

HEY NEIGHBOR! This newspaper is a free publication brought to you by the Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods (NECN)

**MISSION STATEMENT:**

Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods (NECN) increases neighborhood livability through highly inclusive civic engagement and grassroots community building. NECN believes in creating healthy neighborhoods by engaging people to become directly involved in determining how their neighborhood evolves.

**CONTACT NECN:**

4815 NE 7th Ave  
Portland, OR 97211  
503.388.5040  
info@necoalition.org  
www.necoalition.org  
facebook.com/NECoalition

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4815 NE 7th Ave  
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## Nature Patch Coming to Alberta Park

*Portland Parks & Recreation*

If you haven't seen the change underway at Alberta Park, you've got to check it out soon.

A new program of Portland Parks & Recreation Ecologically Sustainable Landscapes is bringing nature to neighborhood parks. The program will add patches of natural habitat to developed parks to create more diverse park landscapes that support native pollinators, reduce maintenance, provide educational opportunities, and foster collaboration.

“...it has a wilder character than other spaces you'll find in most parks”

In September, Parks staff broke ground on the very first Nature Patch that will offer natural experiences for visitors and enhance the park's ecological value for wildlife.

An acre-sized stand of Douglas fir in the center of Alberta Park is being transformed into a lush understory landscape. The new feature will include forest plantings, an accessible pathway, a



PP&R field crews celebrate the first phase of planting in November

split-rail fence, seating logs and boulders, signage, and natural elements to explore. Fallen branches, fir needles, and leaves will help build a layer of duff to complete the forest aesthetic.

The nature patch is the first project of its kind for PP&R. It's not a natural area, but it has a wilder character than other spaces you'll find in most parks – a small chunk of forest nestled in among the ballfield, playground, and off-leash area. The project is designed with pollinators in mind. Plants and other elements were selected to

create a space with real ecological function that will provide habitat and food for pollinating insects and birds. Even small patches of natural habitat in parks can support wildlife, while at the same time giving more Portlanders a chance to engage with nature closer to home. Portland Parks wants to see these co-benefits at more of its facilities, and is beginning right here in our neighborhood.

The major elements of the nature patch will be in place by the end of the year, and planting will

See **PARK** pg 8

## Residential Infill Project Addresses Housing Affordability

*By Luke Norman, Sullivan's Gulch neighbor and co-chair of NECN's Land Use and Transportation Committee*

As anyone who followed local news or tried to buy a house knows, housing prices in Portland have skyrocketed. To help address the affordability crisis, the City of Portland has launched the Residential Infill Project (RIP) to increase housing options, while maintaining the unique character of Portland's neighborhoods. The Northeast Coalition of Neighborhood Board has identified housing affordability as a top priority. As such, the Board has provided city staff with recommendations to enhance the affordability aspects of the RIP.

The RIP seeks to provide smaller and more affordable housing options in Portland's opportunity and transportation rich neighborhoods, by allowing the development of more duplexes and triplexes. Duplexes and triplexes are a common sight in many clas-

sic Portland neighborhoods and were widely built until their development was restricted in the 1950's.

Additionally, the RIP would allow homeowners to build additional Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) on a lot, for a total of one detached and one internal ADU. ADUs have proven to be popular housing options and a valuable source of rent for homeowners.

While proposing to increase density, the RIP will also reduce the mass and scale of buildings in single-family zones. For example, a house on a standard 5,000 square foot R5 lot would be limited to 2,500 square feet, excluding basements. The limit on size along with other changes balances the need for affordability with neighborhood concerns on the size and shape of new houses.

Interested in sharing your opinion? There will be two additional



SE Salmon Street duplex from 1907

opportunities to comment as the proposal is considered by the Planning and Sustainability Commission and City Council in 2018.

See **RIP** pg 8

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# N/NE MAP

**Vernon Neighborhood Association**  
 Meetings: Quarterly, 3rd Wednesday of January  
 7-9 pm, 5431 NE 20th Ave.  
[vernon@necoalition.org](mailto:vernon@necoalition.org)

**Woodlawn Neighborhood Association**  
 Meetings: 1st Wednesdays, 7-9 pm,  
 817 NE Madrona St.  
[info@gowoodlawn.com](mailto:info@gowoodlawn.com)

**Concordia Neighborhood Association**  
 Meetings: 1st Wednesdays, 7-8:30 pm,  
 5736 N.E. 33rd Ave.  
 Kennedy School Community Room,  
[chair@concordiapdx.org](mailto:chair@concordiapdx.org)

**Alameda Neighborhood Association**  
 Meetings:  
 4th Mondays, 7-8:30 pm,  
 2620 NE Fremont St.  
[alamedapdx@gmail.com](mailto:alamedapdx@gmail.com)

**King Neighborhood Association**  
 Meetings: 2nd Wednesdays,  
 6:30-8:30 pm, 4815 NE 7th Ave.  
[info@kingneighborhood.org](mailto:info@kingneighborhood.org)

**Humboldt Neighborhood Association**  
 Meetings: 2nd Wednesdays,  
 7-9 pm, 804 N Alberta  
[HNAnews@gmail.com](mailto:HNAnews@gmail.com)

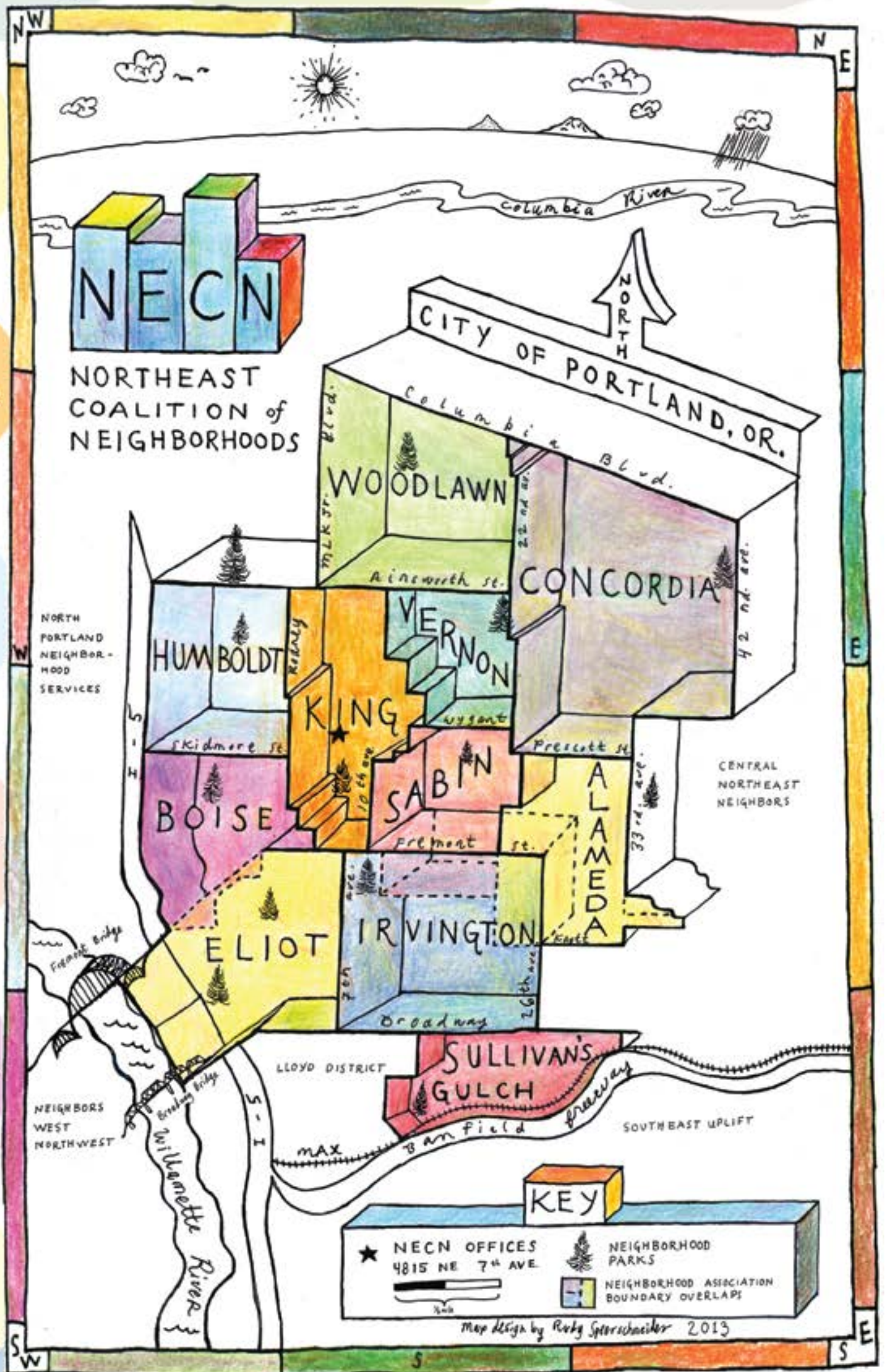
**Sabin Community Association**  
 Meetings: 2nd Mondays, 7-9 pm,  
 3535 NE 15th Ave.  
[sabin@necoalition.org](mailto:sabin@necoalition.org)

**Boise Neighborhood Association**  
 Meetings: 2nd Mondays, 7-9 pm,  
 4115 N Mississippi Ave.  
[boisena@gmail.com](mailto:boisena@gmail.com)

**Eliot Neighborhood Association**  
 Meetings: 3rd Mondays,  
 6:30-8 pm,  
 120 NE Knott St.  
[info@eliotneighborhood.org](mailto:info@eliotneighborhood.org)

**Irvington Community Association**  
 Meetings: 2nd Thursdays,  
 7-9 pm,  
 1320 NE Brazee St.  
[president@irvingtonpdx.com](mailto:president@irvingtonpdx.com)

**Sullivan's Gulch Neighborhood Association**  
 Meetings: 2nd Tuesdays, 7-9 pm,  
 1548 NE 15th Ave.  
[sullivansgulch@necoalition.org](mailto:sullivansgulch@necoalition.org)



## GAP Helps Reduce Graffiti



By Office of Neighborhood Involvement (ONI)

The Graffiti Abatement Program (GAP) serves the communities of Portland by providing free and reduced-cost graffiti removal assistance for residents, small businesses (ten or fewer employees), and non-profit organizations. GAP coordinates community cleanup events in partnership with neighborhood associations, business groups, interested organizations, and individual volunteers. Additionally, anywhere between 700-1000 reports of graffiti per month are captured in the Graffiti Abatement Program report-

ing database. GAP refers these reports to the appropriate bureau or agency for cleanup and contacts property owners with graffiti that hasn't been removed from private property.

A new proactive removal route strategy was implemented mid-summer to further reduce the volume of accumulated graffiti seen on private property, sidewalks, and poles on main thoroughfares throughout Portland. These routes are being performed on a quarterly basis across the city. Outside of the routes, free and reduced-cost removal assistance continues to be available upon request with written permission from property owners.

To obtain a waiver and request graffiti removal assistance on your business or home, please go to [www.portlandoregon.gov/oni/46186](http://www.portlandoregon.gov/oni/46186).

In response to an uptick in reports of hate graffiti, the Graffiti Abatement Program emphasizes that reports of hate and/or gang graffiti are top priority removals. GAP works to have these cases of graffiti removed as quickly as possible.

**If you see what you believe to be hate graffiti, please do the following:**

- Document it with photographs.
- Report it to non-emergency and request a police report.
- Notify the Graffiti Abatement Program via email: [graffiti@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:graffiti@portlandoregon.gov)
- Cover or remove the graffiti if possible. Do not attempt to remove graffiti on any public art or the fronts of street signs.

**How to report graffiti:**

- Report online at [www.pdxreporter.org](http://www.pdxreporter.org) (requires a Portland Online login, which is easy to create.)
- Email [graffiti@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:graffiti@portlandoregon.gov).
- Call the Graffiti Line at 503-823-4824.

Have a questions for the program? Please feel free to email the program at [graffiti@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:graffiti@portlandoregon.gov) or leave a message on the graffiti line at 503-823-4824.

## NECN Fiscal Sponsorship Spotlight: Repair PDX

By Mischa S. Webley  
NECN Staff Writer

NECN provides fiscal sponsorships to community organizations around the area. This month we check back in with Repair PDX's Lauren Gross, who received sponsorship in 2017.

**Hey Neighbor:** Tell us about your organization.

**Lauren Gross:** Our mission is to spread repair culture. We do that by hosting monthly events called Repair Cafés where volunteers fix people's broken items for free. Our goals are to repair items and extend their life, shift attitudes about getting something repaired instead of immediately throwing it away, and empower people to learn to fix their own items. We were inspired by the Repair Cafés organization in the Netherlands, who began hosting events like ours in 2009. In 2013, several of us who wanted to make this happen in Portland, got together and started organizing. It's been a rewarding process and we continue to love what we do.

**HN:** How has having NECN as your fiscal sponsor helped you achieve your mission?

**LG:** We are so totally grateful to NECN for agreeing to be our fiscal sponsor! For the past four years, we have been operating as a grassroots organization that is all volunteer run. None of us get paid, which means we have a very limited capacity to make things

happen. Fiscal sponsorship allows us to accept donations that we would not have otherwise been able to accept, which includes grants as well as in-kind donations. NECN also helps with admin and promoting our activities, which will definitely help build our capacity and allow us to do more!



**HN:** What's been your impact so far?

**LG:** Since we began in May of 2013, we have hosted 44 repair cafes in the Portland area and fixed around 2,000 items. We have also helped other groups in our region get started. There are now similar repair groups that host events in Beaverton/Hillsboro, West Linn, Gresham, Milwaukie, and Vancouver. Our events are more than just fixing things to keep them out of the landfill. They are about fixing people's treasured items and building community in the process. The feeling of community that comes from volunteer and participant problem-solving and fixing something together is really special.

**HN:** What's next for Repair PDX

See REPAIR pg 8



### Welcome

to our fifth edition of *Hey Neighbor!* This publication is free and distributed quarterly to you by Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods (NECN).

### Who are we?

Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods (NECN), founded in 1975, is an independent nonprofit organization. NECN is one of seven neighborhood coalitions in Portland, which are primarily funded by the City's Office of Neighborhood Involvement. NECN identifies and takes on hyper-local issues to increase neighborhood livability and civic engagement. NECN's service area includes 11 neighborhoods in inner North/Northeast Portland: Alameda, Boise, Concordia, Eliot, Humboldt, Irvington, King, Sabin, Sullivan's Gulch, Vernon, and Woodlawn. Any person that resides or works in North/Northeast Portland can get directly involved!

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ASK THE HISTORIAN:

Group Works to Purchase/Restore Alberta Shul

By Doug Decker, Concordia News historian

**The question:** What can you tell me about the building at 20th Avenue and Going Street that used to house the Tifereth Israel Synagogue? – *Alessandra Novak*

**The historian reports:** I'm so glad you've asked. It's a fascinating and rich story.

This long, narrow white clapboardsided building was built in 1907 and purchased in 1914 by Congregation Tifereth Israel, a Jewish community with roots in Russia and the Ukraine.

Originally the center of Jewish life for a small handful of families on Portland's eastside – many of whom lived within walking distance – the congregation expanded over the years to include up to 100 families.

Known during those early years as the Alberta Shul – a Yiddish word meaning a place of study and prayer – the building drew the eastside Jewish community together. By the early 1950s, Tifereth Israel had outgrown the building, so the congregation purchased and moved into the former Redeemer Lutheran Church at 15th Avenue and Wygant Street.

From 1952 until the early 1980s, the building was home to several African American congregations, including the Mt. Sinai Community Church. In 1980, when it was sold to its current owner, the building was rented out for various purposes including religious gatherings and then eventually as storage space. In 2010 it became home to Xhurch, its current occupants, as a gathering and workspace for resident artists and musicians.

When the property was placed on the market in 2016, members of Portland's Jewish community began to organize an effort to purchase and restore the building. The



This undated photo shows Tifereth Israel, an orthodox Jewish synagogue, on the southeast corner of 20th Avenue and Going Street. It served as synagogue from 1914 to 1952, then was used by a series of African American church congregations, and most recently as an art gallery and studio. A group of young Jewish community leaders is now working to purchase and restore the building.



This is the building today. Developers have been eyeing the lot as a tear-down. The Alberta Shul Coalition has secured an agreement with the current building owner and is raising funds to purchase and restore the 117-year-old building.

group's proposal was in competition with developers interested in tearing down the building. But the current owner was intrigued with the restoration project and has since entered into a contract with the coalition for purchase.

Today, the Alberta Shul Coalition is raising funds and support to transform the building back to its earlier role as a place for meeting, learning, community and prayer for the eastside Portland Jewish community.

Eleyna Fugman is one of the founders of the growing coalition.

Her vision is for a special, simple gathering place for local Jewish residents to connect through a variety of community-driven programming, as well as a space that northeast neighbors could rent and use for meetings, classes and events.

"The fact that we could work, play and practice in a building that our ancestors built and made into a Jewish home is very important," Eleyna said. "There are many young Jews who are looking for a place to be Jewish, who are yearning for Jewish community in some format."

The coalition's vision is that Alberta Shul can be a cultural venue

for Jewish art, music, learning and gathering, as well as a place for traditional and alternative religious services and prayer.

The coalition raised about \$40,000 during the summer and early autumn, and is hoping to raise \$136,000 by March 2018 to complete the purchase. Further fundraising of another \$250,000 is planned the following year to enable the restoration.

To learn more, visit the Alberta Shul Coalition at Facebook.com/TheAlbertaShul.

For more details and photos of the building, visit Doug Decker's local history blog [www.alamedahistory.org](http://www.alamedahistory.org).

Vernon Neighborhood Rising!

The Vernon Neighborhood Association (VNA) is gearing up for the next year with some fun, engaging events. We hope to involve a diversity of Vernon interests to build off the momentum of our last few years. We're open to new voices and faces and would love to hear from you! The VNA is seeking creative partnerships with other community groups and businesses who align with our mission. Our 2018 focus is on continuing to connect neighbors and building the long-term safety and resiliency of the neighborhood.

We have re-organized our board meeting format for 2018 to focus on issues relevant in an everchanging socio-economic climate. In addition to hosting our long-standing Movies in the Park and Neighborhood Cleanup, we are energized to make the neighborhood association relevant in light of an ever-changing city and uncertainty in our nation's future.

Over the last year, the VNA engaged in discussions of safety, development, and homelessness. We also developed a vision statement for our neighborhood to use as reference with the city and community. It's a living document, and we invite feedback. You can download our neighborhood vision statement from our website [www.vernonpdx.org](http://www.vernonpdx.org).

The coming year will feature a blend of social mixers and meetings. We'll meet as a board once per quarter beginning in January, and we'll be hosting quarterly mixers as well. We're inviting speak-

"We are energized to make the neighborhood association relevant in light of an ever-changing city"

ers on Vernon history and on the important issues facing our community. We invite you to join us in 2018 and be a part of building connections in the Vernon community.

**Next meeting: Wed. Jan. 17 7-9pm**

Help us choose the 2018 Movie in the Park. Held at Leaven Community Center, 5431 NE 20th Ave.

**Our 2018 Schedule**

- February - Work Party
  - March - Neighborhood Mixer
  - April - Meeting at Leaven
  - May - Neighborhood Cleanup
  - June - Work Party
  - July - Meeting, Movie in the Park!
  - August - no meeting
  - September - Neighborhood Mixer
  - October - Meeting, Elections
- To get involved, or suggest a topic, contact us at [vnaboard@gmail.com](mailto:vnaboard@gmail.com).

PACS COW MOBILE PANTRY REACHING UNDERSERVED NEIGHBORHOODS

The PACS COW (Commodities on Wheels) is a mobile food pantry brought to you by People to People Ministries and the Stone Tower Church. We deliver food to underserved neighborhoods by partnering with churches and other organizations in the Portland area.

Find us at Neighborhood Facility: 4906 NE 6th  
3rd Tuesday of the Month from 3:30pm and 5:30pm  
Call 503 893-9033 to schedule an appointment  
Limited to first 30 who register.

Qualifications are income-based according to the poverty guidelines. Commodities come through the Oregon Food Bank and a variety of donations from grocery stores and individuals.

Eligibility Guidelines for PACS Food Program

Must live in Oregon - bring a photo ID with Oregon address or a bill (ex. utility bill) which has your name and your Oregon address. Number of people live in your household.



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## Bookstore hosts Delegation of Middle East Political Cartoonists

By Anna Daggett and Alex Freedman, Eliot Neighborhood News

On October 31, Black Hat Books, a radical bookstore located on NE MLK Blvd., hosted a delegation of Arab language political cartoonists. Organized by the World Affairs Council of Oregon in collaboration with the Oregon Cartoon Institute, the event aimed to foster cultural diplomacy and conversation across cultural difference. The cartoonists represented a wide variety of styles and messages, but share a passion for imaginative expressions of marginalized ideas, fighting for liberation with their pencils and paintbrushes. Many are putting their lives and livelihoods on the line when they publish their work.

Portland has its own storied comics scene, as the birthplace of legendary Matt Groening, creator of the Simpsons and Futurama. At the event were Portland's lauded illustrator and journalist Joe Sacco, author of award-winning Footnotes on Gaza and Palestine, and widely published Irvington-based cartoonist and lecturer David Chelsea. Fred Nemo, who owns Black Hat Books, was the former business manager of the Scribe, a 1970s Portland counter-culture newspaper.

The Arab language cartoonists spoke about their experience of censorship and even violent silencing in their home countries. Mr. Hamdi Mazoudi said through a translator, "The main problem we are facing in terms of expressing ourselves is the social system and the government policing its citizens." Any critiques of religion, the army, the government, or the judiciary could result in loss of employment. In Iraq, according to Mr. Ahmed Kahleel Hadi Al Obaidi, "after the American occupation, a red line was drawn all



Safaa Abuaathra from Palestinian Territories focuses her work on women's rights

over. Now, we have many religious parties and many, many Saddam Husseins. If you step on any of those red lines, you might lose your life." The pervasive danger of expressing dissent has caused the majority of cartoonists to leave Iraq in order to work freely.

One of the Algerian cartoonists, who chose not to have his name disclosed, told the room that he was stopped and beaten by police seven months ago for his work. The newspaper he worked at has been shut down by the government, along with 60 other Algerian newspapers in 2017 alone. The only largely uncensored places where many cartoonists can publish their work are social media platforms. "The only underground newspaper is Facebook," the cartoonist said.

The October 31st event at Black Hat Books created connections between Arab and English language cartoonists and allowed everyone present to distance ourselves from what Nigerian author and storyteller Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie calls "the single story". The tension between the Middle East and the United States is ever increasing and in order to combat stereotypes, it is crucial that we all seek out different perspectives, finding stories that enable us to inhabit nuance and inhibit hate.

## Clean Start PDX is off to a Great Start

By Mischa Webley  
NECN Staff Writer

On a Monday morning, J.P. King starts up the engine to his pick-up truck and heads across the river from Old Town to the Inner Eastside. As the lead crew member of the Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods' (NECN) pilot program, Clean Start PDX, he will spend the day making the rounds to various outdoor encampments in the inner northeast area, and working with the residents there. He cleans up abandoned camps, provides garbage bags and other cleaning supplies to active

sites, and removes debris as needed. But to J.P., it's the one-on-one contact with residents that makes the real difference, whether it's directing people to shelters or connecting them with other

resources in the city. "I know everyone in these camps by name," he says. "They know I'm here to help."

The program began last year when Adam Lyons, Executive Director of NECN, was hearing from community members about the increase in trash and debris on roadsides, along with an increase in campers. "It's a livability issue," he says. "But it's also a symptom of a much greater problem." So, in partnership with Central City Concern, the Central Eastside Industrial Council and the Eliot Neighborhood Association, NECN secured funding from the city to address the issue in the inner eastside core.

Based on the same model that the Clean and Safe program uses, the idea isn't to enforce camping policies for the city, but rather to help make the city cleaner and nicer for everyone who lives here. In fewer than six months of opera-

tion, it's making a big impact: between August and October alone, J.P. and his Clean Start PDX crew have cleaned up 149 camps which included nearly 2000 bags of trash and 779 needles, and all manner of bio-hazardous materials.

Perhaps the most remarkable fact about Clean and Safe and Clean Start PDX is that it's tackling multiple issues at once. It's not just a cleaning service for the city streets, but is in fact a job-training and skills-building program to help individuals with a history of homelessness, addiction, or incarceration build a better future. "The program is a triple win," says Jay



McIntyre, program manager for Clean and Safe and chief liaison for Clean Start. "It's a win for our employees, it's a win for the people experiencing homelessness, and it's a win for these neighborhoods."

Looking forward, NECN hopes to use this model as a template for helping other neighborhoods do the same. "We're trying to be proactive in solving a problem that most residents say is top of their list of concerns in Portland," says Lyons. But he is quick to point out that, in so many words, it takes a village: "This isn't an isolated problem, or one that's unique to Portland. It's complex and difficult, and it's important that we as neighbors, businesses owners, and especially city officials take charge and try solutions instead of just throwing our hands up in frustration. It's up to all of us to make this city the one we want to live in."

## Clean Energy Jobs Bill is a Local Solution to a Global Problem

By neighbor Paulette Wittwer

When I first started thinking about climate change, it was a worry in the back of my mind. I was busy being a small business owner in NE Portland and then a community volunteer and grandmother. I wanted to do something about it, but procrastinated instead.

Then I noticed the trees the trees in my yard becoming less healthy. I've lived in Oregon all my life and have been a Northeast Portland resident for many years. I love the Oregon forests and oceans and I love my neighborhood with its old trees and pretty gardens. An arbor-

ist told me that the trees have been struggling from the drought. Yes, the hotter summers and long dry periods are taking their toll even in Western Oregon!

I was already chewing my nails over melting glaciers and acidifying oceans and concerned about the future for my grandchildren and all children. The issue became more urgent for me.

Climate change is a huge issue and it's easy to think that it can only be solved on a national and international level. But it's important to look at what we can do locally. It's a priority to do whatever we can to reduce the carbon being pumped into the atmosphere and

causing a warmer climate. I joined an environmental organization and have been putting time into several projects, in particular a "cap and invest" bill being considered in the Oregon Legislature called the Clean Energy Jobs Bill.

Under the bill, corporations must buy carbon credits if they emit greenhouse gases above a set cap. It creates an economic incentive to cut emissions. The proceeds from the credit sales go to a fund that must be used to promote clean energy solutions. Although this is a state effort, we are not alone. Oregon is part of a Western States Initiative passed ten years ago to reduce carbon pollution, and this

bill puts teeth in that initiative. California has already passed a cap and trade bill and has successfully lowered carbon and added several billion dollars to their budget for clean energy. Like California, Oregon can be a role model.

It's very heartening that our Senators and local Representatives in the Oregon Legislature are not only supportive but are leaders and sponsors of the Clean Energy Jobs bill. They need to hear from concerned Northeast Portlanders. To find your representative, visit [www.oregonlegislature.gov](http://www.oregonlegislature.gov).

You can find more information about the Clean Energy Jobs Bill at [www.climatesolutions.org](http://www.climatesolutions.org).

# THINGS TO DO

## Events & Opportunities: Winter 2018

### NET Meeting

Monday, February 5, 6 p.m.  
Monday, March 5, 6 p.m.  
NE Coalition of Neighborhoods, 4815 NE 7th Ave.  
The King Neighborhood Emergency Team (NET) meets the first Monday of February and March 2018. For more information please contact kingnetportland@gmail.com or visit www.facebook.com/KingNeighborhoodNET.

### Poetry and Essay Reading of "Come Shining: Essays and Poems on Writing in a Dark Time"

Monday, January 8, 6:30 p.m., Paragon Arts Gallery, 815 N. Killingsworth St.  
Featured readers will be Ted Wolf (essayist) and Suzy Harris (poet). Publisher and writer David Oates will Emcee. Alison Towle Moore (co-editor of the volume) will also read.

### Fundraiser for Neighborhood Emergency Teams (NETs)

Thursday, January 11, 6 - 9 p.m., Lagunitas 237 NE Broadway, Suite 300.  
Suggested donation for entrance, includes food and one beer token.

### Contact Zones Exhibit

November 22, 2017- January 13, 2018, Paragon Arts Gallery, 815 N. Killingsworth St.



Features two series of oil paintings by Samuel Eisen-Meyers. The first harbors themes of so-

cial reality and the second involves a recreation and reflection from time spent working in Cuba. Paintings are on view in both rooms along with a sound installation.

### Artist Talk

Thursday, January 11, 6p.m., Paragon Arts Gallery, 815 N. Killingsworth St.  
Featured artist Samuel Eisen-Meyers will present on his background, process and interpretation presentation of the work and his personal practice.

### Closing & Special Event

Thursday, January 11, 6p.m., Paragon Arts Gallery, 815 N. Killingsworth St.  
Featured artist Samuel Eisen-Meyers will be present in the studio for gallery hours and be available for questions for classes and visitors.  
Round table discussion # 3 "How can we recreate America?", 6-8 p.m.

### Photo Art Exhibit

January 18- February 17, Paragon Arts Gallery, 815 N. Killingsworth St.  
Amelia Warden and Mana Mehrabian are graduate students at Washington State University. In this two-person exhibition, their work questions concepts of perception regarding human connections with society. Both artists focus on photography. Mana's work questions the impact that images have on contemporary societies, specifically, how images influence our viewpoints through their multiple meanings. Amelia's work explores ideas of the past, the concept of home, memory, familial histories, time, decay and abandonment. Western notions of the past are often easily forgotten.

### Conversation Project "Beyond Invitation: How Do We Create Inclusive Communities?"

Monday, January 29, 6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m., NE Coalition of Neighborhoods, 4815 NE 7th Ave.

### Computer Help at North Portland Computer Learning Center

Saturday, February 3, 1:30 pm., North Portland Library, 512 N Killingsworth St.  
First come, first served, (503) 988-5123.

### 27th Annual Cascade Festival of African Films



February 3 - March 4  
The Cascade Festival of African Films is the longest running annual, non-profit, non-commercial, largely volunteer-run African Film Festival in the U.S. Free and open to the public.

For more information visit [www.africanfilmfestival.org](http://www.africanfilmfestival.org) or call 971-722-5711.

### Conversation Project "Race and Place: Racism and Resilience in Oregon's Past and Future"

Thursday, February 15, 6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m., NE Coalition of Neighborhoods, 4815 NE 7th Ave.

Submit events to [events@necoalition.org](mailto:events@necoalition.org)

## Bark: Our Forests. Our future.

By Courtney Rae, Bark Community Organizer

Oregon's forests foster an enormous sense of pride for our communities, but what goes on behind the "beauty strips" surrounding popular recreation sites and roads

is purposefully misrepresented by the Forest Service and the timber industry. This keeps the public largely misinformed about the destructive impact of commercial logging on sensitive ecosystems, and the natural areas we value so much.

Since 1999, Bark has organized public hikes, campouts, classes, and opportunities to engage with the Forest Service about its management practices giving people on-the-ground experience and tools to counter the false, industry-led narrative - which states that forests are made healthier through large-scale logging - and practices such as commercial "thinning." While the timber industry has branded thinning as something that improves forest rehabilitation, the road building and heavy machinery on which it



relies result in long-lasting degradation of soils, watersheds, and wildlife habitats. Practices such as "thinning", "regeneration harvests", and "salvage logging" have destructive outcomes and do not improve the ecological health of forests.

We now know that immediate action is needed to avert the worst climate scenarios, but the Management Plan for Mt. Hood National Forest has not been updated in nearly 30 years. In response, Bark began in 2016 to envision the Free Mt. Hood campaign, which focuses on shifting the management priorities in Mt. Hood National Forest towards those that prioritize sustainability. The campaign has so far achieved protections for National Forests in the Renewable Energy Resolutions passed by the City of Portland and Multnomah County; convened the first ever People's Forest Forum to cultivate the community vision for stewardship of the forest in a changing climate; and



See BARK pg 7

## FADE TO BLACK Pt.2

Presented by:



**Saturday, March 10, 2018**  
**12pm-3pm @ Portland Playhouse**

### "Is your black black enough?"

- No guest panel, no workshop agenda, just open floor and interactive dialogue between Black community members!!
- Looking for an affinity space to gather, fellowship, find connection, understanding, awareness, healing, build and strengthen relationships with those you have shared identity with?
- This topic will explore the experience of "the black identity" and its interplay within relationships, interests, and activities associated with being of "white culture".

(Facilitation provided professionally & independently by Keela Johnson)

You called for a place to gather, connect, and have conversation, and we're answering that call!!  
Come, break bread & join the African-American staff/actors of Portland Playhouse in this facilitated conversation and exploratory dialogue around various issues and topics that resonate with and are culturally specific to our community!

❖ Participants/Attendees: Only individuals that self-identify as African-American, Black, and/or African Diaspora

(Adult conversation, but youth 15yrs./older are welcome and encouraged to attend!)

This is a FREE event and space is limited so please RSVP:

<https://app.arts-people.com/index.php?show=75987~only> ←

Light lunch and beverage provided











Any views, findings, and conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this program do not necessarily reflect the views of Oregon Humanities or the National Endowment for the Humanities.

# Lloyd District Neighbors Welcome Right 2 Dream Too

By Mischa Webley  
NECN Staff Writer

When Right 2 Dream Too opened their doors in 2011 as a respite for people experiencing homelessness in downtown Portland, it came with a lot of publicity, both good and bad. Right in the heart of the city, on the northwest corner of Burnside and Fourth Avenue,

it looked to some like yet another tent city.

In reality though, it was different; a self-governing place of rest for all types of people, a safe place to relax with a strong sense of community.

This past summer, Right 2 Dream Too, or R2DToo as it's come to be called, gained attention again when it moved across the river to a discrete location across

from the Moda Center.

Within a stone's throw of the Yellow Line Max Stop, R2DToo gives shelter to homeless residents who sign up for a place to sleep day or night.

Participants must agree to a strict code of conduct that, among other things, bans substance use of all kinds. R2DToo also provides its own security detail.

And while talk of a "tent city" sprouting up in the inner northeast core was met first with some trepidation, the surrounding community has welcomed the new residents as their own.

"It's pretty easy to look at the situation from the outside and have your opinions but trust me, that will change when you start doing the work," says Keith Jones, chair of the Resident Committee of the Lloyd District Community Association. He goes on to say that the residents of Right To Dream Too are members of the community just like any other neighbors; they do weekly litter pick-ups in the neighborhood, meet with other community members over spaghetti dinners, and overall share a common interest in making this small corner of the Northeast quadrant a nicer place



to live.

Jones hopes to see the model expanded into other parts of Portland, as the perpetual and severe housing crisis continues to push people onto the streets, and neighborhoods grapple with how to accommodate the shift. "The Portland community needs to start having a conversation about what kinds of things we can all do. We can't push this problem away," he says.

Tucked away on a hillside facing the river, it's easy to pass by the Moda Center Transit Center by train or by car and not even notice the Right 2 Dream Too space. Perhaps that's just as it should be. Like any other neighbor, they blend right in.

R2DToo is an all-volunteer run, 501c3 not-for-profit organization. Donations of sleeping bags, socks, and prepared food are always welcome. You can also donate funds on site, 999 N. Thunderbird Way or online at [www.right2dreamtoo.blogspot.com](http://www.right2dreamtoo.blogspot.com).

## Kinship House Offers Support to Foster and Adopted Families



Founded in 1996, Kinship House is a non-profit that provides outpatient mental health services to foster and adopted children and their families. They champion children and families with target interventions during all stages of foster care, reunification, and adoption.

In over twenty years of providing mental health services, they have served thousands of local children on their journey to the care only a permanent and healthy family can provide. With almost 3,000 children in foster care annually in the tri-county area, their services support children as they find their forever home. Kinship House's mission is to champion the successful permanency of each child who comes to their door. They con-

sider each individual's unique history, culture, and needs as they journey to stable, healthy homes.

Kinship House addresses the missing pieces in services provided to children touched by foster care and adoption. In addition to therapeutic services to address significant mental health concerns, they help children move beyond the trauma caused by their experience in the necessary but difficult foster care system.

Their work helps minimize transitions and increases the chances of children settling into a stable, healthy and permanent home. They engage the family and offer a variety of therapy: drama, play, art, movement, and talk. To learn more about how you can be involved with Kinship House, visit [www.kinshiphouse.org](http://www.kinshiphouse.org).

## Bark cont'd from pg 6

added forest defense as a priority for regional climate action organizations.

Next April, we hope to see you at the People's Forest Forum to learn about the opportunities available for local governments and community organizations to shape the future of Mt. Hood. We will also need your help to leverage community resistance to a climate-denying administration and empowered extractive

industry to move Oregon's highest decision-makers to push for stronger protections for all public lands. In the coming year, Bark is calling on all Portlanders to take responsibility for the forest we rely on and urge the Forest Service to free Mt. Hood from commercial logging, and allow the forest a fighting chance in a changing climate.

Visit us at [www.bark-out.org](http://www.bark-out.org) or on social media to give, learn more, volunteer, and see our calendar of events.

## NET Fundraiser at Lagunitas

**HOST:** Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods and Lagunitas Brewing Company

**WHERE:** Lagunitas Community Room  
237 NE Broadway St #300

**WHEN:** Thursday, January 11, 2018  
6:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Cost: \$5 minimum suggested donation at the door.  
Includes free food and 1 beer/ cider token

Extra drink tokens available for purchase

Raffle tickets available for purchase. All proceeds go to support our Neighborhood Emergency Teams (NETs) in inner N/NE Portland.

To learn more about NETs and emergency preparedness go to [www.portlandoregon.gov/pbem](http://www.portlandoregon.gov/pbem)

SPONSORS:

Lagunitas Brewing  
Two Towns Cider  
La Sirenita Taqueria  
KB00

Bridges Café and Catering  
Handsome Pizza  
Pok Pok Noi



### Social Justice Book Club

The Social Justice Book Club meets on the First Saturday of the month at  
Portland Center for Spiritual Living, 6211 NE MLK Blvd.  
12:30 to 2:00  
All are welcome. Bring a friend!

**Upcoming Books:**

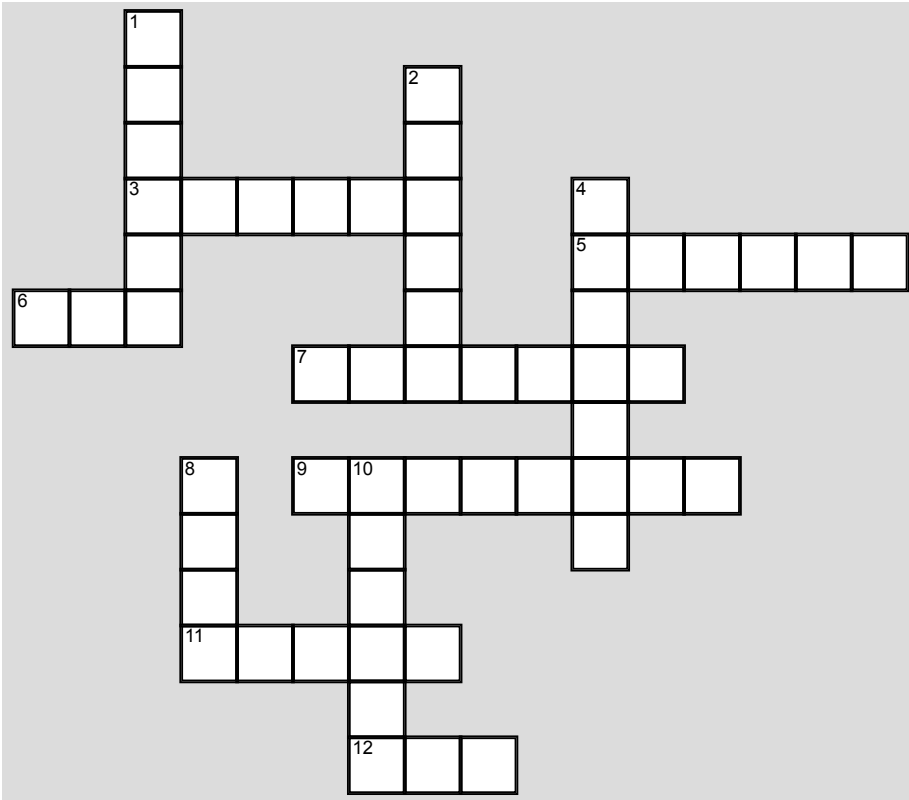
Jan 6 – *Deep Denial* by David Billings  
Feb 3 – *Brainwashed* by Tom Burrell  
Mar 3 – *White Rage* by Carol Anderson

**Movie Nights\***

Jan 26 (PCSL) - "Freedom Riders"  
Feb 23 (NTSCL) - "Ranfield Air"  
Mar 23 (PCSL) - "13"

\* Meetings occur between PCSL and NTSCL. Other Thought Center for Spiritual Living on the fourth Friday of the month 7:30-9:00 PM.

## Hey Neighbor! Crossword Puzzle



**ACROSS**

- 3 Clean \_\_\_\_ Jobs Bill
- 5 Residential \_\_\_\_ Project
- 6 Black \_\_\_\_ Books
- 7 Historical Jewish Language
- 9 \_\_\_\_ Abatement Program
- 11 Right 2 \_\_\_\_ Too
- 12 Courtney \_\_\_\_, Bark Community Organizer

**DOWN**

- 1 People's \_\_\_\_ Forum
- 2 \_\_\_\_ Invitation, Conversation Project on January 29 at NECN
- 4 \_\_\_\_ House, providing services for foster families
- 8 Oregon \_\_\_\_ Bank
- 10 \_\_\_\_ Cafes, where you can get items fixed

Answers located at [www.necoalition.org/latest-news/newspaper](http://www.necoalition.org/latest-news/newspaper)

### Repair cont'd from pg 3

in the coming year?

**LG:** We would love to build our capacity so we can do more! We've already been a resource for other groups in our region, and we'd love to help more people host their own events in their communities. In addition to continuing to host repair cafés,

we'd also like to start hosting workshops and perhaps organize an apprenticeship type program where anyone wanting to learn repair can partner up with our volunteers to learn how to repair items. It would be wonderful to expose kids to tinkering and repairing things as well.

Find out more about Repair PDX at [www.repairpdx.org](http://www.repairpdx.org)

## Grants Available to Promote Eco-Health

**D**o you want to establish an eco-friendly community garden, bioswale or rain garden? Would you love to educate your community about local salmon? Do you have an idea for a project to promote or improve watershed health? Do you have zero grant writing experience?

Have no fear, the Community Watershed Stewardship Program (CWSP) is here! CWSP is a partnership between the City of Portland's Bureau of Environmental Services and Portland State University. It offers two grants to individuals, community organizations, schools, businesses, and nonprofits in the Portland Urban Services Boundary. CWSP is devoted to equity and always looking to make new community partners.

CWSP has two types of grants available. The first grant is their Native Plant Mini Grant, and they accept applications for this type of grant year-round. This grant provides up to \$500 to purchase and plant native plant species, which are greatly beneficial to our

watersheds and ecosystems. The application is a single page and has no deadline.

The second grant is the Stewardship Grant, which provides up to \$10,000 for projects that address watershed health, educate about watersheds or promote awareness. It is a multi-step application process to ensure that applicants have the best chance of receiving funding. CWSP coordinators are available to help every step of the way. The first step is to fill out the one-page pre-application form and **submit it to CWSP by the first Friday in February.**

More information, examples of projects and application materials can be found at [www.portlandoregon.gov/bes/cwsp](http://www.portlandoregon.gov/bes/cwsp). CWSP coordinators are happy to answer your questions, and can be reached at 503-823-7917, or by email at [CommunityStewardship@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:CommunityStewardship@portlandoregon.gov).



## OFB Coordinator is Passionate about Food

By Tamara Anne Fowler  
Concordia News

**W**hen her brother took his wedding vows in the Willamette Valley in July, Allison Bansen took the opportunity to move back from Washington, D.C., to her beloved Oregon. Two weeks later, she started work at the Oregon Food Bank (OFB).

"It was the perfect transition time," she said. Allison is one of five volunteer coordinators working full time on the OFB team. Coordinating volunteers isn't new to her. She'd been at it for five years in Washington before moving to Concordia.



Volunteers at the Oregon Food Bank enjoy what they do. So does Concordian Allison Bansen, who works full time to coordinate the efforts of those volunteers.

ing all the volunteers.

"Our volunteer registration is strictly online. After you sign up for a shift, you'll receive a confirmation of the date and time you've signed up for and you're all set.

"Our main volunteer opportunities are in our food repack shifts that run Monday through Saturday," she added.

"We also have a garden – it just wrapped up for the season – and administrative work that people can volunteer in as well."

Volunteer opportunities at the Portland and Beaverton locations also include leading nutrition education classes, maintaining learning gardens and lending a hand at events. Most volunteer opportunities are two to three hours in length and do not require a regular commitment.

And contributions are always welcome.

"We are currently holding Our Season of Giving campaign," Allison added. "That helps us raise money to enable us to get more food throughout year."

To donate, you can mail a check, drop off cash or a check, or donate online at [OregonFoodBank.org](http://OregonFoodBank.org), the same website where you can register for a volunteer shift.

OFB's goal is \$20,000 and the Season of Giving goes through the first week of January. Within the first day, on Nov. 1, OFB had already raised \$2,000.

**"The focus is on providing fresh food."**

"I live right off Alberta. It's less than a two-mile, six-minute commute."

Her passion is food and food access, which makes sense as Allison's favorite part of her job is the food repack. Produce arrives at the warehouse in 48-by-48-inch bins. Volunteers repack the food down into family-sized portions.

The items that are repacked mirror the season. "Right now we are repacking potatoes, pears, apples, turnips and radishes," she reported on a recent Thursday. "Tonight we are doing cauliflower."

The focus is on providing fresh food. Allison sees engaging the community – in addition to raising hunger awareness – as the most important part of the job.

"I like to share and develop relationships focusing on what we do here and making a difference."

Of course, she loves coordinat-

### Park cont'd from pg 1

take place in phases until spring of 2018. A beautiful assortment of flowering evergreen and deciduous native and Pacific Northwest-friendly plants will be installed to create a landscape with lots of color. Woodland plants such as sword fern, salal, red-flowering currant, vine maple, huckleberry, and more will create a beautiful park space for all to enjoy.

You can be a part of bringing

this urban habitat to life!

Join the neighborhood in a planting party Saturday, February 24th from 9am-12pm.

For more information on Ecologically Sustainable Landscapes and to RSVP to attend the planting, visit [portlandoregon.gov/parks/ecoland](http://portlandoregon.gov/parks/ecoland) or contact program coordinator Eric Rosewall at [Eric.Rosewall@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:Eric.Rosewall@portlandoregon.gov) or 503-341-0855.

### RIP cont'd from pg 1

Both the NECN Land Use and Transportation Committee and the NECN Board will continue to follow and make recommendations on the proposals.

Interested in learning more? For additional details on the City's

proposal visit: [www.portlandoregon.gov/bps/67728](http://www.portlandoregon.gov/bps/67728)

Contact Laura Becker for more information on how to engage with NECN or your neighborhood association ([laura@necoalition.org](mailto:laura@necoalition.org), 503.388.6088).