Urban Farmers Earn 

By Kelly Merrick, Portland Farmers Market 

Farmers market season is in full swing in Portland, a time where farmers and local food artisans transform empty parking lots and streets into temporary markets, tables overflowing with fresh produce, flowers and goods, eager to welcome neighbors. The average distance Portland Farmers Market vendors travel to market each week is 50 miles. For some farmers, that number peaks at 300 miles, but for a small but growing selection of farmers, their trip can be as short as just a few miles. In 2012, the City of Portland updated its urban food zoning regulations to “support growing, buying and selling food at a scale appropriate to residential neighborhoods.” As a result, there are fewer financial and regulatory barriers stopping those wanting to start “market gardens,” or urban farms, as a way to earn income and provide fresh, healthy food to neighbors. Stewart Heath made such a transition when he started Fennel Urban Farms in the Cully Neighborhood this spring. He is a vendor at the Woodlawn Farmers Markets and farms a quarter acre, split in two between his backyard and a small plot of land on nearby property owned by Northeast Baptist Church. He travels just under four miles to market each week. Heath started a backyard garden in 2007 to help feed his family fresh, nutritious food, and has the same intentions for his customers. “We live on a planet with limited resources in a delicate balance,” Heath said, emphasizing that it is important to consider food producers key players in that balance. “This can be obtained by paying a fair price for food that is produced to be nutrient-dense, that heals the earth and your body.”

Cornerstones African American History Project is Combatting Demolition

By Alex Freedman

On May 18th, in the basement of the Vancouver Avenue Baptist Church, city representatives met with neighborhood homeowners, community leaders, city planners, and local historians to discuss the precarious future of the neighborhood’s homes. Finding the city’s properties with historic significance and protecting them from development is the goal of a new grant-funded partnership between the city’s Historic Preservation Program and the Architectural Heritage Center. The Vancouver Avenue Baptist Church is representative of the imminent threat of demolition facing many buildings in Eliot and the other historically African American northeast neighborhoods like Humboldt, Irvington, and Boise.

The Church played a key role in organizing the displaced African American community after the Vanport flood in 1948. During the civil rights movement, Martin Luther King, Jr. spoke here. “Built in the heart of this thriving community,” described local resident and historian Raymond Burrell, “it became a second home to so many of us.”

But it was impossible to ignore the new development encasing the church: a condominium unit is being built nearly touching the east wall. “That fueled me to get it listed,” says Burrell.

Thanks to his diligent efforts, it is now protected from demolition in perpetuity, because it is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. According to Cathy Galbraith’s research as the retired founding director of the Architectural Heritage Center, nearly 1400 homes and business have been destroyed in the Central Albina area from development projects such as Emmanuel hospital and the Memorial Coliseum.

Because of Cornerstones’ work documenting historic homes in Portland, listing 1284 historic properties (966 of which are in

Hey Neighbor!
NECN

Welcome
to our third edition of Hey Neighbor!
This publication is free and distrib-
uted quarterly to you by Northeast
Coalition of Neighborhoods (NECN).

Who are we?
Northwest Coalition of Neighborhoods (NECN), founded in 1975, is
an independent nonprofit organization. NECN is one of seven neigh-
borhood 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, Elliot, Hum-
boldt, Irvington, King, Sabin, Sullivan's Gulch, Vernon, and Wood-
lawn. Any person that resides or works in North/Northeast Portland
can get directly involved!

Walking Program Promotes Community Memory Building

By Raina Croff

The Sharing History through Active Reminis-
cence and Photogra-
phy (SHARP) walking program
is a research study for African
Americans aged
55 or older (Or-
egon Health &
Science University
IRB#16980).

Raina Croff, PhD
is the Principal
Investigator. SHARP participants
will engage in community memo-
ry building while walking through
historically Black neighborhoods
in North and Northeast Portland.
Participants will view images of
African American community in
Portland from 1940 to 2010, and
engage in small-group conversa-
tion about what it was like to live
and work in those communities
as they walk through those com-
munities.

The study explores the role that
community memory plays in pro-
moting individual health and in
sustaining motivation to remain
physically active. Qualitative data
have shown African Americans
have a lower perceived risk of
Alzheimer's disease despite their
increased risk. Programs promot-
ing healthy activities for healthier
aging may be more effective if
they are culturally meaning-
ful to participants. If you would
like to join the SHARP walking
program and/or would like our
staff to make a digital copy of
your family images for use in the
SHARP program, contact Raina
Croff at croff@ohsu.edu or 503-
494-2367. The SHARP study is
funded by the Alzheimer's Asso-
ciation.

This story was shared with us
by Eliot News.

Sewer Repairs Update

Environmental Services has
designed three large-scale
sewer projects in North
and Northeast Portland neighbor-
hoods to replace or repair over
73,000 feet of public sewer pipes
that are on average 90 years old
and failing due to age. This is the
equivalent of over 14 miles of
sewer pipes.

The three adjacent project areas
include construction in Piedmont,
Humboldt, Woodlawn and King
neighborhoods.

Schedule
Construction of these projects
began with the Piedmont project
in fall 2015, and is anticipated to
conclude with the Woodlawn-King
project in fall 2018. Environmental
Services is closely coordinating
these projects, since construction
in any one of these neighborhoods
may impact residents and busi-
nesses from adjacent neighbor-
hoods.

Stay Informed
During construction, the City will
be sending regular email updates
to keep residents posted about the
schedule, construction activities,
possible traffic detours and delays,
parking restrictions and other
impacts. For more information,
please visit www.portlandoregon.
gov/bes/northnortheastprojects
to sign up for each project update
you're interested in receiving.

Contact Matt Gough with ques-
tions or concerns at Matt.Gough@
portlandoregon.gov or by phone at
503-823-5352.

Ms. Fike's class, Eliot Elementary, ca 1963. Courtesy of
Shoshana Maxwell, SHARP volunteer 2016

Hey Neighbor! SUMMER 2017
RESIDENT SPOTLIGHT:
Doug Decker, NE Alameda Neighborhood resident and historian

**Hey Neighbor:** Tell us about your coming to Portland.

**Doug Decker:** We are University of Montana graduates, my wife is an Irish immigrant. We came to Portland in 1984, starting in an apartment in NW Portland. When it was time for us to start a family, we moved over to NE Portland, the best place to be.

**HN:** Tell us about your blog.

**DD:** It is called Alamedahistory.org and although it has the word Alameda in it, it is really about the life of old houses and buildings. The premise of the blog is to connect the past, present and future, of the homes and buildings in our neighborhood. There are layers of history around us that we really don’t know much about. When we can access them, appreciate and understand them... it builds a bridge backwards and forward.

It actually builds community at the same time. So there are photos, maps, stories...I have done oral history interviews with quite a few elders in this neighborhood.

**HN:** Can you speak to the way you connect to your neighbors around the blog?

**DD:** The blog started when we did some restoration to this house. A few summers back, we took the front of the house off and built it back to the way it was in 1912. In the process of doing that, I wanted to explain to those walking by what was going on in this process. So I put a little interpretive sign outside, and my wife and I spend a lot of time on our front porch in the summer. Everyone who came and was interested, had a question or wanted to tell their story of their old house. For those who live in the neighborhood, about this place over time can connect us. I find that the stories of this place over time, can connect us...history can connect us through a shared landscape. It is an easy way to spark conversation and connect to one another.

**HN:** Can you speak to the differences in design, character and how people connect, between the newer developments and some of the older homes that exist in our area?

**DD:** There are pros and cons. As we look at what is happening in terms of the infill development and higher density in our neighborhoods, we need to find efficient ways to use that space, that will bring people together. We have lots in the neighborhood, particularly corner lots, that were single homes that are now featuring 2 homes that are attached. And so there is more multifamily. The neighborhoods were probably not designed with multi family in mind and that is going to create transportation issues. I think from a historian standpoint, there is a character standpoint around the neighborhoods that were built here around 1910-1920. That was a big growth period when these neighborhoods were built. The design of those houses, have a look and a feel, it’s all sourced from NW lumber. In my view, the best of the new construction uses materials that again...are from the NW wood as opposed to glass and steel. Also where there is a sensitivity to scale of the design features. What is particularly troubling for me is the significant scale-up of new construction. At one time you had a 1500 sq ft bungalow and now it is 3 story lot-line to lot-line monolith. This changes the historic character of the neighborhoods and brings transportation issues as well. I appreciate development.

See Decker pg 8

NECN History Told

Stella Lavonne McFarland, aunt of Shawn Penney, President of “Good in the Hood”, visits NECN’s office to share some history. Where the NECN office sits now, was the original kindergarten at Highland Elementary. Later the school would be renamed Martin Luther King Elementary. Stella explained that NECN was born out of the post civil rights movement, when community members began to gather and assess what resources were available to the community. This location was created to be a one-stop center of awareness of the resources in the city.

Doug Decker in front of his historic home Jean and Rob Morrison, original home inhabitants, taken in the mid 1920s.

“I find that the stories of this place over time, can connect us”

**The Encorepreneur Cafe: A Co-working Space for Encore Entrepreneurs**

A Japanese company, Shinko Fukushikai Social Welfare Corporation, has opened the co-working space, The Encorepreneur Cafe near Lloyd Center. The Cafe provides an opportunity for adults to start their own projects in a co-working space with access to networking, workshops and modern office equipment.

Shinko Fukushikai is a pioneer of affordable nursing homes for middle-class families in Japan. They run 36 retirement communities and 8 child care facilities in Japan. The Cafe is their first venture in the United States.

Taka Murakawa, co-founder and president of the Encorepreneur Cafe, conducted a feasibility study of major West Coast cities including Los Angeles and San Francisco. He learned that Portland is the best city to start this model and hope to expand to the other cities in the United States and Japan.

The Encorepreneur Cafe is located at 1548 NE 15th Ave. For more information, contact Masaki Fujimoto, masaki@encorepreneurcafe.com, call 503-954-2837, or visit encorepreneurcafe.com.

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**Hey Neighbor!** A free publication by Northeast Coalition of Neighbors
Permaculture is a holistic and regenerative design system for taking care of human needs in ways that are friendly to people and planet.

The Green and Resilient Neighborhood Track will be unique for groups that don’t usually connect with each other to show and tell what they are doing. The ideal will be for participants to learn new approaches and create new working relationships on behalf of a more green, resilient and peaceful community and world.

For more information on the Green and Resilient Neighborhood Track, visit www.suburbanpermaculture.org/neighborhoods-2017-convergence.html or visit www.northwestpermaculture.org.

NECN Wins Grant for Clean Start PDX

Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods will begin a new project that works on improving the safety and cleanliness of designated areas of inner Northeast and inner Southeast Portland. The project, Clean Start PDX, is based on the Downtown Clean and Safe program developed by Central City Concern, where individuals who have been impacted by homelessness, poverty, or addictions receive vocational training, a living wage, access to services, and case management while providing services such as litter pickup, biohazard disposal, and graffiti removal.

Members of the Eliot neighborhood’s Livability Team met with their district coalition, Northeast Coalition of Neighbors, in January to discuss an increase in trash and debris in their area. During the conversation, the idea of a more proactive and productive idea was to partner with Central Eastside Industrial Council, Central City Concern and the City of Portland’s Office of Neighborhood Involvement to pilot Clean Start PDX for a year.

With the support of ONI Interim Director David Austen and others, the Portland City Council voted unanimously to approve the proposal on the 14th of June. NE Coalition of Neighborhoods will receive the grant from the City within a month and work with Central City Concern to get the project up and running as soon as mid-July. While the project will be overseen by NECN, all the funding will go to Central City Concern.

The Downtown Clean and Safe program keeps clean a 213-block area in central downtown and along the bus mall. In six-month trainee positions, Clean and Safe employees remove graffiti, contribute to public safety, and keep downtown free of litter and debris. The new program will provide these same services to the NE areas of areas of Eliot and half of Lloyd and in the SE about a third of Central Eastside, including parts of the Kerns and Buckman neighborhoods.

Convergence Seeks to Build Bridges

The 2017 Northwest Permaculture Convergence will take place Sept. 22 – 24 at the Yale Union Contemporary Art Center, 800 SE 10th in Portland. The Convergence will include 24 panels and presentations, plenary sessions, an Expo, skill share and lots of networking. Past convergences have drawn 500 to 700 people. The Green and Resilient Neighborhood Track will be particularly interesting to neighborhood leaders and preparedness mavens.

Permaculture is a holistic and regenerative design system for taking care of human needs in ways that are friendly to people and planet. Permaculture can be used at home scale to bio regional scale and can be applied to food production, energy systems, economics, transforming neighborhoods and more.

On the ground, permaculture ideals can help revision human culture and repurpose the built environment.

The Green and Resilient Neighborhood Track will show and tell creative approaches by individuals and groups who are building community resilience, reducing their eco footprints and greening the urban landscape. A site tour is planned to Kailash Eco Village and other notable locations on Friday afternoon Sept. 22.

The G and R Neighborhood Track will be a unique opportunity for groups that don’t usually connect with each other to show and tell what they are doing. The ideal will be for participants to learn new approaches and create new working relationships on behalf of a more green, resilient and peaceful community and world.

CAT Offers:

Tenant’s Rights

By Joy Jackson

Hello, my name is Joy Jackson and I’m an employee with CAT which stands for Community Alliance of Tenants. I’m very passionate about empowering tenants and educating the neighborhood about Oregon tenant/landlord rights, that’s why I will be offering my services to people in the community. Visit me at SEI-4803 NE 7th Portland, OR 97211 on Tuesday and Wednesday 9-5pm or call 503-460-9702.

CAT offers:

- Renter’s Rights Workshops that teaches the rights and responsibilities of the Tenant and Landlords under the Oregon landlord/tenant law.
- Letter Writing Clinics will empower tenants to document and communicate effectively with landlords about their housing issues.
- Educational handouts to read and keep updated on your rights and Resources to private attorneys

CAT is a membership organization.

We want to give all tenants the opportunity to become members and live in a safe neighborhood by helping rental Sel 4803 NE 7th Portland, OR 97211 equipped to deal with their housing issues. We at CAT look forward to being a good neighbor to the people in the community.

CAT Works for Tenants

By Joy Jackson

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COMMUNITY

Hey Neighbor! SUMMER 2017
Events: Summer 2017

NECN District list of Concerts and Movies in the Park and more...

Movies begin after dusk. Concerts and pre-movie entertainment begin at 6:30 PM, including live performances and free popcorn. For more information and a complete listing of all movies and concerts with PPI&R please visit: www.portlandoregon.gov/parks/69554

Concert: St. Tony Starlight
Friday, July 7, Fernhill Park, NE 37th Ave, north of Ainsworth
Music, laughter, from Sinatra to the 80s championed by Vacasa, Fernhill Summer Concerts Committee.

Concert: The Brothers Jam
Movie: Sing (2016) PG
Friday, July 7, Willshire Park, NE 33rd and Skidmore St.

Concert: Locarno
Wednesday, July 12, Dawson Park, N Stanton and Williams Ave.
Groove-heavy Mexican folk from Vancouver, B.C., sponsored by Dawson Park Concerts/Movies Committee.

Concert: Edna Vazquez Band
Friday, July 14, Fernhill Park, NE 37th Ave, north of Ainsworth St.
Sensational Latin alternative w/ folkloric roots, sponsored by Fernhill Summer Concerts Committee.

Concert: Curtis Salgado & Alan Hager Duo
Wednesday, July 19, Dawson Park, N Stanton and Williams Ave.
Legendary blues, R&B, soul, sponsored by Dawson Park Concerts/Movies Committee.

Concert: Farnell Newton & The Othership Connection
Friday, July 21, Fernhill Park, NE 37th Ave, north of Ainsworth St.
Funk, soul w/ a twist, sponsored by Fernhill Summer Concerts Committee.

Friday, July 21, Irving Park, NE 7th and Fremont St.
Sponsored by Irvington Community Association.

Concert: Ocean 503
Wednesday, July 26, Dawson Park, N Stanton and Williams Ave.
R&B and funk, sponsored by Dawson Park Concerts/Movies Committee.

Thursday, July 27, Alberta Park, NE 19th and Williams St.
Jazz, sponsored by Vernon Neighborhood Association.

Concert: Robin Jackson & The Caravan
Friday, July 28, Fernhill Park, NE 37th Ave, north of Ainsworth St.
Folk cabaret, gypsy-tinged pop, sponsored by Fernhill Summer Concerts Committee.

Concert: Colectivo Son Jarocho de Portland
Movie: The Lego Batman Movie (2017) PG
Friday, August 4, Fernhill Park, NE 57th Ave, north of Ainsworth St.
Music is traditional Afro-Mexican folk, movie has English w/ Spanish subtitles. Championed by Concordia Neighborhood Association, Fernhill Summer Concerts Committee.

Concert: Eldon "T" Jones & N Touch
Thursday, August 10, Woodlawn Park, NE 13th and Dekum St.

Concert: King Louie & LaRhonda Steele
Movie: Hidden Figures (2016) PG
Friday, August 11, Denorval Unthank Park, 510 N Shaver St.

Concert: Oleada
Movie: Kubo and the Two Strings (2016) PG
Saturday, August 12, King School Park, NE 6th and Humboldt St.
Cumbia psicodelica, chicha, dub, rock, sponsored by King Neighborhood Association.

Concert: Lauren "Lo" Steele
Movie: Willow (1988) PG
Friday, August 18, Dawson Park, N Stanton and Williams Ave.
Acoustic soul, spoken word, Dawson Park Concerts/Movies Committee.

ALL OTHER EVENTS:
Paragon Gallery Summer Schedule
PCC Cascade Art Festival show “Work/Play”
Now - Aug. 15, 815 N. Killingsworth Featuring work by: Jacqueline Ehliis, Jim White, Joe Macc, Josh Hulst, Kaite Thompson, Michael Lazarus, Renae Kowiz, Ruth Lantz, Sam Morgan, Sandy Sampson, Tara Murino-Brault, and Una Kim.
Re:AD + BSI
August 26th – October 7th, 815 N. Killingsworth. This is a Black Spatial Imaginary is a transmedia project and exhibition that brings together artists and thinkers from various disciplines to contemplate possibilities in Black space and representation—from the local to the global, past, present, and future.
Like us on facebook (paragon arts gallery) or visit our website (pcc.edu/paragon/gallery) for updates and special events – such as a pop up propaganda party in August. Regular gallery hours are Tues. - Sat. 12-5.

2017 Mississippi Street Fair
Saturday, July 8th from 10:00 am – 9:00 pm www.mississippivale.com/streetfair

Community Unity
Saturday, July 15, 11-4 p.m., Hughes Memorial United Methodist Church, 111 NE Failing St. Portland OR 97212
The community is invited. Our communities are stronger and safer when we know our neighbors & we invite our neighbors to join us for some summer fun, and a party to celebrate our community. We offer a cookout, homemade ice cream, sodas and water; we have prize drawings, crafts (doll-making), face painting, and we share clothing, offer some school and household supplies. We have live music by Glory Christian Center and others.
We have invited the Neighborhood Emergency Team to come, Hands of Favor will be there offering free haircuts, The Girl scouts, and a host of churches.
Contact Robin Franklin, Pastor at rfranklin@themac.com for more information.

NE Portland Sunday Parkways
July 23, 2017 from 11 am - 4 pm (8 miles).
While you make your way around the North east Portland route, don’t forget to stop by Woodlawn, Alberta, and Fernhill Parks where a collection of fun activities, festive music, and delicious food that awaits you. Sunday Parkways will return to sustainable Park where you find our Bilingual Bike Fair held in collaboration with the Andando en Cicletas en Cully (ABC) Group. www.portlandoregon.gov/trans- portation/67623

20th Annual Alberta Street Fair
Saturday, August 12, 2017
The 20th Annual Alberta Street Fair is presented by car2go. www.albertamainst.org/whats-happening/street-fair

The Homecoming
Saturday, August 19, 2017 • 1pm–8pm, Center for Self Enhancement, 3920 N Kerby Ave.
Join us for a community party in the park with food, live music and family fun!

Soul of the City
Saturday, September 16, 2017, 5:30pm, Center for Self Enhancement, 3920 N Kerby Ave.
Join us this year’s party with a purpose! Guests attending this annual gala will have the opportunity to learn about the great work SEI does for youth and family and the positive community impact. This event features cocktail hour, silent and live auctions, student experience tours, special dinner, live entertainment, and an after-party. Visit www.selfenhancement.org/events for more information.

Submit events to events@necoalition.org

THINGS TO DO
Urlan farmer Michael Barnett, who owns Red Truck Homestead, a one-acre urban farm in the backyard of his home in NE Portland’s Cully Neighborhood, has a similar approach to his farm. He puts considerable energy into his farm to ensure the food he grows is as healthy and flavorful as possible, in addition to traveling as little as possible. He travels just over five miles to the Woodlawn and King Farmers Markets each week to sell a variety of fruits and vegetables, and sells specialty crops to local chefs focused on sourcing locally.

Barnett says the benefits of operating an urban farm far outweigh the challenges.

“I love this city and the way they eat,” he said. “The healthy eating foodies & chefs and farmers markets in this town are our anchor.”

For more information, visit PortlandFarmersMarket.org.

Get more fruits and vegetables when you use your SNAP Card at participating farmers markets.

For more information visit www.DoubleUpOregon.org or dial 211.

Unity Farm Plants Roots

Nearly 90+ people gathered at the Oregon Food Bank site on NE 33rd on June 3rd to celebrate the ribbon cutting ceremony of Unity Farm. The Unity Farm is a collaboration between Mudbone Grown, the Oregon Inter-tribal Breastfeeding Council and the Oregon Food Bank.

On the 3 sisters (corn, beans, squash): “When you put these 3 seeds here together, they are all just like a lot of things in life, they are interdependent on one another...so of course, we have that ability to feed each other... just like these plants do, they feed each other” —State Representative Tawna Sanchez (district 43)

“I have a background in public health. We always wanted to teach our children to how to be self sufficient and how to return back to the land. We always had a love for nature, and we wanted to share that with our children, as we learned from our elders in our families”. “We want to bring all communities here, to heal and to grow together. Not everyone learns farming at school. A lot of us just learn it from our elders, our ancestors. It is apart of who we are. So we just grow food, that is what we do”. —Shantae Johnson, Mudbone Grown, LLC.

Monique Lopez, Apache and Mexican, of Oregon Inter-tribal Breastfeeding Council, with 3 of her children, planting the 3 sisters: corn, beans and squash together.

“...so I started looking back in my family's history for ailments, looking back at pregnancies of women in my community and surrounding, just the disconnection with our bodies, our children and the land...it made sense for us to do something about it. I can not really tell people...advise them, unless I do it myself. So we made that effort to make the change.” —Roberta EagleHorse-Ortiz, on the need to make a healthy change and grow food.

Shantae Johnson (far left) and her partner Arthur Shaver (far right) and his aunt (center) offers a song and words of inspiration at the opening ceremony.

Want to highlight a local project or community member? Hey Neighbor Wants You! To contribute to our quarterly newspaper! Contact Jessica Rojas at jessica@necoalition.org, call 903-368-8030 or visit www.necoalition.org/latest-news/submit-news
Hey Neighbor! Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS
1 Urban Farm Red _____ Homestead
3 Rev. _____ Knudson of Augustana Lutheran Church
5 Unity Farm collaborator _____ Grown
7 Movie in King Park " _____ and the Two Strings"
8 Interim Director of Office of Neighborhood Involvement David _____
9 Convergence site visit _____ Eco Village
11 Urban Farms started by Stewart Heath
12 Acronym for Memory Building Program

DOWN
2 Historian who helped protect Vancouver Avenue Baptist Church from demolition Burrell
3 University of _____, alma mater of Alameda Resident interviewed in this issue
4 _____ Start PDX
6 Decker, alumnus of 3 down
10 _____ Lavonne McFarland, aunt of Shawn Penney

Answers located at www.necoalition.org/latest-news/newspaper/

Faith Congregations Rally in Salem for Education and Health Care

By Bonnie Greggi, Interfaith Alliance on Poverty

"82, just won't do" and "Oregon can't wait" the crowd chanted in front of the capital steps, referring to the state's budget for health care and education related funding.

On June 6, 2017, members of local congregations gathered as the Interfaith Alliance on Poverty, to support a rally on the steps of the State Capital. The rally was sponsored by the Better Oregon Coalition, representing parents, students, teachers, nurses, small business owners, labor unions, social workers, the Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon, economists, and other community advocates.

Rev. Mark Knudson, pastor of Augustana Lutheran Church (NE 15th and Knott) spoke to rally attendees, "our budget expresses the values of the people of Oregon... society is judged by the way in which they treat the most vulnerable among them: the children, the elderly, the poor and the sick."

According to studies by the Tax Foundation and the Heritage Foundation, California (13.3%) and Oregon (9%) have the highest middle class tax in the nation. On the other hand, Oklahoma, Oregon, and North Carolina have the lowest corporate tax burdens in the nation.

More Oregon corporations are finding a way to avoid being subject to the state's corporate income tax. In 2004, 38,880 Oregon corporations filed income tax returns. By 2014, that number had dropped to 29,376.

With major cuts on the table due to the state's $1.4 billion deficit speakers at the rally demanded that legislators take immediate action to address the need to make corporations pay their fair share.

Cornerstones cont'd from pg 1

Though Portland has 16 "Historic Districts" on the national register, ethnic and cultural sites are significantly underrepresented in the register. "Most are landmarks from the traditional view," said Spencer-Hartle. "Not through their association with ethnic/cultural groups."

Other buildings are being targeted by Raymond Burrell for application to the register, including the old YWCA on Tillamook and Williams and the old Mt. Olivet Baptist Church.

For those who don't have homes eligible for the national historic register, the Stop Demolishing Portland Facebook group organizes efforts to resist and disrupt demolition and development.

The second forum is Saturday, July 15 from 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at Vancouver Avenue First Baptist Church.

This story was shared with us by Eliot News.

This story was edited for space. Read more at necoalition.org.