



January 2017

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

ISSUE 1, VOLUME 1

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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.

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A free publication from Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods (NECN)

Air pollution in our neighborhoods

In February 2016, all eyes were on Portland's air pollution. The Portland Mercury broke a story exposing cadmium and arsenic hotspots in the city, especially around two artisan glass manufacturers.

In the ensuing months, Oregon's Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), the regulatory body responsible for air safety, announced their data indicated a monthly average of 49 times the state's established air-safety benchmark level for cadmium and 159 times the benchmark for arsenic. This was consistent with over a decade of state monitoring data that had long identified dangerous levels of these toxicants, especially in the Eliot neighborhood, the source of which had long perplexed regulators.

Cadmium and arsenic are both known carcinogens, connected with serious health effects like cancer, respiratory problems, and organ damage. Authorities linked elevated levels of cadmi-



Asking for everyone to have clean and breathable air, all of the time. Cleaner Air Oregon Rally, October 2016.

um in the North Portland area to emissions from Uroboros Glass, in the Eliot neighborhood. Elevated levels of cadmium and arsenic in Southeast Portland were linked to emissions from Bullseye Glass.

These findings resulted in Uroboros temporarily suspending use of chemicals and as, of September 2016, the company announced it will close its doors.

About 3,400 people live within half a mile of Uroboros, with Harriet Tubman Middle School nearby. Furthermore, the Oregon Health Authority released cancer registry data showing an elevated incidence of bladder cancer among those living close to Uroboros. Bladder cancer incidence is linked to arsenic and heavy metal exposure. *Continued on Page 7.*

SEI, Oregon's largest African American-led Nonprofit Organization

Located in the King Elementary School Building, next door to the Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods (NECN), is a long running nonprofit organization in our community. Self Enhancement, Inc. (SEI). SEI has been serving the needs of students and their families by helping them realize their full potential.

SEI was founded in 1981 as a one-week summer basketball camp aimed at providing a positive alternative for African-American teens living in an area of Portland plagued by gang violence, poverty, and a public school system that was leaving



Photo courtesy of SEI.

them behind. By 1989, SEI had grown into a year-round program providing academic support and comprehensive wraparound services for African-American students and their families.

In 1997, the Center for Self Enhancement was opened to

provide a safe haven for students while serving as a hub for work in the community. Over the next 20 years, services have been expanded to provide students and families with cradle-to-career opportunities, including a public charter school, enrolling grades 6-8.

Today, SEI has become Oregon's largest African American-led nonprofit organization. SEI provides resources and services that alleviate poverty and help every aspect of a student's life: their home environment, family support, and school experience. *Continued on page 4.*

Understanding equity

See Page 5

Seed saving program

See Page 6

Tackling the diesel problem

See Page 8

Vernon Neighborhood Association
 Meetings: 3rd Wednesdays, 7-9 pm, 5131 NE 20th Ave.
verno@neccoalition.org

Woodlawn Neighborhood Association
 Meetings: 1st Wednesdays, 7-9 pm, 817 NE Madrona St.
woodlawn@neccoalition.org

Concordia Neighborhood Association
 Meetings: 2nd Tuesdays, 7-8:30 pm, 5736 N.E. 33rd Ave.
 Kennedy School Community Room,
chair@concordiapdx.org

Alameda Neighborhood Association
 Meetings: 4th Mondays, 7-8:30 pm, 2820 NE Fremont St.
alamedapdx@gmail.com

King Neighborhood Association
 Meetings: 2nd Wednesdays, 6:30-8:30 pm, 4815 NE 7th Ave.
www.kingneighborhood.org

Humboldt Neighborhood Association
 Meetings: 2nd Tuesdays, 7-8 pm, 815 N. Killingsworth St.
 PCC Paragon Building
humboldt@neccoalition.org

Sabin Community Association
 Meetings: 2nd Mondays, 7-9 pm, 4813 NE 18th Ave.
sabin@neccoalition.org

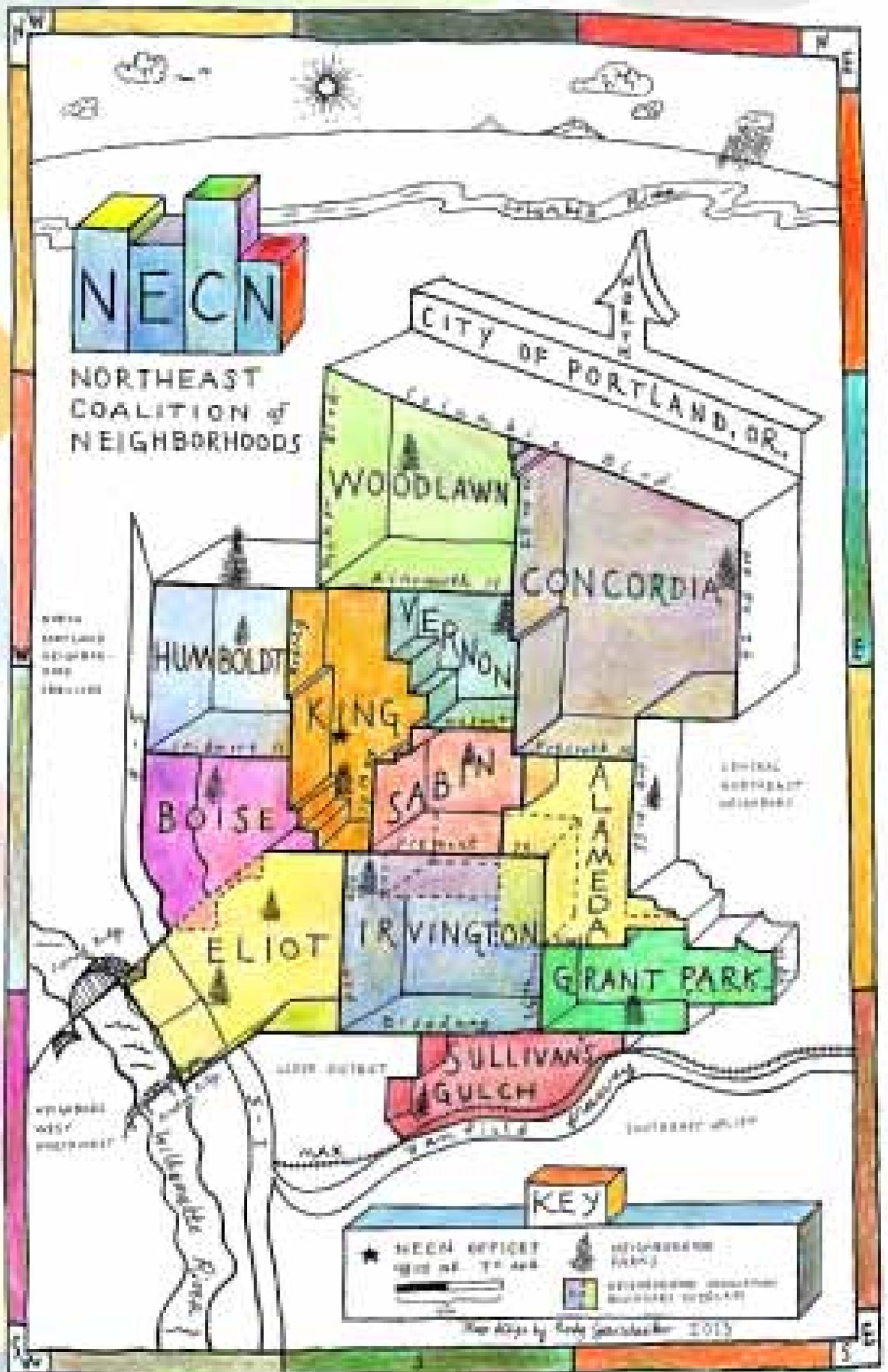
Boise Neighborhood Association
 Meetings: 2nd Mondays, 7-9 pm, 4115 N. Mississippi Ave.
boisead@gmail.com

Eliot Neighborhood Association
 Meetings: 2nd Mondays, 6:30-8 pm, 120 NE Knott St.
info@eliotneighborhood.org

Irvington Community Association
 Meetings: 2nd Thursdays, 7-9 pm, 5328 NE Bruce St.
president@irvingtonpdx.com

Sullivan's Gulch Neighborhood Association
 Meetings: 2nd Tuesdays, 7-9 pm, 1308 NE 14th Ave.
sullivansgulch@neccoalition.org

Grant Park Neighborhood Association
 Meetings: Quarterly 3rd Tuesday, 7-8:30 pm, 2728 NE 34th Ave.
grantpark@neccoalition.org



WELCOME

to our first ever 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 non-profit organization. NECN is one of seven neighborhood coalitions in Portland that 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 12 neighborhoods in inner North/Northeast Portland: Alameda, Boise, Concordia, Eliot, Grant Park, Humboldt, Irvington, King, Sabin, Sullivan's Gulch, Vernon, and Woodlawn. Any person who resides or works in North/Northeast Portland can get directly involved!

What do we do?

Policy Formation and Skill Building:

NECN convenes volunteers to take up issues and advocate, as well as build knowledge through trainings, events, and workshops.

Fiscal Sponsorship and Grant Assistance:

NECN provides assistance for projects through funding, sponsorship, and marketing. NECN also awards grant monies to projects that improve the quality of life in North/Northeast Portland.

Information, Referral, Connections:

NECN serves as a connecting point for residents, community organizations, Neighborhood Associations, and government agencies, as well as a reference point for questions.

Win a \$2,000 small grant award

Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods (NECN) awards grant monies to projects in the North and Northeast neighborhoods. There are six awards available for \$2,000 each. The purpose of the grants program is to provide neighborhood and community organizations the opportunity to improve quality of life. Awards are given based on ability to involve and benefit a diverse, broad group of people; build

leadership, skills, relationships and partnerships (especially with and among historically under-represented populations); and increase community capacity to influence public decisions. The deadline to apply is February 28. Funding is provided to NECN by the Office of Neighborhood Involvement. Contact Fran Aybaribil for more information. **503-388-9188, Fran@necoalition.org, Visit: www.necoalition.org**

Have an idea for a community project?

Maverick Main Stage Productions

Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods grantee

Maverick Main Stage Productions (MMSP) is a nonprofit performing arts company for youth in the North/Northeast community. Established in 2012, MMSP features an all youth cast, with opportunities for dance, film, comedy, and voice. Roles are designed for each child, giving everyone an equal chance to showcase their talents.

really hard, so there is a huge sense of accomplishment."

Performances speak to diverse audiences of all ages. The productions do not simply

"All youth should have access to the performing arts"

As arts programs in Portland schools face cuts and not all arts programs are created equally, MMSP helps to pick up the slack, providing a platform for artistic and creative pursuits for kids. Jennie Brown, founder and artistic director of MMSP, explains that having worked in public schools as a theater program director, she saw a huge need for kids to have an artistic outlet, but schools don't currently have the resources to provide sustainable programs. Her philosophy is that that all youth should have access to performing arts, and at this point MMSP has reached hundreds of kids.

entertain, but take on social justice issues, like racism, gentrification, and bullying, with the intention of sparking conversation and motivating change. "Aftershocks" is the most recent production. It is done in partnership with the City's Office of Youth Violence Prevention, Enough is Enough PDX, and other groups.

"Aftershocks" centers on the impact that gun violence and loss has on our community. It takes personal stories of those directly impacted by gang violence and recounts them on stage, providing a unique youth perspective.

MMSP provides benefits that follow youth out into the world. Jennie states that, "no matter the subject matter, it boils down to teaching kids inclusion, tolerance, appreciation, and empathy". She explains, "kids have to climb Mount Everest from the beginning to end". In that time they master difficult and intricate dialogue, which has a huge impact on reading comprehension, fluency, vocabulary building, and public speaking skills. "The kids work

Following school matinees there are panel discussions about the topics. The goal is for audiences to walk away with an understanding of those who have experienced trauma and violence. The hope is to create a support system for families that have been directly impacted by gang violence and provide space for hope and healing.

The Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods (NECN) and Office of Neighborhood Involvement are proud to sponsor MMSP. www.maverickdrama.com



Youth cast members from Maverick Main Stage Productions. Photo courtesy of Maverick Main Stage Productions.

SEI, Oregon's largest African American-led Nonprofit Organization, cont. from Page 1

On any given day, SEI staff is busy assisting families across Portland. SEI has the ability to meet and understand the complex needs of those served, including helping people overcome cultural, educational, and economic barriers.

You can support SEI by purchasing a ticket to the Auto Show Sneak Peek Preview Party. The evening includes entertainment, food and beverage, and a stroll over the auto showroom floor. This benefit will highlight seven local charities including SEI. Tickets cost \$100. (90% tax deductible proceeds will support SEI). January 25, 2017, 6:30pm-9:30pm. Purchase tickets on www.eventbrite.com or visit www.selfenhancement.org

Meals on Wheels People has been changing lives, one meal at a time, since 1970. In Northeast Portland, that change takes place at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center. Every weekday, more than 75 older adults gather at the center for lunch and conversation while another 225 homebound clients receive Meals on Wheels delivered by volunteers. We need your help! Please consider volunteering as a Meals on Wheels driver or volunteer in our dining center to help serve meals, prep Meals on Wheels, work as dishwashers and do clerical work. 503.953.8207 www.volunteer.mealsonwheelspeople.org



JD's Shoe Repair has been around the block

By Julie Derrick



Photo courtesy of JD's Shoe Repair

I have lived in North Portland since the early 90's and run a small business in the neighborhood since 2009. I've been part of massive shifts in terms of who resides in our neighborhoods and how we function together.

What I've always appreciated about shoe repair is that it works for everyone; my customer

Redesigning King School Park

Green King is a community organization created to enhance King Neighborhood through environmentally-based projects. Green King has been working with Depave (a nonprofit promoting the removal of pavement) on King School Park. So far, they have replaced unneeded pavement with rain gardens to alleviate flooding and improve native plant habitats. This will create a more welcoming space for community events. Green King also helped coordinate the construction of the new futsal court in the park.

Green King is engaging several organizations and community members to redesign

base is made up of people from the entire spectrum of Portland residents. This is important to me as a craft person and as a working class member of my community. With rent hikes and rapid change, I work amid uncertainties about being able to stay in my shop location and maintain ties within the community. I'm certainly not alone in this; many of my customers commute across town or from out of town to get their shoes fixed here.

It's humbling to work on shoes and boots and an honor to have our work valued and respected to this extent.

All I really want is to continue to run a small business

that supports my neighborhood, serves a basic need, and provides a modest living for the cobblers. It's helpful to have a trade that involves working with my hands and solving problems creatively.

As for the future, I feel like shoe cobblers will need to be creative in working with materials/sources available, while following the ethic of prioritizing repair over consumption. We buy shoe repair materials made from toxic and non-renewable materials/sources shipped round the world. This all may change for us in the U.S. before long, and cobblers here will have to adapt.

728 N Alberta St.
www.jdshoorepair.com

Like what you see? Sign-up for NECN's Digital E-Newsletter to learn about opportunities, events, and activities in North and Northeast Portland. Visit: www.necoalition.org/latest-news/subscribe

The Village serves N/NE, helping seniors age in place

By Jane Braunger and Marianne LaBarre

Seniors who love their neighborhood and want to age in their own homes will want to check out Northeast Village PDX and North Star Village. Northeast Village PDX is now offering memberships and providing services to seniors in Alameda, Concordia, Grant Park, Irvington and Sullivan's Gulch. North Star Village will offer memberships and begin services in the fall of 2017 to seniors in Boise, Eliot, Humboldt, King, Sabin, Vernon and Woodlawn. These "virtual villages" are two of several in the greater Portland and Vancouver area.

These grass roots, nonprofit organizations use trained, background-checked volunteers to provide services that can help keep members in their homes as long, happily, and inexpensively as possible. Villages also offer a rich menu of social, wellness, and educational activities and lists of recommended professionals – plumbers, electricians, roofers and more – who can be hired for major projects beyond the expertise of volunteers.

How does the village work? Members join at either the full service or associate level. Full service members have access to all programs, volunteer services, and vendor recommendations. Associate members also have access to the activities and programs plus the vendor lists, but limited access to volunteer services. At both levels, members

may also choose to volunteer.

As of November 15, Northeast Village PDX has 65 members, and it keeps growing.

The Village supports seniors staying home, staying active, and staying connected.

An individual full-service membership costs approximately \$40/month, considerably less than the expense of relocating to a retirement community. The villages are committed to raising funds for a number of subsidized memberships as needed.

To receive a service, the member simply makes a call to the Village office to request things such as transportation to an activity or appointment, help with light housekeeping or yard work, walking a dog, or assistance with paperwork or record-keeping. Using a database, the office volunteer then matches a service volunteer with the member's request, and the service is confirmed.

The Village supports seniors staying home, staying active, and staying connected. To inquire about membership in Northeast Village PDX, check out www.nevillagepdx.org, or contact info@nevillagepdx.org, 503-895-2750. For information about North Star Village, contact infonorthstar@comcast.net, 503-805-6325.

Understanding equity with Cat Goughnour, creator of the Right2Root Campaign

Right2Root is an inclusive, grassroots, community funded, community led; neighborhood planning and development campaign. It is designed by and for community members affected by displacement and gentrification. Work is being done with planners, architects and other progressive firms to allow community to be architects of their own lives. The ultimate goal is to build resilience in the African American community, as a way to prevent and mitigate adverse effects of revitalization and to harness the tools of community redevelopment.

Cat Goughnour is born and raised in rural Oregon. She is the creator of the the Right2Root Campaign and CEO of Radix Consulting. She is a human rights advocate with a specialization in equity policy. She has a Masters in the Sociology of Race, Ethnicity and Post-Colonialism from the University of London.

Cat explained that she chose to study in the UK because that is where the earliest practices of colonialism were developed and then dismantled. She wanted to learn where we came from to understand where we're going. She knew that in order to use her life experience in underserved communities, she had to address the root causes of inequitable societies.

Her motto is, "We are the ones we've been waiting for." She explains that, often people closest to a problem are closest to a solution and expertise is born from experience.

Cat shared some very common-sense solutions about how we can create inclusive, cohesive communities. In an effort to bring in a new year of hope for everyone, we would like to highlight some that resonate deeply:

- Community begins with the People in it. The



Cat Goughnour

environment or Place - natural and built - can help or hinder our ability to live, survive and thrive.

- Understand that our most sustainable and lasting interventions should be made with, for, and by those most affected, while recognizing the role and necessity of champions, allies, advocates and experts working alongside us to make plans manifest.
- Our built environment can be remade to center around the most vulnerable community members to improve health, wealth, quality of life and collective prosperity for all.
- To thrive, people need a nurturing, healthy, opportunity-rich environment. The healthy choice must be the easy choice.
- When assessing, diagnosing and prioritizing a community's most acute issues, look to root causes to inform a "treatment" plan.
- Make, test and replicate the MOST innovative, upstream solutions to have the biggest impact in the lives of marginalized people.
- Know that creating a safety net makes our whole society stronger and more competitive!

To learn more about equity and inclusion visit:

www.radixconsulting.org,
www.right2root.org



Photo courtesy of the Village

This newspaper is made possible by the following organizations:

The CENTER
www.thecenterpdx.org

Cully Air Action Team
www.cullycleanair.org

Eastside Portland Air Coalition
www.eastsideportlandair.org

Friend's of Trees
www.friendsoftrees.org

Grow Portland
www.growportland.org

Hancock Street Preschool
www.hancockstreetpreschool.com

JD's Shoe Repair
www.jdshoerepair.com

Maverick Main Stage Productions
www.maverickdrama.com

Meals On Wheels People
www.mealsonwheelspeople.org

Multnomah County Library
www.multcolibrary.org

Neighbors for Clean Air
www.whatsinourair.org

Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods
www.necoalition.org

Northeast Village
www.nevillagepdx.org

Office of Youth Violence Prevention
www.portlandonline.com/safeyouth

Partnership for Safety and Justice
www.safetyandjustice.org

Portland Bureau of Transportation
www.portlandoregon.gov/transportation

Portland Clean Air
www.portlandcleanair.org
503-953-3943

Rebuilding Together Portland
www.rtpdx.org

Red Cross, Cascades Region
www.redcross.org

Repair PDX
www.repairpdx.org

Resolutions Northwest
www.resolutionsnorthwest.org

Right2Root
www.right2root.org

Self Enhancement, Inc. (SEI)
www.selfenhancement.org

Events & Opportunities

Multnomah County Library, Technology/Computer Classes and Help Sessions; Story Time for babies, toddlers, children:
www.multcolib.org/events
503-988-7824

City of Portland, Office of Youth Violence Prevention, Community Peace Collaborative: Bi-weekly on Fridays, 10 – 11:30 am, 449 NE Emerson St.
www.portlandonline.com/safeyouth

Friends of Trees, Community tree planting, volunteers needed: February 18, 8:45 am - 1:00 pm, at 3117 NE MLK Blvd., www.friendsoftrees.org

Hancock Street Preschool, Annual Open House: February 4, 9:30 am -12:00 pm, 1624 NE Hancock St., www.hancockstreetpreschool.com.

Resolutions Northwest, Interrupting Racism Actionshop: February 11, 2017, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm, 2538 NE Broadway, Suite A
Institutional Equity, Tools and Frameworks for Leaders: April 6, 9 am - 5 pm, 2538 NE Broadway, Suite A, Register: www.resolutionsnorthwest.org

Repair PDX, Repair Cafe, bring your broken items to be fixed (for free): March 23, 2017, 6 - 8 pm, 3625 N Mississippi Ave, www.repairpdx.org

Red Cross Cascades Region, MLK Day of Service Home Fire Campaign, volunteers needed to help with installations: January 14, 2017, 8:30 am - 4:00 pm, www.volunteer.cascades@redcross.org, 503-528-5624

Submit events to communications@necoalition.org

Seed saving program, Grow Portland highlights the importance of saving vegetable seeds



Photo courtesy of Grow Portland.

Grow Portland, a non-profit organization dedicated to urban gardening, is starting a program to train local gardeners on how to save seeds and create a seed sharing network. Grow Portland's seed program will include a seed library at 4815 NE 7th Avenue.

Local seed saving preserves plant diversity and creates plants well-suited to their environment. It enhances biodiversity and lowers the cost of gardening.

Identifying unique or special seeds cultivated in local gardens, Grow Portland is working to form a new seed library and gather the stories behind the seeds. Starting in February, locally saved seeds from the seed library will be available to nonprofit, school, and educational groups by appointment. The seeds will also be shared with the public at an annual seed-sharing event.

The program will preserve and improve local seed varieties by increasing seed sharing and knowledge of seeds. It will bring local gardeners together to share and support each other's seed saving efforts.

"We know that many gardeners save delicious and productive seeds that are not available commercially," said Grow Portland Director, David Beller. "My neighbor Oliver gave me his collard green seeds this year,

and now I'm growing them in my garden. Oliver grew up as a sharecropper in Alabama before moving to Northeast Portland. For sixty years, he has been saving seeds from different collard green varieties that people have given him. These different varieties have cross pollinated over the years, creating a strong variety that is particularly adapted to our local conditions."

Local seed saving preserves plant diversity and creates plants well-suited to their environment

Grow Portland is searching for varieties of veggies like these collards that have links to local history and reflect the ethnic diversity of our community. The seeds with special meaning to our area will be stored at the seed library. The lives of seed savers will also be honored by recording the oral histories of their family's vegetable seeds.

Grow Portland's Seed Saving program is affiliated with the national Seed Savers Exchange Community Seed Resource Program and National Seed Swap Day.

In November 2016, Grow Portland offered five free seed saving classes throughout Portland focused on Multnomah County Library locations. Through the classes, more than eighty local residents gained basic skills in seed saving. The Seed Exchange event is on **January 28, 1 - 4 pm, at the Midland Library, 805 SE 122nd Ave.** www.growportland.org

Justice Matters

By Talia Gad

While states from New York to Texas are closing prisons, Oregon is on the brink of opening another facility for women. Since 2009, we've incarcerated women at 11x the rate of men – a skyrocketing rate that can be traced back to harsher mandatory minimums for addiction-driven crimes. Up to 80% of incarcerated women

battle addiction, but instead of expanding treatment, we're expanding prisons.

Yet more and more Oregonians believe we can achieve accountability and safe, strong communities without relying on prisons as our default response to crime. To join us, email info@safetyandjustice.org.

Rebuilding Together Portland provides home repair assistance

Are you in need of homeowner repairs but don't know how you'll be able to complete or pay for the work? Rebuilding Together Portland is here to help. They are a non-profit organization that completes home repairs at no cost to the homeowner. Possible repairs could include: carpentry, electrical, plumbing, painting, debris removal, and more! To

qualify, you must meet certain income requirements, own and occupy the home, and live in the City of Portland.

Do you meet these qualifications? Visit: www.rtpdx.org to download an application or call 503-943-7515 to be sent an application in the mail. To receive assistance on National Rebuild day, held in April, 2017, your application must be submitted by January 31, 2017.



Before and after: Rebuilding Together Portland home repair project. Photo courtesy of Rebuilding Together Portland.

Free Drop-In Tutoring at the CENTER

The CENTER is a coalition-led hub for child and youth creativity, education, and engagement in North Portland. The CENTER offers free tutoring to youth in grades 6 to 12 who would like extra help with homework, writing, or college application essays. The CENTER is also looking for experienced educators to donate a little of their time to students in need of help with their academics. If you have experience teaching or tutoring in any academic discipline, please consider joining staff at the CENTER on Mondays and Wednesdays after school. Drop-in tutoring hours are 4 pm - 8 pm on Mondays and Wednesdays. 503-201-0727, 3510 North Vancouver Avenue. www.thecenterpdx.org

Air pollution in our neighborhoods, continued from Page 1

One of the most unsettling facts is that the glass companies were not violating the law. They served as a canary in the coal mine, but confirmed what many environmental groups have been saying for years, that our air regulation is lax. In fact, we breathe in some of the dirtiest air in the country.

Here is how Oregon's system for handling air pollution works: Regulation is focused on technology requirements that are based on the size of a facility and the hazardous materials it uses, but there is no cap on the total amount of contaminants a facility may release. There is no restriction on the concentrations of pollutants emitted based on the health risks posed for people nearby.

To fix this, the Legislature designated \$2.5 million for a statewide "Cleaner Air Oregon" program, to be developed by December 2017. The program plans to protect human health, in regulating air quality and

We breathe in some of the dirtiest air in the country

require regulators to set enforceable standards based on what is clean and safe. It offers to cover a wider range of industries. Since the start of the Cleaner Air Oregon rule making process, clean air advocates have articulated a vision of health-protective air quality standards for communities and the environment that provide predictability for businesses and incentives for innovation and competition. The goal is for everyone to have clean and breathable air, all of the time.

In order to implement this, the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) should create enforceable air quality standards, based on protecting human health, that considers the cumulative impacts of hazardous air pollutants on vulnerable populations (e.g. children, communities of color, and low-income communities).

DEQ should collaborate with leading researchers and public health officials to conduct widespread and effective monitoring of our air, while prioritizing the major risks to human

health from toxic pollution. DEQ should create effective, data-driven strategies to protect people from the sources of pollution and ensure that violating standards, has consequences. Other important components include:

- Transparency and openness in all decision-making
- An environmental justice-focused approach that prioritizes air toxics reductions in areas with vulnerable and marginalized communities
- The adoption of elements of successful air quality programs in other states, while creating a future-oriented and flexible program that can accommodate high-quality, independent science and new air monitoring technologies
- The development of reliable, user-friendly, publicly-accessible online database populated with current air pollution permits and accurate emissions data
- A better understanding of local health risks and identify impacts by using accurate, facility-specific emissions inventories, monitoring, and modeling.
- Clear strategies for notifying neighbors about health risks and reducing risk to those neighbors

Several grass roots organizations, including Eastside Portland Air Coalition (EPAC), are on the Cleaner Air Oregon Advisory Committee and are dedicated to making positive changes in our legislation to ensure clean air for all Oregonians. To participate in the public input process. Visit: www.cleanerairoregon.gov

Get involved with community groups working on air pollution:

Neighbors for Clean Air:

www.whatsinourair.org

EPAC:

www.eastsideportlandair.org

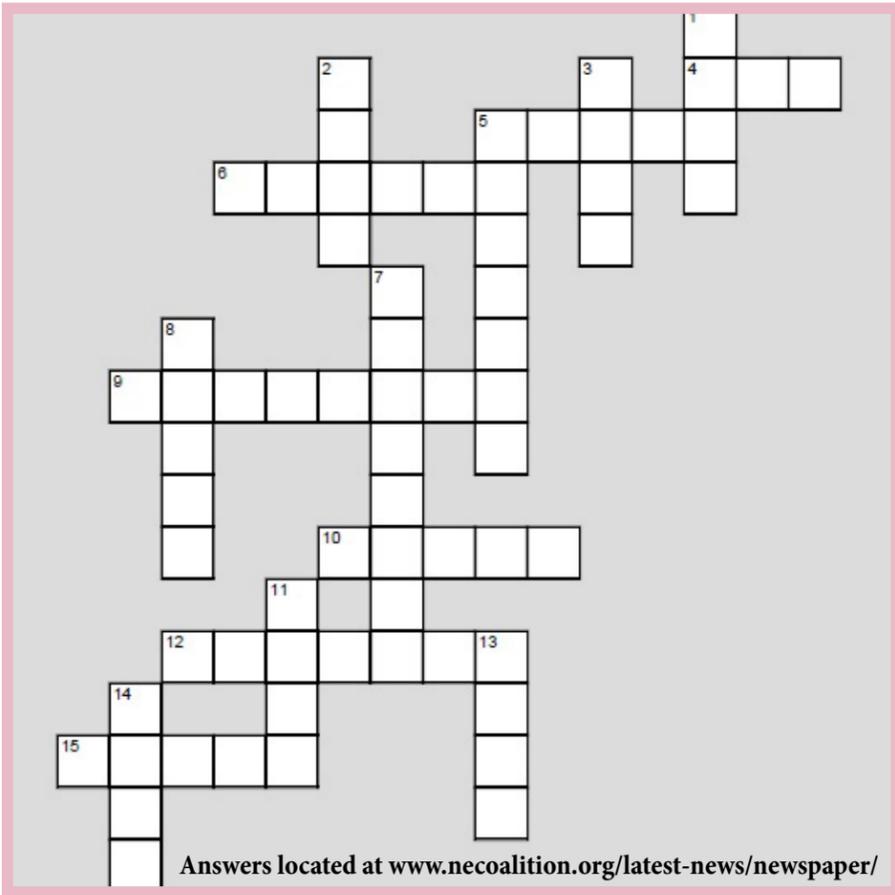
Portland Clean Air:

www.portlandcleanair.org

Cully Air Action Team:

www.cullycleanair.org

CURIOUS about the industries in our neighborhoods? Read North/Northeast Portland's air pollution report: www.necoalition.org/report



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

Across

- 4 What street was originally the north border of the Albina district?
- 5 What was the original street name of Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard?
- 6 Which park is famous for domino tournaments?
- 9 Nickname for N. Williams area during the Jazz Age
- 10 Which school and neighborhood was named after the first woman Principal in the Northwest in the 1880s
- 12 What African-American newspaper with offices on Killingsworth has covered the Pacific Northwest of the United States since 1975 (starting with The)
- 15 What geographic feature in

Alameda was created during the last ice age by the Missoula Floods?

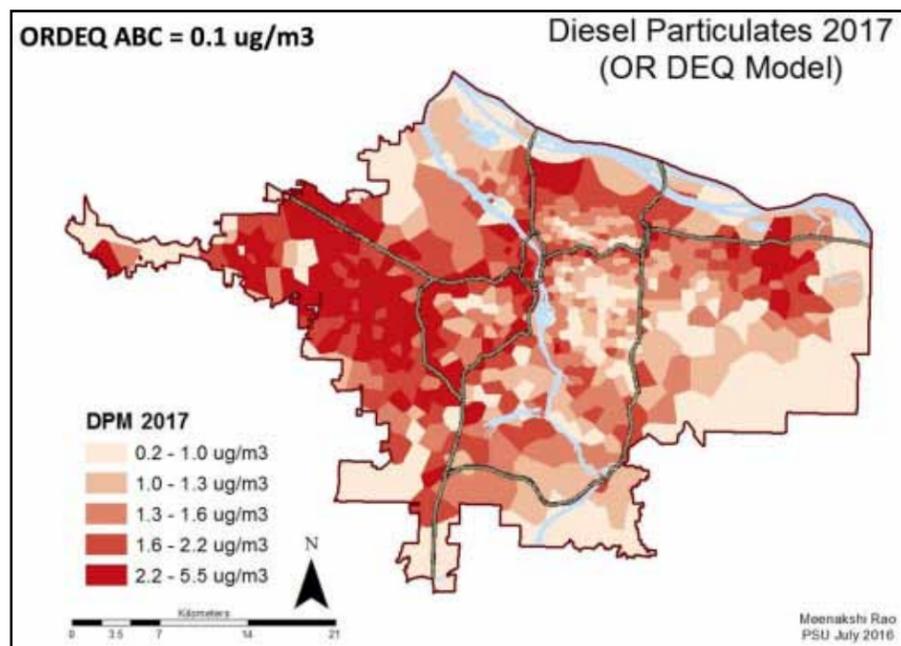
Down

- 1 This Bar is in the historic Frederick Torgler Building ____/820
- 2 Old ____ Brewing
- 3 What school houses NECN's offices?
- 5 1930's civil rights activist De-Norval ____
- 7 What neighborhood is currently home to newly elected city commissioner Chloe Eudaly
- 8 Sullivan's ____
- 11 Mrs. Albina ____
- 13 ____ Quarter
- 14 What color is the house that is currently home to Liberty Glass?

Tackling the diesel problem

Diesel is a problem in Portland and especially in North/Northeast neighborhoods. The Environmental Protection Agency National Air Toxics Assessment, released in December 2015, found that Portland ranked as the worst city nationwide for respiratory distress, and Multnomah County air ranked in the worst 1% of counties nationwide for concentrations of diesel particulate. Diesel particulate acts like the liquid mist in an inhaler by efficiently delivering harmful chemicals from the air, into the lungs, where it easily enters the bloodstream. Boise, Eliot, and Humboldt neighborhoods border the I-5 corridor and are susceptible to diesel particulate from trucks.

One thing to know is that filtered trucks emit less than one tenth of the diesel particulate, but at this time, Oregon is not required to have filters on its



Exposure to Diesel Particulates in the Portland Metro Area: retrieved from Dr. Linda George's presentation to the Oregon Diesel Workgroup.

trucks. Since 2008, federal rules require truck engines to be built with filters, but trucks built before that time rarely have filters. Unfiltered diesel trucks are illegal in California and many of California's unfiltered trucks end up here in Oregon.

Legislation will be introduced in the 2017 Oregon session around diesel. The focus of policy concepts are to bring Oregon up to the clean air standards for diesel that California has adopted. In addition, Oregon will be adopting a program to admin-

ister the \$68 million our state is set to receive through the recent Volkswagen settlement agreement. It is critical for our elected officials to hear from folks impacted by emissions from high traffic truck corridors and construction. **Consider attending an information session on January 18, 6 pm - 8 pm, location TBD. Dinner will be provided! Contact: communications@necoalition.org You can also sign up with Neighbors for Clean Air for diesel action alerts: www.whatsinourair.org.**

Diesel Information Session
January 18, 2016
6 pm - 8 pm
Location: TBD
Dinner served at 6 pm
Contact:
Communications@necoalition.org

Fixing Our Streets: Your Dime at Work

Fixing our Streets is Portland's locally funded street repair and traffic safety program. Over the next four years, the program will bring much needed street improvement and safety projects to neighborhoods across Portland. It is financed through Measure 26-173, which voters approved last May, and the Heavy Vehicle Use Tax, which City Council also

passed last May. Together these two sources will raise an estimated \$74 million.

Since last summer, the Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT) staff have been performing the initial design and planning work to get the Fixing our Streets program up and running. Last fall, PBOT crews also started to perform Fixing

our Streets base repair projects across the city. These small, but vital projects repair heavily damaged sections of city streets and keep the structural damage from spreading to other parts of the roadway.

Now in 2017, PBOT will begin work on larger Fixing our Streets projects, including paving projects, new sidewalk construc-

tion and the installation of better street lighting. In Northeast Portland, PBOT crews will make the crossing at NE Sandy and 31st safer by installing a new pedestrian island. Visit:

www.Fixingourstreets.com. The website includes an interactive map which shows the projects scheduled. *Contributed by Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT)*