott Street enters the boulevard, she took a new look at a small, overgrown garden.

"I have walked past here for 20 years," she said, recalling her three-mile walk to work at Good Samaritan Hospital. "I never really gave this place a second thought."

She read an inscription on the plaque at the back of the garden and realized it was a memorial to Gladys McCoy, elected to the Portland Public Schools board in 1970, becoming the first Black person elected to public office in Oregon. She became the state's first ombudsman in 1976 and was elected a Multnomah County commissioner, serving from 1979-1984. She returned in 1987 as the elected county chair, serving until 1993, when she died of thyroid cancer.

"I came over here and started pulling weeds," said Thompson on an early



John Barker, left, and Kate Thompson dig out roots of weeds that have invaded the beds of a garden memorial for Gladys McCoy, Portland's first Black school board member, state ombudsman and Multnomah County chair. The garden was neglected for many years, but roses and ornamental grass survived without watering. (Janet Goetze)

morning of uprooting quack grass and other invaders. She was joined by friends Jeff Strang, Tamara Boyd and John Barker. Rehabilitating the McCoy memorial became her way of supporting Black equity and justice, she said.

In researching the memorial, she learned it was financed by Venerable Booker, who started the American State Bank in 1969, one of the first Black-owned banks in the Northwest. Booker, a friend of Gladys McCoy, was bank president for 32 years and owned the land where the memorial was developed, next to the bank.

Booker died in 2005 and a family company retained the memorial property after selling the former bank property next to it. Apparently, no one was designated to care for the McCoy memorial. Over the years, a variety of invasive plants moved

into planted beds, including "trash trees," as Thompson called them. She was able to reach the family's lawyer, who expressed approval for neighborhood people to care for the memorial.

Through a relative, Thompson learned that architect Hilary MacKenzie designed the memorial and landscaping with Booker about 1993, shortly after McCoy's death.

MacKenzie, a neighbor of Booker at the time, said they selected roses, ornamental grasses, sweet gum trees in the corner and a hedge in the back. A ground cover didn't survive the years without watering, she noted. Scarlett gladioli survive in a narrow strip of dirt under the memorial plaque.

"Mr. Booker planted those," MacKenzie said. "He really wanted those and they have hung on."

Thompson, who began calling the work

crew "Gladys' Garden Gnomes," said that after the trash trees were cut, debris simply disappeared.

"We don't know who the mysterious 'gnome' was," she said, who hauled it away.

The memorial garden was developed without an irrigation system, but several rose bushes miraculously survived, including a tall plant with pink blossoms in the center of the landscaping.

One of the "garden gnomes," John Barker, a retired architect with a passion for gardening, has been thinking about which plants could rejuvenate the memorial garden. Heather requires little water, it's evergreen and its flowers may be yellow, pink or white, he said. Rock roses, yucca and New Zealand flax are drought tolerant, too.

"I want to do something that's low water, bold and different," Barker said. ★

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★ STAR FEATURE

Roseway mowers keep park blocks groomed

By Janet Goetze
janetgoetze@star-news.info

In an unusual public-private partnership, a half-dozen neighbors are keeping the grass cut on the park blocks dividing Northeast 72nd Avenue, between Fremont and Prescott streets in the Roseway neighborhood.

The grass looks better trimmed, of course, but the lawns also are playgrounds for kids who play ball games, residents who walk dogs and others who throw down a blanket for a picnic, said Bob Price, an organizer of the cutting crew. A couple years ago, he said, one neighbor even practiced fly-fishing in the middle of a block.

The residents organized about five years ago to supplement mowing by city crews. They approached the bureau of transportation with their proposal for an informal public-private partnership, as the blocks are, technically, a right-of-way owned by PBOT. The crew's proposal was readily accepted, Price said.

The city usually mowed once a month, and the Roseway cutting crew would bring out a riding mower a couple weeks later to keep the grass at a pleasant park length. However, because of staffing and funding issues, the city only mowed once in March and once in April this year, Price said. As a result, the Roseway crew has been mowing every couple of weeks.

Before the crew members start mowing, they go through the blocks to pick up beer cans, fast food wrappers and other detritus. Once they found a golf club broken in three



The Roseway cutting crew keeps grass trimmed on the 72nd Avenue park blocks in an unusual public-private arrangement. The members include, from left, Nick Harrington, Jerry Hunt, Scott Everist on mower, Bob Price and Lloyd Harris. (Janet Goetze)

pieces and thrown across the lawn.

The group includes Scott Everist, a retired masonry contractor who owns a John Deere riding mower; Nick Harrington, a medical device salesman; Jerry Hunt, a retired project manager for a ship repair company; Lloyd Harris, a retired Air Force officer, and Price, a retired land-use planning consultant. Other crew members are Tony Cabello and his son, Will Cabello.

The riding mower makes mowing each 400 foot by 80 foot block easier

than a standard stand-up mower. Early each spring, before mowing season begins, Price sends a note to each of the 88 households along the park blocks. The note explains the crew's purpose, encourages potential new volunteers and asks for a donation to pay for gasoline and the mower's end-of-season maintenance.

The residents usually donate \$1200 to \$1500 each year, Price said, and the crew has Central Northeast Neighbors, the neighborhood coalition office, keep track of the money. The crew also donates

some of the money to youth athletics.

In recent years, the recipient has been Beaumont Softball. Parents of the ball players have helped with the mowing, too.

"Some of the mothers have learned how to run the mower," Price said.

Each block takes about 1.5 hours to mow, and the entire swath takes 7 to 8 hours, he said. But there's consolation for the time spent on the mower, the men said, because it's almost meditative.

"You're sitting there, worrying about nothing," Price said, "with a cold drink." ★



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★ STAR FOOD RESOURCES

Agencies that provide food and other resources in the community are seeking funding and volunteer help to meet expanding needs during the COVID-19 pandemic.

MAINSRING

Mainspring, a food, clothing and resource pantry at 3500 N.E. 82nd Ave. in the Madison South neighborhood, has been providing food to more than 2000 people each day it is open. Several faith-based groups began the organization in the 1960s as Fish Emergency Services. Mainspring needs donations of funds, food and volunteers in several categories, including drivers, pantry, clothing, check-in and more.

Program hours for self-referrals are 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Donations may be made during client hours or call 503-233-5533 to arrange a pick-up. Donations may be also made at <http://Bit.Ly/Donate2fish>. For more information, visit www.mainspringpdx.org.

NORTHEAST EMERGENCY FOOD PROGRAM

The Northeast Emergency Food Program is serving about 500 families each day it is open, which is more than six times greater than in pre-pandemic days. Funds, food and volunteers are needed. Information is at 503-284-5470.

The program, part of Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon, accepts food donations from 1-4 p.m. Thursday and Saturday at

FARMERS MARKETS OPEN WITH PRODUCE, FLOWERS



(Janet Goetze)

Portland Farmers Markets gather regional vendors who sell fresh fruit, vegetables, flowers and cheese. Some also sell meat, fish, preserves, honey and wine. Most also will double the value of SNAP or food stamp dollars, which enable families to purchase additional produce.

Masks are required to enter the market and six-foot physical

distances are marked in high-traffic areas. The markets request that only one healthy person per household shop at each market to avoid crowding. Pets should be left at home, although service dogs are permitted. Shop-and-go is requested, with no lingering or eating in the market.

North and Northeast neighborhood markets include King Farmers Market, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sundays at Northeast Seventh Avenue and Wygant Street. The King market is using WhatsGood, an app for pre-payment and market pickup that allows you to order by Friday each week for a Sunday pickup. Visit www.portlandfarmersmarket.org/our-markets/king for details.

The Lloyd Farmers Market is open 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesdays at 820 N.E. Holiday St. A website, www.lloydfarmersmarket.com, lists daily vendors and shows a way to place preorders by 11 p.m. Sunday for Tuesday pickup. Kenton Farmers Market is open 3-7 p.m. Wednesdays at North Denver Avenue and McClellan Street. Visit www.portlandfarmersmarket.org/our-markets/kenton for details. – Janet Goetze

Luther Memorial Church, 4800 N.E. 72nd Ave. in the Cully neighborhood. Funds may be donated on the Ecumenical Ministries website: www.emoregon.org/nefp.

OREGON FOOD BANK

The Oregon Food Bank, www.oregonfoodbank.org, is seeking financial

donations and volunteers who are under age 60 and without underlying health conditions. The food bank assists 1400 sites in the state and some have seen an increase in demand of 20 to 70 percent, according to CEO Susannah Morgan.

Local food distribution sites are listed on the website. Those who need assistance may call the food bank at 503-505-7061 from 9

a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Morgan notes that many farmers markets are open and will double the value of SNAP or food stamp dollars to enable families to enjoy more fresh produce and protein.

MEALS ON WHEELS

The Meals on Wheels People needs financial donations and face masks, according to its website at www.mowp.org/volunteers.

The organization, which delivers meals and makes wellness checks on homebound seniors, is seeking cards and artwork, which families could make together, to be delivered with meals. Send the cards and artwork to Meals on Wheels People, 7710 S.W. 31st Ave., Portland, OR 97219.

A "Friendly Chat" program seeks volunteers to provide human connections for seniors experiencing isolation. A link on the website leads to an orientation program.

HOLY REDEEMER CHURCH

Nine hundred boxes of fresh produce and dairy are available to those in need from 9 a.m. to 12 noon Tuesdays in August at Holy Redeemer Catholic Church parking lot, 25 N. Rosa Parks Way in the Piedmont neighborhood. Enter on Vancouver Avenue and exit to Williams Avenue.

The "Farm to Family" collaboration is a partnership of Holy Redeemer with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Pacific Fruit Company and the Archdiocese of Portland. – Janet Goetze

★ STAR PET CONNECTIONS
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Bobbie's 1923 journey becomes national story

The enduring bond between humans and their dogs has been recorded throughout history. Archaeologists have documented this relationship back to Neolithic times 3600-4200 years ago. The story of Bobbie of Silverton is a moving affirmation of this bond.

Bobbie the collie lived in Silverton with Mr. and Mrs. Frank Brazier and their daughters Nova and Leona. In 1923 the family drove to Wolcott, Ind. to spend the summer with relatives. Bobbie went with them. One day during the visit Frank and Bobbie went to buy gas. At the station Bobbie was chased away by three local dogs. Bobbie was familiar with the area and knew the home where the Braziers were staying, so Frank figured he'd show up. When he did not return the family searched the area, called neighbors, and placed an ad in the local paper. After three weeks of searching the family returned home with broken hearts.

Astonishingly, six months later Nova spotted Bobbie walking down the street in Silverton. Bobbie was in terrible shape with a matted coat and damaged paws. The family identified Bobbie from several scars he had gotten before the trip. The family was overjoyed and Bobbie, exhausted, slept for three days.

The Silverton Appeal newspaper published Bobbie's story, which quickly went nationwide. As the story spread those who had aided Bobbie wrote in to



BY LISA LAKES

LISALAKES@STAR-NEWS.INFO

confirm details of his amazing journey.

The Oregon Humane Society investigated and confirmed that Bobbie had indeed walked approximately 2800 miles, in winter, to return home. During the trip east the Braziers had parked their car each night at gas stations. Bobbie had stopped at each of these on his return journey and also sought food and shelter with individuals, families, and even at a camp for the homeless.

Bobbie became a celebrity, receiving the keys to the city of Silverton, and many other accolades. Ripley's Believe it or Not featured his story. He also reenacted his journey in a silent film, "The Call of the West." Unfortunately, much of this film has been lost, but you



can see the real Bobbie in part one on Youtube.

Bobbie died a hero in 1927 and is buried at the Oregon Humane Society. You may visit his grave in the rose garden. Rin Tin Tin attended his funeral and the Mayor of Portland gave the eulogy. There is also a small memorial in Silverton at 200 S. Water St.

Bobbie's journey reminds us why we aspire to be worthy of the courage, devotion, and love our pets demonstrate to us every day. ★

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NEW COMMUNITY CENTER OPENING, GRADUALLY, IN FORMER IVY SCHOOL SITE AT 42ND AND PRESCOTT

In spite of pandemic restrictions, Karl Keefer and Rachel Munzig are part of a team that has begun to slowly and safely open a community center called Alder Commons at 4212 N.E. Prescott St. in the Beaumont neighborhood. Built in 1992, the building originally housed the George Washington Carver Community Learning Center and had recently been home to The Ivy School, a public Montessori charter school that moved to the Overlook neighborhood last year.

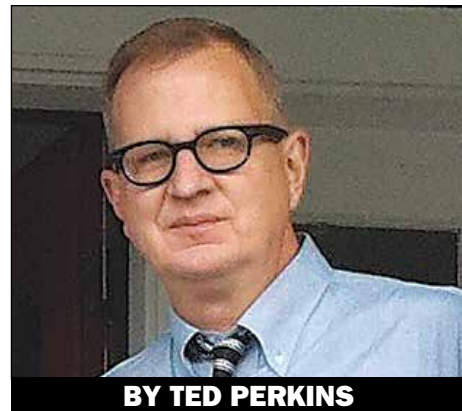
Alder Commons' mission is to cultivate an equitable, all-ages community of self-directed learners and to reduce barriers between youth and adults of diverse backgrounds by providing a safe and inclusive space for them to share knowledge and resources.

"We are currently operating almost entirely online," said Keefer. "Once protections are in place and we feel safe, we will open as a broad-scope community center, funded by membership fees and donations. We plan to offer an array of programming for young people and adults. Content will vary depending on the interests of our membership. Members will get access to our space, as well as drop-off child-care for young people. We're a school age recorded program. The building will be open to the public on evenings and weekends, so as not to limit programs to just members."

Plans for the center include a coworking space, a play and imagination room, a lounge area with couches and board games, artist studios, a woodshop and workshop, meeting rooms, a community kitchen and an outdoor adventure playground.

"We're cultivating an environment where young people's interests will be taken seriously," said Keefer. "If a handful of families are interested in learning to speak Russian, we'll help them organize classes. If folks want to build a go kart or host video game club, that's totally in bounds. Dominant culture tells kids what to do and when to do it for most of the day. We're taking a strong stance against that kind of environment. Kids need ample space and time to play and explore interests. We're also taking a strong stance on equity, and have sliding scale fees to lower financial barriers. We are working to make sure that Alder Commons will develop into a community that serves a broad cross-section of the neighborhoods surrounding us. We are actively working to partner with culturally-specific organizations to co-host events and make our programs and services accessible."

For the last five years, Keefer and Munzig have been researching and visiting community centers, democratic schools, free schools, coworking spaces, public and private schools that contributed to the vision of Alder Commons. The organizing team includes



BY TED PERKINS
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educators, activists, artists, parents, young people and business owners. Current board members include PPS teacher Bárbara Pérez, homeschooling mom Janice McDonald, Wayfinding Academy founder Michelle Jones and Cassondra Salazar, who has been on the staff of Ivy School since its founding.

"As part of our goal of being both intergenerational and multicultural, our stakeholder group is broad," said Keefer. "It's our hope that in the span of one day, we might see a group of young people using the space as an after-school center, a group of homeschooling families spending time during the day, a coworker using it as an office alternative, an artist working out of the studio and a book club meeting in the evening. We hope that it becomes a place for everyone."

Rigler Elementary, Beaumont Middle School and Alliance High School are all within walking distance of the center.

"The Alder Commons building is at a really interesting intersection of multiple neighborhoods: Cully, Concordia and Beaumont-Wilshire," said Keefer. "We're very grateful to be located near all the great businesses along 42nd Avenue. Within two blocks of us we have Commotion Dance Studio, Hi-Note Music, Metalwood Salvage, Bolt Fabric and a bunch of others that offer classes and workshops to the community. We're really excited about the chance to partner with these folks on programs in the future. We're incredibly grateful to Our 42nd Ave. and Living Cully for organizing

community meetings, where we've been able to connect with small businesses and community members."

Some renovation work on the building, including the processing of permits, has slowed due to COVID-19.

"To prioritize the collective health of our community, we're still only semi-open," said Keefer. "The building is laid out in a way that we can accommodate a few members without risk. In June, we welcomed Daniela del Mar of Letra Chueca Press as our first member and they are running their letterpress business out of our studio room. In July, we added Manuela Interian and Fredi Castillo who will run Lonchería Los Mayas, a delicious Mexican and Yucatecan food cart, out of our parking lot. We're doing what we can to furnish the building with donations or low-cost items from Craigslist, and we're building lots of things ourselves, like bookshelves and shop tables. Broader membership is still on-hold, but interested folks can join a wait list on our website."

For more information, visit www.aldercommons.org.

WORKING CLASS ACUPUNCTURE REOPENS ITS CULLY CLINIC

After closing in March for pandemic restrictions, Working Class Acupuncture – at 3526 N.E. 57th Ave. in the Cully neighborhood – reopened in July with limited reservations for appointments and significant safety precautions in place. Working Class provides low-cost acupuncture through a cooperative, grassroots, financially self-sustaining model. The Cully clinic has been open since 2002 and Working Class also has clinics in the Hillsdale and Rockwood neighborhoods.

"Given that it takes much less time for an acupuncturist to treat a patient than it does for a stylist to cut hair, we feel encouraged about the effectiveness of our safety procedures and are looking forward to seeing patients again," said co-founder and Cully neighbor Lisa Rohleder. "We are so grateful to our community for their understanding and patience as

- CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

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Karl Keefer and Rachel Munzig, left, welcomed Daniela del Mar of Letra Chueca Press as Alder Commons' first member in June. In July, they added Manuela Interian and Fredi Castillo of Lonchería Los Mayas, a Mexican and Yucatecan food cart. (Karl Keefer)

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★ STAR BUSINESS BUZZ

we learn how to navigate these strange circumstances together.”

Working Class offers a sliding scale schedule of \$20 to \$40 per treatment, with a \$10 paperwork fee on the first visit. 87 percent of the clinic’s funding comes from patients paying for treatments. 12 percent comes from contracts with agencies to provide acupuncture for clients and one percent comes from donations.

The biggest changes at the clinic involve its check-in process. Treatments are by appointment only and walk-ins are no longer allowed. Patients are encouraged to schedule appointments online and pay ahead of time, using a new contactless payment option. In the treatment room, masks are required, recliners are at least six feet apart and acupuncturists wash and disinfect hands between treating patients and touching surfaces. Hand

sanitizer is available for patients when they arrive and multiple bottles are located throughout the clinic.

Talking is kept to a minimum and patients are encouraged to bring a written note describing symptoms for their acupuncturist to read. Windows may be open to increase air flow, so patients are also encouraged to wear layers and dress warmly to help manage the number of blankets used during treatment.

“If for some reason you have trouble with our new processes, please contact us and let us know,” said Rohleder. “We do not want these new systems to be a barrier for anybody. Our goal is to help people feel better and to build community and we want to do that safely.”

For more information, call 503-335-9440 or visit www.workingclassacupuncture.org ★



After closing in March for pandemic restrictions, Working Class Acupuncture in the Cully neighborhood reopened in July with limited reservations for appointments and significant safety precautions in place. (Ted Perkins)

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