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The Southwest Portland Post

Southwest Portland's Independent Neighborhood Newspaper

INSIDE:

A tale of four
 Multnomah Village
 businesses revisited --
 Page 4

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Portland, Oregon

Complimentary

March 2008

Katz committee considers four alternative routes for Metro light rail bridge

By Lee Perlman
 The Southwest Portland Post

A broad-based committee chaired by former Portland mayor Vera Katz is considering (or re-considering) where a bridge carrying a future light rail line from downtown to Milwaukie should be located.

The decision on this issue was made three years ago, and it was to have the line proceed from Portland State University on Southwest Lincoln Street, going by River Place, and touching the east side near Southeast Caruthers Street and the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry.

This was designated the "locally preferred alternative." However, since then planners and politicians have questioned whether it would be worthwhile to bring the line on the west side further south, allowing it to serve Oregon Health and Sciences University's proposed South Waterfront campus, and bringing it closer to their aerial tram and public health facility.

As a result, Metro is now studying four new routes involving two possible destinations on each side of the river – Southwest Meade and Porter streets on the west side, and Southeast Caruthers and Sherman streets on the east.

Each of the new routes would add to the cost of the project, at rates ranging from \$24 million for Meade-Sherman to \$34 million for Porter-Sherman. However, each would add substantially to the number of people riding the train, including what Metro calls System Change – people taking mass transit, of any sort, who

do not do so now. This would rise from 9,000 new trips with the LPA to 10,500 with the Porter-Caruthers route, according to Metro's Bridget Wieghart.

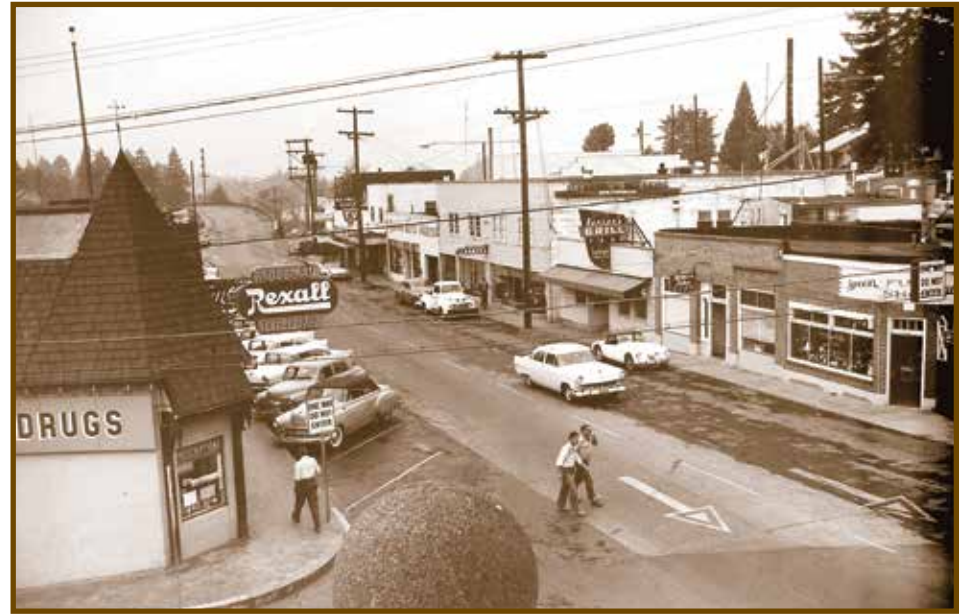
It would also add to the length of the new line, and to the time it would take for the train to cover it. This could affect Portland's proposed funding request from the Federal Transit Administration. Metro does not now have a plan to finance the project, planner Richard Brandman said, but federal funds will certainly be necessary to meet its \$1.2 billion cost.

For the FTA, "cost-effectiveness" (speed and cost) are the most important considerations, more so than increased ridership and incentives to high-density development, consultant David Knowles said. "I hope the decisions we make around this table (with regard to the bridge) won't affect our cost-effectiveness rating, but we don't know that for sure," Brandman said.

The bridge will also carry a street-car link that would complete a loop around the Central City with the proposed completion of an extension to the near-in east side. A new component over what was originally proposed as a rail bridge would be bus lanes, which would carry the #9 Powell, #17 Holgate and #19 Woodstock lines.

With a crossing unimpeded by traffic, the buses would save up to seven minutes in travel time, and the change would add another 1,000 new riders to the system, Wieghart and Metro's Tony Mendoza said. The lanes would add a "slight" increase

(Continued on Page 3)



This picture of the Multnomah business district (from a rooftop at Southwest 35th and Capitol Highway) was taken circa August 1958. (Photo courtesy of Erwin Kallese)

Historical association plans for Multnomah's 100th birthday

By Mark Ellis
 The Southwest Portland Post

For right around 100 years, as near as Patti Waitman-Ingebretsen and her cohorts on the board of the Multnomah Historical Association can tell, Multnomah Village has been the hub of the Southwest Portland community.

"We were just part of the county before the 1954 incorporation into the City of Portland," remembers Patti, "but we had the doctor's office, the bank, the post office, the grocery store." Now president of the society, she grew up in the area, attended Wilson High School, and raised a family here.

For a good number of those 100 years Multnomah Days has been the signature Southwest community celebration. Now, in preparation for the centennial installment of that popular cultural event, Patti and the association are asking a big "What if?" question.

They have proposed and are implementing a plan to take Multnomah Days community-wide, with each of the Southwest neighborhoods getting involved and joining in the observance.

Patti has made part of her mission visiting the various neighborhood association meetings to familiarize folks with her plan, which involves a number of options for various neighborhoods to highlight their own unique history. "We're calling it 'A Grand Cel-

ebration for our Community,'" says Patti, who mentions that reaction to her organizational trial balloon was overwhelmingly positive. Perusal of a projected calendar reveals that several events over and above the usual street fair and parade have already been docketed.

An August 8th Wine Reception will kick off a full week of activities which culminate the following Saturday in what is being called the Grand Centennial Parade for 2008. Highlights include a ceremony to dedicate the bronze marker which has been procured through a grant and approved for placement on the Multnomah viaduct, and a bridge lighting through the extent of the celebration. Two farmer's markets will occur during the week, Hillsdale's and Multnomah's, and an All-Class reunion is slated for Friday August 15th at the Multnomah Center. Patti makes clear that there are still plenty of open nights and opportunities for neighborhoods from Crestwood to Bridlemile to participate.

Plans for historical walking tours, production of a 2009 then-and-now calendar, and historical DVD are also on the drawing board, as is a survey of pre-1945 SW homes. Patti also confirms that a membership drive will be an adjunct to the celebration.

She is open to ideas, and wants to hear from anyone interested in volunteering or otherwise helping with plan-

(Continued on Page 3)



Eli Head takes a coffee break with Angela Schroeder while Kristy Viaches and baby Salix wait for a friend at Lair Hill Bistro. Feature story on Page 5. (Post photo by Polina Olsen)

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City proposes new Interstate 5 access ramps

NEWS BRIEFS

By Lee Perlman
The Southwest Portland Post

The city is looking at new access ramps to the South Waterfront and Ross Island Bridge, transportation planner Jody Yates told the South Portland Neighborhood Association last month.

At present northbound traffic exiting the Interstate 5 freeway onto Southwest Macadam Avenue must weave across traffic already on the street in order to gain access to the South Waterfront to the east. Those seeking to get onto the bridge must pursue a convoluted path that involves crossing the freeway, reversing direction, and traveling through part of residential South Portland.

Yates cautioned, "The reality is that the roads will continue to get more congested." If nothing at all is done, with the South Waterfront growing and more vehicles using this part of Macadam, the city estimates that the street will reach a traffic level of "failure" by the year 2015.

The Portland Office of Transportation (PDOT) is proposing a "fly-over" ramp that would connect directly to the bridge. A second option would allow exiting traffic to cut under

Macadam and enter it in the east lane, still leaving the journey to the bridge tortuous but making it safer. Either option would cost an estimated \$40 million.

So far PDOT has secured a pledge of \$7 million from city Systems Development Charge funds, \$3 million from the city general fund, \$2.367 million in "earmarks" from federal transportation appropriations and \$1 million from North Macadam District Urban Renewal funds.

South Portland board member Connie Crookham said, "I use that road all the time, and the flyover makes the most sense to me."

Design Commission approves Shriners' Hospital addition

At its third hearing on the matter last month, the Portland Design Commission approved the design for a three-story, 66,000 square foot addition to the Shriners' Hospital for Children that will extend over its existing parking garage. The design team met earlier Commission concerns by providing for a new, more prominent entrance reached by a wider sidewalk with new street trees.

There will be a 2,000 square foot lawn assigned to this building, part of a larger open space separating it from Oregon Health and Sciences

University's Biomedical Research Building.

Commission member Gwen Mililius liked the lawn especially. "These open spaces often surprise us with how much they're used by children," she said. "I appreciate how you reworked the entrance. There's a value to it for people who come by bus, foot or tram."

The one concern the Commission retained was a tentative plan by the hospital to add more stories in the future. Commission member Tim Eddy called this a "potential issue," but added, "A lot can happen between now and then, and this is potentially a good base." He called the design "quiet and understated."

Commission chair Lloyd Lindley apologized to the design team for the lengthy review process. "We hold the Shriners' Hospital in the highest regard," he said. "Our criticism was not meant in any way to reflect on your mission or what you do."

Southwest ped/bike open houses scheduled

Two of the three Halo L.I.D. projects will have public open houses this month for the public to consider plans. The project on Southwest Hamilton Street between 39th Avenue and Scholls Ferry Road can

be viewed, discussed and reacted to at Bridlemile School on March 4. The open house for Southwest 35th Avenue between Arnold and Stevenson streets will be at Jackson Middle School on March 6.

Both sessions will be from 7 to 9 p.m. The date for an open house for the third project, on Southwest Vermont Street between 30th and 37th avenues, and 45th and 65th avenues, was not available at press time.

The projects will add pedestrian and bicycle facilities to these streets. They will be paid for through Local Improvement Districts, assessments to nearby property owners. Unlike conventional LIDs, the Halo assessments will be spread over a wider than normal area, assessing more property owners but charging each one less.

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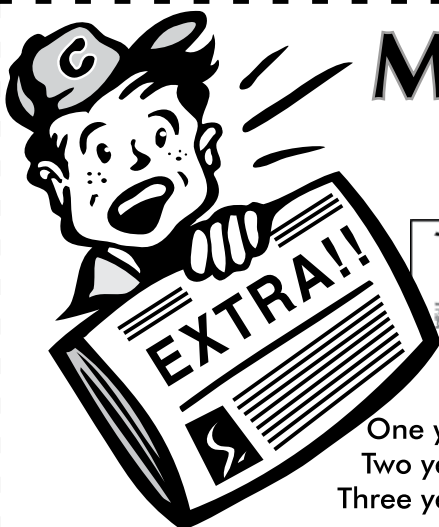
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Metro light rail bridge

(Continued from Page 1)

to the cost, they said. (It would also mean that these routes would no longer serve as much of the South Portland neighborhood as they do today, South Portland Neighborhood Association representative Jim Gardner observed).

Another issue is whether the bridge will provide for pedestrians. This in turn would affect its grade, which would affect its height and clearance over the Willamette River, which would affect its impact on boats and river operations.

A representative of the Portland Spirit tour boat, said, "Even at 75 feet (of clearance), river users would be impacted by this, and they have influence at the federal level. Federal code calls for at least 120 feet of clearance for a fixed-span bridge. To come in with something considerably lower, you would need to have excellent relations with your river users, and a very good argument." Consultant Sean Batty said that

the heights quoted weren't hard and fast requirements for a river bridge, but "shows you where you're absolutely risk-free" in terms of federal approval.

Yet another consideration is the design of the span. This could have a major impact on cost. However, Katz said, "The public will not tolerate a bridge of this magnitude that's not aesthetically pleasing." In terms of local funding options, Katz observed, "If Clackamas County thinks they can get away with not paying their share of this, they're crazy."

Knowles said that the committee would have to recommend a bridge option by late March or early April to keep abreast of the schedule for construction. The project was originally supposed to break ground in 2014, TriMet's Dave Unsworth said, "but 2015 is more likely. That means another year of inflation in costs. For everything that involves oil, for materials such as steel and concrete, the costs keep going up."

HILLSDALE NOTEBOOK

Invasive plants and uninsured children lead neighborhood agenda

By Mark Ellis
The Southwest Portland Post

The headline could read like a sci-fi title: "Attack of the Invasive Plants." But invasive plants are a serious deal, and Jayne Cronlund, Executive Director at the Three Rivers Land Conservancy, showed up at the February meeting of the Hillsdale Neighborhood Association to report on the progress of a plan to eradicate them.

"These plants crowd out native plants, wipe out food sources, take scarce summer water supplies, and have deleterious effects on wildlife and habitat," said Jayne before rattling off some of most tenacious offenders: ivy, laurel, blackberries, and clematis.

The eradication effort grew from discussions among the board members of the Friends of Marquam Nature Park, which included a representative from Hillsdale. They invited Three Rivers, which manages the West Willamette Restoration Partnership, to oversee the effort, which has two components.

Grants have been obtained from heavy-hitters like PGE, NW Natural Gas, and Metro to educate the public, lead and contract for efforts to remove the tree ivy from 300 acres of Southwest parks and other publicly owned property.

The second front in the fight is the Backyard Habitat Program, which involves working with land owners in the area to encourage them to remove invasives from their property and to replant with native species.

After passing a rigorous inspection, each land owner is awarded a certificate good for three years. There are three levels of certification based on the intensity of the effort the landowner exerts. "Have you seen our signs on any of your neighbor's homes," asks Jayne, holding up the metal compliance placard which will be awarded to homes and businesses alike.

Other tactics include professional application of bio-friendly, targeted defoliants, volunteer outreach efforts, and, for those willing to get down in the trenches to battle these life-sucking plant forms, to organize work parties wherein citizens will pull, pull, pull. The Hillsdale effort is focused on Himes Park where according to Baack, "there's still a lot of work to do."

"Our goal is to amass a total of 4500 volunteer hours on the project," says Jayne, who also offered praise to someone who has been taking a few hits lately. "We want to thank Sam Adams for his support on this. We wouldn't be where we are without him." For more information: www.trlc.org.

Multnomah's 100th Birthday

(Continued from Page 1)

ning and staging. She mentions society members Susan Keller, Sharon Brice, Lowell Swanson and the late Mary Becker as being pivotal in the vision to reach beyond a Village-centric celebration for the centennial anniversary.

"We're only 50 years behind Oregon's

admission to statehood," says Patti of the founding of Multnomah Village and the Southwest Portland communities, a fact that resonates as her plan comes to fruition. "Each neighborhood has its own history, and we want to get everyone involved."

For more information: www.multnomahhistorical.com

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THE COUNTRY STORE

A tale of four Multnomah Village businesses revisited

By Mark Ellis
The Southwest Portland Post

In early 2007 *The Post* got wind of some Multnomah Village businesses

in transition. Two were new arrivals, Journeys Pub and Anastasia's Salon. Another, Multnomah Antiques, was rumored to be going the way of other older businesses, moving aside for a newer building at its location.

A fourth, G/M Galleries, had been operated by a much-liked couple who had sold art objects at the location for years. George and Marie Woodcock were having a final sale, pulling stakes and moving into different lifestyles, and the future proprietor of their small

shop had yet to emerge.

Now, just a little over one year since these businesses were put under the spotlight, it is time to return and assess how that year played out for them.

Anne Bocci Boutique and Gallery

The Woodcocks' artistic sensibilities were much appreciated in the Village, so it is fitting that their shop is now home to Anne Bocci Boutique and Gallery which strongly integrates the artists' ethic.

The location did see a little downtime between February of last year and Bocci's May grand opening, just enough time for an overhaul of the space and the appearance of what she considered a "lucky" bird's nest, which complicated the installation of her new awning.

Bocci is committed to what she calls "indie design," and no two items in her shop are alike. Custom-made Gordon Dent leather handbags—which Bocci pointed out are leather-lined as

well—hang near the small front counter, including a gorgeous red one that has already been sold.

A sleek mannequin models one of Seth Aaron Henderson's classic Audrey Hepburn-inspired dresses near a display of patent leather belts. "Most of our apparel and jewelry is made by independent designers from Portland, Seattle and San Francisco," Bocci explained, while showing off a striking silver leather and rhinestone bracelet. She also calls attention to brightly-hued encaustic paintings by local artist Barb Griggs. "Barb was my biggest seller over the holidays."

In addition to filling every available inch of her floor and wall space with designer clothing and unique jewelry and art, Anne has opened up the shop's basement to customers, a space used only for storage by past proprietors.

She has created an informal gathering place, with seating and more art pieces. On First Fridays she serves refreshments there, and invites local artists to come meet her guests and

(Continued on Page 8)



The interior of Anne Bocci Boutique and Gallery includes an eclectic mix of art, bibelot and fashion. (Photo courtesy of Anne Bocci)



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Old-timers remember Lair Hill Bistro as neighborhood market

By Polina Olsen
The Southwest Portland Post

Sara Hart likes the “Turkey Peach Chutney” sandwich but others prefer the “Lair Hill Veggie.” Each weekday neighborhood regulars order their favorites at the cozy storefront cafe.

“Students spend a lot of time sipping coffee and having their meals here,” Hart says referring to the nearby Na-

tional College of Natural Medicine. She opens her laptop at a quiet back table. The one next to the ancient woodstove.

Since 1914, the old Lair Hill market has served the community, first as a grocery for Jewish and Italian immigrants, and later as a trendy café—Lair Hill Bistro. Artifacts and mementos throughout the restaurant reveal the neighborhood and building’s interesting history.

Cheryl Riegler and her husband, Richard Varner bought the café 10 years ago after owner, Esther Schulhaus, decided to sell. Schulhaus lived upstairs from the grocery like her parents, Abraham and Rose Weinstein. When Riegler and Varner took over, they moved in.

“She was my great-aunt, we called her Tanta Raizel,” says Leo Greenstein remembering Rose Weinstein and her five daughters. When Greenstein grew up, the neighborhood was mainly Italian and Jewish immigrants.

The Weinsteins and his parents were from Russia. He remembers “an old fashioned store” where the owner collected groceries as customers stood at the counter and read their list. “They had a little room in the back near the kitchen where we’d go and talk. She had a terrific collection of china.”

Marvin Wolf, the Schulhaus’ nephew, often visited his grandparents, the Weinsteins. “Abraham was a strong, handsome gentleman with a white mustache,” he recalls, “and she had a great beer stein collection. They had both a gas and wood stove in that lower kitchen; It was regal - a beautiful wood stove.”

When daughter Esther Weinstein married Albert Schulhaus, they moved upstairs and closed the store. Schulhaus was slender, maybe skinny and about six foot seven. He arrived from Germany in 1940 at age 33. When the couple reopened the grocery in 1977,



Katya Varner makes change for a customer. The sign Slim’s Grocery belonged to a previous owner. (Post photo by Polina Olsen)

they called it *Slim’s*. The café still displays the sign above the bar.

Paul Payton, 75, has lived in the neighborhood all his life. “I remember horses and a vegetable cart,” he said. Payton, a handyman, often helped Esther Schulhaus with her rental properties, including the home he now owns.

“It was one of the last grocery stores in the neighborhood. It looked just like it does now on the outside,” Payton said. “On the inside, the counter was on the left, and they stood behind it all the time.”

Payton carried Slim Schulhaus upstairs toward the end of his life. Esther Schulhaus gave him her husband’s hat when he died.

Esther Schulhaus never understood how her neighborhood gentrified. “This is an old, shabby neighborhood, not historical,” she said in a 1977 Oregon Journal interview. “To me, something historic should be something elegant.” Still, by 1990 “the quiche-eaters were moving in” according to then neighborhood association chair John May.

By that time, Erika Steinhardt had replaced the old market with a trendy place for soup, sandwiches and coffee. She had a small seating area and shelves of groceries off to one side,

mostly stocked for the Schulhaus’ who still lived upstairs. “They had Manishewitz, stuff like that,” says current owner Cheryl Riegler. “We expanded it from a deli to a sit down bistro kind-of restaurant.”

Today, most customers are from neighborhood businesses and schools, Riegler says, including OHSU, ADP, and the natural medicine college. The small dinner menu includes pasta and pizza, and they serve the lunch menu all evening. A wooden bar accommodates people stopping for cocktails, wine, or beer on their way home from work, and neighbors come for breakfast and coffee before leaving.

Eli Head takes a coffee break and sits outside with friend Angela Schroeder. A recent arrival to Portland, he would “come get coffee before I’d go downtown and drop off resumes.” He found the café a focal point for the neighborhood and finally decided to work here. He explains, “It’s a cool way to meet the neighbors.”

The Lair Hill Bistro (formerly known as the Old Lair Hill Market) is located at 2823 S.W. First Ave. Hours are Monday – Thursday 7 a.m. to 8 p.m., Friday 7 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Closed Saturday and Sunday. Their telephone number is 503.279.0200.

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HILLSDALE NOTEBOOK

(Continued from Page 3)

was Dr. Gregg Coodley's proposed City of Portland initiative

aimed at providing health insurance to Portland public schoolchildren. The projected 3-4 million dollar costs would cover families unable to qualify for the Oregon Health Plan but not able to afford private insurance. "Enrollment is dropping in the city," Coodley told the meeting, "and insuring these 9000 at-risk kids would help to attract families back into Portland."

Gregg's proposed measure would stipulate that the program be funded with monies out of the City of Portland General Fund surplus, would set the bids for service out to private insurers, and would contain an opt-out clause for any district that found the

initiative's mandates not in their best interest.

Asked about the dynamic of citizens who can afford private insurance taking advantage of the system—one fear that helped snuff out Measure 50—Gregg offered that "the insurance policies in the plan would be catastrophic in nature, with a \$7500 deductible," inferring that nobody who could afford a higher level of coverage would be interested.

"This is about keeping working class families from being wiped out by a health crisis," said Coodley. A motion to support the initiative passed the Hillsdale Neighborhood Association by acclamation.

Hillsdale Plaza still on the drawing board

Next up, association chair Don

Baack addressed Hillsdale issues, the foremost of which was the Plaza North of Rieke. "Based on the results of five planning charettes over the past two years, the community has indicated they want to build a plaza."

Baack proceeded to outline the membership of a small advisory group to guide the city-led effort. The group would include members from the Rieke School community, Hillsdale Business and Professional Association, the Hillsdale Farmers Market, and the Hillsdale Neighborhood Association.

Hillsdale would also like to have a Metro liaison, and a hand in selecting the architect/designer for the project. The city has funds to manage and conduct a planning effort this year.

In other Hillsdale business, in an adjunct to his discussion about the Halo LID and it's implications for Hillsdale, Wes Risher informed the

meeting that the city council had just voted to rescind the controversial Safe Sound and Green streets proposal and put it to the voters in November. Watershed Project head Martin Soloway of Community Partners for Affordable Housing announced he was moving on after 51/2 years to take a job working with the homeless for Central City Concern. In appreciation of his service the association unanimously voted him a "legacy member." "Does that mean I can come back anytime I want?" Martin quipped.

Finally, a riled Arnold Panitch told about how he'd found scores of Army recruiting posters plastered on power poles in his neighborhood. It is illegal to post anything on Portland power poles. "I took every one of them down," said Arnold, clarifying that he has nothing against the Army, but just can't stand the pole pollution.

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Bookstore's building was originally the Fourth Presbyterian Church

By Polina Olsen
The Southwest Portland Post

From Presbyterian to Gospel Mission, "Jesus Revival", and New Age; the old church at 3314 S.W. First Ave. has seen changes through the years. Today home to the Great Northwest Bookstore, H.J. Hefty designed the building for the Fourth Presbyterian Church in 1890. It still looks like photos from that era.

John Henley has managed Great Northwest Bookstore for 18 years. They moved to this location in 2003 after many years downtown. He's learned the building's history from people who stop by to chat. Nostalgic walks in this part of town are common.

Henley points to steep wooden stairs leading to rooms where the Presbyterian minister and his wife once lived. "In 1914, they added a second sanctuary," he says. The old sexton's quarters are now the improvisational Brody Theater. Its entrance is around the corner on Southwest Gibbs Street.

In the early 1900s, the neighborhood filled with Jewish and Italian immigrants. When they began leaving around the 1920s, the community changed again. "This area was impoverished in the 1950s," recalls Henley who was forbidden to visit when he was

young. "My father would say that was a bad part of town -- don't go there."

The Fourth Presbyterian Church stayed until about 1958. Then Union Gospel Mission bought the church and created Friendly Chapel.

"One person who came in actually still had his Harbor Light Mission card which qualified him for a free meal and a place to stay on a cold night," says Henley. "Fifty years later, he still had it. Times are better for him now than they were then."

"When I was a hippie teenager there was the psychedelic supermarket down on First Ave.," Henley adds. "You bought screens for your hash pipes and black light posters." Henley also remembers Portland's first love-in and peace march was held in Lair Hill Park on Southwest Second Avenue and Woods Street. "It was close to Portland State where there was something of a radical contingent."

In 1969, Union Gospel Mission and the Northwest Baptist Church started a coffee house in the church basement. "We do not plan to create a hippie atmosphere," they explained at city hearings. Still as reported in the Oregonian, Nov 1969, others objected to the idea. "[The city] has tried very desperately to clear this area of houses... this coffee house

would tend to once again flood the area with people who are unable to pay rent, utilities and other obligations," one attorney wrote the council. The Portland Planning Commission recommended a permit that could be "revoked anytime the coffee house should be deemed a nuisance to the neighborhood."

They called the coffeehouse Prince of Peace; it featured Russian Tea, coffee, and baked goods. As crowds increased, it moved upstairs to a gym where a parachute hung from the ceiling. The coffee shop and psychedelic supermarket continued alongside Orthodox synagogue Kesser Israel and the elderly who remained in the neighborhood.

Charles Smith, a Portland Christian musician remembers performing at Prince of Peace. "Thousands of people came through that coffee shop, and it became a thriving church," he says. "Bands would play and people would go out on the street sharing the gospel. It was called the Jesus People Revival at that time."

Smith became the pastor when his group bought the church which they also named Prince of Peace. "It was a multi-cultural congregation with different ethnic backgrounds," Smith says. They set up ministry houses in the neighborhood to help young people

"get on their feet and functional." Today, a smaller Prince of Peace Fellowship still meets in members' homes.

As the new-age era dawned in the mid-1980's the old church changed its function again. Now the Church of Divine Man, it offered a two-year clairvoyant training program and meditation classes.

"I did an appraisal for a woman who belonged to that church and she told me they did séances," Henley says as he walks upstairs to the old choir loft. Bright children's drawings cover one wall. "During the days of the new-age church, this was sort of a school for kids. We use it as a lunchroom and nap room, and we have some stock up here."

Like the old church, the bookstore business changes. "We used to specialize in Oregon history and literature, and we still have a lot of that," Henley says, adding specialization is difficult given today's economics.

The store is organized as a warehouse -- "we're not exactly browser friendly," but with computerized inventory, staff can quickly locate requests. "We're transitioning from the old model bookstore to probably what the 21st or 22nd century bookstore will look like. In today's market order fulfillment is how you make it or break it."

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THE COUNTRY STORE

(Continued from Page 4)

offer a demonstration of craft. "What I love about the Village is its authenticity," said Bocci, with a mild-mannered aside contrasting the district with "Trendy-third Avenue." "There's very little of the façade thing," she smiles. "Just real people, who love design and art."

Multnomah Antiques

Jim and Judy Tormey's master plan to knock down the building that has housed Multnomah Antiques for decades is still very much in process. "It's one thing after another," admits Judy Tormey.

The original idea for a 3-story apartment building went by the boards after recent housing market downturns and the high cost of required appliances were considered.

The plan now is for a 2-story brick building which comports with the existing design ethic of the Village. The second floor will offer business space for rent, while the ground floor will be dedicated to a re-imagining of the venerable antique store.

"I'm really looking forward to having my front door at sidewalk level," said Tormey of the existing step-down entry which can dissuade window shoppers, especially seniors and the disabled.

Tormey elaborated on the process by which she seeks to redevelop the property. "You really have to have

your ducks in a row when building commercial." Everything from procuring a loan to architectural plans, to choosing a builder is on her to-do list.

She plans to build green (sustainable) as much as possible, including the possibility of water-permeable asphalt for the parking lot. What doesn't seem to be on Tormey's list is retirement. "Antiques people never retire," she summed up laughing, "they just drop in their tracks."

Anastasia's Salon

When last we visited Anastasia's Salon there were still quite a few items on the remodel punch list. The salon opened on schedule in January 2007, and last month we sat down with owner Luke Huffstutter to conduct a year in review.

Huffstutter admitted to many 60 hour work weeks over the last twelve months, down from 80 during the remodel and grand opening period. His goal is to work a 50 hour week.

"If you recall," said Huffstutter, "the challenge was to move from our Hillsdale location to the Village without ever having to cancel an appointment." Long story short, they did it.

Buzz about talented stylists, quality product lines and top-shelf customer service have since helped the salon consolidate a position in the new marketplace.

"Looking back," Huffstutter recalled, "it went as smooth as I could have hoped." Another milestone passed when Anastasia's stylists

achieved better than national average annual salaries.

Community outreach is always a considered element for Huffstutter and his crew. The business has participated in fundraisers to support local schools, including a salon services auction which delivered over \$2000.00 to such entities as Wilson High School and The Jewish Academy.

Involvement in First Fridays and Multnomah Days helped Anastasia's reach out in positive ways to the community. Free styling and skin analysis offers paid dividends in terms of keeping loyal customers and attracting new ones.

"We want to offer our guests an exceptional experience," said Huffstutter, "and a large part of that is having the most educated and capable staff possible." Huffstutter reported no second thoughts about his move to the Village, and even uttered the word "fun." Could it be that his first 50 hour work week is just around the corner?

Journey's Pub

"The real challenge for us was waiting for approval for our OLCC licenses," said Bob Anthony, co-owner of Journeys Pub, which opened in the spring of 2007. Anthony and company planned to completely refurbish the Craftsman bungalow on Capitol Highway, with an eye toward creating a friendly neighborhood gathering place with an international vibe.

This plan reflected Anthony and his partner Shannon Park's sense of the universality of good food, great

spirits, and friendly people. Given that vision, until their license was approved not a hammer could be lifted on the project.

In the end the application went through, facilitated by a favorable recommendation from the Portland Police Bureau and in no time the mellowed wood of the Journeys bar was seeing plenty of elbow action, and the tables were maxing out on many nights.

"Our primary first year goal was simply to focus on our customers and become a positive addition to the Village," said Anthony, adding that those efforts have been rewarded by great customers who often "tell us how happy they are that we are here."

Anthony took a moment to offer praise about the district events for which Journeys was a first year participant, citing First Fridays, Multnomah Days,

Multnomah Outdoor Cinema, and Halloween.

"I think Journeys offers the kind of non cookie-cutter place villagers are looking for," he said, "where folks can stay local and socialize." A big step in that direction came when Journeys opened its patio area last April in response to guest requests to be outside.

That patio will open again this month and the Journeys staff hopes customers both loyal and new will come enjoy balmy spring and summer evenings and the pet-friendly seating.

Asked for any final thoughts about Journey's 2007 debut and eventful first year, Anthony doesn't have to think too long. "This is exactly the kind of place where I want to live and work."

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